

PRESENTING RESOLUTIONS TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF  
THE ILLINOIS CONFERENCE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Purpose of Resolutions: To engage members and churches in the Illinois Conference for education and action regarding issues which need to be addressed in the church and in society.

Types of Resolutions:

(A) **Standard Resolution**. Standard Resolutions will be the norm and allow the churches of the Conference enough time for study and discussion prior to final action by the Annual Meeting. In general, Standard Resolutions are taken up by the Annual Meeting for 1 year of Study by the Associations and their Congregations. A vote to adopt is then taken at the next Annual Meeting.

and

(B) **Emergency Resolution**. Emergency Resolutions will be considered on the basis that the issue is urgent, does not allow time for normal study, and needs to be acted on immediately. A statement of why the Emergency Resolution could not have been submitted by the deadline for Standard Resolutions must be included. Those resolutions not deemed to be emergencies will be rejected from further consideration.

Procedure for Writing:

1. Each resolution must include a theological rationale.
2. The "whereases" of each resolution should be statements of fact which include supporting data.
3. The specific resolves of each resolution ought to include a statement of which officer, committee, task force, ad hoc group or individual within the Conference is expected to implement the resolution. If there are financial implications, the suggested place in the budget for such support should be indicated. The originators of the resolution will serve as advocates at hearings and/or debate and should be available to work on its implementation.
4. Following the resolution must be included the listing of the submitters. No resolution may be submitted by individuals alone, except through the process of petition at the Annual Meeting.
5. Each resolution must be cast in the form of "The Conference" as subject of an action verb.

Procedure for Submission:

Standard resolutions may be presented by congregations, church groups or associations and submitted by the deadline date which is set annually by the Executive Committee of the Conference Council at a reasonable time prior to its scheduled meeting the month prior to the Annual Meeting. Such resolution may be submitted as an attachment to an email (in Microsoft Word if possible) to [ilconferenceucc@gmail.com](mailto:ilconferenceucc@gmail.com) If electronic submission is not possible submission by mail is acceptable to: Illinois Conference UCC, 1840 Westchester Blvd. #200, Westchester, IL 60154.

Emergency resolutions may be presented in the following ways:

ALTERNATIVE 1. Congregations, church groups or associations may present emergency resolutions to the Conference by the deadline for Standard Resolutions. The resolution will then be reviewed in light of the criteria for emergency resolutions by the Executive Committee of the Conference Council. If approved, the resolution is placed on the agenda for a discussion and action at the Annual Meeting without the 1-year study period. A 2/3 vote of the Annual Meeting, without debate, is required for consideration. The Executive Committee may decide that the resolution requires a full hearing before presentation in the Annual Meeting. If so, such hearing will be scheduled at a time before scheduled Annual Celebration Agenda on either the first or second day of the Annual Celebration.

ALTERNATIVE 2. Any congregation, church group or association may present an Emergency Resolution at the Annual Meeting by securing 100 signatures from delegates representing at least 3 Associations of the Conference. Such petition for an Emergency Resolution will be referred to the Business Committee by the Conference President if submitted to the President prior to a time on the first day of the Annual Celebration, set by the Executive Committee Annually. Resolutions submitted to the President and referred to the Business Committee must conform to the requirements for Conference resolutions. A statement of why the resolution could not have been presented by the due date for Standard Resolutions must accompany the petitions. The Business Committee will determine whether the reason for emergency is valid, and if it is not, the Resolution is not brought before the Annual Meeting. The person or persons presenting the petition to the President will be responsible for printing and distributing copies of the proposed Emergency Resolution in sufficient number for all delegates and guest attendees of the Annual Meeting. If the Business Committee approves the petition, a simple majority of votes by the delegates is necessary for the Emergency Resolution to be considered, but a 2/3 majority is required to approve it.

1. Standard resolutions that are judged ready by the Executive Committee of the Conference Council are placed on the agenda of the Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting will then vote to determine whether to refer the resolutions to the Associations for study, discussion and recommendation for vote at the Annual Meeting the next year. If after adoption for study, a motion to waive the 1-year study period is made and seconded, a vote without discussion will be taken. A 2/3 majority of the delegates present is required for this vote.
2. Emergency Resolutions submitted by Alternative 1, above, may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, be scheduled for one or more hearings prior to the opening of business of the first or second day of the Annual Meeting, if the Executive Committee believes extensive debate is expected. There will be no hearings for Emergency Resolutions submitted by Alternative 2 (above.) The Annual Meeting Chair will allocate discussion time for each Emergency Resolution based on the time available and the number of such Emergency Resolutions approved by the Business Committee.
3. Any Resolution whether Standard or Emergency will require a vote of 2/3 of the Delegates to the Annual Meeting if the one-year review period is to be waived. Standard Resolutions approved for study at the prior year Annual Meeting require a simple majority for passage.
4. The Chair of the Annual Meeting will allocate debate time for each resolution, depending upon the number of resolutions, and the amount of other Conference business on the Agenda. When time does not allow consideration of one or more of the Resolutions, whether Standard or Emergency, a motion will be put by the chair for the body to vote to refer remaining resolutions to the Conference Council for action at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

The terms “Annual Meeting” and “Annual Celebration” are synonymous and used interchangeably.

For the 2018 Annual Celebration/Annual Meeting to be held June 8 and 9, 2018, the deadline for Standard Resolutions will be 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 to allow Executive Board to approve them for the agenda at its May 9, 2018 meeting. The deadline for presenting Alternative 2 Emergency Resolutions with the requisite petitions for this Annual Celebration/Meeting will be no later than the start time of the Friday evening meal as published in the materials given to delegates at registration.

Approved as amended by the Executive Committee  
January 10, 2018