



muylathina takila-ti Le:wun tunk-ungai tuldangk tunk-ungai
Ola ma tumau i le alofa' 사랑 안에서 살기 Tinggal di dalam Kasih
Nofoma'u i he Ofa 愛中合居



Synod of NSW.ACT

38 Audit of small congregation financial statements

That the Assembly resolve:

To authorise the Assembly Standing Committee on advice from the Assembly Legal Reference Committee to amend Regulation 3.8.7(e), Variations to Qualifications, from 2.5 times the notional stipend to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) financial reporting revenue threshold for small charities.

Proposer: Rev Jane Fry, General Secretary, Synod of NSW and the ACT

Seconder: Mr Craig Corby, Sydney Presbytery

Rationale:

Regulation 3.8.7(c), Audit, requires books of account for church organisation to be audited and certified by auditors at least once per year.

Regulation 3.8.7(e), Variations to Qualifications, allows an organisation with gross receipts below 2.5 times the notional stipend to have their books of account audited and certified by two person who are not qualified auditors, but who are, in the opinion of the body responsible, fit and proper persons.

Regulation 3.8.7(e) Where the gross receipts of a Congregation or body or fund in the year is below a figure that equates to 2.5 times the notional stipend the books of account may be audited and certified by two person who are not qualified in terms of (d) above, but who are, in the opinion of the body responsible, fit and proper persons to undertake the responsibility. Notional stipend for the purpose of this Regulation means the amount determined for the year by the Board of Directors of Benefund Limited.

The above Regulation relieves small congregations of the cost of employing an external organisation to conduct the annual external audit of their accounts. At present the threshold to allow this is 2.5 times the notional stipend, currently \$150,000.

That the Assembly be advised that NSW Synod requests a change to Regulation 3.8.7(e) to change the reference point for the audit threshold to align with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) financial reporting revenue threshold for small charities. The ACNC threshold is presently \$250,000.

That the Assembly note, within the Synod of NSW and ACT here are presently approximately 160 congregations with gross revenue below \$150,000 who can utilise the current Regulation. If this recommendation is approved, an addition 70 congregations can benefit from this change.