

**AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION – LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**TEMPLATE**

**PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR SUBMISSION TO THE 2012 GENERAL CONFERENCE**

**DIRECTIONS:** Discussion of proposed legislation should occur in the local church, the Presiding Elder District, Conference, Episcopal District and Connectional levels. All resulting final proposed legislation should be forwarded to:

Dr. Celestine Cheeks, Chairperson  
Legislation Committee  
C/O Connectional Lay Organization  
5601 Pola Court  
Clinton, MD 20735

E-mail: ccheeks@towson.edu  
Mobile Phone. (240) 678-8888

**Instructions to Interested Individuals and Lay Organizations in the 1st – 20th Episcopal Districts:**

Forward all proposed legislation in the format described herein to:

\_\_\_\_\_, Legislation Committee Member, \_\_\_\_\_ Episcopal District,  
(name) (number)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Episcopal District Submission Deadline:** Tuesday, February 1, 2011

**A.M.E. Church Submission Deadline:** Tuesday, March 27, 2012, at 5:00 p.m. (90 days prior to the start of the 49th Quadrennial Session of the General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church).

**Instructions: Preparation of Proposed Legislation:** Each proposed Bill must adhere to the format below, answering the questions: What? Where? How? Why?

- **Title:** Assign a Title/Subject to the matter presented. (What?) The Title/Subject should be concise, yet clear, typically one line.
- **Reference:** Indicate all sections in the current edition of *The Book of Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2008* that are impacted by the proposed legislation. (Where?) Include Part, Section, Article and Page Number(s).
- **Intent:** Explain how the proposed legislation will impact the A.M.E. Church. (How?) Include Objectives, Changes, Additions and other supportive language.
- **Rationale:** Are the changes/modifications/additions necessary? (Why?) Please elaborate.
- **Text:** The text of the proposed legislation should be printed exactly as it is to appear in the revised, 2012 Edition of *The Book of Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church*. Please double space and number each line (1, 2, 3, etc.).

- Legislation that has a budgetary impact must be accompanied by a projected cost of implementation.
- All legislation submitted by the laity should be sent to the Connectional Lay Organization's Legislative Committee for discussion and support.
- This Template for Proposed Legislation may be copied for distribution.

**EXAMPLE OF THE PROPER FORMAT FOR PROPOSED LEGISLATION:**

**BILL NUMBER:** AB-00

**TITLE:** The Quarterly Conference Composition

**REFERENCE:** The Book of Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2008, Part VIII, Section IV.A. Composition (Page 230).

**INTENT:** To have the Presidents of the Local Lay Organization as members of the Quarterly Conference added to the Discipline.

**RATIONALE:** Presidents of the Lay Organizations are members of the Official Board, Quarterly Conference, District Conference and Annual Conference.

**CONFERENCE:** This omission under the Quarterly Conference needs to be corrected.

**TEXT:** (Add your text here)

1     Current Text: licensed missionary workers, evangelists and the  
 2     superintendent of the Church School, the presidents of the  
 3     A.C.E, Fellowship and Missionary Societies, administrators of  
 4     the A.M.E. Institutions, organizations and agencies, provided  
 5     the latter are members of the A.M.E. Church.

6  
 7     Amended Text: licensed missionary workers, evangelists and  
 8     The Superintendent of the Church School, the presidents of  
 9     The Lay Organization, A.C.E Fellowship and Missionary  
 10    Societies, Administrators of the A.M.E. institutions,  
 11    Organizations and agencies, provided the latter are members  
 12    Of the A.M.E. Church.

