

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 12, 2024
To: Members of 185th Convention of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Missouri
From: Committee on Constitution and Canons
Re: Report of the Committee on Constitution and Canons

The Committee on Constitution and Canons will be presenting the following resolutions for consideration at the 185th Convention of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Missouri:

Resolution K-185

A resolution to amend Section 1 of Article III.9 of the Constitution of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Missouri

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Missouri provides for the election of lay and clergy deputies at the last or next to the last meeting of Convention preceding the triennial meeting of General Convention; and

WHEREAS, it is preferable to have such elections at the next to the last meeting of Convention in order for the deputation from this Diocese to be eligible for legislative committees of the General Convention.

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

SECTION 1. At ~~the last or~~ the next to the last meeting of Convention preceding the triennial meeting of General Convention, Convention shall elect four Clerical and four Lay Deputies, or such other number as General Convention may specify, to represent the Diocese in the next General Convention, together with a like number of Provisional Deputies in each Order. If for any reason Convention is unable to hold the requisite election for Deputies at the next to the last meeting of Convention preceding a triennial meeting of General Convention, the election for General Convention Deputies and Provisional Deputies in each order shall be held at the last meeting of Convention preceding the triennial meeting of General Convention.

Rationale

Enables elected Deputies to be eligible for Legislative Committees of the General Convention and preserves flexibility of existing Constitutional provision.

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Resolution L-185

Resolution L-185: A Resolution Regarding Convocations

Submitted by the Diocesan Committee on Constitution and Canons

WHEREAS, the Bishop, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee, has divided the Diocese into a number of Convocation Districts; and

WHEREAS, in revitalizing the mission and operation of the Convocations, the Bishop and Standing Committee have proposed to supplant the roles previously discharged by the President or Chair of a Convocation by the election of Deans and Wardens of such Convocations; and

WHEREAS, the references in the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese need to be updated accordingly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this 185th Convention of the Diocese of Missouri amend Article III.6 of the Constitution of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Missouri by amending and restating Section 8 thereof to read as follows:

SEC. 8. No person may serve simultaneously in more than one of the following positions: voting member of the Diocesan Council, voting member of the Standing Committee, or Dean or Warden of a Convocation.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this 185th Convention of the Diocese of Missouri amend Canon III.19 of the Canons of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Missouri by amending and restating Section 5 thereof to read as follows:

SEC. 5. The Convocation Deans and Wardens shall meet together regularly between meetings of Convention to coordinate the work of the Convocations.

Rationale: The only edit is to delete references to “President” or “Chair” of a Convocation and replacing such terms with “Dean” or “Warden.” Each Convocation still determines its own structure and elects officers as needed. The terminology in the Constitution and Canons will now match that used by the Bishop and the Standing Committee in re-visioning the Convocation Districts.