

### **R2017-03: Repair America's Safety Net**

**Resolved**, that this 143rd Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio submit the following resolution to the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church:

**Resolved**, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, that the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church advocate unflinchingly for the federal and state governments of the United States to close gaps in the safety net which cause millions of Americans to suffer eviction, homelessness, inability to access health care, medical debt, and hunger; *and be it further*

**Resolved**, that Episcopalians, dioceses, and The Episcopal Church advocate for government food assistance, health care coverage, and housing assistance to be entitlements, for which eligibility is determined by the applicant's current financial need and all eligible people receive the aid they qualify for; *and be it further*

**Resolved**, that Episcopalians, dioceses, and The Episcopal Church oppose federal cuts in tax credits that benefit low-income families including the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, and Child Care Credit, and advocate for similar tax credits at the state level; *and be it further*

**Resolved**, that Episcopalians, dioceses, and The Episcopal Church oppose health care proposals

1. to limit public benefit funding to block grants, or
2. to cut off new enrollment of income-eligible people at a future date irrespective of their needs, or
3. to stipulate that people who lose eligibility when their income rises cannot re-enroll if their income falls again in the future due to loss of income, *and be it further*

**Resolved**, that Episcopalians and dioceses in the 19 states that did not accept the Affordable Care Act Medicaid Expansion advocate with their state legislators and governors to accept this benefit and federal funding for their constituents; *and be it further*

**Resolved**, that Episcopalians, dioceses and The Episcopal Church call on Congress to make the cost-sharing provisions of the Affordable Care Act an entitlement; *and be it further*

**Resolved**, that Episcopalians, dioceses and The Episcopal Church call on Congress to cap the mortgage interest deduction for wealthy taxpayers and direct the increased revenue to low-income housing assistance programs; *and be it further*

**Resolved**, that the General Convention allocate funding for 1/4 FTE staff person at the Washington Office of The Episcopal Church to track federal and state legislative proposals on public benefit funding and eligibility, and to provide timely action alerts to bishops, dioceses, and Episcopal Public Policy Network subscribers.