

GENERAL SYNOD 2013

BILL No. 5 – to amend Chapter VI of the Constitution

Proposed by Mrs Ethne Harkness, Diocese of Armagh

EMBARGOED UNTIL DELIVERY

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

The Honorary Secretaries have been alerted to an anomaly in the wording of section 39 of Chapter VI of the Constitution. With the approval of the Standing Committee, this Bill is proposed in order to correct that situation.

Chapter VI relates to Archbishops and Bishops: episcopal elections, vacancies, temporary discharge of duties by another Bishop, resignations, and financing of the episcopacy.

Section 39 refers to the making of Rules to carry the provisions of Chapter VI into effect.

The problem is that it says that these Rules may be framed from time to time in manner provided by Chapter VIII, section 52. There is in fact no section 52 in Chapter VIII. The cross reference was correct at one time but at a revision of the relevant Chapters the necessary change was not carried through.

Section 39 should refer to section 11 of Chapter VIII. Section 11 is about the Rules Committee of Ecclesiastical Tribunals and the processes involved in making Rules. So the reference should be to this section 11 not section 52.

Accordingly, the Bill substitutes new wording for section 39 of Chapter VI by referring to “section 11” instead of “section 52” of Chapter VIII. That corrects the error that has been identified.