

FIRST DRAFT

The Synod Council met via teleconference on June 23, 2011 to deal with Resolution D which was referred to the council by the 2011 Synod Assembly.

The text of the resolution was:

Resolved that pastors urge their members to write or to call their representatives, senators, and the governor and state treasurer, raising these concerns and asking them (1) to make sure the poor are not left homeless and destitute by our state budget; and (2) to work to repeal or amend House Bill #4214 because of its potential to diminish the dignity and rights of our local communities and schools. **Referred.**

As a result of discussion by the Synod council, the following resolution was proposed:

Resolved that Congregation Councils of North/West Lower Michigan Synod congregations provide information, education and references to congregation members empowering them to write or call their representatives, senators, the governor, and state treasurer, raising concerns and expressing opinions about the state budget and legislation about Emergency Financial Managers (House Bill #4214), asking them (1) to make sure the poor, the homeless, and destitute are not forgotten; and (2) to ensure that the rights of individuals and sovereignty of elected officials, including school board members be respected. **Adopted.**

The web links below will assist Congregation Councils in their provision of materials that may be helpful to congregation members who desire to gather more information, in order to make decisions concerning the matters addressed in the resolution. *Congregation Councils are strongly urged to pass this information along to members of the congregation.*

An Analysis of House Bill #4214

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2011-2012/billanalysis/Senate/pdf/2011-SFA-4214-A.pdf>

Background on Emergency Financial Managers

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/snyder/EMF_Fact_Sheet2_347889_7.pdf

Text: House Bill #4214

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2011-2012/publicact/pdf/2011-PA-0004.pdf>