

Resolutions Referred to Dioceses From the 79th General Convention

The 79th General Convention proposed several changes to the Constitution of The Episcopal Church (TEC). In accordance with Article XII of the TEC Constitution, it is the responsibility of each Diocese to make known such proposed alterations to its Convention prior to the 80th General Convention in 2021, and to certify that such action has been taken.

The following is a summary of the amendments, many of which are technical in nature. The full text of each proposed amendment may be found [here](#).

A063: amends Constitution Article X to permit a General Convention to approve alternate and additional liturgies as a supplement to the Book of Common Prayer.

A089: amends Constitution Articles VI and VII to ensure consistency in the Constitution and Canons with respect to referring to a Church denomination being in “full communion” with The Episcopal Church.

A122: Amends Article IX of the Constitution to delete the word “removal” in paragraph 6. In 1994, the General Convention amended Title IV of the Canons (the disciplinary canon) by eliminating “removal” as a sentence and adding Admonition as a sentence. However, the reference to “removal” in Article IX of the Constitution was not changed.

A150: Amends Article I.2 of the Constitution to make consistent the use of the term “Bishop Suffragan” throughout the Constitution and Canons. The last sentence clarifies the meaning of a bishop “exercising” or “having” jurisdiction, including jurisdiction over areas that are not dioceses such as Navajoland, the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe (over which the Presiding Bishop exercises jurisdiction), and Guam (over which the Presiding Bishop exercises jurisdiction).

A151: Amends Article II.4-8 of the Constitution as follows:

- Section 4: To make the titles of bishops consistent throughout the Constitution and Canons.
- The amendment to Section 5 clarifies that a Bishop Suffragan may be placed in charge of a diocese and exercise jurisdiction as the Bishop Diocesan Pro Tempore until a successor is consecrated if the Bishop Diocesan dies, resigns or is removed from office or until the Bishop Diocesan returns to office if the absence is temporary.
- The amendment to Section 8 clarifies that a total of five years of combined service, served consecutively, as Bishop Coadjutor and then Bishop Diocesan is required before the bishop may be elected elsewhere.

A152: Amends Article III of the Constitution to correct a typographical error.

A153: Amends Article IV of the Constitution to make the titles of bishops consistent throughout the Constitution and Canons.

A176: Amends Article V of the Constitution with respect to procedures required to form a new Diocese.

A183: Amends Article IX to provide for the possible creation of a provincial, church-wide, or other way of providing for the discipline of Priests and Deacons, as an alternative to each Diocese maintaining its own separate disciplinary structure.