



**EPC**

A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

## Descending Overtures from the 37<sup>h</sup> General Assembly Evangelical Presbyterian Church

### Descending Overture 17-A

To amend *Book of Government* 9-6A and 10-8B.2a to specify the term of service for an out of bounds call to be for a renewable term of up to three years, bringing consistency to the two sections.

Current <i>Book of Government</i> 9-6A	Proposed <i>Book of Government</i> 9-6A
<p><b>9-6 Teaching Elders serving outside of presbytery bounds</b></p> <p>A. Whenever a Teaching Elder is called to one of the positions provided for under G.9-5 by an agency that is outside the jurisdiction of a court of the Church and after being fully satisfied that the ministry is consistent with the calling to the ministry of the Word, the Presbytery may grant permission for the Minister to labor outside of its jurisdictional bounds. Such permission is renewable annually. The Teaching Elder shall make an annual report to the Presbytery of faithfulness to the gospel. The Teaching Elder serving out of bounds shall be diligent to serve actively in the Court. If the particular call prohibits such service, the Teaching Elder should seek Associate Member status.</p>	<p>Additions in <b><i>bold italics</i></b></p> <p><b>9-6 Teaching Elders serving outside of presbytery bounds</b></p> <p>A. Whenever a Teaching Elder is called to one of the positions provided for under G.9-5 by an agency that is outside the jurisdiction of a court of the Church and after being fully satisfied that the ministry is consistent with the calling to the ministry of the Word, the Presbytery may grant permission for the Minister to labor outside of its jurisdictional bounds <del>Such permission is renewable annually.</del> <b><i>for a term of up to three years. After the expiration of that time, the Minister must receive further Presbytery approval to continue.</i></b> The Teaching Elder shall make an annual report to the Presbytery of faithfulness to the gospel. The Teaching Elder serving out of bounds shall be diligent to serve actively in the Court. If the particular call prohibits such service, the Teaching Elder should seek Associate Member status.</p>

<b>Current Book of Government 10-8B.2a</b>	<b>Proposed Book of Government 10-8B.2a Changes in <i>bold italics</i></b>
<p>a. If a Teaching Elder desires to accept a call outside the jurisdictional or geographic bounds of the approving Presbytery, the Teaching Elder shall present a call from that body to the Presbytery, indicating the nature of the work and the terms of the call. If the Presbytery approves the nature of the work as appropriate to the gospel ministry and requiring ordination, it may approve the call for a definite period of time. After the expiration of that time, the Minister must receive further approval to continue.</p>	<p>a. If a Teaching Elder desires to accept a call outside the jurisdictional or geographic bounds of the approving Presbytery, the Teaching Elder shall present a call from that body to the Presbytery, indicating the nature of the work and the terms of the call. If the Presbytery approves the nature of the work as appropriate to the gospel ministry and requiring ordination, it may approve the call for a <del>definite period of time</del> <b><i>term of up to three years</i></b>. After the expiration of that time, the Minister must receive further <b><i>Presbytery</i></b> approval to continue.</p>