

1 **OVERTURE 40** from Northwest Georgia Presbytery (to OC)
2 “Overture for Sessions to Acknowledge and Support Women Leaders without
3 Delay or More Divisiveness”
4

5 **Whereas**, the PCA has devoted many hours of debate, study, and discussion to the role of
6 women in the church—and such does not seem to be yielding progress or resolution
7 but rather much distraction from mission, along with much quarreling and divisiveness
8 (1 Cor. 6:7); and
9

10 **Whereas**, a recent *Ad Interim* Committee recommended commissioning women to serve other
11 women and their ministry in the local church; and
12

13 **Whereas**, each local church may and should use the gifts of women as that local church sees
14 fit, under the authority and norms of Scripture—and the Resolution below requires no
15 higher court voting or constitutional amendment; and
16

17 **Whereas**, the PCA has an institution already in existence that could launch and nurture many
18 gifts for ministry by our godly sisters, with no required *BCO* changes or time-consuming
19 debates; and
20

21 **Whereas**, most of our female members do not desire ordination as an aspiration or prerequisite
22 to carry out gospel ministry; and
23

24 **Whereas**, rather than dividing and quarreling over this matter in the years to come; and
25

26 **Whereas**, *BCO* 9-7 presently allows Sessions to recruit godly women in ministries in the local
27 church under the authority and norms of Scripture; and
28

29 **Whereas**, Paul differentiates between the Deacons and The Women in 1 Timothy 3:8-12; and
30

31 **Whereas**, the PCA could devote itself more to mission, evangelism, unity, and edification by
32 implementing the Resolution below, rather than dividing over this issue in the courts
33 of the church;
34

35 **Therefore, be it resolved** that those churches wishing to acknowledge and support Women
36 leaders be authorized to select and appoint the officers of their Women in the Church
37 [previously known as WIC, or more recently “Women’s Ministry”] with the laying on
38 of hands to serve in the local church and assist the deacons in caring for those in need
39 and distress. The manner of appointment or election of these officers shall be the
40 discretion of each Session.
41

42 *Adopted by Northwest Georgia Presbytery at its stated meeting, April 2, 2019*
43 *Attested by TE Paul Legree Finch Jr., stated clerk*