

BILL NO.	CLO PL 11
TITLE	Member in Good and Regular Standing
REFERENCE	<i>The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2012 Part IV Section I (pg. 58 and 59)</i>
INTENT	To address the expectations of a member in a local church, circuit or station, or any component or organization of the AME Church.
RATIONALE	Membership in the African Methodist Episcopal Church begins in the local church, circuit, or station. The health and wellness of the local church is directly attributable to the contributions and participation of its membership. The degree to which these actions are performed helps to define a member's status. The terminology "full, good and regular standing" is used specifically as well as generally as a qualification or eligibility for holding an office in the AME Church. A definition of this terminology is in the glossary of the Book of Discipline, however, qualification of this status should be included in the "Membership" section. This new text provides a relationship as well as a rule of governance for identifying a member's status in any and all affiliate components of the AME Church from the local to the connectional levels including what it means and the parameters of what it implies.



- 1 CURRENT TEXT: No Language
- 2 AMENDMENT: Add a new Part IV, Section 1, G; Page 59
- 3 (Current subsection G, Affiliated Membership, will be changed to Section H, and all
- 4 subsequent sections will be renumbered sequentially).
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- 6 **The Expectations of Membership:**
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8 *A member of a local church is expected to be governed by the Book of Discipline of the*
9 *African Methodist Episcopal Church, actively participate in the programs of the local*
10 *church and regularly contribute to these programs and other needs, to the best of the*
11 *member’s abilities. Members who are so disposed are termed “in good and regular*
12 *standing”. The local church Official Board shall determine each member’s status.*

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14 *This status means that the member must regularly attend worship, and the other means*
15 *of grace; regularly attend component, organization, or ministry meetings; regularly*
16 *contribute to the support of the gospel, the church, its benevolent enterprises and the*
17 *poor; and lends his/her time and talents to the various ministries of the local church,*
18 *circuit or station, or its affiliate bodies throughout the African Methodist Episcopal*
19 *Church. Assessment of a ‘member in good and regular standing’ shall be applicable*
20 *throughout the conference year.*

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22 *In the case of a member who is enrolled as an affiliated member as specified in Section*
23 *I.G. of this Part, the home church shall consider participation and contributions of*
24 *said member at the affiliated local church in determining the member’s status.*

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27 FUNDING – There is no cost associated with this legislation

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29 Submitted by the *CLO Proposed Legislation Committee*