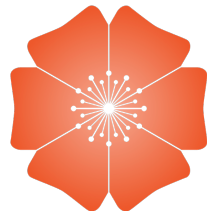


The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of California

Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of California

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September 7, 2023



THE DIOCESE OF
CALIFORNIA

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE BAY AREA

Overview

■ Proposed Amendments

- Constitution (first reading): Lay members of the Executive Council and the Standing Committee to serve as Delegates
- Requiring Anti-Racism Training and Certification for Clergy and Delegates
- Technical Amendments (Cross-References to Canons of The Episcopal Church)



Lay Members of Exec. Council & Stdg. Com. as Delegates

■ Text of Resolution A

Resolved, That Article VI of the Constitution of the Diocese of California be amended as follows:

(deletions in ~~bold strikethrough text~~ and insertions in *bold italic text*):

Sec. 6.4. The delegates and alternates, who ~~shall~~ *must* be members of The Episcopal Church as defined by its Canons, shall be elected annually by the Cathedral congregation and by each parish and mission congregation in union with the Convention in accordance with the Canons of the Diocese. Each such delegate and alternate ~~shall~~ *must* be a member of the congregation from which elected. *Additionally, all duly elected and appointed lay members of the Standing Committee and the Executive Council will be delegates until the adjournment of every Convention held during their terms.*

—The Committee on Canons has not yet approved the final text—



Lay Members of Exec. Council & Stdg. Com. as Delegates

■ The way it is now

- All “canonically resident” clergy are members of the Convention
 - Including clergy on the Executive Council and the Standing Committee
- Lay Delegates must be elected by a congregation
 - Lay members of the Executive Council and the Standing Committee have no seat, voice, or vote in the Convention unless they are *also* elected as Delegates

■ What the proposal would change

- Lay members of the Executive Council and the Standing Committee would be voting Delegates in the Convention even if not elected by a congregation
- Congregations would still elect a full slate of Delegates

■ When it would change

- Only if adopted on first reading in 2023 and second reading in 2024
- No effect on Special Convention to elect the Bishop Coadjutor



Mandate for Anti-Racism Training

■ Text of Resolution B

Resolved, That the following new sections be added to Canons II and III following sections 2.02 and 3.02, and the existing and following sections be renumbered accordingly:

(Added language is in ***bold italics***)

Canon II. Clerical Members of Convention.

...

Sec. 2.03. Anti-Racism Training and Certification.

At least 30 days prior to the opening date of the Convention, clerical Members must complete Anti-Racism and Racial Reconciliation coursework managed and utilized for diocesan training programs by the Bishop's Office. Training certification will be valid for 36-months from the coursework's completion date.

...

Canon III. Lay Delegates to Convention.

...

Sec. 3.03. Anti-Racism Training and Certification.

At least 30 days prior to the opening date of the Convention, Delegates and alternates must complete Anti-Racism and Racial Reconciliation coursework managed and utilized for diocesan training programs by the Bishop's Office. Training certification will be valid for 36-months from the coursework's completion date.

—The Committee on Canons has not yet approved the final text—



Mandate for Anti-Racism Training

■ The way it is now

- Clergy must complete anti-racism training before ordination (or reception from another church)
- General Convention Deputies must take racial reconciliation formation programs

■ What the proposal would change

- All “canonically resident” Clergy and Delegates must complete anti-racism training at least every three years

■ When it would change

- If approved, it would take effect upon the close of the Annual Convention unless another date is specified



Technical Amendments

■ Text of Resolution C (Part 1)

Resolved, that Canon XI, Section 11.26 of the Canons of the Diocese of California be amended to state as follows:
(deletions in ~~**bold strikethrough text**~~ and insertions in ***bold italic text***):

Sec. 11.26. Election of the Rector.

... The call shall be in the form of an agreement, which shall be signed by the wardens and, when accepted, signed by the new rector. The agreement shall, subject to ~~**the provisions of Title III, Canons 9.7 and 9.13, Canons III.9.8 and III.9.15**~~ of the Canons of The Episcopal Church and of this Canon XI, Sections 11.32 and 11.33, provide for life tenure. ...

—*The Committee on Canons has not yet approved the final text*—



Technical Amendments

- Text of Resolution C (Part 2)

Further resolved, that Canon XI, Section 11.31 of the Canons of the Diocese of California be amended to state as follows:

Sec. 11.31. Reconciliation of Disagreements Affecting a Pastoral Relationship.

Where the need therefor appears, a reconciliation of the pastoral relationship, as provided in ~~Title III, Canon 9.12, Canon III.9.14~~ of the Canons of The Episcopal Church, may be sought in accordance with the following procedure. ...

(e) Nothing in this Section 11.31 shall preclude the application of ~~Title III, Canon 9.6(c)(2) Canon III.9.7.c.2~~ of the Canons of The Episcopal Church.

—*The Committee on Canons has not yet approved the final text—*



Technical Amendments

- Text of Resolution C (Part 3)

Further resolved, that the definitions of “Bishop Coadjutor” and “Bishop Suffragan” in the Appendix of Certain Defined Terms be amended to state as follows:

“Bishop Coadjutor” has the meaning set forth in ~~Title III, Canon 11.10(a)~~, *Canon III.11.9.a* of the Canons of The Episcopal Church.

“Bishop Suffragan” has the meaning set forth in ~~Title III, Canon 11.10(b)~~ *Canon III.11.9.b* of the Canons of The Episcopal Church.

—*The Committee on Canons has not yet approved the final text*—



Technical Amendments

■ **The way it is now**

- Some Canons of the Diocese have cross-references to Episcopal Church Canons that have been renumbered

■ **What the proposal would change**

- Cross-references are corrected
- No change to meaning of existing canons

■ **When it would change**

- If approved, it would take effect upon the close of the Annual Convention unless another date is specified



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

- 1. Location, Time, and Business of the Special Convention.** A Special Convention of the Diocese of California will convene at Grace Cathedral on December 2nd, 2023, at 9:00 AM PST to elect the Ninth Bishop of California as Bishop Coadjutor. No other business will be in order.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

- 2. Officers of the Special Convention.** The officers of the Special Convention will be the officers of the Convention elected at the Annual Convention of the Diocese of California on October 27-28, 2023.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

- 3. In Person Only.** In accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of California, only members of the Convention attending in person will be eligible to vote in the Special Convention. There will be no provision for proxy or remote voting.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

- 4. Lay Delegates eligible to vote at the Special Convention.** Lay delegates eligible to vote at the Special Convention and their alternates will be those duly elected according to the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of California and the bylaws of the electing congregations. Unless changes are duly reported between the Annual and Special Conventions, delegates and alternates for the Annual Convention will be the same delegates and alternates for the Special Convention. Any congregation, Vestry, or Bishop's Committee electing new delegates or alternates between the Annual and Special Conventions must report the names of their new delegates and alternates to the Secretary of the Convention no later than 30 days prior to the Special Convention, November 2, 2023. Up to and during the Special Convention, clerics in charge of congregations may replace any absent delegate with a duly elected alternate by submitting the change via email to the Secretary of the Convention. If there is no cleric in charge of a congregation, a warden, secretary, or clerk of the congregation may petition the Bishop, up to and during the Special Convention, to replace any absent delegate with a duly elected alternate by submitting the petition via email to the Secretary of the Convention. The Committee on Credentials must certify the replacement before any alternate is registered, seated, and eligible to vote as a delegate.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

- 5. Clergy eligible to vote at the Special Convention.** Clergy eligible to vote at the Special Convention will be determined according to the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of California. No more than 60 and no less than 30 calendar days before the Special Convention, November 2, 2023, the Bishop will provide to the Secretary of the Convention and to the Standing Committee the list of clergy eligible to vote.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

- 6. Quorum.** A quorum for the Special Convention to elect a bishop requires a majority of all clergy eligible to vote and at least two-thirds of all congregations represented by at least one lay delegate. The Committee on Credentials will certify the presence of a quorum at the opening of the Special Convention.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

- 7. Nominations from the Floor.** Nominations from the floor of the Special Convention will not be in order.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

- 8. Ballot Preparation.** The Standing Committee will prepare the ballot, combining nominees submitted by the Diocese's Search and Transition Committee and nominees by petition presented together as the slate of nominees as of October 27, 2023. The order of names on the ballot will be determined by lot without distinguishing between search committee nominees and petition nominees.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

- 9. Election Requirements.** Each vote will be taken by orders, clergy and lay, and an election will require a majority of those present and voting in each order.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

10. Voting Process. The election of the bishop will be conducted by electronic ballot and will conform to the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of California. The Secretary of the Convention will prepare paper ballots as a backup in the event the electronic ballot system fails at any time during the Convention. At the conclusion of each vote, if there is no election, the Convention will receive new ballots and vote again until the Convention elects or adjourns under these rules.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

11. Procedure for Certification of Votes. The Standing Committee will establish procedures for certifying the outcome of each vote and will supervise the counting and certification as necessary. The Secretary of the Standing Committee will report the certified results of each vote to the Secretary of the Convention.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

12. Nominee Withdrawal. Except as provided in these rules, all nominees will remain on the ballot for each vote. A nominee may withdraw at any time. A withdrawal must be submitted in writing to the President of the Standing Committee, either in person or by email. Once a nominee has withdrawn, that name may not be reentered on the ballot.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

13. Extension of the Special Convention. If the Special Convention does not elect a Bishop Coadjutor by 6:00 PM, December 2, 2023, the Convention will adjourn until 2:00 PM on the afternoon of Sunday, December 3, 2023, unless the Convention, by a two-thirds vote, sets a different time for adjournment.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

14. Failure to Elect. If the Special Convention does not elect a Bishop Coadjutor by the end of December 3, 2023, and unless the Convention, by a two-thirds vote, sets another date and time to continue the election, the Convention will adjourn *sine die*, and there will be no election.



Special Rules for the Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor

15. Signing the Attestation of a Due and Lawful Election. Immediately following the final ballot, and provided that a Bishop Coadjutor is elected, while the Special Convention remains in session, the President of the Convention will arrange to gather the signatures of a constitutional majority of the Convention attesting to the due and lawful election of the Bishop Coadjutor of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of California.

