

**RESOLUTION TO BE PRESENTED TO
THE THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONVENTION**
(Canon 1, Sec. 9)

PROPOSER/PARISH/MISSION: The Rev. Gary Meade, Saint Mary's Episcopal Church, Dyersburg

ENDORSEER/PARISH/MISSION: Dr. Bill Falvey, Church of the Holy Communion, Memphis

ENDORSEER/PARISH/MISSION: Mrs. Martha Webb, Immanuel Episcopal Church, Ripley

A Resolution to Amend Portions of Canon 2 Regarding the Election of a Bishop

Whereas, Canon 2 Sec. 3 of the Canons of The Diocese of West Tennessee provides that in preparation for the Election of a Bishop the Standing Committee of the Diocese shall appoint a Search Committee, and

Whereas, Canon 2 Sec. 3 (a)(ii)(e) requires the Search Committee to "Submit to the Standing Committee at least ninety (90) days prior to the date of the election, at least three (3) nominees...", and

Whereas, the Standing Committee does not need the names of the nominees more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the election, and

Whereas, Canon 2 Sec. 3 (a)(iii) provides that the "Standing Committee may receive nominations by petition for fourteen (14) business days from the date of the announcement" of the slate of nominees, and

Whereas, no more than fourteen (14) days total are needed to provide ample opportunity for nominations by petition;

Therefore, be it resolved that Canon 2 Sec.3 (a)(ii)(e) of the Canons of the Diocese be amended by substituting the words "not more than" for the words "at least"; and

Be it further resolved that Canon 2 Sec. 3 (a)(iii) of the Canons of the Diocese be amended by deleting the word "business" after the word and figure "fourteen (14)".

Explanation

The existing time constraints in Canon 2 impose a 90-day delay between the announcement of the slate of nominees for the office of Bishop and the election when 60 days would provide adequate time for the steps required prior to an election, and allow nearly three weeks for a petition process that can be accomplished in two weeks. These conclusions were reached after consultations with members of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of West Tennessee; Mr. Andy Cobb, Chancellor of the Diocese; and Mrs. Lynn Schmissrauter, Search and Transition Consultant to the Standing Committee. These changes also serve a pastoral need by reducing the time of uncertainty between the public announcement of a slate of candidates and an election, proving beneficial not only for those standing for election but also for the worshipping communities they lead.

Rules of Order: III. Resolutions 3.04

Resolutions may be proposed only by: Clerical Members and Lay Delegates, the Bishop and Council, the Standing Committee on Canons, the Standing Committee on the Church Pension Fund, Vestries and Mission Councils. Each such resolution authored by a clergy or lay delegate or any other person(s) authorized by Canon shall be endorsed by not less than two other clergy or lay delegates, all of whom are from different congregations.