

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2018  
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2018-A106  
**TITLE:** Amend Joint Rules Related to a Joint Session  
**PROPOSER:** Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons  
**TOPIC:** Rules of Order (Jt.)

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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 1976 through 2015, 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 at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.*

# A106 Amend Joint Rules Related to a Joint Session

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<b>Proposer</b>	Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons
<b>Endorsed by</b>	
<b>Sponsored by</b>	
<b>Page numbers</b>	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. 231
<b>HiA / Leg. Cttee</b>	/
<b>Current Status</b>	Resolution Filed
<b>Version</b>	Original (as filed)
<b>Review Status</b>	Not yet reviewed

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## RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 79th General Convention amend the Joint Rules of Order of the House of Bishops and House of Deputies as follows:
  - 2 *X. Committee of the Whole*
  - 3 *23. The House of Deputies and the House of Bishops may meet together as a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of discussion and debate subject to the following:*
  - 4 *(a) The President of the House of Deputies and the Presiding Bishop shall propose a resolution to both Houses stating the matter to be discussed, the time certain for the Committee of the Whole to begin, and the length of time for the Committee of the Whole to meet. The resolution may also include procedures for discussion and debate.*
  - 5 *(b) The resolution shall be passed by a simple majority vote in both Houses.*
  - 6 *(c) The Committee of the Whole shall meet in the House of Deputies, the discussion shall follow the Rules of Order of the House of Deputies, and the Committee of the Whole will be chaired by the President of the House of Deputies.*
  - 7 *(d) No voting will occur during the Committee of the Whole, except for the following, which may be voted upon by a voice vote or show of hands vote by the entire Committee of the Whole:*
  - 8 *(i) Motions to modify rules for discussion and debate may be made, and require a two-thirds majority.*
  - 9 *(ii) Motions to close the Committee of the Whole may be made, and require a two-thirds majority.*
  - 10 *(iii) Motions to extend the length of time the Committee of the Whole meets may be made, and require a two-thirds majority.*
  - 11 *XI. Rules in Force*
  - 12 ~~23~~ 24. At the meetings of the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies, the Joint Rules of the
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previous Convention shall be in force, until they be amended or repealed by concurrent action of the two (2) Houses and after their reports thereon.

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**EXPLANATION**

This resolution allows the Convention to meet as a Committee of the Whole for purposes of debate and discussion. No substantive voting takes place during this Committee of the Whole, so other Convention procedures for carrying out our business are not affected. A proposal for a Committee of the Whole must be introduced by both Presiding Officers and passed by both Houses. The Committee of the Whole meets in the House of Deputies according to its rules, and is presided over by the President of the House of Deputies, because the Rules of Order for the House of Deputies are designed to facilitate discussion of a larger body. Any procedural voting must be done by voice vote or show of hands because Bishops, as General Convention is currently structured, will not have the electronic voting devices used by the House of Deputies.