

# Proposed amendments to the SoA Bylaws – **PACKAGE A**

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These are the SoA Bylaws amendments being proposed in an effort being managed by Tom Bakos, FSA. Fellows requesting that these amendments be considered by the Board and FSA-members will consistently refer to them as **PACKAGE A**.

## **Intention Statement**

It is the intention of these amendments to restore an FSA's right to "make nominations" (as provided for in Article III, Section 1(b) of the SoA Bylaws) such that the name of a candidate nominated for an office by an FSA will be placed on a ballot for election (or selection in the case of a runoff or primary election) participated in by all Eligible Voting Members for the office so nominated.

It is expected that the leadership of the SoA will act with integrity in establishing policies to apply these amendments and that FSA-made nominations will not be restricted, rejected, delayed, or deferred in their application in any unreasonable way. It is the intention of these amendments that all candidates for election will be treated with fairness and in exactly the same way with respect to how candidates for any particular office are presented to the Eligible Voting Members.

It is expected that the Nominating Committee will continue to serve to assure that at least a minimum number of candidates, per established election policies for each office, are presented to the Eligible Voting Members in the next election. A member of the Nominating Committee as an FSA may exercise his or her right to make nominations. However, candidates nominated by members of the Nominating Committee will be treated no differently than any other nominated candidate. In receiving nominations, the Nominating Committee will determine whether or not a nominated candidate is willing and eligible to serve, if elected.

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## **PACKAGE A – SoA Bylaws Amendments**

The following provisions of the SoA Bylaws should be amended or added to as described below:

### **Article VIII, Section 2(c) – Amend Section (c) as follows:**

*c) **Leadership Development Committee.** The Leadership Development Committee is responsible for ~~nominations~~, elections and leadership identification and development.*

### **Article IX, Section 2 – Amend first sentence of Section 2 as follows:**

The Nominating Committee is responsible for ~~nominating~~ **receiving the nominations of** candidates for election in accordance with SOA policies and may establish guidelines for conducting elections consistent with SOA policies.

### **Article IX – ADD new Section 3 as follows:**

**SECTION 3. Nominations. Candidates nominated by Fellows and who are eligible to serve per Article V, Section 3 will have their names placed on a ballot for election by the Eligible Voting Members.**

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## **Bylaws Amendment Process**

1. A “written” request to amend the Bylaws must be received from at least 100 FSAs.
2. A successfully made request must be approved by a vote of 2/3rds of the entire Board.
3. With Board approval, an amendment “affecting the substantive rights of the SoA’s members” must be approved by a majority of FSAs entitled to vote.

## **Application of Process**

1. Per the Bylaws: “any action or approval required to be written or in writing may be transmitted or received by electronic mail or other electronic means.” Therefore, a request made by email is acceptable.
2. It may be argued that these amendments do not affect the “substantive rights of the SoA’s members”. The right of FSAs to “make nominations” is not being affected at all. The proposed amendments deal with how a nomination, once made, will be treated within the election process. **Therefore, a vote of FSAs should not be required.**

## **Process Outlined by the Leadership Team**

The Leadership Team consists of: Four Presidential Officers, Secretary/Treasurer, & Executive Director.

A written request from a Fellow must contain the Fellow's name, SOA member number, signature, and the date on which the Fellow signed the request. The information provided must be legible enough to allow SOA Staff to verify the person signing the form as a Fellow.

## **Process To Be Followed in Making Requests**

1. The "written" request requirement can be satisfied by sending an email to [governance@soa.org](mailto:governance@soa.org) (this email address is monitored by Sheree Baker, Director of Governance).
2. The email should be sent using the FSA's Directory email address. This will uniquely identify the FSA making the request.
  - a. The email should contain the FSA's name.
  - b. The email signature satisfies the signature requirement. For example, Microsoft Outlook allows users to set up **signatures**. Mine is:

**Tom Bakos, FSA, MAAA**  
*Tom Bakos Consulting, Inc.*  
*PO Box 2006*  
*Ridgway, CO 81432*

(970) 626-3049 – Office  
(970) 275-9386 – Cell  
<http://www.BakosEnterprises.com>

Whatever an FSA uses to identify himself or herself in an email communication is a signature.

- c. The date the email was sent satisfies the date requirement.
  - d. Legibility should not be a problem with an email.
3. The Process outlined by the Leadership Team also requires that an FSA supply an SoA **member ID #**. An FSA may or may not but, probably, does not know his or her ID#. The ID# is an internal number maintained administratively by the SoA to uniquely identify members. Your member ID#, for example, is typically printed on your name tag when you attend SoA meetings.

There are ways for you to discover what your member ID# is but the easiest way is to simply ask SoA Customer Service to tell you what it is.

## **Send Request to Amend the SoA Bylaws**

Click on the following link to open an email pre-formatted to request a Bylaws amendment:

### **Request to Amend the SoA Bylaws**

The email message looks like this:

I REQUEST that the SoA Bylaws be amended in accordance with the changes identified as PACKAGE A previously supplied to you and which can be found here:

<http://www.bakosenterprises.com/Bylaws/PackageA.pdf>.

Name: \*\*\* (insert name HERE) \*\*\*

By copy of this email I authorize Customer Service to provide to me and forward to [governance@soa.org](mailto:governance@soa.org) a copy of this request with my SoA member ID number.

\*\*\* Add email signature HERE \*\*\*

- Add your name and insert an email signature such as you typically use when sending emails for business purposes.
- If you know your SOA member ID# or how to find it insert it in place of the request to SoA Customer Service. Otherwise, include the request to SoA Customer Service.
- If you send an email in some other way, then please add [bcc@BakosEnterprises.com](mailto:bcc@BakosEnterprises.com) as a recipient so I can independently keep track of the requests made.

***Tom Bakos, FSA – 10/4/2012***