

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2009-D081
TITLE: Bishop Voting Provisions
PROPOSER: The Rev. Ward H. Simpson
COMMITTEE: Ministry

Directly Related: (attached)

None

Indirectly Related:

None

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.

TOPIC/TITLE: Bishops: Bishop Voting Provisions

PROPOSER: The Rev. Ward H. Simpson

C&C PAGE:

BB PAGE:

1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the Standing Commission on
2 Constitution and Canons

3
4 (a) Review all the provisions of the Constitution, Canons, and Rules of Order of the
5 House of Bishops in which voting by Bishops or in the House of Bishops is set forth,
6 including but not limited to Constitution Art. I.3, Canon I.2.1(b), Canon I.2.1, Canon
7 I.10.6, Canon IV.3.21(c), Canon IV.5.30(e), Canon IV.9.2, Canon V.1.1, and Canon
8 V.4.1(a)(6) and Canon V.5.1 for clarity and consistency with respect to whether:

- 9 (1) bishops have to be present to be counted in the number of bishops
- 10 considered eligible to vote;
- 11 (2) a majority of bishops eligible to vote means only bishops present and
- 12 voting or also bishops who would be eligible to vote even though they are not
- 13 present;
- 14 (3) the "entire membership of the House of Bishops" includes bishops not
- 15 present;
- 16 (4) the "entire membership of the House of Bishops" includes bishops not
- 17 otherwise entitled to vote;
- 18 (5) a majority vote "in the House of Bishops" is different from a majority vote
- 19 "of the House of Bishops;"
- 20 (6) "one-third of the Bishops qualified to vote" means something different
- 21 than "one-third of the Bishops eligible to vote;"
- 22 (7) "a vote of two-thirds of the Bishops present at a meeting of the House of
- 23 Bishops" is determined based on the number of Bishops present at the meeting
- 24 or the number of Bishops at the meeting who are eligible to vote;
- 25 (8) "a majority of the whole number of Bishops entitled to vote" includes only
- 26 those Bishops present when the vote is taken or includes Bishops eligible to
- 27 vote who are not present when the vote is taken; and
- 28 (9) and any other similar issues or questions;

29
30 and be it further

31 *Resolved*, That the Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons propose any
32 necessary amendments to the 77th General Convention; and be it further

33
34 *Resolved*, That the Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons review the

Endorser(s): Sally A. Johnson Esq., Pauline Getz Esq.

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

1 Constitution and Canons regarding bishops with jurisdiction, dioceses without bishops,
2 and other related provisions on the questions of whether Bishops having provisional
3 charge of a Diocese:

4 (1) have jurisdiction;

5 (2) are entitled to vote on the consent to the election of bishops; and

6 (3) any other issues relating to the extent of their authority;

7
8 and be it further

9 *Resolved*, That the Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons propose any
10 necessary amendments to the 77th General Convention.

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