

1 **OVERTURE 12** from Northern New England Presbytery (to CCB, OC)  
2 “Amend *RAO* 8-4 regarding Floor Nominations”  
3

4 **Whereas**, subjection to the brethren is an oath taken by both Teaching and Ruling Elders in  
5 the PCA (*BCO* 21-5.6; 24-6.5) and such subjection begins with those brothers closest  
6 in relationship to said officer; and  
7

8 **Whereas**, our form of government seeks to give deference to and maintain the authority of  
9 lower courts; and  
10

11 **Whereas**, floor nomination of officers to fill open positions on the Permanent Committees,  
12 Agencies, and the Standing Judicial Commission of the General Assembly are, by  
13 definition, not made through such lower courts; and  
14

15 **Whereas**, the rise of celebrity officers within Christ’s Church is a worrisome trend that can  
16 lead to polarization and division within Christ’s body (1 Corinthians 1:10-14); and  
17 floor nominations can serve as an avenue for the furtherance of this trend; and  
18

19 **Whereas**, the undertaking of service within the Agencies and Committees of the General  
20 Assembly is one to be considered with deliberation and prayer; and  
21

22 **Whereas**, the Nominating Committee is entrusted with the important task of evaluating and  
23 nominating  
24

25 **Therefore be it resolved**, Northern New England Presbytery hereby overtures the 47th  
26 General Assembly to restrict floor nominations at the General Assembly for the  
27 Assembly Committees and Agencies to those whose names were submitted to the  
28 Nominating Committee according to *RAO* 8-4.d and e, by adding a final sentence to  
29 *RAO* 8-4.i as indicated below. [Addition indicated by underlining.]  
30

31 *RAO* 8-4

- 32 i. Additional nominations may be submitted either (1) in writing or (2)  
33 electronically, in either case on forms supplied by the Stated Clerk,  
34 which shall include consent of the nominee to serve, if elected, and a  
35 brief statement regarding the nominee. In the event that a nomination  
36 is submitted electronically, the nominator should be aware that  
37 responsibility for such nomination rests with the nominator and that  
38 non- delivery is the sole responsibility of the nominator. Because the  
39 nominator has sole responsibility for delivery of a nomination, the  
40 nominator should obtain a receipt verifying successful electronic  
41 delivery of the nomination. The nominee is to give consent to only one  
42 nomination. In the event that the nominee is nominated for more than  
43 one position, the nominee may indicate to which nomination the  
44 nominee consents. The deadline for these nominations is the close of  
45 the afternoon session of the first day of the Assembly. The Clerk’s

1 office shall issue a supplement to the Assembly's Nominating  
2 Committee report during the second day's business sessions. No floor  
3 nomination will be received unless the nominee's name was  
4 previously submitted to the Nominating Committee according to RAO  
5 8-4.d and e, excepting circumstances where there is no nominee from  
6 the Nominating Committee.

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8 *Adopted by Northern New England Presbytery at its stated meeting, February 2, 2019*

9 *Attested by TE C.S. Per Almquist, stated clerk*