

PETITION TO THE 2017 ROCKY MOUNTAIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

TITLE: Delegate Elections for Called 2019 General Conference

ACTION TO BE VOTED ON:

- 1 The Rocky Mountain Annual Conference shall hold elections during the 2018 regular annual session for the purpose
2 of selecting a new set of delegates to the 2019 Called General Conference. Such elections shall follow the regular
3 procedures as set forth in Section C.1.f of the Rules of the Rocky Mountain Conference.
- 4 These elections shall not supplant the regularly required election cycle during the 2019 Rocky Mountain Annual
5 Conference for the purpose of selecting General and Jurisdiction delegates for the normal quadrennial cycle of the
6 General Church.
- 7 Delegates elected for the purpose of the 2019 Called General Conference shall stand so elected for the duration of the
8 2019 Called General Session, or until properly replaced by the elections normally conducted during the 2019 Rocky
9 Mountain Conference's regular annual meeting for the purpose of serving the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference
10 during the 2020 General and Jurisdictional Conferences.
- 11

PETITION DETAILS

This petition is a

- Binding Action
 Non-Binding Resolution

Effective Date: July 1, 2017

Termination Date: June 30, 2019

Does this petition modify the Annual Conference Standing Rules and Operational Procedures (SROP)?

- Yes
 No

If "Yes," please complete the information below.

- This petition will modify Section x.x.x
 This petition will create a new Section x.x.x

Conference Agency responsible for implementation and termination review:

Rules Committee, Program and Arrangements Committee, and Agenda Committee

NOTE: All paragraph numberings within the SROP and the final designation of the Conference Agency responsible for implementation and termination review are subject to review by the Rules Committee.

ORIGINATOR OF THE PETITION (individual, church, or organization):

Name Robert A. Brandt, Jr.
Address 706 E. Kellogg St.
City, State, Zip Holyoke, Colorado 80724
Email flixnutter@gmail.com
Phone 970-520-8393

PERSON TO PRESENT PETITION AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

Name Robert A. Brandt, Jr.
Address 706 E. Kellogg St.
City, State, Zip Holyoke, Colorado 80724
Email flixnutter@gmail.com
Phone 970-520-8393
Phone @ Conference 970-520-8393

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Will there be any identifiable financial impact to the Conference?

Yes
 No

If "Yes," please fill in the information below.

To Be Completed by the Originator of the Petition

Cost: Incidental materials required for the balloting process of the election
Period
 One Time
 One Year
 Multiple Years

To Be Completed by Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CFA)

Review by CFA 05/12/2017

Included in proposed 2018 budget

Yes
 No

Amount if included: N/A. Any additional expenses would be included in the Annual Conference Session event budget and not the Conference operating budget.

May be considered for budgets in future years: N/A

Yes
 No

Projected Amount: N/A

Recommendation by CFA concerning funding:
N/A

Reason for recommendation:
No Rocky Mountain Conference 2018 operating budget impact.

RATIONALE (Not debatable):

1 Following the election and subsequent appointment of a self-avowed lesbian to the episcopacy of the Methodist
2 Church, as well as the creation of the “Commission on the Way Forward” deliberative body, sentiments in the general
3 population of the parishioners of local United Methodist congregations are divided. These divisions are decisive and
4 fracturing.

5 With the Called General Conference, whose task it shall be to act on the recommendations of “The Way Forward,”
6 representatives of the local congregations of the Rocky Mountain Conference may find it advisable to create the
7 opportunity for new delegate selections to the Called General Conference. While these numbers would nonetheless be
8 small, and perhaps of little to no consequence, the symbolic gesture of allowing for differing opinions to be given
9 voice in the process may be healing. That segment of our denomination which would support the present position of
10 the Book of Discipline, as well as the historical position of this denomination on human sexuality and the ordination
11 and subsequent appointment of self-avowed homosexuals, needs a seat at the table.

12 I believe it will only serve to further divide our conference membership – particularly in this conference which is so
13 keenly involved in the political, theological, and philosophical debate, given that the focal point of much of this debate
14 and discussion is personified in our present Bishop – if opportunity is not created through an election process for
15 differing voices to be selected from our conference. We must at least offer the body the option of sending a possibly
16 new slate of delegates to the 2019 Called General Conference

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ATTACHMENTS (Additional Information / Not Debatable)

1 **The Constitution: Section II, Paragraph 14, Article II (2016 Book of Discipline)**

2 The General Conference shall meet once in four years at such time and in such place as shall be determined by the
3 General Conference or by its duly authorized committees.

4 A special session of the General Conference, possessing the authority and exercising all the powers of the General
5 Conference, may be called by the Council of Bishops, or in such other manner as the General Conference may from
6 time to time prescribe, to meet at such time and in such place as may be stated in the call. Such special session of the
7 General Conference shall be composed of the delegates to the preceding General Conference or their lawful
8 successors, **except that when a particular annual conference or missionary conference shall prefer to have a**
9 **new election it may do so.** The purpose of such special session shall be stated in the call, and only such business shall
10 be transacted as is in harmony with the purpose stated in such call unless the General Conference by a two-thirds vote
11 shall determine that other business may be transacted.

12 [Emphasis added.]