



The 226th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia

November 14, 2020 Virtual Meeting

Resolution or Canonical Amendment Guidelines

The Annual Convention considers resolutions, courtesy resolutions and amendments to the Constitution & Canons when submitted by those with standing at Convention: canonically resident clergy, parish lay delegates, lay members *ex officio*. Vestries wishing to submit resolutions and amendments may do so through their clergy or lay delegates.

The firm deadline for submitting resolutions and canonical amendments is October 27, 2020. PLEASE NOTE that, this year, because of having to hold the annual convention meeting virtually, resolutions will NOT be accepted after the deadline

Writing an Annual Convention Resolution:

1. Title/Topic

Each resolution or proposed amendment should carry a brief title or description highlighting the area addressed by the legislation, e.g. "Amend Canon 4, Section 1 (a)" or "Support for The Episcopal Church of Sudan." This will provide quick reference for delegates and help facilitate the flow of legislation. Any resolution without a title will be assigned one by the Secretary. Courtesy Resolutions (non-legislative resolutions that honor or memorialize individuals) should be titled with the name of the individual or organization that is the subject of the resolution.

2. Text

The essence of a resolution is a statement or statements of resolve or purpose (a "Resolved" clause) phrased in such a way as to call for specific action by the Diocese, committee, commission, board, person or agent. Presenting resolutions in this way encourages efficiency at Convention and promotes clarity during discussion and debate. This also is the format required by General Convention and, therefore, is required by all resolutions to be forwarded to Convention for consideration. Background information and explanations that provide context and inform the subject of the resolution may be included separate from the text of the resolution. Each resolved clause should call for one action. If the resolution requires more than one resolved clause, each clause, except the last, should close with a semicolon followed by the words "and be it further." The following resolution is offered by way of example:

R-8

Death Penalty Moratorium

Resolved, that this 206th Annual Convention joins with those calling for an immediate moratorium on enforcing the death penalty; and be it further

Resolved, that this 206th Annual Convention instructs the secretary to send this resolution as soon as possible to the Governor of Virginia, the Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, the Attorney General of Virginia, and all members of the General Assembly; and be it further

Resolved, that this 206th Annual Convention respectfully requests that the Bishop compose an appropriate cover letter to accompany this resolution.

(Continued on second page)

Background:

In 2000 the 205th Annual Convention reaffirmed the general Church's longstanding opposition to capital punishment and called on this Diocese and its parishes to "work actively to abolish the death penalty." Currently there is bipartisan support in the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia for a moratorium on enforcement of the death penalty.

3. Send it in

Type and send your resolution or canonical amendment by mail, fax or e-mail to:

Secretary of the Diocese

110 W. Franklin St.

Richmond, Va. 23220

FAX: 804-644-6928

bmartin@thediocese.net