

This table represents the work of the Bylaws Committee for the past year. Changes are proposed to the articles pertaining to elections, the House of Delegates, and the official publication of the Association. The first column contains the current articles of the bylaws. The middle column contains the proposed changes to the articles of the bylaws, which will be brought to the House of Delegates in the form of various motions. The third column includes statements describing the rationale on which the proposed revisions are based. At press time, the exact motions regarding each section of the bylaws had not been developed.* Operational details will be published in *AORN Connections* and via electronic means.

Proposed Bylaws Amendments

Original	Revision	Rationale
ARTICLE VII <u>ELIGIBILITY - ELECTIONS - TERMS -</u> <u>VACANCIES - REMOVAL</u>	No change	
Section 2: Election	No Change	
A. The Officers, Board of Directors, and the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee shall be elected by ballot at the annual Congress, and plurality elects. In case of a tie, choice is by lot.	A. The Officers, Board of Directors, and the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee shall be elected by ballot of the members in good standing with voting rights as defined in article III, and plurality elects. In case of a tie, choice is by lot.	Allows all eligible members to vote for Officers, the Board of Directors, and members of the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee.
B. Any member holding an elective office may not be a candidate for another office unless the current term of the member expires at the impending annual election.	No change	
C. Nominations for all elected positions may be made from the floor of the first session of the House of Delegates, provided that eligibility has been verified and written consent to serve, if elected, was obtained from the nominee and is submitted at the time of the nomination.	C. Nominations for all elected positions may be made no later than 45 days prior to the commencement of voting, provided that eligibility has been verified and written consent to serve, if elected, was obtained from the nominee and is submitted to the Nominating and Leadership	Allows for nominations from the membership in addition to those on the original ballot submitted by the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee.

	Development Committee.	
<p>Section 5: Removal Any official, regardless of the manner of election or appointment, may be removed by the House of Delegates upon two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Association would be served thereby, provided the official, upon request, was offered an opportunity to have an unprejudiced hearing at which the official was permitted to defend against the termination.</p>	<p>Section 5: Removal Any official, regardless of the manner of election or appointment, may be removed by the members at a business meeting upon two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote whenever in their judgment the best interests of the Association would be served thereby, provided the official, upon request, was offered an opportunity to have an unprejudiced hearing at which the official was permitted to defend against the termination.</p>	
ARTICLE VIII	No change	
MEETINGS		
A. House of Delegates	A. Business Meeting	
1. The annual meeting is designated as the annual Congress, and the time and place is determined by the Board of Directors.	1. The annual business meeting of the Association will occur at the annual Congress, and the time and place is determined by the Board of Directors.	
2. The voting body of the annual Congress is the House of Delegates constituted as follows:	2. Members in good standing with voting rights as defined in article III who are present at the business meeting constitute the voting body at the annual business meeting.	Allows all members with voting rights attending the annual Congress to vote and allows current subsections (a-e) to be deleted because this detail is no longer needed. Allows for an inclusive opportunity to capture the will of the members.
a) The maximum size of the House of Delegates is 1,500 voting members, excluding the delegates described in paragraphs b), c) and d).	Delete	
b) All officers and members of the Board of Directors are delegates and entitled to all the privileges of a delegate at the time they assume	Delete	

office. (May not serve as a chapter delegate.)		
c) The three (3) most recent and eligible past Presidents attending the annual Congress are delegates. (May not serve as a chapter delegate.)	Delete	
d) Specialty Assemblies shall be allocated two delegates per Specialty Assembly. (May not serve as a chapter delegate.)	Delete	
e) The delegate count shall be allocated annually to chapters and MAL category members based upon the ratio of total chapter membership to total Association membership as of June 30, with each chapter and the MAL category having a minimum of one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate delegate.	Delete	
f) Each selected delegate shall serve for a term commencing at the beginning of the first annual Congress that follows the election of the delegate and ending immediately prior to the beginning of the next annual Congress.	a) Each member voting at the annual business meeting shall be eligible to vote at special business meetings between annual meetings, commencing at the beginning of the first day of the annual Congress that the member attends and ending immediately prior to the first day of the next annual Congress.	Allows for continuity of the members who are voting between annual meetings and ensures a common framework from the previous Congress.
3. The House of Delegates convenes at least twice during each annual Congress.	Delete	
4. Special meetings of the House of Delegates may be called during the annual Congress by the national President, or upon request of one third (1/3) of the total number of	3. Special business meetings of the Association may be called during the annual Congress by the President, or upon request of one third (1/3) of the	

members of the House of Delegates, or by written request of five (5) members of the Board of Directors.	total number of members attending the annual business meeting, or by written request of five (5) members of the Board of Directors.	
5. Special meetings of the House of Delegates may be held between annual Congresses on the written request of five (5) members of the Board of Directors. A delegate may vote at a special meeting by proxy granted to the Secretary of the Association or such other person or persons as the notice of the meeting may specify.	4. Special business meetings of the Association may be held between annual Congresses on the written request of five (5) members of the Board of Directors.	
6. Delegates shall not vote by proxy at meetings of the House of Delegates held during the annual Congress.	5. Members shall not vote by proxy at the business meeting held during the annual Congress.	
7. The presence of twenty percent (20%) of the registered delegates constitutes a quorum for all meetings of the House of Delegates.	6. A quorum for all business meetings of the Association consists of those members in good standing with voting rights as defined in article III who are present at the meeting.	Defines a quorum to be those members present with voting rights as defined in article III. This definition allows the Association to conduct business without a pre-identified number of members present. For proceedings of the business meeting, if the member does not attend the meeting, he or she cannot vote on business issues.
8. The business of this organization may be conducted electronically by the Board of Directors, Committees, and House of Delegates.	7. The special business meetings of this Association and meetings of the Board of Directors and Committees may be conducted electronically.	
ARTICLE XI <u>OFFICIAL PUBLICATION</u>	ARTICLE XI <u>ASSOCIATION COMMUNICATION</u>	
The official publication of the Association is the <i>AORN Journal</i> .	The Board of Directors shall establish and maintain vehicle(s) of communication for the Association. Information carried therein shall constitute official notification	When this section of the Bylaws was first adopted, the <i>AORN Journal</i> was the only direct communication with all members. The update allows other vehicles such as

	to the membership at all times.	<i>AORN Connections</i> to be recognized as official communications. The change presents greater opportunities for disseminating information.
<p>* If these proposed amendments are passed, the Headquarters staff will make the necessary editorial changes by removing the words “House of Delegates” and replacing them with “business meeting.”</p>		