



Amends the Constitution to Allow OSBA Legislative Policy Committee to Override Membership-Approved Legislative Policies and Priorities

BACKGROUND:

The OSBA Legislative Policies and Priorities (P/Ps) comprise OSBA’s biennial legislative agenda. The priorities are OSBA’s proactive legislative agenda, and the policies are the blueprint for OSBA’s position on a range of issues. The P/P document’s purpose is to clearly articulate OSBA’s views to members and legislators in advance of and during legislative sessions. The P/P document is developed by the OSBA Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) and approved by the membership, providing the OSBA legislative team with a consensus document and tool to present a consistent Association position on issues.

With the advent of the annual legislative session, the OSBA Board of Directors deemed it prudent to devise a mechanism that allows a controlled degree of flexibility for changes to the legislative agenda during the biennium.

PROPOSED PROCESS:

The following resolution amends OSBA’s existing policy and priority development and approval process to allow greater flexibility by allowing the LPC to change the legislative agenda previously approved by the membership:

Beginning in January of an odd-numbered year (the year following OSBA’s year-long development process of legislative policies for the biennium), the OSBA’s policy and priority document, as approved by the members in December of the previous year, may be changed through the following procedure:

1. Any OSBA member board or OSBA legislative staff presents the proposed change in writing to his/her OSBA LPC regional representative. The proposal must state the desired change, with a brief rationale statement accompanying it in writing.
2. The LPC member forwards the proposal to the LPC Chair.
3. Upon receipt, the LPC Chair has up to 10 business days to:
 - forward the proposal to the LPC and convene a meeting of its members for discussion/action on the proposal.
 - Upon motion and second by LPC members for approval of the proposed change, the LPC Chair shall call for a vote of the LPC. The vote may be taken through virtual communications or by conference call. Approval by 3/4 of the total voting members of LPC is required for passage.

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, the OSBA Board of Directors have assessed the Legislative Policy and Priority development process and have determined that some change is needed; and

WHEREAS, the OSBA Board of Directors deemed it prudent, with the advent of the annual legislative session, to devise a mechanism that allows a controlled degree of flexibility for changes to the legislative agenda during the biennium .

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Article 7, Section 2 of the OSBA Constitution be amended as follows:

Legislative Policy Committee: The legislative policy committee (LPC) shall be composed of the voting members of the board of directors of the association and regional representatives elected by procedures outlined in Articles 9 and 10. The vice president of the board shall chair the committee.

The LPC shall develop legislative policies which are recommended to and approved by the membership at the annual meeting and may act on behalf of the association in accordance with those policies.

A policy or priority may be changed by the LPC after adoption by the membership. Any OSBA member board may propose a change to the policies and priorities in writing to their regional LPC representative. The proposal must state the desired change with a brief statement of rationale. Any Legislative staff member, upon approval of the Executive Director, may propose a change to the policies and priorities in writing to the LPC chair. The LPC representative or Legislative staff member must forward the proposed change to the LPC chair. Upon receipt of the proposal, the LPC chair has up to ten business days to forward the proposal to the LPC and convene a meeting of its members for discussion and action. This meeting and any action on the proposal may take place under the same meeting and election rules used for any other business of the Board except that approval by 3/4 of the total voting members of the LPC is required for passage.

The LPC also advises the executive director and staff during legislative sessions.