

EASTERN DISTRICT BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS,
2018 PROPOSED CHANGES

An explanation to the Congregations of the Eastern District and Delegates to the 2018
Eastern District Convention

Proposed changes to Bylaws

See document

“Proposed Eastern District Bylaws, mark up”

Add Article VII “Relationship”

Add Article VIII “Dissolution”

The addition of these two articles is a friendly alternative for districts of our Synod and in keeping with Synod Resolution and the direction of Synod’s Commission on Constitutional Matters (CCM).

The concepts these changes represent, are placed into the Bylaws of Districts, rather than into the Articles of Incorporation, which would have been difficult given the differences among States not-for-profit laws.

**TO ADOPT ADDING ARTICLES VII AND VIII TO THE BYLAWS OF THE EASTERN
DISTRICT, LCMS**

WHEREAS, The Constitution and Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are the governing documents of districts, and Synod allows individual Districts to establish their own Bylaws that supplement the governing documents of the Synod, and;

WHEREAS, the Eastern District has ordered itself in governing documents called the Bylaws and Regulations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, Eastern District (Regulations is the Eastern District nomenclature for the supplemental bylaws permitted by Synod); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Eastern District is responsible for periodic review of the Bylaws and Regulations of the district (Regulation 1.1.5.3); and,

WHEREAS, the Bylaws Committee of the Board of Directors has proposed modifications to our governing documents in order to better reflect changes in circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Eastern District, upon Synod 2016 Resolution and at the direction of Synod’s Commission on Constitutional Matters recommends changes to the Bylaws at its 99th Convention ; and

WHEREAS, the proposed changes have been reviewed and affirmed by the District's Legal Counsel; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Eastern District Bylaws be amended to add Articles VII and VIII, as they are presented in the Convention Workbook (p.) and again in Today's Business (p.) be approved; and be it finally,

RESOLVED, the Eastern District Board of Directors and its Bylaws and Regulations Committee – Gordon Tresch, Rick Porter, Mark Lambrecht and Jason Christ - be thanked for their faithful oversight of this project.

Proposed changes to the Regulations

See document

“Proposed Eastern District Regulations, mark up”

Global change to the Regulations

Wording changes from “pastor” to “ordained minister” is a technicality made where appropriate throughout the documents. There may be other slight word and punctuation changes as well.

Regulation 1.1.2.5 a, b

New York State safeguard against “Conflict of Interest”

The Board of Directors is to have three or more independent directors. Currently, every voting member of the Board is an independent director.

This is a recommended change from the District's Attorney and will make our governing documents compliant to recent changes in the New York State "not-for-profit" corporation laws.

Regulation 1.1.7.1

District Reconcilers

To comply with and point to Synod's Bylaws regarding the appointment of District Reconcilers.

Regulation 1.2.2.3

District President succession

Specifies the succession to the Office of District President in the event the District President is unable to fill his term of office.

Regulation 1.2.3.1

Residence of Vice President

The Vice President of a Region is to have residence within that Region

Regulation 3.1.1, 3.1.1.1 & 3.1.1.2

Registration of Voting Delegates for a District Convention

In the past, Voting Delegates were to register at the time of the District Convention. This change, in keeping with Synod Resolution, permits Voting Delegates to register by mail, properly credentialed, before the Convention.

Regulations 3.2 and 3.3

Nominating Committee from 12 to 3 members

Change to the "Nominating Committee" structure would take effect at the 2021 District Convention.

The rationale for the change is that size of the committee is no longer necessary. Currently the committee is made up of 12 members, 3 (ordained, commissioned, and lay) from each of our four regions. Their task is to nominate for the Secretary of the District and the Commission Ministers Representative to the Board of Directors, to oversee the nominating process and to nominate another 12 members to replace themselves.

The change will create a committee of 3 members only (one each ordained, commissioned, and lay). The committee will be nominated by the congregations and will oversee the nominating process. Congregations will nominate for the position of Secretary of the District and Commission Minister Representative to the Board of Directors.

Regulation 3.3.2.9

Selection and Ratification of Circuit Visitor

Changes and clarifications are in keeping with Synod Policy.

Regulation 3.3.3.2

Nomination and Election of the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will consist of three members, one Clergy, one Commissioned Minister and one Lay, each from different Regions of the District. Selection of the Clergy member is first in order, followed by the Commissioned Minister of the remaining three Regions, and that is followed by the Lay member who is selected of the remaining two Regions.

TO ADOPT CHANGES TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT, LCMS

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WHEREAS, the Bylaws Committee of the Board of Directors has proposed modifications to our governing documents in order to better reflect changes in circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Eastern District, upon Synod 2016 Resolution and at the direction of Synod's Commission on Constitutional Matters recommends changes to the Bylaws at its 99th Convention ; and

WHEREAS, the proposed changes have been reviewed and affirmed by the District's Legal Counsel; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Eastern District Regulations be amended as they are presented in the Convention Workbook (p.) and again in Today's Business (p.) be approved; and be it finally,

RESOLVED, the Eastern District Board of Directors and its Bylaws and Regulations Committee – Gordon Tresch, Rick Porter, Mark Lambrecht and Jason Christ - be thanked for their faithful oversight of this project.