

2026 Bylaws and Resolutions Committee report to the Delegate Assembly

Committee charge

The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee reports to the delegate assembly, which considers resolutions and bylaws changes for adoption. The committee adheres to the current bylaws in making its report and receives input from the Board of Directors. As necessary and appropriate, the committee will work in collaboration with other ASWB committees and task forces to complete its charges. The committee's work will be guided by the ASWB strategic framework whenever applicable.

Ongoing charges

The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee is charged with the following on an ongoing basis:

- Considering all amendments duly proposed to the bylaws and making recommendations to the Board of Directors and the delegate assembly as to the implications of adoption.
- Initiating any suggestions that the committee feels necessary for change to the bylaws or proposed amendments.
- Providing leadership to the bylaws amendment process at the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.
- Screening and processing all resolutions to be brought before the delegate assembly in accordance with association policy.
- At the direction of the Board of Directors, reviewing the ASWB Policy Manual for inconsistencies with current bylaws or association practice, and drafting proposed changes for consideration by the ASWB Board.

2026 Charges

During 2026, the ASWB Bylaws and Resolutions Committee is also charged with:

- Considering recommendations from the Membership and Engagement Task Force pertaining to ASWB membership definitions and potential changes.
- Evaluating bylaws language in "Article VII. Board of Directors and Officers" to identify sections that would benefit from clarification.
- Identifying potential recommendations for guidelines to ASWB committee work for consideration by the delegate assembly.

Committee members

Chair

Claudia Vicencio (FL)

Ebon Freeman-James (NC)

Shelly LaRose (MO)

Susan McFeaters (NM)

Robert Romig (TX)

Karen Wasylenska (SK)

Board Liaison

Scott Stephens

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Recommendations/actions

Building on its 2025 work, the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee considered recommendations from the Membership Engagement Task Force as the foundation for its 2026 scope of work. The committee also evaluated bylaws language governing service on the Board of Directors and on ASWB committees — topics that grew out of last year's work and connected to concerns raised by other ASWB committees.

This year's committee began meeting monthly at the April 2026 Education Meeting to build collaboration and a shared understanding of its 2026 charges. That preparation meant members arrived at Leadership Weekend in August ready to review the Board's amendment proposals, so the in-person meeting could focus on the need for, likely impact of, and risks of a range of proposals — including drafts from the committee itself and several from the Board of Directors. After Leadership Weekend, the committee continued to dialogue with the Board of Directors by asking for clarification on some of the language in the proposed amendments, then reconvened virtually for a final discussion and vote on the proposals going before the delegates.

The proposed amendments make substantive changes to Article VII, Sections 1–4, and corresponding changes to Article IX, Section 1(d). They also include non-substantive, editorial changes across several other articles. The amendments before the delegates at the 2026 Annual Meeting are intended to modernize and streamline the governing process, making it more objective and transparent. Changes to candidate eligibility are meant to ensure that Board members have a demonstrated investment in, and institutional knowledge of, ASWB. The committee recognizes that these amendments, if adopted, will have long-term effects, and recommends monitoring those effects in case future amendments on these topics become necessary.

A voting summary, including an overview of proposed changes and affected sections of the ASWB Bylaws, is available on the ASWB website, which can be accessed by clicking the link below.

[2026 ASWB Bylaws Amendments to Membership](#)

The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee recommends that next year's committee stay in close communication with the Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee about any changes adopted this year. Because these impacts may not appear in the near term, future committees should do the same.

The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee also encourages continued collaboration between this committee and the Membership Engagement Task Force. Together, and with ASWB staff, they should build on the initial research into how member jurisdictions are represented on the Board and committees, and into recent attendance trends at ASWB's two signature meetings. The committee further encourages member boards to submit bylaws amendments and resolutions in future years, which will increase engagement and give members a stronger voice in ASWB governance.

Finally, future committees may need to revisit the bylaws language on 'good standing.' This year's committee discussed the difficulty of crafting a definition that both gives the Nominating Committee clear guidance and leaves individual member states and provinces flexibility to define good standing within their own jurisdictions.