

**AMENDMENT TO THE SYNOD OF THE COVENANT BYLAWS: To approve the** Each at-large member shall be elected to serve terms of three years and may be eligible for re-election. However, no at-large members shall serve more than six consecutive years, and any at-large member who has served six consecutive years shall be ineligible for election as an at-large member for at least one year.

- A. At-large members will have voice and vote on the committees to which they are assigned, as well as voice and vote at Synod Assemblies.
- B. Each at-large member shall be a ruling elder or a teaching elder.
- C. Each at-large member shall be a member of a presbytery or congregation within the bounds of the Synod of the Covenant.
- D. No more than one (1) at-large member from each presbytery can serve simultaneously.

**following proposed amendment: To add 40:80** In order to fulfill the principles of participation and representation, the Synod shall elect three ruling elders and three teaching elders as at-large members as follows: two people of African descent, two people of Asian, Asian American, or Pacific Islander (AAPI) descent, and 2 people from marginalized communities within the bounds of the Synod (member of another racialized identity, immigrants, those whose first language is not English). Two of those elected will be assigned to serve on the Leadership Committee, and the other four will be assigned, one each, to one of the other standing committees by the Nominating Committee.

Rationale: At the Annual Assembly in October 2023, Commissioners approved the following motion: To increase the number of Synod Commissioners by six. The composition of those six will be designated as follows: two Commissioners of African descent, two commissioners of Asian, Asian American, or Pacific Islander (AAPI) descent, and 2 Commissioners marginalized communities within the bounds of the Synod (member of another racialized identity, immigrants, those whose first language is not English). Two of these commissioners will serve on the Leadership Committee, and the other four will be assigned, one each, to other standing committees.

Constitutional Support: F-1.0403, G-3.0103, G-3.0401

NOTE: Per PCUSA Constitution, changes in bylaws or policies that alter the composition of synod membership must be approved by presbyteries that comprise the synod. If this amendment to the bylaws is approved, it will be forwarded to presbyteries within the bounds of the Synod of the Covenant for ratification. The results of those votes will be provided in the clerk's report at the Synod Assembly in October 2024.