

Statute 787

The General Church Trust Amendment Statute, 2026

Whereas, on 9 and 18 August 1859, certain properties were settled on trust on trustees appointed by the General Synod by deeds of conveyance hereinafter referred to as “the 1859 Deeds”, including trusts in connection with the Branch of the United Church of England and Ireland in New Zealand, and

Whereas, certain properties in the 1859 Deeds are now held by the General Church Trust Board on the same trusts as those on which they were settled, and

Whereas, the said Branch did not include the islands which today comprise part of the Diocese of Polynesia, and

Whereas, the terms of trust in the 1859 Deeds also provide that the rents, issues, and profits of the properties must be applied to purposes set out in the 1859 Deeds in accordance with the directions of the General Synod, and

Whereas, on 26 April 1928, the General Synod passed a statute to, among other things, “confirm the creation of the General Church Trust”, which Statute is numbered 175 and is hereinafter referred to as “Statute 175”, and

Whereas, in 1986, the General Synod passed a statute clarifying how it interpreted Statute 175 and how the trust property administered by the General Church Trust Board could be applied to the Bishopric of Aotearoa and the Diocese of Polynesia, which Statute is numbered 420 and is titled “The General Church Trust Amendment Statute 1986” and is hereinafter referred to as “Statute 420”, and

Whereas, in 1990, the Diocese of Polynesia became a diocese of the Church, and

Whereas, in 1992, the Church was reorganised into three Tikanga, and

Whereas, it is desirable for the General Synod / Te Hīnota Whānui to repeal Statute 420 and to clarify how the General Synod may, from time to time, direct the General Church Trust Board to pay the proceeds of trust property for the several Dioceses of New Zealand, Te Pihopatanga o Aotearoa, and the Diocese of Polynesia.

The General Synod/te Hīnota Whānui enacts as follows:

1. **Title.** The Title of this statute is *The General Church Trust Amendment Statute, 2026*.
2. **Purpose.** To repeal The General Church Trust Amendment Statute 1986; and to clarify how General Synod interprets Statute 175.
3. The General Church Trust Amendment Statute 1986 is repealed.
4. The following acknowledgments are to be applied when interpreting Statute 175: -
 - (a) Te Pihopatanga o Aotearoa, Hui Amorangi, and the Diocese of Polynesia are acknowledged to be “Bishoprics of the said Church in New Zealand” as those words are used in Clause 2 of Statute 175.

- (b) The Cathedrals of Te Pīhopatanga o Aotearoa, Hui Amorangi, and the Diocese of Polynesia are acknowledged to be “Cathedral Churches ... in the several Dioceses of the said Church in New Zealand” as those words are used in Clause 2 of Statute 175.
- (c) The Houses of Te Pīhopa o Aotearoa, the Pīhopa of the Hui Amorangi, and the Bishop of Polynesia are acknowledged to be “Bishops” Houses in the several Dioceses of the said Church in New Zealand” as those words are used in Clause 2 of Statute 175.
- (d) Te Rūnanganui o Te Pīhopatanga o Aotearoa, Hui Amorangi, and the Synod of the Diocese of Polynesia are acknowledged to be “*meetings of Synods*” as those words are used in Clause 2 of Statute 175.
5. **Commencement.** This Statute comes into effect at the close of the session of the 67th General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui.

We certify that this Statute was passed by the General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui on 20 August 2026. As witnessed by my hand 1 October 2026.



D Tamihere
Primate and Archbishop



J Duckworth
Primate and Archbishop



S Ulu'ilakepa
Primate and Archbishop