

ATA Bylaws Amendment- Multiple Candidates for Elective Office:

Whereas:

- a balanced slate of candidates for elective positions that is representative of the membership is a widely accepted association best practice;
- having a choice of candidates for elective positions is beneficial to the membership and to the Association;
- the position of President-elect is a critically important leadership position, in that the elected individual serves as the conference planner (2 years) and then President (for a subsequent 2-year term); and
- it is fair and proper for a plurality of candidates to be presented to the voting members of the Association;

Therefore it is resolved: That Article VII, Section 2 d. 2) be amended to read as follows:

2) The Nominating and Leadership Development Committee shall propose multiple candidates for each elective position of the Association including at least two (2) candidates for the position of President-elect when that position is up for election. The names of the candidates proposed, whose written acceptances must have been obtained by the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee, shall be presented to the Board of Directors for publication to the members.

Amended clause of the bylaws without markup:

2) The Nominating and Leadership Development Committee shall propose multiple candidates for each elective position of the Association including at least two (2) candidates for the position of President-elect when that position is up for election. The names of the candidates proposed, whose written acceptances must have been obtained by the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee, shall be presented to the Board of Directors for publication to the members.

Commentary regarding this amendment: An uncontested slate is not in the best interests of member participation and involvement. Historically, ATA Nominating Committees regularly offered members a choice of candidates for both officer and director positions. An effective nomination process produces a balanced slate of candidates that is not only representative of the membership but also presents a plurality of candidates for critically important leadership positions. The Association is strengthened when members make meaningful choices in their votes for leadership positions. This proposed bylaws amendment would remove reliance on the “nomination by petition” process (Article VII, Section 2 d. 4) of the ATA Bylaws) to ensure that choice. While The Elections Policy may be revised from time to time, or even from one Board meeting to the next, it is appropriate for its fundamental aspects, namely the assurance that members will have a choice when voting for officers, to be guaranteed in the Bylaws.

I, the undersigned, am a Voting member in good standing of the American Translators Association. I hereby petition the ATA Board of Directors to present this bylaws amendment for a vote at the next Meeting of Voting Members held for calendar year 2020.

Name (printed):

Signature

Date

ATA Member No.