

From the Michigan USA/Canada Mission Center Council

The proposed resolution is in response to a number of concerns additional representation at mission center conferences. The following possibilities were considered by the Michigan USA/Canada Mission Center Council:

1. Increasing the number of delegates by using a ratio of 1 per 25 members.

Pros: This would provide an additional 200+ delegate seats

Cons: This would increase the possible attendance to near 700 persons; increase costs and be very difficult to find affordable venues to host this large of a conference

Cons: Congregations that do not now fill their delegate seats would have more empty seats

2. Increase ex-officio numbers by allowing CSG Leaders to be Ex Officio

Pros: This would increase the delegate count by approximately 30

Cons: While ex officio seats open seats in some congregations, not all congregations would gain open seats as they would have no qualifying ex officio

Con: The ex officio to elected delegate balance would be affected

3. Seating alternates

Pros: Alternates are already elected to serve when there are more nominees than seats for delegates. They are automatically listed as alternates in the order of votes received.

Pro: At the 2011 conference, there were approximately 550 seats for delegates and ex officio. Close to 200 seats were open at the actual conference. There was not a breakdown between ex officio and delegates; nor is there a record of the number of seats left open in congregations. But, since 1 pastor and 1 CFO from each congregation are ex officio and can name a designee if they cannot attend, and these positions make up the bulk of the ex officio seating, it is assumed all alternates could be seated.

Con: Seating alternates via a random drawing by Mission Center Staff is not ideal, but would be the least complicated manner of seating alternates in a timely fashion.

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RESOLUTION for Seating Alternates at Michigan USA/Canada MC Conferences

Whereas the Michigan USA/Canada Mission Center Conference is a delegate conference and

Whereas delegates vote according to their own conscience rather than as a representative of a congregation and

Whereas the current delegate count for the MMC conference is approximately 500 persons (elected delegates and ex officio), and

Whereas approximately 150 delegate seats were open for the 2011 conference

Therefore be it resolved that

1. Following the reporting deadline for delegates and alternates to the Mission Center Office, open delegate seats may be filled with alternates from other congregations.
2. Alternates will be assigned to open delegate seats. They will be selected in a random drawing overseen by Mission Center Leadership.