

Province II Synod

Proposed Resolution submitted by Yvonne O’Neal

Resolution 2024-1

Submission of Resolution to the 81st General Convention

End the Practice of Labor Trafficking of Migrant Youth

*Be it resolved*, That The International Atlantic Province – the Second Province of The Episcopal Church – submit the following resolution to the 81st General Convention of the Episcopal Church meeting in 2024:

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That this 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church call upon all members of the Church to become informed about the injustices of labor trafficking, particularly how it affects migrant youth; and be it further

*Resolved*, That The Episcopal Church encourage its dioceses and congregations to engage in educational campaigns that raise awareness about labor trafficking, its signs, and prevention methods; and be it further

*Resolved*, That The Episcopal Church advocate for comprehensive and enforceable policies at local, state, and national levels aimed at eradicating labor trafficking and protecting migrant youth; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Office of Government Relations communicate this resolution to the appropriate legislative bodies, urging them to take decisive action against the exploitation of migrant youth.

Explanation

This resolution aims to galvanize The Episcopal Church to take a stand against the grave injustice of labor trafficking, focusing on the particularly vulnerable population of migrant youth. The Church is called to uphold the dignity and sanctity of every human being. Labor trafficking infringes upon the freedoms and inherent dignity of individuals, which is contrary to the teachings of Christ and the values of the Episcopal Church. Migrant youth are particularly vulnerable to exploitation due to various factors including economic instability, lack of legal protections, and social isolation. Through education and advocacy, the Church can play a pivotal role in both raising awareness and pushing for meaningful change that aligns with our commitment to justice and compassion for all.

See: <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/02/25/us/unaccompanied-migrant-child-workers-exploitation.html>