

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2024 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2024-D060
Title: Support For a Solution to the Crisis in Haiti
Proposer: Wiley, Mr. James
Topic: International Relations, Human Rights

Directly Related: (Attached)

2009-A036 Commend and Encourage Efforts in Support of Haiti
2000-A010 On the Topic of a Commission on Haitian and Dominican Migration (Rejected)
2000-A012 Call for Partnerships to Address the Needs of Haiti
1994-D125 Urge International Effort to Relieve the Haitian Situation

Indirectly Related: (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

2012-A160 Support the Diocese of Haiti

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2022, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#).

D060 - Support For a Solution to the Crisis in Haiti

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Wiley, Mr. James

Endorsed by: Russell, Ms. Laura, Day-Strehlow, Ms. Janet

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Requests New Interim Body: No

Directs an Interim Body: No

Directs Dfms Staff: No

Directs Dioceses: No

Directs Executive Council: No

HiA: No House Assigned

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: No Committee Assigned

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents:

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That the Episcopal Church laments the current situation in Haiti resulting in an environment of political chaos, insecurity and fear for many Haitians; and be it further

Resolved, That Episcopal Church work to support a solution to the crisis Haiti that includes:

- Supporting an UN-authorized security mission with all necessary human rights safeguards, while addressing political drivers of insecurity and working to support democratic norms;
- Restarting a transitional government clearly focused on supporting democratic norms and ensuring trusted elections, while respecting Haitian sovereignty;
- Stabilization of mechanisms for basic necessities, such as food, water, fuel, healthcare and the opening of airports;
- Encouraging international humanitarian support to help fund both basic necessities and recovery;
- Assist Haiti in rebuilding its justice system, in a rights-respecting way;

- Advocating to genuinely engage and heed the voices of Haitians, who are suffering from food and healthcare insecurity, gang violence and human rights threats;
- Work towards the elimination of gang violence, and arms and drug trafficking;

And be it further

Resolved, That the Episcopal Church work with the clergy of Haiti to bring a Bishop's presence to Haiti; and be it further

Resolved, That the Episcopal Church stands with the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti through prayer and listening, to support them and assist in their needs.

Explanation

The Diocese of Haiti is the largest Diocese of The Episcopal Church. Yet, many of us are not aware of the depth of the crisis occurring there. Gangs have taken over much of the country. With gang violence, there is arms and drug trafficking, murder, sexual violence and chaos. They closed the airports for a period of time. Episcopal clergy have been kidnapped. There is still no plan for a Bishop to be elected or chosen.

Between January and mid-March 2024, criminal groups killed nearly 1,500 people not involved in the violence and injured 800 others, according to the United Nations. Approximately 360,000 people have been internally displaced throughout the country. Nearly half of Haitians are food insecure, and 1.4 million Haitians are at risk of famine according to the UN World Food Programme (WFP).

Haiti needs to stabilize and rebuild. They must restart a transitional government. The Episcopal Church needs to be able to speak to these issues. Haiti must know that they are not forgotten by their sibling dioceses, and we support their efforts to bring the rule of law back to Haiti.



Resolution Number: 2009-A036
Title: Commend and Encourage Efforts in Support of Haiti
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 76th General Convention stand in solidarity with the people of Haiti as they struggle to recover from recent natural disasters, political turmoil, economic hardship, social dislocation and environmental degradation; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention commend to all Episcopalians the Diocese of Haiti as a model of faithful ministry through its extensive and exemplary network of educational, medical and cultural institutions serving the people of Haiti; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention commend the non-violence work of the Diocese of Haiti in collaboration with the Episcopal Peace Fellowship; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention commend the efforts of the Presiding Bishop and the Office of Government Relations for their contribution to the negotiations that led to the cancellation of \$1.2 billion in indebtedness; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention urge the National Association of the Episcopal Schools in the United States to partner with the Diocese of Haiti in supporting its 253 educational institutions serving over 80,000 Haitian students; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention urge the Society for the Increase of the Ministry to recognize and support the Theological Seminary of Haiti in its continuing efforts to instruct and counsel the next generation of Episcopal clergy in the Church's largest diocese; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention urge congregations and dioceses within the Church to support the Diocese of Haiti through companion relationships; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention support the Presiding Bishop and the Office of Government Relations in their continuing efforts to work with the United States Government to increase disaster and developmental assistance to Haiti; to extend trade preferences for Haitian exports to the United States; and to designate Temporary Protected Status to Haitian immigrants living in the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$25,000 for the ongoing implementation of non-violence training.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), pp. 370-371.



Resolution Number: 2000-A010
Title: On the Topic of a Commission on Haitian and Dominican Migration
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, That the 73rd General Convention call on Executive Council to encourage and fund a joint commission of the Dioceses of Haiti and Dominican Republic to work on the problem of migration between the two countries.



Resolution Number: 2000-A012
Title: Call for Partnerships to Address the Needs of Haiti
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 73rd General Convention call on the Executive Council, Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD/PBFWR), the Mission Personnel Office, the Episcopal Partnership for Global Mission, Companion Dioceses, the United Thank Offering, and the dioceses of ECUSA to work in partnership with the Diocese of Haiti to address the Haitian people's most urgent needs, nurture the Diocese of Haiti's independence through strategic and long-range planning, and foster mutual learning through the exchange of human resources in the form of teachers for schools, agronomists to assist farmers to reclaim land for agricultural purposes and reforestation, and medical personnel for hospitals; and be it further
Resolved, That, in the spirit of Partnership in Mission, the many parishes, dioceses, and agencies of the Episcopal Church that minister in Haiti through the Haiti Partnership explore ways in which members of the Episcopal Church outside Haiti can learn from the spirituality and witness of Episcopalians and other Christians in Haiti; and be it further
Resolved, That the Episcopal Church, based upon its long standing commitment, call upon the U.S. and Haitian governments, in consultation with non-governmental agencies, to develop a poverty reduction strategy for Haiti; and be it further
Resolved, That U.S. aid, debt relief, and trade initiatives be directed to implement this poverty reduction strategy.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 2000* (New York: General Convention, 2001), p. 517.



Resolution Number: 1994-D125
Title: Urge International Effort to Relieve the Haitian Situation
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That this 71st General Convention express its deep concern for the present situation faced by the people of Haiti; and be it further

*Resolved, That this General Convention request the Presiding Bishop to urge the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, the Secretary General of the Organization of American States, and the Secretary General of the United Nations to do all that is possible:
to remove the embargo against Haiti because of its effect on the poor;
to bring about a negotiated solution to the Haitian situation.*

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 1994* (New York: General Convention, 1995), p. 810.