WHEREAS, The Very Reverend Craig Loya was elected the Tenth Bishop of Minnesota during the 162nd convention of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota on January 25, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Loya was born and grew up in North Platte, Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Loya is a graduate of Hastings College with a Bachelor of Arts degree, magna cum laude, in English and Religion; and

WHEREAS, Loya received his Master of Divinity from Yale University and a diploma in Anglican Studies from the Berkeley Divinity School at Yale; and

WHEREAS, Loya is married to Melissa Tubbs Loya and the couple has two children, Mari and Asa; and

WHEREAS, Loya has served as the Dean and Rector of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral since 2013, overseeing a period of significant growth and expanded engagement with the poor and marginalized, children and families, the downtown neighborhood, and the city of Omaha; and

WHEREAS, Loya also serves as the Chaplain of Brownell Talbot school, working with children and youth at this educational institution with historic ties to the Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS, Loya is a founder and the board president of Magdalene Omaha, a residential program for women surviving sex trafficking, and a board member of Inclusive Communities, an organization providing education and advocacy related to topics of diversity and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, Loya has served the Episcopal Diocese of Nebraska as a member of
the executive committee, standing committee, and bishop and trustees committee; and

WHEREAS, Loya has demonstrated leadership in the wider Episcopal Church as a General Convention Deputy, Co-Convener of the General Convention Task Force for Re-Imagining the Episcopal Church, Co-Convener of the North American Conference of Cathedral Deans, and a member of the General Convention Task Force on Women, Truth, and Reconciliation; and

WHEREAS, Loya has served on the faculty of the Bishop Kemper School for Ministry, providing education and spiritual formation for students in the Episcopal Dioceses of Nebraska, Kansas, Western Kansas, and West Missouri.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature congratulates The Very Reverend Craig Loya on his election as the Tenth Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota and thanks him for his ministry in the State of Nebraska.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to The Very Reverend Craig Loya and Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.