

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2009  
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2009-A078  
**TITLE:** Annual Recovery Sunday  
**PROPOSER:** Standing Commission on Health  
**COMMITTEE:** Social and Urban Affairs

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**Directly Related:** (attached)

2003-A123 Call on Dioceses to Establish Committees on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency  
1991-D171 Support Educational Programs on Alcohol and Drug Abuse  
1988-C036 Commend the Use of Alcohol and Drug Awareness Resources  
1979-B122 Request Dioceses to Establish Committees on Alcoholism

**Indirectly Related:**

1991-A100 Give Spiritual Direction and Care for Those Addicted  
1991-D172 Make the Problem of Alcohol and Drug Addiction a Program Priority  
1988-C035 Commend Employee Assistance Programs to Church Institutions  
1985-A083 Adopt Church Policy on Alcohol and Drug Abuse  
1985-A084 Ask Congregations to Develop Educational Programs on Chemical Dependency  
1982-B049 Commend National Episcopal Coalition on Alcohol  
1982-D015 Develop a Church-wide Policy of Education and Response to Alcoholism  
1982-D084 Study Drug Dependencies and Minister to Those Affected

*In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions of General Convention for the period 1976 through 2006, selecting "direct" resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. Committee members who are interested in obtaining copies of "indirectly related" resolutions, legislative history before 1976, or who require other research assistance should contact the Archives at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.*



**Resolution Number:** 2003-A123  
**Title:** Call on Dioceses to Establish Committees on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 74th General Convention call on all dioceses to establish Diocesan Committees on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency to provide educational programs for clergy, church staff, and congregations that take account of recent advances in treatment of alcohol and drug dependency, and that such committees address problems related to alcohol or drug dependency in clergy, church staff, and, when requested, laypersons; and be it further*

*Resolved, That dioceses make strong efforts to develop policies concerning treatment and future employment for diocesan clergy and church staff who are dependent on alcohol or drugs; and be it further*

*Resolved, That dioceses make strong efforts to ensure that health care insurance for diocesan clergy and church staff includes adequate coverage for mental health and addiction, particularly inpatient treatment for dependency on alcohol or drugs.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 340f.



**Resolution Number:** 1991-D171  
**Title:** Support Educational Programs on Alcohol and Drug Abuse  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Deputies concurring, **That the 70th General Convention of the Episcopal Church call on every congregation to support programs for prevention and education about alcohol and other drug abuse and addiction; and be it further**

*Resolved*, **That this 70th General Convention encourage the efforts of the National Episcopal Coalition on Alcohol and Drugs to provide comprehensive resources to the Church through the development and publication of a church school curriculum on alcohol and other drugs.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Phoenix, 1991* (New York: General Convention, 1992), p. 826.



**Resolution Number:** 1988-C036  
**Title:** Commend the Use of Alcohol and Drug Awareness Resources  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Submitted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Bishops concurring, **That this 69th General Convention (1988) support the use of Alcohol-Drug Awareness Sunday materials in the congregations of the Episcopal Church; and be it further**

*Resolved*, **That diocesan Commissions on Alcohol and Drugs be encouraged to promote the use of this material and coordinate the provisions of supplemental resources to congregations; and be it further**

*Resolved*, **That the National Episcopal Coalition on Alcohol and Drugs be commended for the development and coordination of this resource program.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Detroit, 1988* (New York: General Convention, 1989), p. 187.



**Resolution Number:** 1979-B122  
**Title:** Request Dioceses to Establish Committees on Alcoholism  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Submitted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Bishops concurring, **That the 66th General Convention of the Episcopal Church request each Diocese of the Church to form a Committee on Alcoholism, working under the guidance of the Bishop and including in its membership representatives from the Clergy and Laity, and if possible, both recovering alcoholics and non-alcoholics. Each Diocesan committee hopefully would work in conjunction with local and regional health resources, councils on alcoholism and the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous to provide materials for education and training on the subject of alcoholism and alcohol abuse and its effect on the quality of life of human beings. Each Diocese is requested through its Committee on Alcoholism, to develop a written policy on alcoholism which will:**

- a. Address the issues of education, prevention, intervention and treatment;**
- b. Provide a written procedure for treatment of Clergy and Diocesan employees and members of their families who suffer from the illness of alcoholism;**
- c. Include in its policy a statement covering the use of alcoholic beverages at Church functions and/or on Church property, with particular emphasis on the provision of non-alcoholic choices;**
- d. Provide an employees policy statement which includes assurances of job security and insurance coverage for those completing a prescribed course of alcoholic treatment;**
- e. Provide help or encouragement for Clergy and Lay persons working with alcoholics and their families; and be it further**

*Resolved*, **That the Executive Council of the General Convention also comply with provisions b, c, and d, as they relate to the staff of the Executive Council of the General Convention.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 1979* (New York: General Convention, 1980), p. C-114.

TOPIC/TITLE: Substance Abuse: Annual Recovery Sunday

PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Health

C&C PAGE:

BB PAGE: 173

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1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That every congregation in The Episcopal  
2 Church is to institute a Recovery Sunday to be celebrated annually on a date or dates to be  
3 determined by the Ordinary.  
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EXPLANATION:

The 76th General Convention marks the 30th anniversary of The Episcopal Church's Resolution to request each diocese to establish Committees on Alcoholism (1979-B122). In subsequent actions of General Convention, the work of the National Episcopal Coalition on Alcohol and its successor, Recovery Ministries of The Episcopal Church, has been recognized and promoted (1982-B049, D015, D084; 1985-A083, A084; 1988-B016, C035; 1991-A100; 2003-A123).