

5 **A BILL FOR A RULE TO AMEND RULE II – STANDING
COMMITTEE (CONFLICT OF INTEREST) 2022**

10 The General Synod prescribes as follows:

1. In rule 4(2), for “A quorum” substitute “Subject to rule 4A(6), a quorum”.
2. In rule 4(7)(b), after “who do so respond” insert “and do not in that response declare that they have a conflict of interest”.

15 3. After rule 4 insert:

“4A. (1) A member who has a conflict of interest in relation to a matter that is to be considered by a meeting of the Standing Committee must declare that conflict to the meeting—

20 (a) if the matter is on the agenda of a meeting, at a time when considering or approving the agenda is a question before the meeting; or

(b) in any other case, where the matter is the question.

25 (2) Subject to sub-rules (3) and (4), a member who has a conflict of interest in relation to a matter must not be present while the matter is being considered.

30 (3) After a member who has a conflict of interest has left the meeting, the meeting may resolve to allow the member to return to be present (but not to speak or to vote or to be counted as a person who is present for the purposes of rule 4(4)).

35 (4) In the exercise of its powers under sub-rule (3), a meeting may resolve that all members who have left the meeting may return and be present, but may not resolve that some of those members but not others of those members may return and be present.

40 (5) In the case of a resolution proposed under rule 4(7)(b), a member who has a conflict of interest must declare that conflict by stating in their response to the notice that they have a conflict of interest.

45 (6) Despite rule 4(2), a quorum of the Standing Committee for the purposes of disposing of the business of the meeting, in respect of which one or more members have left the meeting under sub-rule (3) due to a conflict of interest, is, until that business has been disposed of, the members who were present when that item of business was reached and who do not have a conflict.

50 (7) For the purposes of this rule, a member of the Standing Committee has a conflict of interest when their responsibilities as a member may be influenced or affected, or may reasonably be perceived as being influenced or affected, by—

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- (a) their personal financial interest, or those of their family or friends;
- (b) their reputation, or that of their family or friends;
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- (c) their obligations or loyalty to another person or organisation (other than a Diocese, or a body established by the Constitution or a canon of General Synod);
- (d) their previous or current relationship (whether personal or professional) with someone who might be affected by how they discharge those responsibilities; or
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- (e) their previous or current involvement in another capacity in a matter now falling within those responsibilities."