

Resolution 1: Bishop Nominating Process PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by: The Standing Committee on Constitution and Canons and the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Tennessee

RESOLVED, That the Search Committee, after a time of interview, discernment, prayer, and due consideration of background, references, and qualifications of applicants, shall present to the Standing Committee a diverse set of candidates whom the Search Committee deems qualified for such office; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Standing Committee shall review the set of candidates received from the Search Committee and then shall publish the list of nominees to the Diocese; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Standing Committee shall also consider any candidates who may be nominated by a petition process established by the Standing Committee, who qualify for nomination under the same standards established by the Search Committee for the candidates it has presented; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Standing Committee shall then announce a final list of nominees and opportunity for the diocese to meet the nominees prior to the special Convention to Elect the Twelfth Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Tennessee. Nominations shall be closed when the list is announced. Nominations from the floor shall not be in order.

Explanation of Resolution:

Title III, Canon 11, Section 1.a of the Episcopal Church Constitution and Canons states, “The Standing Committee shall have oversight of, and responsibility for, any [Bishop] search, nomination, transition, and election processes.” It also stipulates, “The Diocese shall establish a [Bishop] nominating process ... at a meeting of the Convention of the Diocese with sufficient time preceding the election of the Bishop.”

The Standing Committee has followed the customary practice of dioceses within the Episcopal Church of appointing a Bishop Search Committee. Committee members were appointed from a pool of diocesan applicants based on the gifts, experience, perspectives, availability, geography, parish size and context, and the particular charisms needed for the committee’s unique work. They have been charged with helping to steward a healthy, transparent, faithful, and prayerful process.

This resolution asks the convention to approve the well-established nominating process in use by Dioceses across the Episcopal Church, outlining the role of the Search Committee in determining a slate of candidates and of the Standing Committees in setting the final slate of nominees.