

As it exists now: Canon 18 – Rectors, Parishes and Vestries

Section 8. (a) It shall be the duty of the Wardens of every Parish to give written notice to the Bishop when there is a vacancy in the office of Rector.

(b) A Rector shall be elected by the votes of a majority of the Vestry given by ballot. The election must be made after open nomination at a previous meeting of the Vestry duly convened; and each nomination must be accompanied by a statement signed by the Bishop, if there be one, that so far as the Bishop knows and believes, the person nominated is a fit and qualified presbyter of this Church, and that such nomination is approved.

**Proposed change and reason:**

(b) A Rector shall be elected by the votes of a majority of the Vestry given by ballot. The election must be made after open nomination at a meeting of the Vestry duly convened; and each nomination must be accompanied by a statement signed by the Bishop, if there be one, that so far as the Bishop knows and believes, the person nominated is a fit and qualified presbyter of this Church, and that such nomination is approved.

**Reason for requested change:** As worded, the Canon requires two meetings of the Vestry before a nominee to be Rector may be elected. Our practice is that the submission of a nominee and the election may and often do occur at the same meeting. This change permits that practice. It does not prohibit a Vestry from receiving the name of the nominee at one meeting and waiting to vote until a second meeting if the Vestry wishes to take that course of action.