

## Committee on Overtures and Resolutions

### Standing Committee Report 43<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

The Standing Committee on Overtures and Resolutions convened at 3:45 p.m. on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, and met once. Chairman TE Mark Eshoff opened the meeting with prayer.

#### A. Business Referred to Committee:

1. **Recommendation GA43-13**
2. **Recommendation GA43-14**

#### B. Recommendations:

1. **Recommendation GA43-13:** The NLT recommends that the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly approve the *Book of Government* 17-5 be deleted, with the following sections renumbered, and the *Book of Government* 6-8D and 18-3H be amended **and approved as submitted.**

Current wording of <i>Book of Government</i> 17-5	Proposed wording of <i>Book of Government</i> 17-5 Amendment Additions in <i>bold italics</i>
<p>Treasurer</p> <p>A. Where the responsibility for the finances of the local church falls to the Board, it shall appoint a Treasurer to handle the financial matters of the congregation. This person may or may not be a Deacon.</p> <p>B. Where the Session retains responsibility for financial matters, it shall follow this stipulation: the Treasurer shall report to the appointing body at each stated meeting, keeping a careful record of financial matters. The appointing body shall be responsible for an annual audit of the finances of the church.</p>	<p><b><i>That section G.17.5 be deleted, with following sections renumbered.</i></b></p>

Current wording of <i>Book of Government</i> 6-8D	Proposed wording of <i>Book of Government</i> 6-8D <i>Amendments removed</i>
<p>If a local church does not elect Trustees (or if Deacons have not been given the responsibility of property), the Session, or a designated portion of the court, shall serve as the Trustees of the local church.</p>	<p>If a local church does not elect Trustees the Session or a designated portion of the court, shall serve as the Trustees of the local church.</p>

<b>Current</b> wording of <i>Book of Government</i> 18-3H	<b>Proposed</b> wording of <i>Book of Government</i> 18-3H. <i>Amendments in bold italics.</i>
To determine the budget of the church and the benevolence objectives of the congregation.	To determine <b><i>and oversee the finances</i></b> of the <b><i>local church including the budget</i></b> and the benevolence objectives of the congregation.

**2. Recommendation GA43-14:** The NLT recommends that the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly approve that the *Book of Discipline* 1-1 be amended **and approved as submitted.**

<b>Current</b> wording of the <i>Book of Discipline</i> 1-1	<b>Proposed</b> wording of the <i>Book of Discipline</i> 1-1 Amendment Additions in <b><i>bold italics</i></b>
<p><b>Definition of Church Discipline</b>  There are two kinds of authority vested in the church: the responsibility of order and the authority of jurisdiction. Both kinds of authority are given the church by the Lord Jesus Christ to instruct and guide her members and to promote her purity and welfare. Discipline is the exercise of the responsibility of order, particularly in regard to the reproofing of the erring. As the exercise of such authority may adversely affect the membership rights of an individual who has been accused of an offense, the authority requires the use of ecclesiastical judicial procedures.</p> <p>The word “discipline,” when used in the <i>book of Discipline</i>, chapters 1-11, shall therefore refer to the use of ecclesiastical judicial procedures.</p>	<p><b>Definition of Church Discipline</b>  There are two kinds of authority vested in the church: the responsibility of order and the authority of jurisdiction. Both kinds of authority are given the church by the Lord Jesus Christ to instruct and guide her members and to promote her purity and welfare. Discipline is the exercise of the responsibility of order, particularly in regard to the reproofing of the erring. As the exercise of such authority may adversely affect the membership rights of an individual who has been accused of an offense, the authority requires the use of ecclesiastical judicial procedures.</p> <p>The word “discipline,” when used in the <i>book of Discipline</i>, chapters 1-11, shall therefore refer to the use of ecclesiastical judicial procedures.</p> <p><b><i>“Church discipline does not supersede or negate the legal responsibility to report cases of suspected abuse to civil authorities according to local and state requirements.”</i></b></p>

**C. Additional Recommendations from the Standing Committee:**

1. Per *Rules for Assembly* 9-6, the Committee voted to place the following eligible recommendation(s) on an omnibus consent motion:

*[NOTE: a recommendation amended by the Standing Committee, substitute recommendation or additional recommendation in C.2 are not eligible for the omnibus consent motion.]*

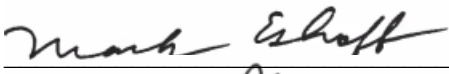
TE Mark Eshoff closed the meeting with prayer.

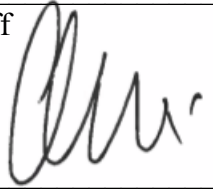
---

*Signature Page for Standing Committee Overtures & Resolutions Report*

---

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Chairman  
TE Mark Eshoff

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk  
TE Chris Curtis