

Proposed amendments to the NYSNA Bylaws for consideration by the 2009 Voting Body

1. Article IV - Board of Directors, amend by inserting a new Section 6. Accountability: Section 6. Accountability

The Board of Directors shall be accountable to the membership.

Rationale: This amendment formalizes, within the association's bylaws, the principle that the Board of Directors is accountable to the membership of NYSNA.

2. Proposed new Article X - Local Bargaining Units (number as Article XI if proposed Article X - Congress of Bargaining Unit Leaders is adopted)

Article X - Local Bargaining Units

Section 1. Purpose

The purposes of Local Bargaining Units are to:

- a) improve the professional, economic and general welfare of persons represented by the New York State Nurses Association.
- b) strengthen the collective bargaining program.
- c) participate with NYSNA in dealings with the employer concerning collective bargaining, contract administration, and other labor relations matters.
- d) serve as a vehicle for organizing, education and advocacy to the Local Bargaining Unit members.

Section 2. Composition

Persons covered by the NYSNA collective bargaining agreement.

Section 3. Officers

Each Local Bargaining Unit will determine the officers and committees.

Section 4. Accountability

Each Local Bargaining Unit is a separate entity, governed by its own unit rules which shall be in conformity with the bylaws and policies of the association.

Renumber all subsequent articles accordingly.

Rationale: This amendment formalizes and gives recognition within the association's bylaws to the Local Bargaining Units which are the backbone of the collective bargaining program. The autonomy and integrity of the Local Bargaining Units are central to the success of NYSNA in the representation of registered nurses.

3. Article XIV - Voting Body

Amend Article XIV - Voting Body, Section 3: Authority, by inserting the sentence:

“The Voting Body shall be the governing body of NYSNA.”,

at the beginning of Section 3, before the sentence that starts with the phrase, "The Voting Body will".

Rationale: This amendment formalizes, within the association's bylaws, the principle that the voting body is the highest authority in NYSNA.