



**EPC**

A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

**44-22** (to the Theology Standing Committee)  
**From the Permanent Judicial Commission**

The **Permanent Judicial Commission** recommends that the 44<sup>th</sup> General Assembly **DECLINE** amending the *Book of Government* sections 8-2 C and *Book of Worship* 3-3 J and that Recommendation **44-23** be answered by this action.

**Rationale:** Under the Constitution the Session currently has the authority to receive members taking into consideration the individual's mental capabilities and life situation. This includes not only developmentally disabled individuals, but other conditions which may have impacted an individual's abilities to evidence a true commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord, including medical conditions, traumatic injury, and other scenarios and conditions. The current constitutional language is therefore broader than the proposed additional language. Likewise, Session and Minister have defined roles with respect to preparation for, and admission to The Lord's Supper (see, e.g. **W. 3, H, I, J, and M**), along with **Westminster Confession** Chapter 29. The well-intentioned and compassionate proposed additional language is therefore superfluous. The recommendation of the PJC is to keep the Constitution free of excess terminology to avoid future potential conflicts with clarity, consistency, and conformity.

[www.epc.org/2024report-pjc](http://www.epc.org/2024report-pjc)