

Resolution on Executive Board Composition

Whereas, ALA has undergone a long process of restructuring starting in 2018 with the Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness and concluding with several incarnations of the Forward Together Working Group and Transforming ALA Governance group throughout 2022;

Whereas, the Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness, Forward Together Working Groups, and Transforming ALA Governance all included a package of recommendations which together brought coherence to the restructuring;

Whereas, as implemented, the recommendations were broken apart, thus eliminating that coherence;

Whereas, it has been two years since the Bylaws Convention in January 2023;

Whereas, the intention of the 2023 bylaws changes was to create a dynamic document with frequent reviews to assess its impacts and opportunities for improvement;

Whereas, those standing for election to the Executive Board must fit into open designated slots, which may or may not align with the interest and capacity of interested candidates;

Whereas, designated slots do not necessarily ensure authentic representation for member groups;

Whereas, designated slots have significantly increased the work of the Committee on Committees and ALA Governance Office to build a slate for election;

Whereas, the move to designated election slots increased the size of the Executive Board, including the cost needed to support Executive Board member leaders;

Be it resolved that,

1. Article V, Section 1 of the ALA Bylaws, Executive Board Composition, be revised to return to its previous language: The Executive Board of the American Library Association shall consist of thirteen (13) members including: the four (4) officers of the Association, the immediate past president, and eight (8) councilors elected by Council to three-year (3-year) terms.

Moved by Stephanie Chase, ALA Executive Board

Seconded by Ed Garcia, RI chapter councilor

Peter Hepburn, ALA Treasurer

Nick Buron, Executive Board Member

Sara Dallas, Executive Board Member

Amy Lappin, Executive Board Member