

**50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Convention of the  
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SAN JOAQUIN  
October 23-25, 2009  
St Paul's, Modesto, California**

**Title:** Affirmation of Resolutions C056 of the 76<sup>th</sup> General  
Convention of the Episcopal Church

**Resolution Number:** R-09-05

**Sponsor:** Rev. Luis M. Rodriguez, Convention Delegate, Church  
of the Saviour, Hanford  
Commission on Equality

**Required Vote:** Simple Majority

**RESOLVED**, that this Diocesan Convention publicly affirm Resolution C056 of the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention.

**EXPLANATION:** Resolution C056 calls for a pastoral response from the Church with regards to the legalization of marriage between same-sex couples in various civil jurisdictions. While the State of California seems to be of two minds on this, it does make allowance for registered domestic partnerships and continues to recognize those same-sex marriages entered into prior to the passage of Proposition 8. This resolution is a step toward recognizing the need for this diocese to develop a pastoral and affirming attitude toward this situation. Resolution C056 provides:

*Resolved*, the House of Deputies concurring, That the 76th General Convention acknowledge the changing circumstances in the United States and in other nations, as legislation authorizing or forbidding marriage, civil unions or domestic partnerships for gay and lesbian persons is passed in various civil jurisdictions that call forth a renewed pastoral response from this Church, and for an open process for the reconsideration of theological and liturgical resources for the blessing of same gender relationships; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

*Resolved*, That the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music, in consultation with the House of Bishops, collect and develop theological and liturgical resources, and report to the 77th General Convention; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

*Resolved*, That the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music, in consultation with the House of Bishops, devise an open process for the conduct of its work inviting participation from provinces, dioceses, congregations, and individuals who are engaged in such theological work, and inviting theological reflection from throughout the Anglican Communion; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

*Resolved*, That bishops, particularly those in dioceses within civil jurisdictions where same-gender marriage, civil unions, or domestic partnerships are legal, may provide generous pastoral response to meet the needs of members of this Church; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

*Resolved*, That this Convention honor the theological diversity of this Church in regard to matters of human sexuality; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

*Resolved*, That the members of this Church be encouraged to engage in this effort.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None