

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

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2018-A173  
**TITLE:** Amend Canon I.2.1(a-f)  
**PROPOSER:** Task Force on Review of PB Election and Transition Process  
**TOPIC:** Canons

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

2015-B023      Review Committee's Work for the Nomination of Presiding Bishop  
2012-A105      Amend Canon I.2.1 [Nominating Committee to Elect Presiding Bishop]  
1994-D134      Amend Canon I.2.1 [Youth Members on the Committee to Nominate a Presiding Bishop]  
1991-D154      Amend Canon I.2.1 [Nominating Committee for Election of a Presiding Bishop]  
1985-A151      Substitute Canon I.2.1 [Nomination and Election of the Presiding Bishop]

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

1982-D010      Amend Canon I.2.1 [Of the Presiding Bishop]  
1976-A005      Amend Canon I.2.1 [Election of a Presiding Bishop]

**Supplemental Documents:** (Linked)

*(Blue Book) Report to General Convention, [Task Force on Review of Presiding Bishop Election and Transition Process](#), see pages 691-693.*

*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.*

# A173 Amend Canon I.2.1(a-f)

<b>Proposer</b>	Task Force on Review of PB Election and Transition Process
<b>Topic</b>	Canons
<b>Endorsed by</b>	
<b>Sponsored by</b>	
<b>Page numbers</b>	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
<b>HiA / Leg. Cttee</b>	/
<b>Current Status</b>	Resolution Filed
<b>Version</b>	Original (as filed)
<b>Review Status</b>	Not yet reviewed

## RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, that Canon 1.2.1(a-f) is hereby amended to read as follows:
  - 2 *Sec. 1 (a) At each General Convention a Joint Nominating Committee for the election of the Presiding Bishop shall be elected. The Nominating Committee shall be comprised of 15 members, consisting of five Bishops; five clerical members, including at least one deacon; and five lay people. The Joint Standing Committee on Nominations will nominate a slate for election to the Nominating Committee, in accordance with the Joint Standing Committee on Nominations' canonical charge and procedures, and guided by the skill sets needed for effective service on the Nominating Committee. The nominees for the Joint Standing Committee for the Nomination of the Presiding Bishop may but need not be deputies to General Convention. The House of Deputies shall elect five Clerical and five Lay Deputy as members of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop, with a majority of those voting necessary for election.*
  - 3 ~~At each General Convention the House of Deputies shall elect one Clerical and one Lay Deputy from each Province as members of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop. A Deputy from a particular Province may be nominated only by another Deputy from the same Province, but the election of each member of the Committee shall be by the entire membership of the House of Deputies, with a majority of those voting necessary for election. Prior to the election, the Clerical and Lay Deputies from each Province shall hold a caucus, at which two Clerical Deputies and two Lay Deputies as nominees shall be selected by the caucus, and these shall be the only nominees upon which the House of Deputies shall vote in electing the members of the Joint Nominating Committee. The President of the House of Deputies, after consultation with representatives of youth, shall appoint two persons, age 16-21, as members of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop.~~
  - 4 *(b) At each General Convention the House of Bishops shall elect five Bishops as members of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop, guided by the skill sets needed for effective service on the Nominating Committee.*
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- 5 ~~At each General Convention the House of Bishops shall elect one Bishop from each Province as a member of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop. A Bishop from a particular Province may be nominated only by another Bishop from the same Province, but the election of each member of the Committee shall be by the entire membership of the House of Bishops, with a majority of those voting necessary for election. Prior to the election, the Bishops from each Province shall hold a caucus, at which two Bishops as nominees shall be selected by the caucus, and these shall be the only nominees upon which the House of Bishops shall vote in electing the members of the Joint Nominating Committee.~~
- 6 (c) ~~In the event vacancies shall occur in the Joint Nominating Committee after the election of its members due to death, disability, resignation, or other cause within one year of the next General Convention, the vacancies shall not be filled and the remaining members shall constitute the Joint Nominating Committee. In the event such vacancies shall occur more than one year prior to the next General Convention, the Presiding Officer of the House of Bishops shall appoint Bishops and the President of the House of Deputies shall appoint Clerical and Lay Deputies. in all cases from the same Provinces as those Bishops or Deputies whose positions are being filled. An elected or appointed member who shall not be a Deputy to the next General Convention shall continue as a member of the Joint Nominating Committee until the adjournment of such next General Convention. A member of the Committee who transfers from one Province to another or a Lay Deputy who is ordained Presbyter or Deacon, or a Presbyter or Deacon who is consecrated a Bishop, shall not thereby become ineligible to continue to serve on the Joint Nominating Committee through the next succeeding General Convention. A Lay member of the Committee who is ordained Presbyter or Deacon, or a Presbyter or Deacon who is consecrated a Bishop before the next General Convention, shall not thereby become ineligible to continue to serve on the Joint Nominating Committee through the next succeeding General Convention.~~
- 7 (d) The Joint Nominating Committee shall remain in office until the adjournment of the next General Convention, at which a new Joint Nominating Committee shall be elected. Members of the Committee are eligible for reelection.
- 8 (e) The Joint Nominating Committee shall develop and manage a process for soliciting and identifying qualified nominees for the office of Presiding Bishop and for providing the nominees to the General Convention at which a Presiding Bishop is to be elected. The process shall include ~~(1) providing the names of not fewer than three members of the House of Bishops for consideration by the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies in the choice of a Presiding Bishop; (2) establishing a timely process for any bishop or deputy to express the intent to nominate any other member of the House of Bishops from the floor at the time the Joint Nominating Committee presents its nominees to the joint session of the two Houses, and for each Bishop so nominated to be included in the information distributed about the nominees; (3) providing pastoral care for each nominee bishop and his or her family and diocese; and (4) determining and providing for transition assistance to the Presiding Bishop and the Presiding Bishop-elect must enable the work to be done efficiently and as cost-effectively as practicable.~~
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*This process shall be designed to encourage diversity that reflects the breadth of The Episcopal Church. The process shall include (1) the Nominating Committee shall inform the wider church of the process and timeline; (2) the Nominating Committee shall prepare a profile for the election of the next Presiding Bishop, and the profile will be distributed widely to the Church; (3) providing the names of not fewer than three members of the House of Bishops for consideration by the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies in the choice of a Presiding Bishop; (4) establishing a timely process for any bishop or deputy to nominate any other member of the House of Bishops through a petition process, and for each Bishop so nominated to be vetted through the same process of background and reference checks as all nominees, and for each Bishop so nominated to be included in the information distributed about the nominees; and (5) providing pastoral care for each nominee bishop and his or her family and diocese.*

- 9 *(f) A Presiding Bishop Transition Committee shall be appointed by the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies. The members shall have the necessary skills and talents to determine the need for and provide for transition assistance to the Presiding Bishop and the Presiding Bishop-elect.*
- 10 *(g) A small Presiding Bishop Installation Committee shall be appointed by Executive Council with the necessary skills and talents to plan for and carry out a Celebration of New Ministry for the new Presiding Bishop.*
- 11 *(h) At the General Convention at which a Presiding Bishop is to be elected, the Joint Nominating Committee shall present to the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies in Joint Session the names of not fewer than three members of the House of Bishops, along with those nominated through the petition process, for the consideration of the two Houses in the choice of a Presiding Bishop, and there may be discussion of all nominees. ~~At the Joint Session to which the Joint Nominating Committee shall report, any Bishop or Deputy may nominate any other member of the House of Bishops for the consideration of the two Houses in the choice of a Presiding Bishop, and there may be discussion of all nominees.~~ Commencing on the day following the Joint Session, election shall be by the House of Bishops from among such nominees. If the House of Bishops shall find itself unable to elect a Presiding Bishop from among such nominees, another Joint Session shall be held, at which additional nominations may be received, and on the following day, election shall be by the House of Bishops from among all of the nominees. After the election by the House of Bishops, report of the result thereof, including the number of votes cast for each nominee on each ballot, shall be made to the House of Deputies which shall vote to confirm or not to confirm such choice of Presiding Bishop.*
- 12 The rest of the canon continues as numbered.

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**EXPLANATION**

The Task Force for the Review of the Nomination, Election and Installation of the Presiding Bishop had the mandate to review the process of the last election and make recommendations to the General Convention. Overwhelmingly our research indicated that the Joint Nominating Committee was too

large, and the process very costly. This canon revision attempts to address those considerations. The Task Force to Review Provinces concurs with the recommendation to remove Provinces as a source of individuals to serve on the Joint Nominating Committee.



**Resolution Number:** 2015-B023  
**Title:** Review Committee's Work for the Nomination of Presiding Bishop  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

***Resolved, That the 78th General Convention calls for a complete post-election review of the work of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop including all aspects of the process including the work of the Transition Committee; and be it further Resolved, That the committee to review the process be appointed by the Presiding Officers jointly, and such committee include representatives of all aspects of the process as well as some who have critical distance; and be it further Resolved, That a report be given to the 79th General Convention of the committee's findings and recommendations for future elections; and be it further Resolved, That the Office of Pastoral Development provide support for this work; and be it further Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance to consider a budget of \$50,000 for the review of the 2015 election.***

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), p. 430.



**Resolution Number:** 2012-A105  
**Title:** Amend Canon I.2.1 [Nominating Committee to Elect Presiding Bishop]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That Canon I.2.1 be amended by adding a new subsection (e), with succeeding subsections to be re-lettered as necessary, to read as follows:*

*(e) The Joint Nominating Committee shall develop and manage a process for soliciting and identifying qualified nominees for the office of Presiding Bishop and for providing the nominees to the General Convention at which a Presiding Bishop is to be elected. The process shall include (1) providing the names of not fewer than three members of the House of Bishops for consideration by the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies in the choice of a Presiding Bishop; (2) establishing a timely process for any bishop or deputy to express the intent to nominate any other member of the House of Bishops from the floor at the time the Joint Nominating Committee presents its nominees to the joint session of the two Houses, and for each Bishop so nominated to be included in the information distributed about the nominees; (3) providing pastoral care for each nominee bishop and his or her family and diocese; and (4) determining and providing for transition assistance to the Presiding Bishop and the Presiding Bishop-elect.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 2012* (New York: General Convention, 2012), p. 214.



**Resolution Number:** 1994-D134  
**Title:** Amend Canon I.2.1 [Youth Members on the Committee to Nominate a Presiding Bishop]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That an additional paragraph be added to Canon I.2.1 (a) which shall read: The President of the House of Deputies, after consultation with representatives of youth, shall appoint two persons, age 16-21, as members of The Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That this resolution be effective immediately upon its approval.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 1994* (New York: General Convention, 1995), p. 237.





**Resolution Number:** 1991-D154  
**Title:** Amend Canon I.2.1 [Nominating Committee for Election of a Presiding Bishop]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That Canon I.2.1(a) be amended by changing the last sentence thereof to read as follows:*

**Prior to the election, the Clerical and Lay Deputies from each Province shall hold a caucus, at which two Clerical Deputies and two Lay Deputies as nominees shall be selected by the caucus, and these shall be the only nominees upon which the House of Deputies shall vote in electing the members of the Joint Nominating Committee.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Phoenix, 1991* (New York: General Convention, 1992), p. 807.



**Resolution Number:** 1985-A151  
**Title:** Substitute Canon I.2.1 [Nomination and Election of the Presiding Bishop]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That Title I, Canon 2, Section 1, be amended by striking the same in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following:*

**Of the Presiding Bishop**

*Sec. 1(a) At each General Convention the House of Deputies shall elect one Clerical and one Lay Deputy from each Province as members of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop. A Deputy from a particular Province may be nominated only by another Deputy from the same Province, but the election of each member of the Committee shall be by the entire membership of the House of Deputies, with a majority of those voting necessary for election. Prior to the election, the Clerical and Lay Deputies from each Province shall hold a caucus, at which two nominees in each order shall be selected by the caucus and these shall be the only nominees upon which the House of Deputies shall vote in electing the members of the Joint Nominating Committee.*

*(b) At each General Convention the House of Bishops shall elect one Bishop from each Province as members of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop. A bishop from a particular Province may be nominated only by another Bishop from the same Province, but the election of each member of the Committee shall be by the entire membership of the House of Bishops, with a majority of those voting necessary for election. Prior to the election, the Bishops from each Province shall hold a caucus, at which two Bishops as nominees shall be selected by the caucus, and these shall be the only nominees upon which the House of Bishops shall vote in electing the members of the Joint Nominating Committee.*

*(c) In the event vacancies shall occur in the Joint Nominating Committee after the election of its members due to death, disability, resignation, or otherwise within one year of the next General Convention, the vacancies shall not be filled and the remaining members shall constitute the Joint Nominating Committee. In the event such vacancies shall occur more than one year prior to the next General Convention, the Presiding Officer of the House of Bishops shall appoint Bishops and the President of the House of Deputies shall appoint Clerical and Lay Deputies in all cases from the same Provinces as those Bishops or Deputies whose positions are being filled. An elected or appointed member who shall not be a Deputy to the next General Convention shall continue as a member of the Joint Nominating Committee until the adjournment of such next General convention. A member of the Committee who transfers from one Province to another or a Lay Deputy who is ordained Presbyter or Deacon, or a Presbyter or Deacon who is consecrated a Bishop, shall not thereby become ineligible to continue to serve on the Joint Nominating Committee through the next succeeding General Convention.*

**(d)** *The Joint Nominating Committee shall remain in office until the adjournment of the next General Convention at which a new Joint Nominating Committee shall be elected. Members of the Committee are eligible for reelection.*

**(e)** *At the General Convention at which a Presiding Bishop is to be elected, the Joint Nominating Committee shall present to the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies in Joint Session the names of not fewer than three members of the House of Bishops for the consideration of the two Houses in the choice of a Presiding Bishop. At the Joint Session to which the Joint Nominating Committee shall report, any Bishop or Deputy may nominate any other member of the House of Bishops for the consideration of the two Houses in the choice of a Presiding Bishop, and there may be discussion of all nominees. Commencing on the day following the Joint Session, election shall be by the House of Bishops from among such nominees. If the House of Bishops shall find itself unable to elect a Presiding Bishop from among such nominees, another Joint Session shall be held, at which additional nominations may be received, and on the following day, election shall be by the House of Bishops from among all of the nominees. After the election by the House of Bishops, the House of Deputies shall vote to confirm or not to confirm such choice of Presiding Bishop.*

**(f)** *In the event a vacancy in the office of Presiding Bishop shall occur in the interim between meetings of the General Convention, as specified in the second paragraph of Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution, the Joint Nominating Committee, subject to the said article, shall submit to the Secretary of the House of Bishops the names of not fewer than three members of the House of Bishops for the consideration by that House in the choice of a Presiding Bishop to fill the vacancy, and simultaneously therewith shall transmit a copy of such report to the Secretary of the House of Deputies for mailing to all Deputies. Such report shall also be released to the Church and secular press. Thereafter, the House of Bishops shall hold a special meeting for the purpose of electing a Presiding Bishop to fill the vacancy; and, in such election, the vote shall be upon the nominees of the Joint Nominating Committee and any further nominations made by any voting member of the House of Bishops. Immediately following the election by the House of Bishops, the Secretary of the House of Bishops shall inform the president and secretary of each Diocesan Standing Committee requesting a meeting at the earliest possible date to consider approval. Upon receipt of the approval of the majority of the Standing Committees of the Dioceses, the Presiding Bishop-Elect shall be declared elected.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 1985* (New York: General Convention, 1986), p. 202.