

1 **A Resolution supporting action by the Alabama Legislature to allow the**
2 **people of Alabama to vote on calling a Constitutional Convention to**
3 **rewrite the Alabama Constitution.**

4 **Resolution # 3**
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6 **Be it resolved** that the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama, through its ordained and lay
7 leaders and its members, be encouraged to actively support, work and pray for rewriting
8 the Alabama Constitution by means of a Citizen's Constitutional Convention.
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10 **Further be it resolved,** that this 176th Convention of the Episcopal Church in the
11 Diocese of Alabama strongly urges action by the members of the State Legislature, the
12 Governor, and other elected officials of the State of Alabama to support and pass the bills
13 that will be introduced in the House and Senate in the current session that will allow the
14 people of Alabama to vote as to whether or not they want a convention to be called.
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16 Background:
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18 The 1901 Alabama Constitution with its approximately 800 amendments, racist language, regressive tax
19 codes, and restricted local authority is the longest and most lowly rated constitution in the country. It was
20 deliberately designed to suppress the poor and to empower the legislature. It is in need of renewal. Efforts
21 to revise it article by article over the last century have produce very little effect.
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23 In 2006 bills were introduced in both the House and the Senate that defined the structure of a Citizens
24 Constitutional Convention and that would allow the voters to decide, yes or no, on establishing a
25 convention.
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27 The legislators were presented with over 75,000 signatures on a petition asking them to take action. But
28 neither Bill reached the floor of their respective house.
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30 The bills will again be introduced in the current session. Widespread support is urgently needed too get
31 these measures passed.
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34 Adopted by the Diocesan Convention, February 16, 2007
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