Statute 791

The Title B Canon I Amendment Statute, 2026

Whereas, the General Synod/te Hīnota Whānui in 1992 enacted Statute 512 to amend and revise Title B Canon I, by repealing the previous Canon and replacing it in its entirety, and

Whereas, the General Synod/te Hīnota Whānui has periodically revised and updated the Canon, and

Whereas, the General Synod/te Hīnota Whānui in 2022 established by Motion 10 a Small Working Group 'to consider the present adequacy of the provisions of Title B as regards the delegation of powers to General Synod Standing Committee and reports to GSTHW 2024 with proposals for canonical amendment if that is seen as appropriate', and

Whereas, the General Synod Standing Committee was delayed in forming such a group over the 2023-25 period, and received its report and recommendations in October 2025, and

Whereas, it is desirable to further update the Canon to reflect those recommendations.

The General Synod/Te Hīnota Whānui enacts as follows:

1. **Title.** The Title of this Statute is *The Title B Canon I Amendment Statute 2026.*

2. **Purpose.** To amend Title B Canon I, to clarify the use of delegated powers to the General Synod Standing Committee.

3. **Title B Canon I is amended by:**

   (a) Repealing the current clauses 3.11 and 3.12 and replacing them with the wording:

   3.11

   (1) The Standing Committee shall have power to initiate regulations for assent pursuant to Part C clause 11 of the Constitution / te Pouhere, to receive reports from commissions, boards and other bodies set up by the General Synod/ Te Hīnota Whānui, to institute such inquiries as it may think necessary, and in particular, to ascertain the opinion of the synods or of the Standing Committees of the several dioceses in New Zealand and of Te Runanga or Te Runanga Whāiti o Te Pīhopatanga o Aotearoa or of any Hui Amorangi or Amorangi Whāiti or of the Synod or Standing Committee of the Diocese of Polynesia on any matter which it may propose to them.

   (2) The power to initiate regulations for assent may be used only when circumstances of significant urgency or emergency arise and it is necessary to achieve an outcome before the next General Synod/ Te Hīnota Whānui.

(3) Any decision resulting from the use of this clause shall be reported to all General Synod / Te Hīnota Whānui members by the General Secretary within 10 working days and may be communicated by electronic means.

3.12

(1) The Standing Committee shall have power to act on behalf of the General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui in such matters not otherwise provided for, and only when circumstances of significant urgency or emergency arise.

(2) The power to so act on behalf of General Synod / Te Hīnota Whānui in relation to proposing or amending regulations may be used only when it is necessary to achieve an outcome before the next General Synod/ Te Hīnota Whānui, and only if the provisions of clause 3.11 will not provide an answer within any necessary timeframe.

(3) Any decision resulting from the use of this clause shall be reported to all General Synod / Te Hīnota Whānui members by the General Secretary within 10 working days and may be communicated by electronic means.

4. This Statute shall come into force at the conclusion of this 67th Session of the General Synod/te Hīnota Whānui.

We certify that this Statute was passed by the General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui on 20 August 2026. As witnessed by my hand 1 October 2026.

D Tamihere
Primate and Archbishop

J Duckworth
Primate and Archbishop

S Ulu'ilakepa
Primate and Archbishop