

Current Version

**ARTICLE 12**

**DEPUTIES OR DELEGATES**

**TO EXTRA-DIOCESAN CONVENTIONS OR SYNODS**

Sec. 1 An equal number of priests and lay persons canonically resident within the Diocese shall be elected to serve as deputies or delegates to such extra-diocesan conventions, synods or meetings to which this Diocese may wish to send deputies or delegates. They shall possess the same qualifications as members of the Standing Committee and shall be elected by a concurrent majority of both orders. Election of deputies or delegates shall be held at the Annual Convention immediately preceding any such extra-diocesan convention, synod or meeting to which this Diocese may wish to send deputies or delegates, and the total number of deputies or delegates so elected shall be equal to the total number of deputies or delegates to which this Diocese may be entitled under the then-prevailing rules of the extra-diocesan convention, synod, or meeting to which this diocese may wish to send deputies or delegates. Such duly elected deputies or delegates shall hold office for a period of three (3) years or until their successors are elected, whichever occurs first.

Sec. 2 At the same Convention at which deputies or delegates to extra-diocesan conventions, synods or meetings are elected, there shall be chosen, in the same manner and with the same qualifications, the same number of priests and lay persons to serve as alternate deputies or delegates.

Sec. 3 The Bishop shall assign the Alternate deputies or delegates to fill any vacancy in the delegation. In case there be no Bishop or he is unable to act, this power shall be exercised by the Standing Committee.

## Proposed Amendment

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Sec. 2 At the same Convention at which deputies or delegates to extra-diocesan conventions, synods or meetings are elected, there shall be elected equal numbers of priests and lay persons to serve as alternate deputies or delegates. The election of alternates shall be determined from the same combined tally as deputies or delegates, and they shall be those individuals receiving the most combined tallied ballots after determining the appropriate number of deputies or delegates.

Sec. 3 The Bishop shall assign Alternate deputies or delegates to fill any vacancy in the delegation. In case there be no Bishop or he is unable to act, this power shall be exercised by the Standing Committee.

*The purpose of the foregoing Amendment is to conform to the longstanding practice of the Convention in the manner in which extra-diocesan delegates and alternates have been elected. In the past, it has been necessary to suspend the Rules to permit the election of delegates and alternates in the manner set forth in the proposed Amendment. The Committee on Constitution and Canons recommends the adoption of this Amendment.*