

**Report of the Judicial Business Committee
Presbytery of Transylvania
March 10, 2009**

- The Judicial Business Committee recommends that the Presbytery approve the covenant as amended between the Presbytery of Transylvania and Bellewood Presbyterian Home for Children.
- The Amendments to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church USA can be viewed at the following link:
<http://www.pcusa.org/generalassembly/amend/proposed-amendments-2008.pdf>

The Judicial Business Committee recommends that commissioners to the Presbytery vote as noted for each proposed amendment to the Constitution.

Amendment

Recommendation

- | | |
|------|---|
| 08-A | Yes. The vote was not unanimous. The minority statement is as follows: “Public affirmation of faith by all new members can be a meaningful and appropriate practice, but requiring <u>another public</u> affirmation could be troubling to some who feel their previous confession in another Christian congregation should be considered valid and sufficient.” |
| 08-B | Yes. The vote was not unanimous. The minority statement is as follows: “If individual sessions and presbyteries adopt different ordination standards, a heated controversial topic will be transferred from the national stage to local congregations, where standards may change as often as a new Session is elected.” |
| 08-C | Yes. Unanimous. |
| 08-D | Yes. Unanimous. |
| 08-E | Yes. Unanimous. |
| 08-F | Yes. Unanimous. |
| 08-I | No. Unanimous. F&I were considered together to avoid the confusion of conflicting amendments. The attached chart is helpful. The committee agreed that the best approach to this action is to avoid exclusion. This recommendation has that effect. (The ballot lists F and I separately in order.) |
| 08-G | Yes. Unanimous. |

08-H **Yes.** Unanimous.

08-J **Yes.** Unanimous.

Ecumenical Statements

08-K – Roman Catholic Church

Yes.

08-L – Episcopal Church

Yes.

08-M – Korean Presbyterian Church in America

Yes.

08-N – Moravian Church

Yes.

* EFFECT OF APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS 08-F AND 08-I.

	Pre-2007 revision	Post-2007 revision	If only 08-I passes	If only 08-F passes	If 08-F and 08-I pass
Certified Christian Educators	Voice, No Vote G-14,0705c		Voice, Vote, if elder (under G-11.0101b)		By vote, Pby MAY grant Voice only, or if elder, Voice and Vote (under G-11,0101b), both only while engaged in educational ministry under jurisdiction of Pby
Certified Associate Christian Educators	No Voice, No Vote G-14,0705c (2006)		No Voice, No Vote		No Voice, No Vote
certified (lower case) Christian educators 2008 AI now says this includes both Certified Christian Educators & Certified Associate Christian Educators		Voice, Vote, if elder (G-14.0730c)		By vote, Pby MAY grant Voice and Vote (under G-11.0101b), both only while engaged in educational ministry under jurisdiction of Pby.	

1. The 218th General Assembly approved an authoritative interpretation saying that “certified Christian educator(s)” referenced at G-14.0730 b and c refer to both Certified Christian Educators and Certified Associate Christian Educators, granting all of them a service of recognition, minimum requirements for compensation, access to the COM, and privilege of the presbytery floor with voice. If they are elders, they would be granted vote as well.
2. If neither of these amendments passes, both Certified Christian Educators and Certified Associate Christian Educators shall be granted voice at presbytery meetings and vote if they are elders, based on the new AI.
3. If only 08-I passes, the presbytery shall grant voice to Certified Christian Educators and shall grant vote to them if they are elders. No specific mention is made of voice or vote for Certified Associate Christian Educators; the AI will no longer be in effect for G-14.0730c.
4. If only 08-F passes, the presbytery may grant voice to both Certified Christian Educators and Certified Associate Christian Educators, and may grant vote to them if they are elders *during the term of service in an educational ministry under the jurisdiction of the presbytery*.
5. If both 08-F and 08-I pass, only Certified Christian Educators may be granted voice , and may be granted vote if they are elders *during the term of service in an educational ministry under the jurisdiction of the presbytery*. No voice or vote for Certified Associate Christian Educators.