

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

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2018-A142  
**TITLE:** Adoption of Episcopal Election Procedures by Dioceses  
**PROPOSER:** Task Force on the Episcopacy  
**TOPIC:** Appointments/Elections

---

---

**Directly Related:** (Attached)

2015-D004 Appoint a Task Force on the Episcopacy  
2009-A104 Request Dioceses to Fund Multicultural Leadership Development  
2003-A063 Encourage Diversity in Diocesan Leadership

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

None

**Supplemental Documents:** (Linked)

(*Blue Book*) Report to General Convention, [Task Force on the Episcopacy](#), see page 720.

*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.*

# A142 Adoption of Episcopal Election Procedures by Dioceses

---

<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

---

## RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 79th General Convention recommends that each diocese adopt policies and procedures and, where appropriate, canons, for the election of bishops that are consistent with the principles and values presented in the Task Force’s Blue Book report, to foster diversity across the Church’s leadership, including its bishops; and be it further
- 2 *Resolved*, That the pilot Board for Episcopal Transitions develop and provide to the dioceses examples of policies, procedures and canons that are consistent with fostering diversity.

---

## EXPLANATION

Consistent with this series of proposed Resolutions, achievement of significant progress towards the Church’s leadership diversity goals and aspirations will be greatly enhanced if dioceses, prior to entering the transition and electing phase, first adopt election policies and procedures consistent with fostering diversity.



**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:** 2009-A104  
**Title:** Request Dioceses to Fund Multicultural Leadership Development  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 76th General Convention recognize the importance of cultural diversity in the dioceses; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 76th General Convention affirm the importance of cultural diversity and multicultural leadership development; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 76th General Convention request that dioceses of The Episcopal Church consider a specific yearly budget allocation for the implementation of multicultural leadership development to support a diocesan strategic plan designed for the creation and sustaining of multicultural ministry, utilizing "Meeting on New Ground;" and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 76th General Convention reconvene the Task Force that created "Meeting on New Ground" to study the dioceses involved in such ministry, gather resources for developing and sustaining multicultural ministry and to report on the progress to the 77th General Convention; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 76th General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$10,000 for the implementation of this resolution.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), p. 718.



**Resolution Number:** 2003-A063  
**Title:** Encourage Diversity in Diocesan Leadership  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 74th General Convention encourage bishops and commissions on ministry to identify, support, and retain individuals for ministry from specific cultural communities within the diocese not well represented in the diocese's current leadership.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 688.