

An amendment to the Rules of General Conference of The United Methodist Church 2024:

Add:

Due Process for Discontinuance of a Bishop by the General Conference for Inefficiency or Unacceptability Under the Provisions of ¶ 16.5:

1. The Secretary of General Conference shall announce a period of 48 hours during the first week of General Conference in which any group of 100 or more delegates may submit a report concerning inefficiency or unacceptability in the office of a bishop of The United Methodist Church. Any supporting documentation shall also be submitted.
2. These reports, along with supporting documentation, shall be printed in the Daily Christian Advocate within 24 hours of their receipt.
3. Any bishop named in such a report shall have 48 hours following the printing of the report to submit to the Secretary of General Conference a written response and any supporting documentation. This response and the supporting documentation shall be printed in the Daily Christian Advocate no later than 24 hours after their receipt.
4. The Commission on General Conference shall allot space and time on the plenary agenda for the body to act upon the discontinuance of any bishop named in a duly filed report of inefficiency or unacceptability. This agenda item shall be at least 24 hours following the printing in the Daily Christian Advocate the response by the bishop named in a report of inefficiency or unacceptability. Both a representative (or representatives) of those filing the report shall be granted no more than fifteen minutes to speak before the plenary body. A bishop named in such a report, or their chosen advocate, shall have fifteen minutes to respond.
5. Floor debate and a plenary vote shall commence on the question of discontinuance of the bishop named in the report.
6. A simple majority vote in favor of discontinuance by the plenary session of General Conference shall discontinue the bishop immediately and the (former) bishop shall be returned to their conference of origin as an elder in good standing. The salary, housing, and other employment benefits of a discontinued bishop shall commence no longer than August 31 of the year of their discontinuation.