



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	Reduction of Travel Expenses for Retired Bishops and General Officers
REFERENCE	<i>The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2012</i> , Part XIV, Connectional Budget 2013-2016 (Pages 692 & 695), Section IIF11 (Page 124) & Section IIC?? .
INTENT	Capture budgetary savings by reducing the amount of budgeted travel expenses for retired Bishops and General Officers by 50% each. Current economic conditions in the African American community warrant the African Methodist Episcopal Church to reduce travel allotments for non-active Bishops and General Officers. This is “low hanging

fruit” from a cost-savings perspective. The savings should be captured immediately following the close of the 2016 General Conference.

RATIONALE

Retired Bishops and General Officers are not full-time employees of the General Church. While their continued work for the development of the AME Church is commendable, current travel allocations in the Connectional budget are imprudent and impose an unnecessary budgetary hardship on local churches. A reduction in the budgeted amount for travel expenses is clearly warranted.

- 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:

A retired bishop shall also receive from the Chief Financial Officer of the AME Church reimbursement for the actual travel and lodging expenses only when and if he or she attends a session of the Council of Bishops and the General Conference.

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

A retired bishop shall also receive from the Chief Financial Officer of the AME Church reimbursement for 50% of the actual travel and lodging expenses only when and if he or she attends a session of the Council of Bishops and the General Conference.

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. If travel allocations from the 2013-2016 Connectional Budgets were reduced **by 50%**, the Connectional Budget savings are:

A. Retired Bishops Travel Expenses	\$203,904.00
B. Retired General Officers Travel	\$152,766.00
Net Budget Savings (A + B)	\$356,670.00