

Election of NEA Resolutions Committee Members
Key Considerations
2021 NEA Virtual Representative Assembly

- **Allocation of Positions** NEA Rules of Procedure for the 2021 Virtual Representative Assembly and NEA Standing Rule 7 provide that the delegates present from each state will elect as many members and alternates to the Resolutions Committee from among the state and local delegates in the state delegation as each state has NEA state directors. The retired delegates to the NEA Representative Assembly will elect as many members and alternates to the Resolutions Committee from among the retired delegates as the number of retired directors. The Aspiring Educator delegates to the NEA Representative Assembly will elect as many members and alternates to the Resolutions Committee as the number of Aspiring Educator directors. Nominations of Aspiring Educator members to the Resolutions Committee will be open to all eligible NEA Aspiring Educator members.
- **Open Nominations, Secret Ballot, and Election Structure** Open nominations means a procedure by which every eligible delegate, or otherwise eligible member, will have the opportunity to nominate or be nominated for the positions of Resolutions Committee member or alternate, subject to any limitations required in the Constitution and Bylaws and also to any other reasonable restrictions uniformly imposed. Positions, including vacancies, on the Resolutions Committee that are filled at the Annual Meeting and Representative Assembly by the state, NEA-Retired, or Aspiring Educators Program will be filled by a regular election procedure. Elections will be by secret ballot. The identity of the voter must not be disclosed as the ballots are submitted and counted. Online election procedures that adhere to these requirements are permitted.

Voting shall be by those delegates present and shall take place in or in conjunction with a business meeting of the state delegations and by the Retired and Aspiring Educator delegates at a time and place designated by the chair of the delegation, the NEA-Retired president, or the chair of the Aspiring Educators Program.

If the number of candidates for Resolutions Committee positions is equal to or less than the number of positions to be filled, elections may be waived, and the candidates declared elected to the positions in question. The report of election results must be submitted on the proper form to the Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules, via email to clewis@nea.org, before the close of the 2021 Representative Assembly.

Although NEA elections are usually decided by majority vote, the governing documents are silent as to whether a Resolutions Committee election will be determined by majority or plurality vote. Therefore, a state—and by extension NEA-Retired and the Aspiring Educator Program—may adopt a rule specifying that Resolutions Committee elections will be determined by plurality vote or majority vote.

State and local delegates will vote only for state members of the Resolutions Committee. Retired and Aspiring Educator delegates will vote only for Retired and Aspiring Educator members of the Resolutions Committee respectively.

- **Challenge Procedure** A challenge to the election of a Resolutions Committee member will be made in writing to the Committee on Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules within 24 hours after the challenger knew or reasonably should have known of the basis for the challenge.

- **Terms of Members** The terms of members of the Resolutions Committee will commence September 1. The terms of state, at-large, and retired members of the Resolutions Committee will be for one (1) year, two (2) years, or three (3) years, and no person will serve more than six (6) years as a state member, as an at-large member, or as a retired member. The terms of Aspiring Educator members of the Resolutions Committee will be for one (1) year, and no person will serve more than two (2) terms as an Aspiring Educator member. A state, at-large, or retired member of the Resolutions Committee will immediately relinquish their position when such member ceases to be a delegate to the NEA Representative Assembly.
- **Term Structures** State affiliates and NEA-Retired may vary the terms of Resolutions Committee member positions from not less than one (1) to no more than three (3) years. The length of term of individual Resolutions Committee member positions will be determined by each state affiliate or NEA-Retired. Not all members from the state affiliate or NEA-Retired must be elected for the same length of term. The state affiliate or NEA-Retired may have some delegates running for one (1) year terms, others running for two (2) year terms, and others running for three (3) year terms, all on the same ballot. If the length of term varies, the electorate should be informed of the term for which each candidate is running.

The eligibility for terms by delegates seeking nomination and election to individual member positions is determined by each state affiliate or NEA-Retired. For example: A state affiliate or NEA-Retired may adopt a policy whereby a delegate may be elected to a multiple-year Resolutions Committee term that he or she cannot complete due to the six (6) year maximum service as member. As such, prior service on the Resolutions Committee would not restrict a delegate from election to a multiple-year term.

A state affiliate or NEA-Retired may modify the term of any seat provided it is open for election, and the modification is not in conflict with NEA Bylaw 3-13(b) which states that each vacancy on an NEA committee will be filled for the remainder of the term.

- **Vacancies** Pursuant to NEA Bylaw 3-13(b), vacancies on the Resolutions Committee will be filled by election at the Representative Assembly or as otherwise designated until a regular election is held or for the remainder of the term. A vacancy will include actions where an elected member of the Resolutions Committee:
 - Ceases to be a delegate to the NEA Representative Assembly¹;
 - Ceases to be employed in the category represented, or in the case of NEA-Retired and Aspiring Educator members ceases to be a member in the category represented;
 - Is absent two (2) consecutive meetings of the Resolutions Committee;
 - Is ineligible to complete their term upon reaching the six (6) year maximum as a state member or as a retired member, provided the state or NEA-Retired permits its members to be elected as such.
 - Resigns their position for any reason not specified above.

¹ A state or retired Resolutions Committee member that has not been successfully elected as an NEA delegate or whose term as an NEA delegate has expired will cease to be a member of the committee prior to the first business meeting of the first Representative Assembly to which he or she is not eligible to attend as an elected delegate.