

**REPORT TO ALA COUNCIL
OF THE
ALA BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

**ALA LLX 2025
JANUARY 15, 2025**

TO: ALA Council
FR: Brian E. C. Schottlaender, *Chair*
ALA Bylaws Committee
RE: Information Report/Action Item

I. INFORMATION REPORT

The ALA Bylaws Committee received for review in October 2024 an affiliation proposal from the Islamic Library Association. Upon review by ALA Legal, however, it was learned that that Association had only recently secured 501(c)(3) status and did not, therefore, meet ALA criteria for affiliation, which require that a prospective affiliate not only have nonprofit status, but also that it have been in existence long enough to “give the promise of worthwhile activity and continued support.” The criteria go on to specify “usually 4 years.” Sheryl Reyes replied to the Islamic Library Association accordingly.

Otherwise, the Bylaws Committee has identified an item in the ALA Bylaws themselves in need of Council’s attention. We come to you, therefore, with the following Action Item.

II. ACTION ITEM

A. MOTION

As per Article XVII, Section 3 of the ALA Bylaws, I move on behalf of the ALA Bylaws Committee that the ALA Council approve the following editorial update of Article VI, Section 8. Inasmuch as the proposed update, in our opinion, does not change the substance of this Section, it need not go to the ALA membership for a vote.

CURRENT LANGUAGE	PROPOSED REVISION	NEW LANGUAGE
<p>Article VI. Council</p> <p><i>Section 8. Council Succession.</i> If a member is elected to the Council as an at-large Councilor but declines the position during the period between the announcement of the annual election results and the seating of the new Council at the conclusion of the annual conference, the seat will be filled by the candidate who received the next highest number of votes in the annual election. If the election of a division or round table councilor was not contested, the division or round table shall accredit an interim councilor to the executive director in advance of the first meeting after selection. The interim councilor shall serve as a voting member of the Council to represent the division or round table until a councilor is elected in the next annual election and is seated in the new Council at the conclusion of the following annual conference.</p>	<p>Article VI. Council</p> <p><i>Section 8. Council Succession.</i> If a member is elected to the Council as an at-large a Councilor but declines the position during the period between the announcement of the annual election results and the seating of the new Council at the conclusion of the annual conference, the seat will be filled by the candidate who received the next highest number of votes in the annual election. If the election of a division or round table councilor was not contested, the division or round table shall accredit an interim councilor to the executive director <u>of the Association</u> in advance of the first <u>Association</u> meeting after <u>following the interim councilor's</u> selection. The interim councilor shall serve as a voting member of the Council to represent the division or round table until a councilor is elected in the next annual election and is seated in the new Council at the conclusion of the following annual conference.</p>	<p>Article VI. Council</p> <p><i>Section 8. Council Succession.</i> If a member is elected to the Council as a Councilor but declines the position during the period between the announcement of the annual election results and the seating of the new Council at the conclusion of the annual conference, the seat will be filled by the candidate who received the next highest number of votes in the annual election. If the election of a division or round table councilor was not contested, the division or round table shall accredit an interim councilor to the executive director of the Association in advance of the first Association meeting following the interim councilor's selection. The interim councilor shall serve as a voting member of the Council to represent the division or round table until a councilor is elected in the next annual election and is seated in the new Council at the conclusion of the following annual conference.</p>

Rationale

The retention of the modifier “at large” preceding “Councilor” was an oversight from the General Revision process, inasmuch as the stipulation “will be filled by the candidate who received the next highest number of votes in the annual election” applies not only to At-Large Councilors. The suggested updates that follow in this Section simply clarify which “executive director” is referenced and which meeting.

In closing, I want to thank the other members of the Bylaws Committee, all of whom are wonderful colleagues to work with, as are Sheryl Reyes and Adrian Stratton.

Respectfully submitted,

- Brian E. C. Schottlaender, *Chair*
- Emily Daly
- H J Pedelty
- Mark D. Robison
- Andrea Stanfield
- Colby Cilento, *Associate*
- David I. Stokes, *Associate*
- Peter D. Hepburn (Executive Board Liaison)
- Sheryl Reyes (Director, Office of ALA Governance, Staff Liaison)