

## **Resolution: Ethics Code for Delegates to the North Central Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church (NCJ)**

Whereas, the future of the United Methodist Church requires loyalty of governance members at all levels,

Whereas, General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference delegates are expected to make decisions that are in the best interests of the United Methodist Church,

Whereas, election of General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference delegates by members of the United Methodist Church was conducted with the implicit understanding that delegates would ethically serve the United Methodist Church,

Whereas, delegates with allegiance to another denomination have a serious conflict of interest,

Whereas, in dealing with matters affecting the General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference, delegates shall act in good faith and in the best interests of the United Methodist Church,

Whereas, General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference delegates do not have a Code of Ethics similar to that required for United Methodist general boards and agencies, and

Whereas, from a moral and/or legal perspective, a potential conflict of interest arises within an organization when a key individual (either an employee or volunteer) or a relative of that individual (a) stands to gain a financial benefit by personally influencing the action taken by the organization or a transaction entered into by the organization; or (b) has another interest that impairs, or could be seen to impair, the independence or objectivity of the key individual in discharging their duties within the organization<sup>1</sup>,

Therefore, be it resolved that General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference delegates are fully committed to The United Methodist Church.

Be it further resolved that all General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference delegates' ethical decisions on policy and elections be made in the best interests of The United Methodist Church.

Be it further resolved that if delegates have an actual or potential conflict of interest, they shall disclose the conflict to the appropriate individual or group of individuals within the General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference delegations and recuse themselves from any discussions and decisions on matters related to the conflict of interest.

**Amendment:** Jared Gadowski Littleton amended the motion to add the words “urged to be” in the first “Therefore, be it resolved” between the words “are” and “fully.” That in the first “Be it further resolved” the words “are urged to” be added between the words “elections” and “be.”

---

<sup>1</sup> REPORT AND POLICY CONFLICT OF INTEREST APPROVED BY CFA (<https://www.gnjumc.org/conflict-of-interest-policy/>)

And that in the second “Be it further resolved” to strike the word “shall” and replace it with the words, “are urged to” between the words “they” and “disclose.” The amendment was approved 115 – 38.

**Amendment:** Jared Gadomski Littleton moved to strike the second page of the motion found on page 111 of The Advance Journal Volume 2 that was being used as an example. This amendment was approved 131 – 23.

**Resolution as Amended** approved 128 – 25.