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**GA39-21**  
**FROM THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM**

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**Recommendation:**

That the 39<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2019) **APPROVE** its proposal for the Moderator to appoint an ad interim committee composed of five ruling or teaching elders from diverse, strongly-supporting churches across multiple presbyteries' long-term culture of giving to the EPC. It will also evaluate the current Per Member Asking (PMA) funding formula and provide a report to the 40<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in 2020.

Rationale:

The EPC has been blessed with giving to the EPC via Per Member Asking (PMA) growing healthily in recent years. However, giving by churches is approaching a historic high relative to the full PMA level and has weakened in the current fiscal year. PMA giving has not kept pace with overall membership which is now flat to down. A wide divergence is seen in church giving: thankfully, about half our churches give 90+% of their PMA, however one-third give \$0 or very little. EPC churches generally are in accord on biblical and missional matters, cohesive on connectional structures, and share much cultural harmony, but seem not to be united in sharing financially what is required to carry out the EPC mission and vision. A fundamental question facing the EPC as a movement of churches is: What does it mean to be connected to the EPC? E.g. Is it theological, ecclesial, collegial, branding, or collaborative? And, should financial support of the EPC be purely voluntary, expected, or mandatory? Answers to these questions define the EPC giving culture.

[www.epc.org/files/ga2019report-nlt](http://www.epc.org/files/ga2019report-nlt)

***Referred to ADMINISTRATION***