

strengthening these efforts by all expressions and ministries of this church; and to ensure the availability of effective resources for dealing with sexual misconduct and sexual harassment within this church;

12. To call upon teaching theologians, bishops, pastors, diaconal ministers, associates in ministry, deaconesses, educators, and others to continue to extend theological and biblical reflection as well as theoretical and practical understanding of human sexuality through intellectual discourse, moral deliberation, continued research, discussion, and writing;
13. To recognize that the ELCA has adopted a strategy that will guide its response to the HIV and AIDS epidemic, and to call upon all units and expressions of this church to support that strategy;
14. To call upon all congregations, synods, early childhood education centers, elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities, seminaries, campus ministries, outdoor ministries, social ministry organizations, public policy advocacy ministries, and all churchwide units to carry out the substance and spirit of this statement; and
15. To call upon Church in Society and other appropriate churchwide units to oversee a process of implementation and accountability for this social statement and to report on implementation to the Church Council in early 2012.

Report of the Reference and Counsel Committee

(Reference: Pre-Assembly Report VIII:1-4)

Motion A: Health Care Reform

WHEREAS, the 2003 ELCA Social Statement, "Caring for our Health: Our Shared Endeavor" states: "We support: a comprehensive approach to health care as a shared endeavor among individuals, churches, government, and the wider society; a vision of health care and healing that includes individual, church, and social responsibilities; a vision of a health care system that is based on understanding health, illness, healing, and health care within a coherent set of services; equitable access for all people to basic health care services and to the benefits of public health efforts; faithful moral discernment guiding individual participation and public policymaking in health care services," (pages 2-3); and

WHEREAS, "health care in the United States, its territories, and Puerto Rico suffers from a prolonged crisis" (page 1); and

WHEREAS, "the stress on individuals and families because of society's inability to fashion an adequate health care system makes action increasingly urgent" (page 2); and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress is working on comprehensive health care reform for passage; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in Assembly, commit this church in all of its expressions to the premise that "each person should have ready access to basic health care services that include preventive, acute, and chronic physical and mental health care at an affordable cost" (page 13); and be it therefore further

RESOLVED, that this assembly request that the ELCA Washington Office, in partnership with the synods, congregations and members of the ELCA, convey the urgency and sense of this resolution to Congress and the White House.

ASSEMBLY

ACTION:

YES-799; NO-126

CA09.04.18

To approve the following:

RESOLVED, that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in Assembly, commit this church in all of its expressions to the premise that "each person should have ready access to basic health care services that include preventive, acute, and chronic physical and mental health care at an affordable cost" (page 13); and be it therefore further

RESOLVED, that this assembly request that the ELCA Washington Office, in partnership with the synods, congregations and members of the ELCA, convey the urgency and sense of this resolution to Congress and the White House.

Amendments to the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions

(Reference: Pre-Assembly Report IV:45-53)

During the seventh plenary session, voting members of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly considered amendments to the *Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*.

ASSEMBLY

TWO-THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

ACTION:

YES-891; NO-51

CA09.04.19

To adopt *en bloc*, with the exception of such amendments as may be considered separately, the following amendments to the *Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*: