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## The Acts of Convention

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Year  ▼

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**Resolution Number:** 2015-A074

**Title:** Update the Safe Church Training Materials

**Legislative Action** Concurred as Amended

**Taken:**

**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 78th General Convention direct that the Episcopal Church Center arrange for the updating or supplementing of written and web-based materials used in the **Safeguarding God's Children** and the **Safeguarding God's People** programs to reflect the experience of the Church in using the **Safeguarding God's Children** and the **Safeguarding God's People** materials; and to cover topics such as social media, mission trips, pilgrimages, camp and conference center programs, and other overnight events, and the experiences of **LGBTQ persons**; and be it further*

*Resolved, That, in addition to developing printed and web-based versions of the updated or supplemented **Safeguarding God's Children** and the **Safeguarding God's People** materials, electronic links to the online versions of the **Safeguarding God's Children** and the **Safeguarding God's People** curricula be made available on The Episcopal Church website; and be it further*

***Resolved, That the Episcopal Church Center publicize the availability of the revised or supplemented written and web-based *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* materials to dioceses and congregations; and be it further***

***Resolved, That dioceses of The Episcopal Church be required annually to confirm, in writing or by email, to a designated office in the Episcopal Church Center that the diocese and (to the best of its knowledge after due inquiry) congregations in the diocese are training persons in positions of authority (including clergy, staff, vestry, children, and youth educators/leaders and other volunteers) by using the *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* materials or other appropriate materials for this training; and be it further***

***Resolved, That after the written and web-based *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* curricula are revised or supplemented, re-training of trainers be conducted so that the persons conducting training in congregations and dioceses are fully aware of the changes in the training materials and are able to teach them competently; and be it further***

***Resolved, That the 78th General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$50,000 for the implementation of this resolution.***

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 418-419.

## Legislative History

**Author:** Standing Commission on Lifelong Christian Formation and Education  
**Originating House:** House of Deputies  
**Originating Committee:** Formation and Education for Ministry

### House of Deputies

The House of Deputies Committee on Formation and Education for Ministry presented its Report #8 on Resolution A074 (Update the Safeguarding Materials) and moved adoption with amendment.

### Original Text of Resolution:

(A074)

***Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, That the 78th General Convention direct that the Episcopal Church Center arrange for the updating or supplementing of written and web-based materials used in the *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* programs to reflect the experience of the Church in using the *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* materials; and to cover topics such as social media, mission trips, pilgrimages, camp and conference center programs, and other overnight events; and be it further***

*Resolved*, That, in addition to developing printed and web-based versions of the updated or supplemented *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* materials, electronic links to the online versions of the *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* curricula be made available on The Episcopal Church website; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Episcopal Church Center publicize the availability of the revised or supplemented written and web-based *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* materials to dioceses and congregations; and be it further

*Resolved*, That dioceses of The Episcopal Church be required annually to confirm, in writing or by email, to a designated office in the Episcopal Church Center that the diocese and (to the best of its knowledge after due inquiry) congregations in the diocese are training persons in positions of authority (including clergy, staff, vestry, children, and youth educators/leaders and other volunteers) by using the *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* materials or other appropriate materials for this training; and be it further

*Resolved*, That after the written and web-based *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* curricula are revised or supplemented, re-training of trainers be conducted so that the persons conducting training in congregations and dioceses are fully aware of the changes in the training materials and are able to teach them competently; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 78th General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$50,000 for the implementation of this resolution.

**Committee Amendment:**

*Resolved*, the House of Bishops concurring, That the 78th General Convention direct that the Episcopal Church Center arrange for the updating or supplementing of written and web-based materials used in the *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* programs to reflect the experience of the Church in using the *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* materials; and to cover topics such as social media, mission trips, pilgrimages, camp and conference center programs, and other overnight events, *and the experiences of LGBTQ persons*; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, in addition to developing printed and web-based versions of the updated or supplemented *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* materials, electronic links to the online versions of the *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* curricula be made available on The Episcopal Church website; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Episcopal Church Center publicize the availability of the revised or supplemented written and web-based *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* materials to dioceses and congregations; and be it further

*Resolved*, That dioceses of The Episcopal Church be required annually to confirm, in writing or by email, to a designated office in the Episcopal Church Center that the diocese and (to the best of its knowledge after due inquiry) congregations in the diocese are training persons in positions of authority (including clergy, staff, vestry,

children, and youth educators/leaders and other volunteers) by using the *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* materials or other appropriate materials for this training; and be it further

*Resolved*, That after the written and web-based *Safeguarding God's Children* and the *Safeguarding God's People* curricula are revised or supplemented, re-training of trainers be conducted so that the persons conducting training in congregations and dioceses are fully aware of the changes in the training materials and are able to teach them competently; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 78th General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$50,000 for the implementation of this resolution.

**Motion carried**

**Resolution adopted with amendment**

(Communicated to the House of Bishops in HD Message #21)

### House of Bishops

The House of Bishops Committee on Formation and Education for Ministry presented its Report #45 on HD Message #21 on Resolution A074 (Update the Safeguarding Materials) and moved concurrence.

**Motion carried**

**The House concurred**

(Communicated to the House of Deputies in HB Message #338)

Resolution Concurred by Both Houses, July 3.

**Report Reference:** Standing Commission on Lifelong Christian Formation and Education, *Reports to the 78th General Convention, 2015*, pp. 383-392.

**Abstract:** The 78th General Convention directs that the ECC update the training materials: *Safeguarding God's Children* and *Safeguarding God's People*; and directs dioceses to confirm annually implementation of these programs.

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