

STANDING RULE AMENDMENT A

TITLE: To further define “new business” as concerning issues beyond one affiliate and addressing work not already in progress.

Rule 6. New Business Items (NBI)

New business relating to substantive policies or programs for the Association shall be specific in nature and terminal in application, shall concern issues beyond one affiliate, and shall not call for NEA to do work that is already in progress. New business items that do not meet these criteria shall be ruled out of order.

IMPACT STATEMENT:

Standing Rule 6 sets out the definition of New Business Items (NBIs). The current rules currently define new business solely as “specific in nature and terminal in application.” Rules adopted by the NEA Board of Directors for the 2021 and 2022 Representative Assemblies further defined NBIs as concerning issues beyond one affiliate and not calling for work already in progress. These rules further specified that any NBIs not meeting these criteria would be ruled out of order.

If adopted, the amendment would add the language from 2021/2022 to the NEA Standing Rules. The Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules (CCBR) would continue processes implemented in 2021 and 2022 for review of each NBI to ensure it meets established parameters. If CCBR identifies any NBIs that fall outside of the set definition, the committee will reach out to the maker to assist in modifying the language to meet the requirements of a new business item prior to the deadline for NBI maker modifications. In 2021, CCBR worked with several makers to modify their language, and no NBIs were ruled out of order. (This impact statement was written prior to the 2022 Representative Assembly and, therefore, does not include any information about that Assembly).

In addition, makers whose NBIs are identified as calling for work already in progress may choose to withdraw the item rather than amend the language. In such instances, NEA will follow processes implemented in 2021 and 2022 and will compile a report for publication on the delegate website summarizing the work in progress on the issue in question.

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STANDING RULE AMENDMENT B

TITLE: To revise the dates for submission of New Business Items (NBIs); make modifications to submitted NBIs; amendments to Resolutions, the Legislative Program, and Policy Statements; and amendments to submitted items. Further, to update the rules for sending submitted items to state affiliates, the Board, and delegates to reflect the submission dates.

Rule 6. New Business Items (NBI)

A. Submission

New business items shall be submitted no later than 15 days prior to the opening of the Representative Assembly at 4:00pm in the time zone of the host city to the Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules via a process communicated in advance to all delegates. ~~12 noon on the second day of the Representative Assembly~~ NBIs shall be submitted by:

- (a) **Petition of Delegates** – petition of at least fifty (50) delegates;
- (b) **State Delegation** – a majority vote of those present and voting at a state delegation at a regularly called meeting of the delegation in connection with the Annual Meeting;
- (c) **Governance Body** – a governance body of the NEA or a state or local affiliate; or
- (d) **Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules** – the Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules pursuant to Rule 7.E.

Revisions by the maker of a new business may be submitted no later than three days prior to the opening of the Representative Assembly at 4:00pm in the time zone of the host city. Such revisions will replace the original submission and will become the main motion.

Amendments to proposed new business items may be submitted no later than two hours before the opening of the Representative Assembly on the day on which the new business item is to be considered by the body.

C. Distribution

~~1. Submitted Before the Representative Assembly~~

New business items submitted prior to May 1 shall be sent to the NEA Board of Directors and the president and executive director of each state affiliate as soon as possible. Those items submitted after May 1 but prior to June 15 the NBI submission deadline shall be ~~included in the delegate packets given to delegates at registration~~ posted on the delegate website. Submitted new business items shall also be made available to the chairperson of each delegation each morning prior to the start of the Representative Assembly

~~2. Submitted at the Representative Assembly~~

~~Submitted new business items shall be made available to the chairperson of each delegation on the following morning prior to the beginning of the Representative Assembly. Such material shall include a brief written rationale for each new business item.~~

Rule 7. Resolutions Committee and Procedure

D. Procedures for Submitting Resolutions

...The submission of all new resolutions and amendments to resolutions shall be submitted to the Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules no later than 4:00pm in the time zone of the host city on the first day of the Representative Assembly ~~12:00 noon on the second day of the Representative Assembly~~. After ~~12:00 noon on the second day~~ 4:00pm on the first day, only amendments to new resolutions or to resolutions amendments that have been properly submitted to the Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules shall be in order. Amendments to proposed Resolutions amendments may be submitted no later than two hours before the opening of the Representative Assembly on the day on which the Resolutions are to be considered by the body.

Rule 8. Amendments to the Legislative Program

A. Submission

Legislative amendments shall be submitted to the Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules no later than ~~12 noon on the second day of the Representative Assembly~~ 4:00pm in the time zone of the host city on the first day of the Representative Assembly, and shall be submitted by....

Amendments to proposed legislative amendments may be submitted no later than two hours before the opening of the Representative Assembly on the day on which the Legislative Program is to be considered by the body.

C. Distribution

- ~~1. Submitted Before the Representative Assembly~~—legislative amendments submitted prior to May 1 shall be sent to the president and executive director of each state affiliate as soon as possible. ~~Those~~ All amendments submitted after May 1 but prior to June 15 4:00pm in the time zone of the host city on the first day of the RA shall be included in the delegate packets given to delegates at registration posted on the delegate website. All amendments shall also be made available to the chairperson of each delegation each morning prior to the beginning of the Representative Assembly.
- ~~2. Submitted at the Representative Assembly~~—submitted legislative amendment material shall be made available to the chairperson of each delegation on the following morning prior to the beginning of the Representative Assembly. Such material shall include a brief written rationale for each legislative amendment.

Rule 9. Policy Statements

D. Amending Adopted and Proposed Policy Statements

...Amendments to adopted and proposed policy statements may be submitted to the Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules ~~after the opening of the Representative Assembly until noon on the second day of the Representative Assembly~~ no later than 4:00pm in the time zone of the host city on the first day of the Representative Assembly by (1) petition of at least fifty (50) delegates, (2) a majority vote of those present and voting at a state delegation at a regularly called meeting of the delegation in connection with the Annual Meeting, (3) a governance body of a state or local affiliate, or (4) the Committee on Legislation and the Resolutions Committee. These amendments will be distributed in writing to the delegates prior to consideration of policy statements by the Representative Assembly. Amendments to proposed Policy Statement amendments may be submitted no later than two hours before the opening of the Representative Assembly on the day on which Policy Statements are to be considered by the body.

IMPACT STATEMENT:

The NEA Standing Rules set out the deadlines for submission of various business items for consideration at the Representative Assembly, including new business items (Rule 6), amendments to Resolutions (Rule 7), amendments to the Legislative Program (Rule 8), and amendments to Policy statements (Rule 9). The Standing Rules currently set all such deadlines at noon on the second day of the Representative Assembly. The rules do not include any deadline for amendments to submitted items, nor a deadline for maker modification of submitted NBIs.

Rules adopted by the NEA Board of Directors for the 2021 and 2022 Representative Assemblies set the deadlines for submission prior to the opening of the Representative Assembly. These rules further established a 10-day window following the NBI submission deadline during which makers could modify their original submissions, rather than moving to modify on the floor of the Assembly. Finally, these rules set a deadline prior to the opening of the RA each day for submission of amendments to items to be considered that day.

If adopted, the amendment would add the earlier deadlines to the Standing Rules as follows:

- NBIs: 15 days before the opening of the Representative Assembly, at 4:00pm in the time zone of the host city;
- Maker modifications to submitted NBIs: 3 days before the opening of the Representative Assembly, at 4:00pm in the time zone of the host city;
- Amendments to Resolutions, the Legislative Program, and Policy Statements: 4:00pm in the time zone of the host city on the first day of the Representative Assembly;
- Amendments to submitted items: two hours prior to the opening of the Assembly on the day on which the item is to be considered.

The Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules (CCBR) will continue processes put in place for the 2021 and 2022 Representative Assemblies for receipt and processing of submitted items. All items will be submitted electronically. The link for submission will be sent to all affiliates, caucuses, and the Board of Directors and will be published on the delegate website by March 1 each year. CCBR will review each item and connect with the maker if there are any questions or clarifications or if any change to the language is needed. CCBR will also notify makers if similar items have been submitted by other delegates, allowing makers to consolidate their efforts prior to the final submission date.

Once CCBR processes an item, it will be published on the RA delegate website. If a maker modifies an NBI after publication but prior to the modification deadline, the language on the website will be replaced and noted as “modified by maker.” When the NBI costing committee determines the cost of the item, the cost will be added to the website as well. All submitted items will also be printed in the *RA Today*, which will be available to all delegates each morning before their caucus meeting. Delegates will have access to all submitted NBIs prior to the opening of the Representative Assembly, and all amendments to other governing documents by the morning of day two of the Assembly.

The chair will announce the starting times for each day of the Representative Assembly. Amendments to any items up for debate will be due two hours prior to the starting time. Amendments can be submitted any time prior to this deadline; delegates will not need to wait until the specific day to submit an amendment.

CCBR will contact makers of submitted items and amendments to let them know their item number or letter and provide information about how to enter the speaking queue to move their item on the Assembly floor.

Submitted by: Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules

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STANDING RULE AMENDMENT C

TITLE: To set June 15 as the date for filing of candidates for at-large seats on the NEA Board, and to update voting procedures to accommodate delegates participating virtually.

Rule 11. Elections Conducted at the Representative Assembly

A. Procedures

6. Nominations

~~At the first business meeting of the Representative Assembly, nominations shall take place, as appropriate in each year, for the elections provided for by Article IV, Section 3; Article V, Section 1; and Article VI, Section 1 of the Constitution. Nominations shall be made in writing, via a form provided by the NEA Center for Governance, no later than 4:00pm in the time zone of the host city on June 15.~~

- (a) Nominations, as appropriate in each year, shall be ~~made~~ announced to the body during the first business session in the following order...
- (c) Consistent with the requirements set forth in Rule 11.B.7, each candidate shall be nominated ~~from the floor by~~ written motion of a delegate to the Representative Assembly. When all nominations have been ~~made~~ announced, each candidate or designee shall have an allotment of time to address the Representative Assembly. Candidates for the office of president shall be given five (5) minutes for this purpose. Candidates for vice-president, secretary-treasurer, and the Executive Committee shall be given three (3) minutes. Candidates for at-large positions on the Board of Directors shall be given two (2) minutes.

7. Voting Procedures

Elections shall be by printed ballot by the delegates to the Representative Assembly.

The names of the candidates shall be placed on the first ballot in the order determined by lottery by the candidates or their designees ~~immediately following the close of nominations at the Representative Assembly~~; on subsequent ballots the order also shall be determined by lottery by the candidates or their designees.

The candidates or their designees, ~~no later than thirty (30) minutes after the nomination and acceptance speeches have concluded~~, shall assemble at a place on a date and time designated by the chairperson of the Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules...

- (a) Elections on the first ballot shall be on the second day of the Representative Assembly. Polls for voting on the first ballot shall be open from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon on election day at such place or places as the President may designate. Delegates participating virtually shall vote by secret mail ballot. ...
- (c) Runoff elections shall be held as necessary until there is an election for each position by a majority vote. For purposes of determining a majority, the chairperson of the Elections Committee shall count those who voted in person at the Representative Assembly as well as those who received a mail ballot to vote in the election. Notice of runoff elections shall be given by the chairperson of the Elections Committee from the platform during a regularly scheduled business meeting of the Representative Assembly. The chairperson of the Elections Committee shall set, subject to approval by the Representative Assembly, the hours for all runoff elections. The chairperson of the Elections Committee shall authorize a runoff election by mail ballot of the certified delegates, if it becomes necessary, to assure elections by majority vote. Delegates participating virtually shall vote by secret mail ballot...
- (i) Voting on amendments shall be open on a date and for a window of time from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon on the day and at such place or places as the President shall designate and announce in advance to delegates. Each delegate shall receive a URL linked to their unique ballot at the beginning of the voting window. ...
- (k) The Representative Assembly shall not recess until the results of ~~the elections~~ concluded during its business meetings are certified and presented to the Assembly on the day of an election.

IMPACT STATEMENT:

Standing Rule 11 sets out the procedures for the conduct of officer elections and voting on amendments to the NEA Constitution and Bylaws at the Representative Assembly. The current rules allow for nomination of at-large candidates at the first business session, with lotteries for speaking order and placement on the ballot conducted following nominations. Voting for officers and on amendments is conducted via secret ballot at polling places set up in the convention center.

In 2020, 2021, and 2022, the NEA Board adopted rules that set the nomination deadline for at-large candidates at June 15 and established procedures for voting by delegates participating virtually. If adopted, the amendment would add the earlier nomination deadline for at-large candidates to the Standing Rules. The amendment would also specify that any delegates participating virtually will vote by mail ballot, and the number of mail ballot votes will be added to the number of in-person secret ballot votes for purpose of determining a majority. The amendment would also change the method of voting on amendments to the constitution and bylaws to an electronic system for all delegates, regardless of method of participation in the Representative Assembly.

If the amendment is adopted, the Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules (CCBR), and the Elections Committee will continue processes set in place in 2020, 2021, and 2022. The number of at-large seats will be announced no later than June 1 of each year, and filing forms will be sent to all affiliates and caucuses and posted on the delegate website. Filings will be due by June 15. CCBR and the Elections Committee will conduct a virtual lottery (via Zoom or similar platform) for nomination order, speech order, and placement on the ballot.

Delegates participating in person will continue to vote in officer elections via secret ballot at polling places in the convention center. The Elections Committee will work with the elections vendor to secure the ballots. Delegates participating virtually will vote via mail ballot, which will be mailed out as soon as possible following the lottery on ballot placement. Delegates participating virtually will have at least three weeks to return their ballot. Results will be announced via a virtual meeting open to all delegates once the ballots have been tallied.

Voting on amendments to the constitution and bylaws will take place via a secure electronic voting system (such as simplyvoting.com). After floor debate on amendments, each delegate will receive an email with a unique link to their ballot. The voting window will remain open for a period of time determined and announced to the delegates by the chair. Results will be announced to the body during the Representative Assembly.

The amendment further clarifies that the Assembly can adjourn, even though results from any mail ballot election will not be available until after adjournment.

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