

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2024 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2024-A064
Title: Amend Canon I.1.6.d Capturing Clergy Records
Proposer: Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons
Topic: Canons, Clergy Deployment

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 2022, 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](#).

A064 - Amend Canon I.1.6.d Capturing Clergy Records

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

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

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: Yes

Requests New Interim Body: No

Changes Mandate Of Existing Ib: No

Directs Dfms Staff: No

Directs Dioceses: No

Directs Executive Council: No

HiA: HB

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: 02 - Constitution & Canons

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: No

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That the 81st General Convention amend Canon I.1.6.d 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.>**

d. The Recorder shall prepare and present to each session of the General Convention a list of all Priests and Deacons ordained, received, transferred out, released and removed, returned, suspended, deposed, or restored; of all Bishops ordained, received, released and removed, returned, suspended, deposed, or restored; and of all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons who have died; such list to cover the period from the last preceding similar report of the Recorder through the thirty-first day of December immediately preceding each session of the General Convention.

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

d. The Recorder shall prepare and present to each session of the General Convention a list of all Clergy *Priests and Deacons* ordained, received, ~~suspended~~, ~~transferred out~~, ~~released~~

and removed, returned, suspended, deposed, or restored; and of all Bishops consecrated, ordained, received, released and removed, returned, suspended, deposed, or restored; and of all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons and other Clergy who have died; such list to cover the period from the last preceding similar report of the Recorder through the thirty-first day of December immediately preceding each session of the General Convention.

And be it further.

Resolved, that Canon III.1.3 be amended 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. 3. The provisions of these Canons for the admission of Candidates for the ordination to the three Orders: Bishops, Priests and Deacons shall be equally applicable to all persons in the process.

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

Sec. 3. The provisions of these Canons for the admission of Candidates for the ordination to the three Orders: Bishops, Priests and Deacons shall be equally applicable ~~to men and women~~ *to all persons in the process.*

Explanation

This proposal is addressing two issues: terminology and the capturing of all clergy on record in The Episcopal Church.

Terminology: This proposal changes all references of consecration of a bishop when used in place of or with ordination in the canons of the church to provide consistency with Canon III.11 and 1979 Book of Common Prayer, which address the ordination of bishops, in which the consecration is a part of the larger ordination service, not a service on its own. Further, a consecration cannot stand alone as a complete ordination.

Comprehensive reporting: Under the current system for reporting on clergy, there are cracks into which people fall if they are outside of a small handful of categories. This language expands the areas of status that must be kept on record and reported while also applying it to all three orders of ordination.

As TEC recognizes a diversity of gender expressions and understandings, the binary language of “men and women” is not inclusive and does not accurately reflect our understanding of gender.