



Resolution Number: 1994-A056

Title: Amend General Convention Principles on the Prolongation of Life

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred

Final Text:

Resolved, That the 71st General Convention amend point two of the eight-point principles and guidelines concerning prolongation of life set forth in Resolution A093a of the 70th General Convention, to read as follows:

2. Despite this hope, it is morally wrong and unacceptable to intentionally take a human life in order to relieve the suffering caused by incurable illness. This would include the intentional shortening of another person's life by the use of a lethal dose of medication or poison, the use of lethal weapons, homicidal acts, and other forms of active euthanasia. Palliative treatment to relieve the pain of persons with progressive incurable illnesses, even if done with the knowledge that a hastened death may result, is consistent with theological tenets regarding the sanctity of life.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 1994* (New York: General Convention, 1995), pp. 289-90.