

RESOLUTION II

Resolution to the 48th Annual Convention of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast Submitted by The Rt. Rev. J. Russell Kendrick in consultation with the Committee on Youth Voting at Diocesan Convention

For the selecting of a Youth Delegate and Alternate from each Convocation and for Youth Delegates to have vote at Diocesan Convention.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this 48th Convention of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast amend Canon 3, Sections 4, 5, 6, and 8 to read:

Canon 3. Diocesan Convention.

Section 4. The voting membership of the convention shall consist of:

- a. Clerical Delegates, each of whom shall be either a priest canonically resident in the Diocese, and who is Rector or Curate or Priest-in-Charge in a parish, or Vicar of a mission, or who is on the staff of the Diocese or an Agency of the Diocese; or a priest canonically resident in the Diocese who has retired in accordance with the General Canons and who serves in one of the aforesaid positions with the express approval of the Bishop according to the General Canons; or a Transitional Deacon assigned by the Bishop to a parish or mission or an Agency of the Diocese; and
- b. Lay Delegates from the several Congregations in the Diocese, as follows: They shall be Confirmed Communicants in good standing, entitled to vote in Parish Meetings.
- c. Each Parish shall be entitled to the following representation, based on the last Annual Report of the Parish:
Fewer than 300 communicants in good standing -- Three Delegates
300-599 communicants in good standing -- Four Delegates
600-999 communicants in good standing -- Five Delegates
1,000 or more communicants in good standing -- Six Delegates
- d. Each Parish failing to maintain its status as a Parish in union with the Diocese shall be entitled to two (2) Delegates.
- e. Each Mission Station or Organized Missions shall be entitled to the following representation:
Mission Stations and Organized Mission of fewer than 100 communicants in good standing -- One Delegate
Organized Missions of 100 or more communicants in good standing -- Two Delegates
- f. Each Congregation entitled to the above representation shall also be entitled to elect one (1) Alternate Delegate for each Delegate.
- g. Youth Delegates from the several Convocations of the Diocese, as follows: They shall be Confirmed Communicants in good standing, entitled to vote in Parish Meetings and no older than nineteen (19) years of age at the time of the Convention for which they are elected. Each Convocation shall be entitled to one (1) Youth Delegate and one (1) Alternate Youth Delegate.

Youth Delegates entitled to vote are included with the Lay order, for Sections 9 and 10 of this Canon.

Section 5. Elections of Delegates, which may be by the congregation or be delegated by it to the Vestry, shall be held not later than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the Convention, and all Delegates so elected shall serve for one (1) year, or until their successors are elected, and shall also be the Delegates for all Special or Called Meetings of the Conventions during their term of service. Elections shall be certified, according to the following form, which shall be completed and filed with the Ecclesiastical Authority not later than sixty (60) days prior to the opening of the Convention.

We do hereby certify that at a meeting of the (Congregation/Vestry) of _____ (Parish/Mission), held on the _____ day of _____, A. D. _____, DELEGATES ALTERNATES were duly elected to represent said Church in the Diocesan Convention of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast, to be held at _____ on the _____ day of _____, next, and that they are Confirmed Communicants in good standing and worshipers and regular contributors in the said Congregation.

Dated _____

Signed _____

(Rector, Vicar, Warden)

And _____

(Clerk)

Youth Delegates may be elected by the active youth in the Convocation or, if no meeting of the youth is able to be conducted, shall be selected by the Dean of the Convocation in consultation with the Clergy in the Convocation, in either case, Youth Delegates and Alternate Youth Delegates shall be designated not later than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the Convention, and all Youth Delegates so designated shall serve for one (1) year, or until their successors are elected or selected, and shall also be the Delegates for all Special or Called Meetings of the Conventions during their term of service. Election or selection shall be certified, according to the following form, which shall be completed and filed with the Ecclesiastical Authority not later than sixty (60) days prior to the opening of the Convention.

The undersigned hereby certifies that (at a meeting of the Youth of the Convocation____, held on the____day of_____, A. D._____,)YOUTH DELEGATE/ALTERNATE were duly elected/selected to represent the Youth of Convocation____in the Diocesan Convention of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast, to be held at _____

on the____day of_____, next, and that **I have confirmed that each is a** Confirmed Communicant in good standing and **worships** and **regularly** **contributes** in **their** **respective congregations**.

Dated _____

Signed _____

(**Dean** for Convocation____)

Section 6. The expenses of Delegates to the Convention.

- a. The expenses of the Clerical and Lay Delegates to the Convention shall be paid by the Congregations they represent and serve.
- b. The expenses of the Convocation Youth Delegates to the Convention shall be paid out of the diocesan youth ministries and program budget.

Section 7. All Clerical Delegates shall be required to attend the Diocesan Convention, unless excused by the Bishop.

Section 8. All Officers of the Diocese, all clergy canonically resident in the Diocese but not entitled to vote in Convention, and Vocational Deacons, ~~and youth representatives as may be appointed by the Ecclesiastical Authority~~ shall be entitled to Seat and Voice in the Convention but no vote, unless otherwise qualified. The Convention may grant the Privileges of the Floor, including Seat and Voice, to visiting clergy and others, including clergy serving in the Diocese but not canonically resident. No Diocesan employee shall be eligible for election as a General Officer of the Diocese.

Section 9. The Convention shall sit as one (1) House, unless otherwise specified in the Canons, and each member, Clerical and Lay, shall be entitled to one (1) vote on any issue; provided that, upon call of five (5) Members, a Vote by Orders upon any issue may be required; in which case the Clerical and Lay Members shall vote separately, and concurrence in both Orders shall be required.

Section 10. One half (½) plus one (1) of the clergy entitled to vote in Convention , and one half (½) plus one (1) of the Lay Delegates entitled to vote in the Convention shall constitute a quorum, which shall be required for the transaction of business.

Section 11. The Bishop shall be the presiding Officer of the Convention. In the Bishop's absence, the Bishop Coadjutor, or the Suffragan Bishop, if there be one, shall preside. If no Bishop be present, the President of the Standing Committee shall call the Convention to order, and a President of the Convention, pro tempore, shall be elected by the Convention.

Section 12. All elections are to be by a majority, but the Convention may, from time to time, in elections involving several persons to the same office, e.g., Deputies to General Convention, amend this rule.

Section 13. In the event of the occurrence of a vacancy on any committee elected by the Convention, said committee shall have the power to fill such vacancy in conformity with the provisions of the Charter and Canons. If any individual elected or appointed to perform a duty is unable, for any reason, to perform the duty for which elected or appointed, the Ecclesiastical Authority shall appoint a successor for as long as may be necessary, unless otherwise provided in the and Canons.

EXPLANATION: *This resolution is submitted in response to the Bishop introducing for consideration in his Address to the 47th Diocesan Convention, a resolution to allow for the selection of youth delegates representing each convocation, in order to include our youth more fully in the life of the Diocese. The resolution was referred to the Convention Committee on Canons and Rules of Order, who recommended that the resolution be resubmitted within the Guidelines of Canon 28 and brought forward to the 48th Convention for consideration. This resolution modifies the existing Canon to provide for a Youth*

Delegate to be selected from each Convocation, to annually attend Diocesan Convention as part of the voting membership of the Convention. The amendment also provides for payment of expenses for such Youth Delegates and for the selection of Alternate Youth Delegates in the event a Youth Delegate is unable to serve. At present there are five (5) convocations in the Diocese. If adopted, this Amendment to the Canons shall be effective at the time for election/selection of delegates for the 49th Diocesan Convention.