

BENDIGO SYNOD

Procedure for Legislation

1. The Bill is introduced and explained.
2. Questions may be asked, after the motion has been seconded.
3. The principles of the Bill are then debated.
4. The motion to consider the Bill is then put. If you are against the bill in principle, vote against it now. (You will have another opportunity to vote against it, at no. 7).
5. The Bishop calls for any amendments. Now is the time to state what amendments you may have.

Amendments are considered in Committee.

If there are no amendments, we proceed to step 7 directly, and vote on the Bill.

6. Amendments

- 6.1 Each clause of the Bill is now dealt with, to see whether it is to be amended.
- 6.2 The amendments are debated and then voted on.
- 6.3 This process is to determine the final form of each clause, and therefore the Bill. At the end of the Committee process, the Bill is ready to be voted on.

A TIP: *When you receive the Book of Legislation, read the Bills. If there is something you are not happy with, or do not understand, write it down. Prepare your amendment in advance, and in writing. You will then be ready when the Bishop calls for amendments.*

7. The Bill in its final form is now voted on. Voting is by House – the House of Clergy, and the House of Laity. The Bill must be passed in both Houses. Most bills require only a simple majority.

This document is a summary only. The standing orders for Synod are found in the Standing Orders Act, an Act of the Bendigo Synod. A copy may be obtained from the Registry, or from the website.

Ian Dallas, Chancellor, July 2013