

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2024 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2024-D070
Title: Prayers for Haiti
Proposer: Fortunato, The Rev. Susan
Topic: Dioceses

Directly Related: (Attached)

2009-A036 Commend and Encourage Efforts in Support of Haiti

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

2000-A012 Call for Partnerships to Address the Needs 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](#).

D070 - Prayers for Haiti

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Fortunato, The Rev. Susan

Endorsed by: Cañas, Ms. Wendy, Swanson, The Rev. Kirstin

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: HB

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: 10 - Prayer Book, Liturgy & Music

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents:

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That the 81st General Convention direct all Episcopal parishes to include the people of Haiti in their intercessory prayers each Sunday

Explanation

The Episcopal Church has a long and rich history with Haiti. The Rev. James Theodore Holly established the Episcopal Church in Haiti in 1861. He was consecrated bishop in 1874, becoming the first black bishop in the Episcopal Church.

Today the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti is the largest diocese in The Episcopal Church based on membership. The Diocese of Haiti is a part of Province II.

The people of Haiti have suffered greatly since the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse on July 7th, 2021. The leadership void has allowed gangs to take over the country. Conditions have created food insecurity for millions of Haitians. Gang violence in and around the capital of Port au Prince has prevented hundreds of thousands of children from attending school. Gangs are using rape and violence to gain power and control. The health care system is in shambles.

Our fellow Episcopalians are in crisis. They are in need of our prayers and support during this difficult time.



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.