











- When the time allotted has expired on an item of business, the Moderator will indicate that fact to commissioners. Commissioners can then choose to extend for several minutes or not. Debate ends if time is not extended.
- At any point during the debate, a commissioner can rise and, after being recognized and stating their name/church, can say, “Mr./Madam Moderator, I move the previous question” or “I call the question.” This means that the commissioner making the motion wants to stop the debate and move to a vote.
- The Moderator has the right to not entertain the motion to end the debate and may exercise that option if others are still seeking to debate and the time allotted has not expired.
- The motion to move the previous question must be seconded. There is no debate on this motion, and it takes a 2/3 majority to approve ending the debate.

### **Voting**

- Voting is generally done by voice vote first. Depending on the motion, a “simple majority” (over 50%) or a “super-majority” (usually 2/3 of those voting) will be required.
- If the voice vote is inconclusive, the Moderator or a commissioner can call for “division.”
- If division occurs, the Moderator will either ask people to stand for a vote or appoint tellers to tally hand votes.
- In some cases, a written ballot will be held. The Leader Team usually decides on this before a presbytery meeting, although any commissioner can make a motion for a written ballot process. You can also stand and request that the vote be taken by written ballot.