

Resolution Number: 2006-A167

Title: Reaffirm Church Membership of Gay and Lesbian Persons

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended

Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church reaffirm that gay and lesbian persons are by Baptism full members of the Body of Christ and of The Episcopal Church as "children of God who have a full and equal claim with all other persons upon the love, acceptance, and pastoral concern and care of the Church" (GC1976–A069); and be it further

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention reiterate its apology "on behalf of The Episcopal Church to its members who are gay or lesbian, and to lesbians and gay men outside the Church, for years of rejection and maltreatment by the Church," and recommit to "seek amendment of our life together as we ask God's help in sharing the Good News with all people" (GC1997–D011); and be it further

Resolved, That, in evidence of that apology, The Episcopal Church pledge to include openly gay and lesbian persons on every committee, commission or task force developed for the specific purpose of discussing issues about sexuality and request the same of our sister churches in the Anglican Communion and Anglican Communion bodies; and be it further Resolved, That the 75th General Convention reiterate that "our baptism into Jesus Christ is inseparable from our communion with one another, and we commit ourselves to that communion despite our diversity of opinion and, among dioceses, a diversity of pastoral practice with the gay men and lesbians among us" (GC2003–C051).

Citation: General Convention, Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church,

Columbus, 2006 (New York: General Convention, 2007), pp. 669-670.