
Synod Membership Ordinance 1995

Explanatory Statement

Introduction

1. In 1994 the Provincial Synod of the Province of New South Wales passed the Constitution Ordinance 1994 to revise the Constitutions set out in the schedule to the Anglican Church of Australia Constitutions Act 1902. Under the 29th of the 1902 Constitutions, the Constitution Ordinance 1994 must be adopted by the synod of each diocese in the Province of New South Wales and by the General Synod before it comes into effect. An ordinance to adopt the Provincial Synod - Constitution Ordinance 1994 is presently before the synod.

2. By resolution 47/94(3) the Synod resolved as follows -

“This Synod defers the second reading of the Provincial Synod - Constitution Ordinance 1994 Adopting Ordinance 1994 to the next session of this Synod, to be an order of the day for the first day of sitting, and requests the Standing Committee to bring in at the same time an ordinance to fill in the details included in the present Constitution but not included in the 1994 draft.”

3. The only significant details found in the Constitutions set out in the Schedule to the 1902 Constitutions which are excluded from the provisions of the Constitution Ordinance 1994 of the Provincial Synod are those relating to the frequency of diocesan synods, the membership and procedure of synods and the declaration required of representatives to those synods.

4. The bill for the Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 deals with the details referred to in item 3 in the terms required by resolution 47/94(3). In preparing the bill the general approach has been to restate the rules providing for the membership of Synod found in the 1902 Constitutions, ordinances of the Synod and rules made by the Synod under the 1902 Constitutions. However terms have been included in the bill to cover specific situations which are currently not provided for by legislation (for example, when 2 or more parochial units amalgamate).

For and on behalf of the Standing Committee.

MARK PAYNE
Legal Officer

19 March 1996