

## 2026 Proposed Amendment to the NOW Bylaws

Proposed by  
National NOW Board  
approved March 24, 2026

### Purpose:

The Sikich audit of the 2025 NOW officer determined that election procedures were generally followed but identified a notable issues regarding the rules governing membership, Counsel recommended clarification of the rules governing determining who is a member in good standing and has voting rights.

These amendments provide a common standard on both issues.

## ARTICLE VIII. MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

### SECTION 2. Voting Privileges

A. Voting privileges extend only to ~~Only~~ members (1) who are in good standing ~~whose dues are received by the national organization or its appropriate subunits~~ at least ninety (90) days prior to the Conference or meeting, and (2) who are duly registered and have been credentialed for such Conference or meeting, (3) who remain in good standing on the convening date of a Conference or meeting, and (4) who remain in good standing when casting a vote, including for elections. Each such registered and credentialed member in good standing shall have one vote.

B. NOW members whose conference and/or travel expenses are paid by National NOW must have been a NOW member for a minimum of 180 days to be eligible to vote and who are duly registered and credentialed shall be eligible to vote at the Conference.

~~B.~~ C. Use of the unit rule is prohibited. There shall be no proxy voting.

~~C.~~ D. A quorum shall be twenty-five percent of those members registered and eligible to vote and shall include one officer and two other National Board members.

## ARTICLE X. FINANCE

### SECTION 2. Dues

A. ~~Annual dues shall be paid on the anniversary date of the day on which the member joined.~~ The amount of dues shall be set by a two-thirds vote of the National Board, which shall establish regular and hardship dues.

B. Payment of annual dues shall be due on the anniversary date, computed as commencing one

year after the day on which the member joined as recorded in the National NOW membership rolls or as extended by any additional period for which dues were paid, and thereafter due on such anniversary date as thereafter extended by each subsequent payment of dues.

C. Any member whose dues are ~~in arrears~~ have not been paid for one hundred and eighty (180) days following the most recent expiring anniversary date ~~on which the membership was first~~ as recorded in the national records shall be dropped from National NOW membership rolls and shall cease to be a NOW member in good standing ~~one month after the mailing of a warning notice that the membership has become delinquent~~. NOW shall exert its best efforts to notify the member, by mail or electronic means, by a warning notice more than thirty (30) days before the member's anniversary date that the membership has shall become delinquent.

D. NOW members shall pay annual dues to National NOW or to a subunit. National NOW which shall be responsible for forwarding state and chapter portions of dues (rebates) as appropriate. Rebates shall be sent at least monthly.

E. The membership of persons who remit national dues during a National Conference shall take effect upon adjournment of the Conference.