

Resolution 1

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES ON GENERAL PRESBYTERY

1 WHEREAS, The three general presbyters each district is permitted to send to the
2 General Presbytery are required to meet specific qualifications that are
3 intended to include both district officer involvement and local field ministry
4 involvement; and

5 WHEREAS, While the present requirement for field representation by a district's third
6 general presbyter has been restricted to a lead pastor only, over time it has
7 been observed that spiritual eldership and proven ministry can also reside
8 in an ordained minister serving in other roles; and

9 WHEREAS, The input and involvement of a variety of leaders is valuable, and having
10 individuals serving in active local Assemblies of God ministries is extremely
11 valuable; and

12 WHEREAS, Each district in session may choose from among them a spiritually mature
13 minister known to the district to carry the necessary biblical qualifications
14 for spiritual eldership; and

15 WHEREAS, We see value in whatever standards are adopted to be a consistent
16 standard across all districts rather than varying from one district to the next;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, The proposed change does not preclude a lead pastor from being chosen
19 but simply opens the options to candidates serving in other ministry roles
20 as well; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That General Council Constitution ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS AND
22 PRESBYTERIES OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL, Section 3. General
23 Presbytery, paragraph a. Representation, qualifications, and
24 responsibilities, page 17, which reads:

Section 3. General Presbytery

26 **a. Representation, qualifications, and responsibilities.** The
27 General Presbytery shall be composed of individuals of maturity,
28 experience, and ability whose lives and ministry are above reproach,
29 who shall represent the Fellowship in all phases of its work in their
30 respective fields. The General Presbytery shall be the official policy-

1 making body of the Assemblies of God when the General Council is not
2 in session. Each district shall have the privilege of representation on the
3 General Presbytery by three members—the district superintendent
4 together with two others who shall be elected by their district council,
5 one of whom shall be an ordained pastor of a church located in the
6 district. They shall take office immediately.

7 Be amended to read:

8 **Section 3. General Presbytery**

9 **a. Representation, qualifications, and responsibilities.** The
10 General Presbytery shall be composed of Assemblies of God ordained
11 ministers individuals of maturity, experience, and ability whose lives and
12 ministry are above reproach, who shall represent the Fellowship in all
13 phases of its work in their respective fields. The General Presbytery shall
14 be the official policy-making body of the Assemblies of God when the
15 General Council is not in session. Each district shall have the privilege
16 of representation on the General Presbytery by three members—the
17 district superintendent together with two others ordained ministers who
18 shall be elected by their district council, one of whom shall be an
19 ~~ordained~~ lead pastor of an Assemblies of God church or an ordained
20 minister serving in an Assemblies of God ministry located in the district.

21 They shall take office immediately.

22 And, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND
24 PRESBYTERS, Section 2. Nominations and Elections, paragraph d.
25 General presbyters, subparagraph (1) *District representatives*, page 27,
26 which reads:

27 (1) *District representatives*. In addition to the superintendent of each
28 district, who shall serve on the General Presbytery by virtue of office,
29 two others shall be elected by the district council in session, both of
30 whom shall be ordained Assemblies of God ministers, and at least one
31 of whom shall be a pastor of a church or a person involved in other
32 ministry located in the district. They shall take office immediately upon
33 election.

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Be amended to read:

(1) *District representatives*. In addition to the superintendent of each district, who shall serve on the General Presbytery by virtue of office, two others shall be elected by the district council in session, both of whom shall be ordained Assemblies of God ministers, and at least one of whom shall be a lead pastor of an Assemblies of God church or a ~~person involved in other ministry~~ an ordained minister serving in an Assemblies of God ministry located in the district. They shall take office immediately upon election.

Sponsor: General Presbytery

Presented _____
Amended _____
Referred _____
Adopted _____
Lost _____