

2026 GAPNA Proposed Bylaws Amendments

Current Bylaw Language	Proposed Change	Rationale
<p>Article V. Officers Section B. Terms</p> <p>The Term of Office shall commence at the close of the conference in the year the officer is elected. The term of the President shall be one (1) year. The President- Elect shall be elected annually, serve a term of one (1) year, shall become the President the following year, and shall serve a term of one (1) year as the Immediate Past President following the Presidential term. All other officers shall serve a term of two (2) years with the Secretary and one Director-at-Large being elected in even years and the Treasurer and one Director-at-Large being elected in odd years. Officers may be re-elected for one (1) consecutive term. At least two (2) years must elapse before a member may then be eligible for re-nomination to the same office.</p>	<p>Article V. Officers Section B. Terms</p> <p>The Term of Office shall commence at the close of the conference in the year the officer is elected. The term of the President shall be one (1) year. The President- Elect shall be elected annually, serve a term of one (1) year, shall become the President the following year, and shall serve a term of one (1) year as the Immediate Past President following the Presidential term. All other officers shall serve a term of two (2) years with the Secretary and one Director-at-Large being elected in even years and the Treasurer and one Director-at-Large being elected in odd years, Officers and may be re-elected for one (1) consecutive term. At least two (2) years must elapse before a member may then be eligible for re-nomination election to the same office.</p>	<p>Article V. Officers Section B. Terms</p> <p>This proposed revision is intended to improve clarity and consistency in the description of officer term limits and eligibility. By moving the phrase regarding re-election directly into the sentence describing the terms of “all other officers,” the bylaw more clearly communicates that the consecutive term limit applies specifically to these positions.</p> <p>In addition, changing the word “re-nomination” to “election” provides greater precision. Members may be nominated for an office based on the member meeting edibility requirements, but the proposed language clarifies that an individual is not eligible to be elected again to the same office until two years have passed. This wording better reflects the intent of the bylaw, reduces the potential for confusion, and supports a more consistent interpretation of officer eligibility requirements.</p>
<p>Article VIII. Nomination and Elections Section A. Nominating Committee Number 1. Term of Office</p> <p>The elected Nominating Committee member receiving the most votes will serve a two-year term, serving as the Chair of the Committee during the second year. The other elected Nominating Committee members shall serve a one-year term. Nominating Committee members may be re-elected for one (1) consecutive term. At least two (2) years must elapse before a member may then be eligible for re-nomination to the same position.</p>	<p>Article VIII. Nomination and Elections Section A. Nominating Committee Number 1. Term of Office</p> <p>The elected Nominating Committee member receiving the most votes will serve a two-year term, serving as the Chair of the Committee during the second year. The other elected Nominating Committee members shall serve a one-year term. Nominating Committee members may be re-elected for one (1) consecutive term. At least two (2) years must elapse before a member may then be eligible for re-nomination election to the same position.</p>	<p>Article VIII. Nomination and Elections Section A. Nominating Committee Number 1. Term of Office</p> <p>This proposed revision is intended to improve clarity and maintain consistency with other bylaws related to officer and committee eligibility. Replacing the term “re-nomination” with “election” clarifies that an individual may still be nominated for a position, but is not eligible to be elected again to the same position until two years have elapsed.</p> <p>This change better reflects the intent of the bylaw by focusing on when a member may hold the position again rather than when they may appear on the ballot. The revised language reduces the potential for differing</p>

		interpretations and creates greater consistency across all bylaws addressing term limits and eligibility for service.
<p>Article VIII. Nomination and Elections Section A. Nominating Committee Number 3. Vacancy</p> <p>Board of Directors shall fill a vacancy on the Nominating Committee.</p>	<p>Article VIII. Nomination and Elections Section A. Nominating Committee Number 3. Vacancy</p> <p>Board of Directors shall fill a vacancy on the Nominating Committee by appointment.</p>	<p>Article VIII. Nomination and Elections Section A. Nominating Committee Number 3. Vacancy</p> <p>This proposed revision is intended to provide greater clarity regarding the process used to fill a vacancy on the Nominating Committee. While the current language states that the Board of Directors will fill the vacancy, it does not specify how that action will occur.</p> <p>Adding the words “by appointment” clarifies that the Board will designate an individual to serve in the vacant position rather than requiring a separate election or other process. This change helps avoid confusion, supports consistent interpretation of the bylaw, and provides a clearer understanding of how vacancies will be addressed in a timely manner.</p>
<p>Article IX. Committees and Task Forces</p>	<p>Article IX. Committees, and Task Forces, and Special Interest Groups</p>	<p>Article IX. Committees, Task Forces, and Special Interest Groups</p> <p>This proposed revision is intended to increase the visibility and recognition of Special Interest Groups within the association’s governance structure. Special Interest Groups play an important role in advancing member engagement, fostering shared interests, and supporting the mission of the association.</p> <p>Including Special Interest Groups in the article title acknowledges that these groups are formally recognized and governed by the Board, similar to committees and task forces. This change provides greater transparency regarding the association’s organizational structure and ensures that all Board-governed groups are clearly reflected within the bylaws.</p>
<p>Article IX. Committees and Task Forces Section A. Standing Committees</p>	<p>Article IX. Committees and Task Forces Section A. Standing Committees</p>	<p>Article IX. Committees and Task Forces Section A. Standing Committees</p>

<p>GAPNA shall have the following standing committees - Health Affairs, Education, Research, Chapter Leadership and Historical.</p>	<p>GAPNA shall have the following standing committees - Health Affairs, Education, Research, Chapter Leadership, and Historical, Awards, Conference Planning, Communication, and Membership.</p>	<p>This proposed revision is intended to improve the accuracy, visibility, and completeness of the association’s bylaws by including standing committees that currently exist and function within the organization but are not specifically identified in the current language. Adding the Awards, Conference Planning, and Communications Committees ensures that the bylaws more accurately reflect the association’s existing committee structure and provides members with a clearer understanding of the committees that support the work of the organization.</p> <p>In addition, the proposed inclusion of the Membership Committee reflects a recent recommendation from the Membership Task Force that was approved by the Board of Directors. Establishing this committee in the bylaws recognizes the importance of member recruitment, engagement, retention, and overall membership experience as key priorities for the association. This change strengthens transparency, aligns the bylaws with current operations, and ensures that all standing committees governed by the Board are formally recognized.</p>
<p>Article IX. Committees and Task Forces Section B. Additional Committees and Task Forces</p> <p>The GAPNA Board of Directors shall appoint additional committees and task forces as needed to complete the work of the Association.</p>	<p>Article IX. Committees and Task Forces Section B. Additional Committees, and Task Forces, and Special Interest Groups</p> <p>The GAPNA Board of Directors shall appoint authorize additional committees and task forces as needed to complete the work of the Association.</p>	<p>Article IX. Committees and Task Forces Section B. Additional Committees, Task Forces, and Special Interest Groups</p> <p>This proposed revision is intended to improve both visibility and clarity within the bylaws. Adding “Special Interest Groups” to the section title ensures these groups are explicitly recognized alongside committees and task forces, promoting consistency across the bylaws and increasing member awareness of all Board-governed groups within the association.</p> <p>In addition, replacing the word “appoint” with “authorize”</p>

		<p>provides clearer distinction in the Board's function. While "appoint" implies the selection of individuals, "authorize" more accurately reflects the Board's role in establishing or approving the formation of committees, task forces, and Special Interest Groups as needed to carry out the work of the Association. This change enhances precision in governance language and supports a more consistent interpretation of the Board's responsibilities.</p>
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