

Argument in Favor of the Proposed Amendment Resolution

This amendment seeks to accomplish two objectives:

- **Objective One**
Change the way chapter delegate votes are allocated to be representative of actual chapter membership
- **Objective Two**
Resolve numerous inconsistencies between the MMOTA By-Laws as written and the current customary practice of MMOTA

Regarding Objective One:

The current customary practice of MMOTA is to allocate delegate votes to the following:

- MMOTA Officers & Chairs
- Former MMOTA Presidents*
- Chapter Presidents
- Chapter Delegates - 2 per chapter, regardless of membership

**This customary practice is not established in the current MMOTA By-Laws. Long-time members recall that voting privileges were given to former MMOTA presidents beginning in the 1970s.*

This amendment seeks to change the determination of chapter delegate votes to be representative of chapter membership. Specifically, to retain the 2 delegates per chapter for all chapters and then add one additional delegate vote for every 25 members started when chapter membership reaches 50 members.

The current delegate vote allocation does not provide fair representation for all chapters.

Two delegate per chapter is equal representation, but that does not necessarily make it fair and accurate representation. If the purpose of MMOTA is to support parents of multiples within the member chapters, then those members ought to have a say in the governance of MMOTA.

The role of the delegates is to represent the wishes of their individual chapters. However, with larger clubs, there are often a range of views amongst the members. The current allocation of delegate votes does not allow for delegate votes to accurately reflect the potential diversity within each chapter. This can only be achieved if the delegate votes are proportional to the membership.

The current process prioritizes historical participation in MMOTA over the current needs of the member chapters.

Right now, the chapter delegates comprise less than 50% of the total eligible voters in MMOTA. This is because new votes are only added to the voting body when:

- A new chapter is formed; AND
- A president's term ends and they are given a vote

The formation of new chapters is a rare event. However, every two years, a president finishes their term. As a result, every two years, the weight of the chapter delegate vote is slightly diminished.

The reality of the current voting allocation is that all chapter delegates could vote in unison and still be outvoted. This resolution seeks to add votes to the voting body to ensure that current chapter members have an equal say in the future of MMOTA.

Growing Chapters Ensure the Future of MMOTA

Membership in parenting clubs and organizations has seen a decline overall. Yet despite these nationwide trends, within MMOTA there are chapters reporting a membership increase in recent years.

Three chapters of MMOTA comprise approximately 60% of the total membership and therefore 60% of MMOTA's membership revenue. Based on the current delegate vote allocations, those members are represented by fewer than 10% of eligible votes.

For MMOTA to remain relevant to the needs of current and growing membership, the voice of current membership needs to be heard - but the majority of new members simply do not have fair and proportional representation under the current delegate voting allocation.

Regarding Objective Two:

As a non-profit organization recognized by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, MMOTA is bound by its recorded by-laws. The current by-laws, however, do not reflect the customary voting practices of MMOTA, include references to eliminated roles, and contain errors that result in a lack of clarity.

This resolution seeks to resolve the following inconsistencies in the current MMOTA By-Laws:

- Remove mention of the Corresponding Secretary position which was dissolved by vote of the MMOTA Executive Board
- Fix Article numeration issues, including the existence of two articles named Article VII and a lack of Article VIII
- Clearly identify the Officers of the Association
- Clearly identify the members of Executive Board
- Clearly identify the members of the voting body, including;
 - Establishing votes for former MMOTA presidents
 - Identifying the current MMOTA president as a voter for tie-breaking only
 - Clarifying that all members of the voting body must be members in good standing of their local chapters

- Clarifying which votes are non-transferable as well as establishing the protocol for transferable votes