

**RESOLUTION: IN SUPPORT OF BLESSING COMMITTED, MONOGOMOUS
RELATIONSHIPS**

Resolved, this _____ Convention of the Diocese of _____ affirms full inclusion of the members of this church who are lesbian and gay, and be it further

Resolved, that this diocese supports the blessing of committed, monogamous relationships intended to be life-long, and be it further

Resolved, that this diocese memorializes the 73rd General Convention of the Episcopal Church to that effect and directs the Secretary to send this resolution to the Office of General Convention at the National Church Center.

Explanation

If lesbians and gay men are to have equal access to the rites of the church, it is imperative to develop a church-wide same sex commitment service which requires lesbians and gay men to make the same kinds of promises required of heterosexuals seeking to be married in the church.

In order to treat gay men and lesbians equally with others in the church, particularly in connection with ordination and service in the ordained ministry, some kind of blessing and recognition by the church is required. This is particularly true in connection with pensions and other spousal benefits.