

## Proposed Resolution R-1      2011 Diocesan Convention

Offered by:      The Standing Committee

Subject:      *Amendment of the Constitution of the Diocese of South Carolina*

*[2<sup>nd</sup> Reading]*

**Resolved** that Article I of the Diocese of South Carolina is hereby amended to read as follows:

The Church in the Diocese of South Carolina accedes to ~~and adopts~~ the Constitution ~~and Canons~~ of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America. ~~and acknowledges this authority accordingly.~~

In the event that any provision of the Constitution of the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America is inconsistent with, or contradictory to, the Constitution and Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina, the Constitution and Canons of this Diocese shall prevail.

**Resolved** that Article VIII.1.a.2.e regarding requirements of new parishes is hereby amended to read as follows:

e. its willingness to conform to the Constitution ~~and Canons~~ of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States ~~General Convention~~ and the Constitution and Canons of the Convention of this Diocese, which are, or thereafter may be, enacted by the authority of the ~~same~~ Diocese.

**Resolved** that Article VIII.1.B.2.e regarding admission requirements for new missions is hereby amended to read as follows:

e. the extent of its ability to support its work, its willingness to conform to the Constitution ~~and Canons~~ of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States ~~General Convention~~ and the Constitution and Canons of the Convention of this Diocese, which are then, or thereafter may be, enacted by the authority of the ~~same~~ Diocese

**Resolved** that Article X.1 regarding Deputies to General Convention is hereby amended to read:

*Section 1.* At an Annual Convention **during the triennium between General Conventions, but preceding each General Convention,** four Presbyters and four laypersons, having qualifications established by the Constitution ~~and Canons~~ of the Episcopal Church, shall be chosen by ballot to represent the Diocese at the next succeeding General Convention. Four other Presbyters and four other laypersons, having the same qualifications, shall be chosen by ballot, as alternates for those selected. Such representatives and alternates shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified.

**Resolved** that Article XI regarding the Trial of Clergyman is hereby amended to read:

A clergyman shall be subject to a trial for offences enumerated ~~in the Canons of the General Convention or~~ in the Canons of this Convention, and if found guilty shall be sentenced in accordance therewith. The trial shall be conducted according to the Canons of this Convention.

**Explanation:**

The Diocese of South Carolina, as a founding Diocese of the Episcopal Church, has freely exercised its sovereignty in acceding to the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church.

The changes in the Title IV section of the Canons of The Episcopal Church contradict the Constitution of The Episcopal Church and represent both an unacceptable change in our polity and an indefensible infringement upon the due process rights of all the clergy of this Diocese.

Protection of the sovereignty of the Diocese, consistent with the Constitution of The Episcopal Church and the right to due process for its clergy, requires that accession to the Canons of The Episcopal Church be removed. This change preserves our ability to continue under the Constitution of the Episcopal Church.

## Proposed Resolution R-2      2011 Diocesan Convention

Offered by: The Standing Committee

Subject: *Article XII - Of Altering the Constitution*

*[2<sup>nd</sup> Reading]*

**RESOLVED**, that Article XII of the Constitution of the Diocese of South Carolina regarding changes to the Constitution is hereby amended to read:

No alteration or amendment of, or addition to this Constitution shall be made unless the same be proposed in writing and in duplicate on the first day of ~~an Annual~~ a Convention and after reference to the Committee on Constitution and Canons, is adopted by a majority vote of the Convention at which it is proposed, and further adopted by a two-thirds vote of both Orders present at the next ~~Annual~~ Convention.

### **Explanation:**

The proposed changes make it possible for Convention to make changes to its Constitution in less time than the one year process encompassed by the current wording of the Article.