

**PROPOSED
AMENDMENT 1 TO CONSTITUTION
(JANUARY 2010)**

Purpose: Adds associate membership as another category of membership, describes who can become an associate member; and levies a restriction against voting for such members.

Details: Add subparagraph e. to paragraph IV. MEMBERSHIP, as follows:

IV. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Association shall consist of the following:

- a. All conference directors, except that current elected officers who leave their conference position may serve out their current term;
- b. A liaison representative of the General Board of Discipleship that relates to Lay Speaking Ministries;
- c. The immediate past president of the Association;
- d. The management of the Association shall be vested in its members.
- e. *Immediate Past Conference Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries and current District Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries shall be Associate Members of the Association, having no vote, but may have voice at the Annual Meeting when recognized by the presiding officer.***

PROPOSED
CHANGE 1 TO BY-LAWS
(JANUARY 2010)

(NOTE: REQUIRES AFFIRMATIVE VOTE FOR CHANGE 1 TO CONSTITUTION ESTABLISHING ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP.)

Purpose: Changes the wording of Article III to add in Associate Membership, and states that past conference directors and current district directors may become associate members having voice but no vote.

Details:

ARTICLE III—MEMBERSHIP

~~The membership of this Association shall be open to Conference Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries and the immediate past Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries of the Annual Conferences of the United Methodist Church, and the immediate Past President of the Association. The Director of Lay Leadership Development of the General Board of Discipleship and the president of the Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders shall be ex-officio members without vote.~~

Replace the above paragraph with the following:

The membership of this Association shall be open to currently serving Conference Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries and the immediate Past President of this Association. Immediate Past Conference Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries and currently serving District Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries may be Associate Members without vote and may have voice at the Annual Meeting when recognized by the presiding officer. The Director of Connectional Laity Development of the General Board of Discipleship and the currently serving President of the Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders shall be ex-officio members without vote.

PROPOSED CHANGE 2 TO BY-LAWS
(JANUARY 2010)

Purpose: This change establishes new limits for service on the executive committee, officers and committee chairs, FROM eight consecutive years, TO eight total years. This change will ensure no one serves for eight years, takes time off away from the executive committee, then serves for another eight years, etc. The net effect is to ensure effective turn over in leadership by limiting lifetime tenure.

Details: delete the word “consecutive” from the third sentence of paragraph 2, so that sentence will read, “Officers and committee chairs cannot serve on the Executive Committee for more than eight years.”

ARTICLE V—OFFICERS

The officers of the Association will be elected by the membership of the Association at its general meeting and will be installed at its general meeting. Note that “general meeting” shall mean either the annual or biennial meeting of the membership depending upon the planned frequency of such meetings.

The elected officers of the Association shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. All officers shall be elected from the membership to serve for a term of two years, and may be elected for one additional term for a total of four consecutive years in any position. Officers and committee chairs cannot serve on the Executive Committee **for more than eight consecutive years**. Should a vacancy occur between elections, the Executive Committee shall select a member of the Association to fill the position until the next election, except, if the position of President shall become vacant, the Vice President shall be the acting President until the next election.

The President shall be the principal executive officer of the Association, and shall represent the membership during the period between general meetings of the Association. The President shall perform such duties as prescribed by the by-laws and as voted upon by the membership at the general meeting. The President shall be responsible for conducting the general meeting and insuring that the programs of the association are scheduled and accomplished.

The Vice President shall in the absence of the President assume the duties of the President and exercise the powers of that office. In addition, the Vice President shall perform such other duties as shall be assigned by the Association and the President....***NO OTHER CHANGES TO ARTICLE V...***

PROPOSED
CHANGE 3 TO BY-LAWS
(JANUARY 2010)

Purpose: This proposed change specifies the GBOD official who will liaise with the organization.

Details:

ARTICLE VI—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Amend Article VI – Executive Committee, as follows: change the title in the second sentence to read, “Director of Connectional Laity Development.” See paragraph below:

The Executive Committee shall consist of all the elected officers of the Association, the immediate past President, and the committee chairpersons. **The Director of Lay Leadership** *Connectional Laity Development* of the General Board of Discipleship and the president of the Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders shall be ex-officio members without vote. The immediate past President can serve on the executive committee until there is a new immediate past President, regardless of the length of service on the committee. The Executive Committee shall have advisory powers as well as the power of the Association between general meetings of the Association. The Executive Committee shall work closely with the General Board of Discipleship in developing the programs, calendars and objectives of the Lay Speaking Ministries program. The Executive Committee shall meet at least semi-annually or more often when needed.

PROPOSED
CHANGE 4 TO BY-LAWS
(JANUARY 2010)

(NOTE: REQUIRES AFFIRMATIVE VOTE FOR CHANGE 1 TO THE CONSTITUTION, ESTABLISHING ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP.)

Purpose: This change specifically allows associate members to serve on the organization's standing committees, but not as chairperson of any such committee.

Details:

Amend Article VII – Standing Committees, as follows: in the first paragraph, insert the following sentence after the second sentence: “Members of the standing committees, with the exception of the Chair, may be Associate Members of the Association.” See following paragraph:

ARTICLE VII—STANDING COMMITTEES

The President shall appoint the chairperson and committee members of each committee as needed to conduct the business of the Association. The committee chairs shall be appointed from the membership for a period of two years and can be reappointed for a second term, allowing them to serve a maximum of four years in one position. ***Members of the standing committees, with the exception of the Chair, may be Associate Members of the Association.*** The number of committees shall vary according to the needs and programs of the Association. Standing committees shall include:

Education and Resource
Communications
Legislative

The Education and Resource Committee shall exist to accomplish the training objectives and programs of the Association. It shall work closely with the representative of the General Board of Discipleship to assist in developing training programs for Lay Speaking Ministries.

The Communications Committee shall exist to promote and improve communications among lay speakers working at all levels in the church and between laity and clergy. It shall devise communications systems and implement them for this purpose. It shall work closely with the representative of the General Board of Discipleship to accomplish its mission. ... ***NO OTHER CHANGES TO ARTICLE VII...***