

*Endorser(s):*The Rt. Rev. John C. Buchanan, The Rt. Rev. Dean E. Wolfe

*Review Status:*Not Yet Reviewed by PB&F

TEMA/TÍTULO: Estudio para un Canon de Disolución
 PROPONENTE: Rvmo. Obispo James Edward Waggoner Jr.
 PÁGINA CYC:
 PÁGINA LA:

- 1 *Se resuelve*, con la aprobación de la Cámara de _____ que la 76ª Convención General mande la
- 2 formación de un Grupo en Misión Especial para el estudio de reconciliación o disolución de
- 3 Relaciones Pastorales entre diócesis y sus obispos, incluso las implicaciones constitucionales,
- 4 canónicas y teológicas de ello, y que informe sobre sus hallazgos y cualquier enmienda que
- 5 recomiende en la Constitución y/o Cánones ante la 77ª Convención General; y asimismo
- 6
- 7 *Se resuelve*, que los miembros del Grupo en Misión Especial incluyan a dos miembros
- 8 nombrados por la Comisión Permanente sobre Constitución y Cánones, dos miembros
- 9 nombrados por la Comisión Permanente sobre Desarrollo Ministerial y dos miembros nombrados
- 10 por la el Comité de la Cámara de Obispos sobre Desarrollo Pastoral siendo el Obispo de la
- 11 Oficina de Desarrollo Pastoral quien sirva como Consultor; y asimismo,
- 12
- 13 *Se resuelve*, que la Convención General solicite al Comité Permanente Conjunto sobre Programa,
- 14 Presupuesto y Finanzas que considere una asignación presupuestaria de no menos de quince mil
- 15 dólares (\$15.000) para los gastos necesarios incurridos durante el trabajo del Grupo en Misión
- 16 Especial.

EXPLANATION:

The Episcopal Church is relatively unique in that there is no pastoral or canonical mechanism for intervention by the Church at large to bring reconciliation or dissolution to bear within conflicted dioceses. Other than proving that a bishop is a criminal, immoral, or a heretic through Title IV presentment or physically or mentally "Incapacitated" through Title III provisions, there is no way for the broader church to intervene to either reconcile or dissolve a dysfunctional relationship between a Diocese and her Bishop. The toll exacted on all those involved in these situations has been enormous: bishops and their families leaving stigmatized and without the gratitude and caring of the dioceses they have served, members of Standing Committees exhausted and ill used, dioceses being left demoralized and split by factions, and the name of the church often compromised for lack of a more humane process. Under our present Canons and procedures, several dioceses have experienced sustained enmity between bishops and primary ecclesiastical bodies which has sometimes lasted for years, and sometimes decades. The purpose of a study group will be to present a pastoral and systematic canon to apply when impasses and irreconcilable differences are so great that structured intervention becomes necessary for the health of the church. We anticipate, as well, that as the study group solicits information from those who have been involved in presentments, threats of presentments and other actions under Title IV -- bishops and their spouses, Standing Committee members and attorneys involved -- there will be a measure of healing not available in other ways.

BALLOT RESULTS:

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