

2025 Delegate Assembly

Summary of MC USA Proposed Bylaw Changes

Proposal 1: Executive Board's Relationship to Agency Executive Directors

Line: 1009

◆ **Summary for Delegates**

This bylaw change clarifies and strengthens the Executive Board's authority in hiring, evaluating, and—if necessary—**recommending** the termination of the executive directors of all churchwide program agencies. This ensures alignment between agency leadership and the broader mission and values of Mennonite Church USA. By creating clear lines of accountability, we can foster greater transparency, unity, and strategic coordination across all entities that serve the denomination.

Why it matters:

As the denomination navigates complex challenges, strong governance ensures that all agencies move in concert toward our shared goals. This change protects the integrity of our collective mission and enhances trust in leadership structures. It also brings consistency in policy across our agencies.

Delegate Action

"I move that the Delegate Assembly approve the proposed bylaw changes for consistency and to bring clarity to the Executive Board's authority in the appointment and oversight of executive directors of churchwide program agencies."

Proposal 2: Bylaw change related to the Integration of MEA and MC USA Executive Board Staff

Lines: 827-871-889; 956-969; 985-990

◆ Summary for Delegates

The DA is only voting on the bylaw changes, not the operations of MEA and MC USA Denomination staff. The operational integration is effective as of 1 August 2025.

This integration streamlines operations by folding the Mennonite Education Agency (MEA) into the structure of MC USA under the Executive Board. It establishes a new Leadership, Education and Development Center (LEaD), preserves MEA's educational endowments, and transitions current MEA staff into MC USA's team. It also ensures continued focus on key areas like BIPOC scholarships, Hispanic ministries, and higher education relationships.

Why it matters:

This shift reflects a strategic, cost-effective response to changing participation and funding realities in Anabaptist education. It reinforces our denominational commitment to education while leveraging shared resources for more sustainable impact.

Delegate Action

"I move that the Delegate Assembly approve the bylaw changes related to the integration of Mennonite Education Agency (MEA) into Mennonite Church USA's Executive Board structure."