

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: 602
(A-24)

Introduced by: Young Physicians Section

Subject: Ranked Choice Voting

Referred to: Reference Committee F

1 Whereas, American Medical Association elections require run-off elections to elect candidates
2 by majority; and
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4 Whereas, ranked-choice voting elections can be run more efficiently without the need for runoff
5 elections, while still ensuring the outcome preferred by a majority of voters; therefore be it
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7 RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association study ranked-choice voting for all elections
8 within the House of Delegates. (Directive to Take Action)
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Fiscal Note: Modest - between \$1,000 - \$5,000

Received: 4/8/2024

RELEVANT AMA POLICY

Elections. B-3.4

3.4.1 Time of Election. Officers of the AMA, except the Secretary, the medical student trustee, and the public trustee, shall be elected by the House of Delegates at the Annual Meeting, except as provided in Bylaws 3.6 and 3.7. The public trustee may be elected at any meeting of the House of Delegates at which the Selection Committee for the Public Trustee submits a nomination for approval by the House of Delegates. On recommendation of the Committee on Rules and Credentials, the House of Delegates shall set the day and hour of such election. The Medical Student Section shall elect the medical student trustee in accordance with Bylaw 3.5.6.

3.4.2 Method of Election. Where there is no contest, a majority vote without ballot shall elect. All other elections shall be by ballot.

3.4.2.1 At-Large Trustees.

3.4.2.1.1 First Ballot. All nominees for the office of At-Large Trustee shall be listed alphabetically on a single ballot. Each elector shall have as many votes as the number of Trustees to be elected, and each vote must be cast for a different nominee. No ballot shall be counted if it contains fewer or more votes than the number of Trustees to be elected, or if the ballot contains more than one vote for any nominee. A nominee shall be elected if he or she has received a vote on a majority of the legal ballots cast and is one of the nominees receiving the largest number of votes within the number of Trustees to be elected.

3.4.2.1.2 Runoff Ballot. A runoff election shall be held to fill any vacancy not filled because of a tie vote.

3.4.2.1.3 Subsequent Ballots. If all vacancies for Trustees are not filled on the first ballot and 3 or more Trustees are still to be elected, the number of nominees on subsequent ballots shall be reduced to no more than twice the number of remaining vacancies less one. The nominees on subsequent ballots shall be determined by retaining those who received the greater number of votes on the preceding ballot and

eliminating the nominee(s) who received the fewest votes on the preceding ballot, except where there is a tie. When 2 or fewer Trustees are still to be elected, the number of nominees on subsequent ballots shall be no more than twice the number of remaining vacancies, with the nominees determined as indicated in the preceding sentence. In any subsequent ballot the electors shall cast as many votes as there are Trustees yet to be elected, and must cast each vote for different nominees. This procedure shall be repeated until all vacancies have been filled.

3.4.2.2 All Other Officers, except the Medical Student Trustee and the Public Trustee. All other officers, except the medical student trustee and the public trustee, shall be elected separately. A majority of the legal votes cast shall be necessary to elect. In case a nominee fails to receive a majority of the legal votes cast, the nominees on subsequent ballots shall be determined by retaining the 2 nominees who received the greater number of votes on the preceding ballot and eliminating the nominee(s) who received the fewest votes on the preceding ballot, except where there is a tie. This procedure shall be continued until one of the nominees receives a majority of the legal votes cast.

3.4.2.3 Medical Student Trustee. The medical student trustee is elected by the Medical Student Section in accordance with Bylaw 3.5.6.

3.4.2.4 Public Trustee. The public trustee shall be elected separately. The nomination for the public trustee shall be submitted to the House of Delegates by the Selection Committee for the Public Trustee. Nominations from the floor shall not be accepted. A majority vote of delegates present and voting shall be necessary to elect.

Election - Council on Constitution and Bylaws, Council on Medical Education, Council on Medical Service, and Council on Science and Public Health. B-6.8

6.8.1 Nomination and Election. Members of these Councils, except the medical student member, shall be elected by the House of Delegates. Nominations shall be made by the Board of Trustees and may also be made from the floor by a member of the House of Delegates.

6.8.1.1 Separate Election. The resident/fellow physician member of these Councils shall be elected separately. A majority of the legal votes cast shall be necessary to elect. In case a nominee fails to receive a majority of the legal votes cast, the nominees on subsequent ballots shall be determined by retaining the 2 nominees who received the greater number of votes on the preceding ballot and eliminating the nominee(s) who received the fewest votes on the preceding ballot, except where there is a tie. This procedure shall be continued until one of the nominees receives a majority of the legal votes cast.

6.8.1.2 Other Council Members. With reference to each such Council, all nominees for election shall be listed alphabetically on a single ballot. Each elector shall have as many votes as there are members to be elected, and each vote must be cast for a different nominee. No ballot shall be counted if it contains fewer votes or more votes than the number of members to be elected, or if the ballot contains more than one vote for any nominee. A nominee shall be elected if he or she has received a vote on a majority of the legal ballots cast and is one of the nominees receiving the largest number of votes within the number of members to be elected.

6.8.1.3 Run-Off Ballot. A run-off election shall be held to fill any vacancy that cannot be filled because of a tie vote.

6.8.1.4 Subsequent Ballots. If all vacancies are not filled on the first ballot and 3 or more members of the Council are still to be elected, the number of nominees on subsequent ballots shall be reduced to no more than twice the number of remaining vacancies less one. The nominees on subsequent ballots shall be determined by retaining those who received the greater number of votes on the preceding ballot and eliminating the nominee(s) who received the fewest number of votes on the preceding ballot, except where there is a tie. When 2 or fewer members of the Council are still to be elected, the number of nominees on subsequent ballots shall be no more than twice the number of remaining vacancies, with the nominees determined as indicated in the preceding sentence. In any subsequent ballot the electors shall cast as many votes as there are members of the Council yet to be elected, and must cast each vote for a

different nominee. This procedure shall be repeated until all vacancies have been filled.

6.8.2 Medical Student Member. Medical student members of these Councils shall be appointed by the Governing Council of the Medical Student Section with the concurrence of the Board of Trustees.

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