



**THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF UPPER SOUTH CAROLINA
STANDING COMMITTEE**

**STANDING RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE
SERVING OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN THE
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF UPPER SOUTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, in 1985, the Sixty-third Annual Convention of The Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina adopted the following Standing Resolution relating to the serving of alcoholic beverages (the “1985 Resolution”):

RESOLVED, that the Sixty-third Annual Convention of the Diocese of Upper South Carolina discourage the serving of alcoholic beverages at church-sponsored social functions on church property.

and,

WHEREAS, in 2015, the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church adopted Resolution A158, establishing a policy relating to the serving of alcoholic beverages (the “TEC Policy”), and encouraged dioceses, congregations, seminaries, schools, young adult ministries, and affiliated institutions to update their policies on the use of alcohol and other substances with the potential for misuse, taking into consideration 14 enumerated factors; and

WHEREAS, the Standing Committee of The Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina, pursuant to its interim legislative authority as set forth in Title III, Canon 2, Section 3 of the Canons of The Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina, has determined that it is appropriate to repeal the 1985 Resolution, and, as encouraged by the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church, to adopt in its stead a Standing Resolution that substantially takes into consideration the 14 factors outlined in the TEC Policy, to be effective immediately and continue in effect until ratification, amendment or repeal of such Resolution at the 101st Convention of the Diocese of Upper South Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Standing Resolution adopted in 1985 by the Sixty-third Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina relating to the serving of alcoholic beverages (the “1985 Resolution”) be, and it hereby is, repealed; and, further,

RESOLVED, that the following Standing Resolution (the “2022 Resolution”), which substantially takes into consideration the factors outlined in the policy relating to serving of alcoholic beverages adopted in 2015 by the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church, be, and it hereby is, adopted:

**STANDING RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE SERVING OF ALCOHOLIC
BEVERAGES**

1. The Church must provide a safe and welcoming environment for all people, including people in recovery.
2. All applicable federal, state and local laws should be obeyed, including those governing the serving of alcoholic beverages to minors.



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3. Some congregations, schools, young adult ministries, and affiliated institutions of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina may decide not to serve alcohol at events or gatherings. Others may decide to permit a limited use of alcoholic beverages at church-sponsored events. Both can be appropriate if approached mindfully.
4. When alcohol is served, it must be monitored and those showing signs of intoxication must not be served. Whenever alcohol is served, the rector, vicar, priest-in-charge, or person in charge of another organization must appoint an adult to oversee its serving. That adult must not drink alcoholic beverages during the time of his or her execution of his or her responsibilities. If hard liquor is served, a server who has successfully completed a training program recognized by the South Carolina Department of Revenue is required.
5. Serving alcoholic beverages at congregational events where minors are present is strongly discouraged. If minors are present, alcohol must be served at a separate station that is monitored at all times to prevent underage drinking.
6. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages must be clearly labeled as such. Food prepared with alcohol does not need to be labeled provided the alcohol is completely evaporated by the cooking process; however, it is recommended that even in this case the use of alcohol in cooking be noted on a label.
7. Whenever alcohol is served, equally appealing non-alcoholic alternatives must always be offered with equal prominence and accessibility.
8. Ministries inside or outside of congregations will make certain that alcohol consumption is not the focus of the ministry and that drinking alcohol is not an exclusively normative activity.
9. Food must be served when alcohol is present.
10. The groups or organizations sponsoring the activity or event at which alcoholic beverages are served must have permission from the clergy, the vestry, or other person in charge. Such groups or organizations must also assume responsibility for those persons who might become intoxicated and must provide alternative transportation for anyone whose capacity to drive may be impaired. Consulting with liability insurance carriers is advised.
11. Recognizing the effects of alcohol as a mood-altering drug, alcoholic beverages shall not be served when the business of the Church is being conducted.
12. Clergy shall consecrate an appropriate amount of wine when celebrating the Eucharist and perform ablutions in a way that does not foster or model misuse.

and, further,

RESOLVED, that congregations, schools, young adult ministries, and affiliated institutions of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina are encouraged to update their policies on the



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use of alcohol and other substances with the potential for misuse consistent with the 2022 Resolution; and, further,

RESOLVED, that the Standing Committee submit repeal of the 1985 Resolution to the 101st Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina (the "101st Convention") for ratification, amendment or repeal; and, further,

RESOLVED, that the Standing Committee submit the 2022 Resolution to the 101st Convention for ratification, amendment or repeal; and, further,

RESOLVED, that repeal of the 1985 Resolution and adoption of the 2022 Resolution be, and they hereby are, effective immediately and shall continue in effect until ratification, amendment or repeal at the 101st Convention; and, further,

RESOLVED, that the President of the Standing Committee serving at the time for proposal of Standing Resolutions at the 101st Convention be, and hereby is, authorized, empowered and directed on behalf of the Standing Committee to take all such actions as are necessary or appropriate to submit repeal of the 1985 Resolution and adoption of the 2022 Resolution to the 101st Convention for ratification, amendment or repeal.

Resolutions adopted by the Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina as of December 10, 2022.

Date: _____

Secretary to the Standing Committee
The Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina