

2018 Canonical Resolution No. C-1

Submitted by the Executive Board of the Diocese

RESOLVED:

That Canon XI, Section 1, shall be deleted in its entirety, and the following canon substituted in its place:

**CANON XI
OF DEPUTIES TO THE GENERAL CONVENTION**

SECTION 1. The Council shall elect by secret ballot the full number of Clerical and Lay Deputies and Alternates to the General Convention to which the Diocese is entitled under the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church as more fully set forth below, subject to the provisions of Section 1(c)(iii).

- (a) Deputies and Alternates to General Convention shall be elected in accordance with Article VI of the Constitution of the Diocese of Southern Virginia, using the method prescribed in part III, Section 8, of the Rules of Order, as follows:
 - (i) DEPUTIES – At the Annual Council held in the second calendar year before the meeting of General Convention, the Annual Council shall elect by secret ballot the full number of Clerical and Lay Deputies to which this Diocese is entitled under the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church.
 - (ii) ALTERNATES – At the Annual Council in the calendar year prior to the meeting of General Convention, the Annual Council shall elect by secret ballot the full number of Clerical and Lay Alternates to which this Diocese is entitled under the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church.
 - (iii) YOUTH DELEGATE – At least one of the lay deputies or alternates to General Convention shall be a youth or young adult who is 16 years of age or older at the time of election and 26 years of age or younger on the opening day of the General Convention to which he/she has been elected. If no person in this age group is elected as a deputy or as a 1st through 3rd alternate, a separate election for 4th alternate shall take place at the next Diocesan Council, with at least 2 youth or young adult candidates for this position. Should a youth or young adult be elected as a lay deputy or 1st through 3rd alternate, the 4th lay alternate shall be the next leading vote receiver. The youth's or young adult's expenses shall be paid by the Diocese no matter what position to which they are elected.
- (b) In such election, each delegate to Council shall vote for no more than the full number of clerical and lay deputies to be elected. The results shall determine the deputies in each order.
- (c) The deputy receiving the highest number of votes, whether clerical or lay, shall be designated chairperson of the deputation, whose duties shall include: (1) Communicating to the other deputies any matters coming to the attention of the chairperson before, during or after the Convention; (2) Assuring proper voting procedures by the deputation on all matters requiring votes by ballot; (3) Holding such meetings of the deputation, together with the Bishop, as may be necessary or desirable during Convention; (4) Such additional duties as the Bishop may assign to enhance the deputation's effectiveness.

RATIONALE: The Diocese continues to experience prolonged balloting which consumes an inordinate amount of the day-and-a-half Annual Council. Part of the prolonged balloting results from electing both Deputies and

Alternates for General Convention at the same Council. After sampling other Dioceses' processes, we have developed a process that elects Deputies two years before GC and Alternates one year before GC.