

Report of the Resolutions Committee

(4/9/2026)

- 1. Subject: Resolution to Adopt Amendments to the Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the South Dakota**
Source: Synod Council
Recommendation: Do Pass
- 2. Subject: 2027 Compensation and Guidelines for Rostered Ministers and Lay Staff**
Source: Committee for Support to Ministries and its Compensation Task Force
Recommendation: Do Pass
- 3. Subject: Elect South Dakota Synod Council Members**
Source: Resolutions Committee
Recommendation: Do Pass

Resolution #1
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken:

Subject: Resolution to Adopt Amendments to the Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the South Dakota
Source: Synod Council

BE IT RESOLVED, except for those bylaws and continuing resolutions that may be requested for separation consideration, to amend en bloc the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the South Dakota Synod as follows:

Additions are underlined. Deletions are ~~struck through~~ in the text.

Section 4: Amendments to Non-Required Provisions

Chapter 7. Synod Assembly

S7.26. This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council that permit **persons currently serving as synod-authorized ministers and/or** lay representatives of authorized worshiping communities of the synod, which have been authorized under ELCA bylaw 10.01.04., to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †S7.21.

Chapter 9. Nominations and Elections

S9.04. The bishop shall be elected by the Synod Assembly by ecclesiastical ballot. Three-fourths of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election on the first ballot. If no one is elected, the first ballot shall be considered the nominating ballot. Three-fourths of the legal votes cast on the second ballot shall be necessary for election. The third ballot shall be limited to the seven persons **(plus ties)** who receive the greatest number of legal votes **(including ties in the final qualifying position)** on the second ballot, and two-thirds of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election. The fourth ballot shall be limited to the three persons **(plus ties)** who receive the greatest number of legal votes **(including ties in the final qualifying position)** on the third ballot, and 60 percent of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election. On subsequent ballots a majority of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election. These ballots shall be limited to the two persons **(plus ties)** who receive the greatest number of legal votes **(including ties in the final qualifying position)** on the previous ballot.

Chapter 10. Synod Council

S10.05. ~~No e~~**Elected members** of the Synod Council shall **not** receive compensation **solely** for ~~such their~~ service **as council members**.

~~S10.0607.~~ If a member of the Synod Council ceases to meet

~~S10.0708.~~ The composition of the Synod Council

~~S10.0809.~~ *Robert's Rules of Order*, latest edition, shall govern

Chapter 13. Congregations

S13.40. **Synod-authorized Worshiping Communities and Outreach Ministries**

S13.41. ~~Authorized worshiping~~ **Worshiping** communities **and outreach ministries**, **authorized by the synod and** acknowledged under criteria, policies, and procedures approved by the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, shall accept and adhere to the Confession of Faith and Statement of Purpose of this church, shall be served by leadership under the criteria of this church, and shall be subject to the discipline of this church.

Resolution #2
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken:

Subject: 2027 Compensation and Guidelines for Rostered Ministers and Lay Staff
Source: Committee for Support to Ministries and its Compensation Task Force

RESOLVED, that the “2027 Compensation and Guidelines for Rostered Ministers and Lay Staff,” prepared by a task force for the Committee for Support to Ministries and recommended by the committee for adoption, be adopted as the policy of the South Dakota Synod by the 2026 South Dakota Synod Assembly.

Resolution #1
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken:

Subject: Elect South Dakota Synod Council Members
Source: Resolutions Committee

RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Synod, ELCA elect the following conference nominees to the South Dakota Synod Council for a term of four years:

Medary Conference (Lay Female)	Erin Weinkauf, Volga
Crossroads Conference (Rostered)	Pr. Herb Wounded Head III, Sioux Falls
Southeastern Conference (Lay Male)	Lyle Braun, Vermillion
Prairie Rivers Conference (Rostered)	Pr. Tami Steffensen, Presho
Bear Butte Conference (Lay Female)	Jordan Duprey, Hill City