

REPORT OF THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION

The Ad-Interim Committee on Ordination Standards (the “**AIC**”) has submitted to the 46th General Assembly certain proposed amendments to Sections 11-2G and 12-2 of the *Book of Government*, as well as the addition of a new Section 11-2H of the *Book of Government*, together with conforming re-numbering of subsequent sections (collectively, the “**AIC Amendments**”). The Permanent Judicial Commission of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (the “**PJC**”) subsequently examined the AIC Amendments for clarity and consistency of language and for compatibility with other provisions of the Constitution of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, in each case as required by Section G.21-3D.2.a.¹

The PJC understands the categories “clarity,” “consistency,” and “compatibility” to have particular meanings. *Clarity* asks whether the language of the amendment is sufficiently precise that a reasonably informed reader of the Constitution could determine what the provision requires, permits, or forbids without reference to the debate that produced it. *Consistency* examines whether the amendment employs language in a manner consistent with the vocabulary, terminology, and logic used in the Constitution and within the amendment itself. *Compatibility* asks whether the amendment integrates coherently into the broader constitutional framework without creating conflict with other provisions or with the structure of the Constitution as a whole.

After due consideration, the PJC determined as follows regarding the AIC Amendments:

Question Presented	PJC Determination
Does the amendment satisfy the requirement of clarity of language?	Yes. Vote: 8-0, with one abstention.
Does the amendment satisfy the requirement of consistency of language?	Yes. Vote: 8-0, with one abstention.
Does the amendment satisfy the requirement of compatibility with other provisions of the EPC Constitution?	Yes. Vote: 8-0, with one abstention.

Accordingly, the PJC respectfully and prayerfully recommends that the General Assembly accept and adopt the AIC Amendments.

¹ The PJC’s task was limited. We did not determine the wisdom, necessity, or pastoral desirability of the AIC Amendments, but rather evaluated whether the proposed language is prepared for integration into the Constitution. Our evaluation of the “three-C” criteria helps the General Assembly determine whether the AIC Amendments are constitutionally serviceable in their present form, apart from the merits of the proposals themselves.