

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-A105
TITLE: Amend Canon I.8.2 - Provide Background Checks for Nominees
PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons
TOPIC: Canons

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-C028 Utilize Available Background Resources in a Search Process

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 page 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.

A105 Amend Canon I.8.2 - Provide Background Checks for Nominees

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. 41
HiA / Leg. Cttee	/
Current Status	Resolution Filed
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 79th General Convention amend Canon I.8.2 as follows:
- 2 **Sec. 2.** The General Convention at each regular meeting shall elect, on the nomination of a Joint Committee thereof, twelve (12) persons to serve as Trustees of The Church Pension Fund for a term of six (6) years and until their successors shall have been elected and have qualified, and shall also fill such vacancies as may exist on the Board of Trustees. ~~Effective January 1, 1989, a~~ Any person who has been elected as a Trustee by General Convention for twelve (12) or more consecutive years shall not be eligible for reelection until the next regular General Convention following the one in which that person was not eligible for reelection to the Board of Trustees. Any vacancy which occurs at a time when the General Convention is not in session may be filled by the Board of Trustees by appointment, ad interim, of a Trustee who shall serve until the next session of the General Convention thereafter shall have elected a Trustee to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term pertaining to such vacancy. *Any person desiring to be nominated for the Board of Trustees shall, no later than three (3) 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*

EXPLANATION

As part of the conversation regarding appropriate background checks, it became clear that the ability to rely on the efficacy of such background checks, sufficient time needed to be allowed for the information to be gathered. Last minute nominations “from the floor” do not allow the necessary time. This resolution allows time for late nominations to be received and then background checks to be initiated and results received. We have also removed a reference to the beginning of the term limit provisions that is now extraneous.



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.