

Technical or Minor Amendments to be considered *en bloc* if consented to by Council/Synod:

Amend Ordinance III.2 to replace “ex-officio” with “*ex officio*” which aligns with the style of the Constitutions & Canons of TEC, as well as alignment with the reference of the term in Ordinance V.1.

Amended text with revisions: Section 2. The President shall be one of the bishops, presbyters, deacons or lay persons canonically resident in the Third Province and elected by the Synod and shall hold office as specified in Section 1 or until a successor is chosen. The President shall chair the Synod, the Provincial Council and, **ex officio**, be a member of all Standing Committees and Departments. In the case of a vacancy caused by death, resignation or otherwise, the Vice President shall assume the responsibilities of the President until a new President is elected at the next meeting of the Synod. No individual shall serve more than two consecutive terms as President but may be elected again after an interval of three years.

Amend Ordinance VIII.8 to have “an” precede first “election”

Section 8. The Secretary shall certify such **an** election to the proper authorities. The term of office shall commence upon the adjournment of the first regular meeting of the General Convention following election.

Amend Ordinance VIII.7 to replace “he or she” to “they” and amend the subsequent word from “takes” to “take” (note: this is the only place in the current Ordinances where “he or she” appears)

Section 7. A potential nominee may certify in writing that there is nothing to disclose in response to the enumerated items listed in Section 3. Such nominees shall still be subject to a background check by the Chief Legal Officer of The Episcopal Church. A certification later found to be false shall be grounds to disqualify the nominee from election before ~~he or she~~ **they** takes office, and for subsequent removal by the Executive Council if such past misconduct comes to light after the nominee takes office.

Substantive Amendment to be considered separately:

Background Check Change:

Update all ordinances with the term “Chief Legal Officer” to “the Secretary of General Convention” who currently handles all background checks. Ordinances impacted: VIII.2, VIII.4, VIII.7, VIII.9, X.5

Section 2. Consistent with Joint Rule of General Convention VII.21, the Nominating Committee shall procure a background check through the ~~Chief Legal Officer of The Episcopal Church~~ **Secretary of General Convention**.

Section 4. Potential nominees shall disclose in writing, as part of any proposed nomination, the particulars of the items enumerated in Section 3 to the Nominating Committee for transmission to the four Officers of Province III and to the ~~Chief Legal Officer of The Episcopal Church~~ **Secretary of General Convention** in connection with the pertinent background checks.

Section 7. A potential nominee may certify in writing that there is nothing to disclose in response to the enumerated items listed in Section 3. Such nominees shall still be subject to a background check by the ~~Chief Legal Officer of The Episcopal Church~~ **Secretary of General Convention**. A certification later found to be false shall be grounds to disqualify the nominee from election before he or she takes office, and for subsequent removal by the Executive Council if such past misconduct comes to light after the nominee takes office.

Section 9. In case of a vacancy, the Provincial Council, or the Executive Committee thereof, shall elect a person of the same order to fill such a vacancy for the unexpired term, provided that candidates in the previous election are among those nominated for consideration. A background check by the Province, acting through the ~~Chief Legal Officer of The Episcopal Church~~ **Secretary of General Convention**, shall be required for all nominees, and shall be handled as described above. If it is the Executive Committee which acts under this Section, the provision of Ordinance V.8, requiring subsequent approval, shall not apply.

Section 5. The Committee shall conduct a background check on all nominees through the office of the ~~Chief Legal Officer of The Episcopal Church~~ **Secretary of General Convention**.. Any potentially disqualifying information, such as criminal charges or convictions, professional discipline, or a history of substance abuse or domestic violence, shall be disclosed first to a potential nominee, and then if the nominee agrees to proceed, to the four elected Provincial Officers. If deemed to be significant and relevant information by three of the four Officers, the disqualifying information shall be disclosed to the voting members of the Province.