

## General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

**Resolution No.:** 2022-A157  
**Title:** Amend Article I Sec. 7  
**Proposer:** 02 - Constitution & Canons  
**Topic:** Constitution—First Reading, General Convention

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

None

**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.*

# A157 Amend Article I Sec. 7

Proposer	02 - Constitution & Canons
Endorsed by	—
Supported by	—
HiA / Leg. Cttee	House of Bishops / —
Current Status	—
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

## RESOLUTION TEXT

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring,

That Article I, Section 7 of the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

**<Amended text as it would appear if adopted and concurred. Scroll below the line of asterisks (\*\*\*\*\*) to see the version showing all deleted and added text.>**

Sec. 7. The General Convention shall hold its regular meeting not less than once in each three years, at a time and place determined in accordance with the Canons. In the event of a change of circumstances indicating the necessity or advisability of changing the date of such regular meeting of The General Convention beyond three years, said meeting may be rescheduled as provided by Canon. Special Meetings may be held as provided for by Canon.

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**<Proposed amended resolution text showing exact changes being made:>**

Sec. 7. The General Convention shall ~~meet~~ *hold its regular meeting* not less than once in each three years, at a time and place determined in accordance with the Canons. *In the event of a change of circumstances indicating the necessity or advisability of changing the date of such regular meeting of The General Convention beyond three years, said meeting may be rescheduled as provided by Canon.* Special Meetings may be held as provided for by Canon.

## EXPLANATION

The current text of the Constitution of the Episcopal Church requires that the General Convention shall “meet not less than once in each three years,” and does not allow for a delay due to conditions such as the pandemic we have experienced.

The Bishops and Deputies Legislative Committees on Constitution and Canons present this proposed Constitutional Amendment to allow the regular triennial meeting of General Convention to be delayed under exigent circumstances.

Echoing current canonical language, “in the event of a change of circumstances indicating the

necessity or advisability of changing the date of such regular meeting,” the convening of the regular meeting convention could be delayed beyond three years.

Per Canon I.1.14.e, any postponement or delay of Convention due to adverse circumstances would require the recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on Planning and Arrangements to the Presiding Officers and the advice and consent of the Executive Council before being rescheduled.