

#### **Linked Amendment 4**

Bylaws, Article III, Section 6 – Yearbook, pages 115-116

#### **Proposed Amendment:**

(Unchanged text in black roman, additions in red italics, deletions struck through.)

...~~Members of the Membership Committee and~~ The President *and the Second Vice-President* may not propose, ~~but may endorse,~~ *or endorse* candidates *for membership*. Any proposal *or endorsement* for membership that has been signed by ~~a member of the Membership Committee or~~ the President *or the Second Vice-President* prior to her term ~~on that committee or~~ in office shall remain valid.

#### **Rationale:**

*This amendment proposes to prohibit the President and the Second Vice-President from proposing and endorsing candidates while in office. This restriction is a precautionary measure designed to avoid even the perception of bias in the membership process. If Amendment 1 (eliminating the Membership Committee) is adopted, references to the committee members' endorsements must also be removed from the Bylaws for consistency.*

*Under the current Bylaws, Membership Committee members and the President may not propose candidates but may endorse them. The Second Vice-President, however, faces no restriction even though she oversees the proposal process and directs how candidate submissions reach the Board. These inconsistencies create uneven risks of undue influence: the President's endorsement carries outsized weight, while the Second Vice-President's pipeline role shapes the order in which proposals are considered. This amendment resolves those disparities by applying consistent rules to both officers, thereby reinforcing fairness, transparency, and integrity in the membership selection process.*