

Distancing of The Episcopal Church from the Anglican Communion

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RESOLVED, That the 189th Convention of the Diocese of Vermont submit the following resolution to the 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church meeting in 2024:

RESOLVED, That the 81st General Convention urge bishops of The Episcopal Church to refuse to participate in the Lambeth Conference in any form, including all governance and consulting bodies, until such a time as a) there is absolute equity in the process of invitations to the Lambeth Conference; b) Lambeth Resolution 1.10 is declared to be invalid; c) hatred and violence against LGBTQIA+ persons in every Anglican diocese around the world is publicly decried by every Anglican primate and bishop; and d) the Anglican Communion Office, governance and consulting bodies, and the Lambeth Conference pledge to work actively against hatred and violence toward LGBTQIA+ persons; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the 81st General Convention direct that The Episcopal Church immediately cease all monetary contributions to support the Anglican Communion Office and instead direct those funds to The Human Dignity Trust (www.humandignitytrust.org).

EXPLANATION

The Anglican Communion, led by the Archbishop of Canterbury, did, at the Lambeth Conference in 2022 commit deliberate acts of hate against gay and lesbian members of The Episcopal Church by intentionally choosing not to invite the legal spouses of lesbian and gay bishops while inviting the legal spouses of heterosexual bishops and by making a public statement in a letter to the bishops at the Lambeth Conference “affirming the validity” of the 1998 declaration that “homosexual practice” is “incompatible with scripture” and a sin, and by refusing to call out the sin of Anglican bishops who do not actively work against hatred and violence toward LGBTQIA+ persons in their own dioceses and support, through their silence, the arrest, torture, and killing of such persons. Acts and statements that demean LGBTQ persons and ignore the sin of those who hate them are deliberately harmful, prejudicial, and cannot be construed in any way as being founded in love or a spirit of unity or brotherhood within the Anglican Communion. It is time for The Episcopal Church to take a firmer stand against an organization that treats The Episcopal Church’s clergy and laity, and all LGBTQIA+ persons with such contempt.