

# VOTE NO TO MBC's CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

During tonight's online congregational meeting, MBC leadership has asked members to approve their proposed amendments to MBC's constitution. These changes were provided on May 7th as a means to "update" the constitution and, if approved, will significantly impact the structure of the church and the rights of its members. Looking beyond the posturing and focusing on the implications of approving this governing document, we are asking that you please consider the following and **vote NO** to these changes.

Significance of changes are **misrepresented**: these changes are not mere updates but a complete overhaul on how the church will be run.

1. Proposed terms are ambiguous and subjective and lean heavily in favor of the Board of Elders.
2. Only one forum was held to discuss these changes with church members. To date, results from the forum have not been presented to the church. Did leadership walk through each change with members? What questions were asked by members? What was the church's response? This is important. If any changes were requested by members, they clearly have not been incorporated.
3. As written, changes neutralize/remove members' rights in key areas of the church.
4. As written, changes remove provisions that are under litigation with the courts that include allegations of breach of contract under the current constitution.
5. Misrepresentation of historical changes as a basis for current changes: Leadership inaccurately stated that "as best as they could tell the vast majority" of the current constitution was written in 1961. However, the constitution was revised in 1991 and 2014 under Lon Solomon.

## Other concerns that need to be addressed before moving forward with any changes-

**Unfulfilled Promises by the Elder Board Regarding the SBC/MBC Relationship:** During the March 2023 congregational meeting, Chairman of the Elder Board, Chuck Hollingsworth had stated that a number of disclosures were forthcoming (see below) but nothing has been provided to date.

- In March of 2023, Chuck Hollingsworth stated that additional information regarding the relationship between the SBC and MBC, to include financials and the elder meeting minutes would be provided on the church website. Nothing has been posted to date and there has been no other communication regarding this from the Board of Elders. Instead, we were informed that the church is proposing changes to the constitution.

The issues are not limited to just the above, but are enough to determine that these changes should not be incorporated. Additionally, this vote should be considered inappropriate until the congregation meets together in person to discuss these changes more thoroughly as a church family and all sides are heard and acknowledged.

We have included additional information and resources below for reference and highly recommend reviewing them. A high standard should be applied with respect to how a church is organized and run, and since no overseer is perfect other than Christ, these changes should not be acceptable for any member of any church.

## INFORMATION

[Comparison of Current Constitution and Proposed Changes \(Redline\)](#)  
[Proposed 2023 Amendment, Current MBC Constitution](#)  
[MBC Link to Online Congregational Meeting Information](#)

## RESOURCES

[Reversing Course on Conciliation Clauses- Emerging Trends and Concerns](#)  
<https://capstonereport.com/2023/03/19/mclean-bible-church-hid-financial-dealings-with-sbc-from-its-treasurer/41271/>  
<https://capstonereport.com/2023/03/18/mclean-bible-church-loses-motion-to-dismiss/41251/>

*So you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. Matthew 23:28*

*But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your "yes" be yes and your "no" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. James 5:12*