

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2009
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO.: 2009-A059
TITLE: Regarding the House of Deputies Rules of Order
PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons
COMMITTEE: Rules of Order

Directly Related: (attached)

2006-A036 Amend House of Bishops Rule XVIII [General Rules]

Indirectly Related:

1997-A150 Amend House of Deputies Rule IV.14 [Amending Constitution or Canons]

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions of General Convention for the period 1976 through 2006, selecting "direct" resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. Committee members who are interested in obtaining copies of "indirectly related" resolutions, legislative history before 1976, or who require other research assistance should contact the Archives at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.



Resolution Number: 2006-A036
Title: Amend House of Bishops Rule XVIII [General Rules]
Legislative Action Taken: Adopted
Final Text:

*Resolved, That the House of Bishops Rule of Order XVIII be amended by lettering the existing paragraph as (a), and adding a new paragraph (b) as follows:
(b) No resolution proposing amendments to the Constitution or Canons of this Church may be presented in the House of Bishops for an initial vote on the last legislative day of General Convention, provided, however, that any such resolution previously considered and voted upon by this House may be considered on the last legislative day in order to consider changes to the resolution approved by the House of Deputies.*

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), pp. 87-88.

03 - Rules of Order

A059

TOPIC/TITLE: Rules of Order: Regarding the House of Deputies Rules of Order
PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons
C&C PAGE:
BB PAGE: 121

1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That House of Deputies Rule of Order 14 is
2 hereby amended by re-lettering the existing paragraph as (a), and adding a new paragraph
3 (b) as follows:

4 *(b) No resolution proposing amendments to the Constitution or Canons of this*
5 *Church may be presented in the House of Deputies for an initial vote on the last*
6 *legislative day of General Convention, provided, however, that any such resolution*
7 *previously considered and voted upon by this House may be considered on the last*
8 *legislative day in order to consider changes to the resolution approved by the House*
9 *of Bishops.*

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EXPLANATION:

This Resolution is identical to Resolution A035 from 2006. Time expired at the 2006 General Convention before action could be taken on A035 in the House of Deputies. The Resolution would have revised the Rules of Order of the House of Deputies to prohibit bringing a constitutional or canonical change to the floor of the House on the last legislative day of General Convention, if the change had not previously been on the floor prior to that last day. The House of Bishops adopted A036 in 2006, making this change to its Rules of Order. As the Commission reported in its 2006 Blue Book Report (at Page 101): "Given the important and complex nature of the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church, it is reasonable for General Convention to expect proposed alterations or amendments to either of these to come to the attention of the legislative bodies as early as possible. At the least, it would seem not only wise but imperative to avoid introducing alterations or amendments for initial consideration on the very last day of General Convention so that opportunity is allowed for the Bishops and Deputies to consider carefully and adequately the merits and implications of the proposed changes." For these same reasons, and to make the House of Deputies Rules parallel to those of the House of Bishops, the Commission recommends adoption of this Resolution in 2009.

Review Status: Not Yet Reviewed for Canonical Form; Not Yet Reviewed for Constitutional Form