

49 408.3 and ¶ 408.4 at the end of the quadrennium, unless they are re-elected at any
50 subsequent Western Jurisdictional Conference.

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52 BE IT RESOLVED that records of such Letters of Commitment be kept on file with the
53 Episcopacy Committee and made available by inquiry, and would serve as “cause” to
54 justify the pursuit of ¶ 408.3 if the Letter of Commitment is not upheld by an elected
55 bishop.

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57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a transitional class of bishops does not depend on
58 General Conference action, and should only utilize authority that resides with the
59 Western Jurisdiction to determine its own jurisdictional leadership.

60
61 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Conference Secretary have the text of this resolution
62 to be sent electronically to the First Elected delegates to the 2022 Western Jurisdictional
63 Conference, the chair of the Leadership Team, and the chair of the Jurisdictional
64 Episcopacy Committee for distribution to their respective groups.

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66

67 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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69 **What will this action accomplish?**

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71 Letters of Commitment to a transitional class of bishops will allow for adaptive and bold
72 leadership to transform the jurisdiction in the wake of covid-19 pandemic and the
73 splintering of Methodism, knowing that that class will not continue in the work but are
74 creating something new for the next class of full-term bishops.

75

76 **Why is it important?**

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78 Since 2019, various groups and efforts in the Greater Northwest area of the Western
79 Jurisdiction have studied the role of the episcopacy, asking if there is a better way to
80 utilize episcopal leadership on specialties other than general superintendency?

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82 While most proposals deal in General Conference legislation, the Western Jurisdiction
83 can make this decision ourselves with faithful leadership, committed study, and bold
84 revisioning of who the jurisdiction can be, so that we can accomplish our mission.

85

86 A transitional class of bishops would give the jurisdiction the time and the interim
87 leadership to make these proposals a reality.

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89 **How will it be carried out? By whom?**

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91 The Conference Secretary shall send the text of the resolution to the named individuals
92 above, including the petition author in such correspondence.

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95 **How much will it cost? Where will the money come from?**

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Nominal cost of the Conference Secretary sending an electronic copy of this document.