

1 **12-A Resolution for Representation of LGBTQIA+ Persons on Conference**  
2 **Commissions, Committees and Agencies**

3 *As per Baltimore-Washington Conference Rule Para. 3006.2.c, this resolution was reviewed by*  
4 *the Conference Secretary and was found consistent with the current Book of Discipline.*

5 **Submitted by:** Rev. Debbie Scott and Rev. Angela Flanagan, Co-Chairs of the Advocacy  
6 Committee for BWARM

7 **Whereas:** for 46-plus years, The United Methodist Church has overtly discriminated against  
8 LGBTQIA+ persons in its written laws and its actions; and

9 **Whereas:** the decisions made by The United Methodist Church over these years have been made  
10 without including LGBTQIA+ persons in the conversations or at the table; and

11 **Whereas:** the Baltimore-Washington Conference is a conference that welcomes LGBTQIA+  
12 people into our congregations; and

13 **Whereas:** the Baltimore-Washington Conference encourages its congregations to be in ministry  
14 with the LGBTQIA community; and

15 **Whereas:** the Baltimore-Washington Conference committed itself to become an inclusive  
16 conference during its 2014 session; and

17 **Whereas:** the Discipleship Council of the Baltimore-Washington Conference just released an  
18 inclusive vision statement; and

19 **Whereas:** LGBTQIA+ persons, like their heterosexual siblings, faithfully participate in their  
20 local congregations and at all levels of the denomination, through their prayers, presence, gifts,  
21 service and witness; and

22 **Whereas:** the Baltimore-Washington Conference commits itself to broad representation in all of  
23 its considerations and in its leadership; and

24 **Whereas:** identities, including LGBTQIA+, are intersectional and a person can understand and  
25 identify themselves in multiple way; therefore

26 **Be it resolved:** that ¶6002.5 (Agency Inclusion and Geographic Representation) of the Policy  
27 Manual of the Baltimore-Washington Conference be amended with the insertion of “LGBTQIA+  
28 persons,” after the words “persons with disabilities.” The paragraph would now read:

29 “Insofar as possible, it is recommended that the membership on agencies include one-third  
30 clergy, one-third laywomen, and one-third laymen (with the exception of the Board of Ordained  
31 Ministry, the Board of Diaconal Ministry and other agencies as prescribed by the Book of  
32 Discipline). It is further recommended that special attention be given to the inclusion of  
33 clergywomen, youth, young adults, older adults, persons with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ persons,

34 and racial and ethnic persons. It is further recommended that earnest attempts be made to assure  
35 equitable district and/or regional representation on all agencies."

36 *The Connectional Table voted concurrence on this resolution.*