



**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: The Center for Pastoral Formation

ANNUAL CONFERENCE NAME:

WRITTEN BY: Steve Tungate

General Conference Secretary - OFFICE USE ONLY

Resolution No. 612

Received Date: 1/2/2023

Resolution Committee Grade: _____

BOA Consideration: _____

GC Consideration: _____

RELATED TO PARAGRAPH 6500

Referred to Ministry Team Number:

SUBJECT OR TITLE: Dignity of Deacon Rewording

Final Vote: Yes No

WHEREAS:

Whereas the role of deacon is now a conference-level credential;

And

Whereas the wording of paragraph 6500.B tends to diminish the dignity of the role of conference deacon

And

Whereas paragraph 6500.L does not include the option of conference deacon

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED:

To remove paragraph 6500.B which reads:

“B. Persons who do not show adequate potential of being an elder who can lead a congregation to fulfill the mission of the Church and our expected outcomes should be counseled at an early time to consider the support and service role of a deacon.”

And to adjust the paragraph letter which follows.

And to add to paragraph 6500.L the following words highlighted in red:

“L. Finally, the local Board of Administration recommends to the conference Ministerial Education and Guidance Board that the candidate be accepted as a conference ministerial candidate **or as a conference deacon candidate.**”

Annual Conference Resolutions Committee Worksheet:

Mission: To love God, love people and make disciples.

Vision: To bring wholeness to the world through healthy biblical communities of holy people multiplying disciples, leaders, groups and churches.

1. Does the resolution have a direct relationship to the vision and mission of the Free Methodist Church?

Yes

No

2. How will the proposed change help us accomplish our vision and mission?

3. The Resolutions Committee rates this resolution as:

(A) Support - recommend adoption

(B) Recommended - worthy of review

(C) Rejected - anticipate General Conference rejection

Other Comments: