

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2018
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-A104
TITLE: Amend Title I.1.1(b)
PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons
TOPIC: Canons

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-C028 Utilize Available Background Resources in a Search Process
2012-A120 Amend Canon I.1.1(b) [Election of GC President and Vice President]

Indirectly Related: (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

None

Supplemental Documents: (Linked)

(Blue Book) Report to General Convention, [Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons](#), see pages 407-408.

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1976 through 2015, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.

A104 Amend Title I.1.1(b)

Proposer	Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons
Topic	Canons
Endorsed by	
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. 11-12
HiA / Leg. Cttee	/
Current Status	Resolution Filed
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

RESOLUTION TEXT

- Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 79th General Convention amend Title I Canon 1 Section 1(b) as follows:
- There shall be a President and Vice President of the House of Deputies, who shall perform the duties normally appropriate to their respective offices or specified in these Canons. They shall be elected not later than the seventh day of each regular meeting of the General Convention in the manner herein set forth. The House of Deputies shall elect from its membership, by a majority of separate ballots, a President and Vice-President, who shall be of different orders. *Any person desiring to be nominated for either office shall, no later than three months prior to the start of General Convention, submit their names to the Joint Standing Committee on Nominations for the purposes of submitting to a background check.* Such officers shall take office at the adjournment of the regular meeting at which they are elected, and shall continue in office until the adjournment of the following regular meeting of the General Convention. They shall be and remain *ex-officio* members of the House during their term of office. No person elected President or Vice-President shall be eligible for more than three (3) consecutive full terms in each respective office. In the case of resignation, death, absence, or inability, of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the office until the adjournment of the next meeting of the General Convention. In case of resignation, death, absence, or inability of the Vice-President, the President shall appoint a Deputy of the opposite order, upon the advice and consent of the lay persons, presbyters, and deacons of the Executive Council, who shall serve until the adjournment of the next meeting of the General Convention. The President shall be authorized to appoint an Advisory Council for the consultation and advice in the performance of the office. The President may also appoint a Chancellor to the President, a confirmed adult communicant of the Church in good standing who is learned in both ecclesiastical and secular law, to serve as long as the President may desire, as counselor in matters relating to the discharge of the responsibilities of that office.

EXPLANATION

Currently, the President of the House of Deputies and the Vice President of the House of Deputies do not undergo background checks prior to their elections. Because these roles involve substantial fiduciary responsibilities on behalf of the Church, it is fitting that they do so. However, this requires

that interested persons make themselves known earlier than the start of General Convention, so that the check can be run with enough time to receive results. Presently there is no requirement that nominees be identified prior to actual nomination at General Convention.



Resolution Number: 2015-C028
Title: Utilize Available Background Recourses in a Search Process
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention recommends that all discernment, search, and nominating committees for bishops and rectors in the Episcopal Church use resources available to them including knowledge of unrestricted criminal convictions in evaluation of candidates in thoughtful ways and make certain that all members of such committees be made aware of any issues which may impact the character and competence of candidates; and be it further

Resolved, That this General Convention commends to all such discernment, search, and nominating committees a policy that more than two members of such committee review all reports prepared for or provided to such committees on the character or competence of candidates.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 450-451.



Resolution Number: 2012-A120
Title: Amend Canon I.1.1(b) [Election of GC President and Vice President]
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That Canon I.1.1(b) be amended as follows:

(b) There shall be a President and a Vice-President of the House of Deputies, who shall perform the duties normally appropriate to their respective offices or specified in these Canons. They shall be elected not later than the seventh day of each regular meeting of the General Convention in the manner herein set forth. The House of Deputies shall elect from its membership, by a majority of separate ballots, a President and a Vice-President, who shall be of different orders. Such officers shall take office at the adjournment of the regular meeting at which they are elected, and shall continue in office until the adjournment of the following regular meeting of the General Convention. They shall be and remain ex officio members of the House during their term of office. No person elected President or Vice-President shall be eligible for more than three consecutive full terms in each respective office. In case of resignation, death, absence, or inability, of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the office until a new President is elected: *the adjournment of the next meeting of the General Convention. In case of resignation, death, absence, or inability of the Vice-President, the President shall appoint a Deputy of the opposite order, upon the advice and consent of the lay persons, presbyters and deacons of the Executive Council, who shall serve until the adjournment of the next meeting of the General Convention. The President shall be authorized to appoint an Advisory Council for consultation and advice in the performance of the duties of the office. The President may also appoint a Chancellor to the President, a confirmed adult communicant of the Church in good standing who is learned in both ecclesiastical and secular law, to serve so long as the President may desire, as counselor in matters relating to the discharge of the responsibilities of that office.*

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 2012* (New York: General Convention, 2012), pp. 250-251.