Resolution #1--PASSED

Amend Canon 2, Section 11 b

Resolved, That Canon 2, Section 11 b is hereby amended by deleting sub-paragraph (2):

(2) ~~Alternate deputies to the General Convention shall be the four (4) non-elected candidates who received the next four (4) highest number of votes.~~

substituting a new sub-paragraph (2):

(2) Elections for deputies to the General Convention in both the clerical and lay order shall be as follows:

i. The eight nominees receiving the highest number of votes on the first ballot shall be considered on the second ballot. The four receiving the most votes on the second ballot shall be declared as deputies. The four alternate deputies shall be determined in descending order based upon the number of votes received on the second ballot.

ii. In the event of a tie vote on ballots one or two, a run-off vote shall occur between those nominees affected by the tie.

iii. In order to be deemed valid the first ballot must contain the names of eight different nominees. The second ballot must contain the names of four different nominees.

and amending sub-paragraph (3) as follows:

(3) In every run-off election the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes will be dropped, except in elections for deputies and alternates to the General Convention as provided in sub-paragraph (2).

Explanation

Deputies and alternate deputies to the General Convention are elected every three years. These elections attract the most candidates and under the present canons, which provide that those candidates receiving the lowest number of votes be eliminated on subsequent ballots, take up considerable time of the Convention as numerous ballots are cast so that all deputies are elected by a majority vote.

The Committee on Constitution and Canons offers this amendment to accomplish two things: (1) assure fairness in electing qualified persons to this important office and (2) shorten the number of ballots and time taken to complete the process.

In order for the first ballot to be valid the voter must vote for eight different nominees. The first ballot is in effect a primary election in which all but eight nominees are eliminated. On the second ballot the voter must vote for four different nominees in order to cast a valid ballot.