

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-A126
TITLE: Amend Canon IV.19 - Recommend Repeal of IV.19.31
PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons
TOPIC: Canons

Directly Related: (Attached)

2009-A185 Amend Title IV [Ecclesiastical Discipline]

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 442.

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.

A126 Amend Canon IV.19 - Recommend Repeal of IV.19.31

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. 175
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 Canon IV.19.31 be stricken in its entirety and that the canons that follow it be renumbered accordingly:
- 2 ~~Sec. 31~~
- 3 ~~Any Member of the Clergy canonically resident in the Diocese who deems himself or herself to be under imputation, by rumor or otherwise, of any Offense for which proceedings could be had under this Title, may on his or her own behalf request the Bishop Diocesan to conduct an inquiry with regard to such imputation. Upon receipt of such request by a Member of the Clergy, it shall be the duty of the Bishop Diocesan to cause the matter to be investigated and to report the result to the Member of the Clergy.~~

EXPLANATION

Concerns have been expressed that the appropriate initial steps to address rumors concerning a priest exist in the pastoral relationship between priest and bishop and that this Canon such as is not necessary. Upon review of these concerns, it was determined that the best course to address these concerns is to strike this Canon in the entirety.



Resolution Number: 2009-A185
Title: Amend Title IV [Ecclesiastical Discipline]
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

[*Resolved*, that Canon IV.19.31 be amended to read as follows:]

Sec. 31. Any Member of the Clergy canonically resident in the Diocese who deems himself or herself to be under imputation, by rumor or otherwise, of any Offense for which proceedings could be had under this Title, may on his or her own behalf request the Bishop Diocesan to conduct an inquiry with regard to such imputation. Upon receipt of such request by a Member of the Clergy, it shall be the duty of the Bishop Diocesan to cause the matter to be investigated and to report the result to the Member of the Clergy.

Citation: Canon IV.19.31 is excerpted from the Final Text of 2009-A185, which revised Canon IV. See General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), pp. 227-266.