

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-C045
TITLE: Amend Article I Section 4 - first reading
PROPOSER: Province IV
TOPIC: Constitution

Directly Related: (Attached)

2009-D066 Refer a Resolution Amending the Constitution on the Youth Vote
2000-D027 Amend House of Deputies Rule XV.60(a) [Official Youth Floor Presence]
1994-D115 Support Seat and Voice for Youth at Church Conventions
1985-D112 Provide Funding for Youth Presence at the General Convention
1982-B045 Invite a Youth Presence at Future General Conventions

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

1994-D127 Appropriate Funds for Youth Ministry and Convention Presence
1991-D205 Celebrate the Presence of Youth Representatives
1979-D135 Express Gratitude for the Presence of Young People

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.

C045 Amend Article I Section 4 - first reading

Proposer	Province IV
Endorsed by	
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. 2
HiA / Leg. Cttee	/
Current Status	Pre-Filed Resolution
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the youth of the Church have seat and voice as Representatives in the House of Deputies; and be it further
- 2 *Resolved*, That to implement this, Article I, Section 4 of the Constitution be amended as follows:
- 3 Sec. 4 The Church in each Diocese which has been admitted to union with the General Convention, each area Mission established as provided by Article VI, and the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe, shall be entitled to representation in the House of Deputies by not more than four ordained persons, Presbyters or Deacons, canonically resident in the Diocese and not more than four Lay Persons, confirmed adult communicants of this Church, in good standing in the Diocese but not necessarily domiciled in the Diocese; but the General Convention by Canon may reduce the representation to not fewer than two Deputies in each order. Each Diocese, and the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe, shall prescribe the manner in which its Deputies shall be chosen.
- 4 *Two confirmed communicants in good standing between the ages of sixteen and eighteen having not yet graduated high school or matriculated full time to college, as of the first legislative day of General Convention for which they are chosen, from each Province shall be entitled to representation in the House of Deputies as Youth Representatives in the Official Youth Presence. These Youth Representatives shall be entitled to seat and voice in the House of Deputies.*
- 5 To constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, the Clerical order shall be represented by at least one Deputy in each of a majority of the Dioceses entitled to representation, and the Lay order shall likewise be represented by at least one Deputy in each of a majority of the Dioceses entitled to representation.
- 6 And be it further
- 7 *Resolved*, That, to ensure funding of the Official Youth Presence, the necessary expenses for the Official Youth Presence be provided for in the budget to be submitted by the Treasurer, as provided in the Canon entitled "Of General Convention."

EXPLANATION

This resolution is a continuation of the “stepping-stone” history that the General Convention Official Youth Presence has been living out since its inception.

In 1982, Resolution 1982-B045 was introduced to the House of Bishops proposing the motion of inviting a “Youth Presence” to come and be a part of General Convention. While this was a large step forward in bringing Youth to Convention, this resolution was vague in that it lacked necessary structure and protocol for the Youth Presence to operate under. Specifically, there was no limit on how many Youth could participate and the Youth could not address Convention until they were individually recognized.

In 1985, a resolution was passed that provided structure for the Youth Presence by providing funding for two Youth from each Province to come and be present at General Convention.

In 1994, a resolution was passed that finally allowed the Youth Presence to be on the floor of the House of Deputies and to speak on the floor in reference to resolutions.

In 2000, a resolution was passed that inserted the General Convention Official Youth Presence into the House of Deputies Rules of Order. This resolution is the latest to directly affect the structure and /or responsibilities of the Official Youth Presence. It amended the Rules of Order to ensure the placement of the Official Youth Presence within the body of the House of Deputies with the responsibilities of seat and voice.

This resolution will amend the Constitution by inserting a paragraph into Article I Section 4 that grants seat and voice to two youth from each Province. Because the Youth Presence is currently only authorized in the Rules of Order, a simple vote in the House of Deputies could remove them at any time.



Resolution Number: 2009-D066
Title: Refer a Resolution Amending the Constitution on the Youth Vote
Legislative Action Taken: Referred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the youth of the Church have seat, voice and vote as Deputies in the House of Deputies; and be it further

Resolved, That, to implement this, the following amendments to the Constitution be approved on first reading: Amend Article I, Section 4 of the Constitution as follows:

Sec. 4. The Church in each Diocese which has been admitted to union with the General Convention, each area Mission established as provided by Article VI, and the Convocation of the American Churches in Europe, shall be entitled to representation in the House of Deputies by not more than four ordained persons, Presbyters or Deacons, canonically resident in the Diocese and not more than four Lay Persons, confirmed adult communicants of this Church, in good standing in the Diocese but not necessarily domiciled in the Diocese; but the General Convention by Canon may reduce the representation to not fewer than two Deputies in each order. Each Diocese, and the Convocation of the American Churches in Europe, shall prescribe the manner in which its Deputies shall be chosen.

There shall also be entitled to representation in the House of Deputies the youth of the Church, who shall be represented by eighteen Lay Persons who shall be Deputies, two each of whom shall be confirmed communicants in good standing, but not necessarily domiciled, in a Diocese in each Province. Deputies representing the youth shall not be less than sixteen years of age, nor more than eighteen years of age, as of the first legislative day of the General Convention for which they are chosen. The Canons of the General Convention shall prescribe the manner in which the Deputies representing the youth shall be chosen.

To constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, the Clerical order shall be represented by at least one Deputy in each of a majority of the Dioceses entitled to representation, and the Lay order shall likewise be represented by at least one Deputy in each of a majority of the Dioceses entitled to representation.

Amend Article I, Section 5 of the Constitution as follows:

Sec. 5. The vote on all questions which come before the House of Deputies shall be governed by the following provisions, supplemented by such procedural provisions as the House of Deputies may adopt in its Rules of Order:

Unless a greater vote on any question is required by this Constitution or by the Canons in cases not specifically dealt with by this Constitution or unless a vote by orders on a question is required, the affirmative vote of a majority of all of the Deputies present and voting shall suffice to carry any question. A vote by orders on any question shall be taken if required for that question by this Constitution or by the Canons or if the Clerical or Lay representation from three or more separate Dioceses shall so request at the time of the call for the vote on that question. In all cases of a vote by orders, the vote of each order, Clerical and Lay, shall be counted separately, each order in each Diocese shall have one vote, and a vote in the affirmative by an order in a Diocese shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the Deputies present in that order in that Diocese. *In all cases of a vote by orders, the Deputies representing the youth shall have one vote in the Lay order, and a vote in the affirmative by the Deputies representing the youth shall require the affirmative*

vote of a majority of the Deputies representing the youth present. To carry in the affirmative any question being voted on by orders requires concurrence in the affirmative by both orders and, unless a greater vote is required by this Constitution or by the Canons in cases not specifically dealt with by this Constitution, concurrence in the affirmative by an order requires the affirmative vote in that order by a majority of the Dioceses (including, in the Lay order, the Deputies representing the youth) present in that order.

And be it further

Resolved, That the manner in which Youth Deputies shall be chosen be referred to the Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons to propose such amendments to the Canons and other appropriate procedures to implement the foregoing proposed amendments to the Constitution and report such proposals to the 77th General Convention.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), pp. 375-376.



Resolution Number: 2000-D027
Title: Amend House of Deputies Rule XV.60(a) [Official Youth Floor Presence]
Legislative Action Taken: Adopted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the House of Deputies Rule 60(a) be amended, with an additional sentence as follows:

In addition, up to 18 youth (not more than two youth from each Province) who are duly authorized representatives known as the Official Youth Presence, shall have seat and voice in designated section on the floor of the House.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 2000* (New York: General Convention, 2001), p. 430.



Resolution Number: 1994-D115
Title: Support Seat and Voice for Youth at Church Conventions
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 71st General Convention allow, support, and accept seat, and voice, for the official Youth Presence of the General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That seat, and voice, be allowed, supported, and accepted for youth at their respective diocesan conventions.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 1994* (New York: General Convention, 1995), p. 322.



Resolution Number: 1985-D112
Title: Provide Funding for Youth Presence at the General Convention
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 68th General Convention of the Episcopal Church recognize youth as a significant and vital part of the Church and acknowledge the need for a youth presence in every aspect of the life of the Church, including the General Convention; and be it further
Resolved, That the 68th General Convention of the Episcopal Church direct the Executive Council to provide funding whereby two young people from each province can be present at all subsequent General Conventions and that the House of Deputies provide space for the youth delegates adjacent to the House floor, so that youth may learn more about the Church as a whole and be able to express the concerns of Episcopal youth.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 1985* (New York: General Convention, 1986), p. 251.



Resolution Number: 1982-B045
Title: Invite a Youth Presence at Future General Conventions
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 67th General Convention of the Episcopal Church through the administration of the National Church invite a youth presence as a permanent part of all future General Conventions of the Episcopal Church.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, New Orleans, 1982* (New York: General Convention, 1983), p. C-159.