

Bill No.3

Proposer: Mrs Hazel Corrigan

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Bishop,

Some time ago the Commission on Ministry was asked to consider the role and tenure of Archdeacons. From the discussion comes the bill before you today.

Bill No.3 is a straightforward bill with a simple aim: to align the age at which an Archdeacon may continue in office with the retirement age for clergy. Currently, according to our Constitution, an Archdeacon can serve until the age of seventy, while the retirement age for clergy is seventy-five. This bill seeks to address this inconsistency, as there's no clear reason for this difference.

The bill is not about complicating matters or introducing unnecessary changes. It's about ensuring fairness and consistency for those who act as Archdeacons. By bringing the age limit for Archdeacons in line with that of other clergy members, we ensure that the constitution reflect our values of fairness and equality.

Bishop, I propose the bill be given a second reading.