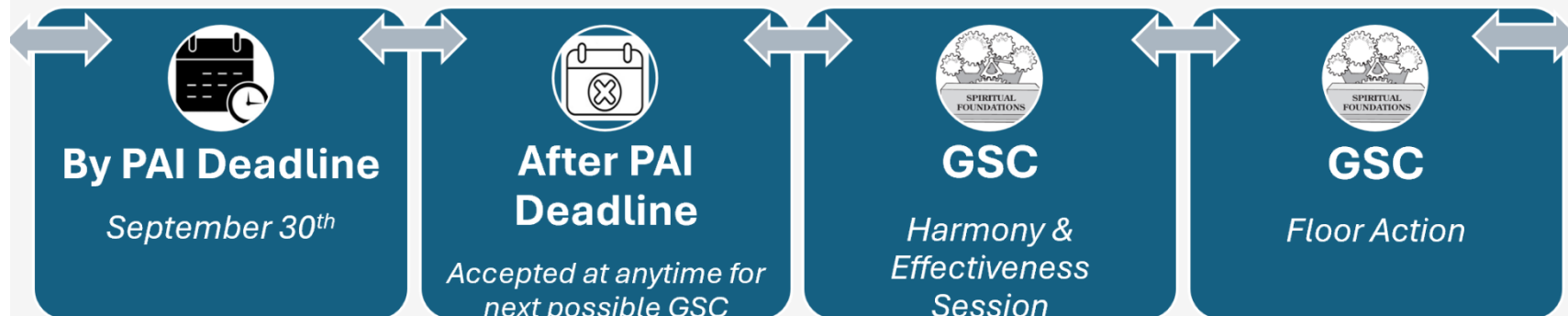


## CENSURE PROCESS (January 2025)

**Purpose:** To outline multiple paths for members of the General Service Conference (GSC) to pursue censure if it is the group conscience of the GSC to do so.

Recognizing that clarity of process and a defined means to promptly address concerns are essential to harmony and trust, the following is proposed. Included are options to encourage fully informed discussion between all conference members when concerns arise. It is noted that different circumstances may require different options, this is not intended to cover all possibilities rather it is intended to offer sufficient alternatives to ensure conference members can have an informed discussion about censure if there is a desire to do so.

### When can a motion for censure be made?



*See attached for additional information.*

**CONFIDENTIAL: 75<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference Background**

<b>Option</b>	<b>Process</b>	<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<p>Motion made at the General Service Conference – motion during the <i>Harmony and Effectiveness</i><sup>1</sup> session.</p> <p><small>1 – from Concept XI</small></p>	<p>A session similar to a <i>What’s On Your Mind</i> session but where a motion for censure may be also made and heard earlier in the conference week than the floor actions are heard should the Conference wish to do so.</p> <p>This option may provide for instances where sensitive information needs to be discussed that is not appropriate for widespread dissemination in background material.</p> <p>This session also affords an opportunity for open discussion about any matters affecting harmony and effectiveness.</p>	<p>This session is an opportunity for questions and discussion on Board reports, Conference process or other areas of interest or concern. It may also be utilized for GSC discussion of inventory type questions.</p> <p>Note: If the Conference Committee on Trustees (CCT) has a censure proposal on their agenda this session will begin with the portion of their committee report that includes any recommendations, considerations or reporting on the censure agenda item.</p> <p>All other procedures are as per <i>How The Conference Operates</i>.</p>	<p>The <i>Harmony and Effectiveness</i> session is to be proposed separately as something to try on a trial basis. If adopted it will be added to the conference week schedule, to occur after all board and finance reports. This session would be chaired by either the GSB Chair or the General Manager.</p> <p>The session is intended to both provide the assurance that a motion to censure will be heard if it is the group conscience to do so; and ensure that censure is not the only option available to express concerns, complaints, seek additional information, request changes, or have dialogue.</p>
<p>Floor Action made at the General Service Conference</p>	<p>Floor Action – to be heard at the end of the Conference and may be made as per the <i>How The Conference Operates</i></p>	<p>As per the <i>How The Conference Operates</i>.</p> <p><i>“...Any floor action regarding a piece of committee business that has not yet been concluded will be considered out of order. When a floor action is to be heard, its maker is given two (2) minutes to state the rationale behind the action, after which the chair shall ask if there is a motion that the Conference decline to consider the floor action.”</i></p>	<p>This ensures that all conference members can propose a motion to censure as a floor action even if it was not on the conference agenda or considered during the <i>Harmony and Effectiveness</i> session.</p> <p>Notation of this option is intended to offer assurance that if a conference member is not satisfied with the results of the other options, they may propose censure as a floor action.</p>

**CONFIDENTIAL: 75<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference Background**

<b>Option</b>	<b>Process</b>	<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Proposed Agenda Item	Subject to the PAI deadline, will be treated as any other PAI.	<p>Received by Conference Coord, Trustees Nominating Committee (TNC) to consult with Conference Committee on Trustees (CCT). TNC decision to forward to GSC agenda or not.</p> <p>If forwarded, will be assigned to CCT for consideration and any recommendations will proceed during the <i>Harmony and Effectiveness session</i> (if adopted) or when the CCT report is presented to the GSC.</p>	<p>The retention of this option is intended to provide for instances where widespread dissemination of background material and fellowship-wide discussion is needed.</p> <p>If forwarded to the GSC, background material will be prepared which may include additional information if required for accuracy and informed group conscience. If the submission contains information that targets individuals or is defamatory in nature some redactions may be required prior to translation and distribution.</p>
Censure submission after the PAI deadline	<p>May be submitted to the Conference Coordinator at any time.</p> <p>Upon receipt TNC will review and consult with CCT. If this proposal is to be forwarded to the GSC further consultation with Staff regarding timelines for background, translation and distribution will occur prior to a recommendation to the GSB.</p> <p>If the decision is made to forward it to the GSC and it is determined not to be possible for the upcoming GSC, it will be on the agenda for the following conference.</p>	<p>Received by Conference Coord, Trustees Nominating Committee (TNC) to consult with Conference Committee on Trustees (CCT) and Staff. TNC will make a recommendation to the GSB who will make the decision to forward to GSC agenda or not.</p> <p>If forwarded, will be assigned to CCT for consideration and any recommendations will proceed during the <i>Harmony and Effectiveness session</i> (if adopted) or when the CCT report is presented to the GSC.</p>	<p>This is intended to allow for a censure submission to be received after the PAI deadline.</p> <p>If forwarded to the GSC, background material will be prepared which may include additional information if required for accuracy and informed group conscience. If the submission contains information that targets individuals or is defamatory in nature some redactions may be required prior to translation and distribution.</p>

**CONFIDENTIAL: 75<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference Background**

<b>Option</b>	<b>Process</b>	<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Censure submission after the PAI deadline (continued)	Both the submitter and CCT will be informed of the receipt of the submission, and the outcome.	In the event of a PAI received too late for the upcoming conference, it remains possible for conference members to raise their concerns through a floor action or during the <i>Harmony and Effectiveness session</i> . If the concerns, or substantially similar concerns, are heard in one of these ways during the GSC, the PAI will not also be forwarded to the subsequent GSC.	The committee considered various possible deadlines to ensure sufficient time for review, processing, background compilation, and translation but in the interest of ensuring the broadest possible opportunity for submission no deadline was set. It is recognized that submissions may vary in volume, and the availability of resources for review and translation may vary based on other needs and work in progress. So instead, the deadline was left open, with the intent of the submission going on the agenda for the upcoming GSC to the greatest extent possible, the year after if necessary and the assurance that the additional measures noted above are available should the conference feel that a matter should not wait.

###