

1 **OVERTURE 2** from the Tennessee Valley Presbytery (to CCB, OC)

2 “Amend *BCO* 22-3 to allow Assistant Pastors to file Complaints against Sessions”

3 [Added sentence underlined.]

4
5 **Whereas**, assistant pastors are called by a Session and serve as ordained elders per *BCO* 22-3;
6 and

7
8 **Whereas**, as ordained elders, assistant pastors are examined and credentialed in the same
9 manner as senior and associate pastors, and in special circumstances can actively serve
10 a Session by moderating per *BCO* 12-4; and

11
12 **Whereas**, complaints are written representations made against some act or decision of a court
13 of the Church and assistant pastors are theologically trained and credentialed to help
14 Sessions consider errors; and

15
16 **Whereas**, there is no clear recourse for assistant pastors to make known an error or
17 misjudgment by a Session that they serve, except for that Session to be charged by the
18 Presbytery under *BCO* 40-6;

19
20 **Therefore, be it resolved** to amend *BCO* 22-3 to read as follows:

21
22 An assistant pastor is called by the Session, by permission and approval of
23 Presbytery, under the provisions of *BCO* 20-1 and 13-2, with Presbytery
24 membership being governed by the same provisions that apply to pastors. He
25 is not a member of the Session, but may be appointed on special occasion to
26 moderate the Session under the provision of *BCO* 12-4. An assistant pastor,
27 being called by a Session, has the right to file a complaint against an act or
28 decision of that Session in accordance with *BCO* 43.

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30 *Adopted by Tennessee Valley Presbytery at its stated meeting on October 19, 2021*

31 *Attested by TE Jake Bennett, stated clerk*