

Offered by the Resolutions Committee of the Diocese of Southwest Florida

Resolution 25 – 4: Resolution to Establish Official Youth Presence at Diocesan Convention

RESOLVED, by the 57th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Southwest Florida meeting in Punta Gorda on October 11, 2025:

That an Official Youth Presence with *voice* be established for the 58th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Southwest Florida in 2026, to be comprised of two youth representatives nominated by each Deanery.

And be it further resolved that the Constitution and Canons Committee will consider making canonical changes to Canon I to provide for the creation of an official youth presence with *seat, voice, and vote* to be comprised of two youth representatives from each Deanery by no later than the 59th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Southwest Florida in 2027.

Explanation: This resolution is intended as a first step to encourage the continued development of youth participation in Diocesan governance, with the intent to propose a canonical amendment that, by the 2027 Diocesan Convention, we will have established an *official youth delegation* with *seat, voice, and vote from each deanery*.

If this resolution passes, each deanery would need to determine its process for the nomination or selection of its youth representatives for the 58th and 59th Annual Convention in 2027.