

**Existing Constitution of the Michigan  
Association of  
Regular Baptist Churches**

(Adopted 11/1/49; Amended 11/25/49, 10/66 & 10/68)

**ARTICLE I**

The Name

The Name of this organization shall be the “Michigan Association of Regular Baptist Churches.”

**ARTICLE II**

Design and Object

The design and object of this Association shall be to provide a medium of cooperation among Regular Baptist Churches of the State of Michigan, and to promote the spreading of the Gospel through whatever mediums may seem advantageous.

**Proposed Revisions to the Constitution of  
the Michigan Association of Regular Baptist  
Churches**

(Adopted 11/1/49; Amended 11/25/49, 10/66 & 10/68, 10/79, **10/09**)

**(Proposals in bold)**

**ARTICLE I**

The Name

The Name of this organization shall be the “Michigan Association of Regular Baptist Churches.”

**ARTICLE II**

**Mission and Vision**

**Our Mission: The MARBC, compelled by the Word of God to reflect the glory and grace of Jesus Christ, exists to foster the mutual unity, partnership, and enrichment of our churches.**

**Our Vision: We are the MARBC, an association of autonomous local congregations with a commitment to stand together for the Faith and thereby impact our world with the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. This commitment requires cooperation among us in the *planting, nurturing, and strengthening* of churches.**

**Church Strengthening – providing resources and opportunities to all MARBC churches.**

**Church Nurturing – providing assistance and support to MARBC churches in need.**

**Church Planting – conceiving and birthing new MARBC churches.**

### ARTICLE III

#### Fellowship and Voting Privileges

##### Section 1

Any Baptist Church in Michigan which has endorsed the doctrinal position of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches shall be eligible to affiliate with this Association.

##### Section 2

Any Baptist Church qualifying under Article III, Section 1, and approving the constitution and bylaws of this association shall submit to the Secretary written official notice to the effect that it desires fellowship in this Association; such application(s) shall be recommended to the Association by the Council at the Annual meeting of the Association.

##### Section 3

This fellowship may be dissolved for any Church by: (a) The action of the local church, notifying the Secretary of this intent. (b) By a majority vote of the messengers at any annual meeting upon proof of a serious departure from the Articles of Faith or from the provisions of our constitution.

##### Section 4

Each church shall designate three of its members who shall be entitled to vote at all sessions of the Annual meeting. However, there shall be no limitation to the number of messengers any church may wish to send.

### ARTICLE IV

#### Annual Meeting

##### Section 1

The Association shall begin its fiscal year on October 1<sup>st</sup>, and shall end it on September 30<sup>th</sup>, and shall meet annually the last Monday and Tuesday of October.

##### Section 2

All business of the Association shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.

### ARTICLE III

#### Fellowship and Voting Privileges

##### Section 1

Any Baptist Church in Michigan which has endorsed the doctrinal position of the **Michigan** Association of Regular Baptist Churches shall be eligible to affiliate with this Association.

##### Section 2

Any Baptist Church qualifying under Article III, Section 1, and approving the constitution and bylaws of this association shall submit to the **Council** written official notice to the effect that it desires fellowship in this Association; such application(s) shall be recommended to the Association by the Council at the Annual meeting of the Association.

##### Section 3

This fellowship **between the church and the association** may be dissolved by: (a) The action of the local church, notifying the **Council** of this intent. (b) By a majority vote of the messengers at any annual meeting upon proof of a serious departure from the **Doctrinal Statement** or from the provisions of our constitution.

##### Section 4

Each church shall designate three of its members who shall be entitled to vote at all sessions of the Annual meeting. However, there shall be no limitation to the number of messengers any church may wish to send.

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##### Section 2

All business of the Association shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.

## ARTICLE V

### Council Members Amended 10/28/79

#### Section 1

The Council shall be composed of nine members at large to be elected from the fellowshiping churches at the annual meeting and one representative from each of the local area MARBC associations. The nine council members at large elected at the annual meeting of the MARBC shall be eligible to succeed themselves a second term. Their terms of office shall be for three years arranged so that three are elected each year. The election of the other council members by their own respective associations will allow the person to succeed himself as often as the local association desires.

#### Section 2

Election: Each fellowshiping church shall be requested to send to the Secretary a list of seven (7) names chosen by the church. From the aggregate list, the Secretary shall record the ten (10) highest names (those occurring most frequently in the lists) who shall be considered the nominees for the council members at large to be voted upon by the messengers at the Annual meeting of the Association.

#### Section 3

Organization: The council shall meet after the election and during the Annual meeting to select from the Council members at large a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary and a treasurer.

#### Section 4

The Council can be called together as often as the chairman deems necessary. The Council will pay its members mileage driven to the council meetings. After the annual meeting and at the first council meeting the chairman will present appointments to such standing committees as may be deemed necessary for the approval of the council.

## ARTICLE V

### Council

#### Section 1

The Council shall be composed of nine members at large to be elected from the fellowshiping churches at the annual meeting and one representative from each of the local area MARBC associations. The nine council members at large elected at the annual meeting of the MARBC shall be eligible to succeed themselves a second term. Their terms of office shall be for three years arranged so that three are elected each year. The election of the other council members by their own respective associations will allow the person to succeed himself as often as the local association desires.

**A split ballot will be used in order to increase the number of Associate Pastors serving on the Council of 15. Two pastors will be elected annually to serve as at large members of the Council of 15, and one associate pastor will be elected annually to serve as an at-large member of the Council of 15.**

#### Section 2

Election: Each fellowshiping church shall be requested to send to the **Council** a list of seven (7) names chosen by the church. From the aggregate list, the Secretary shall record the ten (10) highest names (those occurring most frequently in the lists) who shall be considered the nominees for the council members at large to be voted upon by the messengers at the Annual meeting of the Association.

#### Section 3

Organization: The Council shall meet after the election and during the Annual meeting to select from the Council members at large a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary and a treasurer.

#### Section 4

The Council can be called together as often as the chairman deems necessary. The Council **may** pay its members mileage driven to the council meetings. After the annual meeting and at the first council meeting the **Executive Director** will present appointments to such standing committees as may be deemed necessary for the approval of the Council.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Amendments**

Any amendments or alterations to this constitution shall be submitted to the fellowshipping churches by the council at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting. Such changes must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the voting messengers present at the annual meeting of the Association.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Amendments**

Any amendments or alterations to this constitution shall be submitted to the fellowshipping churches by the Council at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting. Such changes must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the voting messengers present at the annual meeting of the Association.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Executive Director and Employed Staff**

**It shall be the duty of the Council to secure the services of the Executive Director (aka “State Representative”). The Executive Director will serve under the direction of the Council and will provide leadership in implementing the goals, ministries, and policies of the MARBC. He should meet the Biblical qualifications for pastoral ministry, and demonstrate enthusiasm for the mission, vision, and values of the MARBC. There is no time limit on the term of office of the Executive Director. The Executive Director will give at least one month written notice of his resignation to the Council.**

**Employed staff positions of the MARBC must be approved by the Council. The Executive Director will provide oversight of any staff secured by the MARBC. A staff member must give at least two weeks written notice of their resignation to the Executive Director.**