

1 **Resolution on Official Youth Presence (Final – After Resolution Hearing)**

2 **This proposed canonical amendment has been referred to the Committee on Constitution and**
3 **Canons. The Committee on Constitution and Canon will provide its recommendation and**
4 **make a report at the 135th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Oregon.**

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6 Resolved, the 134th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Oregon to amend Canon 1.1-1.5 as
7 follows:

8
9 1. To amend Section 3 of Canon 1.1 as follows:

10
11 **Sec. 3.** Notice of the time and place of every annual or special meeting of the Convention shall
12 be given by the Secretary to every Member of the Clergy, to every lay delegate whose election
13 has been certified to the Secretary, and to the Clerk of every Congregation in the Diocese, and
14 the Official Youth Presence at least 30 days before the time appointed for the meeting. In the
15 case of a special meeting, the notice shall also include a verbatim copy of the call issued by the
16 Bishop. Failure to provide timely notice of the annual meetings of the Convention shall not,
17 however, invalidate the Convention.

18
19 2. To insert Canon 1.4 as follows:

20
21 **CANON 1.4 OFFICIAL YOUTH PRESENCE**

22 *In addition to duly elected Lay Delegates, up to fourteen youth (two youth from each*
23 *Convocation) who are duly authorized representatives known as the Official Youth Presence*
24 *shall have seat and voice in a designated section on the floor of the Convention. Each*
25 *Convocation may elect or appoint up to two authorized youth representatives and an alternate*
26 *aged between 16 and 19. Convocation certifications shall be forwarded in writing by the*
27 *Dean/President of each Convocation to the Secretary of the Convention at least 90 days prior to*
28 *the date of Convention.*

29
30 3. To renumber the remaining Canon provisions accordingly, and otherwise confirm the
31 remaining text of Canons 1.1-1.5.

32 4. To amend Section 2(a) of the re-numbered Canon 1.5 as follows:

33 **Sec. 2.** (a) Within 15 days of the appointment of the Committee, the convener shall invite, in
34 writing, every Parish Vestry, every Mission Advisory Committee and every Convocation to
35 submit nominations for positions enumerated in Canon ~~1.4.3-1.5.3.~~ below. Nominations shall
36 be submitted not later than 120 days prior to Convention.

37
38 **Proposed by:**

39 Alan Murray, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
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Endorsed by:

Beth Ferguson, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

Alicia Johnson, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

The Rev. Gavin Shumate, St. John's Episcopal Church, Toledo

Columbia Convocation

For convenience, the entire text of Canon 1.1 to 1.6 as amended is reproduced below the Explanation.

Explanation:

For each General Convention since 1982, Official Youth Presence has been a part in the discernment of legislation on the floor of the House of Deputies with seat and voice. Over the years and decades, many dioceses (i.e. California, Utah) have amended their Canons to grant seat and voice to Official Youth Presence as part of their diocesan conventions.

This amendment modifies the current canon to add Official Youth Presence (OYP) in Section 1.4. This will allow each Convocation to elect or appoint up to two youth representatives starting 2023. Our church needs to hear the voices and concerns of our youth especially in the area of governance and leadership. It's important to be mindful of the decisions we debate and vote on and how these will impact our ministries for the next generation of leaders in the Diocese of Oregon and the wider church.

This canonical change allows young people to participate more fully in the leadership of the Church and take on the responsibility that entails. This mirrors the Official Youth Presence structure from the nine Provinces of The Episcopal Church to the General Convention. Young people given this opportunity have found that their participation has been a transformative experience and has been a meaningful opportunity to have their voices heard. This will give youth a sense of ownership in the Church and further encourages them to engage in Church leadership in the future. Taking youth leadership seriously must be a priority to maintain and grow the Church. It is vital for us to nurture and support young people in their leadership activities in the Church.

Each year, after the Official Presence is elected or appointed in each convocation, they shall participate in the regular convocation meetings leading up to diocesan convention. They shall remain the Official Youth Presence until the next Official Youth Presence is elected or appointed in the following year. Each convocation shall provide mentoring and training to these youth representatives.

*** Below is the full text as amended:

CANON 1.1 THE MEETING OF THE CONVENTION

Sec. 1. There shall be an annual meeting of the Convention, the time and place to be set by the Bishop in consultation with the Standing Committee.

Sec. 2. The Bishop may call a special meeting of the Convention (and shall call a special meeting upon request of a majority of the Standing Committee), designating the time, place, and purpose of the meeting. No business other than that stated in the call shall be transacted, except by unanimous vote.

Sec. 3. Notice of the time and place of every annual or special meeting of the Convention shall be given by the Secretary to every Member of the Clergy, to every lay delegate whose election has been certified to the Secretary, to the Clerk of every Congregation in the Diocese, and the Official Youth Presence at least 30 days before the time appointed for the meeting. In the case of a special meeting, the notice shall also include a verbatim copy of the call issued by the Bishop. Failure to provide timely notice of the annual meetings of the Convention shall not, however, invalidate the Convention.

Sec. 4. (a) At least three months prior to the annual Convention, the Bishop shall appoint the committees of Convention which shall include a Committee on Dispatch of Business, a Committee on Resolutions of Policy, a Committee on Courtesy; a Committee on Credentials; and such other Committees as may be necessary for the Convention to carry out its responsibilities. The members of the committees shall be selected from among the lay and clergy delegates certified to the Secretary as of the date of appointment, and shall be, to the extent possible, representative of both orders and the breadth of the diocese. The appointments shall be communicated to all delegates.

(b) The Committee on the Dispatch of Business shall consist of 3 members, including at least one lay and one clergy delegate. The Committee shall meet not later than 60 days prior to the annual Convention, shall prepare the Order of Business to be presented, and shall cause a copy of the Order of Business to be sent to each Member of the Clergy in the Diocese and to each Lay Delegate not later than 30 days prior to the annual Convention. The Committee shall also present the Order of Business at the opening of the annual Convention approval, as presented or amended, by the delegates.

(c) The Committee for Certification of Minutes shall consist of the Chair of the Committee on Dispatch of Business, or designee, and the Parliamentarian. In consultation with the

Bishop, the committee shall review the minutes prepared by the Secretary and certify their accuracy and completeness within 30 days of the close of convention.

(d) Each of the other committees shall have an odd number of members with at least one lay and one clergy delegate, with the duties set out below.

(e) The Committee on Resolutions of Policy shall receive for review all resolutions regarding policy submitted for consideration by the convention, hold a hearing on each one and make recommendations, which may include revisions, to the Convention.

(f) The Committee on Courtesy shall draft one or more appropriate resolutions to express the gratitude of the Convention and present them to the Convention for approval.

(g) At least three months before the convention the Bishop shall appoint a Committee on Constitution and Canons whose members shall be selected, to the extent possible, from among the lay and clergy delegates certified to the secretary as of the date of appointment, and representative of both orders and the breadth of the diocese. The Chancellor shall be a member ex officio. The committee's duties are to review any proposed amendments to the Constitution or Canons of the diocese for legality, consistency and practicality, to hold a hearing at Convention on each proposal and to make recommendations, which may include further amendments, to the Convention, and to ensure the accuracy of the record of any amendments adopted. The Committee shall also have the power to initiate and recommend proposals for amendments to the Constitution and Canons.

Sec. 5. (a) All proposals for amendments to the Constitution or Canons of the Diocese, shall be submitted, in writing, to the Secretary by the person or persons initiating such changes at least 90 days prior to the annual Convention. As soon as practicable, the Secretary shall send copies of the proposed changes to each member of the Committee on Constitution and Canons to each Member of the Clergy in the Diocese, to each Lay Delegate and to the Convocations.

(b) Any member of a Congregation in the Diocese or Member of the Clergy entitled to seat and vote at Convention may propose an amendment to the Constitution or Canons after obtaining written sponsorship or endorsement of a Lay Delegate, Member of the Clergy entitled to seat and vote, a Vestry or Bishop's Advisory Committee, a Convocation, or a Commission or Committee of the Diocese.

(c) All proposals for amendments to the Constitution or Canons submitted under the foregoing sections to the Committee on Constitution and Canons shall be reported to the floor of Convention for action.

Sec. 6. (a) Resolutions of Policy shall be submitted, in writing, to the Secretary by the person or persons initiating them at least 90 days prior to the annual Convention. The Secretary shall immediately send copies of the proposed resolution of policy to each member of the Committee on Constitution and Canons, to each Member of the Clergy in the Diocese, to each Lay Delegate and to the Convocations. Resolutions of Policy not submitted in accordance with this provision may be referred to the Committee on Resolutions of Policy, by a three-fourths vote of the convention based on a reading of the title of the resolution, for its recommendation and for action by Convention.

(b) Any member of a Congregation in the Diocese or Member of the Clergy entitled to seat and vote at Convention may propose a resolution of policy after obtaining written sponsorship or endorsement of a Lay Delegate, a Member of the Clergy entitled to seat and vote, a Vestry or Bishop's Advisory Committee, a Convocation, or a Commission or Committee of the Diocese.

Sec. 7. At any session of the Convention, the Bishop, or other duly constituted President of the Convention, may designate a temporary presiding officer from among the Lay or Clerical Delegates present at that particular session to preside over the Convention.

Sec. 8 (a). At or before each annual meeting of the Convention, the Bishop shall appoint a Post Convention Committee, consisting of five persons to serve until the Committee reports to the next annual Convention. The Bishop shall also appoint one of the members as convener, who, working in cooperation with the Secretary of Convention, shall call the first meeting of the Committee, to be held within 20 days after the meeting of Convention adjourns.

(b) The duties of the Post Convention Committee shall be:

(i) To refer any business referred to it by the Convention to the appropriate entity for implementation, and to monitor the progress of any such business;

(ii) To report to the next annual meeting of Convention and to interim meetings of Diocesan Council concerning the implementation of the business and resolutions of the prior Convention.

CANON 1.2 CLERGY MEMBERS

Sec. 1. It shall be the duty of all Clergy entitled to seat and vote in the Convention to attend the Convention, unless excused by the Bishop.

Sec. 2. Each Member of the Clergy, who for good cause is unable to attend the annual Convention, shall as early as possible make written application to the Bishop, through the Secretary, to be excused. The Secretary will give notice of the Bishop's decision.

Sec. 3. One week before every meeting of the Convention, the Registrar shall prepare a list of all the Clergy of the Church canonically resident in this Diocese. The list shall be given to the Secretary, who shall prepare a Roster of the Clergy entitled to seats and votes in Convention in order to determine the number needed for a quorum. The list shall not include those Clergy who have been excused by the Bishop. The Secretary shall make the Roster available to the Convention and include it in the Journal.

CANON 1.3 LAY DELEGATES

Sec. 1. The Lay members shall consist of Delegates from Congregations (Parishes and Missions) admitted into the Diocese. The number of Lay Delegates to Convention for each Congregation shall be determined according to the following schedule:

Pledging Units Delegates to Convention

0 - 502

50 - 1003

101 - 2004

201 - 3005

191 301 - 4006

192 401 - 5007

193 501 or more8

194 Pledging units are families, or individuals who are not members of another pledging unit within
195 the Congregation, who have made written pledges for the year in which the selection of
196 Delegates takes place.

197 **Sec. 2** (a). Lay Delegates and Alternates to the annual Convention, with the qualifications set
198 out in Article 4.5 of the Constitution, shall be elected by March 1st of each year and the election
199 certified within 30 days in writing to the Secretary of Convention by the Member of the Clergy
200 in charge of the Congregation, or by a Warden or the Clerk of the Congregation. The certificate
201 shall specify when the election occurred, the name and contact in- formation for each Lay
202 Delegate and Alternate, and that each is at least 16 years old and a communicant in good
203 standing of the congregation.

204 (b) In the event a Delegate cannot attend the convention, the Member of the Clergy in Charge,
205 a Warden or the Clerk shall immediately notify the Secretary of Convention of the change and
206 certify the Alternate who will be serving as the Delegate.

207 (c) No Delegate will be seated if appropriate certification has not been provided to the
208 Secretary. Late registration will be allowed with appropriate certification.

209 **Sec. 3.** From the certificates received, the Secretary shall make a list of names of the Delegates
210 to be used in the organization of the Convention. Failure to deliver the certificate shall not,
211 however, invalidate the election of any Delegate nor any action of the Convention.

212 **Sec. 4.** When a Mission fails to elect Lay Delegates, or its Delegates are unable to attend, the
213 Bishop may appoint a Delegate from among those canonically eligible.

214 **Sec. 5.** It is the duty of the Lay Delegates to attend the sessions of the Convention to which they
215 have been elect- ed members. If a Delegate is not able to attend, it is his or her duty to
216 immediately notify the congregation so that an alternate may attend instead.

217 **Sec. 6.** If a Parish or Mission is not represented in any Convention or in any session thereof,
218 such Parish or Mission shall nevertheless be bound by all acts of such Convention.

219 **CANON 1.4 OFFICIAL YOUTH PRESENCE**

220 In addition to duly elected Lay Delegates, up to fourteen youth (two youth from each
221 Convocation) who are duly authorized representatives known as the Official Youth Presence
222 shall have seat and voice in a designated section on the floor of the Convention. Each
223 Convocation may elect or appoint up to two authorized youth representatives and an alternate
224 aged between 16 and 19. Convocation certifications shall be forwarded in writing by the
225 Dean/President of each Convocation to the Secretary of the Convention at least 90 days prior to
226 the date of Convention.

CANON 1.5 NOMINATIONS

Sec. 1. The Bishop shall, at least six months before the annual Convention, appoint a Nominating Committee, designating one member who shall act as convener. The Committee shall consist of one Lay Person and one Member of the Clergy from each of the Convocations of the Diocese.

Sec. 2. (a) Within 15 days of the appointment of the Committee, the convener shall invite, in writing, every Parish Vestry, every Mission Advisory Committee and every Convocation to submit nominations for positions enumerated in Canon 1.5.3. below. Nominations shall be submitted not later than 120 days prior to Convention.

(b) The invitation shall be accompanied by a list of the incumbents of these positions, identified by Congregation, with an indication of those incumbents whose terms expire and whose positions are to be filled by election of the Convention.

Sec. 3. The Nominating Committee shall meet at the call of the convener, no later than 90 days before the annual Convention, and shall ensure that not less than two persons are nominated for each of the offices included in the following categories:

Members of the Standing Committee Members-at-large of the Diocesan Council Trustees of The Diocese of Oregon

Members of the Chapter of Trinity Cathedral Deputies to the General Convention

Sec. 4. The nominations so made shall be communicated to the Secretary, who shall then send a list of the nominations to each Member of the Clergy and each Lay Delegate in the Diocese at least 30 days prior to the annual Convention.

Sec. 5. All nominations shall be accompanied by biographical data, Parish/Mission identification, and the written consent of the nominee. Compliance with this requirement, in cases of nominations from the floor, may be waived by the Bishop or by a majority vote of Convention.

Sec. 6. At the Convention, the Committee shall place in nomination the names previously distributed, by office. The presiding officer of the Convention shall then call for nominations from the floor.

Sec. 7. At the proper time in the annual Convention, the Secretary shall distribute a printed list of all nominations made to the Convention. Before voting, a ballot shall be distributed to each delegate present.

Sec. 8. Sections 5-7 of this Canon do not apply to nominees for Trustees of Oregon Episcopal School. Nominees for Trustees of Oregon Episcopal School shall be selected by the Oregon Episcopal School Board of Trustees after considering suggestions from the Parish Liaison Committee and the diocesan Nominating Committee, if any. The Bishop Diocesan or, if there is no Bishop Diocesan, the Ecclesiastical Authority, shall appoint the nominees to the Oregon

264 Episcopal School Board of Trustees. Such appointments shall be ratified by the Standing
265 Commit- tee and reported to the next annual meeting of the Convention of the Diocese.

266 **CANON 1.6 DELEGATES TO PROVINCIAL SYNOD**

267 The Deputies of this Diocese to the General Convention shall also serve as Delegates to the
268 Synod of the Eighth Province, in accordance with the Ordinances of the Province.