

1 **OVERTURE 22** from Northwest Georgia Presbytery (CCB, AC)
2 “Amend *RAO 3-2.h*, Making Statistical Data Digitally Accessible”
3

4 **Whereas**, the Lord Jesus Christ charged Peter with the keys of the kingdom (Matt 16:19) and
5 our confessional standards further outline this important responsibility as being held
6 by Church officers (*WCF*, Ch XXX); and
7

8 **Whereas**, elsewhere in Scripture elders are exhorted to “shepherd the flock of God” (1 Pet
9 5:2) by exercising “oversight”; and
10

11 **Whereas**, in the past this necessitated close proximity between Church officers and
12 congregants. However, our present time is marked by an increasing transience among
13 all members of society, including those in our denomination; and
14

15 **Whereas**, advancements in digital communications now enable oversight across vast
16 distances; and
17

18 **Whereas**, the number of congregations within the PCA has increased to nearly a thousand
19 throughout North America; and
20

21 **Whereas**, each congregation submits statistical data to the Administrative Committee on a
22 yearly basis for the annual PCA Yearbook; and
23

24 **Whereas**, the Stated Clerk’s office already provides the minutes of the General Assembly in
25 digital format; and
26

27 **Whereas**, the production of minutes and statistics in electronic format will reduce the cost of,
28 and time necessary for their production; and
29

30 **Whereas**, the cost of producing the PCA Yearbook is already accounted for and, therefore,
31 access for fee of a digital version will likely offset, and possibly generate profit;
32

33 **Therefore, be it resolved** that the Presbytery of Northwest Georgia hereby overtures the 49th
34 General Assembly to amend *RAO 3-2.h* by adding the following guidance (additions
35 underlined):
36

37 ***RAO 3-2.h***

38 h. He shall be responsible for publishing the minutes and statistical
39 reports of the Presbyterian Church in America and periodically
40 updating the digest of the minutes. Likewise, these minutes and
41 statistical reports (i.e. ‘The PCA Yearbook’) shall be made available
42 in digital format (i.e. .pdf, .xls, etc.).
43

44 *Adopted by Northwest Georgia Presbytery at its stated meeting, April 5, 2022*

45 *Attested by /s/ TE David E. Gilbert, stated clerk*