

- d. If the subject of the petition seeks to reverse or modify final action taken by the Board of Governors, then the petition must be filed with the Executive Director within 90 days of that final action.
  - e. All petitions for a referendum must be filed with the WSBA Executive Director.
3. All qualifying petitions will be put to a vote of the active membership within 90 days of the date that the petition was filed.

**B. BOG REFFERALS TO MEMBERSHIP**

The Board of Governors may also refer a proposed resolution, bylaw amendment, or other proposal to a vote of the Active membership in accordance with the procedures set forth in these bylaws.

**C. BALLOT PREPARATION**

The Executive Director shall prepare ballots as directed by the BOG. The proponents of the action may submit, for inclusion with the ballot a “statement for” not to exceed 750 words and a “rebuttal of statement against” not to exceed 250 words. The opponents of the action may submit, for inclusion with the ballot, a “statement against” not to exceed 750 words and a “rebuttal of statement for” not to exceed 250 words. The Executive Director will determine the deadlines for filing all such statements with the Bar and provide notice of those deadlines. If more than one opponent statement is submitted, the WSBA President will determine which statement(s) will be submitted with the ballot.

**D. VOTING PROCEDURES**

The procedures set forth in the “Election of Governors from Congressional Districts” section of these bylaws shall be used as a procedural guideline. The ballot, petition, and accompanying statements shall be posted on the WSBA website, distributed electronically to Active members with e-mail addresses on record with the Bar, and mailed to all other Active members. The deadline for return of ballots shall be not less than 30 days from the date of distribution.

**E. EFFECT OF VOTE**

- 1. All member referenda and BOG referrals only require a majority of those Active members voting to pass. No unsuccessful member referenda may be resubmitted to the membership until two years have passed from the date of the voting results.
- 2. The BOG may not alter the effects of a member referenda that passed sooner than two years from the date of the voting results.

**IX. COMMITTEES, COUNCILS, AND OTHER BAR ENTITIES**

**A. GENERALLY**

1. The work of the Bar shall be accomplished by the BOG, the officers, and the Bar staff. To facilitate the work of the Bar in accordance with its purposes as provided in Article I, the BOG may delegate such work to an appropriate Bar entity, such as sections, committees, councils, task forces, or other Bar entity, however that may be designated by the BOG.
2. The work of any Bar entity established by the BOG must:
  - a. have a defined scope that requires the active and continuing attention of the BOG;
  - b. further the Bar's Guiding Principles and/or the purposes of the Bar outlined in General Rules promulgated by the Supreme Court; and
  - c. enhance consideration of a topic that is beyond the time and expertise of the BOG and staff by incorporating expertise and additional viewpoints from the broader community.
3. A list of the current committees, councils, and task forces, and their functions, will be maintained by the Executive Director. The BOG may terminate any recurring committee whenever in its opinion such committee is no longer necessary. Any nonrecurring Bar entity shall automatically terminate pursuant to the terms of its charter or originating document.
4. Governors appointed to serve as BOG liaisons to any Bar entity are not voting members. However, if a Governor is appointed as a member of any Bar entity, then he or she may vote in accordance with the terms of the charter or originating document for that entity.

B. COMMITTEES AND OTHER BAR ENTITIES

1. Committees

Committees are created and authorized by the BOG to study matters relating to the general purposes and business of the Bar which are of a continuous and recurring character. The number, size, and functions of each committee will be determined from time to time by the BOG.

- a. Committee members, Chairs, and Vice Chairs must be Active members of the Bar. Exceptions: (a) up to two Emeritus Pro Bono members are permitted to serve on the Pro Bono Legal Aid Committee (PBLAC) and may be appointed to serve as the Chair, Co-Chair, or Vice-Chair of that committee; and (b) faculty of Washington state law schools who are not Active members of the Bar are permitted to serve on the Committee on Professional Ethics (CPE).

- b. Committee members are appointed by the BOG. Appointments to committees are for a two-year term unless the BOG determines otherwise. A committee member's service on any committee is limited to two consecutive terms, after which the member cannot be reappointed to that committee for three years, subject to individual exceptions for cause as approved by the BOG. Appointments to the Legislative Committee will be made pursuant to the written BOG policy for that committee.
- c. The President-elect will annually select the Chair or Vice Chair of each committee, with the BOG having the authority to accept or reject that selection.
- d. In the event of the resignation, death, or removal of the Chair or any committee member, the BOG may appoint a successor to serve for the unexpired term.

## 2. Other Bar Entities

The BOG may from time to time establish other Bar entities to study matters relating to specific purposes and business of the Bar which are of an immediate and/or non-recurring character. These other Bar entities may be titled as task forces, workgroups, or any other label the BOG may designate.

- a. The President will select the persons to be appointed to such other Bar entities, with the BOG having the authority to accept or reject those appointments. The term of appointments will be until the work of the entity has been concluded or until such committee member's successor is appointed.
- b. The Chair(s) of any other Bar entity shall be appointed by the President at the time of creation of the entity, with the BOG having the authority to accept or reject that selection, and will serve for the duration established by the BOG or until replaced.
- c. In the event of the resignation, death or removal of the Chair or any other member of the Bar entity, the President may appoint a successor to serve for the unexpired term.

## 3. General Duties and Responsibilities for Committees and Other Bar Entities

- a. Each committee or other Bar entity will carry out various tasks and assignments as requested by the BOG or as the entity may determine to be consistent with its function or its charter or originating document.

- b. Each Bar entity must submit an annual report to the Executive Director and submit such other reports as requested by the BOG or Executive Director.
- c. These Bar entities are not permitted to issue any report, take a side publicly on any issue being submitted to the voters, pending before the legislature, or otherwise in the public domain, or otherwise communicate in a manner that may be construed as speaking on behalf of the Bar or the BOG without the specific authorization to do so by the BOG. Reports, recommendations, or proposals do not represent the view or action of the Bar unless approved by a vote of the BOG.
- d. Bar staff will work with each committee or other Bar entity to prepare and submit an annual budget request as part of the Bar's budget development process. Each committee and other Bar entity must confine its expenditures to the budget and appropriation as approved by the BOG as generally set forth in these Bylaws.
- e. Each committee and other Bar entity must prepare and distribute minutes of each meeting if required under Article VII of these Bylaws. The minutes will be distributed to its members and posted on the Bar's website, as soon as is reasonably possible after a meeting. The form of the minutes must comply with Article VII of these Bylaws.
- f. The success of any committee or other Bar entity is dependent upon the active participation of its members.
  - 1) Chairs and committee members serve at the pleasure of, and may be removed by, the Board. Neither malfeasance nor misfeasance is required for removal.
  - 2) Any committee member who fails to attend two consecutive regularly called meetings may be removed by the BOG, in the absence of an excuse approved by the Chair.

C. COUNCILS

- 1. Councils are created and authorized by the BOG to serve as advisory committees to the BOG on matters and issues of particular import to the Bar.
- 2. Nominations to councils are made as set forth in the council's charter or originating document, and are confirmed by the BOG. Except as may be specifically required under the council's charter or originating document, council members are not required to be members of the Bar.

3. Terms of appointments to councils will be as set forth in the council's charter or originating document.
4. Each council will carry out the duties and tasks set forth in its charter or originating document.
5. Each council must submit an annual report, and such other reports as may be requested, to the BOG or Executive Director.
6. Bar staff will work with each council to prepare and submit an annual budget request as part of the Bar's budget development process.

**X. REGULATORY BOARDS**

The Bar administers regulatory boards created by court rules and has any powers necessary to administer those boards. Appointment to regulatory boards is as provided in the promulgating rule or as otherwise directed by the Supreme Court. A list of the current regulatory boards and their functions will be maintained by the Executive Director. Governors and Bar staff appointed as liaisons to regulatory boards are not voting members of those boards. Liaisons may not be excluded but will not participate in executive session or confidential deliberations except as a resource.

**XI. SECTIONS**

**A. DESIGNATION AND CONTINUATION**

Sections are entities of the Bar created and tasked to carry on the work of the Bar and further their purposes as defined in individual section bylaws. A list of all current sections will be maintained by the Executive Director. Once established, a section will continue until discontinued as provided in these Bylaws or in the section bylaws.

**B. ESTABLISHING SECTIONS**

1. The BOG will consider the establishment of a new section on a petition and report endorsed by at least 150 Active members of the Bar. Any such petition must be filed with the Executive Director at least one BOG meeting prior to the meeting at which action on the proposal is contemplated and must substantially set forth:
  - a. The contemplated purpose of the section, which will be within the purposes of the Bar and not in substantial conflict with the purpose of any existing section or committee, the continuance of which is contemplated after the section is established;
  - b. Proposed bylaws of the section, which must contain a definition of its purpose;
  - c. The names of any proposed committees of the section;