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ACTION REQUEST #9

**2021 OREGON-IDAHO
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

TITLE: New Conference Rule 1.035
SPONSORING GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL: Conference Rules Committee
SPOKESPERSON: Steve Mitchell
SPOKESPERSON’S ADDRESS: 579 NW Gavin Ct., Dallas, OR 97338
SPOKESPERSON’S E-MAIL: smitchel@cluge.com
SPOKESPERSON’S TELEPHONE: 541-539-0366

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ACTION: Recommend for approval 20-0-0.
The Assembly substituted the text below for the original Action Request.

I/We petition the Oregon-Idaho Annual conference to take the following action:

Adopt a new Conference Rule 1.035:

Each new church start listed on Question 14a, b, or c of the current Business of the Annual Conference Report shall be entitled to elect a lay equalization member to Annual Conference, provided that the ministry has a United Methodist professing lay member on the General Membership Roll (§259.3) to serve in this role. If not, the new church start can elect a lay representative who may be seated within the bar of the annual conference with voice but no vote. In either case, the election must be communicated to the conference secretary by the pastoral leader of the new church start.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION *Note that the supporting information is no longer completely relevant for the substituted text above.*

What will this action accomplish? The rule provides for new church starts or faith communities or missional congregations connected to established pastoral charges to elect their own lay members of annual conference. This is requested by our Conference’s Appointive Cabinet.

Why is it important? These new faith communities connected to a current pastoral charge will have their own voice and vote in the work of Annual Conference.

How will it be carried out? By whom? This action will be carried out by the respective Charge Conferences.

How much will it cost? Where will the money come from? There will be no cost to the Annual Conference.