The amendment of Paragraph 33 of The Design is necessary to regularize the practice of not attributing a regional classification to youth and ecumenical members of the Administrative Committee of the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Over 10 years ago a new classification of "At-Large" was created to apply to youth who were still in school at the time of their election to the General Board. This was done because youth tend to move frequently during their student years, and seldom "truly" represent the region in which they are attending school. They have thus been designated "At-Large" and rules related to regional representation have not been applied to them.

A second, somewhat similar problem, was created when ecumenical members of the General Board were added about 20 years ago. No stipulation was made that these persons would not be considered representatives of a Disciples region. While they have always been treated as not having a regional designation, a concern was raised that The Design does not have a specific provision in this regard.

In the light of these two concerns, the following amendment to Paragraph 33 of The Design is recommended:

That the following sentence be added to paragraph 33, following the sentence: "No more than two persons from any one region shall serve simultaneously as elected members of the Administrative Committee."

"Ecumenical and 'At-Large' (Student/Youth) representatives shall not be considered to have a regional affiliation."