

## **Proposed Resolution to Amend Rules of Order at the Election of a Bishop**

### **Background and Rationale**

In advance of the Special Convention held in 2012 to elect the Eighth Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, the Rules of Order were revised to require a special meeting the night before the election intended to serve as “an opportunity for discussion of the merits of the candidates to which all deputies to the electing Convention, clerical and lay, shall be invited.” While this was not a typical step in the process for electing a Bishop in the Episcopal Church, many within the Diocese at the time felt that it could help to heal the wounds of the recent past. At this stage in the life of the Diocese, there is no similar justification for the Rules of Order to include the special meeting when it is outside the norms and practices for the election of a Bishop in the Episcopal Church. The proposed resolution is sponsored by the Standing Committee, and if adopted, the resolution would remove this special meeting from the Rules of Order.

### **Resolution to Amend Rules of Order at the Election of a Bishop**

Resolved, that Part D of the Rules of Order, entitled Rules of Order at the Election of a Bishop, Bishop-Coadjutor, or Suffragan Bishop, be amended by the deletion of the following numbered paragraph 2, and the remaining paragraphs be renumbered accordingly:

2. The evening before the election, the Transition Committee shall arrange an opportunity for discussion of the merits of the candidates to which all deputies to the electing Convention, clerical and lay, shall be invited. In addition to deputies with seat, voice and vote, those with seat and voice only shall also be invited to attend. The meeting shall also be open to any other person from the Diocese, who may attend for the purpose of observing only.