

---

# Annual Conference Proposals

---

## Proposal 83-1

Page 95 ¶521 and 523

Subject: Examining Ministers

### Intent

Remove the requirement that each conference have a Ministerial Licensing and Ordination Commission, while retaining the requirement that each conference examine its ministerial members.

Let conferences decide the constituency of the MLOC (some conferences wouldn't be able to meet the current requirement of 3-5 elders).

### Current Wording

#### 521 Examine its Members

The annual conference shall establish procedures for examining all ministerial members of the conference and others serving pastorates within the conference regarding their moral character, doctrinal soundness, administrative integrity, and pastoral competency.

#### 523 Provide a Ministerial Licensing and Ordination Commission

The annual conference may elect a Ministerial Licensing and Ordination Commission of three or five elders to assist the conference superintendent and/or the conference in matters of ministerial recruitment, training, licensing, and ordination. Members of the commission shall be elected for a term of three years with no more than two members serving concurrent terms. The commission shall elect one of its members to serve as its chairperson and another to serve as the secretary, both officers to be charged with the customary responsibilities of their offices. Other responsibilities of the commission may be delegated to other members of the commission.

The commission, through its secretary, shall report annually to the annual conference regarding the educational status of each licentiate. Permanent records shall be kept of the individual minister's progress, and such records shall remain the property of the commission and conference.

The conference Ministerial Licensing and Ordination Commission shall have responsibility in the following areas:

1. To provide orientation and study resources for candidates for a local conference license, and a continuing record of the licensee's educational progress.
2. To encourage and urge all ministerial candidates and prospects to attend the Huntington College Graduate School of Christian Ministries, and to keep a viable communication with them while pursuing their theological studies.
3. To receive annual reports on each ministerial student enrolled in a theological school.
4. To give direction and guidance to the educational program of the ministerial candidate who is not regularly enrolled in a theological school.
5. To examine candidates for annual conference ministerial membership and to make recommendations to the conference.
6. To report to the conference with recommendations when a licentiate has completed the educational requirements for ordination.
7. To cooperate with the Huntington College Graduate School of Christian Ministries and/or other conference agencies in providing guidance and programming for the continuing education of ministers.

**Combine the content of paragraphs 521 and 523, with various revisions, as follows:**

**521 Examine its Members**

The annual conference shall establish procedures for examining all ministerial members of the conference and others serving pastorates within the conference regarding their moral character, doctrinal soundness, administrative integrity, and pastoral competency. To accomplish this, the conference may establish a Ministerial Licensing and Ordination Commission to assist the conference superintendent in matters of ministerial recruitment, training, licensing, and ordination. Its duties shall include:

1. To report annually to the annual conference regarding the educational status of each licentiate. To keep permanent records on the education progress of each ministers, and to report annually to the conference regarding the education status of each licentiate.

2. To provide orientation and study resources for candidates for a local conference license, and a continuing record of the licensee's educational progress.

*Continue with the remaining 6 points of the current ¶523.*

---

**Proposal 83-2**

**Page 98 ¶527**

**Subject:** Appointing interim ministers

**Intent:**

Reverse the order of bishop and superintendent, so that the superintendent is responsible for filling vacancies, not the bishop.

**Current Wording:**

The bishop shall provide interim ministers to fill vacancies in conference churches, and shall make such appointments with the consent of the conference superintendent. The appointment of a minister for continuing assignment shall be referred to the stationing committee.

**Replace with the Following:**

The **superintendent** shall provide interim ministers to fill vacancies in conference churches. The appointment of a minister for continuing assignment shall be referred to the stationing committee.

**Proposal 83-3****Page 99** ¶543**Subject:** Conference council officers**Delete the words in strikethrough:****2. Secretary**

The council shall also name a secretary ~~from its membership~~ who shall record the sessions of the council, the annual conference sessions, and the mid-year session.

---

**Proposal 83-4****Page 98** ¶528**Page 101** ¶551**Subject: Annual Conference Duties****Intent**

Remove the concept of “stationing” superintendents, which isn’t practiced by most of our conferences anymore. There are two parts to this proposal.

**Delete Paragraph 528 from the Duties of Annual Conferences chapter:**

528 Station Superintendents

Conference superintendents shall be stationed by the bishop and two elders from each conference superintendent’s district.

**Delete paragraph 551.3, and rename the paragraph as follows:****551 Election and Stationing of Conference Superintendents****1. Election**

The annual conference shall elect by ballot one or more of the elders who shall serve as conference superintendents. A majority of the whole number of votes shall be necessary for a choice. However, in the case of church extension districts the bishop shall appoint the conference superintendent, subject to approval of the General Board of Administration. (See 302.5.)

**2. Extended Term**

If it so desires, an annual conference may elect a conference superintendent for up to four years.

**3. Stationing**

~~Conference superintendents shall be stationed by the bishop and two elders from each conference superintendent district.~~

**Proposal 83-5****Page 101** ¶552.9**Subject: Superintendents****Delete paragraph 552.9 (Propose Pastors' Salaries)**

## 9. Propose Pastors' Salaries

The conference superintendent shall propose to the annual conference finance committee the pastor's salary for each field on that district for the coming year. It shall be the superintendent's duty to determine if the pastor has received the salary due and, in case of a deficiency, to assist the local church in securing the balance due.

---

**Proposal 83-6****Page 102** ¶552.4**Subject: Superintendents****Current wording:**

## 4. Serve on the Stationing Committee

The conference superintendent(s) shall serve on the committee to station pastors. If a conference has only one conference superintendent, that person will chair the stationing committee. If there is more than one conference superintendent, the committee to station pastors shall elect a superintendent to serve as chairperson.

**Revise as follows:**

## 4. Serve on the Stationing Committee

At least one superintendent shall serve on the committee to station pastors.

---

**Proposal 83-7****Page 102** ¶552.7**Subject: Superintendents****Current wording:**

## 7. Serve as Church Extension Supervisor

The conference superintendent shall be the church extension supervisor of that district under the direction of the conference council of administration, unless the annual conference determines to elect a director of church extension.

**Revise as follows:**

## 4. Serve as Church Extension Supervisor

**At least one** superintendent shall **serve as** the church extension supervisor ~~of that district~~ under the direction of the conference council of administration, unless the annual conference determines to elect a director of church extension.