

R2012-01: Express Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples

Resolved, that the Diocese of Southern Ohio expresses its solidarity with the indigenous peoples of the world and supports the rights of indigenous peoples to live in and retain their traditional lands and territories, to maintain their languages and enrich their cultures, and to ensure that their traditions are strengthened and passed on for generations to come; *and be it further*

Resolved, that the 138th Diocesan Convention urges the Ohio General Assembly, county and city governments to dismantle the legal structures and policies based on the “Doctrine of Discovery,” a concept of public, international law that gave early explorers the right to claim ownership of land; *and be it further*

Resolved, that the 138th Diocesan Convention requests that county and city governments empower and enable indigenous peoples to identify their own aspirations and issues of concern, and fully involve them, after sufficient and prior consultation, in creating and implementing solutions that recognize and respect the rights of indigenous peoples; *and be it further*

Resolved, that the 138th Diocesan Convention calls on congregations, county and city institutions, with the aid of “Exposing the Doctrine of Discovery,” to reflect upon their history and to encourage them to support indigenous peoples, to continue to raise awareness about the issues facing indigenous peoples, and to develop advocacy campaigns to support the rights, aspirations and needs of indigenous peoples; *and be it further*

Resolved, that the 138th Diocese Convention calls on congregations to support continued use and development of theological reflections by indigenous peoples, with guidance from The Episcopal Church’s Office of Indigenous Ministries, local schools of ministry and seminaries, which promote indigenous visions of full, good and abundant life.