

Petition for Bylaws Amendment regarding "Election/Term of Office" in Article VIII Sections (2) & (5)
In accordance with Article XII Section (2)(a) of the American Mensa, Ltd. bylaws, we, the undersigned on the attached pages, do hereby affix our names, signatures, addresses, and membership numbers in order to place the following bylaws amendment proposal up for ballot by the American Mensa, Ltd. membership, to occur with the 2009 American Mensa, Ltd. elections.

The following is passed to a referendum of the membership:

Article VIII of the Bylaws of American Mensa, Ltd. is amended as follows:

1) Delete the language in Section (2) and replace it with "The National Ombudsman shall be elected by a majority of American Mensa, Ltd.'s local group Ombudsmen voting from among their number in accordance with election rules adopted by the Election Committee, with each local group having one vote to be cast by its ombudsman. In those local groups with multiple ombudsmen, that local group's ombudsmen will determine among themselves how they will cast this vote. If there are more than two candidates for National Ombudsman, a preferential voting system shall be used. The Ombudsman for American Mensa in office as of the passage of this amended Article shall be deemed the National Ombudsman until such time as an election among the local group Ombudsmen can be held for the position of National Ombudsman, but in no event later than two years from passage of this amendment."; and

2) Delete the language in Section (5) and replace it with "The National Ombudsman shall remain in office for six years, or until resignation, death, or removal from office, whichever is earliest. Removal from office shall follow generally the procedure set out in Article III Section (10) of these bylaws, except that the vote to remove the National Ombudsman shall require a two-thirds majority of the full voting membership of the American Mensa Committee at each of two separate regular meetings of the Committee. The replacement of a National Ombudsman who resigns, dies, or is removed from office shall be conducted in accordance with the election rules adopted by the Election Committee, as outlined in Section (2) of this Article."

We recommend that the Election Committee propose the following implementation provision: If both this amendment proposal and the Article VIII amendment proposal which passed at the 2008 ABM are approved in the 2009 election, then the provisions from the ABM-approved amendment will be implemented immediately preceding this proposal's provisions.

The current language of Article VIII Sections (2) and (5) of the Bylaws of American Mensa, Ltd. to be deleted in their entirety and replaced with the above language is as follows:

(2) "The Ombudsman shall be elected by a two-thirds majority of the full voting membership of the American Mensa Committee."

(5) "The term of office of the Ombudsman is not affected by the expiration of the term of office of the appointing American Mensa Committee. The Ombudsman shall remain in office until resignation or removal from office. Removal from office shall follow generally the procedure set out in Art. III Section (10) of these bylaws, except that the vote to remove the Ombudsman shall require a two-thirds majority of the full voting membership of the American Mensa Committee at each of two separate regular meetings of the Committee."

Petition for Bylaws Amendment regarding “Election/Term of Office” in Article VIII Sections (2) & (5)

We, the undersigned, are in agreement to put the attached bylaws amendment proposal entitled “Petition for Bylaws Amendment regarding “Election/Term of Office” in Article VIII Sections (2) & (5)” onto the upcoming national ballot, occurring with the 2009 American Mensa, Ltd. elections. The attached amendment would delete the current language in Article VIII Section (2) and Section (5) and replace it in its entirety. Article VIII Section (2) would change the selection of the National Ombudsman, so that he is elected by the local group Ombudsmen from among their number, rather than by the American Mensa Committee. Article VIII Section (5) would change the term of office from a lifetime appointment to a six-year term of office. The full text is attached to these signatures and each person signing this petition and providing the additional required information has been afforded the opportunity to read the text in its entirety.

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