

2019 RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #1: That the General Constitution and Bylaws allow for up to two (2) leaders in good standing from each nation to vote for the office of the General Bishop and General Secretary at all General Conventions.

Submitted: From the General Board (Presented/Recommended by the General Bishop)

Rationale: The Pentecostal Church of God is a “global church with a global mission” and recognizes the General Bishop and General Secretary as the respective, presiding leaders. However, while U.S. chartered churches can designate up to two (2) delegates per fifty in average Sunday morning attendance to vote for the executive offices respectively, our PCG nations with their global leaders, serving hundreds and sometimes thousands of PCG members, have no representation or opportunity to vote for their leaders. Consequently, to help facilitate One Mission—One Movement, the purpose of this resolution would provide for each PCG nation in good standing and duly registered to designate up to two (2) leaders to vote for the office of the General Bishop and General Secretary.

Resolution #2: To remove Article XI—Communication’s Ministry—on page 53 from the General Bylaw book and place it in the General Board Policy Manual, striking “Director of Communications” from Article XIV, Section 1, page 57. This action would remove the Director of Communications as a General Board member.

Submitted: From the General Board

Rationale: This resolution would allow for the ever-changing role of communications and information technology to function with flexibility through policy changes rather than bylaw changes, and the Director of Communications could be selected according to specific qualifications based on information technology rather than years of ordained service and full-time, five-fold ministry experience.

Resolution #3: That the General Constitution and Bylaws be amended to allow for women to serve in all general/district executive and ministry director roles. (Current Bylaw on page 45)

Submitted: From the General Board (Presented/Recommended by the General Bishop)

Rationale: The current bylaws of the Pentecostal Church of God already enhance the rationale for this resolution by stating, “*The place of women in ministry relates to the principle that the Holy Spirit divides upon each as He wills*” (Section 4, Paragraph F, page 45). The rationale of this resolution simply provides practical application to this statement—that since the Holy Spirit divinely gives the gifts, all people, including women, should be able to use those gifts without human restriction. This resolution would not change the process of a two-thirds majority vote remaining as the standard for all general/district elections and would allow for continued Holy Spirit confirmation in the election process for all leaders.

Resolution #4: To change the General Bylaws of the Pentecostal Church of God
Page 39: Article IV - Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage; Section 3. Divorced and Remarried Ministers. Add Paragraph D to this section as follows:

D. The divorce that does not meet the criteria in A, B, C (listed above) shall be given consideration only upon full confession and repentance by the applicant for the divorce, and no applicant attempting to justify the divorce shall be given consideration (1 John 1:9; John 8:36); A minimum three (3) year probationary waiting period shall be required from the time of the divorce to the time of the application, and the application shall include a written essay confirming the applicant's Biblical beliefs as it relates to marriage and divorce (Matthew 3:8; Matthew 7:20).

Submitted: From the Tennessee District Board.

Author's Explanation for this Resolution (not to be included as a part of this resolution or any potential bylaws):

Due to the magnitude of debate and discussion concerning the topic of divorce and/or divorce and remarriage, we do assert our firm belief that divorce is not the plan of God, but we do also believe and agree with the exceptions made in the current General Bylaws of the Pentecostal Church of God (paragraphs A, B, and C as follows).

Page 39, Article IV, Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage. Section 3. Divorced and Remarried Ministers. No divorced and remarried Christian shall be granted Credentials with the Pentecostal Church of God except in the following cases:

A. The divorce occurred prior to the applicant's initial understanding and acceptance of salvation evidenced by faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and further the applicant did not demonstrate a lifestyle consistent with devotion to Biblical principles. We recognize annulment as a marriage that never legally occurred (2 Corinthians 5:17).

B. The divorce was for the cause of fornication or sexual immorality on the part of the applicant's former spouse (Matthew 5:32; 19:9), where the applicant was faithful to the marriage vows during the marriage.

C. The divorce occurred when an unbeliever departs from a believer (1 Corinthians 7:15). It must be determined that every effort was made personally and legally to save the marriage, and said divorce occurred against the will of the applicant.

D. **Proposed resolution verbiage would be added here upon approval as follows:** The divorce that does not meet the criteria in A, B, C (listed above) shall be given consideration only upon full confession and repentance by the applicant for the divorce, and no applicant attempting to justify the divorce shall be given consideration (1 John 1:9; John 8:36); A minimum three (3) year probationary waiting period shall be required from the time of the divorce to the time of the application, and the application shall include a written essay confirming the applicant's Biblical beliefs as it relates to marriage and divorce (Matthew 3:8; Matthew 7:20).

And so, on purpose and with intent, we give no other excuse for divorce, we give no other reason for divorce, and we give no other justification for divorce; and yet with the same purpose and with the same intent, we believe that God will and does forgive

divorce; and maintain that any individual who has had a divorce, but has also humbled themselves, repented, and received God's forgiveness, may still be used in active ministry; assuming they will subject themselves to the authority of their respective general and/or district board, commit themselves to fulfill any and all necessary ministry requirements and submit themselves to the doctrine of the Pentecostal Church of God.