

DIOCESE OF PENNSYLVANIA
235th CONVENTION
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R-6

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DESIGNATED YOUNG ADULT DEPUTIES TO GENERAL CONVENTION

Resolved: Canon 21.1 shall be amended as follows:

SEC 21.1 *Deputies to the General Convention and the Provincial Synod*

21.1.1 At the ~~Stated~~ **Annual Diocesan** Convention in the year following the year of a regular General Convention, there shall be elected by concurrent ballot of the clerical and lay orders, four ordained persons who shall be canonically resident in the diocese, and four laypersons who shall be communicants of the Church and in good standing in the Diocese but not necessarily domiciled in the Diocese, to be deputies to the General Convention, whose tenure shall continue until others are elected in their places. If a vacancy should occur among the deputies elected by the Diocesan Convention in the year next preceding the General Convention, such vacancy shall be filled by election in the Diocesan Convention immediately preceding the General Convention.

21.1.2. At the ~~Diocesan~~ **Annual Diocesan** Convention immediately preceding the General Convention, there shall be elected by concurrent ballot of the clerical and lay orders, four ordained persons who shall be canonically resident in the Diocese, and four lay persons who shall be communicants of the Church and in good standing in the Diocese but not necessarily domiciled in the Diocese, to be alternates to the General Convention.

21.1.3. The Nominating Committee shall encourage candidates who are under the age of 35 as of the date of the opening of the Annual Diocesan Convention (“Young Candidates”). If two or more lay Young Candidates stand for any election under this Canon, they shall, with their consent, stand only against each other, and the person elected shall become one of the four deputies or alternates, as the case may be. If two or more clergy Young Candidates stand for any election under this Canon, they shall, with their consent, stand only against each other, and the person elected shall become one of the four deputies or alternates, as the case may be. The remaining candidates shall stand only against each other for the

remaining positions. In all cases the election procedures set forth in this Canon shall be followed.

21.1.2-4. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Convention, at least thirty days before the meeting of the General Convention, to notify each of the deputies elected to declare to the Secretary at least fourteen days before such meeting, his or her acceptance of the election and his or her intention to perform the duties of such office and, in default of receiving such declaration, the Secretary shall designate and certify from the list of duly elected alternate deputies as many as may be necessary to insure a full representation of the Diocese at the General Convention. Such designation shall be made in the order of election and, as between persons elected on the same ballot, the one having the greatest number of votes on the ballot shall be first designated and, if two shall have received an equal number of votes, the designation shall be made by lot. The persons thus designated, when furnished with a certificate of such designation, shall have all the power and authority of deputies duly elected by the Convention of this Diocese.

21.1.3-5. Should a vacancy occur among the deputies certified, as provided in Canon 21.1.2,3 or should any such certified deputy be unable to serve, the remaining clerical and lay deputies may, by concurrent vote, choose a person to serve during such certified deputy's absence from among the alternate deputies as provided in Canon 21.1.23, if any be available, but if not, then from among any other duly qualified persons; and shall deliver a certificate of such choice to the Secretary of the General Convention and to the Secretary of the Convention of this Diocese, whereupon the person so chosen shall have all the powers and authority of deputies duly elected by the Convention of this Diocese. Any other vacancy occurring among the deputies may be filled at any stated meeting of the Convention prior to or during which such vacancy shall occur.

21.1.4-6¹The necessary expenses of the Bishop, Bishop Coadjutor, and Bishops Suffragan, and of the clerical and lay deputies and alternates in attending meetings of the General Convention and of deputies attending meetings of the Provincial Synod, shall be paid out of the budget for Convention and diocesan expense. In advance of each General Convention, the Bishop shall determine the alternates whose expenses will be reimbursed. In all cases covered by this Canon, evidence of expenses incurred shall be presented to the Finance Committee for review and approval.

EXPLANATION: Due to the desire and need for more young adult participation in the life and worship of the Church; combined with the lack of young adult

¹ Adopted by the 219th Convention in 2002; amended by the 234th Convention in 2017.

representation in the governance of The Episcopal Church; this resolution seeks to intentionally give space, voice, and vote to our younger generation, particularly at the level of The General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

REFERENCES:

Submitted by: Deacon Matthew Simpson