



Free Methodist Church USA
39th General Conference
RESOLUTION

INSTRUCTIONS:

Complete requested information, adding additional pages as necessary. Save and e-mail completed form to your Annual Conference office.

INTRODUCED BY: Pacific Northwest Conference

ANNUAL CONFERENCE NAME: _____
Pacific Northwest Conference

WRITTEN BY: Eric Hein, Sharon Dennis, Fred Safstrom,
Jonathan Pierre-Puckett

General Conference Secretary - OFFICE USE ONLY

Resolution No. 414

Received Date: 12/16/22

Resolution Committee Grade: _____

BOA Consideration: _____

GC Consideration: _____

RELATED TO PARAGRAPH ¶4110

Referred to Ministry Team Number:

SUBJECT OR TITLE:

Revision of the timeline to nominate and elect Bishops to facilitate improved continuity for greater missional impact.

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:

Staggered term expirations will provide more continuity for this movement within the Board of Bishops, and

Whereas:

It is important for the Board of Bishops to maintain currency of affairs and issues affecting the Free Methodist Church, while the current system of all Bishops’ terms expiring simultaneously risks an interruption of that continuity, therefore

Be it resolved:

That Bishops shall be elected for four-year terms with on a rotating schedule of no more than one Bishop being replaced in a given year, and

Be it further resolved:

Each Bishop position be designated by position. In order to establish staggering, at the 2023 General Conference, Position 1 would be for a two-year term, Position 2 for a three-year term and Position 3 be for a four-year term, etcetera for the total number of bishops. The BoA will be responsible to assign initial positions.

Be it further resolved:

That the process for electing Bishops be the same as delineated in the Book of Discipline paragraph 4110 section B and/or D, commencing each year a sitting Bishop’s term is scheduled to expire. Therefore, Bishop terms expiring in the year of General Conference would be elected at the General Conference. Bishop terms expiring in other years would be elected via mail or electronic ballot by General Conference delegates.



