

Proposal from Report  
**Report R3.2 – General Secretary**  
**(Synod Standing Committee)**  
*Proposal number: 2.05(b)*

That the Synod:

Requests that the Synod Standing Committee:

- Continues to consider the range of regulatory options that would allow sitting Moderators in the Queensland Synod to be nominated for a second consecutive term of office, up to a maximum of six years.
- That without limiting these options, request the Assembly Standing Committee act under the authority granted by Regulation 3.10.1 and grant to the Synod of Queensland an exemption to the operation of Regulations 3.6.3.1(c) and 3.6.3.1(d) sufficient to enable an incumbent Moderator of Queensland to be nominated for one contiguous term of three years and that this exemption remain valid until otherwise requested by the Queensland Synod.
- Bring the result of these considerations and the results of the request to the Assembly Standing Committee back to the 33rd Queensland Synod.

**Regulatory options to allow a sitting Moderator to be nominated for a second term**

# The scope of a Proposal

The Synod Standing Committee received permission for the sitting Moderator to be re-nominated for a second, consecutive term for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Synod only.

This proposal requests that the Synod Standing Committee consider the range of regulatory options available which might enable a sitting Moderator in the Queensland Synod to be nominated for a second consecutive term of office, up to a maximum of six years.

Without limiting the Synod Standing Committee's considerations, one option is to request that the committee take the issue to the Assembly Standing Committee for an ongoing exemption under regulation 3.6.3.1(c) and 3.6.3.1(d).

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## Rationale

The possibility of extending the term of the Moderator has been a live issue in the Synod since the 1990s. In March 2016 the Synod Standing Committee received permission from the Assembly Standing Committee for the sitting Moderator to be nominated for a second consecutive term for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Synod only.

A range of arguments for and against extending the term of the Moderator have been previously covered in another proposal arising from the General Secretary's report (Proposal 2.05). In short, continuity of leadership for a time greater than three years could be a benefit to the life and witness of the church in Queensland. In addition it provides the Synod in Session with more options in discernment when it deliberates on the leadership needs of the church for the office of Moderator.

This proposal allows the Synod Standing Committee to continue its exploration of the manner in which an incumbent Moderator could be nominated to give effect to a term of up to six years.

Without limiting its considerations it requests the Synod Standing Committee seek a continuing exemption from the Regulations, as provided for in Regulations 3.6.3.1(c) and 3.6.3.1(d).

The resolution allows the Synod Standing Committee to investigate other ways of achieving the same end and to bring the result of these considerations and the results of the request to the Assembly Standing Committee back to the 33<sup>rd</sup> Queensland Synod.

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## Proposers

Submitted by the Synod Standing Committee

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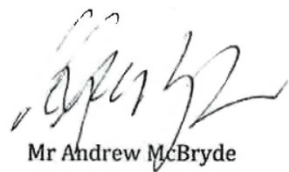
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