

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

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2018-A138  
**TITLE:** Transmission of Demographic Data from Episcopal Elections  
**PROPOSER:** Task Force on the Episcopacy  
**TOPIC:** Appointments/Elections

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

2015-D004     Appoint a Task Force on the Episcopacy  
2012-A144     Monitor Underrepresented Groups in Episcopal Elections

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

2009-A145     Request Study of Diocesan Processes to Recruit Persons of Color  
2009-A169     Gather Statistics About Episcopal Elections and Clergy Compensation

**Supplemental Documents:** (Linked)

(*Blue Book*) Report to General Convention, [Task Force on the Episcopacy](#), see page 719.

*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.*

# A138 Transmission of Demographic Data from Episcopal Elections

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<b>Proposer</b>	Task Force on the Episcopacy
<b>Topic</b>	Appointments/Elections
<b>Endorsed by</b>	
<b>Sponsored by</b>	
<b>Page numbers</b>	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
<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 within 60 days after the election of a Bishop Diocesan, Bishop Coadjutor, Bishop Suffragan or Assistant Bishop, or the appointment of a Bishop Provisional, the electing or appointing Diocese shall transmit to the pilot Board for Episcopal Transitions, for each nominee to the electing convention or person considered for the Bishop Provisional office, the name, age, race and ethnicity, gender, number of years since ordination, diocese of canonical residence and such other demographic data or other information as the Board may reasonably request, as well as, when there was an election, a brief description of the voting procedures (such as requiring a supermajority of votes, dropping off candidates receiving votes below a certain threshold, or other similar procedures) and the results of each round of voting.

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## EXPLANATION

As articulated in the Task Force's report, progress towards the Church's goals and aspirations in the diversity of its leadership, including bishops, is dependent to a significant extent on gathering critical data to inform plans to achieve those goals and be faithful to those aspirations. The specified data should be simple and easy for an electing diocese to gather and send to the pilot Board for Episcopal Transitions.



**Resolution Number:** 2015-D004  
**Title:** Appoint a Task Force on the Episcopacy  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That a Task Force on the Episcopacy be appointed by the Presiding Officers composed of three bishops, three presbyters or deacons, and six lay persons; and be it further Resolved, That at least one member of the Task Force will have been a finalist in an Episcopal search who did not receive enough votes for election in the last three years; at least one member of the Task Force will have served as a Transition Consultant in an Episcopal search over the past three years; and at least two members of the Task Force will have served on an Episcopal Search and/or Transition Committee in an Episcopal search process over the past three years; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Task Force will study the election, appointment, roles, and responsibilities of the Episcopate, including the use of Bishops Diocesan, Bishops Coadjutor, Bishops Suffragan, Provisional Bishops, Missionary Bishops, and Assistant Bishops in this Church; looking specifically at the particular gifts, life experience, and expertise required for episcopal office; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Task Force will pay particular attention to the recent trend away from a diverse House of Bishops, and seek ways to encourage diversity in the Episcopate; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Task Force will propose to the 79th General Convention a new process for discernment, nomination, formation, search, election, and transition of bishops in The Episcopal Church including, but not limited to: the roles and responsibilities of the Office of Pastoral Development; the selection of, roles and responsibilities of Transition Consultants; how adjoining dioceses may aid and inform the discernment of a diocese in transition; and any required Constitutional and Canonical changes necessary; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Task Force will work with the Office of Pastoral Development to develop best practices and educational materials to be published electronically and made publicly available, and may use some of its budget to retain consultants who will help with this task; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$150,000 for the implementation of this resolution.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 457-458.



**Resolution Number:** 2012-A144  
**Title:** Monitor Underrepresented Groups in Episcopal Elections  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 77th General Convention request the Office of Pastoral Development to work with other offices to monitor the ratio of female to male candidates, nominees, and electees to episcopal offices, as well as other underrepresented groups (such as racial and ethnic minorities), and to report annually to the Executive Council; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 77th General Convention direct the Office of Pastoral Development to work with other offices in analyzing existing data on episcopal transition processes, Called to Serve survey findings, and other relevant research to determine and recommend steps to help improve the ratio of episcopal electees and nominees who are female or members of other underrepresented groups, and to report appropriate recommendations to the 78th General Convention; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 77th General Convention direct the Office of Pastoral Development to advise dioceses moving toward or in the midst of episcopal transitions about the extent to which the process is affected by gender, racial and other cultural bias that can perpetuate discrimination, and to work with these dioceses to develop steps that ensure the elimination of this bias.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 2012* (New York: General Convention, 2012), p. 508.