



EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE *of*
INDIANAPOLIS

Proposed
Constitution & Canons Changes

**Proposed change to
Constitution Article IV, Lay Delegates**

**182nd Annual Convention
November 15-16, 2019**

Note: A proposed constitutional change needs to be presented and approved at two diocesan conventions before it is adopted. Article XII of the Constitution outlines this process:

Amendments

This Constitution may be altered or amended in the following manner: Any proposal to alter or amend, which shall have been introduced in writing, duly considered and approved by a majority vote at an annual meeting of the Diocesan Convention, shall be referred to the next annual meeting of the Diocesan Convention for final consideration and action and, if approved and adopted at such next annual meeting by two-thirds of each Order, voting separately, and concurred in by the Bishop, such amendment shall become effective at the time designated in the resolution of adoption.

Proposed change to Constitution Article IV, Lay Delegates
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Additions are underlined.

Lay Delegates

(b) Each Parish and Organized Mission shall be entitled to representation by lay delegates at any such Convention, the number to be based on communicant strength as defined in the current parochial report in accordance with the following table:

Any number not to exceed 150	2 delegates
151-300	3 delegates
301-450	4 delegates
451-600	5 delegates
Over 600	6 delegates

Plus one delegate for each 200 communicants in excess of 600.

Such delegates should be elected by several Parishes and Organized Missions of the Diocese in accordance with such method of selection as the by-laws or custom of such Parishes and Organized Missions shall provide.

(c) A Youth Delegation will be present on the floor of Diocesan Convention. This delegation shall be selected as follows:

One youth delegate and one alternate shall be elected by each of the organized areas of the Diocese at its first meeting following the preceding Diocesan Convention. These areas shall have the authority to fill any vacancies that occur in these positions.

Two at-large youth delegates and two at-large alternates shall be appointed by the Bishop with advice from relevant Diocesan committees. The Bishop shall have the authority to fill any vacancies that may occur in these positions.

A person qualifies as a “youth delegate” if, in addition to being a member of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese, that person is attending high school, or its equivalent.

EXPLANATION: Currently, two youth from the Diocese are informally selected (in most cases, through the Youth Steering Committee) to have seat and voice on the floor of Diocesan Convention. As we continue to make Convention a place where all members of the Diocese can engage in the life and work of this Diocese, we seek to formally welcome a delegation of young people to the floor of our legislative sessions with seat, voice, and vote. Creating this delegation will help our young people further grow as current and future leaders of the Church.