

Proposal to Amend Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
S-1704	Region Councils	VI	4.	Jennifer Brooks, Andrea Clewley, Heather Doty, Brittney Elko, Debbie Jacklitch-Kuiken, Melissa Lindsey, Betty Leonhard, Rachel Morford, Lisa Rimpf, Hope Toole Schwalls

<u>Current Language:</u>	<u>Proposed Changes:</u>	<u>If Adopted:</u>
<p>A. The voting members of each of the region councils shall consist of representatives as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One representative for each 100 voting members or fraction thereof, not to exceed four, elected by the members of each professional section of the region; 2. One representative for each 100 voting members at large or fraction thereof, not to exceed four, of each region, elected by the members at large of the region; and 3. One collegiate representative for each twenty active collegiate sections or fraction thereof, not to exceed two, of the region, elected by the collegiate section presidents of the region in accordance with the procedures for collegiate senator elections. <p>B. The number of voting members and active collegiate sections as of December 31 shall be used to determine the number of representatives that each of the above entities may elect to serve for the following fiscal year. A professional section chartered or reinstated after that date shall be entitled to one representative.</p>	<p>A. The voting members of each of the region councils shall consist of representatives as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One representative for each 100 voting members or fraction thereof, not to exceed four, elected by the members of each professional section of the region; 2. One representative for each 100 voting members at large or fraction thereof, not to exceed four, of each region, elected by the members at large of the region; and 3. One collegiate representative for each twenty active collegiate sections or fraction thereof, not to exceed two, of the region, elected by the collegiate section presidents of the region in accordance with the procedures for collegiate senator elections. <p>B. The number of voting members and active collegiate sections as of December 31 shall be used to determine the number of representatives that each region of the above entities may elect to serve for the following fiscal year. A professional section chartered or reinstated after that date shall be entitled to one representative.</p> <p><u>Proviso: This amendment shall take effect July 1, 2017.</u></p>	<p>A. The voting members of each of the region councils shall consist of representatives as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One representative elected by the members of each professional section of the region; 2. One representative elected by the members at large of the region; and 3. One collegiate representative for each twenty active collegiate sections or fraction thereof, not to exceed two, of the region, elected by the collegiate section presidents of the region in accordance with the procedures for collegiate senator elections. <p>B. The number of active collegiate sections as of December 31 shall be used to determine the number of representatives that each region may elect to serve for the following fiscal year. A professional section chartered or reinstated after that date shall be entitled to one representative.</p> <p><i>Proviso: This amendment shall take effect July 1, 2017.</i></p>

<u>Rationale:</u>
To change the composition of region councils to be one representative per section and one MAL rep per region.

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Pro:

The potential size of the combined region councils has increased 24% over the past 4 years due to the rapid growth of the Society, necessitating more/different resources for regions to conduct their business (webinar format vs. conference call, more travel funding required overall). With fewer individuals to schedule around, achieving quorum for region council business should be easier. Smaller region councils can also have more effective conversations, especially when working remotely (as they do the majority of the year). This proposal also eliminates the redundancy of having multiple people serving the same function of an information conduit between sections and the region, many of whom are filling multiple SWE leadership roles simultaneously.

Con:

This eliminates the concept of proportional representation from SWE's governance structure, giving smaller sections the same voice as larger sections, which may be viewed negatively by some members. It also reduces the number of opportunities for members to complete the eligibility requirements to serve on the Board of Directors.

Other Areas of Impact:

Sections that currently have multiple section representatives will lose individuals on their Executive Council who might be critical to section operations. They could consider amending their section bylaws to allow for additional officers (multiple Vice Presidents, for example). The MAL Council will be impacted also since it is made up of the region MAL representatives.

Bylaws Committee Comments:

None.