

STANDING COMMISSION ON THE STRUCTURE OF THE CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP

John Wood Goldsack Esq., <i>Chair</i>	New Jersey II, 2006
The Rt. Rev. James Elliot Curry, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Connecticut I, 2009
The Rev. Stuart Brooks Keith III, <i>Secretary</i>	Colorado VI, 2009
The Rev. H. Jay Atwood	Fort Worth VII, 2006
Mr. Justin Chapman	Minnesota VI, 2006
The Rt. Rev. Bruce MacPherson	Western Louisiana VII, 2006, <i>replaced by</i>
The Rt. Rev. Clifton Daniel	East Carolina, IV, 2006
JoAnn B. Jones Esq.	Pennsylvania III, 2009
The Rev. John David Lane	Southwestern Virginia, III, 2006
Ms. Barbara G. Mann	South Carolina IV, 2009
Mr. David R. Pitts, <i>Special Rep, PHD</i>	Louisiana IV, 2006
The Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson	New Hampshire I, 2006
Hon. Margaret N. Tinsman	Iowa VI, 2006
Ms. Mary Ann Weiss	Lexington IV, 2009
Dr. Delbert C. Glover, <i>Executive Council Liaison</i>	Western Massachusetts I, 2006*
The Rev. Canon Anthony Jewiss, <i>Staff Liaison</i>	Los Angeles, VIII

* resigned from Executive Council June 2005, liaison position vacant thereafter

These persons attended one or more meetings: The Very Rev. George Werner, President of the House of Deputies; Ms. Bonnie Anderson, Vice-President of the House of Deputies and Chair, General Convention Task Force; the Rev. Canon Rosemari Sullivan and the Rev. Dr. Gregory Straub, Executive Officers of the General Convention; the Rev. Reynolds Cheney II, Chair, HD Committee on the State of the Church; Alexander Webb II, of the General Convention Office.

Commission Representatives at General Convention

The Rt. Rev. James Elliot Curry for the House of Bishops and John Wood Goldsack, Esq. for the House of Deputies are authorized to receive non-substantive amendments to this report.

Meetings of the Commission

The Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church met four times during the triennium. In addition, three members served on the General Convention Task Force.

SUMMARY OF THE COMMISSION'S WORK

The Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church mandate is to examine the functioning of the Committees and Commissions of the Church. This triennium, the Commission studied the organization of the Committees, Commissions, Agencies and Boards of the General Convention (CCABs). We found that over the years the CCABs have evolved into a Hydra with overlapping parts, inconsistent names, and unclear mandates. The accompanying resolutions in this report are an attempt to regularize the Committees and Commissions where differences seem to be unnecessary. The Appendix of this report describes this multifaceted system as it currently exists and names its parts in a coherent way. It is our hope that future commissions will explore ways to simplify further the Commission, Committee, Agency and Board (CCAB) structure of the Church and refine the defined terms.

Guiding our work is the belief that the structure of the church should promote and serve the mission of the church: "To restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ." We also believe the Church must be structured in a way that facilitates the flow of ideas and energy, and that promotes accountability, flexibility, and good stewardship.

STRUCTURE OF COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

The Structure Commission makes the following proposals: (a) Standing Commissions shall consist of 12 appointed members (3 Bishops, 3 Priests or Deacons, 6 Lay Persons); (b) each Standing Commission shall have an Executive Council liaison and a Church Center staff member, both with seat and voice, but without vote; (c) appointments to Standing Commissions shall be made in a timely manner; (d) each Church Center program office shall be specifically linked to a Standing Commission; (e) the Standing Commission on Health, re-established in 2003, shall be fully funded; (f) Executive Council shall continue to organize committees related to its ongoing work, but the work of committees which report to Executive Council (HIV/AIDS and Criminal Justice, for instance) be moved to appropriate Standing Commissions or discontinued at the end of each triennium; (g) at the end of each triennium, Standing Commissions shall be encouraged to evaluate the work that they will undertake in the new triennium and make recommendations as to the structural, human, and financial resources needed to accomplish it.

Standing Commissions

The first three resolutions we propose concern Standing Commissions. At the moment, Standing Commissions vary greatly in size from 11 to 24 with little rationale for such disparity; we propose a uniform size. Having an Executive Council and Church Center staff liaison for every Standing Commission would enhance the flow of information, reduce redundancy, and expand the wealth of expertise and experience on Commissions. Youth and Christian Formation are program areas without the benefit of a Standing Commission that would make policy proposals through General Convention. And finally, the Health Standing Commission needs to be funded if we are to stand by the decision of the last Convention to form such a Commission.

Resolution A104 Amend Canon I.1.2: Standing Commissions

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That Canon I.1.2 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 2 **Sec. 2 (a)** The General Convention by Canon may establish Standing Commissions, to study and *draft policy*
- 3 ~~*proposals make recommendations to the General Convention*~~ on major subjects considered to be of continuing
- 4 concern to *the mission of the Church*. The Canon shall specify the ~~*size, composition and*~~ duties of each such
- 5 Commission. Standing Commissions shall be composed of *three (3) Bishops, three (3) Priests and/or Deacons*
- 6 of this Church and *six (6) Lay Persons*, who shall be confirmed adult communicants of this Church in good
- 7 standing. Priests, Deacons and Lay Persons ~~*may but need not*~~ *are not required* to be members of the House of
- 8 Deputies.
- 9 **(b)** The terms of all members of Standing Commissions shall be equal to the interval between the regular
- 10 meeting of the General Convention preceding their appointment and the adjournment of the second
- 11 succeeding regular meeting of the General Convention, and such terms shall be rotated so that, as near as
- 12 may be, the term of one half of the members shall expire at the conclusion of each regular meeting of the
- 13 General Convention. The term of a member shall become vacant in the event of two absences from
- 14 meetings of the Commission occurring in the interval between successive regular meetings of the General
- 15 Convention unless excused by the Commission for good cause.
- 16 **(c)** The Presiding Bishop shall appoint the Episcopal members, and the President of the House of Deputies
- 17 the Lay and other Clerical members, of such Commissions as soon as practicable after the adjournment
- 18 of the General Convention, *but not later than ninety (90) days following the close of General Convention*. Episcopal
- 19 members appointed after the adjournment of any General Convention at which a Presiding Bishop is
- 20 elected shall be appointed by the Presiding Bishop-elect. Vacancies shall be filled in similar manner;
- 21 provided, however, that vacancies occurring within one year of the next regular General Convention shall
- 22 not be filled unless so requested by the Commission.
- 23 **(d)** The Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies ~~*may*~~ *shall* jointly appoint members
- 24 of the Executive Council as liaison persons to provide for communication between the Executive Council
- 25 and any *each* Commission. Notice of such appointments shall be given to the Secretaries of both Houses.
- 26 Such appointed liaison persons shall not be members of the Commission and shall have voice but not
- 27 vote. The reasonable expenses thereof shall be provided for by the Executive Council. Each such
- 28 Commission shall have *a member of the Presiding Bishop's staff appointed by the Presiding Bishop to assist in its work*.

1 ~~Each such Commission shall have the power to constitute committees and to request the services of Executive~~
 2 ~~Council staff,~~ and, subject to the Commission's budget, engage the services of consultants and coordinators
 3 necessary to the carrying on of its work.

4 **(e)** The Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies shall be members *ex officio* of every
 5 Commission with the right, but no obligation, to attend meetings, and with seat and vote in the deliberations
 6 thereof, and shall receive their minutes and an annual report of their activities; *Provided*, that the said
 7 presiding officers may appoint personal representatives to attend any meeting in their stead, but without
 8 vote.

9 **(f)** The Executive Officer of the General Convention shall, not later than ~~the month of January~~ *one hundred*
 10 *and twenty (120) days* following the meeting of the General Convention, notify the members of the respective
 11 Houses of ~~their~~ *the* appointments upon Commissions and ~~their~~ *the* duty to present Reports to the next
 12 Convention. One year prior to the opening day of the Convention, the Executive Officer of the General
 13 Convention shall remind the Chairs and Secretaries of all Commissions of this duty.

14 **(g)** Every Commission appointed by the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies,
 15 and when convened shall be organized by electing a chair, vice-chair and secretary. In the event that the
 16 Commission is not convened as above provided within six months from the date of adjournment of each
 17 Convention, one-third of the members may take such action as shall be necessary to convene the
 18 Commission. After the Commission shall have been convened, and its officers chosen, the Chair or, in
 19 the absence of the Chair or in the Chair's inability or refusal to act, the Vice-Chair shall be empowered to
 20 call a meeting and fix the time and place and shall do so upon signed request of one-third of the members.

21 **(h)** It shall be the privilege of either House to refer to a Commission any matter related to the subject for
 22 which it was appointed; but neither House shall have the power, without the consent of the other, to
 23 instruct the Commission as to any particular line of action.

24 **(I)** It shall be the duty of each Commission to give appropriate notice in the Church press of issues before
 25 it and the time and place of meetings at which such issues are to be considered, together with instructions
 26 as to the manner in which members of the Church may address their views to such Commission.

27 **(j)** Every Commission shall prepare a Report, which, together with any minority Report, shall be sent, not
 28 later than 150 days prior to the opening day of each Convention, to the Executive Officer of the General
 29 Convention, who shall print and distribute the same, as far as practicable, to all members of said Convention.

30 **(k)** The Report of every Commission presented at the General Convention shall:

- 31 1. Set forth the names of its original members, any changes in membership, the names of all those who
 32 concur in and all those who dissent from its recommendation, and shall further state, if less than a
 33 majority of its entire membership sign the Report, their authority for presenting it.
- 34 2. Summarize the work of the Commission, including the various matters studied, the recommendations
 35 for action by the General Convention and drafts of Resolutions proposed for adoption to implement
 36 the recommendations of the Commission.
- 37 3. Include a detailed report of all receipts and expenditures, including moneys received from any source
 38 whatsoever, during the preceding interval since the last meeting of the General Convention, and if it
 39 recommends that it be continued, the estimated requirements for the ensuing interval until the next
 40 regular meeting of the General Convention.

41 **(l)** Every Commission, as a condition precedent to the presentation and reception of any Report in either
 42 House, in which such Commission proposes the adoption of any Resolution, shall, by vote, authorize a
 43 member or members of that House, who, if possible, shall be a member of the Commission, with such
 44 limitations as the Commission may impose, to accept or reject, on behalf of the Commission, any
 45 amendments proposed in such House to any such Resolution; *Provided, however*, that no such amendment
 46 may change the substance of the proposal, but shall be primarily for the purpose of correcting errors. The
 47 name of the member or members of the particular House upon whom such authority has been conferred,
 48 and the limitations of authority, shall be communicated in writing to the Presiding Officer of such House
 49 not later than the presentation of such Report in that House. The application of this Rule in either House
 50 may be suspended, in any particular case, by the majority vote of the members of such House.

1 (m) Every Commission whose Report requests expenditure out of the funds of the General Convention
 2 (except for the printing of the Report) shall present to the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget,
 3 and Finance its written request, on or before the first business day of the session, and all Resolutions
 4 providing for any such expenditures shall be immediately referred to the Joint Standing Committee on
 5 Program, Budget, and Finance. No proposition involving such expenditures shall be considered unless so
 6 presented and until after report of the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance.

7 (n) There shall be the following Standing Commissions:

8 1. A Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with Justice Concerns. ~~consisting of 14~~
 9 ~~members (4 Bishops, 4 Priests and/or Deacons and 6 Lay Persons)~~. It shall be the duty of the
 10 Commission to develop recommendations and strategies regarding common ministry opportunities
 11 and concerns with other Provinces of the Anglican Communion as to the work of this Church and
 12 the Anglican Communion on issues of international peace with justice and to make recommendations
 13 pertaining thereto to the Presiding Bishop, the Executive Council and the General Convention.

14 2. A Standing Commission for Small Congregations, ~~consisting of 10 members (3 Bishops, 2 Priests~~
 15 ~~and/or Deacons, and 5 Lay Persons)~~. It shall be the duty of the Commission to concern itself with
 16 plans for new directions for Small Congregations.

17 3. A Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons, ~~consisting of 12 members (3 Bishops, 3 Priests~~
 18 ~~and/or Deacons, and 6 Lay Persons)~~. ~~The Standing Commission shall:~~ *It shall be the duty of the Commission*
 19 *to:*

20 i. Review such proposed amendments to the Constitution and Canons as may be submitted to the
 21 Commission, placing each such proposed amendment in proper Constitutional or Canonical form
 22 including all amendments necessary to effect the proposed change. The Commission shall express
 23 its views with respect to the substance of any such proposal only to the proponent thereof; *Provided,*
 24 *however,* that no member of the Commission shall, by reason of membership, be deemed to be
 25 disabled from expressing, before a Legislative Committee or on the floor of the House of
 26 membership, personal views with respect to the substance of any such proposed amendment.

27 ii. Conduct a continuing comprehensive review of the Constitution and Canons with respect to their
 28 internal consistency and clarity, and on the basis of such a review propose to the General
 29 Convention such technical amendments to the Constitution and Canons as in the opinion of the
 30 Commission are necessary or desirable in order to achieve such consistency and clarity without
 31 altering the substance of any Constitutional and Canonical provisions; *Provided, however,* that the
 32 Commission shall propose, for the consideration of the appropriate Legislative Committees of the
 33 two Houses, such amendments to the Constitution and Canons as in the opinion of the Commission
 34 are technically desirable but involve a substantive alteration of a Constitutional or Canonical
 35 provision.

36 iii. On the basis of such review suggest to the Executive Council and the Domestic and Foreign
 37 Missionary Society such amendments to their respective By-laws as in the opinion of the
 38 Commission are necessary or desirable in order to conform the same to the Constitution and
 39 Canons.

40 iv. Discharge such other duties as shall from time to time be assigned by the General Convention.

41 4. A Standing Commission on Domestic Mission and Evangelism consisting of ~~16 members (2 Bishops,~~
 42 ~~6 Priests and/or Deacons and 8 Lay Persons)~~. It shall be the duty of the Commission to identify, study
 43 and consider major general policies, priorities and concerns as to the domestic mission of this Church.
 44 This shall include a review of the shaping of new patterns and directions for evangelism particularly
 45 in rural and metropolitan areas. The Commission shall develop and recommend to the General
 46 Convention comprehensive and coordinated policies and strategies to restore all people to unity with
 47 God and each other in Christ.

48 5. A Standing Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations ~~consisting of 18 members (6~~
 49 ~~Bishops, 6 Priests and/or Deacons and 6 Lay Persons)~~. ~~Its duties~~ *It shall be the duty of the Commission*
 50 *to recommend to the General Convention a comprehensive and coordinated policy and strategy on*

- 1 relations between this Church and other Churches, and this Church and other religions, to make
 2 recommendations to General Convention concerning interchurch cooperation and unity, and
 3 interreligious dialogue and action, and to carry out such instructions on ecumenical and interreligious
 4 matters as may be given it from time to time by the General Convention. It shall also nominate for
 5 appointment by the Presiding Bishop, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, persons
 6 to serve on the governing bodies of ecumenical and interreligious organizations to which this Church
 7 belongs by action of the General Convention, who shall report to the Presiding Bishop, Executive
 8 Council and the Standing Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations.
- 9 6. A Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music ~~consisting of 16 members (4 Bishops, 4 Priests and/or~~
 10 ~~Deacons and 8 Lay Persons)~~. ~~In addition, the~~ *The* Custodian of the Book of Common Prayer shall be
 11 a member *ex officio* with voice, but without vote. ~~The Standing Commission shall:~~ *It shall be the duty of*
 12 *the Commission to:*
- 13 i. Discharge such duties as shall be assigned to it by the General Convention as to policies and
 14 strategies concerning the common worship of this Church.
 - 15 ii. Collect, collate and catalogue material bearing upon possible future revisions of the Book of
 16 Common Prayer.
 - 17 iii. Cause to be prepared and to present to the General Convention recommendations concerning the
 18 Lectionary, Psalter, and offices for special occasions as authorized or directed by the General
 19 Convention or House of Bishops.
 - 20 iv. Recommend to the General Convention authorized translations of the Holy Scripture from which
 21 the Lessons prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer are to be read.
 - 22 v. Receive and evaluate requests for consideration of individuals or groups to be included in the
 23 Calendar of the Church year and make recommendations thereon to the General Convention for
 24 acceptance or rejection.
 - 25 vi. Collect, collate, and catalogue material bearing upon possible future revisions of The Hymnal 1982
 26 and other musical publications regularly in use in this Church and encourage the composition of
 27 new musical materials.
 - 28 vii. Cause to be prepared and present to the General Convention recommendations concerning the
 29 musical settings of liturgical texts and rubrics, and norms as to liturgical music and the manner of
 30 its rendition.
 - 31 viii. At the direction of the General Convention, *to* serve the Church in matters pertaining to policies
 32 and strategies concerning Church music.
- 33 7. A Standing Commission on Ministry Development ~~consisting of 24 members. Nine members shall~~
 34 ~~be appointed on the nomination of the nine Provincial Presidents, one nomination from each Province.~~
 35 ~~The remaining 15 shall include 3 bishops, 4 priests and/or deacons, provided that two shall be deacons,~~
 36 ~~and 8 lay persons.~~ It shall be the duty of the Commission:
- 37 i. to recommend policies and strategies to the General Convention for the development, affirmation
 38 and exercise of the ministry of all the baptized;
 - 39 ii. to encourage and facilitate networks of individuals, institutions and agencies engaged in education,
 40 training, deployment and formation for ministry by all four orders;
 - 41 iii. to study the needs and trends of theological education for all four orders with this Church, including
 42 issues of recruitment, training, deployment, evaluation and continuing education; to make
 43 recommendation to the several seminaries, the Executive Council and the General Convention;
 44 and to aid the General Board of Examining Chaplains in the exercise of its function;
 - 45 iv. to discharge such other duties as shall be assigned by the General Convention.
- 46 8. A Standing Commission on National Concerns ~~consisting of 16 members (2 Bishops, 6 Priests and/or~~
 47 ~~Deacons and 8 Lay Persons)~~. It shall be the duty of the Commission to identify, study and consider
 48 general policies, priorities and concerns about the theological, ethical and pastoral issues and strategies
 49 as to the ministries of this Church serving Christ, to strive for justice and peace among all peoples

- 1 through the proclamation of the Gospel and to develop and recommend to the General Convention
 2 comprehensive and coordinated policies and strategies applicable to the same.
- 3 9. A Standing Commission on Stewardship and Development, ~~consisting of 12 members (2 Bishops, 2~~
 4 ~~Priests and/or Deacons, and 8 Lay Persons)~~. It shall be the duty of the Commission to hold up before
 5 the Church the responsibility of faithful stewardship of time, talent and treasure in grateful thanksgiving
 6 for God's gifts. It shall recommend strategies for stewardship education throughout the Church with
 7 special sensitivity to the cultural and linguistic diversity of our Church. It shall recommend programs
 8 for long-range planning and development, ensuring that other Church bodies, including the Executive
 9 Council, are part of the process. It shall assure that there is an official, periodic gathering, interpretation,
 10 evaluation and reporting of stewardship from throughout the Church. It shall help coordinate all
 11 church-wide fund-raising activities.
- 12 10. A Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church, ~~consisting of 12 members (3 Bishops, 3~~
 13 ~~Presbyters and/or Deacons, and 6 Lay Persons)~~. It shall be the duty of the Commission to study and
 14 make recommendations concerning the structure of the General Convention and of the Church. It
 15 shall, from time to time, review the operation of the several Committees and Commissions to determine
 16 the necessity for their continuance and the effectiveness of their functions and to bring about a
 17 coordination of their efforts. Whenever a proposal is made for the creation of a new Committee or
 18 Commission, it shall, wherever feasible, be referred to the Standing Commission on the Structure of
 19 the Church for its consideration and advice.
- 20 11. A Standing Commission on World Mission, ~~consisting of 12 members (3 Bishops, 3 Priests or Deacons,~~
 21 ~~and 6 Lay Persons)~~, whose members shall include persons broadly representative of jurisdictions
 22 outside the United States of America, as well as persons having direct engagement with and experience
 23 in world mission. It shall be the duty of the Commission, as to all mission outside the United States,
 24 to review and evaluate existing policies, priorities and strategies, and to promote partnership for global
 25 mission among the various groups within the church, to plan and propose policy on overseas mission,
 26 and to make recommendations pertaining to the Executive Council and the General Convention.
- 27 12. A Standing Commission on Episcopal Church Communication ~~consisting of 14 members (4 Bishops,~~
 28 ~~4 Priests and/or Deacons, and 6 Lay Persons)~~. It shall be the duty of the Commission to guide the
 29 policies, participate in the strategic planning, and share in the oversight of implementing a
 30 comprehensive communication strategy for the Episcopal Church.
- 31 13. A Standing Commission on Health ~~consisting of 11 members (3 Bishops, 3 Priests and/or Deacons,~~
 32 ~~and 5 Lay Persons)~~. It shall be the duty of the Commission to:
- 33 i. Articulate and communicate positions adopted by the Episcopal Church on health care policy to
 34 Episcopalians, the public, and public policy makers;
 - 35 ii. Advocate, in cooperation with the Office of Government Relations, for a health care system in
 36 which all may be guaranteed decent and appropriate primary health care during their lives and as
 37 they approach death;
 - 38 iii. Bring together those within the Episcopal Church who develop, provide and/or teach health care
 39 and health policy to continue to develop a Christian approach to pressing issues that affect the
 40 health care system of this nation;
 - 41 iv. Understand and keep abreast of the rapidly changing health care market and developments in
 42 biomedical research that affect health policy;
 - 43 v. Collect and develop resources and teaching materials related to access to health care for the use
 44 of dioceses, congregations, and individuals;
 - 45 vi. Advocate health ministry in and through local Episcopal congregations; and
 - 46 vii. Discharge such other duties as shall be assigned by the General Convention.
- 47

Resolution A105 Amend Canon I.1.2 Standing Commission on Youth & Christian Formation

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That Canon I.1.2(n) be amended to add a subsection (14), reading
- 2 as follows:
- 3 *A Standing Commission on Youth and Christian Formation. It shall be the duty of the Commission to develop and recommend*
- 4 *to the General Convention comprehensive and coordinated policies for Youth and lifelong Christian formation.;* And be it further
- 5 *Resolved*, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance
- 6 to consider a budget allocation of \$48,000 for the implementation of this resolution.

EXPLANATION

Youth are a priority of this Church, and yet the Ministries with Young People Cluster at the Church Center is not currently served by a Standing Commission charged to craft policy recommendations relative to its work. The budget figure is the minimum amount recommended to establish a Standing Commission.

Resolution A106 Fund Health Standing Commission

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 75th General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee
- 2 on Program, Budget, and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$48,000 for the implementation of the
- 3 74th General Convention’s decision to establish a Standing Commission on Health; and be it further
- 4 *Resolved*, That the members of the Standing Commission on Health be appointed according to Canon following
- 5 the close of the 75th General Convention.

EXPLANATION

The 74th General Convention approved the creation of a Standing Commission on Health (2003 Journal, p. 690), but failed to approve funding for the commission. Since no funding was approved, no members have been appointed to serve and the Standing Commission is *de facto* non-existent. We recommend that this Standing Commission be funded and members appointed so that the Commission may be able ‘to study and make recommendations’ to the next General Convention on the topic of Health.

Committees of Executive Council

Currently, important work is lost within groups that “report to Executive Council” and do not have direct access to the Blue Book. Work on issues that are long-term, if not permanent, should find a home in a Standing Commission. Work on issues that develop between meetings of General Convention should be managed by Executive Council until the next meeting of the General Convention. When appropriate, Council can appoint *ad hoc* committees to meet until the next Convention. If desired, such work can then be continued by a Standing Commission. The remaining resolutions pertaining to Committees of Council more clearly align names and mandates. Such clarity will help in the future when determining which committees are on-going, and which would work better elsewhere in the structure of the church.

Resolution A107 HIV/AIDS to Health

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 75th General Convention, contingent upon funding of the
- 2 Standing Commission on Health, affirm the continuing work of the Executive Council Standing Committee
- 3 on HIV/AIDS, and rename it as a Committee of the Standing Commission on Health, with no change in
- 4 mandate; and be it further
- 5 *Resolved*, That the Committee report, at least annually, to the Standing Commission on Health.

EXPLANATION

The Executive Council Standing Committee on HIV/AIDS is established every triennium by a resolution of the General Convention. This would fit the definition of a Committee of Executive Council and it could at least be renamed as such. This resolution would instead move the Committee to the Standing Commission on Health, which is empowered to study and draft proposals about health ministries. The HIV/AIDS Committee’s mandate

includes the recommendation of pertinent resolutions concerning the Church's response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. This move from Executive Council to a Standing Commission will allow a higher profile for this mandate.

Resolution A108 Executive Council Committees Redesignation

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 75th General Convention designate the Executive Council
- 2 Economic Justice Loan Committee as a Committee of the Executive Council with no change in mandate or
- 3 composition resulting from this resolution; and be it further
- 4 *Resolved*, That the 75th General Convention affirm the Executive Council's 2002 resolution to designate the
- 5 Episcopal Council on Indigenous Ministries as a Committee of the Executive Council and rename it as the
- 6 Executive Council Committee on Indigenous Ministries with no change in mandate or composition resulting
- 7 from this resolution; and be it further
- 8 *Resolved*, That the 75th General Convention affirm the Executive Council's 1999 decision to rename the Executive
- 9 Council Working Group on Science, Technology and Faith as the Executive Council Committee on Science,
- 10 Technology and Faith, and officially designate it as a Committee of the Executive Council.

EXPLANATION

The Economic Justice Loan Committee and the Episcopal Council on Indigenous Ministries (ECIM) function as Committees of Executive Council. They were created by the Council and not by the General Convention. This resolution gives them official designation as Committees of the Executive Council. In 1999, the Executive Council renamed the Working Group on Science, Technology and Faith as a committee of the Executive Council. However, in practice and under the guidelines presented in the Appendix, the formation of Executive Council Committees requires action by the General Convention. This resolution provides the necessary action.

Resolution A109 SRI Committee Mandate

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 75th General Convention designate the Executive Council
- 2 Committee on Social Responsibility in Investments as a Committee of the Executive Council; and be it further
- 3 *Resolved*, That the 75th General Convention adopt the following mandate for the Executive Council Committee
- 4 on Social Responsibility in Investments (SRI): The Executive Council Committee on Social Responsibility in
- 5 Investments is comprised of nine (9) members, including at least one (1) Bishop, one (1) Priest or Deacon,
- 6 and one (1) Lay Person. It is responsible for searching the social responsibility records of corporations whose
- 7 stock is held in DFMS portfolios, and to recommend appropriate courses of action based on the positions
- 8 established by the General Convention and Executive Council. With the approval of Council, it will develop
- 9 shareholder resolutions on social justice issues to be submitted to the companies in which the Church invests
- 10 its funds.

EXPLANATION

The Committee on Social Responsibility in Investments (SRI) was not formed by a General Convention resolution as precedent and the defined terms presented in the Appendix would require such an action. This resolution designates it as a Committee of Executive Council and provides it with an official mandate that was paraphrased closely from its description in the *Executive Council Handbook*. No changes in the current operations, membership, or budget of this committee will result from this resolution.

Resolution A110 Review Council Committees

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That Committees of Executive Council shall be reviewed before
- 2 each General Convention by Executive Council to determine which committees shall be continued as
- 3 Committees of Executive Council, which shall be terminated, and which shall be assigned to a Standing
- 4 Commission of the Church. The Secretary of Executive Council shall communicate these recommendations
- 5 to the Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church, one year before each regular meeting of General
- 6 Convention.
- 7

EXPLANATION

Currently there is no mechanism for the review of Committees of Executive Council. Some seem to outlast their usefulness while others languish in a place where their work is less effective. Those appropriately placed within the framework of Executive Council would remain as is.

Resolution A111 Criminal Justice to National Concerns

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 75th General Convention direct the Standing Commission
- 2 on National Concerns to investigate issues relating to criminal justice in the United States and the Episcopal
- 3 Church’s ministry within the criminal justice system.

EXPLANATION

Criminal justice is a matter of continuing concern to the Episcopal Church, but the Executive Council committee responsible for these matters will cease to exist following the adjournment of the 75th General Convention. Recognizing the importance of criminal justice work within the Church, this resolution charges the Standing Commission on National Concerns, whose mandate includes "striving for justice and peace among all peoples" [Canon I.1.2(n)(8)], to make policy recommendations in this area.

Charges to Standing Commissions and Committees of the Church

A referendum on the following proposed resolves would give guidance to the work of this Commission and others during the next triennium.

Resolution A112 Directions for the Future

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That all Commissions and Committees reevaluate their mandate and
- 2 placement within the church structure, and to communicate their findings and suggestions to the Standing
- 3 Commission on the Structure of the Church one year before the 76th General Convention; and be it further
- 4 *Resolved*, That the 75th General Convention charge the Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church
- 5 to review and correct the Defined Terms for CCAB’s as presented in their report to the 75th General Convention
- 6 in response to feedback received pursuant to this resolution and propose structural changes to the CCAB
- 7 system where changes would appear to be useful; and be it further
- 8 *Resolved*, That the 75th General Convention charge the Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church
- 9 to review, study, and recommend to the 76th General Convention resolutions concerning any proposed changes
- 10 to the Preamble of the Constitution with reference to the ‘official’ name of this Church, with particular
- 11 consideration of being inclusive of our overseas dioceses and parishes; and be it further
- 12 *Resolved*, That the 75th General Convention charge the Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church
- 13 to review, study, and recommend to a future meeting of the General Convention resolutions concerning
- 14 changes to the process by which the Presiding Bishop would be elected by both Houses of General Convention.

EXPLANATION

It is our hope that all CCABs will examine their own mandates and structures during the next triennium in light of the Defined Terms described in the Appendix and respond as appropriate. This Commission is eager to work with CCAB’s as they possibly redefine or relocate themselves in the overall structure of the church.

The third resolve charges the Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church to review the current official name “The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, otherwise known as The Episcopal Church,” as stated in the preamble to the Constitution, and to recommend possible changes that would clarify the relationship of all parishes and dioceses within this Church, remembering especially those outside the United States.

The fourth resolve would begin looking at an election process that would be more inclusive of both Houses of General Convention. Currently, Canon I.2.2(e) requires election of the Presiding Bishop by the House of Bishops and confirmation by the House of Deputies. As we elect a new Presiding Bishop, now is the time to examine the current process and make recommendations for the next election, nine years hence.

BUDGET REPORT

The Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church will meet approximately three times in the next triennium. This will require \$18,000 for 2007, \$27,000 for 2008, and \$10,000 for 2009 for a total of \$55,000 for the 2007–2009 triennium.

APPENDIX

DEFINED TERMS RELATING TO COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, AGENCIES AND BOARDS

The Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church believes that improvements are needed in the way Committees, Commissions, Agencies and Boards (CCABs) are organized within the Episcopal Church and recommends that the Commission undertake this work in the next triennium.

As a first-step in this process, the Commission examined the structure of the Church as it exists currently and has defined the following terms that describe our CCABs. Since these terms have been used loosely in the past, several of the resolutions above would bring existing bodies into conformity with these definitions. We hope that the Church will use these terms more precisely in the future because uniformity now will lay the foundation for streamlining and improving the system in the future.

Before presenting the defined terms, we feel that it would be useful to describe the meaning of two words that are used throughout:

“Standing” refers to bodies that exist perpetually because their charters are written into the rules or Canons that govern them. For example, the all Standing Commissions charters are recorded in Canon I.1.2.

“Joint” refers to bodies that draw their membership from the two Houses of General Convention, but not from any other sources. This term also implies that the body serves both of the Houses rather than focusing on the wider Church. For example, the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance takes all of its members from the two Houses of General Convention and serves to create the Church budget proposal on behalf of the Convention.

The defined terms are grouped according to their reporting structure. Listed first are CCABs that report directly to the General Convention (Standing Commissions, Joint Standing Committees, Task Forces of the General Convention, and Committees of the House of Bishops or the House of Deputies). Second is a description of the Executive Council and then the types of CCABs that report to it (Standing Committees, Committees of the Executive Council, and *Ad Hoc* Committees of the Executive Council). Lastly, we define Boards and Agencies that report to the General Convention, but in unique ways.

COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES THAT REPORT TO GENERAL CONVENTION

STANDING COMMISSIONS

Source of Authority:	Established by Canon I.1.2.
Mandate:	“... to study and make recommendations to the General Convention on major subjects considered to be of continuing concern to the Church,” [Canon I.1.2 (a)]. “It shall be the privilege of either House to refer to a Commission any matter related to the subject for which it was appointed; but neither House shall have the power, without the consent of the other, to instruct the Commission as to any particular line of action,” [Canon I.1.2 (h)]. Canon I.1.2 (n) specifies each commission’s specific areas of responsibility.
Expiration:	Standing Commissions do not expire unless the Canons are amended to dissolve them.
Members:	Must have Bishops, other Clergy, and Lay Persons in numbers specified by the Canon. Bishops are appointed by the Presiding Bishop, other appointments by the President of the House of Deputies [Canon I.1.2 (c)]. “Priests, Deacons and Lay Persons may but need not be members of the House of Deputies,” [Canon I.1.2 (a)]. The Presiding Bishop and President of the House of Deputies will serve as <i>ex officio</i> members of all Commissions and may attend any meeting with voice and vote. They may send

representatives to any meeting in their stead; these representatives have voice but not vote [Canon I.1.2 (e)].

The Presiding Bishop and President of the House of Deputies may jointly appoint a liaison from the Executive Council to facilitate communication with the Council [Canon I.1.2 (d)].

Terms: Six years, with staggered appointments such that the terms of half of the members expire with each regular meeting of the General Convention.

Obligations: “Every Commission shall prepare a Report, which, together with any minority Report, shall be sent... to the Executive Officer of the General Convention, who shall print and distribute the same, as far as practicable, to all members of said Convention,” [Canon I.1.2 (j)].

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL CONVENTION

Source of Authority: Established under Joint Rule I.

Mandate: The duties and composition of a Joint Standing Committee are written into the Joint Rules. A concurrent resolution of the General Convention can amend the Joint Rules to modify or dissolve an existing joint standing committee or to create a new one.

Expiration: Joint Standing Committees do not expire unless the Joint Rules are amended to dissolve them.

Members: “The membership of such committees shall be limited to Bishops having vote in the House of Bishops, members of the House of Deputies, and such *ex officio* members as may be provided in the Joint Rule creating such a committee,” [Joint Rule I.2 (a)]. The Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies are *ex officio* members of all Joint Standing Committees [Joint Rule I.2 (e)].

Terms: Members are appointed for one triennium, but do not finish in their capacities until their successors have taken office. The Joint Rules provide a procedure for filling vacancies that may occur and for replacing members who are not elected as a Deputy to the succeeding General Convention by the 31st day of January in a General Convention year [Joint Rule I.2 (b)].

Obligations: Joint Standing Committees are expected to “perform all of the duties with respect to their work that are imposed on Standing Commissions by Canon I.1.2 (I),” and to fulfill the mandates presented in the Joint Rule that established them [Joint Rule I.2 (I)].

TASK FORCES OF THE GENERAL CONVENTION

Source of Authority: Established by concurrent action of the General Convention under Joint Rule IX.

Mandate: “...to consider and make recommendations to the General Convention on specific subjects of major importance to the Church and its ministry and mission requiring special attention and competence not otherwise provided for in the Canons and/or the Joint Rules,” [Joint Rule IX]. The establishing resolution must clearly specify the duties assigned to a task force.

Expiration: The establishing resolution must clearly state how much time the task force has to complete its work. “No Task Force shall be continued beyond the time for completion of the work assigned except by a concurrent vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting in each of the Houses,” [Joint Rule IX]. Typically, task forces do not exist longer than one triennium.

Members: A task force’s specific composition must be specified in the establishing resolution. The Presiding Bishop appoints the task force’s Bishops and the President of the House of Deputies makes all other appointments.

- Terms: The specific length of terms may be specified in the establishing resolution, but usually members are appointed for the whole amount of time designated for completion of the work.
- Obligations: Report to the General Convention when work on the assigned project has been completed.

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS OR THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES

- Source of Authority: Established by a resolution of either House of the General Convention.
- Mandate: To investigate and make recommendations on specific matters and to report back at a later time. All committees are accountable to the House of the General Convention that creates them and they file their reports with that body. A committee's work should be limited in scope and it should be given clear directions at the time it is constituted.
- Expiration: Committee work has a finite ending point that is stated at the time the committee is created. Committees dissolve once their work is complete or once their allotted time has expired. Some committees are recreated automatically at the beginning of every triennium, these include: the Advisory Committees to the Presiding Bishop [Rules of the House of Bishops XXVI] and the President of the House of Deputies [Canon I.1 (b)], as well as the House of Deputies Committee on the State of the Church [Canon I.6.3].
- Members: A committee's charter should specify the number of members and the process for selecting and appointing them.
- Terms: A committee member's term of office is specified by the resolution that creates the committee.
- Obligations: When its work is complete, and sometimes before, a committee submits a report to the House of the General Convention that created it.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- Source of Authority: Established by Canon I.4
- Mandate: To "carry out the program and policies adopted by the General Convention. The Executive Council shall have charge of the coordination, development, and implementation of the ministry and mission of the Church," [Canon I.4.1 (a)].
 "The Council shall exercise the powers conferred upon it by Canon, and such further powers as may be designated by the General Convention, and between sessions of the General Convention may initiate and develop such new work as it may deem necessary. It may, subject to the provision of this Canon, enact By-laws for its own government and the government of its several departments," [Canon I.4.2 (e)].
- Expiration: Since the Executive Council was created by the Canon, its charter does not expire.
- Members: "The Executive Council shall be composed of (a) twenty members elected by the General Convention, of whom four shall be Bishops, four shall be Presbyters or Deacons, and twelve Lay Persons... (b) eighteen members elected by the provincial synods ; (c) of the following *ex officio* members: the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies; and (d) the Vice-President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer of the Executive Council, who shall have seat and voice, but no vote," [Canon I.4.1 (c)].

The Presiding Bishop is *ex officio* the Chair and President of the Executive Council, the President of the House of Deputies is *ex officio* the Vice Chair, and the Secretary of the General Convention is *ex officio* the Secretary [Canon I.4.3].

Terms: Council members are elected for staggered terms of six years, beginning and ending at the conclusion of a regular meeting of the General Convention.

Obligations: “The Executive Council shall be accountable to the General Convention and shall render a full published report concerning the work with which it is charged to each meeting of the said Convention. The report shall also include information on the implementation of all concurred resolutions of the previous General Convention calling for action by the Executive Council, by its officers and staff, and by the jurisdictions of the Church,” [Canon I.4.1 (b)].

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Source of Authority: Established in Article II.3 of the Executive Council By-laws under the authority of Canon I.4.3(g).

Mandate: “The work committed to the Council by General Convention and arising out of the mission and ministry needs of the Church shall ordinarily be assigned to one of these committees for review prior to consideration by the entire Council,” [Council By-Laws, Art. II.4].

Expiration: Standing committees of the Executive Council continue to exist until the By-laws of the Executive Council are changed to dissolve them.

Members: Members are appointed by the Council after nominations are made jointly by the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies. Only members of the Executive Council may be appointed to Standing Committees and each member of the Executive Council must serve on at least one standing committee [By-laws, Art II.6].

Terms: Appointments to standing committees are in effect until the next regular meeting of the General Convention. All members are appointed at the beginning of each triennium.

Obligations: Standing committees meet during regular meetings of the Executive Council, consider all matters that are assigned to them, and then report back to the whole Council in a plenary session.

COMMITTEES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Source of Authority: Established by a concurrent resolution of the General Convention.

Mandate: Committees of council are charged by the General Convention to investigate specific matters of concern and report back to the General Convention through the Executive Council.

Expiration: Currently there is no norm. Theoretically, before each General Convention, Council should determine which Committees of Executive Council shall be continued as a Committee of Executive Council, which shall be terminated, and which shall be assigned to an existing Standing Commission of the Church.

Members: Appointments to committees of Council are made by the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies unless the initial resolution specifically states otherwise. Typically, committees of Council include experts in a field of study related to the committee’s work.

Terms: If a committee of Council exists in multiple triennia, its members are reappointed or replaced after each regular meeting of the General Convention.

Obligations: To conduct thorough research in its area of responsibility, file periodic reports with the Executive Council, and submit a triennial report to General Convention through the Council that may include resolutions for consideration at General Convention.

AD HOC COMMITTEES OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Source of Authority:	Established under Article II.7 of the Executive Council By-Laws and Canon I.4.3(g).
Mandate:	The Executive Council resolution that creates an <i>ad hoc</i> committee should clearly specify its function. <i>Ad hoc</i> committees fall into two categories: Task Forces of the Executive Council: These <i>ad hoc</i> committees investigate or discuss matters of large-scale importance to the Council. They may be asked to make periodic reports to the Council before presenting their final report. The term of a task force often extends over several meetings of the Council, but not longer than one triennium. Working Groups of the Executive Council: These <i>ad hoc</i> committees are typically smaller than task forces both in the matters that they undertake and in the number of members they have serving on them. Working groups do not typically last for more than a few meetings of the Executive Council and are usually expected to present only one report upon the completion of their work.
Expiration:	The Executive Council resolution that creates an <i>ad hoc</i> committee should give it a specific amount of time to complete its work. After that time has expired, a final report should be filed and the <i>ad hoc</i> committee should dissolve. <i>Ad hoc</i> committees do not typically exist beyond the end of the triennium in which they were created.
Members:	The resolution that creates the <i>ad hoc</i> committee should specify the committee’s composition and the process for appointing its members.
Terms:	Typically, <i>ad hoc</i> committee members will serve for the full lifespan of the committee. Any deviations from this model must be clearly stated in the resolution that creates the <i>ad hoc</i> committee.
Obligations:	<i>Ad hoc</i> committees must file a report with the Executive Council once their work has been completed or once the allotted time has expired. Any other expectations must be specified in the resolution that creates the <i>ad hoc</i> committee.

AGENCIES AND BOARDS

BOARDS

Source of Authority:	Established by Canon to oversee semi-autonomous components of the Church such as the Archives [Canon I.5.3], Church Deployment [Canon III.26], the Board of Examining Chaplains [Canon III.25], and the Church Pension Fund [Canon I.8.2]. The General Theological Seminary also has a Board with some of its members elected by the General Convention [Art. III, Constitution of the General Theological Seminary].
Mandate:	To set policy for their organization, select its leaders and set forth the terms and conditions under which it will operate. Boards report to the General Convention, but their decisions do not require the Convention’s approval.
Expiration:	Board charters do not expire unless the organizations that they supervise are restructured.
Members:	Each Board has a unique composition that is defined by their individual charters; most have some members selected by the General Convention.
Terms:	Terms of membership on boards vary, but are usually one or two triennia.
Obligations:	Boards meet at regularly scheduled intervals and file a triennial report with the General Convention that summarizes the state of their organization, the actions that they have taken, and the actions that they plan to take in the future.

AGENCIES

Agencies are independent corporations affiliated with or authorized by the General Convention. They function as corporations, with their own officers and boards of directors that may or may not be appointed by the General Convention. Agencies are expected to develop their own mandates and make their own business decisions.