

## **Significant changes to Title IV draft at New Orleans meeting**

Deletion as premature of proposal to discipline laity

Referral of proposal regarding impairment of clergy to SCMD for further study

Provide that a bishop may initiate action on his or her receiving information of an Offense; deleting requirement of giving notice to clergy of a dismissal without action [6.3]

To not modify Abandonment provisions except to amend requirement for approval of an inhibition by three senior bishops to approval by Disciplinary Board, and to limit authority of inhibited bishop over temporal affairs; change inhibition time for priests and deacons from six months to two months to conform to bishop's requirements. Clarified that Abandonment was of The Episcopal Church. [16]

In Agreements for Discipline, have deleted requirement of Disciplinary Board to review before becoming effective, but do require bishop to consult with President of DB, Injured Person (if there is one), and the Church Attorney (as at present), before setting terms to ensure the inclusion, where possible, of terms which promote healing, repentance, forgiveness, restitution, justice, amendment of life and reconciliation among the Complainant, Respondent, affected Community and other persons. The right of the Respondent to rescind his/her agreement within three days is returned to the draft. [9]

The term "Covenants" was deleted, and "Accords" was substituted everywhere in the draft. The bishop's approval time was extended to thirty days, and authority to modify terms as well as the Sentence was added.

Some of the listed Offenses were deleted as redundant:

- perform duties with diligence
- avoid conflicts of interest
- refrain from undue influence [4]

Added to the Offenses "Compliance with an Accord and Order", and restored "Habitual Neglect" to the list. [4]

Reduced the minimum size of Disciplinary Board to seven, and permitted Conference Panel to be less than three. Provided that members of the Standing Committee may be members of the Disciplinary Board if so provided by diocesan canon. [5]

Provided that the Church Attorney represents "The Church", but may consult with the Conference Panel if desired. [2]

Returned "Admonition" to the potential sentences. [14]

Clarifies the statute of limitations to apply to persons whose actions constituted sexual misconduct, but not to secondary persons. Redefined to simplify “Sexual Misconduct”. [19.4b]

Restricted the exercise of temporal duties by clergy under suspension or restriction on ministry, except for those matters which could not be delegated or reassigned. [19.7]