



# BYLAWS

## NEW YORK STATE WOMEN, INC.

Revisions as of Annual Conference May 29, 2015

Board proposed to Conference 060217

### ARTICLE VIII: REGIONAL ORGANIZATION

(Effective July 1, 2012)

SECTION 1: The state shall be divided into regions. The regions shall be the conduit between chapters and the state organization. An appendix and map shall be attached to the bylaws identifying the boundaries and counties included in each region.

SECTION 2: The Board of Directors shall have the authority to change the number of regions and the boundaries of each region.:

SECTION 3: Each region shall elect from its own membership a region director and an assistant region director. They shall serve for a one-year term, with a maximum of two consecutive terms.

SECTION 4: The region director shall be a member of the Board of Directors of the state organization:

- a) Region director and assistant region director shall assume office at the close of the annual conference and shall serve until the close of the following annual conference and (or) until their successor assumes office.
- b) The incoming region director and assistant region director shall have the privilege of attending the pre-conference board meeting without a vote.

### ARTICLE VIII: REGIONAL ORGANIZATION

SECTION 1: Unchanged

SECTION 2: Unchanged

SECTION 3: Each region shall elect from its own membership a region director and an assistant region director at the spring region meeting prior to the annual conference of the state organization. They shall serve for a one-year term, with a maximum of two consecutive terms.

- a) A majority of all votes cast by simple voice vote (viva voce) or raised hand shall constitute an election
- b) In the event of a tie, voting continues until a candidate receives a majority of the votes cast
- c) If uncontested, by acclamation shall constitute an election.

SECTION 4: Unchanged

c) In the case of vacancy in the office of region director the assistant region director shall succeed to the office of region director. A special region meeting shall then be called to elect an assistant region director. However, should the vacancy occur before the region director's election is ratified at state conference, a special region meeting shall be called to elect a region director.

SECTION 5: Region directors and assistant region directors shall be by ballot at a spring region meeting prior to the annual conference of the state organization. A plurality of all votes cast shall constitute an election.

SECTION 6: It shall be the duty of the region director to:

- a) Act as liaison officer between the local chapter and the state organization.
- b) Serve as a member of the board of directors.

SECTION 7: It shall be the duty of the assistant region director to:

- a) Assume the position of region director with voting rights at the state board of directors meetings and the pre-conference board meeting when the region director is unable to attend.
- b) Assist the region director in every way possible.
- c) Serve as representative of the region director when requested to do so.

SECTION 8:: If the region director or assistant region director are unable to attend the state board meetings or the pre-conference board meeting, then the region director shall appoint a representative to assume the position of region director with voting rights. The region director will notify the state president the name of the person representing the region prior to the start of the board meeting. The state president shall approve the appointment at the roll call of the state meeting.

SECTION 5: delete (information in section 3)

SECTION 6 thru 8 – Renumber 5 thru 7

## ARTICLE XI: ELECTIONS

SECTION 1: The election shall be under the supervision of an elections committee consisting of five (5) or more members appointed by the president who will appoint one as the elections committee chair.

SECTION 2: The credentials chair shall be appointed by the president and with the data base manager verify the voting eligibility of members attending the board meetings and the annual conference.

SECTION 3: The chair of the credentials committee shall furnish to the elections committee chair, not less than two (2) hours before the opening of the polls, verification of the accredited voters.

SECTION 4: A president-elect, a vice president, a recording secretary and a treasurer shall be elected by ballot at each annual conference. If a president-elect serves the unexpired term of a president, and chooses not to serve her own term, the slate of officers shall include candidates for the office of president.

SECTION 5: A plurality of all votes cast for a given office shall constitute an election.

SECTION 6 : Polls shall be open during the time determined by the executive committee.

## ARTICLE XI: ELECTIONS

SECTION 1: Unchanged

SECTION 2: Unchanged

SECTION 3: Unchanged

SECTION 4: : A president-elect, a vice president, a recording secretary and a treasurer shall be elected at each annual conference. If a president-elect serves the unexpired term of a president, and chooses not to serve her own term, the slate of officers shall include candidates for the office of president.

Section 5: A majority of all votes cast by simple voice vote (viva voce) or raised hand shall constitute an election

- a) In the event of a tie, voting continues until a candidate receives a majority of the votes cast
- b) If uncontested, by acclamation shall constitute an election.

Section 6: Election shall take place during the time determined by the executive committee

### **RATIONALE**

In response to requests, the proposed bylaw would change the method of voting from ballot to voice, hand (or standing) or acclamation. Members would still have the right to make nominations from the floor and these nominees would be included in the voting process, if they qualify.