

FORMAT FOR OVERTURES TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Overture from the Presbytery of _____

Whereas, ; and

Whereas, ; and

Whereas,

Therefore be it resolved

Adopted by _____ Presbytery, on (date) _____.

Attested by: (Signature) _____
(Name typed out)
Stated Clerk of _____ Presbytery

RAO Article XI on Overtures:

11-4. An overture ordinarily is the request of a presbytery for action by the General Assembly upon a specific matter.

11-5. Upon receipt the Stated Clerk shall refer to the Committee on Constitutional Business all overtures requesting amendment of the *Book of Church Order*. Upon receipt the Stated Clerk shall forward all overtures concerning presbytery boundaries or a new presbytery to the Subcommittee on Boundaries appointed by and under the jurisdiction of the Assembly's permanent Committee on Mission to North America which shall report to the Permanent Committee and shall report to the Assembly through the Committee of Commissioners on Mission to North America. All other overtures shall be referred by the Clerk to the appropriate Committee of Commissioners. All overtures shall be printed in the *Handbook* with reference for consideration indicated.

11-6. All overtures requiring references to the Committee on Constitutional Business shall be delivered by at least sixty (60) days prior to the opening of the General Assembly to the Stated Clerk in order to be referred to the committee. No overture requiring reference to the permanent committee on Constitutional Business received later than sixty (60) days prior to the opening of the General Assembly by the Stated Clerk shall be referred or considered by the General Assembly convening in that year.

11-7. All other overtures shall be delivered to the Stated Clerk at least ninety (90) days prior to the opening of the General Assembly in order to be included in the *Handbook* for the next meeting of the General Assembly.

11-8. Overtures received after the *Handbook* is printed, and at least one (1) month (31 days) prior to the opening of the General Assembly shall be reported to the Assembly by the Stated Clerk, together with reference.

11-9. No overtures received by the Stated Clerk less than one month prior to the opening of the meeting of the General Assembly shall be referred to or considered by the General Assembly convening in that year. No bill or overture shall be accepted for consideration upon the floor of General Assembly subsequent to the final published date set by the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly for publication of the commissioner's *Handbook* for the General Assembly unless said matter receive two-thirds vote of the assembled commissioners.

11-10. No overture will be considered by the General Assembly until it first has been presented to a presbytery. If approved by the presbytery, it will come before the Assembly as the overture of that court. An overture requested by an individual communicant, a teaching elder, or a session, but rejected by the presbytery, may be presented to the Assembly, provided the fact that it was rejected by the presbytery is clearly stated with the overture.

11-11. All communications or overtures which propose or request that General Assembly appoint a study committee for any purpose shall contain as a part of the request or proposal a statement of the maximum amount to be budgeted for the study committee. (See *RAO IX.*)