

DECLARATORY ACT

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION AT ORDINATIONS, INDUCTIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

BOOK OF FORMS 11.2

(Clerks of Assembly report, A&P 2021, p. 55, 57, 309–10)

11.2 The following Declaratory Act was adopted by the 1989 General Assembly and ordered inserted in the Book of Forms (A&P 1981, p. 90; A&P 1989, p. 271, 65) and was revised through an additional Declaratory Act adopted by the 2021 General Assembly: By virtue of their ordination vows, all ministers and elders are obliged to exercise full ministry including, among other things, active participation in the ordination of candidates to the eldership and to the ministry of Word and Sacraments. The one exception is that ministers and elders are granted liberty of conscience and action in active participation in the ordination, induction and installation of candidates to the eldership and to the ministry of Word and Sacraments who are LGBTQI persons (married or single). (Remit C, 2019 – A&P 2019, p. 5) Though presbyteries have no authority to grant permission to disobey church law and doctrine, yet they are enjoined to deal with cases of conscience on any question with pastoral care and understanding for the parties involved, with concern and sensitivity for the peace and unity of the whole church.