

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

CCB Report 6-A-24

Subject: Bylaw Amendments pursuant to Speakers' Report 01-A-24 -- Credentialing and Resolutions

Presented by: Mark Bair, MD, Chair

Referred to: Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws

1 At the 2024 Annual Meeting of the American Medical Association (AMA) House of Delegates
2 (HOD), the HOD considered several recommendations of Speakers Report 1-A-24, Report of the
3 Resolution Modernization Task Force Update. Among the recommendations the House adopted as
4 submitted or as amended were several calling for the following bylaw amendments:

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- 6 1. The bylaws be amended so that the resolution submission deadline be 45 days prior to the
7 opening session of the House of Delegates (with the current exemption remaining for
8 resolutions from Section meetings).
- 9 2. The bylaws be amended so that the definition of a late resolution shall be all resolutions
10 submitted after the resolution submission deadline and prior to the beginning of the Opening
11 Session of the House of Delegates.
- 12 3. The bylaws be amended so that the definition of an emergency resolution shall be all
13 resolutions submitted after the beginning of the Opening Session of the House of Delegates.
- 14

15 The Council has prepared the bylaw language to implement HOD action. The Council also has
16 proposed additional amendments relating to credentialing. As existing bylaws specify that
17 resolutions may only be submitted by delegates, the Council has determined that the deadline for
18 credentialing should be consistent with the other adopted language regarding resolutions so as to
19 minimize any confusion. Similarly, the Council has also proposed amendments to the language
20 regarding Board and Council reports to maintain bylaw consistency.

21

22 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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24 The Council on Constitution and Bylaws recommends that the following amendments to the
25 Bylaws be adopted, and that the balance of the report be filed. Adoption requires the affirmative
26 vote of two-thirds of the members of the House of Delegates present and voting following a one-
27 day layover.

28

29 **2—House of Delegates**

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31 **2.1 Constituent Associations.**

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- 33 **2.1.4 Certification.** The president of each constituent association, or the president's
34 designee, shall certify to the AMA the delegates and alternate delegates from their
35 respective associations. Certification must occur at least ~~30~~ 45 days prior to the
36 Annual or Interim Meeting of the House of Delegates.

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- 1 **2.2 National Medical Specialty Societies.**
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- 3 **2.2.4 Certification.** The president of each specialty society, or the president’s designee,
4 shall certify to the AMA the delegates and alternate delegates from their
5 respective societies. Certification must occur at least ~~30~~ 45 days prior to the
6 Annual or Interim Meeting of the House of Delegates.
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- 9 **2.3 Medical Student Regional Delegates.**
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- 11 **2.3.4 Certification.** The Chair of the Medical Student Section Governing Council, or the
12 Chair’s designee, shall certify to the AMA the delegates and alternate delegates for
13 each Medical Student Region. Certification of delegates and alternate delegates must
14 occur at least ~~30~~ 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates.
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- 17 **2.4 Delegates from the Resident and Fellow Section.**
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- 19 **2.4.4 Certification.** The Chair of the Resident and Fellow Section Governing Council or
20 the Chair’s designee shall certify to the AMA the delegates and alternate delegates
21 for the Resident and Fellow Section. Certification of delegates and alternate
22 delegates must occur at least ~~30~~ 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the House of
23 Delegates.
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- 26 **2.6 Other Delegates.** Each of the following is entitled to a delegate: AMA Sections; the
27 Surgeons General of the United States Army, United States Navy, United States Air Force,
28 and United States Public Health Service; the Chief Medical Director of the Department of
29 Veterans Affairs; the National Medical Association; the American Medical Women’s
30 Association; the American Osteopathic Association; and professional interest medical
31 associations granted representation in the House of Delegates.
- 32
- 33 **2.6.1 Certification.** The president or other authorized individual of each entity shall
34 certify to the AMA their respective delegate and alternate delegate. Certification
35 must occur ~~30~~ 45 days prior to the Annual or Interim Meeting.
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- 37 **2.6.2 Term.** Delegates from these entities shall be selected for 2-year terms, and shall
38 assume office on the date set by the entity. Certification of delegates and alternate
39 delegates must occur at least ~~30~~ 45 days prior to the Annual or Interim Meeting of
40 the House of Delegates.
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- 42 **2.11.3 Introduction of Business.**
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- 44 **2.11.3.1 Resolutions.** To be considered as regular business, each resolution must be
45 introduced by a delegate or organization represented in the House of Delegates and must be
46 ~~have been~~ submitted to the AMA not later than ~~30~~ 45 days prior to the commencement of
47 the meeting at which it is to be considered, with the following exceptions.
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- 49 **2.11.3.1.1 Exempted Resolutions.** ~~If any member organization’s house of delegates~~
50 ~~or primary policy making body, as defined by the organization, adjourns during the~~
51 ~~5-week period preceding commencement of an AMA House of Delegates meeting,~~

1 the organization is allowed 7 days after the close of its meeting to submit resolutions
2 to the AMA. All such resolutions must be received by noon of the day before the
3 commencement of the AMA House of Delegates meeting. The presiding officer of
4 the organization shall certify that the resolution was adopted at its just concluded
5 meeting and that the body directed that the resolution be submitted to the AMA
6 House of Delegates.
7

8 **2.11.3.1.12 AMA Sections.** Resolutions presented from the business meetings of
9 the AMA Sections may be presented for consideration by the House of Delegates no
10 later than the recess of the House of Delegates opening session to be accepted as
11 regular business. Resolutions presented after the recess of the opening session of the
12 House of Delegates will be accepted in accordance with Bylaw 2.11.3.1.34.
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14 **2.11.3.1.23 Late Resolutions.** Late resolutions may be presented by a delegate
15 any time after the 45-day resolution deadline until prior to the recess of the opening
16 session of the House of Delegates, and will be accepted as business of the House of
17 Delegates only upon two-thirds vote of delegates present and voting.
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19 **2.11.3.1.34 Emergency Resolutions.** Resolutions of an emergency nature may be
20 presented by a delegate any time after the opening session of the House of Delegates
21 ~~is recessed~~. Emergency resolutions will be accepted as business only upon a three-
22 fourths vote of delegates present and voting, and if accepted shall be presented to the
23 House of Delegates without consideration by a reference committee. A simple
24 majority vote of the delegates present and voting shall be required for adoption.
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26 **2.11.3.2 Business from the Board of Trustees.** Reports, recommendations, resolutions or
27 other new business, may be presented by the Board of Trustees at any time during a
28 meeting. Items of business presented before the ~~recess of the~~ opening session of the House
29 of Delegates will be accepted as regular business. Items of business presented after the
30 ~~recess of the~~ opening session of the House of Delegates will be accepted as emergency
31 business and shall be presented to the House of Delegates without consideration by a
32 reference committee. A two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting shall be required
33 for adoption.
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35 **2.11.3.3 Business from the Councils.** Reports, opinions or recommendations from a
36 council of the AMA or a special committee of the House of Delegates may be presented at
37 any time during a meeting. Items of business presented before the ~~recess of the~~ opening
38 session of the House of Delegates will be accepted as regular business. Items of business
39 presented after ~~the recess of the~~ opening session of the House of Delegates will be accepted
40 as emergency business and shall be presented to the House of Delegates without
41 consideration by a reference committee. A two-thirds vote of the delegates present and
42 voting shall be required for adoption.
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44 **2.11.4 Referral to Reference Committee.** Reports, recommendations, resolutions or other new
45 business presented prior to the ~~recess of the~~ opening session of the House of Delegates shall
46 be referred to an appropriate reference committee for hearings and report, subject to
47 acceptance as business of the House of Delegates. Items of business presented after the
48 ~~recess of the~~ opening session are not referred to reference committee, but rather heard by the
49 House of Delegates as a whole, subject to acceptance as business of the House of Delegates.
50 Informational items are not referred to a reference committee.