

BYLAWS CHANGES ADOPTED AT 2011 LWVSC CONVENTION

Additions are in ***bold italics*** and deletions are ~~struck through~~.

The LWVSC Board recommended all of these amendments. Complete LWVSC Bylaws are found at <http://lwvsc.org/forleaguemembers.html>. Amended Bylaws will be available in Summer 2011.

ARTICLE V - Officers

Sec. 1. Elections, Qualifications, and Term. The officers of the LWVSC shall be a president ***or co-presidents or a management team***, an Issues and Action vice president, a Community Relations vice president, a Member Services vice president, a Voter Service/Citizen Education vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer. They shall be voting members of the LWVSC and shall be elected by the convention to hold office for two years beginning July 1 of the year of their election.

Sec. 2. The President. ***The term president shall refer to the president, a co-president or any member of the management team as appropriate to the circumstances. The president or member of the management team, (hereinafter referred to as the president) shall preside at all meetings of the organization or of the Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as Board), unless the president designates another person to preside.*** The president shall have such powers of supervision and management as customarily pertain to the office; ~~shall preside at all meetings of the organization and the state board;~~ shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees except the nominating committee; may sign or endorse checks, drafts and notes in the absence of the treasurer; and shall perform such other duties as the state board may direct. ***If a co-president or management team member resigns before the term is up, the remaining president or management team member will take over the duties of president for the remainder of the term of office.***

Rationale: To allow an alternative leadership structure.

ARTICLE VI - Board of Directors

Sec. 1. Selection, Qualifications, and Term.

a. The board of directors shall consist of the officers of the LWVSC, ~~eight~~ ***seven*** directors elected by the convention, and not more than four appointed by the elected members of the board. All directors shall be voting members of the LWVSC. They shall serve for two years beginning July 1 of the year of convention.

Rationale: To maintain current size of the board, in the event Co-Presidents are chosen.

ARTICLE VII - Convention

Sec. 1. Place, Date and Call. A convention of the LWVSC shall be held biennially in the odd numbered years at a time and place to be determined by the state board. A first call to convention shall be sent to the presidents of the local Leagues, to the chair of MAL units, and to MALs not in units at least three months before the date fixed in said call. Thereafter, the state board may advance or postpone this date by not more than two weeks. A final call giving the exact time and place of the convention shall be issued at least ~~six~~ ***four*** weeks before its opening session.

Rationale: To reduce notification advance time, since communication is often by electronic means and therefore requires less advance than communication by post.

ARTICLES VIII - Council

Sec. 4. Powers. The council shall give guidance to the state board on program and methods of work.

a. In the event of an emergency, the council may change the program, only upon recommendation of the state board or a local League, using the following procedure: (1) at least ~~eight~~ **six** weeks before the council meeting any local League proposing a change shall submit it to the state board which shall decide whether to recommend it; (2) at least ~~six~~ **four** weeks before the council meeting, the state board shall send to the president of local Leagues and the chair of MAL units all proposed changes;

Rationale: To reduce the notification advance time, since communication is often by electronic means and therefore requires less advance than communication by post.

ARTICLE IX - Nominations and Elections

Sec. 3 Report of Nominating Committee. The report of the nominating committee, containing its nominations for officers and directors and the chair and two members of the next nominating committee, shall be sent to the president of local Leagues and the chair of MAL units at least ~~six~~ **four** weeks before convention.

Rationale: To reduce notification advance time, since communication is often by electronic means and therefore requires less advance than communication by post.

ARTICLE X - Principles and Program

Sec. 2. Program. The program of the LWVSC shall consist of action to implement the Principles and those state governmental issues chosen by the convention for concerted study and action as follows:

a. Local League boards and MAL units may make recommendations for state program to the state board provided they are submitted at least ~~ten~~ **eight** weeks before the convention.

Rationale: To reduce the notification advance time, since communication is often by electronic means and therefore requires less advance than communication by post.

b. If a local League has studied a local issue and adopted a position that might be applicable to other communities in the state, the League should appropriately reword the position so that it would apply to other communities and recommend it to the state board for concurrence by submitting it to the state board at least eight weeks before the convention.

Rationale: To clarify the process for establishing concurrence at the state convention. It is expected that more positions will be proposed using the concurrence, given the reduced expenditure of human and financial resources to adopt positions through the process of

concurrence vs. a two-year study; adoption by concurrence allows the state League to act more quickly on issues that are time sensitive.

c. The state board shall consider these recommendations and formulate a proposed program which shall be sent to the presidents of local Leagues and the chairs of MAL units at least ~~six~~**four** weeks before the convention.

d. Changes in the proposed program, because of altered conditions, may be recommended by local League boards and MAL units up to ~~three~~**two** weeks before the state board acts upon the proposed changes, allowing local League boards and MAL units to respond before the state board meeting.

e. The convention shall adopt a program by a majority vote. Program recommendations submitted to the state board but not proposed by the board may be adopted by the convention only if they were submitted at least ~~ten~~**eight** weeks before the convention and provided consideration is ordered by a majority vote and adoption is voted on a following day. ***A two-thirds vote is required to amend or adopt a state League position by concurrence on the floor of convention.***

Rationale:

- To reduce the notification advance time, since communication is often by electronic means and therefore requires less advance than communication by post.
- The requirement for a two-thirds vote is consistent with the procedure followed by LWVUS in adopting/amending positions by concurrence at the national convention.

ARTICLE XII - Financial Administration

Sec. 3. Budget.

a. The budget shall be prepared by a committee made up of one off board member, one member of the state board, and an off board chair appointed by the state board. The treasurer shall be, ex officio, a member of the budget committee. The committee shall submit a proposed budget for state board approval at least ~~two months~~**six weeks** before the convention or council.

b. The state board shall send to the president of local Leagues and the chair of MAL units, at least ~~six~~**four** weeks before the convention or council, a proposed budget for the next fiscal year. A budget shall be adopted by a majority vote.

Rationale: To reduce the notification advance time, since communication is often by electronic means and therefore requires less advance than communication by post.

ARTICLE XIV - Amendments

Sec. 1. Amendments. These bylaws may be amended at any convention by a two-thirds vote provided that the following conditions are met:

a. Proposed amendments were submitted by a local League board to the state board at least ~~ten~~**eight** weeks prior to the convention or were recommended by the state board.

b. The presidents of local Leagues and the chairs of MAL units have been notified, and have been directed to notify their members, of the proposed amendments at least ~~six~~**four** weeks before the convention.

Rationale: To reduce the notification advance time, since communication is often by electronic means and therefore requires less advance than communication by post.

Respectfully submitted,
Janie Shipley
Chair, LWVSC Bylaws Committee
LWVSC Vice President, Member Services