

Resolution D-182A

Resolution D-182A: A resolution of the Committee on Constitution and Canons to effect certain amendments to the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Missouri

WHEREAS, the 182nd Convention of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Missouri (the “Diocese”) adopted Resolution D-182A to effect certain amendments to the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese; and

WHEREAS, as set forth in Article V.2 of the Constitution of this Diocese, the amendments to the Constitution approved during the 182nd Convention were held over for consideration until the 183rd Convention; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Johnson has approved the amendments set forth in Resolution D-182A;

WHEREAS, this 183rd Convention of the Diocese may adopt the proposed amendments to the Constitution by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Voting Members of both Orders, voting separately;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Missouri be amended as follows:

1. **Article III.1 Annual Meeting of Convention** of the Constitution is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

ARTICLE III.1 Annual Meeting of Convention

The Convention of the Church in this Diocese shall assemble annually. Each annual meeting of Convention shall designate the time and place for the second succeeding annual meeting of Convention. The ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese may, however, change the time or place, or both, upon at least ten days’ notice to the Senior Warden of every Parish, the Bishop’s Warden of every Mission and every Clerical Member of Convention.

[Deleted phase-in text used when first amending this Article: “The 169th annual meeting of Convention shall designate the time and place for the 170th and 171st annual meetings of Convention. The 170th annual meeting of Convention and”]

2. **Section 3 of Article III.3 Members of Convention** of the Constitution is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

SEC 3. Every Cleric who is Canonically Resident and is not subject to Ecclesiastical Discipline shall have seat and voice in Convention. Every such Cleric with seat and voice in Convention who: (i) is the Rector of a Parish; (ii) is the Vicar of a Mission; (iii) is an Assistant in a Congregation (that is, a Parish or Mission); (iv) has served on a Diocesan committee during the preceding year or is regularly assigned by the Bishop for ministry within the Diocese; (v) is a full time staff member of the Diocesan Office or of a Diocesan Institution or Agency; (vi) is a full time instructor at a theological seminary accredited by the Episcopal Church; or (vii) is serving in a position by appointment of the Presiding Bishop or the Bishop, shall have seat, voice and vote in Convention.

[Deletes concept of “regular standing,” which was not defined, and replaces it with an Ecclesiastical Discipline standard. Updates canonically resident Clergy voting standards to assure active local presence, taking into account pandemic-related and other potential limitations as to performance of sacramental ministry.]

3. **Section 4 of Article III.3 Members of Convention** of the Constitution is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

SEC. 4. A Cleric who is not Canonically Resident and not subject to Ecclesiastical Discipline and is serving in a position in the Diocese by appointment of the Bishop, shall have seat and voice in Convention. Every such Cleric with seat and voice in Convention who is regularly assigned by the Bishop for ministry within the Diocese and is not eligible to vote in the convention of any other Diocese of the Episcopal Church shall have seat, voice and vote in Convention.

[Provides for participation in Convention by non-canonically resident Clergy, including voting rights for Clergy if they are actively engaged in sacramental ministry within the Diocese and not eligible to vote in another Diocese.]

4. **Section 9 of Article III.3 Members of Convention** of the Constitution is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

SEC. 9. The Chancellor, Vice Chancellors (if any), Treasurer and Assistant Treasurers (if any) of the Diocese shall have seat and voice in Convention.

[Gives seat and voice at Convention to Assistant Treasurers.]

5. **Section 3 of Article III.4 Presiding Officer of Convention** of the Constitution is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

SEC. 3. The Presiding Officer shall appoint a Secretary of Convention to keep a record of its proceedings, to attest to its acts and to perform any further duties assigned by Convention or required by Canon. The Secretary shall be a Communicant in good standing.

[Deletes the requirement that the Secretary of Convention be a Member of Convention.]

6. The first sentence of **Article III.5 Transaction of Business** of the Constitution is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

The Holy Communion shall be celebrated at least once in connection with each meeting of Convention.

[Confirms flexibility in scheduling the Eucharist as part of Convention (may be before initial call to order or after adjournment).]

7. **Article III.10 Treasurer of the Diocese** of the Constitution is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

ARTICLE III.10 Treasurer of the Diocese

The Bishop, with the consent of Convention, shall appoint a Treasurer, and may appoint one or more Assistant Treasurers, of the Diocese. They shall be financial advisors of the Bishop, Standing Committee, and Diocesan Council, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by Convention or required by Canon. Each shall be a Communicant in good standing and shall hold office at the pleasure of the Bishop. Whenever, between meetings of Convention, a vacancy shall occur in

the office of the Treasurer of the Diocese, the Bishop may fill the vacancy by interim appointment, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee.

[Allows for the appointment of Assistant Treasurers (similar to provision allowing for the appointment of Vice Chancellors.)]

8. **Article III.14** of the Constitution is hereby added in its proper numerical order and shall read in its entirety as follows:

ARTICLE III.14 Electronic Participation in Convention

If warranted by extraordinary circumstances, as determined by the ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese, including issues of public health and welfare, the ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese may elect to hold any annual or special meeting of Convention predominantly or exclusively by means of videoconference, conference telephone or similar communications equipment whereby all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other, and participation in a meeting of Convention in this manner shall constitute presence in person at the meeting of Convention for all purposes. The ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese shall give at least ten days notice of any such determination to the Senior Warden of every Parish, the Bishop's Warden of every Mission and every Clerical Member of Convention.

[Clarifies the ability of the Diocese to hold "virtual" meetings of Convention when necessary, with a bias toward in-person participation.]

9. **Section 2.a. of Article IV.1 The Cathedral** of the Constitution is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

SEC. 2. a. Each annual meeting of Convention shall elect one Clerical member and one lay member of the Cathedral Chapter, neither of whom may be a member of the Cathedral Parish, to serve a term of three years. Members shall not be eligible for re-election until after the expiration of one year. The six Diocesan members shall be chosen so that two lay members and two Clergy members shall be from Congregations within the St. Louis City/ County area (that is, St. Louis City and St. Louis County) and one of each from Congregations in the Diocese outside the St. Louis City/County area. The Clerical members of the Chapter must be Canonically Resident and shall be known as Honorary Canons of Christ Church Cathedral.

In case of any vacancy, the Chapter shall appoint a Clerical or lay member, as the case may be, from the vacating member's geographical area, to serve out the vacating member's unexpired term.

[Conforms reference to Canonically Resident to be consistent with other usage in the Constitution and Canons.]

10. **Article V.5** of the Constitution is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

ARTICLE V.5 Definitions

Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined in the Constitution or Canons shall have the meanings set forth in this Article V.5.

Annual Convention means the annual plenary session of Convention.

Assistant means a Priest serving as an assistant in a Parish or Mission, by whatever title designated, and selected and approved to serve in such capacity as required by

the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Constitution and the Canons.

Bishop Coadjutor means a bishop elected by Convention for the purpose of succeeding the Bishop, but who has not yet become the Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese.

Bishop or **Diocesan Bishop** means the bishop elected by Convention to be chief priest, pastor, overseer and chief executive officer of the Diocese.

Canonically Resident means, as to a Cleric, that such Cleric is canonically resident in the Diocese as determined by the applicable Canons of the Episcopal Church.

Canon Law means the entire body of ecclesiastical law governing the Episcopal Church and the Diocese, developed continuously since Apostolic times, including but not limited to the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church, this Constitution, and the Canons of the Diocese.

Canons means the Canons of the Diocese.

Clergy or **Cleric** means an ordained deacon, priest, or bishop of the Episcopal Church, who has not been deposed under the Canons of the Episcopal Church.

COEDMO means the Missouri non-profit corporation known as the Corporation of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Missouri (formerly known as The Parochial Trust Fund of the Diocese of Missouri).

Congregation means a parish, mission, or other worship assembly of the Episcopal Church that was, or is, or is eligible to become, in Union with Convention.

Constitution means this document, which constitutes the Constitution of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Missouri.

Convention means the legislative branch of the Diocese, which assembles each year in plenary session as Annual Convention, and which may also assemble in special sessions for limited purposes as a Special Convention.

Delegate or **Member** means a Clergy representative or a Lay representative to Convention.

Diocesan Office means the professional and administrative offices established by the Bishop to assist in the planning, development and execution of Diocesan business, affairs and programs.

Diocesan Agency means a nonprofit entity or association established in compliance with Section 1 of Canon III.17 which acts in the name of the Church.

Diocesan Institution means a nonprofit entity or association established in compliance with Section 2 of Canon III.17.

Diocese means the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Missouri, as established pursuant to the Constitution and Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society or **DFMS** means The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, as incorporated by an act of the Legislature of the State of New York.

Ecclesiastical Discipline means any discipline described in Title IV of the Canons of the Episcopal Church, as those Canons may be amended from time-to-time, whether or not the discipline is submitted to voluntarily or is imposed upon the person subject to it.

Episcopal Church means The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, an ecclesiastical association organized in 1789 in spiritual, temporal, and legal continuity with the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Church of England, and which is a part of the worldwide Anglican Communion.

Lay means a person who is not a member of the Clergy.

Mission means a Congregation of this Church established in accordance with Canon IV.2.

Parish means a Congregation of this Church established in accordance with Canon IV.4.

President means the President of Convention.

Special Convention means a session of Convention other than an Annual Convention.