

RESOLUTION TITLE: Formation of a Task Force to Review the Diocesan Constitution, Canons, and Standing Rules of Order

RESOLVED, that the 234th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island direct Diocesan Council to oversee the formation of a task force to review and suggest revisions to the Diocesan Constitution, Canons, and Standing Rules of Order. And be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Task Force shall be composed of up to nine (9) members including at least: one (1) member from Diocesan Council, one (1) member from the Committee on Canons, one (1) member from the Standing Committee, one (1) member from the Committee on Elections, the Chancellor, and up to four (4) Bishop's appointees. Membership should be balanced between clergy and lay, and include membership representing the diversity of the Diocese. Such staff as the Bishop determines shall, *ex officio*, be entitled to a seat and voice, but not to a vote. The Task Force is encouraged to solicit opinions and information from those with subject matter expertise. And be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Bishop may appoint and Diocesan Council approve successors for any member who resigns. These appointments shall take into consideration the balance of representation on the Task Force including specified appointments listed in the second resolve. And be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Task Force shall be constituted by December 31, 2025. And be it further,

RESOLVED, that the initial meeting of the Task Force shall be convened by the Vice President of Diocesan Council no later than February 1, 2026. At the first meeting, the Task Force shall elect a chairperson from amongst its members. And be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Task Force shall make a report of its recommendations to the 236th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island. The Task Force shall also make interim reports to Diocesan Council at least twice each year and annually to Diocesan Convention each year of its existence.

EXPLANATION

As two resolutions were submitted on the same subject area the Committee on Resolutions offers this substitute resolution merge the two previously submitted. The two aforementioned resolutions are titled "Formation of a Special Commission to Review the Diocesan Canons and the Governance Structure of the Diocese" and "Resolution to Create a Task Force to Review and Amend the Diocesan Canons and Standing Rules of Order."