



# THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA

THE SECRETARY OF THE CONVENTION

## 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention Submitting Resolutions

To: Members of the Clergy and Lay Orders of the 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention  
From: Joseph S. Ferrell, Secretary of the Convention

The deadline for submitting resolutions for action by the 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention is 12 noon, December 15, 2008. Resolutions submitted on time will be printed in the pre-Convention issue of *The Disciple* and will be referred to one of the Convention's legislative committees for study and report. Hearings on resolutions will be held on Friday afternoon, and the legislative committees will report their recommendations for action at the legislative session on Saturday.

Resolutions submitted after the deadline will be returned to the introducer. Late resolutions may be introduced at the first legislative session of the Convention on Friday. The Convention must agree to consider a late resolution by a two-thirds vote.

Resolutions must be submitted in writing and must be phrased in such a way that the question before the Convention can be resolved by a simple yes or no vote. The resolution should begin with the phrase "Resolved, by the 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina that ...." "Whereas" clauses explaining the reasons for the resolution are discouraged and will not become part of the resolution if it is adopted. An explanation, clearly marked "Comment," may be appended to the text of the resolution. A descriptive short title will be composed by the Secretary of the Convention.

Please note that Canon 12 prescribes special procedures for submitting and acting on resolutions that would amend the Constitution or Canons of the Diocese. Delegates wishing to introduce such a resolution for action at the 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention should contact the Chair of the Commission on Constitution and Canons, Mr. A. Zachary Smith III, for advice.

Please submit all resolutions both in hard copy and, if possible, by email. Attach the file to the email message in MS Word format. Do not insert the text in the body of the message. Mail the hard copy to: Convention Resolutions, Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina, 200 W. Morgan St., Raleigh, NC 27601-1338. Send the email to [convention@episdionc.org](mailto:convention@episdionc.org).

## Excerpts from the Rules of Order

**IV. (a)** Resolutions for Convention action may be submitted by members of the Convention, canonical commissions, or Convention committees. The presiding officer of the Convention shall refer to an appropriate Convention Committee for consideration and report all such resolutions except those, which accompany the reports of the Commission on Constitution and Canons and the Committee on Dispatch of Business. To assure timely reports, it is appropriate for Convention Committees to meet for consideration of resolutions referred to them at any time after they have been appointed.

(b) While preambles or any recital of reasons, explanatory comments, or argument regarding any resolution may separately accompany its introduction or its report from a Convention Committee, they shall not constitute a part of the resolution for purposes of legislative action. Only the text of the adopted resolution shall be printed in the Journal of the Convention.

**XXIII (a)** Resolutions to be acted on at the annual Convention shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Convention on or before the 40th day preceding the opening date of the Convention. Upon submission, resolutions shall be referred to the appropriate Convention Committee as prescribed by Rule of Order III, (a), and the texts thereof shall be included in the advance materials distributed by the Secretary of the Convention to the members of the Convention prior to the Convention. Resolutions submitted to the Secretary later than specified shall be returned to the introducer without action.

Resolutions not proposing or requiring amendment of the Constitution or Canons may be introduced during the Convention but may be acted upon only as follows: If introduced in the first business session of the Convention, the question before the Convention shall be whether the resolution shall be considered. Upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the delegates, the resolution shall be referred to an appropriate Convention Committee for study and report to that Convention. Such resolutions that fail to receive the required vote, as well as resolutions introduced after the close of the first business session of the Convention, shall not be considered.

This rule shall not apply to resolutions of courtesy.

(b) Any portions of the Bishop's address meriting the Convention's response shall be referred by the Diocesan Bishop to an appropriate Convention Committee.

(c) The Secretary of the Convention, with the assistance of the Chancellor of the Diocese, shall review each resolution submitted within the time prescribed in section (a), above, to determine whether favorable action on the resolution would require adoption or amendment of a constitutional provision, canon, or rule of order. All such resolutions shall be simultaneously reported to the Commission on Constitution and Canons and referred to the appropriate Convention Committee. The Commission shall report its recommendations with respect to such measures to the Convention at the first business session either as part of its annual report or separately, as may be most convenient. No resolution amending the Constitution or Canons shall be considered on the day on which proposed, except by a two-thirds vote of those entitled to vote. *Amended by Act 2006-9.*

**XXIV.** If a resolution submitted for Convention action would substantially affect diocesan finances, the presiding officer of the Convention shall, at the time the resolution is referred to an appropriate Convention Committee under Rule of Order III,(a), also request the Convention Committee on Administration of the Diocese to consider the measure. The Convention shall not take up the resolution until its Committee on the Administration of the Diocese has, without recommendation, furnished the Convention with an analysis of the effect adoption of the resolution would have on the fiscal affairs of the Diocese.

### Excerpt from Canon 12

Section 1. No new canon, or change in an existing canon, or proposed amendment to the Constitution, shall be considered by the Convention unless it has been submitted to and reported on to the Convention by the Commission on Constitution and Canons.

(b) At least four weeks in advance of the annual Convention, the Secretary of the Convention shall report to the Commission all resolutions timely filed which propose or appear to entail amendments to the Constitution, Canons, or Rules of Order. The Commission shall consider such resolutions and report to the appropriate legislative committee of the Convention its findings with respect to conformity of the measure to the Constitution and Canons of the General Convention and the Constitution of this diocese; its recommendations, if any, as to the form of the measure; and any views the Commission may wish to express as to the merits of the measure. This subsection does not apply to proposals by the Committee on Dispatch of Business to adopt or amend Rules of Order.