

“Corporations”, sub-title “Religious Corporations”, said new section to follow immediately after Section 288A thereof, providing generally for the formation of Presbyterian Church corporations subject to the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, amendment of present charters, of such corporations, election, qualification, tenure and powers of trustees.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Section 288B be and it is hereby added to Article 23 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition and 1956 Supplement), title “Corporations”, sub-title “Religious Corporations”, said new section to follow immediately after Section 288A thereof, and to read as follows:

*288B. Formation of Presbyterian Church corporations subject to the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America; amendment of present charters of such corporations; election, qualification, nomination, tenure and powers of trustees.*

*(a) The provisions of this section shall apply only to Presbyterian Churches which are subject to the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and its successors.*

*(b) Such Presbyterian Churches may be incorporated only in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America and its successors, from time to time in effect.*

*(c) To the extent not prohibited by the Constitution of the United States, or by the Constitution of the State of Maryland, the charters of all of such Presbyterian Churches heretofore incorporated shall be deemed to be hereby amended to conform to the provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and its successors, from time to time in effect.*

*(d) The charters of such Presbyterian Churches shall not at any time be amended in any manner which will conflict with the provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and its successors, from time to time in effect.*

*(e) Trustees of such incorporated Presbyterian Churches shall be elected by the Congregations thereof in accordance with their charters as affected by the provisions of the preceding sub-sections of this section. To the extent not prohibited by sub-section (c), the qualifications, nomination, election, tenure and powers of trustees shall be in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and its successors, from time to time in effect. Wherever a vacancy shall exist in the office of trustee, and there is no provision for filling such vacancy in the charter of the Church, such vacancy may be filled by the congregation.*

*(f) Provided, however, that the provisions of this Section 288B shall not apply to such Presbyterian Churches as were incorporated by special act of the General Assembly of Maryland.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1957.

Approved April 10, 1957.