

Free Methodist Church USA 39th General Conference RESOLUTION

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INTRODUCED BY: Pacific Northwest Conference		General Conference Secretary - OFFICE USE ONLY		
ANNUAL CONFERENCE NAME: Pacific Northwest Conference		Resolution No. 404		
WRITTEN BY: Fred Safstrom		Received Date: 12/16/2022		
		Resolution Committee Grade: BOA Consideration: GC Consideration:		
RELATED TO PARAGRAPH ¶4110		Referred to Ministry Team Number:		
SUBJECT OR TITLE: Increase to four Bishops to add lack of diversity.	ress heavy workloads and	Final Vote: Yes No		

Whereas:

The mission of the Free Methodist Church is "to ignite a Spirit-fueled movement for the catalyzation of leaders and churches", and

Whereas:

The current complement of three Bishops provide oversight for not only the Free Methodist conferences in the USA, but also outreach conferences in 32 other countries worldwide, and

Whereas:

To serve this worldwide responsibility, current Bishops are required to travel extensively, and are stretched to capacity, and

Whereas:

Bishops for the Free Methodist Church USA serve a racially diverse church in the USA and around the world, and

Whereas:

The Free Methodist Church USA only recently elected its first female bishop and further movement towards greater diversity would be beneficial, and

Whereas:

The Board of Bishops for the Free Methodist Church USA presently and historically has lacked racial diversity, and

Whereas:

It is appropriate and desirable for the Board of Bishops to reflect the racial diversity for the conferences it serves, therefore

Be it resolved:				
That the Free Methodist Church USA 2023 General Conference shall elect four bishops, and				
Be it further resolved:				
That Bishop Search Committee make every effort to present nominees for bishop that includes persons of color reflecting the racial diversity of the Free Methodist Church USA.				

