

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-A186
TITLE: Amend House of Deputies Rule of Order XV
PROPOSER: President of House of Deputies
TOPIC: Rules of Order

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-A152 Adopt New Rules of Order for the House of Deputies

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

2012-D045 Amend HD Rules 15, 37, 42, 45, 60(b), 60, and 70

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.

A186 Amend House of Deputies Rule of Order XV

Proposer	President of the House of Deputies
Endorsed by	
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. 223
HiA / Leg. Cttee	HD / 01 - Rules of Order/HOD
Current Status	Resolution Filed
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of Deputies of the 79th General Convention amends XV of the House Rules of Order as follows:
- 2 XV. Elections
- 3 (A) Nominations
- 4 *(1) The submission of the Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Nominations to the General Convention of its nominees will automatically nominate those persons for any election to be conducted by the House.*
- 5 ~~(1)(2) Nominations by a~~Any two Deputies *may nominate additional eligible persons permitted before in any election by to be conducted by the House.*
- 6 (3) Each nomination is *must be* submitted in writing *to the Secretary*, in a form adopted by the Joint Standing Committee on Nominations, ~~to the Secretary~~. *The Secretary will publish all nominations no later than by the end of the third legislative day.*
- 7 *(4) All Nominations must be submitted by the adjournment of the third legislative day, except that:*
 - 8 *(i) Nominations for the office of Vice President of the House must be submitted by the adjournment of the next legislative day after the election of the President of the House of Deputies has been completed. ‘*
- 9 ~~(35) No nominating speeches will be held for any office or position. In a contested election for President or Vice President of the House, a candidate forum may be held to allow the nominees to give a brief speech and Deputies the opportunity to ask questions of the nominees. There are no nominating speeches for any office or position, except for the President and the Vice-President of the House.~~
 1. Voting Requirements
 1. All elections will be by individual secret ballot, paper or electronic, except where there are no more nominees than open seats, in which case ~~the a voice vote may be by voice~~ *held at the discretion of the*

President.

2. A majority vote is required to elect *unless the Constitution, Canons, or Rules of Order requires a different vote. In any election in which more than one position will be filled from the same pool of nominees, a majority is calculated based upon the number of voters who cast a ballot in that election.*
 3. *On any ballot prepared by the Secretary, the candidates will be listed in alphabetical order by last name.*
1. Balloting Procedures
 1. In all elections in which there are eight or fewer nominees, *the following voting procedure will be used if the election has not been completed:*
 1. *after the third ballot, the nominees will be reduced to two more than the number of vacancies to be filled; and*
 2. *after the fifth ballot, the nominees will be reduced to one more than the number of vacancies to be filled. ~~After the third ballot there will only be two more nominees than the number of vacancies to be filled on the ballot. After the fifth ballot only one more nominee than the number of vacancies to be filled will be on the ballot.~~*
 2. In all elections in which there are more than eight nominees, the following procedure will be used if the election has not been completed:
 1. ~~a~~*After the third ballot, the nominees will be reduced to four more nominees ~~there will be only four more nominees~~ than the number of vacancies to be filled ~~on the ballot in the election;~~ and*
 2. *After the fifth ballot, the nominees ~~there~~ will be reduced to ~~only~~ one more nominee than the number of vacancies to be filled ~~on the ballot~~ in the election.*
 3. *In all cases where nominees are to be reduced under these rules, the nominees with the lowest number of votes will be eliminated.*
 4. *If more nominees receive a majority vote than the number of positions to be elected, those nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be elected.*
 5. *If there is a tie to either eliminate or elect a nominee, a runoff ballot will be held between the nominees tied.*

EXPLANATION

In reviewing the rules in preparing for General Convention, it became apparent that details regarding the nominations and elections were omitted in the Rules of Order revision in 2015. This amendment cleans up those edits. In addition, the nomination from the floor for all offices is aligned so that deputies have a consistent process to follow to nominate someone for office. A consistent process helps eliminate confusion over different procedures for nominating someone for an office and increases the accessibility for this process for new deputies. It is also suggested that nominating speeches be removed for all offices. To replace the function of nominating speeches for the office of president and vice-president, i.e. introducing a candidate to the house, a candidate forum is included that provides a more interactive process.



Resolution Number: 2015-A152
Title: Adopt New Rules of Order for the House of Deputies
Legislative Action Taken: Adopted as Amended
Final Text:

[Resolved, that pursuant to Canon I.1.2, the House of Deputies hereby repeals its existing Rules of Order and adopts the attached Rules of Order:]

XV. Elections

A. Nominations

- 1. Nominations by any two Deputies are permitted before any election by the House.**
- 2. Each nomination is submitted in writing, in a form adopted by the Joint Standing Committee on Nominations, to the Secretary, no later than the third legislative day.**
- 3. There are no nominating speeches for any office or position, except for the President and Vice-President of the House.**

B. Voting Requirements

- 1. All elections will be by individual secret ballot, paper or electronic, except where there are no more nominees than open seats, in which case the vote may be by voice.**
- 2. A majority vote is required to elect.**

C. Balloting Procedures

- 1. In all elections in which there are eight or fewer nominees, after the third ballot there will be only two more nominees than the number of vacancies to be filled on the ballot. After the fifth ballot only one more nominee than the number of vacancies to be filled will be on the ballot.**
- 2. In all elections in which there are more than eight nominees, after the third ballot there will be only four more nominees than the number of vacancies to be filled on the ballot.**
- 3. After the fifth ballot there will be only one more nominee than the number of vacancies to be filled on the ballot.**

Citation: House of Deputies Rule of Order XV is excerpted from the Final Text of 2015-A152, which revised the House of Deputies Rules of Order. See General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 558-586.