

## Proposed Changes to UUA Bylaw Rules for General Assembly 2023

Rule 4.18.5. Amendments to Business Agenda Items on the Final Agenda [Proposed changes are highlighted]

This rule defines the process for amending items on the General Assembly final agenda under Section 4.14. This rule does not address any proposed changes to Article II under Section C-15.1(c).

- (a) Delegates may submit amendments to any item which is scheduled for a vote on the General Assembly final agenda. Proposed amendments are due to the Secretary by the deadline published in the agenda, which will be at least fourteen (14) days before the start of General Assembly. Amendments received after the published deadline will not be considered. The Secretary will also determine the format for amendments to be submitted, and include a description of this format in the final agenda. Each delegate may submit up to three amendments in total for all business items. Amendments will be considered by mini-assemblies according to this rule. Amendments must meet the following standards to be considered:
- (1) They must address the same topic and goal as the item they are amending;
  - (2) They cannot reverse or invalidate the item;
  - (3) They must match the structure of the UUA Bylaws and Rules; and
  - (4) They cannot conflict with other rules, bylaws, or adopted statements.
- (b) The Moderator will review all submitted amendments to determine whether they meet the standards in this rule. If so, they will be considered at a business amendment mini-assembly. The Board of Trustees will promptly post all the amendments that will be considered.
- (c) The Board of Trustees will host one or more online business amendment mini-assemblies to discuss and vote on proposed amendments. These mini-assemblies must be held at least ten days before the start of General Assembly, and be open to all delegates. If an amendment receives sufficient delegate support, it may be considered on the General Assembly final agenda. That support will be determined by the following process:
- (1) Delegates will use an online poll to vote on whether to add a proposed amendment to the General Assembly final agenda.
  - (2) Proposed amendments that receive support from at least 33% of delegates voting in the mini-assembly will be added to the General Assembly final agenda. This support is based on the total number of delegates who vote for or against the proposed amendment, and does not include abstentions.

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(d) Regardless of the level of support in the mini-assembly online poll, the Board of Trustees may choose to incorporate any proposed amendment into the final agenda **for items it has submitted.**

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(e) The Board of Trustees must publish the final language for all items on the final agenda at least seven days before the start of the General Assembly. This will include any proposed amendments that received sufficient support at a business amendment mini-assembly, unless the amendment is withdrawn by the initial delegate who submitted it. **The Board of Trustees may also include any additional amendments it proposes.**

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### **New Proposed Rule on Article II Amendments**

[Proposed] Rule 15.1.1

This rule defines the process for amending a proposal for changes to Article II made by a study commission under Section C-15.1(c).

(a) Each delegate may submit only one amendment to the proposal for consideration at the first General Assembly after the study process is complete, under Section C-15.1(c)(3). The Secretary will determine the format in which amendments can be submitted. The Secretary may also allow delegates to pre-submit amendments to be considered at the mini-assembly required under 15.1(c)(3)(i). Amendments must meet the following standards to be considered:

- (1) They must only apply to a single section of the Article II proposal;
- (2) They must match the structure of the UUA Bylaws and Rules; and
- (3) They cannot conflict with other rules, bylaws, or adopted statements.

The final agenda will include a description of the format and requirements for delegates to submit amendments.

(b) The mini-assembly during General Assembly required under 15.1(c)(3)(i) will be organized by the Moderator to offer opportunities to present and discuss amendments. The Moderator may use this discussion to assist in prioritizing amendments, but no vote will be required during the mini-assembly.

(c) Each amendment submitted by congregational petition under Section C-15.1(c)(4) must have a primary congregational sponsor. Each congregation may only be the primary sponsor of one amendment to the proposal. The Secretary will determine the format in which amendments by congregational petition can be submitted. Amendments must meet the following standards to be considered:

- (1) They must only apply to a single section of the Article II proposal;
- (2) They must match the structure of the UUA Bylaws and Rules; and
- (3) They cannot conflict with other rules, bylaws, or adopted statements.

(d) The Moderator will review all submitted amendments to determine whether they meet the standards in this rule. All submitted amendments which meet these standards will be publicly posted.

#### **Rules of Procedure**

Additional process changes to include in Rules of Procedure, TBD

- Only allow voting on Article II amendments which have been discussed during General Session
- Require voting on the Article II proposal with amendments as a package
- Allow other types of motions only at the permission of the Moderator