

Resolutions Proposed for the 2021 Vermont Diocesan Convention

Adoption of the FY2022 Integrated Budget for the Diocese of Vermont

Sponsored by Diocesan Council, which adopted the budget October 13, 2021.

The resolution sets the operating, non-operating, and grants and loans budgets for 2022, as well as percentages for congregational contributions, and provides for adjustments in the event of surpluses or deficits.

Establishing Minimum Clergy Compensation for 2022

Sponsored by Diocesan Council, which approved the guidelines October 13, 2021.

The resolution sets guidelines for minimum compensation for clergy (including deacons and locally ordained clergy), for reimbursement for certain expenses, for a minimum merit increase in compensation for clergy and lay employees, and rates for supply clergy.

Establishing a Strategic Task Force on Financing and Governing Structures

SPONSOR: The Rev. Canon Walter Brownridge

The resolution commends Bishop MacVean-Brown's "initiative in leading a comprehensive study and analysis of the finances and financial reporting and governing structures at all levels of the Diocese," and it asks for the establishment of a task force that will work in the coming year to address appropriate models for finance and governance going forward and report its findings to the 2022 Diocesan Convention.

Enter Barbara Clementine Harris into The Church Calendar

Sponsored by the Rev. Canon Walter Brownridge, the Rev. Canon Lee Alison Crawford, and Anne Clarke Brown

The resolution asks that Diocesan Convention submit to General Convention a resolution that would include the Right Reverend Barbara Harris in the calendar of the church, to be celebrated March 13.

Affirmation of Diverse Gender Identities

Sponsored by the Reverends Rachel Field, Greta Getlein, Lisa Ransom, Chris Jones, and Sarah Ginolfi.

The resolution asks Diocesan Convention to "call upon the church in this diocese to fully embrace, respect and uphold transgender and nonbinary people in all facets of its life" and asks for a committee "to write to the Church Pension Group (CPG) and the Episcopal Church Medical Trust (ECMT)," requesting that they "cease perpetuating harmful and discriminatory practices that force choosing only male or female as a condition of obtaining healthcare and retirement benefits for gender-diverse employees."

Recognition of Apartheid in Israel/Palestine

Sponsored by John Heermans, the Reverend Craig Smith, Neil Richardson, and Mickie Richardson

The resolution asks that Diocesan Convention submit to the General Convention meeting in 2022 a resolution asking it to consider that recent actions by the government of Israel correspond to definitions of apartheid, to affirm that apartheid is "antithetical to the Gospel message and to our Baptismal Covenant," and to call upon the US government to withhold military funding from

Israel “until Israel eliminates apartheid laws, respects Palestinian human rights, and stops violating international law.”

Application of the Leahy Laws to Israel

Sponsored by John Heermans, the Rev. Craig Smith, Neil Richardson, and Mickie Richardson
The resolution asks Diocesan Convention to authorize the Secretary of Convention to submit to General Convention, in the form of a “memorial,” a resolution adopted by Diocesan Convention in 2018 that addresses the application of statutes prohibiting the use of funds to support foreign military units found to be in “gross violation of human rights” (in effect since 1961) to Israel. The resolution supports similar resolutions being considered for action by General Convention in 2022.

Supporting Freedom of Speech and the Right to Boycott

Sponsored by John Heermans, the Rev. Craig Smith, Neil Richardson, and Mickie Richardson
The resolution asks Diocesan Convention to authorize the Secretary of Convention to submit to General Convention, in the form of a “memorial,” a resolution adopted by Diocesan Convention in 2018 that asks the Vermont congressional delegation to “oppose legislation that would penalize companies and organizations for their participation in nonviolent boycotts on behalf of Palestinian human rights.” The resolution supports similar resolutions being considered for action by General Convention in 2022.