

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 1

STATEMENT OF JUSTIFICATION

RPEC's current constitution has not kept pace with today's technology with respect to campaigning for chapter and council offices. Neither the constitution nor the AFSCME Elections Manual references the use of email or social media for campaigning. This amendment is intended to outline the proper use of email in campaigning for chapter and council offices, and provides the parameters for frequency and use.

Article VIII - Elections of Officers

Section 8. No funds of the council can be spent in campaigning for an elective office of the council. **In addition to the guidelines provided in the AFSCME Retiree Election Manual, any member who announces his/her intention to run for elective council office may initiate one print mailing and one email distribution to chapter leaders and Convention delegates.**

A. Candidates for office may request mailing labels from the Council Office for this one-time mailing. All costs associated with the printing of the mailing labels and mailing them to the requester will be covered by the candidate.

B. Additionally, candidates for office are entitled to send chapter leaders and Convention delegates one email distribution for campaigning purposes.

- 1 a. The candidates must notify staff of their interest in using email for
2 campaigning, so that staff can allocate time to coordinate the
3 email distribution(s) to afford equal opportunity to all those
4 expressing an interest in using email for outreach.
- 5 b. Staff will provide notice of a timeline/deadline for the email
6 distribution via the Convention Call. Candidates are responsible for
7 adhering to this timeline/deadline.
- 8 c. Staff will not proofread, write, edit, or compile any portion of the
9 email content nor attachments. Candidates are fully responsible for
10 all content. All campaign emails sent by Council Office shall bear
11 the following disclaimer: "This is an RPEC Convention campaign
12 email and has been facilitated by the RPEC office. The RPEC office
13 and staff do not endorse any candidate or their messaging."
- 14 d. Email distributions may be coordinated up to three weeks prior to
15 Convention. No email distributions will be coordinated by Council
16 staff after that time. Only one email distribution per candidate is
17 coordinated by Council staff and allowed.

18 C. The Council's social media channels and subchapter social media
19 channels may not be used for campaign purposes. Use of social media in
20 this manner is strictly prohibited.

22 Approved by Executive Board on May 6, 2024

23 Submitted by Executive Board on May 6, 2024

24 Clair Olivers, President

1 Reviewed by Executive Board: **May 6, 2024**

2 Executive Board Recommendation to Constitution Committee: **Concur**

3 Committee Assignment: **Constitution Committee**

4 Committee Recommendation _____

5 Convention Action _____

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 2

STATEMENT OF JUSTIFICATION

General housekeeping items, with the exception of Article II. The Article II, Section 2 proposed amendment is to adjust for the increasing cost of organizational affiliation dues and fees (Washington State Alliance of Retired Americans is currently \$400) currently and into near future.

Article II - Affiliations

Section 2. Affiliation with other organizations shall be the prerogative of the executive board provided that only the convention may authorize an affiliation that requires payment of dues and fees in excess of ~~\$250.00~~ **\$1000.00** on an annual basis as a condition of such affiliation.

Article V - Chapters

Section 13. Chapters shall be permitted to participate in the Retired Public Employees Council Convention.

- A. Each chapter shall be entitled to elect one (1) delegate for each twenty-five (25) members or nearest number thereof (i.e., a remainder of thirteen (13) or more will entitle the chapter to one (1) additional delegate) to the Retired Public Employees Council Convention. The number of delegates each chapter is entitled to elect shall be based on the number of dues-paying members on record with the council office as of the last day of

1 February of ~~each year~~; provided, that chapters chartered after January 1 of
2 ~~each year~~ shall be entitled to representation based on their membership
3 up to the month preceding that of the scheduled convention and,
4 provided, that any chapter losing members to a new chapter shall have
5 said members subtracted from its voting strength.

6 7 **Article VI - Finances**

8 9 Section 1. Membership Dues:

- 10 A. ~~Effective January 1, 2016, if~~ Those members receiving monthly retirement
11 benefits from a Washington retirement system may have deducted from
12 their monthly payment their dues of \$7.00 (seven dollars) per month and
13 an additional \$7.00 (seven dollars) per month for their spouse, domestic
14 partner and/or any person designated by them to receive a survivor
15 benefit.

16 17 **Article VIII – Elections of Officers**

18
19 Section 1. The president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and district
20 executive board members shall be elected for a two (2) year term. Officers and
21 district board members shall be elected in even-numbered years, ~~except that in~~
22 ~~2015, officers and board members shall be elected for a one-year term.~~

23 24 **Article X – Meetings and Conventions**

25

Section 2. A convention shall be held every other year, in even-numbered years beginning in 2016, between August 1 and October 31. The convention shall be of not more than two days' duration. Elections of officers and district board members shall be held at the biennial convention. A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of not fewer than one- third of the delegates seated in the convention.

Approved by Executive Board on May 6, 2024

Submitted by Executive Board on May 6, 2024

Clair Olivers, President

Reviewed by Executive Board: **May 6, 2024**

Executive Board Recommendation to Constitution Committee: **Concur**

Committee Assignment: **Constitution Committee**

Committee Recommendation _____

Convention Action _____

1 **PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 3**

2

3 **STATEMENT OF JUSTIFICATION**

4 No statement provided.

5

6 **Article VI - Finances**

7

8 Section 1. Membership Dues:

9 Effective ~~January 1, 2016~~ **January 1, 2025**, those members receiving monthly
10 retirement benefits from a Washington retirement system may have deducted
11 from their monthly payment their dues of ~~\$7.00 (seven dollars)~~ **\$7.14 (with an**
12 **increase of 2% per year)** per month and an additional ~~\$7.00 (seven dollars)~~ **\$7.14**
13 **(with an increase of 2% per year)** per month for their spouse, domestic partner
14 and/or any person designated by them to receive a survivor benefit.

15

16

17 Approved by Chapter 1 on July 11, 2024.

18 Submitted by Chapter 1 on July 23, 2024.

19 Bob Bandarra, President

20

21 Reviewed by Executive Board: **August 19, 2024**

22 Executive Board Recommendation to Constitution Committee: **Not Concur**

23 Committee Assignment: **Constitution Committee**

24 Committee Recommendation _____

25 Convention Action _____

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 4

STATEMENT OF JUSTIFICATION

The long advance submission of proposed amendments to the Convention is understandable. However, the necessity of having a nimble and effective organization dictates that the process of modifying RPEC's working documents should not be cumbersome or irrelevant. During consideration of resolutions and amendments, it is possible that additional such documents may become necessary and more effective. Hence the proposed changes.

The requirement of one copy of a late resolution per convention attendee is an outmoded requirement. Given email, texts and the ability to project on a large screen to the entire convention, several copies for relevant committees are sufficient.

Article XII – Miscellaneous Provisions

Resolutions

Section 6. Resolutions may be submitted by chapters from the floor of the convention with **five (5)** copies provided to ~~all delegates~~ **the chair of the convention** prior to the afternoon recess on the first day of the convention; provided: that the resolutions are accepted for consideration by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those delegates in attendance. A special meeting of the appropriate committee shall be convened to consider these resolutions.

1 Approved by Chapter 8 on June 21, 2024.

2 Submitted by Chapter 8 on August 5, 2024.

3 John Smith, President

4 _____
5 Reviewed by Executive Board: **August 19, 2024**

6 Executive Board Recommendation to Constitution Committee: **Concur**

7 Committee Assignment: **Constitution Committee**

8 Committee Recommendation _____

9 Convention Action _____

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
0
1
2
3
4
5

Housekeeping items

Section 3. The annual **biennial** convention shall be held at such time and place as is determined by the Retired Public Employees Council Executive Board.

Article XI - Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws

Section 1. Proposed amendments to this constitution and bylaws shall be submitted in writing to the council office, Olympia, Washington, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the ~~annual~~ **biennial** convention of the Retired Public Employees Council. They shall bear the signature of the chapter president or secretary submitting them.

Section 4. The council office shall submit proposed amendments to executive board members and to all chapters and convention delegates at least thirty (30) days prior to the ~~annual~~ **biennial** convention. The Retired Public Employees Council Executive Board shall review and make a recommendation to the convention on any proposal to amend the constitution.

1
2
3 Approved by Chapter 8 on July 31, 2024.

4 Submitted by Executive Board on August 5, 2024.

5 John Smith, President

6
7 Reviewed by Executive Board: **August 19, 2024**

8 Executive Board Recommendation to Constitution Committee: **Concur**

9 Committee Assignment: **Constitution Committee**

10 Committee Recommendation _____

11 Convention Action _____