UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): May 13, 2018

Hercules Capital, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 814-00702 (Commission File No.) 74-3113410 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

400 Hamilton Ave., Suite 310 Palo Alto, CA (Address of principal executive offices)

94301 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (650) 289-3060

Not Applicable

(Former name or address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

□ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

□ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

D Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter)

Emerging growth company \Box

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 5.08 Shareholder Director Nominations

2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders

On May 13, 2018, the Board of Directors of Hercules Capital, Inc. (the "Company") scheduled the Company's 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "Annual Meeting") for June 28, 2018, which date is more than 30 days from the first anniversary of the date of the Company's 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders that was held on December 13, 2017.

Stockholder Proposals and Director Nominations

Stockholders may submit proposals on matters appropriate for stockholder action, including director nominations, at our annual meetings consistent with regulations adopted by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and the Company's bylaws. Because the date of the Annual Meeting is more than 30 days from the first anniversary of the date of the 2017 meeting, such shareholder proposals must be received by the Company within a reasonable time before the Company begins to print and send proxy material for the Annual Meeting. In order to be considered timely, shareholder proposals to be considered for inclusion in the Company's proxy statement and proxy card relating to the Annual Meeting must have been received by the Company no later than May 25, 2018. Any such proposal must have also met the requirements set forth in the Company's bylaws and the rules and regulations of the SEC in order to be eligible for inclusion in the proxy materials for the Annual Meeting.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

May 15, 2018

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC.

By: <u>/s/ Melanie Grace</u> Melanie Grace General Counsel