

**House of Bishops Interim Meeting
Camp Allen, Texas
March 6 and 7, 2018**

The business meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. by the Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry. The Presiding Bishop opened the meeting with prayer. It was moved that the registration list of the conference suffice for the roll call. The secretary announced that the original attendance consisted of 127 bishops and the number still present more than constituted a quorum. It was announced that the Rt. Rev. Leo Frade was recognized as the Senior Bishop present.

Changes of Status of Bishops in the House

New consecrations/elections

1. Brian L. Cole, Bishop of East Tennessee, 12/02/2017
2. Kevin S. Brown, Bishop of Delaware, 12/09/2017

Necrology since last meeting

1. Arthur E. Walmsley, resigned Bishop of Connecticut, October 4, 2017
2. Rogers S. Harris, resigned Bishop of Southwest Florida, November 15, 2017
3. D. Bruce MacPherson, resigned Bishop of Western Louisiana, December 21, 2017
4. Thomas K. Ray, resigned Bishop of Northern Michigan, February 6, 2018

Resignations since last meeting

1. Julio Holguin, resigned Bishop of the Dominican Republic, effective 11/1/2017
2. George Young, resigned Bishop of East Tennessee, effective 12/2/2017

Changes in Status

Cate Waynick, Bishop Provisional of Eastern Michigan, 10/20/2017
Moises Quezada, from Coadjutor to Bishop Diocesan of the Dominican Republic, 11/1/2017
David Rice, from Provisional to Bishop Diocesan of San Joaquin, 11/18/2017
Robert Ihloff, Bishop Associate in Diocese of Virginia, 3/11/2018
Mark van Koevering, from Assistant in West Virginia to Provisional Bishop of Lexington (not sure of the date this is effective)

Communications from the Presiding Bishop

No communications were provided by the Presiding Bishop.

Special Business of Meeting

Seat and Voice

In accordance with Rule XXV of the House of Bishops Rules of Order, the Rt. Rev. Diane Jardine MOVED that the Rt. Rev. Oge Beauvoir be accorded non-voting membership in the House. The motion was seconded and APPROVED.

Parent letter

The Rt. Rev. Peter Eton, the Bishop of Southeast Florida, requested the House go into Executive Session. The motion was MOVED. The motion was seconded and APPROVED.

The Presiding Bishop asked for a motion to reopen the Session. The Motion was made and seconded and APPROVED.

Bishop Eaton read a letter from parents of Carmen, a victim of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School (Appendix A). Carmen's parents are asking the Bishops to participate in a March on Washington: March for Our Lives on March 24th and are encouraging the bishops to share the letter in whole or in part throughout their dioceses.

Revision to Core Values and Behaviors

The Rt. Rev. Susan Goff offered to the Bishops for their consideration of a Revision to the Core Values and Behaviors of the House (Appendix B). Bishop Goff MOVED the revision. The MOTION was seconded and APPROVED.

Rules of Order

The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe presented changes proposed to the Rules of Order (appended to the end of these minutes) on behalf of the Rules of Order Committee which includes The Rt. Rev. Wendell Gibbs, the Rt. Rev. Don Johnson, the Rt. Rev. Diane Jardine Bruce. The changes to the Rules of Order were MOVED. The motion was seconded.

Bishop Rowe outlined the changes in the rules which were done to bring the rules in line with our actual practice. Inconsistencies in titles and language were addressed.

The Rt. Rev. Wayne Smith asked whether the Rules of Order are consonant with the House of Deputies — Bishop Rowe explained that the recommendations of legislative committees mirror those of the House of Deputies.

The revised Rules of Order were APPROVED unanimously.

Mind of the House Resolution on Gun Violence

Because this Resolution came to the House later than our 30 day rule, it was MOVED and seconded to accept this resolution for action at this meeting of the house. The motion as was APPROVED.

The Rt. Rev. Ian Douglas presented the Mind of the House Resolution on Gun Violence (Appendix C), and talked about the desire to take active steps regarding the tragedies resulting from Gun Violence. Bishop Douglas commended the Bishops against Gun Violence webpage for further information as well as the website of the NRA.

A further discussion ensued among the bishops.

The Rt. Rev. Dorsey McConnell moved an amendment to the Resolution to move the last resolve to be the second resolve in the Resolution. The amendment was SECONDED. Bishop McConnell spoke to the amendment.

The Rt. Rev. Mark Beckwith MOVED a motion to move the previous question on the amendment. The MOTION was seconded and APPROVED.

The AMENDMENT as offered by Bishop McConnell was APPROVED.

The Rt. Rev. Dan Daniel moved an AMENDMENT to the second resolve to quote the second amendment directly. The motion was SECONDED. Discussion ensued.

The Rt. Rev. Ed Konieczny offered a MOTION to postpone further discussion of this Resolution until a time certain — when we open up the Business meeting again Wednesday afternoon. The MOTION was seconded and APPROVED.

Resolution from the September 2016 meeting of the House of Bishops

The Presiding Bishop informed the House that much of the information requested by Rt. Rev. Scott Benhase in his resolution carried over from the last meeting (Appendix D) is not captured and therefore cannot be produced centrally in full. Staff produced the information they do have and provided it to all of the Bishops before this meeting. The Rt. Rev. Scott Benhase addressed the House, requesting that the members of the House fill in the spreadsheet and send the information to the Presiding Bishop's office so that we can, as a House, have an honest conversation about the supply side of our church.

Reports from Committees

HOUSE OF BISHOPS COMMITTEE ON RESIGNATIONS

The Rt. Rev. Neil Alexander reported for the House of Bishops Committee on Resignations that the committee met during this meeting and reviewed the requests for resignations:

The Right Reverend Mark Beckwith, Bishop Diocese of Newark, effective September 22, 2018;

The Right Reverend Dan Edwards, Bishop Diocesan of Nevada, effective December 31, 2018;

The Right Reverend Kirk Smith, Bishop Diocesan of Arizona, March 9, 2019;

All resignations of these colleagues comply with the Canons and the Rules of the House and are therefore afforded continued membership in the House with the privilege of voice and vote, except as otherwise restricted by the Canons.

Bishop Alexander on behalf of the committee MOVED that the House accept the resignations of these bishops. The Motion was seconded and APPROVED.

Reading of the Minutes

It was MOVED and APPROVED that the reading of the minutes of the last meeting be dispensed with.

Other Business

The Presiding Bishop noted that there will be a Statement coming from the House of Bishops regarding Sexual Harassment. The Presiding Bishop asked if there would be any objection to going into recess until Wednesday afternoon at which time we will take up the matter of the Sexual Harassment Statement as well taking up again the Mind of the House Resolution on Gun Violence. As no objections were made, the HOUSE went into recess at 5:05 pm.

Meeting Reconvened

At 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 7th the House was reconvened by the Presiding Bishop.

Mind of the House Resolution on Gun Violence

The Rt. Rev. Ian Douglas MOVED a SUBSTITUTE for the MIND OF THE HOUSE resolution from yesterday. The substitute was seconded.

Bishop Douglas spoke to the substitute, which would now be in the form of a statement from the House of Bishops.

The substitute was APPROVED.

The Rt. Rev. Tom Ely offered an Amendment to the statement to change the words *our nation* or *our country* to *the United States*. The AMENDMENT was seconded. Discussion ensued. The AMENDMENT was APPROVED.

The Rt. Rev. Nick Knisely made a motion to amend the first section to strike the sentence *Our Presiding Bishop invites us to be the Jesus Movement that changes the world from the nightmare that it is for so many into the dream that God has for us all*. The Motion was seconded and APPROVED.

The Rt. Rev. Ian Douglas offered an additional amendment to add the words "join with the Coinference Ministers of the United Church of Christ". The amendment was SECONDED. Discussion ensued.

The Rt. Rev. Steven Miller offered an AMENDMENT to the amendment, to change the word *join* to the word *together*. This AMENDMENT was seconded and APPROVED.

Discussion ensued.

The AMENDMENT as amended was DEFEATED.

Discussion ensued on the main motion as amended.

The Rt. Rev. Dan Martins offered an AMENDMENT, to add the following sentence to the end of the second to last paragraph- *In addition, we pledge ourselves to bring the values of the gospel to bear on a society that increasingly glorifies violence and trivializes the sacredness of every human life.* The AMENDMENT was seconded.

The AMENDMENT was APPROVED.

Discussion on the substitute as amended ensued. The substitute was APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Statement regarding Sexual Harassment

The Rt. Rev. Dede Duncan-Pobee MOVED that the House Adopt the Statemnt regarding Sexual Harassment (Appendix E)

The Rt. Rev. John Smiley offered an AMENDMENT to add the words *and men* to two lines within the statement. The AMENDMENT was seconded and APPROVED.

The Statement was APPROVED UNANIMLOUSLY.

HOUSE OF BISHOPS COMMITTEE ON RESIGNATIONS

The Rt. Rev. Neil Alexander offered a further report for the House of Bishops Committee on Resignations that the committee met during this meeting and reviewed the requests for resignations:

The Right Reverend Barry Beisner, Bishop Diocesan of Northern California effective June 29, 2019;

The Right Reverend Michael Milliken, Bishop Diocesan of Western Kansas, effective December 1, 2018.

The resignations of these colleagues comply with the Canons and the Rules of the House and these bishops are therefore afforded continued membership in the House with the privilege of voice and vote, except as otherwise restricted by the Canons.

Bishop Alexander on behalf of the committee MOVED that the House accept the resignations of these bishops. The Motion was seconded and APPROVED.

Adjournment

It was MOVED and APPROVED that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Attested,

The Rt. Rev. Diane M. Jardine Bruce

The Rt. Rev. Allen Shin

Secretary

Assistant Secretary

Appendix A

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As you may know, our daughter Carmen was murdered in the tragic massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on Ash Wednesday. My wife, April, and I would like to thank all of you who have kept us and our children in your prayers. Prayers and love are helping our family through this incredibly tough time, please keep them coming; for us, and for all the victims of this senseless massacre.

Our hearts are saddened for the loss of our beautiful little girl and the absence of her amazing presence, but we cannot be sad for Carmen. We believe that Carmen's murder was not part of God's plan and that God is saddened by the violence in this world more than we can know. We know that God's promise is for us to be with him in heaven, and in faith, we believe that Carmen is in heaven, in the loving embrace of God. She awaits us, loved and cared for.

As our family struggles to pick up the pieces of our shattered lives, we ask the Good Lord daily for the strength to fight the good fight, to finish the race. In our attempt to heal from despair and grief, we are compelled to try and make the world a better place for our two remaining children and for all children. To that end, we implore you, as leaders of Christ's church, to address the issue of gun violence head-on. We ask that you make this a priority for the Church and to leave little ambiguity as to "what would Jesus do". The scourge of gun violence on this nation, especially with military assault rifles, is a problem of our own creation and counter to God's desire for peace and love. As a nation we can solve this problem, and as leaders of the Church in our country, we ask that you help lead the way. In Christ's name, we beg you to take action.

We would also like to extend an invitation to all bishops to rally with our church, St. Mary Magdalene, and our diocese this March in Washington DC. We, along with our church family, will participate in the March for Our Lives this coming March 24th and would very much urge all bishops to come with us to stand up for the lives of children and for the ministry of Christ's church. One can only imagine the example of leadership and solidarity that such a showing could make on our fractured and divided country.

Thank you for your time. Thank you for your stewardship of our flock. Thank you for your prayers, and we look forward to walking hand-in-hand with you later this month.

Sincerely,
Philip Schentrup April Schentrup

Appendix B

March 2018

Core Values and Behaviors
The House of Bishops
of The Episcopal Church
Based on our Episcopal Ordination Vows

1. We have promised to be faithful in prayer and in the study of Holy Scriptures so that we may have the mind of Christ.

We therefore commit to pray for and with our brother and sister bishops, and to be faithful in worship whenever we are gathered as a House.

2. We have promised to proclaim and interpret the Gospel of Christ, enlightening the minds and stirring up the conscience of our people.

We therefore commit to engage in continuing education and formation together through the programs of the House of Bishops and the College for Bishops.

3. We have promised to encourage and support all baptized people in their gifts and ministries.

We therefore commit to work together as a House to provide sound teaching and clear guidance for living in our time.

4. We have promised to guard the faith, unity and discipline of the Church.

We therefore commit to making our House a living example of faith, unity and discipline by

Respecting every member of the House and honoring each other in all we do.
Submitting to each other in mutual accountability.
Accepting the responsibilities and joys of collegiality.

5. We have promised to share with our fellow bishops in the government of the whole Church.

We therefore commit to faithfully attending gatherings of the House of Bishops and to participating fully in House committees, task groups and other bodies.

6. We have promised to be merciful to all, to show compassion to the poor and strangers, and defend those who have no helper.

We therefore commit to be responsive to those in our House who feel marginalized or excluded, and those who are striving to offer their gifts more fully.

May God, who has given us the will to do these things, give us the grace and strength to accomplish them.

Appendix C

Statement of the House of Bishops of The Episcopal Church

Camp Allen, Texas

March 7, 2018

“I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live.” (Deuteronomy 30:19)

At this critical moment young people of the United States are inviting us to turn away from the nightmare of gun violence to the dream of choosing life. The young people of Parkland, Florida are calling for elected officials to:

- ban the sale of assault weapons
- prohibit the sale of high capacity magazines
- close loopholes in background checks

Others are seeking to:

- ban the sale of bump stocks
- raise the age to 21 years to purchase firearms
- challenge the National Rifle Association to support safe gun legislation.

We, the bishops of The Episcopal Church, wholeheartedly support and join with the youth in this call to action.

At the same time, we acknowledge that black and brown youth have continuously challenged the United States to address the gun violence that they and their communities are experiencing. We repent that, as bishops, we have failed to heed their call.

As bishops we commit to following the youth of the United States in their prophetic leadership. To that end we will observe a day of Lament and Action on March 14th, one month to the day after the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. We pledge ourselves, and we invite our dioceses, to participate in the “March for our Lives” on March 24 in Washington DC and in cities and towns across the United States. We recognize the urgency of this moment and we recommit to working for safe gun legislation as our church has called for in multiple General Convention resolutions. In addition, we pledge ourselves to bring the values of the gospel to bear on a society that increasingly glorifies violence and trivializes the sacredness of every human life.

We will walk with the youth of the United States today and into the future in choosing life.

Appendix D

Resolution for the House of Bishop's Meeting March 2017

Be it resolved that the Presiding Bishop direct Church staff that he designates to compile the following data in a spreadsheet and distribute it to the House of Bishops at least one week before our Fall 2017 meeting:

1. name of the diocese;
2. average annual budget over the last three years;
3. total number of congregations (including campus ministries, special worshipping communities);
4. diocesan budget amount per total number of congregations (including campus ministries, communities) over the last three years;
5. average number of baptized members over the last three years;
6. average diocesan budget amount per baptized member over the last three years;
7. average market value of the diocesan endowment over the last three years;
8. average percentage over the last three years of diocesan endowment supporting the diocesan budget;
9. average diocesan amount supporting TEC over the last three years;
10. average diocesan support of TEC as a percentage of annual diocesan budget over the last three years;
11. average amount over the least three years of diocesan budget supporting provincial and companion relationships; and,
12. average amount received by diocese over the previous three years from TEC through grants, etc.

Explanation: The dioceses of TEC have a wide disparity of resources that each individually stewards. The HOB has been discussing what should be an appropriate percentage apportionment from each diocese. That discussion has been largely debated by how much we need to raise to support the triennial expense budget of TEC rather than from discovering what the resources are from each diocese. Learning the above data will help the HOB have a better conversation around how each diocese sacrificially supports the mission of TEC. The data also may help us discern a more fair and just way to fund our common mission.

Submitted by Scott Benhase

Appendix E

This is the first time the House of Bishops has met as a body since the #MeToo movement began last fall, bringing to light the reality of sexual harassment, gender-based violence, and the cultural stronghold of gender bias and inequity. We continue our own work of reconciliation within our branch of God's Church, honoring what we have learned and accomplished, as well as acknowledging the distance we still must travel. Reconciliation is the long work of healing offered by the Spirit, made possible by grace, which requires our truth-telling and repentance.

Many of us have experienced sexual harassment and perhaps sexual violence. Bishops who are women know the "me-too" experience. Some bishops who are men know it as well. We live with different experiences of the cultural endowment of power. We know the Church has fallen short of our responsibility to listen and respond. In this time of heightened awareness it is with greater intention that we now invite the church to a deeper examination of what God intends for our relationships.

This work will take courage. As many women and men bravely come forward to speak the truth of their experience, courageous men and women will listen, where appropriate repent, and take an active role in repairing the brokenness, working to change the culture of our church.

We will offer a listening process in an open meeting at General Convention to hear more fully the stories of those who have been victims of sexual harassment and violence in the church. The date and time is July 4, 5:15 pm to 7:00 pm in the House of Bishops convention meeting space. The design of this process is being developed. Further details will be posted via social media and through Episcopal news outlets.

Together women and men can form partnerships for reconciliation. We seek a more faithful, just and holy life together. We welcome the Spirit's renewing work among us as we seek faithfully to walk in the way of Jesus.

House of Bishops, Spring, 2018

church, Nine, filled, New, takes, se, Que, silos, bridges, going, Focused, right, darker, yearn, el, Unified, forward, Holy, Dialogue, institutional, laughter, Speak, Gentler, real, costly, Cracked, may, Creativity, energy, empowered, Hunger, kingdom, built, poured, Disarming, province, held, Eucharist, ways, cosas, tell, Crumbling, like, Gathering, obeisance, crea, buena, Santo, go, HOB, Simmering, move, Jesus, focused, puentes, outward, love, con, han, para, gods, politically, respect, liberen, amor, moving, need, Empowered, spirit, embracing, Gran, something, now, de, discipleship, que, Release, effort, others, aquellas, Expectation, nos, called, stay, heart, things, expanding, Signs, thing, Spiritual, por, foundation, en, Vulnerability, time, discipline, pregnant, new, growth, toward, empoderados, quenched, Soberly, Organic, refreshing, reconciliaci, n, jargon, devotion, Storytelling, opening, one, nonanxious, socially, differences, respond, long, Comisi, n, lordship, movement, jail, voluntad, stretched, Mutual, build, back, commission, manifest, hearts, breeze, leave, creation, humble, Reinomutual, behind, learn, inside, made, thirst, joy

Reverent, Restorative, Embedded, Visionary, Biblical, Graciously-paced, Instructive, Narrative, Equipping, Liberating, Evangelistic, Unstuck, Realistic, Engaging, Thought-provoking, Joy-filled, Productive, Edifying, Restful, Frugal, Real, Affirming, Truthful, Fulfilling, Expectant, Effective, Fearless, Storytelling, Provocative, Relevant, Scriptural, Accountable, Revitalized, Open, Reinvigorating, Inspiring, Challenging, Prophecetic, Useful, building, Consequential, Collegial, Resonant, Respectful, All, Rejuvenated, Energizing, Reconciling, Joyful, Deep, Fruitable, Focused, Inspiring, Christ, Empowering, Wise, Relational, Impactful, Bracing, Spiritualized, Formational, Selfless, Convicting, Evangelizing, Theological, Fun, Trusting, Spiritual, Joyous, Healing, Honest, Imaginative, Hopeful, Faithful, Educational, Collaborative, Curious, Substantive, Centered, Prayerful, Inspiring, Challenging, Engaging, Truthful, Prophecetic, Collegial, Energizing, Joyful, Focused, Inspiring, Christ, Empowering, Theological, Innovative, Spirit-filled, Rebirth, Apathetic, Reflective, Encouraging, Playful, Courageous, Unifying, Silly, Formative, Released, Renewing, Companionship, Purposeful, Real, Community, Connective, Uplifting, Discrete, Sincere, Creative, Relational, Impactful, Bracing, Spiritualized, Formational, Selfless, Convicting, Evangelizing, Theological, Fun, Trusting, Spiritual, Joyous, Healing, Honest, Imaginative, Hopeful, Faithful, Educational, Collaborative, Curious, Substantive, Centered, Prayerful, Inspiring, Challenging, Engaging, Truthful, Prophecetic, Collegial, Energizing, Joyful, Focused, Inspiring, Christ, Empowering, Theological

1 **RULES OF ORDER**

2 **HOUSE OF BISHOPS**

3 **I. Services and Devotions**

4 **A. †** As an indication of our humble dependence upon the Word and Spirit of God, and following
5 the example of primitive Councils, a copy of the Holy Scriptures shall always be reverently
6 placed in view at all meetings of this House.

7 **B. †** On each day of the Session of the House, the meeting shall be opened with prayer and the
8 reading of the Holy Scriptures.

9 **C. †** At the hour of noon on each day of the Session, there shall be a devotional service,
10 including prayers for the Church in its mission, as provided for in the Book of Common Prayer.

11 **D. †** The last session of the House shall be closed with the Benediction pronounced by the
12 Bishop presiding.

13 **E. †** At every session of the House of Bishops there shall be a daily ~~celebration of the Holy~~
14 ~~Eucharist~~ *worship* at such time and place as the Presiding Bishop or Vice-~~Chair~~ *President* of the
15 House shall appoint.

16 **F. †** Preceding the balloting for the election of a Presiding Bishop, of a Missionary Bishop, or
17 on the proposed transfer of a Missionary Bishop from one Diocese to another, there shall be a
18 celebration of the Holy Eucharist, with a special prayer for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

19 **G. †** The opening service of the General Convention and selection of the Preacher shall be in
20 charge of the Presiding Bishop, the Vice-~~Chair~~ *President* of the House of Bishops, and the
21 Bishop of the Diocese wherein the Convention is to be held. The sermon shall be delivered by
22 the Presiding Bishop, unless the Presiding Bishop shall elect to appoint some other Bishop as
23 Preacher.

24 **II. First Day of Session**

25 **A. †** The House of Bishops shall meet for business at such time and place as shall have been duly
26 notified by the Presiding Bishop, or the Vice-~~Chair~~ *President* of the House, to the members of
27 this House, and shall be called to order by the Presiding Bishop or the Vice-~~Chair~~ *President*, or,
28 in their absence, by the Senior Bishop, *with jurisdiction*, present.

29 **B. †** The House shall then proceed to elect a Secretary if the office is vacant; and the person
30 elected shall serve until the end of that meeting of the Convention. At the end of each meeting of
31 the Convention, the House shall proceed to elect a Secretary who shall continue in office until
32 the conclusion of the triennial meeting of the Convention following that election. With the
33 approval of the ~~Presiding Officer~~ *bishop presiding*, the Secretary may then, or later, appoint
34 Assistant Secretaries.

35 **C. †** The roll of members shall be called by the Secretary. On the second and third days the
36 Secretary shall make a note of the late arrivals who shall inform the Secretary of their presence.

37 **D.** The minutes of the last meeting shall then be read by the Secretary and acted on by the House.
38 Such reading may be dispensed with by a majority vote of the House.

39 **E. †** Bishops appearing in the House for the first time after their Consecration shall then, or at
40 such other time at that meeting appointed by the Presiding Bishop, be presented to the ~~President~~
41 *the House* in a manner prescribed by the Presiding Bishop.

42 **F. †** At a time deemed suitable, the Presiding Bishop shall then announce, without ~~word or~~
43 comment, the fact and the date of the death of any members who have died since the last

44 preceding meeting; after which the House shall be led in prayer.

45 **G. ~~V~~** The House shall then proceed to elect a Vice-~~Chair~~ *President*, if the office is then vacant,
46 after hearing the report of the nominating committee of the House and after receiving any other
47 nominations from the floor; and the person elected shall serve until the conclusion of *the next*
48 *triennial meeting of the Convention* ~~that meeting~~. At the conclusion of each meeting of the
49 Convention, the House, using the same procedure, shall proceed to elect a Vice-~~Chair~~ *President*
50 who shall continue in office until the conclusion of the triennial meeting of the Convention
51 following that election. The Vice-~~Chair~~ *President* in the absence of the Presiding Bishop, or at
52 the request of the Presiding Bishop, shall be the Presiding Officer of the House. In the absence of
53 the Vice-~~Chair~~ *President*, the Presiding Bishop may ask another member of the House to preside.

54 **III. Daily Orders**

55 **A. ~~I~~** The regular order of business of the House shall be as follows:

- 56 1. Devotions.
- 57 2. Roll call or late registrations.
- 58 3. Minutes of the previous meeting.
- 59 4. Presentation of new members.
- 60 5. Communications from the Presiding Bishop.
- 61 6. Report of the Committee on Dispatch of Business.
- 62 7. Petitions and Memorials.
- 63 8. Messages from the House of Deputies not yet disposed of.
- 64 9. Motions of Reference.
- 65 10. Reports of Legislative Committees in the order in which the Committees are named in
66 ~~General Rule I~~ *section IV*.
- 67 11. Reports of Special Committees.
- 68 12. Reports of Special Commissions.
- 69 13. Miscellaneous business.

70 **B. ~~H~~** At any Special Meeting of the House, the Secretary shall present the Official Call for such
71 meeting and incorporate such Call in the Minutes. The order of business at any Special Session
72 shall be as follows:

- 73 1. Call to order.
- 74 2. Devotions.
- 75 3. Roll call.
- 76 4. Presentation of new members.
- 77 5. Communications from the Presiding Bishop.
- 78 6. The special Business of the Meeting.
- 79 7. Reports of Special Committees.
- 80 8. Reading of the Minutes.

81 9. Adjournment.

82 **C. III** On the second day of the Session, after Devotions, the Presiding Bishop shall lay before
83 the House a statement of official acts during the recess of the General Convention.

84 **D. IV** On the days when the House of Bishops is expected to meet with the House of Deputies
85 and others in Joint Session, the first order of business shall be the consideration of such matters
86 as the Committee on Dispatch of Business shall report as urgently demanding attention. Then
87 shall follow consideration of Messages from the House of Deputies not disposed of, Reports
88 from Standing Committees, and other business for which time shall remain. If the Joint Session
89 shall adjourn before the customary hour for adjournment of the House of Bishops, the House
90 shall *may* resume its sitting. Any part of this rule may be suspended by a majority vote.

91 **E. V** The Secretary shall keep a Calendar of Business, on which shall be placed, in the order in
92 which they are presented, Reports of Committees, Resolutions which lie over, and other matters
93 undisposed of, indicating the subject of each item.

94 **F. VI** ~~The Secretary shall also keep a Consent Calendar, which shall be published daily and
95 distributed to the members before the convening of the House on each legislative day, and
96 designate it as a separate calendar. Matters shall be listed on the Consent Calendar in separate
97 groupings according to the date that they have been placed thereon. All matters to which
98 amendments have been proposed by a Committee shall be so designated. No debate is in order
99 regarding any matter appearing on the Consent Calendar. However, the President shall allow a
100 reasonable time for questions from the floor and answers to those questions. No amendment
101 other than an amendment contained in a Committee report is in order regarding any matter on the
102 Consent Calendar. Any amendments contained in Committee reports on such matters shall be
103 deemed adopted unless the matter is objected to and removed from the Consent Calendar.
104 Immediately prior to a vote on the first matter on the Consent Calendar the President shall call to
105 the attention of the members the fact that the next vote will be on the first matter pending on the
106 Consent Calendar. Matters appearing on the Consent Calendar shall be taken up immediately
107 following the noon recess of the next legislative day following their placement on the Consent
108 Calendar, or otherwise by unanimous consent or by adoption of a special order of business. A
109 matter may be placed on the Consent Calendar by report of a Legislative Committee, if the
110 Committee vote to report the matter with a recommendation for adoption, with or without
111 amendments, or for discharge, or for rejection was by three-quarters (3/4) of the members
112 present and if the Committee recommends placement of the matter on the Consent Calendar.
113 Prior to a vote on final passage of any matter appearing on the Consent Calendar, it shall be
114 removed from the Consent Calendar if (1) any three Bishops, or (2) the sponsor of the matter, or
115 (3) the Committee on Dispatch of Business files with the Secretary written objections to the
116 presence of the matter on the Consent Calendar. Any matter so removed may not be placed
117 thereafter on the Consent Calendar but shall be restored to the Daily Calendar. Any matter
118 removed from the Consent Calendar, to which amendments have been proposed by a Committee,
119 shall stand on the Daily Calendar in its original, unamended form, and amendments shall be
120 treated as if the matter had never been on the Consent Calendar.~~

121 *The secretary shall keep a Consent Calendar, which shall be published daily and distributed to
122 the members before the convening of the House on each legislative day, and designate it as a
123 separate calendar. Matters shall be listed on the Consent Calendar in separate groupings
124 according to the date that they have been placed thereon. All matters to which amendments have
125 been proposed by a Committee shall be so designated.*

126 *No debate is in order regarding any matter appearing on the Consent Calendar. However, the*

127 *President shall allow a reasonable time for questions from the floor and answers to those*
128 *questions.*
129 *Prior to a vote on final passage of any matter appearing on the Consent Calendar, it shall be*
130 *removed from the Consent Calendar if (1) any three Bishops, or (2) the sponsor of the matter, or*
131 *(3) the Committee on Dispatch of Business requests, in writing, that the Secretary remove the*
132 *matter from the consent calendar. Any matter so removed may not be placed thereafter on the*
133 *Consent Calendar but shall be restored to the Daily Calendar. ~~Any matter removed from the~~*
134 *~~Consent Calendar, to which amendments have been proposed by a Committee, shall stand on the~~*
135 *~~Daily Calendar in its original, unamended form, and amendments shall be treated as if the~~*
136 *~~matter had never been on the Consent Calendar.~~*
137 *No amendment other than an amendment contained in a Committee report is in order regarding*
138 *any matter on the Consent Calendar. Any amendments contained in Committee reports on such*
139 *matters shall be deemed adopted unless the matter is objected to and removed from the Consent*
140 *Calendar.*
141 *Matters appearing on the Consent Calendar shall be taken up immediately following the noon*
142 *recess of the next legislative day following their placement on the Consent Calendar, or*
143 *otherwise by unanimous consent or by adoption of a special order of business.*
144 *A matter may be placed on the Consent Calendar by vote of a Legislative Committee, if the*
145 *Committee's vote to report the matter with a recommendation for adoption (with or without*
146 *amendments), or for discharge, or for rejection was by three quarters (3/4) of the members*
147 *present.*
148 **G. VII** *The Order of the Day shall be taken up at the hour appointed, unless postponed by a two-*
149 *thirds vote of those present and voting.*
150 **H. VIII** *Bishops invited to honorary seats may be introduced by the ~~Presiding Officer~~ Bishop*
151 *presiding whenever no other business occupies the House.*

152 **IV. Appointment of Committees**

- 153 **A.** *Committees of this House shall be appointed by the Presiding Bishop unless otherwise*
154 *ordered. The Presiding Bishop, not later than the third day of the session, shall name the*
155 *members of all the Committees to serve on an annual basis, and shall designate the Chair of*
156 *each Committee.*
- 157 **B.** *The following shall be the Committees of the House:*
- 158 **1.** *Standing Committees:*
 - 159 **a.** *Dispatch of Business.*
 - 160 **b.** *Certification of Minutes.*
 - 161 **c.** *Rules of Order.*
 - 162 **d.** *Privilege and Courtesy.*
 - 163 **e.** *Resignation of Bishops.*
 - 164 **f.** *Pastoral Letter.*
 - 165 **2.** *Legislative Committees as needed, that may include:*
 - 166 **a.** *Constitution and Canons.*
 - 167 **b.** *Structure*
 - 168 **c.** *World Mission.*
 - 169 **d.** *National and International Concerns.*
 - 170 **e.** *Social and Urban Affairs.*
 - 171 **f.** *Small Congregations.*

- 172 g. *Evangelism.*
173 h. *Prayer Book, Liturgy and Church Music.*
174 i. *Ministry.*
175 j. *Education.*
176 k. *Church Pension Fund.*
177 l. *Stewardship and Development.*
178 m. *Ecumenical Relations.*
179 n. *Resignation and Deployment of Bishops.*
180 3. *Other Committees as needed, that may include:*
181 a. *Communications.*
182 b. *Miscellaneous Resolutions.*
183 c. *Religious Communities.*
184 d. *On Nominations and Elections.*
185 e. *Admission of New Dioceses.*
186 C. *The Chair of each Committee shall appoint a Vice-Chair and a secretary.*
187 D. *The Presiding Bishop may at any time refer to any Committee of the House, for its*
188 *consideration, matters which arise and which should receive consideration at the next*
189 *meeting of the House.*

190 ~~V. General Rules for Meetings of This House~~

191 ~~I Committees shall be appointed by the Presiding Officer of the House unless otherwise ordered.~~
192 ~~The Presiding Bishop shall name the members of all the Committees of this House annually, and~~
193 ~~shall designate the Chair of each Committee. The Chair shall appoint a Vice Chair and a~~
194 ~~Secretary; and if the Chair should leave the Convention or the House of Bishops early, the~~
195 ~~Secretary of the House shall be notified. The Presiding Bishop may refer to Committees of this~~
196 ~~House, for their consideration, matters which arise and which should receive consideration at the~~
197 ~~next meeting of the House. The Standing Committees, to be announced not later than the third~~
198 ~~day of the session, may be as follows:~~

- 199 1. ~~Dispatch of Business.~~
200 2. ~~Certification of Minutes.~~
201 3. ~~Rules of Order, of which the Presiding Bishop shall be a member, *ex officio*.~~
202 4. ~~Constitution.~~
203 5. ~~Canons.~~
204 6. ~~Structure.~~
205 7. ~~Consecration of Bishops.~~
206 8. ~~World Mission.~~
207 9. ~~National and International Concerns.~~
208 10. ~~Social and Urban Affairs.~~
209 11. ~~Small Congregations.~~
210 12. ~~Evangelism.~~
211 13. ~~Prayer Book, Liturgy and Church Music.~~

- 212 14. — Ministry.
213 15. — Education.
214 16. — Church Pension Fund.
215 17. — Stewardship and Development.
216 18. — Ecumenical Relations.
217 19. — Communications.
218 20. — Miscellaneous Resolutions.
219 21. — Privilege and Courtesy.
220 22. — Committees and Commissions.
221 A. — Pastoral Letter.
222 B. — Resignation of Bishops.
223 C. — Religious Communities.
224 D. — On Nominations and Elections.

225 ~~In addition, the Presiding Bishop shall appoint a Legislative Committee on Admission of New~~
226 ~~Dioceses if such legislation will be presented to the Convention.~~
227

228 **V. General Rules for Meetings of This House**

- 229
230 **A. ~~H~~** No Memorial, Petition, or Address shall come before this House unless presented by ~~the~~
231 ~~Presiding Officer of the House~~ *a Bishop who is a member of this House*, or some other Bishop
232 present.
233 **B. ~~III~~** Nothing other than Reports and other documents printed for the use and by the order of the
234 House, except the private correspondence of its members, shall be distributed in the House
235 without having first been entrusted to the Secretary, and submitted to the approval of the
236 ~~Presiding Officer~~ *Bishop presiding*.
237 **C. ~~IV~~** All Resolutions shall be reduced to writing, and no motion shall be considered as before
238 the House until seconded. In all cases where a Resolution seeks to amend a Canon or an entire
239 Title of Canons, the form of Resolution submitted shall set out the enactment in the form
240 prescribed by Canon V.1, shall include with a dash overstrike on each letter any words which are
241 deleted by the amendment and shall underline any words which are added by the amendment;
242 *Provided*, that if the amendment of an entire Title is to be covered by one enactment under
243 Canon V.1.4, the deleted text and the underlining of the next text need not be included but the
244 proponent shall make adequate written explanation of the changes.
245 All resolutions of Bishops shall be proposed by one Bishop and be endorsed by not less than two
246 additional Bishops, all three being from different dioceses. Individual Bishops shall be limited to
247 proposing not more than three resolutions.
248 **D. ~~XIII~~ (a)** Reports of Committees shall be in writing, and shall be received in due course.
249 Reports recommending or requiring any action or expression of opinion by the House shall be
250 accompanied by specific Resolutions.
251 **(b)** ~~At the conclusion of each meeting of a Committee, its Chair shall prepare, or cause to be~~
252 ~~prepared, in triplicate, on forms provided for the purpose, a separate report with regard to each~~

253 matter upon which the Committee took final action during the meeting. Each such report shall be
254 in the following alternative form:

- 255 1. — Recommends adoption, with or without amendments, in which case the question
256 shall be on the adoption of the Resolution, or the Resolution as amended.
- 257 2. — Recommends rejection, with or without reasons, in which case the question shall
258 be on the adoption of the Resolution, notwithstanding the recommendation of the
259 Committee for rejection.
- 260 3. — Recommends that it be discharged from further consideration of the Resolution
261 because
 - 262 i. — the matter is not within the scope of the Committee's function, in which
263 case it may recommend referral to an appropriate Committee;
 - 264 ii. — the matter has already been dealt with by action of the House at this
265 meeting of the General Convention; or
 - 266 iii. — the matter is covered by a Resolution of a prior General Convention
 - 267 iv. — for other reasons.
- 268 4. — Recommends referral to a Standing Committee to study the theological, ethical
269 and pastoral questions inherent in the subject or to develop recommendations and
270 strategies on the subject which will be of concrete assistance to this Church or to study or
271 make recommendations concerning the subject.
- 272 5. — Recommends concurrence, with or without amendment, with House of Deputies
273 Message.
- 274 6. — Recommends non-concurrence with House of Deputies Message.

275 *(b) Legislative Committee Reports*

276 *(1) Each Legislative Committee must take final action on every Resolution and other*
277 *matter referred to it for action to recommend that the House takes one of the following*
278 *actions:*

279 *i adopt as proposed;*

280 *ii. adopt as amended by the Committee; all amendments made by a Committee will*
281 *apply automatically to the Resolution and the matter before the House when the*
282 *Resolution is considered will be the Resolution as amended by the Committee;*

283 *iii. adopt a substitute Resolution:*

284 *a. A substitute Resolution must be on the same subject as the Resolution referred to*
285 *the Legislative Committee for action.*

286 *b. A substitute Resolution may only cover one Resolution referred to the Legislative*
287 *Committee for action.*

- 288 *c. If the House declines to adopt a substitute, the original Resolution will be*
289 *automatically referred back to the Committee for additional consideration.*
- 290 *iv. adopt a consolidated substitute Resolution:*
- 291 *a. A consolidated substitute Resolution must be on the same subject as the*
292 *Resolutions referred to the Legislative Committee for action.*
- 293 *b. Its report on the final action on that Resolution must identify all the other*
294 *Resolutions the substitute is intended to cover.*
- 295 *c. A vote by the Legislative Committee to recommend adoption of a consolidated*
296 *substitute Resolution will be an automatic recommendation to take no further action on*
297 *all other Resolutions the consolidated substitute Resolution is intended to cover.*
- 298 *d. If the House declines to adopt a consolidated substitute Resolution, the original*
299 *Resolutions will be automatically referred back to the Committee for additional*
300 *consideration.*
- 301 *v. reject;*
- 302 *vi. refer to a specified Standing Commission, General Convention Task Force, Executive*
303 *Council or other body of the Church for study, action, or to make recommendations on*
304 *the subject to the next General Convention;*
- 305 *vii. take no further action because:*
- 306 *a. the matter has already been dealt with by action of the House of Bishops at this*
307 *meeting of General Convention;*
- 308 *b. the matter is covered by a Resolution of a prior General Convention;*
- 309 *c. for other reasons.*
- 310 *viii. If the Resolution or matter has been acted on by the House of Deputies:*
- 311 *a. concur with the action of the House of Deputies;*
- 312 *b. concur as proposed to be amended by the House of Bishops Legislative*
313 *Committee;*
- 314 *c. concur with substitute as proposed by the House of Bishops Legislative*
315 *Committee;*
- 316 *d. not concur and take a different action;*

317 *e. not concur.*

318 *(2) Minority Report*

319 *i. If there is a minority position on a final action on a Resolution or other matter and*
320 *the minority requests to make a minority report to the House, the Chair will include the*
321 *minority report in the Legislative Committee's report on the final action on the*
322 *Resolution or other matter.*

323 *ii. A minority position consists of at least one-quarter (1/4) of the members of the*
324 *Legislative Committee present and voting on the Resolution, Memorial, or other matter.*

325 **(c)** Each report shall be dated, signed by the Chair or Secretary of the Committee, and
326 transmitted to the office of the Secretary of the House, who shall endorse thereon the date of
327 receipt thereof. If there is a minority position in the Committee and a minority spokesperson
328 requests a minority *position* report, the Chair shall include the same in the report.
329 Any resolution which involves an amendment to the Constitution or Canons shall be referred to
330 the appropriate Legislative or Special Committee for action and simultaneously to the Committee
331 on Constitution or the Committee on Canons, as the case may be, and such Committee shall
332 make certain that the Resolution is in proper constitutional or canonical form, achieves
333 consistency and clarity in the Constitution or Canons, and includes all amendments necessary to
334 effect the proposed change, and shall promptly communicate its recommendations to the
335 Legislative or Special Committee. In such case the Committee shall neither concern itself with,
336 nor report on, the substance of the matter referred to it, but whenever requested to do so by the
337 Presiding Officer of the House, the Committee shall in its report to the House make
338 recommendations as to substance.

339 **(d)** Before final consideration, by the House, the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget,
340 and Finance (PB&F) shall have been informed by the Committee considering any proposed
341 action which, if adopted by General Convention, would require an appropriation of funds and
342 PB&F shall have acknowledged receipt of such information by endorsement on the committee
343 report or by other appropriate means. Implementation of any such resolution is subject to funding
344 in the budget.

345 **E. XIV** Reports of Committees appointed to sit during the recess, if not acted upon at once, shall,
346 when presented, be made the Order of the Day for a time fixed. Printed Committee Reports
347 which have been delivered to, and circulated among, the members of the House of Bishops, in
348 advance of the making of such Reports upon the floor of the House, shall be presented by title
349 and the Chair or Committee member presenting said Report shall be allowed five minutes for
350 summarizing the same, which time may be extended only by a two-thirds vote of those present
351 and voting.

352 **F. XX** All Resolutions which are to be communicated to the House of Deputies, unless they
353 contain information of action incomplete in this House, or be temporarily withheld by order of
354 this House at the time of their passage, shall be transmitted to the House of Deputies as soon as
355 conveniently may be, under the direction of the ~~Presiding Officer of the House~~ *Bishop presiding.*

356 **G. XXI** Committees from the House of Deputies shall be admitted immediately. Messages from
357 the House of Deputies shall be handed by the Secretary of this House to the ~~Presiding Officer~~
358 *Bishop presiding*, to be laid before the House as early as may be convenient. However,

359 consideration of such Message shall be subject to a motion for the appointment of a Committee
360 of Conference as hereinafter provided in these Rules. All such Messages communicating any
361 legislative action on the part of the House of Deputies shall, without debate, be referred to the
362 proper Committee, unless, without debate, the House shall decide to consider such Messages
363 without such reference. When the consideration of such Message shall have been begun, it shall
364 continue to be the Order of the Day until final action thereon.

365 The final action of this House upon any Message from the House of Deputies shall be by vote
366 upon the question "Shall this House concur in the action of the House of Deputies as
367 communicated in their Message No. _____?" Messages requiring no action by the House may be
368 received by Title.

369 **H. XXII** If, during the consideration by this House of any action taken by the House of Deputies,
370 a motion is made stating the position of this House and requesting a Committee of Conference,
371 such motion shall have precedence and be put to a vote without debate, and if passed by a
372 majority of the members of this House then present, a Committee of Conference shall be
373 appointed. A Committee of Conference shall also be in order, with or without motion, (1) in
374 cases where the House of Deputies has concurred, with amendments, in action taken by this
375 House, or (2) in cases where this House has concurred, with amendments, in action taken by the
376 House of Deputies. When a Committee of Conference has been appointed, final action upon the
377 matter under consideration shall be deferred until the Committee of Conference shall have
378 reported to this House; *Provided*, such report shall be made no later than the next business day or
379 within one hour after the convening of the last meeting of this House in Convention assembled,
380 whichever event shall first occur. Further, the Chair of any Standing or other Committee shall
381 have full authority, either alone or with members of the Committee, to confer with the Chair of
382 the cognate Committee of the House of Deputies.

383 **I. XXIII** Two Bishops may be appointed by the ~~Presiding Officer~~ *Bishop presiding* to act with
384 the Secretary in preparing daily reports of the action of this House, and furnishing them, at their
385 discretion, to the public press.

386 **J. XXVI** The Committee on Privilege and Courtesy may recommend the courtesy of seat and
387 voice to (1) any Bishop of a Church in the Anglican Communion who has been nominated by a
388 Bishop of this House whose jurisdiction has entered into a formal companion diocese
389 relationship approved by the Executive Council of this Church or (2) any Bishop who is a guest
390 of the Presiding Bishop upon the nomination of the Presiding Bishop. The Committee on
391 Privilege and Courtesy must receive nominations for the courtesy of seat and voice thirty days
392 prior to the stated or called meeting of the House at which such courtesy is to be granted. The
393 nominations for the courtesy of seat and voice shall be circulated in writing to the members of
394 the House before the nominations shall be presented to the House. Bishops granted the courtesy
395 of seat and voice shall be assigned a seat and shall have such seat and voice only for meeting of
396 the House at which such courtesy was granted. Bishops granted courtesy of seat and voice shall
397 at all times be entitled to be present except when the House is in Executive Session. At such a
398 call, the Secretary shall ask the guests to leave the House.

399 **K. XXVII** There shall be ~~an Advisory Committee~~ *a Council of Advice*, composed of Bishops
400 who are the Presidents or Vice-Presidents of each Province, which will act as advisory council to
401 the Presiding Bishop between meetings of the House of Bishops. The Committee shall elect its
402 own officers.

403 **L. XXVIII** The Committee on the Bishop's Pastoral shall be ~~a Standing Committee of the~~
404 ~~House~~, composed of persons eminently qualified for the task, and empowered to enlist additional

405 assistance, with the consent of the Presiding Bishop, as may seem wise. The Committee shall
406 make a Report at each Session of the House.

407 ***M. Elections Of Bishops and Membership in the House***

408 (1) ~~VIII~~ When it is proposed to give consent to the consecration or confirmation of a Bishop-
409 elect, or of a Bishop Coadjutor-elect, or of a Bishop Suffragan-elect, ~~it shall be competent for~~
410 any six voting members of the House ~~to~~ may call for a vote by ballot.

411 (2) ~~IX~~ The Secretary shall prepare a ballot for each election listing alphabetically the names of
412 all persons nominated. On each ballot, each voting member shall vote for the number of
413 nominees to be or remaining to be elected, and any ballot with votes less than or in excess
414 thereof shall be void. The nominees receiving the largest number of votes shall be deemed
415 elected, provided that votes equal to or in excess of a majority of the ballots cast on any ballot
416 shall be required for election.

417 (3) ~~XXIV~~ Any Bishop of a Church in the Anglican Communion who is in exile from a Diocese,
418 or is without membership in a House of Bishops because the Diocese is temporarily in an extra-
419 provincial status, and who is resident in any jurisdiction in this Church, or any other Bishop of a
420 Church in the Anglican Communion who has resigned his or her position in that Church, who
421 has made his or her primary residence in any jurisdiction in this Church may be admitted to this
422 House as a collegial member. Such membership may be extended to such a Bishop by a two-
423 thirds vote of those present and voting on each Bishop, taken by secret ballot if requested by at
424 least six members of the House, considered by the members of the House present at any
425 regularly called meeting, and shall continue until such time as the collegial member removes
426 from the jurisdiction of this Church, or until such time as it is withdrawn by a like vote. Such
427 collegial member shall be assigned a seat, and have a voice, in this House. No vote shall be
428 accorded such collegial member, in keeping with the Constitution of this Church.

429 The Committee on Privilege and Courtesy must receive, one month in advance of any meeting of
430 this House, nominations for collegial membership in this House, said nomination to be made
431 only by the Bishop in whose jurisdiction the proposed collegial member resides. The
432 nominations for collegial membership shall be circulated in writing to the members of the House
433 before the nominations shall be presented to the House.

434 Any Bishop of an extra-provincial Diocese which originated in the Church or any Bishop of this
435 Church who removed from the jurisdiction of this Church to the jurisdiction of a Church in the
436 Anglican Communion may be continued in relationship to this House as an honorary member.
437 Thirty days prior to each stated or called meeting of the House such honorary members shall give
438 written notice of their intention to be present to the Presiding ~~Officer of this House~~ Bishop. Seat
439 and voice shall then be accorded such honorary members, upon the nomination to the House by
440 the ~~Presiding Officer~~ Bishop *presiding*. No vote shall be accorded the honorary member.

441 Bishops admitted to honorary and collegial seats in the House shall at all times be entitled to be
442 present except when the House is in Executive Session. At such a call, the Secretary shall ask the
443 guests to leave the House.

444 (4) ~~XXV~~ Any Bishop of this Church who resigns a position for reasons other than those specified
445 in Article I.2 of the Constitution, but whose resignation is not for reasons related to the Bishop's
446 moral character, may, on motion and by a majority vote, be accorded non-voting membership in
447 the House. Until further contrary action by the House, any such non-voting member shall have
448 the right to seat and voice at all meetings, the right to serve on committees, and all other rights of
449 membership except that of voting on any matter.

450

451 ***N. Debate and Decorum***

452 ~~(1) V~~ Members in discussion shall address the Chair, and shall confine themselves to the
453 Question in debate. No member shall speak more than twice in the same debate without leave of
454 the House. At the conclusion of any speech, the ~~Presiding Officer~~ *Bishop presiding*, alone, or any
455 member of the House, may call for a vote, without debate, on a proposal for a recess of
456 conference to define and clarify the issues of the debate and the way in which the House is
457 working. If the proposal of a member is supported by at least four other members, it is to be put
458 to a vote. If passed by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, members of the House will
459 form small groups for a ten-minute conference, at the end of which debate will resume with any
460 speakers who had already been recognized at the time of the motion for conference.

461 ~~(2) VI~~ Officers of the House of Bishops, when addressing the House in debate, shall in all cases
462 do so from the floor of the House.

463 ~~(3) VII~~ When a division is called for, every voting member present shall be counted. When, in
464 such procedure, the vote of the ~~Presiding Officer~~ *Bishop presiding* produces a tie, the motion
465 shall be considered as lost.

466 (4) On any question before the House the ayes and nays may be required by any six voting
467 members, and shall in such cases be entered on the Journal.

468 ~~(5) X~~ When a Question is under consideration, the following motions shall have precedence in
469 the order listed: to lay upon the table, to postpone to a time certain, to commit or to refer, to
470 substitute another motion dealing with the same Question, to amend, or to postpone indefinitely;
471 *Provided*, that, in consideration of a message from the House of Deputies, the provisions of
472 Rules ~~XXI and XXII~~ V. G and H shall apply, and a motion made thereunder for a Committee of
473 Conference shall have precedence; and *Provided, further*, that a proposal for a Recess of
474 Conference shall always be in order, under the conditions set forth in Rule ~~V~~ V.N.1.

475 ~~(6) XI~~ On motion duly put and carried, the House may resolve itself into a Committee of the
476 Whole, at which no records shall be made of its action. On separate motion duly put and carried,
477 those present at such sessions may be limited to members of the House.

478 ~~(7) XII~~ On motion duly put and carried, the House may go into Executive Session, at which only
479 members of the House shall be present. The Chair of the Committee on Dispatch of Business
480 shall act as clerk and make a record of all motions adopted.

481 ~~(8) XV~~ All questions of order shall be decided by the Chair without debate, but appeal may be
482 taken from such decision. The decision of the Chair shall stand unless overruled by a two-thirds
483 vote of those present and voting. On such appeal, no member shall speak more than once without
484 express leave of the House.

485 ~~(9) XVI~~ Amendments shall be considered in the order in which they are moved. When a
486 proposed amendment is under consideration, a motion to amend the same may be made. No
487 after-amendment to such second amendment shall be in order, but a substitute for the whole
488 matter may be received. No proposition on a subject differing from the one under consideration
489 shall be received under color of a substitute.

490 ~~(10) XVII~~ A Question being once determined shall stand as the judgment of the House, and
491 shall not be again drawn into debate during the same session of the House, except with the
492 consent of a two-thirds vote of those present and voting. A motion to reconsider can be made
493 only on the day the vote was taken, or on the next succeeding legislative day, and must be made
494 and seconded by those who voted with the majority.

495 ~~(11) XVIII~~ (a) Except by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, no new business shall be
496 introduced for the consideration of the House after the second day of the Session. All matters

497 originating in this House requiring concurrent action by both houses shall be considered before
498 the last legislative day except for Resolutions of Privilege and Courtesy.

499 **(b)** No resolution proposing amendments to the Constitution or Canons of this Church may be
500 presented in the House of Bishops for an initial vote on the last legislative day of General
501 Convention; *Provided, however,* that any such resolution previously considered and voted upon
502 by this House may be considered on the last legislative day in order to consider changes to the
503 resolution approved by the House of Deputies.

504 **(12) XIX** Except by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, no member of the House may
505 introduce a Resolution at a special meeting unless the Resolution has been circulated thirty days
506 in advance to the members. This rule shall not be construed in any way to prevent a Committee
507 of the House from introducing Resolutions at special meetings.

508

509 ***O. Rules of Order***

510 **(1) XXX** These rules shall be in force in subsequent Sessions of this House unless otherwise
511 ordered.

512 **(2) XXIX** Additions and amendments to, or suspension or repeal of these rules shall require a
513 two-thirds vote of those present and voting.

514 **(3) XXXI** Except when in conflict with the Constitution or Canons, or any Rule herein
515 contained, the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the interpretation of these
516 rules, and the parliamentary procedures to be followed in this House.

517

518 **VI. The Presiding Bishop**

519 **A. I** On the day following the Joint Session to which the Joint Nominating Committee has
520 reported pursuant to Canon I.2, the House of Bishops shall meet in executive session in a church
521 to discuss the nominees presented at the Joint Session, and to elect a Presiding Bishop from
522 among those nominees.

523 **B. II** ~~The House of Bishops should~~ *All members of the House of Bishops present shall remain*
524 *within the confines of the church where the election has been held, until word has been received*
525 *of the action of the House of Deputies.*

526 **VII. Missionary Bishops**

527 **A. I** When a vacancy occurs or is about to occur in the Missionary Episcopate, it shall be the
528 duty of the Presiding Bishop to investigate the situation existing in the Diocese, to consult with
529 those persons in the field and at home best fitted to advise as to the conditions in the Diocese,
530 and to submit to the members of the House such information as the Presiding Bishop may secure.

531 **B. II** Before any vacancy in the Missionary Episcopate is to be considered or filled at any
532 Meeting of the House, notice to this effect shall be given in the call of such Meeting. The ballot
533 for the election to any such vacancy shall not, without unanimous consent, be taken at a Special
534 Meeting until at least the first day, nor at a Meeting of the General Convention until at least the
535 second day, after nominations have been made to the House. In the event of the occurrence of a
536 vacancy in a Missionary Diocese, or the resignation of a Missionary Bishop, between the
537 issuance of the call for a Special Meeting of the House of Bishops and the meeting thereof, the
538 House, by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, shall be competent to fill such vacancy,
539 or to act upon such resignation.

540 **C. III** Further proceedings for the election of a Missionary Bishop shall be as follows:

- 541 1. In the case of each vacancy to be filled, a special Joint Nominating Committee
542 shall be appointed. The Committee shall be composed of three persons from the jurisdiction
543 concerned, chosen by its Council of Advice or in some other manner as ordered by the Presiding
544 Bishop, and three members of this House appointed by the Presiding Bishop. The Joint
545 Nominating Committee shall elect its own officers and shall nominate three persons for the
546 vacancy. Three weeks before the Meeting of the House these names shall be sent in confidence
547 to each Bishop.
- 548 2. The Presiding Bishop may, in the exercise of discretion, make nominations for
549 such vacancies.
- 550 3. At the Meeting of the House, the names of the persons proposed by the Joint
551 Nominating Committee shall be formally Committee placed in nomination, and
552 opportunity shall also be given for nominations from the floor.
- 553 4. The Joint Nominating Committees and the Bishops making nominations, and
554 others having knowledge of the persons nominated, shall give to *appropriate committees*
555 ~~the Committee on Domestic Missions or the Committee on Overseas Missions, as the~~
556 ~~case may be,~~ full information regarding the nominees, and *any* such *committees*, having
557 secured further information as may be possible, shall report to the House in Executive
558 Session such further information concerning the intellectual, moral, and physical
559 qualifications of the persons nominated, with dates of birth, graduation, and specific
560 statements as to theological attainment, proficiency in languages, and any specialty in
561 sacred duties to which such persons may have devoted themselves. Questions may be
562 asked and other information given by the Bishops.
- 563 5. All nominations for vacant Missionary Dioceses shall be made in Executive
564 Session. The names of the nominees shall be made known to the public only after the
565 election.
- 566 6. In the case of a declination, another election can be held from the same names
567 without further formality than re-nomination; but if new names are introduced, the order
568 prescribed above shall be repeated.
- 569 7. In the case of the proposed transfer of a Bishop in charge of a Missionary Diocese
570 to another Diocese, action shall be as in the case of the election of Missionary Bishops.
- 571 8. All proceedings in Executive Session shall be held strictly confidential. In the
572 case of elections held in Executive Session ~~and to be confirmed by the House of Deputies~~
573 ~~or by the Standing Committees of the Church,~~ the names of those elected shall not be
574 made known until ~~they are published by the House of Deputies, or until~~ they are ordered
575 to be sent to the Standing Committees *for confirmation*.

576 **VIII. Standing Orders**

577 **A. ¶** *Whereas*, by provisions of Canon III.11.6, and Canon III.11.9(c)(3)(iii), the Presiding
578 Bishop is empowered to take order for the ordination and consecration of Diocesan and
579 Missionary Bishops, either in the Presiding Bishop's own person or by commission issued to
580 three Bishops; *It is hereby ordered*, that, ~~in all cases of Episcopal consecrations, the place for the~~
581 ~~same shall be designated only with the consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority in whose Diocese~~
582 ~~or Jurisdiction such proposed place is;~~ that the Bishop-elect shall have the right to designate the
583 ~~Preacher and the two Bishops by whom the Bishop-elect is to be presented; and that, in the~~

584 ~~absence of the Presiding Bishop, the Senior Bishop by consecration who is present shall preside,~~
585 ~~unless some other Bishop shall have been designated by the Presiding Bishop.~~ *in all cases where*
586 *the Presiding Bishop takes order for the ordination of a Bishop in a Diocese or Missionary*
587 *Diocese, the place for the same shall be designated with the consent of the Ecclesiastical*
588 *Authority in whose Diocese or Jurisdiction such proposed place is; the Bishop-elect shall have*
589 *the right to designate the preacher and the two Bishops by whom the Bishop-elect is to be*
590 *presented; and, in the absence of the Presiding Bishop, the Senior Bishop with jurisdiction by*
591 *consecration who is present shall preside, unless some other Bishop shall have been designated*
592 *by the Presiding Bishop.*

593 **B. II** Seniority among the Bishops is according to the date of the consecration of each Bishop.

594 **C. III** The House of Bishops shall assemble on every morning during the period of the General
595 Convention, except the Lord's Day, for business, unless adjournment beyond that morning has
596 been ordered by the vote of the House.

597 **D. IV** Two or more of the Bishops shall be appointed at each General Convention to take charge,
598 together with the Secretary of the House of Bishops, of the Journal of its proceedings, and to see
599 that the whole, or such parts of it as the House may direct, be entered in its proper place in the
600 Journal of the General Convention.

601 **E. V** The Secretary of the House of Bishops shall keep a permanent record of the members and
602 officers of the House from the beginning, and shall record therein the names of the Bishops who
603 are or have been members of this House, the date and place of their consecration, the names of
604 their consecrators, together with the date of the termination, by death, resignation, or otherwise,
605 of the membership of such Bishops as have ceased to have seats in this House, all of which facts
606 shall be recorded only upon official notification, for which it shall be the duty of the Secretary to
607 call upon such persons as may be competent to furnish the same. The said record shall be the
608 official Register of this House, and the roll of the House communicate the same to the House, as
609 its official roll, as soon as the Presiding Officer shall have taken the chair. Such roll shall be
610 subject to change only by vote of the House.

611 **F. VI** In making up the list of the Bishops who have retained their constituted rights to seats in
612 this House, the Secretary is instructed to leave the name of any Bishop resigned in the place
613 which the Bishop occupies in the order of consecration, with the addition of the word "Bishop,"
614 which shall be considered as the sufficient title of such resigned Bishop.

615 ~~**G. VII** In the event of the loss by any Bishop of a seat in the House of Bishops, with the~~
616 ~~consequent omission of the Bishop's name from the roll, and a subsequent return to the House,~~
617 ~~the Bishop's name shall be entered on the roll at the place corresponding with the time of such~~
618 ~~return.~~

619 **G. VIII** At every meeting of the House of Bishops a seat for the Chair of the Committee on
620 Dispatch of Business shall be assigned near the front of the House.

621 **H. IX** At every meeting of the House of Bishops seats on the platform shall be assigned to such
622 Bishops present as have formerly held the office of Presiding Bishop, and at every service of the
623 General Convention such Bishops as have formerly held the office of Presiding Bishop shall be
624 assigned places immediately in front of the Chaplain of the Presiding Bishop.

625 **I. X** Whenever the House shall make a determination under Article I.2 of the Constitution that a
626 resigned Bishop shall or shall not retain a seat and vote in the House, the following
627 understanding of the intent of the pertinent terms of that provision of the Constitution shall
628 apply:

629 **(a)** "advanced age" shall mean at least 62 years of age;

630 (b) “bodily infirmity” shall mean either a condition for which one is eligible for disability
631 retirement benefits from the Church Pension Fund or Social Security Administration, or a
632 physical or mental impairment that a physician or psychiatrist (approved by the Presiding
633 Bishop) certifies would likely result in eligibility for such disability retirement benefits should
634 the Bishop continue in active episcopal ministry;
635 (c) “office created by the General Convention” shall mean a ministry funded by the General
636 Convention Budget and approved by the Presiding Bishop; and
637 (d) “mission strategy” shall mean a strategy that would allow the election of an indigenous
638 member of the clergy of a non-domestic diocese as Bishop, or that would allow a diocese to
639 implement a new mission strategy as determined by the Presiding Bishop, or that would allow a
640 transition in episcopal leadership after a Diocesan Bishop or Bishop Suffragan has served 10 or
641 more years in either or both of those offices.

642 **IX. Standing Resolutions**

643 *A. ¶ Resolved*, That the Standing Committee on the Resignation of Bishops be requested to
644 prepare a Resolution taking note of the service of each Bishop whose resignation is being
645 accepted, such Resolution to be presented to the House of Bishops along with the
646 recommendation on the resignation. Where a resignation is accepted between Meetings of the
647 House, such Resolution shall be presented at the next Meeting.

648 *B. ¶ Resolved*, That the Presiding Bishop be requested to appoint, on each occasion, a
649 Committee of three or more Bishops to prepare, on behalf of the House of Bishops, and send to
650 the family of each Bishop who dies, a Memorial Message, such Committee to represent the
651 House of Bishops at the funeral, where it is practical for them to attend.

652 *C. ¶ Resolved*, That, within six months after *the appointment of any Committee or*
653 *Commission* ~~the adjournment of each General Convention~~, the Secretary of the House of
654 Bishops shall communicate with the Bishop ~~named as~~ Convener of each Commission *and*
655 *Committee* ~~appointed during the preceding General Convention~~, and inquire whether the
656 Commission *or Committee* has convened and organized, keeping a record of the replies
657 received.