

Memo

To: Delegates and Clergy Attending the 178<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Convention  
From: Thomas A. Little, Esq., Chancellor  
Date: September 18, 2010  
Re: Resolutions Proposing Changes to Diocesan Canons

Together with this Memo you are receiving copies of the following:

1. A Resolution proposing amendments to Canons 6 and 6A, replacing our eight Deaneries with five “Mission Districts,” changing the process for electing members to Diocesan Council, reducing the number of elected members on Council from 26 to 15, and altering the makeup of the standing Nomination Committee. This Resolution also proposes amendments to Canons 13.4 and 15.7, to permit Parishes and Missions to elect Convention Delegates and Alternate Delegates at a special meeting as opposed to only at an annual meeting. You are receiving a clean version of the Resolution and a version redlined against the current canons to show the changes.
2. A Resolution repealing our current Diocesan clergy discipline canons and adopting replacements that conform to the new Title IV disciplinary canons enacted at the 2009 General Convention. This Resolution also proposes to ratify an Agreement among the Bishops of the Dioceses of Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, to jointly administer portions of the disciplinary process. Accordingly, you are also receiving a copy of that Agreement. The Title IV changes become effective July 1, 2011.
3. A Memo from me explaining the Convention voting procedures, including the process of voting by Orders. The Resolutions amending the canons require concurrent 2/3 votes in each Order. At the upcoming Convention, we also will be electing Deputies to the 2012 General Convention, and our canons require concurrent majority votes in each Order for these elections.

I will be at the Ministry Fairs to explain each of these documents and to respond to your questions. You may also contact me with questions at [tlittle@vsac.org](mailto:tlittle@vsac.org). Finally, a PowerPoint presentation explaining the new Title IV canons enacted at General Convention is in the process of being posted on the Diocesan Web site.