

About Resolutions and the Role of the Committee on Resolutions

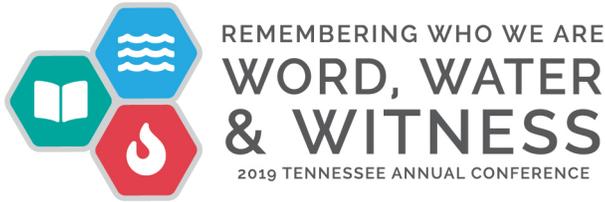
It is the responsibility of the Committee on Resolutions to consider every resolution that has been submitted by the deadline with the intention of being brought to the floor of the Annual Conference. So how do we do this work? To begin with, we do not vote on the content or consider whether we agree with the point of view of the maker of the resolution that has been submitted. Instead, the parameters of our assigned task are twofold.

The first task of the Committee on Resolutions is to determine if a proposed resolution is consistent with the Book of Discipline, especially the Constitution and Articles of Religion, along with prior Judicial Council decisions of law. If it does not pass the constitutionality test, then it is our duty to recommend to the Bishop and the Annual Conference that it be ruled out of order. The resolution will still be posted in its original form however and presented on the floor, and our recommendation can be changed.

The second task that the Committee on Resolutions must undertake is to determine whether a resolution can pass the test of what is called concurrence. Some of the questions the Committee considers are for instance: Is there a clearly discernable and actionable step defined in the “Therefore, be it resolved?” Is that action step within the legislative authority of the Annual Conference? Does it meet the requirements of the Annual Conference Standing Rules?

The Committee then also considers if any editing or small changes are necessary for language or other things like a conference entity cited incorrectly. Standing Rule 2.4 says: *All resolutions not included in the pre-Conference materials shall be submitted to the Committee on Resolutions at least 30 days prior to the first day of the Annual Conference Session. The chair of the Resolutions Committee shall submit to the Annual Conference, in their original form, all resolutions so submitted. In addition, the committee may present to the Annual Conference for consideration a revised version of any such resolution.*

The resolution work is not intended to be an adversarial process where you have to guess what we want or meet our inner secret criteria. We want every resolution to be in its best possible form to make it to the floor of the Annual Conference for discernment and decision. Standing Rule 2.4 gives our committee the ability to reach out to the makers of the resolution and suggest anything that needs to be changed or we feel will better achieve their original intention. Our Chancellor Lisa Carson is also ready and willing to make general suggestions to help them make those changes if asked.



The makers can accept our changes or not and if they are minor then that becomes the final resolution that is uploaded and presented as long as it doesn't change the original intent of the resolution. If the changes are more substantial or are additions, then the original will be uploaded and presented, and the changes will be presented as a part of our report.

All resolutions are considered in the order they are received and will be posted in that order from first to last received on the website and on the TNUMC Annual Conference App which will be your best source of any updates and changes that were made to the resolutions as mentioned before and during Annual Conference. And every morning I would suggest that you update the information in your app before arriving. If you are not going to be using the app you will want to make sure you print the Resolutions before coming to Annual Conference. However, there will probably be changes highlighted during our report which will be on Friday.

At past Annual Conferences, the Resolutions were presented once 24 hours prior to our full second report for a vote. There is no Standing Rule for doing this we found and so we will only present them once on Friday tentatively before lunch with one exception. The New Conference Resolution will tentatively be presented on Thursday by our chair Jeremy Squires for the vote after the New Conference Advisory Committee Report.