TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES: 2

SUGGESTED TITLE: Commission on General Conference Powers

*DISCIPLINE* PARAGRAPH: *Discipline ¶¶* ¶ 511.5e

GENERAL CHURCH BUDGET IMPLICATION: None

GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS: Yes

Amend ¶ 511.5e as follows:

¶ **511.** *Commission on the General Conference*—There shall be a Commission on the General Conference, hereinafter called the commission.

5. The secretary of the General Conference shall calculate the number of delegates to be elected by each annual conference, based on the factors specified in ¶ 502.1, 2, as follows:

*a)* One clergy delegate for the first 375 clergy members of the annual conference and one clergy delegate for each additional 375 clergy members or major fraction thereof,3 and

*b)* One clergy delegate for the first 26,000 members of local churches of the annual conference and one clergy delegate for each additional 26,000 local church members or major fraction thereof, and

*c)* A number of lay delegates equal to the total number of clergy delegates authorized as above.

*d)* Every annual conference shall be entitled to at least one clergy and one lay delegate.

*e)* This formula is designated to comply with the Constitution, Division Two, Section II, Article I (¶ 13), which defines the minimum and maximum number of delegates to a General Conference. Should ~~the computations provided in the paragraph~~ this formula result in a ~~figure~~ delegate number below the prescribed minimum or above the prescribed maximum ~~for delegates~~, the Commission on the General Conference shall be authorized to ~~remedy the situation~~ bring the computed number as closely within the parameters as possible by adjusting up or down the numbers of clergy members and members of local churches of the annual conference necessary to entitle an annual conference to elect delegates, any such adjustment to be proportionally the same for the two factors.4

Rationale: The Commission on the General Conference should be authorized to bring the number of delegates barely within the parameters required, but should not be authorized to arbitrarily decide how many delegates the General Conference should have or drastically change the number of delegates from one General Conference to the next. General Conference should make this determination by adjusting the formula in 511.5*a* and *b*.