

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS OF THE ALABAMA SOCIETY
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

**Article VII
Meetings**

Article VII Section 1 now reads:

Section 1. There shall be an annual meeting of the State Society in March. The date and place for the meeting known as the State Conference shall be set by the Executive Board at least one year in advance of the Conference. If the date of the meeting must be changed due to unforeseen circumstances, the Executive Board has the power to decide on same. The call for this State Conference shall be issued by the State Regent not less than thirty days before the convening of same. The purpose of the meeting shall be for receiving reports of officers, committee chairmen, district directors and chapter regents, approving the annual budget, election of officers, and for the transaction of any other appropriate business to come before the meeting.

Amend Article VII Section 1 by deleting: “The call for this State Conference shall be issued not less than thirty days before the convening of same.”

Article VII Section 1 would then read:

Section 1. There shall be an annual meeting of the State Society in March. The date and place for the meeting known as the State Conference shall be set by the Executive Board at least one year in advance of the Conference. If the date of the meeting must be changed due to unforeseen circumstances, the Executive Board has the power to decide on same. The purpose of the meeting shall be for receiving reports of officers, committee chairmen, district directors and chapter regents, approving the annual budget, election of officers, and for the transaction of any other appropriate business to come before the meeting.

Rationale: Notices are moved to Section 4.

Insert new Section 3 in Article VII, and renumber the following sections:

Section 3. The Meeting of the Districts shall be held each year in August for the purpose of instruction. State and district business may be conducted at this meeting. The date and place of this meeting shall be determined by the State Regent. With agreement of the Executive Board, the State Regent may also sign contracts which establish the date and place of the meeting which takes place in August immediately following the end of her term.

Rationale: The Meeting of the Districts has been in place for five years with an additional meeting planned. The state regent is responsible for finding a location for the meeting and signing all contracts. Because of the long lead times for booking hotels, it has become necessary to plan large meetings months and years in advance. It is not practical to wait until a new state regent has been elected to secure hotel space for an August meeting. Hotels still available at that time may not be in desirable locations or charge desirable prices.

Insert a new Section 4 in Article VII, and renumber the following sections:

Section 4. The call or notice for all state meetings, including the State Conference, shall be issued not less than thirty days before the convening of same. Unless members indicate otherwise to the State Regent and State Recording Secretary, in writing, all communication required in these bylaws, including meeting notices, may be sent using electronic measures, including email.

Rationale: The cost of mailing the call to state conference and district meeting to over 4000 members takes about 15% of the annual budget. Many members do not want to receive the paper mailing, and the cost savings can be allocated to other expenses and state projects which support our objectives of promoting historic preservation, education, and patriotism. The wording in the Notices section was taken from the model state bylaws.

Delete Article VII Section 10. District Meeting(s) shall be held each year in August for the purpose of instruction and any pertinent District business. The dates of these meeting(s) shall be determined by the State Regent and Directors. The District Directors shall notify the Chapters of the place, date and hour of the District Meeting(s).

Rationale: District Meetings have been replaced by the Meeting of the Districts, which are prescribed in the new Section 3.

**Article VIII
Fees and Dues**

Article VIII Section 3 now reads:

“State Dues (\$8.00 per capita) shall be sent to the State Treasurer immediately after notice of admittance of applicants at National Board Meetings. Dues of members admitted by application or reinstatement on or after April 1 shall be credited to the next succeeding year.”

Amend Article VIII Section 3 by deleting from the first sentence: “at National Board Meetings”

And replacing “April 1” with “July 5” in the second sentence.

Article VIII Section 3 would then read:

“State Dues (\$8.00 per capita) shall be sent to the State Treasurer immediately after notice of admittance of applicants. Dues of members admitted by application or reinstatement on or after July 5 shall be credited to the next succeeding year.”

Rationale: Applicants are now admitted on the 5th of each month following an electronic vote by the National Board of Management instead of waiting for National Board meetings. The date change from April 1 to July 5 aligns the Alabama Society’s bylaws with the National Society’s bylaws for payment of dues by new members.

Article X Committees

Article X Section 3 now reads:

“A Finance Committee composed of the State Treasurer, the immediate past State Treasurer, and one other member shall be appointed by the State Regent immediately after the annual Conference at which she is elected.

It shall be the duty of this committee to prepare a budget for the fiscal year covering July 1st to June 30th, based on the membership on March 1st. The proposed budget shall be submitted to the Executive Board for review and to the membership at the Annual State Conference for adoption. Any expenditure not covered in the adopted budget shall be referred to the Finance Committee for review.

The Finance Committee may submit suggestions or recommendations at any meeting of the State Board of Management that it deems necessary and to the best interest of the State Society.”

Amend Article X Section 3, by deleting “membership on March 1st” and inserting “dues for the current year received by the State Treasurer on or before January 1”.

Article X Section 3 would then read:

“A Finance Committee composed of the State Treasurer, the immediate past State Treasurer, and one other member shall be appointed by the State Regent immediately after the annual Conference at which she is elected.

It shall be the duty of this committee to prepare a budget for the fiscal year covering July 1st to June 30th, based on the dues for the current year received by the State Treasurer on or before January 1. The proposed budget shall be submitted to the Executive Board for review and to the membership at the Annual State Conference for adoption. Any expenditure not covered in the adopted budget shall be referred to the Finance Committee for review.

The Finance Committee may submit suggestions or recommendations at any meeting of the State Board of Management that it deems necessary and to the best interest of the State Society.”

Rationale: This change would allow the budget to be prepared based on dues actually received on January 1. Using March 1 dues collected is difficult because the state conference takes place in early March.

Article XII Duties of Chapters

Article XII Section 1 now reads:

Section 1. The Regent of a Chapter shall notify promptly the ORGANIZING SECRETARY GENERAL, NSDAR, Washington, D.C., the State Regent, and the State Corresponding Secretary of the election of officers. Chapters shall hold the election of officers during the month of March.

No member shall serve as Chapter Regent for more than six consecutive years.

Amend Article XII Section 1 by replacing “during the month of March” with “by the month of March” in the second sentence.

Article XII Section 1 would then read:

Section 1. The regent of a Chapter shall notify promptly the ORGANIZING SECRETARY GENERAL, NSDAR, Washington, D.C., the State Regent, and the State Corresponding Secretary of the election of officers. Chapters shall hold the election of officers by the month of March. No member shall serve as Chapter Regent for more than six consecutive years.

Rationale: Because the State Conference is held in March, some chapters do not have a meeting in March. This change allows them to hold elections at a meeting in a previous month.

Amend Article XII Section 1 by deleting the period at the end of Section 1, and inserting the following phrase and sentences at the end of the Section:

without approval of the National Society. Such requests must be made by the state regent on the National Society form designated for this purpose. To be eligible for the office of chapter regent, first vice regent, or vice regent, the member must have been a member of the chapter for at least one year unless an exception is approved by the National Society. The request for this exception must be made on the appropriate National Society form. The chapter request to the state regent should be made two months in advance of chapter elections to allow time for the National Board of Management to vote prior to the chapter’s elections.

Article XII Section 1 would then read:

The Regent of a Chapter shall notify promptly the ORGANIZING SECRETARY GENERAL, NSDAR, Washington, D.C., the State Regent, and the State Corresponding Secretary of the election of officers. Chapters shall hold the election of officers during the month of March.. No member shall serve as Chapter Regent for more than six consecutive years without approval of the National Society. Such requests must be made by the State Regent on the National Society form designated for this purpose. To be eligible for the office of chapter regent, first vice regent, or vice regent, the member must have been a member of the chapter for at least one year unless an exception is approved by the National Society. The request for this exception must be made on the appropriate National Society form. The chapter request to the State Regent should be made two months in advance of chapter elections to allow time for the National Board of Management to vote prior to the chapter’s elections.

Rationale: The purpose of the additional language is to set forth the National Society’s eligibility requirements for the positions of chapter regent, chapter vice regent, and chapter first vice regent and to allow a chapter to request approval from the National Society to elect a chapter regent who does not meet these requirements or who has already served six consecutive years.

**Article XIV
Amendments**

Article XIV Section 1 now reads:

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any Annual State Conference of the Alabama Society, provided that a copy of the proposed amendment has been sent out to all Chapter Regents and State Officers at least thirty days before the meeting of the State Conference and provided further that the amendment has been proposed by the State Board of Management or by a Chapter to the State Conference or by the duly appointed committee.

Amend Section 1 by deleting “provided that a copy of the proposed amendment has been sent out to all Chapter Regents and State Officers at least thirty days before the meeting of the State Conference.”

And inserting: “provided that a copy of the proposed amendment has been furnished to all chapter regents, state officers, and honorary state regents at least thirty days before the meeting of the State Conference”

Insert the following sentence at the end of the Section 1:

“Proposed amendments may be included in the call to the state conference or sent by any method of notice provided in Article VII.”

Article XIV Section 1 would then read:

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any Annual State Conference of the Alabama Society, provided that a copy of the proposed amendment has been furnished to all chapter regents, state officers, and honorary state regents at least thirty days before the meeting of the State Conference and provided further that the amendment has been proposed by the State Board of Management or by a Chapter to the State Conference or by the duly appointed committee. Proposed amendments may be included in the call to the state conference or sent by any method of notice provided in Article VII.

Rationale: The proposed amendment clarifies that proposed amendments may be included in the call to the state conference at the state regent’s discretion and that they may be provided by any method approved in the bylaws for notices.

STANDING RULES

Standing Rule 10 now reads:

10) The Slate of Officers selected by the Nominating Committee to be presented for election at State Conference shall be mailed to all members prior to State Conference in March of an election year.

Replace the current language of Standing Rule 10 with the following:

10) The Slate of Officers selected by the Nominating Committee to be presented for election at State Conference shall be provided to all members not less than 30 days prior to State Conference in March of an election year. At the option of the state regent, the slate may be included in the Call to Conference.

Standing Rule 10 would then read:

10) The Slate of Officers selected by the Nominating Committee to be presented for election at State Conference shall be provided to all members not less than 30 days prior to State Conference in March of an election year. At the option of the state regent, the slate may be included in the Call to Conference.

Rationale: The slate of officers is traditionally included in the Call to Conference to avoid the cost of an extra mailing. This change clarifies the standard practice and allows the state regent to decide the method for providing the slate.