HOUSE OF DELEGATES’ REFERENCE COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION:

- Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (500 series)
  This reference committee reviews and considers the wording of all proposed amendments to the AOA’s Constitution, Bylaws and the Code of Ethics.

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SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO THE AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION BYLAWS – IMPLEMENT CHANGES TO GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

SUBMITTED BY: AOA Board of Trustees

REFERRED TO: Committee on Constitution & Bylaws

WHEREAS, the AOA Board of Trustees, on recommendation of the Committee on AOA Governance & Organizational Structure, has approved a resolution that calls for changes to the names by which some of the AOA’s Departments are known to better identify their function within the AOA’s governance structure; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the AOA’s Constitution and Bylaws to reflect these changes to the Department names; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the AOA House of Delegates approve the following amendments to the American Osteopathic Association Bylaws:

Old material crossed out (crossed out) | New material in CAPS

AOA Bylaws

Article IX - Departments, Bureaus, and Committees
The Board of Trustees and House of Delegates, consistent with the powers given to it by these Bylaws, shall establish and determine the duties of departments, bureaus, councils, commissions, committees, and task forces necessary to further the policies of the Association. The Association’s departments shall include the Departments of Affiliated RELATIONS Affairs, FINANCE Business Affairs, EDUCATION Educational Affairs, Governmental Affairs, MEMBERSHIP Professional Affairs, and Research, Quality & AND Public Health. The activities of all departments, bureaus, and committees shall, so far as possible, be executed in close cooperation with the Chief Executive Officer. Upon the expiration of the terms of office of chairs and members of the departments, bureaus, or committees, all records of the same shall be delivered by the chairs to the Chief Executive Officer. All employed staff of departments, bureaus, and committees in the offices shall be under the jurisdiction of the Chief Executive Officer.

Explanatory Statement: Submitted by Author
The AOA Board of Trustees approved changes to the organizational structure at its midyear meeting in February 2020, including renaming the six Departments as follows:
1. Affiliate Affairs to become Affiliate Relations
2. Business Affairs to become Finance
3. Educational Affairs to become Education
4. Governmental Affairs – no change
5. Professional Affairs to become Membership
6. Research Quality & Public Health to become Research and Public Health
Background Information: Provided by AOA Staff

Current AOA Policy: None

Prior HOD action on similar or same topic: None

FISCAL IMPACT: $0

ACTION TAKEN __________________________

DATE ________________________________
SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO THE AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION 
BYLAWS – UPDATE TO BUREAU OF MEMBERSHIP

SUBMITTED BY: AOA Board of Trustees

REFERRED TO: Committee on Constitution & Bylaws

WHEREAS, the AOA’s Committee on AOA Governance & Organizational Structure has 
reviewed the AOA’s Constitution and Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, the AOA’s Bylaws refer to the “Committee on Membership” which is now called 
the “Bureau of Membership”; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the AOA House of Delegates approve the following amendments to the 
American Osteopathic Association Bylaws:

Old material crossed out (crossed out) | New material in CAPS

AOA Bylaws

Article II (Membership), Section 2-Membership Requirements

a. Applicants for Regular Membership . . . Such information and application shall be carefully 
reviewed by the BUREAU OF Committee on Membership, which shall make an appropriate 
recommendation for reinstatement to the Board of Trustees. An applicant whose license to 
practice is revoked or suspended, or who is currently serving a sentence for conviction of a 
felony offense, shall not be considered eligible for membership in this Association.

b. Honorary Life Member . . . Honorary life membership may also be conferred by the Board 
of Trustees on a regular member who has been in good standing for 25 consecutive years 
immediately preceding, and who has rendered outstanding service to the profession at either the 
state or national level, or who is recommended for such a membership by official action of his 
divisional society and the BUREAU OF Committee on Membership. Such honorary life 
members shall have the privileges and duties of regular members including the payment of 
assessments levied by the Association, but shall not be required to pay dues.

c. Life Member . . . The BUREAU OF Committee on Membership may waive this requirement 
on individual consideration. Such members shall have the privileges and duties of regular 
members, but shall not be required to pay dues or assessments beginning the year AOA 
Constitution & Bylaws 6 in which the age of 70 is attained.

Explanatory Statement: Submitted by Author
This amendment, if approved, will change references in the AOA’s Bylaws from “Committee on 
Membership” to “Bureau of Membership.”

Background Information: Provided by AOA Staff
Current AOA Policy: None

Prior HOD action on similar or same topic: None
FISCAL IMPACT: $0

ACTION TAKEN _______________________

DATE _______________________________
RES. NO. H502 - October 13, 2020 – Page 1

SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO THE AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION BYLAWS – PROCEDURE FOR NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO BYLAWS

SUBMITTED BY: Committee on AOA Governance & Organizational Structure

REFERRED TO: Committee on Constitution & Bylaws

WHEREAS, the current procedure for amending the AOA’s Bylaws calls for providing notice to members through publication in the JAOA and notice to affiliated organizations represented in the House of Delegates by U.S. mail; and

WHEREAS, the JAOA is transitioning to on-line publication and notice by electronic mail is more efficient and cost-effective than notice by U.S. mail; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the AOA House of Delegates approve the following amendments to the American Osteopathic Association Bylaws:

Old material crossed out (crossed out) | New material in CAPS

AOA Bylaws

Article XI - Amendments Section 1—Bylaws

These Bylaws may be amended at any annual or special meeting of the House of Delegates by a two-thirds vote of the total number of delegates accredited for voting, provided that the amendment shall have been filed with the Chief Executive Officer at least two months before the meeting at which the amendment is to be voted upon. Upon receiving a copy of the amendment, it shall be the duty of the Chief Executive Officer to cause it to be distributed by US MAIL OR ELECTRONIC first-class mail, postage paid, to each divisional and specialty society entitled to send voting representatives to the House of Delegates, posted on the AOA’s website, and published in THE ON-LINE EDITION OF The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association at least one month before the meeting. The Board of Trustees may revise the proposed amendment if necessary to secure conformity to this Constitution and Bylaws and shall then refer it to the House for final action not later than the day prior to the end of the meeting.

Explanatory Statement: Submitted by Author

None provided.

Background Information: Provided by AOA Staff

Current AOA Policy: None

Prior HOD action on similar or same topic: None

FISCAL IMPACT: $0

ACTION TAKEN ____________________________

DATE ______________________________