

## **Resolution J-185** **Condemning Censorship**

Submitted by the Diocese of Missouri's GC81 Deputation

The following has been forwarded to Dioceses per Resolution 2024-D039 of the 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church.

**Resolved**, That the Diocese of Missouri condemn harmful and oppressive book bans which undermine the Beloved Community; and be it further

**Resolved**, That the Diocese of Missouri and local parishes be encouraged to work more broadly to support the reading of and access to these affirming materials through initiatives such as:

- storing affirming books and materials in church libraries
- archiving affirming material about LGBTQ+ and POC Christian experiences
- facilitating connection and affirmation of oppressed individuals.

### ***Explanation:***

The original text of Resolution 2024-D039 which was Concurred (passed by the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops) is as follows:

### **Resolution Text**

**Resolved**, That the 81st General Convention condemn harmful and oppressive book bans which undermine the Beloved Community; and be it further

**Resolved**, That the 81st General Convention direct the Office of Government Relations to advocate for access to material affirming of LGBTQIA+, racial minority, and other marginalized experiences in schools and libraries; and be it further

**Resolved**, That the 81st General Convention encourage dioceses and local parishes to work more broadly to support the reading of and access to these affirming materials through initiatives such as:

- storing affirming books and materials in church libraries
- archiving affirming material about LGBTQ+ and POC Christian experiences
- facilitating connection and affirmation of oppressed individuals;

and be it further

**Resolved**, That the 81st General Convention request grant making bodies affiliated with The Episcopal Church to consider directing funds to support these aims.