

The AASRA Board is recommending these constitution amendments to AASRA members for approval at the June 7, 2022 AASRA Convention.

Strickouts indicate a deletion. Items in **UPPER CASE BOLD ITALICS** indicates new language.

1 - Proposed AASRA Const. "PURPOSES" Amendment

Article II — Purposes

Sec. 1. The purposes of this Association shall be:

A. To monitor and support the Arizona State Retirement System on pensions, particularly the Defined Benefit plans, health programs, long term disabilities programs. ~~and~~

B. TO promote passage of legislation beneficial to **PUBLIC** school employees and retirees. To cooperate with other organized groups that support public education and public school employees.

~~B-C.~~ To promote continuing education of ~~mature adults~~, preparation for retirement, including awareness about Social Security and Medicare issues and sources of assistance for retirees in need in our role as an affiliate of NRTA: AARP's Educator Community.

~~C~~ **D.** To promote increased awareness of AASRA in order to increase membership, expand influence and present the image of aging with dignity, independence and purpose.

Sec. 1. Paragraphs A ~~–D~~ **E**

~~D~~ **E.** To promote group and individual involvement of AASRA members by utilizing their expertise in community service to their fellow members, active colleagues and state and local community issues and affairs.

THESE PURPOSES GUIDE THE ORGANIZATION IN ITS ADVOCACY, GOAL SETTING, AND ACTIVITIES.

Rationale: The current AASRA constitution contains the same purposes as noted here. However, in some cases goals are combined into a single paragraph. Each of the purposes of the organization merits its own paragraph and is worthy of its own statement. The committee also agrees that since ASRS is designed for **Public sector** employees, such as **Public School** employees, AASRA should emphasize our support for **Public Education** – especially in a time when the legislature takes every opportunity to gift private education with public funds.

2 Proposed AASRA Const. Membership Amendment

Article IV — Membership

Sec. 1 Active Membership

These individuals become active members of the association upon payment of annual dues:

A. Retirees who were employed at an **PUBLICALLY FUNDED** educational institution~~S~~ or performed educational services for the state of Arizona and held administrative, certified, and/or educational support positions.

B. Retirees living in Arizona, who were employed at an **PUBLICALLY FUNDED** educational institution~~S~~ or performed educational services for other states.

C. Current **PUBLICALLY FUNDED** educational institution employees, ~~who are~~ aged 50 years or more.

Rationale: AASRA has always emphasized the importance of public schools over private and parochial schools. Our goals and legislative priorities reflect the importance we place on public education employees. Therefore, it follows that our active members should be drawn from this group. **PUBLICALLY FUNDED** refers to this group of employees, retirees and potential members.

#3 Proposed AASRA Const. Electronic Voting Amendment

Article V – Officers.

Sec. 5 Nominations and elections A-G

G. In all cases when there is a contested race for any statewide office or District Vice-President position, a paper ballot **OR AN ELECTRONIC SECRET VOTE** shall be required for voting for that office by members at the Annual Meeting. All uncontested races may be accepted by acclamation and voice vote by those registered at the annual meeting.

Rationale: This allows for electronic voting. A Bylaws item was added for electronic voting. Electronic voting is needed as we use virtual meetings on our computers and tablets.

4 Proposed AASRA Const. “AMENDMENTS” Amendment

Article VI - Amendments

Sec.1 This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at any Annual Meeting (convention) of the Association and become effective at the close of the last regular session of that Annual Meeting (convention).

SEC. 2 COPIES OF PROPOSED THE AMENDMENT(S) SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR READINGS AT TWO DIFFERENT MEETINGS. CHANGES MAY BE REQUIRED AT THE FIRST READING AND BE SUBMITTED AT THE SECOND READING FOR BOARD APPROVAL.

Sec. 2 **3 ONCE APPROVED BY THE BOARD**, copies of proposed amendments shall be submitted to all **THE** members at least thirty (30) day**S** before the date of the Annual Meeting (convention). Publication in the NEWSLETTER shall **MAY** serve to meet this requirement. **IN THE EVENT A NEWSLETTER IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR USE IN DISTRIBUTING ANY AMENDMENTS, THE MEMBERS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF A PROCESS BY WHICH THEY CAN RECEIVE COPIES OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT(S) AT AASRA'S EXPENSE.**

Rationale for Sec. 2 & 1st part Sec. 3: Our Constitutional amendment procedure includes presentation of an amendment to the AASRA Board for two readings before the Board votes on submitting it to the membership at the Annual Meeting. The new Sec. 2 reflects this practice. Sec. 3 clarifies that the amendment(s) must **receive Board approval** before being submitted to the members. The NEWSLETTER or another print type of communication meets this requirement if published 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Again, this change simply codifies the current practice.

Rationale for part Sec. 3, Last sentence in bold: With the costs of written newsletters and the difficulty and costs of the US Postal System, an alternative to printed newsletters for notifications should be available to this organization. This allows non-traditional methods to be implemented, when necessary, at the expense and consent of the AASRA Board of Directors.