

BOOK OF ORDER AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDED BY
THE 226TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AND PRESENTED TO PRESBYTERIES FOR THEIR
AFFIRMATIVE OR NEGATIVE VOTE

SUMMARY

(Full text is available with meeting papers I-4)

AMENDMENT NUMBER	BOO SECTION TO BE AMENDED	SUMMARY
24-A	F-1.0403	The categories <i>gender identity, sexual orientation</i> , be included as protected classes in the Unity in Diversity section of Foundations of Presbyterian Polity
24-B*	G-1.0104	Adds guidelines for other forms of corporate witness (New Worshiping Communities, Immigrant Fellowships etc.) within an adaptable framework rooted in Reformed polity.
24-C	G-2.0104b	Adds Historic Principles of Church Order (F-3.01) and principles of participation and representation (F-1.0403) to required areas for examination for ordination.
24-D	G-2.0504b	Lengthens maximum terms of service for temporary pastoral relationships from twelve months to 36 months
24-E	G-2.0504b	Prohibits non-disclosure agreements at the end of a temporary pastoral relationship
24-F	G-2.0601	Confidential details about a candidate for ministry should be omitted in communicating to the presbytery the need for the approval of alternate means to determine readiness for ministry in areas usually covered by ordination exams
24-G	G-0901	Prohibits non-disclosure agreements when an installed pastoral relationship is dissolved
24-H	G-3-0106	Adds <i>and adults with vulnerabilities</i> to the required child and youth protection policy – legal descriptions vary by state
24-I	G-3.0302d	Eliminates the need for a concurrence from another presbytery to have business brought before GA (concurrences are still allowed but not required)
24-J	G-3.0501	Revises the formula for determining the number of commissioners presbyteries are to send to GA
24-K	D-7.0501	Makes explicit that, when an allegation of offense is made to a clerk of session or stated clerk, the mandates to report to civil authorities in G-4.0302 must be followed
24-L	D-7.0902b	Mandates that administrative leave be paid
24-M	Episcopal-Presbyterian Agreement on local sharing of ministries	Final Report of the Third Round of Bilateral Dialogue Between the Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) 2019-2024. This will be referred to GACIER for further work and a report given at the 227 th GA in 2026.

M Gaut 11/14/2024

Modified G Goodwiller 1/15/25

Modified L Bova 1/28/2025

FROM THE STATED CLERK

The 226th General Assembly (2024) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) approved and recommended to the presbyteries, for their affirmative or negative votes, proposed changes in the language of the *Book of Order* that, if approved, will amend the Constitution. In addition, the 226th General Assembly (2024) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) approved and recommended to the presbyteries pursuant to G-5.0203 for their affirmative or negative votes the Episcopal-Presbyterian Agreement on Local Sharing of Ministries.

Here are a few notes as you prepare for the vote of the presbytery:

- It is recommended that prior to voting, presbyters and clerks review each proposed amendment and its related information.
- Each amendment has an item number, which is how the General Assembly tracked the business in both committee and in plenary. The entire record for each item is available in PC-Biz.
- Live links to the General Assembly item numbers are available throughout this document. Another option is to go to PC-Biz at www.pc-biz.org, click Search, and enter the item number. Click on the item number to reach the summary.
- The rationale and advice from the Advisory Committee on the Constitution and other advisory and advocacy entities have been abbreviated for each amendment for this booklet. Please note that the advice applies to the original item of business and not necessarily the final version approved by the assembly.
- Presbyteries may use a consent agenda or omnibus motion to vote on amendments as long as each proposed amendment is identified separately. Each amendment and the agreement has a tracking number of 24-A, 24-B, etc.
- It is recommended that prior to voting, presbyters and clerks also review the proposed Episcopal-Presbyterian Agreement on Local Sharing of Ministries.
- Presbytery stated clerks are to report a tally of their votes to the Office of the General Assembly no later than **July 4, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time**. Votes on amendments and the agreement should be entered through the Stated Clerk's portal. Each month an updated tally will be mailed to all stated clerks. In order to make changes and publish the 2025–2027 *Book of Order* in a timely manner, receipt of votes prior to this deadline would be appreciated.

Thank you for your time and careful attention as you prepare to vote on these proposed amendments and this agreement with The Episcopal Church.

Jihyun Oh

M Gaut 11/14/2024

Modified G Goodwillier 1/15/25

Modified L Bova 1/28/2025

Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the PC(U.S.A.)

M Gaut 11/14/2024
Modified G Goodwiller 1/15/25
Modified L Bova 1/28/2025