Term of Standing Committee Members

Names of the Submitters:
Mr. Joseph Carroll, Jr.  Ms. Kim Polhemus
The Rev. Alex Dyer  The Rev. Diana Rogers
The Rev. Tracy Johnson Russell  The Rev. Gregory Welin

Resolved, that the 231st Convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut amend Canon VIII.1 to the following:

Section 1. The Standing Committee of the Diocese shall consist of five six clerical members of the Convention and five six lay members who are communicants of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Connecticut and each member of the Committee shall continue in office until a successor has been elected. One Clerical member and one lay member of the Standing Committee shall be elected by the annual Convention each year for the term of five three years. The term is renewable once for an additional three years, if elected by annual Convention. Upon the completion of two consecutive three-year terms, no member of the Standing Committee shall be eligible for reelection to said Committee until the expiration of one year following the completion that member's five year term of office.

Section 2. The Standing Committee shall choose from its own number a President and a Secretary. Any six seven members of the Committee shall be a quorum. In case of a vacancy in the Standing Committee, the remaining members shall have power to fill such vacancy until the next annual Convention, at which time the Convention shall elect a member to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.

And

Be it further resolved, that Section 1 of Canon XIV be amended as follows:
Section 1. The Bishop Diocesan shall nominate to the Annual Convention fourteen persons, clerical and lay, of whom not more than eight shall be from the same order. One of the nominees shall be a member of the Standing Committee. All members of the Commission shall be clergy canonically resident or lay communicants of this Diocese. Upon confirmation by the vote of the Annual Convention the nominees shall constitute the Commission on the Ministry.

And

**Be it further resolved,** that the above canonical changes be effective at the conclusion of the 231st Diocesan Convention; and

**Be it further resolved,** that, at the conclusion of the 231st Convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, terms of the current members of the Standing Committee shall be amended from a five-year term to a three-year term in such a manner that two new members in each order shall be elected each for three-year terms.

**Explanation**
In the past five-year terms have deterred certain people from serving on Standing Committee and others have been unable to fulfill a five year term, leaving unexpired terms. By changing one five-year term to two renewable three-year terms, the Standing Committee could be more attractive to potential members and could be more flexible. The Standing Committee predicts that the number of property matters will also continue to increase and two additional members would be beneficial. In addition, we found that serving on both the Standing Committee and Commission on Ministry is too time consuming and the communications between the two bodies happens naturally with our quarterly Joint Leadership gatherings.

**Statement**
This will allow the Standing Committee to be more flexible and allow for greater diversity and allow more people to participate in this aspect of our common life as the Episcopal Church in Connecticut.

**Statement of Requirements to Implement the Resolution**
There will be no additional costs.