A BILL FOR A RULE TO AMEND RULE I – STANDING ORDERS (SPEAKING TO MOTIONS) 2022

The General Synod prescribes as follows:

Rule I is amended as follows:

For Standing Order 34 and the heading to that Standing Order, substitute:

"Speaking to motions

34. (a) On a motion that a bill be approved in principle or that a bill be passed, the mover may speak for not more than fifteen minutes in support of the motion, and the seconder may speak for not more than ten minutes and any other member speaking to the motion and the mover speaking in reply may speak for not more than five minutes.

(b) On any other motion—
(i) the mover may speak for not more than 10 minutes in support of a motion, and the seconder may speak for not more than 7 minutes and any other member speaking to the motion and the mover speaking in reply may speak for not more than 4 minutes; and
(ii) the mover has a right of reply, after which the question must be put forthwith.

(c) On any motion referred to in paragraphs (a) or (b)—
(i) subject to paragraph (d), and except in Committee of the whole Synod, a member may not speak more than once to the motion, except in explanation; and
(ii) for the purposes of sub-paragraph (i), a member who moves or seconds an amendment is to be taken to be speaking to the motion.

(d) On an amendment to a motion—
(i) the mover of the amendment may speak for not more than 5 minutes in support of the amendment, and the seconder of the amendment and any other member speaking to the amendment may speak for not more than 4 minutes; and
(ii) for the purposes of paragraph (c)(ii), a member other than the mover or seconder speaking to the amendment is not to be taken to be speaking to the original motion.

(e) Paragraph (b) does not apply to the member representing a point of view different from that of the mover of a motion to which Standing Order 37B applies (a group discussion motion). In such case, that member may speak for not more than 10 minutes.

(f) Other than as provided for in paragraphs (a) and (b), the mover of a motion does not have a right of reply."