

General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Chapter V) Canon 2010 Assenting Ordinance 2011

Explanatory Statement

1. The *Constitution Amendment (Chapter V) Canon 2010* inserts a new section 28A in the Constitution to allow canons to be made other than at a General Synod session if at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of all diocesan synods including all Metropolitan Sees assent to it by ordinance and all assents be in force at the same time. In the case of bills for canons that will impose a financial liability on a diocese, all diocesan synods must assent with all assents being in force at the same time.
2. The mechanism cannot be used for canons to amend the Constitution or which deal with or concern ritual ceremonial or discipline of the Church.
3. From time to time there is a need for the General Synod Standing Committee to initiate consideration of “house-keeping” canons, for example to satisfy a change in government regulatory requirements in company law, taxation law or superannuation. Currently only the General Synod can make or amend canons.
4. The addition of this new section to the Constitution will provide flexibility in dealing with situations which require a canon of General Synod.
5. The new section 28A provides a mechanism by which a diocesan synod can delegate to its diocesan council power to assent to a canon proposed to be made under this section.

Recommendation

6. The Standing Committee recommends that Synod pass the bill as an ordinance.

For and on behalf of the Standing Committee.

ROBERT WICKS
Diocesan Secretary

24 August 2011