

**Amendment to Resolution Establishing Clergy Compensation
Regarding Compensation to Deacons**

SPONSOR: St. John's Episcopal Church, Essex

That in resolution #2, Clergy Compensation, the table entitled "MINIMUM COMPENSATION FORMULA FOR PART-TIME CLERGY" be amended to add a row for Deacons (Vocational) Serving in Connecticut, and that each Episcopal organization with a serving deacon pay \$25 a month to their deacon as remuneration, and that each such organization also make the required contribution to the Church Pension Fund for the benefit of the deacon.

EXPLANATION:

Deacons in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut serve in their parish and diocesan positions as deacons without remuneration. These deacons commonly work in organizations that are increasingly eliminating pension, 401(k) match contributions, and retiree health insurance, leaving many deacons financially challenged. 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) to the Church Pension Fund to enable them to participate in the programs and benefits available through the Church Pension Fund.