

GENERAL SYNOD 2010

RESOLUTIONS FORM

Governance Working Group - 7

Resolution Number A029

Subject CHANGING THE BASIS FOR DETERMINING THE NUMBER OF CLERICAL AND LAY MEMBERS OF GENERAL SYNOD FROM EACH DIOCESE

Moved by Mr. David Jones, Diocese of Edmonton

Seconded by The Rt. Rev. Susan Moxley, Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

Be it resolved that this General Synod amend section 8(f) of the Constitution to read as follows:

- f) *Each Diocese shall be entitled to elect clerical and lay members of the General Synod, with the number from each Order being determined by the following formula:*

Average Weekly Attendance in the Diocese divided by Average Weekly Attendance in all Dioceses, multiplied by 110.

Provided that:

- (i) the resulting number will be at least 1;*
- (ii) if the resulting number is a fractional number and is greater than 1, it will be rounded down to the nearest whole number if the fraction is 0.5 or less, and rounded up to the nearest whole number if the fraction is greater than 0.5;*
- (iii) "Average Weekly Attendance" means the combined total attendance at Regular Services in the particular calendar year, divided by 52;*
- (iv) the Average Weekly Attendance figures to be used are those for the second calendar year prior to the year in which General Synod will take place;*

- (v) *“Regular Service” means any worship service for which the attendance has been recorded in the Register of the Congregation (including Home Communion) but excluding weddings, funerals and services held in medical or long-term care facilities.*

and this resolution shall come into effect upon Second Reading being given to Resolution GS 2010—GS—1.

EXPLANATORY NOTE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The purpose of this resolution is to change the unit for determining the number of clerical and lay members which dioceses are entitled to send to General Synod. The current method is based on the “number of licensed clergy in the diocese”. The proposed formula allocates membership according to the diocese’s proportion of the national “average weekly attendance”, with a minimum of one clerical and one lay member for each diocese.

PROCEDURE REQUIRED FOR ADOPTION

Because the existing membership formula is contained in section 3 of the Declaration of Principles (as well as in section 8 of the Constitution), it will be necessary to amend the Declaration of Principles. An amendment to the Declaration of Principles must be approved by two-thirds majority in each Order voting at two successive sessions of General Synod, and after First Reading must be referred for consideration to all diocesan and provincial synods: section 11(a)(ii) of the Declaration of Principles.

The effect of Resolution GS 2010—GWG—1 would be to remove the existing membership formula from section 3 of the Declaration of Principles, leaving the formula in section 8 of the Constitution. If Resolution GS 2010—GWG—1 is enacted, it would only be necessary to amend section 8 of the Constitution, to come into effect at the same time as Second Reading is given to Resolution GS 2010—GWG—1.