



Proposed language change to “length of terms” for Council Members

The proposed change is to eliminate the ambiguity created by having the Synod Assembly less or more than one year apart, such as in 2017 and now 2021/2022. Terms are specified only as three years or one year (S10.07.02a&b) which begin and end at the close of Synod Assembly (S10.07.02d), both are not possible unless the Synod Assemblies are always one year apart. Proposed change adds the qualifying language “or until their successors are elected and take office” which allows for terms to be more or less than the years specified in the event the Synod Assembly is not held the same time each year. It will also clarify the language in S10.07.02b by adding the word “primary” to the first sentence.

Current Bylaws

S10.07.02a. To ensure geographic representation, four members serving staggered terms shall be from the membership of a congregation within each mission district. The members shall be elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of three years and will be eligible for election for one additional term.

S10.07.02b. To ensure inclusive representation of lay and ministers of Word and Sacrament, male and female, Native Americans and persons of color and/or persons whose language is other than English, there shall be a number of members-at-large as determined by the Synod Council. The persons so elected by the Synod Assembly shall be elected for a term of one year and shall be eligible for reelection.

Amended Bylaws

S10.07.02a. To ensure geographic representation, four members serving staggered terms shall be from the membership of a congregation within each mission district. The members shall be elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of three years, **or until their successors are elected and take office**, and will be eligible for election for one additional term.

S10.07.02b. To ensure inclusive representation of lay and ministers of Word and Sacrament, male and female, Native Americans and persons of color and/or persons whose **primary** language is other than English, there shall be a number

of members-at-large as determined by the Synod Council. The persons so elected by the Synod Assembly shall be elected for a term of one year, **or until their successors are elected and take office**, and shall be eligible for reelection.

Enabling Resolution presented to the Assembly:

I move to amend Bylaw S10.07.02.a. by inserting the words “or until their successors are elected and take office” after “for a term of three years”; and to amend Bylaw S10.07.02.b. by inserting the words “or until their successors are elected and take office” after “for a term of one year” and inserting the word “primary” before “language.”

Bylaw in Constitution:

S10.07.02a. To ensure geographic representation, four members serving staggered terms shall be from the membership of a congregation within each mission district. The members shall be elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of three years, **or until their successors are elected and take office**, and will be eligible for election for one additional term.

S10.07.02b. To ensure inclusive representation of lay and ministers of Word and Sacrament, male and female, Native Americans and persons of color and/or persons whose **primary** language is other than English, there shall be a number of members-at-large as determined by the Synod Council. The persons so elected by the Synod Assembly shall be elected for a term of one year, **or until their successors are elected and take office**, and shall be eligible for reelection.