

The actions recommended by the ABC-MI Executive Committee to the ABC-MI Region Board are in accordance with the following provisions of the By-laws of the American Baptist Churches of Michigan

## **ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 2.** Membership.

- 2.1 In consultation with the Area and the local congregation, the Region Board may dismiss a local congregation upon its or the Area's request.

## **ARTICLE XII. THE AREA**

**Section 1.** Definition. An Area is a grouping of churches as defined and approved by the Region Board. All churches shall be members of an Area of the Region.

**Section 2.** Purpose. An Area shall implement the Region's purpose through setting of priorities, developing and using program resources which will assist its local congregations to achieve individually and corporately their part of the Region's purpose given in Article III of these Bylaws.

**Section 3.** Membership.

- 3.1 The Area includes all the local congregations which are members of the Region and are approved by the Region Board for inclusion in the particular Area.
- 3.2 Upon application by the local congregation and approval of the Region Board, a local congregation may change Areas. No local congregation shall relate to more than one Area.

**Section 7.** Associations and/or Clusters. The Area may have such associations or clustering of congregations as its local congregations deem necessary for fellowship, training functions, and mission. Program planning and implementation by associations and/or clusters shall be coordinated with the planning of the Region and of the Area in which the association or cluster is located.

These Bylaws, adopted at the October 17, 1998, Annual Meeting, Dearborn, Michigan, replace the original Bylaws adopted by delegates to the Constituting Convention, Okemos, Michigan, on June 12, 1971, and amended 10/77, 10/79, 10/80, 10/81, 10/82, 10/85, 10/89, 10/90, 10/91, 10/94, 10/95, 10/96, 10/01 and 10/03.