Requirements for Diocesan Convention Resolutions

The Resolutions Committee of the 60th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona, taking place October 16-17, 2020, requests that all Convention resolutions be submitted to the Committee at least 60 days before the Convention, which is Monday, August 17, 2020. The Committee will then review each Convention resolution for compliance with this Policy and the Resolution Template Guidelines and give notice to the person, committee, or group of any revisions needed. Convention Resolutions, in their final form, will be due 45 days before the Convention, which is the close of business, Tuesday, September 1, 2020.

Any resolution not submitted to the Convention at least 45 days prior to the Convention shall be considered by Convention only if submitted - in writing and signed by the proposer - to the Committee no later than four (4) hours after the convening of the Convention, and consideration of such resolution is approved by a two-third majority of the Convention. (Canon 7, Section 4)

A resolution must comply with these requirements to be considered by the Convention:

1. **One topic/issue per resolution.** Confine each resolution to one topic and clearly state the topic the Convention is to consider. If a resolution contains more than one resolve clause, the two or more are joined together with a semicolon followed by the words “and be it further.”

2. **Have a direct bearing on life together as a Diocese.** The resolution shall be relevant to our common life, in the judgment of the Bishop of Arizona and the Resolutions Committee. A general call to political or social action that does not substantially relate to the mission of the Diocese or that is impractical for the Diocese to enact, in the judgment of the Bishop of Arizona and the Resolutions Committee, will not be considered.

3. **A specific call to action.** The resolution should include adequate detail and phrasing so that it will result in some action by the Convention or by an identified person or agency of the Church. Resolutions that make vague or general proclamations or that fail to provide a plan of action and a source of funding will be returned to the proposers to amend the resolution.

4. **Accountability.** The resolution will state its measurable goals and outline a process of accountability. It will disclose the plan for reporting on resolution progress at the following year’s Convention.
5. **Funding implications.** If the resolution needs funding, disclosure of the amount and source of funding is required. If the proposed funding is to come from the Diocesan budget, please note that in the order of Convention business, resolutions are presented *after* the Diocesan budget is passed. Please be aware of the requirement of the Diocesan canon which addresses a proposed amendment to the Financial Statement of Mission (budget) for the Diocese:

*Canon 5, Section. 2. Financial Statement of Mission Changes by Convention.* Any motion or resolution from the floor of the Convention to amend a proposed Financial Statement of Mission must include a reasonable estimate of the annual cost of the proposed increased expense or decreased income and a statement of how the proposed increased expense or decreased income is to be financed. Any motion or resolution that changes the proposed Financial Statement of Mission shall require, for adoption, a two-thirds vote of the Clerical members and Lay delegates, voting by Orders.

6. All resolutions must be consistent with the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church, The Episcopal Diocese of Arizona, and federal, state, and local laws.