

Substitute Resolution: 5B
Recommendation:
Action Taken: Defeated
(yes = 168, no = 259, abstain = 14)

Subject: ELCA Churchwide Constitution Amendment
Source: Resolutions Committee

WHEREAS, Chapter 12.11. states – The Church wide Assembly shall be the highest legislative authority of the church wide organization and shall deal with all matters which are necessary in pursuit of the purposes and functions of this church. The powers of the Church wide Assembly are limited only by the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation, The E.L.C.A. constitution and bylaws, and the assembly’s own resolutions; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 5.01.c. of the E.L.C.A. constitution states in part- Whenever possible, the entity most directly affected by a decision shall be the principal party responsible for decision and implementation, with the other entities facilitating and assisting. Each congregation, synod, and separately incorporated unit of the church wide organization, as well as the church wide organization itself, is a separate legal entity and is responsible for exercising its powers and authorities; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Synod Assembly memorialize the 2011 Churchwide Assembly of the E.L.C.A. to institute a process of congregational ratification of future Social Statements and any changes to Vision and Expectations for pastors, associates in ministry, deaconesses and diaconal ministers.