

Section C - Canon Committee – Revisions

Constitutional Change (First Reading)

The proposed amendment will require approval by annual convention of 2009 and 2010.

1. **Article III**, Members of Convention, shall be restated in its entirety as follows:

Members of Convention

Section 1. The Convention shall be composed of Clergy and Lay Deputies.

Section 2. Every member of the Clergy in regular standing who shall have been canonically and physically resident in the Diocese and engaged in the parochial, missionary, or educational work of the Church under the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese for three months preceding any Convention shall be entitled to a seat and vote in such Convention in all cases except in the election of a Bishop, in which case the qualifications necessary to vote shall be as hereinafter provided in Article XIV of this Constitution. No member of the Clergy so qualified shall lose his or her right to a seat and vote by reason of sickness or old age.

Section 3. The Deputies shall consist of two Deputies from each Parish in union with the Convention, chosen from the Lay Communicants as the Convention may, from time to time, by Canon, prescribe. Each such Parish shall have the right to send additional Deputies, chosen as aforesaid, in such proportion to the number of its registered communicants as the Convention may, from time to time, by Canon, prescribe. A change in the scale of graduation, when fixed by Canon, shall not become effective until the succeeding Annual Convention. The Chancellor of the Diocese shall be an ex-officio member of the Convention with the right to a single vote in the appropriate order.

Section 4. No Parish shall be entitled to representation in the Convention that does not comply with duly enacted Canons of this Diocese relating to assessments levied upon it by authority of the Convention, unless it shall not do so for reasons that shall be deemed satisfactory by the Convention itself; and it shall be the duty of the Diocesan Council, at the opening of each session, to present to the Secretary a list of such Parishes as are delinquent in this regard, in order that the same may be placed in the hands of the Committee on Claims of Deputies to Seats.

Rationale: There are two substantive changes made here. Additionally, a number of minor editorial changes have been made for clarity, consistency, or grammatical correctness. (As long as the article is being amended, it seems proper to make such minor improvements as well.) In Section 2, the words “and physically” have been inserted before “resident in the Diocese.” The words “and actually” were removed from this location by votes in 2003 and 2004.

The change in 2003 -2004 allowed clergy working elsewhere while canonically resident in Pittsburgh to vote in convention. Such people did so in large numbers, largely voting as a block. The effect was to dilute the votes of people actually living in the diocese and regularly participating in its work. The Committee on Canons responded to a concern voiced at our August forum by adding wording in Section 2 giving vote to missionaries and chaplains canonically

resident here but serving elsewhere. This, however, turned out to create more questions than it solved, and the committee has decided to return to its original proposal allowing only those clergy actually living in the diocese to vote. The change proposed in this resolution restores Section 2 to its pre-2004 meaning and improves clarity.

In Section 3, the final words “Lay order” have been replaced with “appropriate order.” The section assumes the Chancellor is necessarily a layperson, but this office could, in principle, be held by a member of the clergy, even though Canon IX currently requires a lay chancellor.

This would replace the current Article III reprinted below:

Article III

Members of Convention

Section 1. The convention shall be composed of Clergy and Lay Deputies.

Section 2. Every member of the Clergy, in regular standing, who shall have been canonically resident in the Diocese, and engaged in the parochial, missionary, or educational work of the Church, under the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, for three months preceding any Convention, shall be entitled to a seat and vote in such Convention in all cases except in the election of a Bishop, in which case the qualifications necessary to vote shall be as hereinafter provided in Article XIV of this Constitution, PROVIDED, that no member of the Clergy so qualified shall lose his or her right to a seat and vote by reason of sickness or old age.

Section 3. The Deputies shall consist of two Deputies from each Parish in union with the Convention, chosen from the Lay Communicants as the Convention may, from time to time, by Canon prescribe. And each such Parish shall have the right to send additional Deputies, chosen as aforesaid, in such proportion to the number of its registered communicants as the Convention may, from time to time, by Canon prescribe. PROVIDED, however, that a change in the scale of graduation, when fixed by Canon, shall not become effective until the next succeeding Annual Convention. The Chancellor of the Diocese shall be ex-officio a member of the Convention with the right to a single vote in the Lay order.

Section 4. No Parish shall be entitled to a representation in the Convention which does not comply with duly enacted Canons of this Diocese relating to assessments levied upon it by authority of the Convention, unless it shall not do so for reasons which shall be deemed satisfactory by the Convention itself; and it shall be the duty of the Diocesan Council, at the opening of each session, to present to the Secretary a list of such Parishes as are delinquent in this regard, in order that the same may be placed in the hands of the Committee on Claims of Deputies to Seats.

Section C - Canon Committee – Revisions

Canonical Change

4. **Canon VII**, Of the Director of Administration, shall be restated in its entirety as follows:

Canon VII Of the Treasurer and Director of Administration

Section 1. There shall be a Treasurer for the Diocese, who shall be appointed by the Bishop with the approval of the Diocesan Council. The term of office and salary shall be determined by the Bishop and the Diocesan Council. The Treasurer shall have such duties as are defined by canon or determined by the Bishop, in consultation with the Diocesan Council.

Section 2. There shall be a Director of Administration for the Diocese, who shall be appointed by the Bishop with the approval of the Diocesan Council. The term of office and salary shall be determined by the Bishop and the Diocesan Council. The Director of Administration shall have such duties as are defined by canon or determined by the Bishop, in consultation with the Diocesan Council.

Section 3. The Treasurer and the Director of Administration of the Diocese may be the same person.

Rationale: The roles of Treasurer and Director of Administration are rather different, and, although one person could fill both roles, there is no logical need for the roles to be so joined. It might be desirable to employ a volunteer Treasurer or to hire someone other than the Director of Administration to serve as Treasurer. The proposed change allows, but does not require, that the Treasurer and Director of Administration be different people. The change is intended to provide greater flexibility in the organization of the diocesan office.

If approved, this change will require changes to the Financial Regulations, which assume that the Treasurer and Director of Administration are the same. The Financial Regulations, for example, assign certain duties to the “Treasurer” that are clearly functions of an office manager and that should therefore be assigned to the Director of Administration. Note that, in accordance with Canon XII, Section 1, the Financial Regulations are the responsibility of the Bishop and of the Diocesan Council.

The current wording of Canon VII to be replaced is the following:

Canon VII Of the Director of Administration

There shall be a Director of Administration for the Diocese, who shall be appointed by the Bishop with the approval of the Diocesan Council. The term of office and salary shall be determined by the Bishop and the Diocesan Council. The Director of Administration shall be the Treasurer of the Diocese. In addition, the Director of Administration shall have such duties as shall be determined by the Bishop, in consultation with the Diocesan Council.