



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; 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
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3. Complete the following

BILL NO.	Leave Blank
TITLE	Growing the Local Church Lay Organization
REFERENCE	<i>The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2012, Part IV Church Membership, Section II. Local Church Organization, Paragraph A (subsection e), page 71.</i>
INTENT	To provide a set of clear incentives that will help increase active participation in local lay organizations and raise the AME IQ of local church officers and members.

RATIONALE

Participation of local church lay members in Lay meetings is steadily declining. Many local members, including church officers, do not attend lay meetings and as a result their absence hinders their effectiveness as church officers. This bill would require the local lay organization to meet as often as necessary monthly for business meetings and training and stipulate that all lay members of the official board to become active members of the local lay as a part of their officer roles and duties.

- 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:

None

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

New paragraph:

To support these objectives, the local lay organization shall meet as necessary monthly for addressing the business affairs at the local Presiding Elder District, Conference, Episcopal District and Connectional levels and training. Official Board members must attend at least six (6) local lay meetings annually as a condition of their leadership position. If an officer and/or class leader fails to meet this minimum meeting requirement he/she will be expected to make up any missed training opportunities or surrender their leadership title. The local pastor will implement and enforce this provision.

Cost: FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This proposed legislation has no financial impact on the General Church Budget.