

XI. ACT ANENT CANDIDATES, LICENTIATES, AND PROBATIONERS FOR THE FULL-TIME MINISTRY

Edinburgh, 23rd May 1994, Session 4.

[This Act is to be interpreted in conformity with Act IX 2002.]

The General Assembly enact and ordain as follows:-

1. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Act the following terms shall be deemed to have the meanings hereby assigned to them:-

(a) A Candidate shall mean a person accepted for the Ministry of this Church who is engaged in, but has not completed, the course of training required by the Candidate Supervision Committee.

(b) A Probationer shall mean a Candidate who has completed the course of training as defined in (a) above and has obtained his or her Exit Certificate from the Candidate Supervision Committee, has been licensed by a Presbytery, and is engaged in the performance of a Probationary Period as required by the said Committee.

(c) A Licentiate shall mean (i) a Probationer as defined in (b) above the performance of whose Probationary Period has been sustained, or (ii) a Candidate who has been exempted from the performance of a Probationary Period and has been licensed, or (iii) a Candidate who, having completed the required course and having been licensed, has not proceeded to the performance of a Probationary Period.

(d) A Minister shall mean one who has been ordained by a Presbytery of this Church to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

2. ORDINATION

(a) When a licentiate is ordained he or she shall be regarded as a Minister as defined in Section 1 (d) above, and any legislation applicable to a Candidate, Probationer, or Licentiate shall cease to be applicable.

(b) A Licentiate may be ordained only after the Presbytery concerned has been informed by the Candidate Supervision Committee that the Probationary Period has been sustained or that the Licentiate has been exempted from the performance of a Probationary Period.

3. ROLL OF PROBATIONERS AND LICENTIATES

(a) The Ministries Council shall keep a Roll of Probationers and Licentiates.

(b) When Candidates are licensed, the Clerk of the Presbytery concerned shall immediately intimate the names and addresses of those licensed to the Secretary of the Candidate Supervision Committee.

(c) Immediately on receipt of the names of Candidates licensed the Secretary of the Candidate Supervision Committee shall require of each Licentiate such information as the said Committee shall consider necessary and in such form as it may deem suitable. Only on receipt of this information shall the name of the Probationer or Licentiate be added to the Roll.

4. PROBATIONARY PERIOD IN RELATION TO VACANCIES

(a) Every Probationer shall serve a Probationary Period as required by the Candidate Supervision Committee, with the exception of those granted exemptions by the said Committee. The Candidate Supervision Committee shall retain full details of the Charges or other Appointments in which Probationers are serving their Probationary Period.

(b) Probationers seeking a Charge shall be required to obtain the permission of the Secretary of the Candidate Supervision Committee before preaching as a candidate in a vacancy. They may preach as Sole Nominee or as one of a leet only after they have been officially informed by the Candidate Supervision Committee that their Probationary Period

has been sustained, and they may be ordained and inducted only when the officiating Presbytery has sought and obtained the concurrence of the said Committee.

(c) The Candidate Supervision Committee shall compile and maintain a list of all Probationers seeking a Charge, together with such documentation, including a personal profile, as may be submitted to the Committee by each Probationer or Licentiate. The Committee shall send monthly to any eligible Licentiate and to Probationers whom the Committee has agreed might make application to Vacant Charges the list of current vacancies and appropriate appointments issued monthly to all ministers in charges and to any other minister who may request it, with in each case the name and address of a contact person.

(d) The Candidate Supervision Committee shall make available in a vacancy the complete list of available Probationers. On the request of the Interim Moderator a selected list based on knowledge of the expressed wishes of each Probationer or Licentiate shall be provided. Where a selected list is supplied, the names shall be accompanied by the appropriate personal profiles which may have been submitted to the Committee.

(e) The Candidate Supervision Committee shall keep a detailed record of the vacancies for which the names of Probationers have been submitted.

5. PROCEDURES AFTER PROBATIONARY PERIOD

All Probationers or Licentiates whose names are on the Roll shall annually inform the Secretary of the Candidate Supervision Committee (a) of their address and of any changes in the information already supplied to the Committee (see Section 3 (c) above); (b) of whether or not they wish to have their name considered in connection with Vacant Charges; and (c) of any changes in their circumstances. Any Probationer or Licentiate who fails so to inform the Secretary of the Committee shall have his or her name removed from the Roll. Any Probationer or Licentiate whose name has been removed from the Roll may be restored to the Roll only by application to the Assessment Scheme Committee for a Certificate of Eligibility or by Petition to the General Assembly.

6. EARLIER LEGISLATION

(a) Act VII, 1985 is hereby repealed; and it is hereby provided that all other legislation prior to this Act shall be construed in conformity with the provisions of this Act.

(b) Notwithstanding the terms of Section 6 (a) above the repeal of the aforementioned Act shall not affect the operation of the said Act or Deliverances of the General Assembly in pursuance thereof prior to its repeal; and any right or obligation so required or incurred thereunder shall have effect as if the said Act had not been repealed.