

## RESOLUTION #1 Constitution Changes from 2025 Churchwide Assembly

**WHEREAS**, the model constitution for Synods has been revised by the Office of the Secretary of the ELCA to reflect the changes voted on by the 2025 Churchwide Assembly; and

**WHEREAS**, the Eastern North Dakota Synod Council has discussed and approved the non-required amendments and commends them to the 2026 Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, to adopt the following non-required amendments to the Constitution for Synods that were approved by the 2025 Churchwide 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 and/or outreach ministries 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.

**S9.04.** The bishop shall be elected by the Synod Assembly. 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 received 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.

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

**S10.06.** No person related to a synod staff member shall be eligible for nomination to or membership on the Synod Council or the following synod committees: Consultation Committee, Committee on Discipline, Audit Committee, or Nominating Committee. For this purpose, a related individual is one who, with respect to the synod employee, is a spouse, parent, son, daughter, sibling, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, grandparent, grandchild, including corresponding members of blended families and in-laws (parent, son, daughter, or sibling of a spouse, spouse of a sibling, or the parent or sibling of the spouse of a sibling).

**S10.0607.** If a member...

**S10.0607.01.** Upon two successive...

**S10.0607.02.** The Synod Council...

**S10.0708.** The composition of...



- S10.0708.01.** The Synod Council...
- S10.0708.02.** Terms of office...
- S10.0708.03.** There shall be...
- S10.0708.04.** The Synod Council...
- S10.0708.05.** Chairpersons of the...
- S10.0809.** *Robert's Rules of...*
- 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.

*Submitted by the Eastern North Dakota Synod Council*

**ADDENDUM:**

EaND Synod Constitution with updates for 2026 Synod Assembly

## **RESOLUTION #2      Amendment to Bylaw S11.02**

**WHEREAS**, the Eastern North Dakota Synod Constitution required provision +S11.02 states that the synod shall define the size of the Consultation Committee in the bylaws; and

**WHEREAS**, the current bylaw is out of order by only listing ministers of Word and Sacrament and limits the number of committee members to only six; and

**WHEREAS**, the Eastern North Dakota Synod Council has discussed and approved the bylaw change and commends it to the 2026 Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, to adopt the following amendment to bylaw S11.02.01.:

**S11.02.01.** The Consultation Committee shall ~~be consist of at least~~ six persons ~~and not more than 12 persons~~, of whom ~~three half~~ shall be ministers of Word and Sacrament ~~rostered~~ ministers and ~~three half~~ shall be lay persons.

*Submitted by the Eastern North Dakota Synod Council*

### **ADDENDUM:**

EaND Synod Constitution with updates for 2026 Synod Assembly

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**RESOLUTION #3      2027 Compensation and Policy Guidelines for Rostered Ministers & Lay Paid Staff**

**WHEREAS**, congregations of the Eastern North Dakota Synod request and appreciate the aid and counsel of their companion congregations in this synod and synod leadership in ascertaining fair, equitable, and adequate compensation and benefits for Rostered Ministers and professional staff; and

**WHEREAS**, the Eastern North Dakota Synod Council has discussed and approved these guidelines and commends them to the 2026 Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly and to the congregations of this synod for deliberation and use; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the 2026 Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly adopt, approve, and commend to the congregations of this synod these guidelines; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this assembly approve the publication and distribution of these “Guidelines” to congregations of this synod through the usual and appropriate means employed by the synod office.

*Submitted by the Eastern North Dakota Synod Council*

**ADDENDUM:**

Proposed 2027 Compensation and Policy Guidelines for Rostered Ministers and Lay Paid Staff

## **RESOLUTION #4      Skjeberg Lutheran Church**

**WHEREAS,** Skjeberg Lutheran Church has requested a transfer from the Eastern North Dakota Synod to the Northwestern Minnesota Synod; and

**WHEREAS,** Skjeberg Lutheran Church is physically located in Minnesota and is no longer in a parish agreement with Drayton Lutheran Church in North Dakota; and

**WHEREAS,** the Northwestern Minnesota Synod is voting to receive Skjeberg Lutheran Church at their Synod Assembly on May 30, 2026; therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** that the 2026 Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly release Skjeberg Lutheran Church as a congregation of this synod.

*Submitted by the Eastern North Dakota Synod Council*