

## PROPOSED STANDING RULES CHANGE

### **Raise the Department dues for Senior members by \$5 to \$15.**

Current Rule: Standing Rules – XII Finance §1-A-i

“The annual dues of Senior members to be remitted to the Department shall be ten (10) dollars, plus the National per capita dues.”

Changed Rule:

“The annual dues of Senior members to be remitted to the Department shall be ~~ten (10)~~ **fifteen (15)** dollars, plus the National per capita dues.”

Rationale:

At the current time, membership is decreasing while costs to maintain our organization are increasing. This means that the revenue of our Department is falling. We need to increase dues in order to ensure our ability to maintain our various services to our veterans and their families.

Additionally, we do not currently value membership highly enough. By increasing the monetary value of membership in our organization, we strengthen *perception* of the value of membership in this organization that does so much for our veterans and their families, as well as for the community, state, and nation.

Change Proposed By:

Courtenay Burns

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Girls State Chairwoman, Membership Chairwoman

2015-2016 Membership Year

## PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGE

### **Change the term of office for all Department officers**

Change: By-Laws Article 3 – add the following **Section 3** and renumber subsequent sections

“Section 3: The term of office for all Department officers shall be two (2) years.”

Rationale:

This change allows for continuity of leadership, ultimately allowing for continuity of programs.

Change Proposed By:

Courtenay Burns

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Girls State Chairwoman, Membership Chairwoman

2015-2016 Membership Year

if the Proposed By-Laws Change passes  
**PROPOSED STANDING RULES CHANGE**

**Change eligibility for the position of National Executive Committeewoman**

Current Rule: Standing Rules – V Duties of Department Officers §1-F-i

“In the year following the outgoing Department President’s term, she shall serve as the National Executive Committeewoman and she shall hold the position of Chairwoman of the National Security Committee. In addition, she shall be the co-chairwoman of any Distinguished Guests Committee.”

Changed Rule:

- i. Beginning for the 2016-2017 operating year, the members shall be eligible for the position of National Executive Committeewoman in the following ways:
  - a. The position of National Executive Committeewoman shall be offered first to the immediate-past Department President who completed her term of service.
  - b. Should the immediate-past Department President who completed her term of service be unwilling or unable to serve as National Executive Committeewoman, this position shall be offered first to the currently-serving National Executive Committeewoman and then to each Past Department President in reverse order of service, excluding any Past Department President currently holding Department Office or the office of District President.
- ii. The National Executive Committeewoman shall also serve as Chairwoman of the National Security Committee.
- iii. The National Executive Committeewoman shall also serve as the co-chairwoman of any Distinguished Guests Committee.”

Rationale:

This change updates our governing documents to match our actual practices by limited eligibility for the position of National Executive Committeewoman to Past Department Presidents. As this is in fact our practice, the position of National Executive Committeewoman should not be an elected office. (Under democratic practices, all elected offices must be open to all members in good standing.) Thus, this change also removes the position of National Executive Committeewoman from the slate of elected offices.

Change Proposed By:

Courtenay Burns

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Girls State Chairwoman, Membership Chairwoman  
2015-2016 Membership Year

if the Proposed By-Laws Change fails  
**PROPOSED STANDING RULES CHANGE**

**Change eligibility and term of office for the position of National Executive Committeewoman**

Current Rule: Standing Rules – V Duties of Department Officers §1-F-i

“In the year following the outgoing Department President’s term, she shall serve as the National Executive Committeewoman and she shall hold the position of Chairwoman of the National Security Committee. In addition, she shall be the co-chairwoman of any Distinguished Guests Committee.”

Changed Rule:

“i. Beginning for the 2016-2017 operating year, the term of office for the National Executive Committeewoman shall be two years.

a. The position of National Executive Committeewoman shall be offered first to the immediate-past Department President who completed her term of service.

b. Should the immediate-past Department President who completed her term of service be unwilling or unable to serve as National Executive Committeewoman, this position shall be offered first to the currently-serving National Executive Committeewoman and then to each Past Department President in reverse order of service, excluding any Past Department President currently holding Department Office or the office of District President.

ii. The National Executive Committeewoman shall also serve as Chairwoman of the National Security Committee.

iii. The National Executive Committeewoman shall also serve as the co-chairwoman of any Distinguished Guests Committee.”

Rationale:

This change updates our governing documents to match our actual practices by limited eligibility for the position of National Executive Committeewoman to Past Department Presidents. As this is in fact our practice, the position of National Executive Committeewoman should not be an elected office. (Under democratic practices, all elected offices must be open to all members in good standing.) Thus, this change also removes the position of National Executive Committeewoman from the slate of elected offices.

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Courtenay Burns

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Girls State Chairwoman, Membership Chairwoman  
2015-2016 Membership Year

## PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGE

### **Limit consecutive terms of office allowed for the position of Department President**

Change: By-Laws Article 3 – add the following **Section 1 §A**

“**§A:** The President shall be limited to serving two (2) consecutive terms of office, but no member eligible to hold office shall be limited to any total number of terms served over the course of her membership.”

Rationale:

This limit allows for continuity of leadership while ensuring that various members have the opportunity to serve in the highest office of our Department.

Change Proposed By:  
Courtenay Burns

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Girls State Chairwoman, Membership Chairwoman  
2015-2016 Membership Year