



PROPOSED LEGISLATION FORM

Date: _____

Person submitting Bill: Bill Dickens

District: 5th Conference: Pacific Northwest

Address: _____

Ph. _____ E-mail: _____

1. Check the appropriate response. Prior Bill; X Newly Proposed Legislation
2. Check all that apply. This bill has been reviewed, discussed and is supported at the following levels:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Local Church Lay Organization | District of the Annual Conference Lay Organization | Conference Lay Organization | Episcopal District Lay Organization |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|

3. Complete the following

| | |
|-----------|--|
| BILL NO. | Leave Blank |
| TITLE | Phasing out the Ecumenical Officer Bishop |
| REFERENCE | <i>The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2012</i> , Part XIV, Connectional Budget 2013-2016 (Page 694) and Section IIC5, page 117. |
| INTENT | Terminate the Ecumenical Officer (EO) Position as a salaried full-time Bishop and transfer the duties of the EO to the Senior Bishop. Economic conditions in the African American community do not warrant committing scarce budgetary resources to a full-time Bishop in this office which yields minimal value to local church parishioners. |
| RATIONALE | Cost-savings realized by terminating the Ecumenical Officer represents “low-hanging |

fruit” for the Connectional Budget. The Ecumenical Officer does not preside over an Annual Conference and subsequently does not directly influence the spiritual outcome of the vast majority of members in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The duties and responsibilities of this Bishop should be transferred to the Senior Bishop, effective at the conclusion of the 2020 General Conference.

4. Existing Legislation now reads: (Quote applicable portion of current legislation; Include rationale for the change.) If more space is needed, please continue on a separate page identified as “No. 4 continued”.

Current Text:

An active bishop, in lieu of an episcopal district, may be assigned as an ecumenical officer or may be given a special assignment, such as author of books for the church, and/or any other duties recommended by the Episcopal Committee.

5. Proposed NEW wording (by article, section, and subsection). If more space is needed, continue on a separate page identified as “No. 5 continued”.

The senior bishop will assume the assigned duties as an ecumenical officer.

Cost: FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This proposed legislation will have a financial impact on the General Budget. The impact will be a savings on the General Church Budget. The Gross savings from the 2013-2016 Connectional Budgets, if this position was abolished, would be \$609,151.00. The net savings are calculated below:

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. Ecumenical Officer’s Admin & Housing | \$364,467.00 |
| 2. Ecumenical Officer’s Salary | \$244,684.00 |
| 3. Gross Budget Savings (1 + 2) | \$609,151.00 |
| 4. 20% of Budget Savings to the Senior Bishop (or designee) | \$121,830.00 |
| 5. Net Savings (3 – 4) | \$487,321.00 |