

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2022-A121
Title: Amend House of Bishops Rule of Order II.B on the Term of Office for the Secretary
Proposer: Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons
Topic: House of Bishops, Rules of Order

Directly Related: (Attached)

2003-B013 Amend House of Bishops Rule II [First Day of Session]

Indirectly Related: (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

None

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2018, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#) or call 800-525-9329.

A121 - Amend House of Bishops Rule of Order II.B on the Term of Office for the Secretary

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons

Requests New Interim Body: No

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: Yes

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

HiA: HB

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: 01 - Rules of Order/HoB

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: No

Resolution Text

Resolved, That the House of Bishops amend its Rule of Order II.B to read as follows.

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

Explanation

Current House of Bishops Rule of Order II.B provides a triennial (three-year) term of office for the Secretary of the House of Bishops. The postponement of the 80th General Convention from 2021 to 2022 exposed a problem with terms of office fixed at a certain number of years. The Commission found that tying the expiration of terms of office to the adjournment of a subsequent regular meeting of *the* General Convention – whenever it may in fact occur - would be a sounder way to structure them – and avoid questions and concerns about officials serving beyond their expected terms of office.



Resolution Number: 2003-B013
Title: Amend House of Bishops Rule II [First Day of Session]
Legislative Action Taken: Adopted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the first two sentences of Rule II shall be deleted and replaced by the following two sentences:

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

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 76f.