

Providing Deacons Access to the Benefits of the Church Pension Group

Proposer of Resolution: The Reverend Deacon Kent J. Curtis

Parish or Organization: The Bishop's Committee for the Diaconate

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Title of Resolution: Providing Deacons Access to the Benefits of the Church Pension Group

Text of Resolution:

Resolved: that the 244th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of New York requests each parish with a serving deacon to pay \$25 a month to each of their deacons as remuneration, and that each such parish also make the required contribution to the Church Pension Fund for the benefit of each such deacon.

Explanation:

Deacons in the Episcopal Diocese of New York serve in their parish and in the Diocese as deacons without remuneration.

The Church Pension Fund provides resources for clergy and lay employees of churches in the Episcopal Church. One of the resources is CREDO, a wellness resource, that helps both active and retired clergy pension plan participants by presenting a holistic approach to wellness for mind, body, spirit, and heart. Participants examine and evaluate their health and wellness from the spiritual, vocational, physical and emotional health and financial points of view.

The Church Pension Fund also provides pension and retirement savings plans, health benefits, and educational services. At recent conferences, representatives of the Church Pension Fund have stated that if deacons were paid a nominal amount, the deacons would be eligible for these benefits.

This proposed amendment asks that congregations make such a nominal payment of \$25 a month to deacons, as well as a payment of 18% (\$4.50 for a monthly total of \$29.50) to the Church Pension Fund to enable them to participate in the programs and benefits available through the Church Pension Fund.