

Proposal to Amend Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-00	Bylaws Reformat	All	All	Sigma Governance Committee

<u>Current Language:</u> See current bylaws	<u>Proposed Changes:</u> See proposed reformat	<u>If Adopted:</u> <i>Current bylaws are replaced with reformatted version.</i>
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<u>Rationale:</u> As part of a comprehensive review of the Sigma international bylaws, the reformatted document was created using a more modern single-column format with line numbering. Content was reordered and streamlined but no substantive changes were made, and the original intent of the bylaws was maintained.
<u>Impact on Chapters:</u> References to specific article and section numbers of the international bylaws within policy, procedure, or other documents will be updated to reflect new article, section, and line numbers.

Proposal to Amend Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-01	House of Delegates Terms	VII	1	Sigma Governance Committee

<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p>The house of delegates shall be composed of two delegates from each chapter, the members of the Sigma board of directors, chairs of standing committees, the regional chapters coordinators, and the past presidents of the society. The term of the delegates shall be from the opening of the convention for which the delegate is selected to serve until the opening of the next convention.</p>	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p>The house of delegates shall be composed of two delegates from each chapter, the members of the Sigma board of directors, chairs of standing committees, the regional chapters coordinators, and the past presidents of the society. The term of the delegates shall be from the opening of the convention for which the delegate is selected to serve until the opening of the next convention.</p>	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p>The house of delegates shall be composed of two delegates from each chapter, the members of the Sigma board of directors, chairs of standing committees, the regional chapters coordinators, and the past presidents of the society.</p>
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<p><u>Rationale:</u></p> <p>Prior to each meeting of the house of delegates, chapters are provided with meeting details and asked to confirm or update their delegates in the Chapter Management System. The proposed change better reflects Sigma and chapter processes.</p>
<p><u>Impact on Chapters:</u></p> <p>If adopted, Article V. Section 2. House of Delegates b. of the chapter bylaws would also be removed.</p>

Proposal to Amend Sigma Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-02	House of Delegates Meetings	VII	3.A.	Sigma Governance Committee

<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p>A. The house of delegates shall meet at the biennial convention and as determined by the Sigma board of directors. A quorum shall consist of four officers, three non-officer directors, and delegates from three-fourths of the chapters.</p> <p>B. The call to the convention shall be sent at least one month prior to the meeting date to all delegates.</p>	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p>A. The house of delegates shall meet at the biennial convention and as determined by the Sigma board of directors, <u>including by electronic means as allowed by law. The call to the meeting shall be sent to delegates at least thirty days prior to the meeting date.</u> A quorum shall consist of four officers, three non-officer directors, and delegates from three-fourths of the chapters.</p> <p>B. The call to the convention shall be sent at least one month prior to the meeting date to all delegates.</p>	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p>The house of delegates shall meet as determined by the Sigma board of directors, including by electronic means as allowed by law. The call to the meeting shall be sent to delegates at least thirty days prior to the meeting date. A quorum shall consist of four officers, three non-officer directors, and delegates from three-fourths of the chapters.</p>
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<p><u>Conforming amendments:</u></p> <p><i>If the above amendment is adopted, the following amendments will be automatically adopted to conform to that decision.</i></p>		
<p><u>Article VII, Section 3.D.:</u></p> <p>Chapter delegates may also vote electronically on the society's articles of incorporation under procedures and time limitations determined by the board.</p>	<p><u>Article VII, Section 3.D.:</u></p> <p>Chapter delegates may also vote electronically on the society's articles of incorporation under procedures and time limitations determined by the board.</p> <p><u>In odd-numbered years, the annual meeting of the members is also the reporting session of the house of delegates.</u></p>	<p><u>Article VII, Section 3.D.:</u></p> <p>In odd-numbered years, the annual meeting of the members is also the reporting session of the house of delegates.</p>
<p><u>Article VII, Section 3.E.:</u></p> <p>If election voting cannot occur during the scheduled house of delegates due to emergencies or other unforeseen circumstances, chapter delegates may vote electronically.</p>	<p><u>Article VII, Section 3.E.:</u></p> <p>If election voting cannot occur during the scheduled house of delegates due to emergencies or other unforeseen circumstances, chapter delegates may vote electronically.</p>	<p><i>None. Strike and renumber accordingly.</i></p>
<p><u>Article VII, Section 2:</u></p> <p>The legislative and judicial powers of the society shall be vested in the house of delegates. As such, the house shall have the authority to nominate and elect officers, directors, and other positions as allowed by these bylaws; amend the society's articles of incorporation and bylaws; levy special assessments by a three-fourths vote; receive the budget as</p>	<p><u>Article VII, Section 2:</u></p> <p>The legislative and judicial powers of the society shall be vested in the house of delegates. As such, the house shall have the authority to nominate and elect officers, directors, and other positions as allowed by these bylaws; amend the society's articles of incorporation and bylaws; levy special assessments by a three-fourths vote; receive the budget as</p>	<p><u>Article VII, Section 2:</u></p> <p>The legislative and judicial powers of the society shall be vested in the house of delegates. As such, the house shall have the authority to nominate and elect officers, directors, and other positions as allowed by these bylaws; amend the society's articles of incorporation and bylaws; levy special assessments by a three-fourths vote; receive the budget as approved by the</p>

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approved by the board; and adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its proceedings as may be determined by a two-thirds vote of the house of delegates at the biennial convention.	approved by the board; and adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its proceedings as may be determined by a two-thirds vote of the house of delegates at the biennial convention.	board; and adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its proceedings as may be determined by a two-thirds vote of the house of delegates.
<p><u>Article VIII, Section 2.F.:</u> Chapters shall fulfill the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the purposes of this society; • Select and induct eligible members a minimum of one time annually. • Observe the provisions of these bylaws, comply with the society's policies and regulations, and meet all financial obligations; • Participate in the biennial convention house of delegates and other business brought forth during the term; • File required reports according to established guidelines. • Elect at minimum a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and counselor. Duties and terms of office shall be outlined in the chapter bylaws; • Establish the following standing committees: governance (appointed or elected) and leadership succession (elected); • Conduct at least one business meeting each year (may be held by electronic means) that includes the presentation of annual reports and a financial report; and • Support at least two events or programs annually, supporting the purposes and goals of the society. 	<p><u>Article VIII, Section 2.F.:</u> Chapters shall fulfill the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the purposes of this society; • Select and induct eligible members a minimum of one time annually. • Observe the provisions of these bylaws, comply with the society's policies and regulations, and meet all financial obligations; • Participate in the biennial convention house of delegates and other business brought forth during the term; and • File required reports according to established guidelines. • Elect at minimum a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and counselor. Duties and terms of office shall be outlined in the chapter bylaws; • Establish the following standing committees: governance (appointed or elected) and leadership succession (elected); • Conduct at least one business meeting each year (may be held by electronic means) that includes the presentation of annual reports and a financial report; and • Support at least two events or programs annually, supporting the purposes and goals of the society. 	<p><u>Article VIII, Section 2.F.:</u> Chapters shall fulfill the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the purposes of this society; • Select and induct eligible members a minimum of one time annually. • Observe the provisions of these bylaws, comply with the society's policies and regulations, and meet all financial obligations; • Participate in the house of delegates and other business brought forth during the term; and • File required reports according to established guidelines. • Elect at minimum a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and counselor. Duties and terms of office shall be outlined in the chapter bylaws; • Establish the following standing committees: governance (appointed or elected) and leadership succession (elected); • Conduct at least one business meeting each year (may be held by electronic means) that includes the presentation of annual reports and a financial report; and • Support at least two events or programs annually, supporting the purposes and goals of the society.

Rationale:

This proposal moves mention of the ability of the house of delegates to meet by electronic means from Section 3.E. and incorporates it into Section 3.A. The phrase “as allowed by law” refers to Indiana law, where Sigma is incorporated.

This proposal also removes the term “biennial convention” in connection with the house of delegates meetings.

Impact on Chapters:

Most of the changes in this proposal are unique to the international bylaws, and therefore do not impact chapter bylaws. If approved, Article V. Section 2. House of Delegates of the chapter bylaws will be updated to state that the house of delegates shall meet as determined by the Sigma board of directors, including by electronic means as allowed by law. Section 3.c. of the chapter bylaws will be updated to remove the term biennial convention.

Proposal to Amend Sigma Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-03	House of Delegates Quorum	VII	3.A.	Sigma Governance Committee

<u>Current Language:</u> The house of delegates shall meet at the biennial convention and as determined by the Sigma board of directors. A quorum shall consist of four officers, three non-officer directors, and delegates from three-fourths of the chapters.	<u>Proposed Changes:</u> The house of delegates shall meet at the biennial convention and as determined by the Sigma board of directors. A quorum shall consist of four officers, three non-officer directors, and delegates from three-fourths of the chapters. <u>a majority of the voting members of the house.</u>	<u>If Adopted:</u> The house of delegates shall meet at the biennial convention and as determined by the Sigma board of directors. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting members of the house.
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<u>Rationale:</u> This proposed change simplifies the quorum provisions of the house and meets parliamentary best practices. A quorum of the board shall be a majority of the board and is defined in Article VI. Sigma Board of Directors, Sections I. Composition of the Sigma bylaws.
<u>Impact on Chapters:</u> These proposed changes pertain only to the international bylaws and do not impact chapter bylaws.

Proposal to Amend Sigma Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-04	House of Delegates Authority	VII	2	Sigma Governance Committee

<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p>The legislative and judicial powers of the society shall be vested in the house of delegates. As such, the house shall have the authority to nominate and elect officers, directors, and other positions as allowed by these bylaws; amend the society's articles of incorporation and bylaws; levy special assessments by a three-fourths vote; receive the budget as approved by the board; and adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its proceedings as may be determined by a two-thirds vote of the house of delegates at the biennial convention.</p>	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p>The legislative and judicial powers of the society shall be vested in the house of delegates. As such, the house shall have the authority to nominate and elect officers, directors, and other positions as allowed by these bylaws; amend the society's articles of incorporation and bylaws; levy special assessments by a three-fourths two-thirds vote; receive the budget as approved by the board; and adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its proceedings as may be determined by a two-thirds vote of the house of delegates at the biennial convention.</p>	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p>The legislative and judicial powers of the society shall be vested in the house of delegates. As such, the house shall have the authority to nominate and elect officers, directors, and other positions as allowed by these bylaws; amend the society's articles of incorporation and bylaws; levy special assessments by a two-thirds vote; and adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its proceedings as may be determined by a two-thirds vote of the house of delegates at the biennial convention.</p>
<p><u>Rationale:</u></p> <p>Receiving the budget after it has been approved by the board isn't a type of authority and does not require action to be taken. A financial report is presented as part of the membership meeting portion of the house of delegates as mentioned in Article V. Membership Meetings.</p> <p>The voting threshold for special assessments is reduced from three-fourths to two-thirds, which is a more reasonable requirement and meets parliamentary best practices.</p>		
<p><u>Impact on Chapters:</u></p> <p>These proposed changes pertain only to the international bylaws and do not impact chapter bylaws.</p>		

Proposal to Amend Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-05	Membership Meetings	V	1A & B	Sigma Governance Committee

<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p>A. Annual meetings of members shall be on a date and at a place set by the Sigma board of directors. Active members shall receive notice of annual meetings through Sigma publications and may register their intent to attend. The agenda of the annual meeting shall include the presentation of annual reports and other appropriate items.</p> <p>B. In odd-numbered years, the annual meeting of the members is also the reporting session of the house of delegates. In even-numbered years, the annual meeting is the reporting session of the Sigma board of directors and committee chairs' meeting.</p>	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p>A. Annual meetings of members shall be on a date and at a place set by the Sigma board of directors and may be held by electronic means as allowed by law. Active members shall receive notice of annual meetings through Sigma publications, electronic communication, or posting on the Sigma website, and may register their intent to attend. The agenda of the annual meeting shall include the presentation of annual reports and a financial report. other appropriate items.</p> <p>B. In odd-numbered years, the annual meeting of the members is also the reporting session of the house of delegates. In even-numbered years, the annual meeting is the reporting session of the Sigma board of directors and committee chairs' meeting.</p>	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p>A. Annual meetings of members shall be set by the Sigma board of directors and may be held by electronic means as allowed by law. Active members shall receive notice of annual meetings through Sigma publications, electronic communication, or posting on the Sigma website, and may register their intent to attend. The agenda of the annual meeting shall include the presentation of annual reports and a financial report.</p> <p>B. In odd-numbered years, the annual meeting of the membership is also the reporting session of the house of delegates.</p>
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<p><u>Rationale:</u></p> <p>This proposal allows for annual membership meetings to be conducted by electronic means. The phrase "as allowed by law" refers to Indiana law, where Sigma is incorporated.</p> <p>Part A of the proposal notes that there will be an annual membership meeting. Part B of the proposal further details that in odd years, the annual meeting of members is held in conjunction with the house of delegates. The annual meeting in even years will be held according to the criteria in Part A and will be set by the Sigma board of directors.</p>
<p><u>Impact on Chapters:</u></p> <p>This bylaw section only appears in the international bylaws; therefore, no changes will be made to the chapter bylaws.</p>

Proposal to Amend Sigma Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-06	Board Composition	VI	1	Sigma Governance Committee

<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p>The Sigma board of directors shall be composed of the officer directors, five non-officer directors, and the regional chapters coordinating committee chair. The chief executive officer shall serve in a nonvoting ex-officio capacity. Four of the five officers and three of the remaining six non-officer directors shall constitute a quorum.</p>	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p>The Sigma board of directors shall be composed of the officers directors, five non-officer directors, and the regional chapters coordinating committee chair. The chief executive officer shall serve in a nonvoting ex-officio capacity. Four of the five officers and three of the remaining six non-officer directors shall constitute a quorum. <u>A quorum shall be a majority of the board.</u></p>	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p>The Sigma board of directors shall be composed of the officers, five directors, and the regional chapters coordinating committee chair. The chief executive officer shall serve in a nonvoting ex-officio capacity. A quorum shall be a majority of the board.</p>
<p><u>Conforming amendments:</u></p> <p><i>If the above amendment is adopted, the following amendments will be automatically adopted to conform to that decision.</i></p>		
<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p><u>Article IV, Section 2.B.:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The secretary and treasurer shall each be elected for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that the secretary is elected in the same biennium as two non-officer directors and the treasurer is elected in the same biennium as three non-officer directors. The secretary and treasurer may serve a maximum of one four-year term, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect. 	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p><u>Article IV, Section 2.B.:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The secretary and treasurer shall each be elected for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that the secretary is elected in the same biennium as two non-officer directors and the treasurer is elected in the same biennium as three non-officer directors. The secretary and treasurer may serve a maximum of one four-year term, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect. 	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p><u>Article IV, Section 2.B.:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The secretary and treasurer shall each be elected for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that the secretary is elected in the same biennium as two directors and treasurer is elected in the same biennium as three directors. The secretary and the treasurer may serve a maximum of one four-year term, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect.
<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p><u>Article VI, Section 5.A.:</u></p> <p>The five non-officer directors shall be elected by plurality vote of the house of delegates for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. In the event of a tie, the election shall be determined by lot. Members shall hold no more than one elected office at a time. Terms shall be staggered so that three non-officer directors are</p>	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p><u>Article VI, Section 5.A.:</u></p> <p>The five non-officer directors shall be elected by plurality vote of the house of delegates for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. In the event of a tie, the election shall be determined by lot. Members shall hold no more than one elected office at a time. Terms shall be staggered so that three non-officer directors are</p>	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p><u>Article VI, Section 5.A.:</u></p> <p>The five directors shall be elected by plurality vote of the house of delegates for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. In the event of a tie, the election shall be determined by lot. Members shall hold no more than one elected office at a time. Terms shall be staggered so that three directors are elected in one biennium and two directors in the following biennium.</p>

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elected in one biennium and two non-officer directors in the following biennium.	elected in one biennium and two non-officer directors in the following biennium.	
<u>Current Language:</u> <i>Article VI, Section 5.B.:</i> Non-officer directors shall serve a maximum of one term on the board, except in the case of a non-officer director who is elected president-elect.	<u>Proposed Changes:</u> <i>Article VI, Section 5.B.:</i> Non-officer directors shall serve a maximum of one term on the board, except in the case of a non-officer director who is elected president-elect.	<u>If Adopted:</u> <i>Article VI, Section 5.B.:</i> Directors shall serve a maximum of one term on the board, except in the case of a director who is elected president-elect.
<u>Rationale:</u> This change removes the unnecessary term "non-officer" to describe the director position, which improves readability. This proposed change simplifies the quorum provisions of the Sigma board of directors and meets parliamentary best practices.		
<u>Impact on Chapters:</u> These proposed changes pertain only to the international board of directors, and do not impact chapter bylaws.		

Proposal to Amend Sigma Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-07	Officers	IV	1	Sigma Governance Committee

<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p>The elected officers of the society shall be: the president, the president-elect, the vice president, the secretary, and the treasurer. Officers must be regular members of Sigma.</p> <p>A. President - The president shall be the presiding officer and shall administer all business as provided for by the bylaws.</p> <p>B. Vice President – The vice president shall perform the duties of the president in the president’s absence.</p> <p>C. Secretary – The secretary shall serve as the corporate secretary and fulfill duties as authorized by the Sigma board of directors.</p> <p>D. Treasurer - The treasurer shall serve as the corporate treasurer and fulfill duties as authorized by the Sigma board of directors.</p>	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p>The elected officers of the society shall be: the president, the president-elect, the vice president (to be effective at the start of the 2023 term), the secretary, and the treasurer. Officers must be regular members of Sigma.</p> <p>A. President - The president shall be the presiding officer and shall administer all business as provided for by the bylaws in accordance with the Sigma governing documents.</p> <p>B. Vice President President-elect– The vice president president-elect shall perform the duties of the president in the president’s absence.</p> <p>C. Secretary – The secretary shall serve as the corporate secretary and fulfill duties as authorized by the Sigma board of directors in accordance with the Sigma governing documents.</p> <p>D. Treasurer - The treasurer shall serve as the corporate treasurer and fulfill duties as authorized by the Sigma board of directors. in accordance with the Sigma governing documents.</p>	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p>The elected officers of the society shall be: the president, the president-elect, vice president (to be removed at the start of the 2023 term), the secretary, and the treasurer. Officers must be regular members of Sigma.</p> <p>A. President - The president shall be the presiding officer and shall administer all business of the society in accordance with the Sigma governing documents.</p> <p>B. President-elect – The president-elect shall perform the duties of the president in the president’s absence.</p> <p>C. Secretary – The secretary shall serve as the corporate secretary for the society and fulfill duties in accordance with the Sigma governing documents.</p> <p>D. Treasurer - The treasurer shall serve as the corporate treasurer and fulfill duties in accordance with the Sigma governing documents.</p>
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<p><u>Conforming amendments:</u></p> <p><i>If the above amendment is adopted, the following amendments will be automatically adopted to conform to that decision.</i></p>		
<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p><u>Article IV, Section 2.B:</u></p> <p>A member holding an elected position who has served more than half a term in that position is considered to have served a full term. Terms shall be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The president-elect shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office, after which shall succeed to a two-year term as president. The vice president shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office. The vice president may serve a maximum of two consecutive two-year terms in that position, after which 	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p><u>Article IV, Section 2.B:</u></p> <p>A member holding an elected position who has served more than half a term in that position is considered to have served a full term. Terms shall be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The president-elect shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office, after which shall succeed to a two-year term as president. The vice president shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office. The vice president may serve a maximum of two consecutive two-year terms in that position, after which 	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p><u>Article IV, Section 2.B:</u></p> <p>A member holding an elected position who has served more than half a term in that position is considered to have served a full term. Terms shall be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The president-elect shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office, after which shall succeed to a two-year term as president. The vice president shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office. The vice president may serve a maximum of two consecutive two-year terms in that position, after which they may not be

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<p>they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The secretary and treasurer shall each be elected for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that the secretary is elected in the same biennium as two non-officer directors and treasurer is elected in the same biennium as three non-officer directors. The secretary and treasurer may serve a maximum of one four-year term, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect. 	<p>they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect.</p> <p>Proviso: to take effect with the 2023 term.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The secretary and treasurer shall each be elected for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that the secretary is elected in the same biennium as two non-officer directors and treasurer is elected in the same biennium as three non-officer directors. The secretary and treasurer may serve a maximum of one four-year term, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect. 	<p>consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect (to be removed at the start of the 2023 term).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The secretary and treasurer shall each be elected for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that the secretary is elected in the same biennium as two non-officer directors and treasurer is elected in the same biennium as three non-officer directors. The secretary and treasurer may serve a maximum of one four-year term, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect.
<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p><u>Article VI, Section 7:</u></p> <p>A. In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the vice president shall fill the vacancy until the president-elect succeeds to the office of president.</p> <p>B. A vacancy in any other board position shall be filled by the Sigma board of directors; such appointment shall terminate at the following meeting of the house of delegates.</p>	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p><u>Article VI, Section 7:</u></p> <p>A. In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the vice president president-elect shall fill the vacancy, <u>followed by a full term as president.</u> until the president-elect succeeds to the office of president.</p> <p>B. A vacancy in any other board position shall be filled by <u>appointment of the then-current</u> Sigma board of directors <u>until the next election.</u>; such appointment shall terminate at the following meeting of the house of delegates.</p>	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p><u>Article VI, Section 7:</u></p> <p>A. In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the president-elect shall fill the vacancy, followed by a full term as president.</p> <p>B. A vacancy in any other board position shall be filled by appointment of the then-current Sigma board of directors until the next election.</p>
<p><u>Rationale:</u></p> <p>The original bylaws state it is the duty of the vice president to fill the vacancy of the president if they are unable to complete their term. Because of Sigma's long-standing and well-defined mentoring practice between president and president-elect, this proposal removes the office of vice president and designates the president-elect to fill a vacancy in presidency, followed by the full term that would otherwise have been served. This order of leadership succession provides a stronger continuity of leadership.</p> <p>This proposal also clarifies that officers perform duties in accordance with all Sigma governing documents, such as policies and procedures, not just bylaws.</p> <p>Best practice for boards does not specify either an odd or an even number of individuals on a board. Parliamentary procedure specifies that if a vote is split evenly, then the motion fails.</p> <p><u>Impact on Chapters:</u></p> <p>These proposed changes pertain only to the international board of directors.</p>		

Proposal to Amend Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-08	Officer Terms	IV	2.A.	Sigma Governance Committee

<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p>Elections shall take place at biennial house of delegates meetings. A majority vote shall elect officers. In the event of a tie, the election shall be determined by lot. Members shall hold no more than one elected office at a time. Terms of office shall begin at the close of the meeting at which the elections occur.</p>	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p>Elections shall take place at biennial house of delegates meetings. A majority vote shall elect officers. <u>Officers shall be elected by the house of delegates by majority vote.</u> In the event of a tie, the election shall be determined by lot. Members shall hold no more than one elected office at a time. Terms of office shall begin at the close of the meeting at which the elections occur.</p>	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p>Officers shall be elected by the house of delegates by majority vote. In the event of a tie, the election shall be determined by lot. Members shall hold no more than one elected office at a time. Terms of office shall begin at the close of the meeting at which the elections occur.</p>
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<p><u>Conforming amendments:</u></p> <p><i>If the above amendment is adopted, the following amendments will be automatically adopted to conform to that decision.</i></p>		
<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p><u>Article IV, Section 2.B.:</u> A member holding an elected position who has served more than half a term in that position is considered to have served a full term. Terms shall be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The president-elect shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office, after which shall succeed to a two-year term as president. The vice president shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office. The vice president may serve a maximum of two consecutive two-year terms in that position, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect. The secretary and treasurer shall each be elected for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that the secretary is elected in the same biennium as two non-officer directors and the treasurer is elected in the same biennium as three non-officer directors. The secretary and treasurer may serve a maximum of one four-year term, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect. 	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p><u>Article IV, Section 2.B.:</u> A member holding an elected position who has served more than half a term in that position is considered to have served a full term. Terms shall be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The president shall serve a two-year term or until a successor assumes office.</u> The president-elect shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office, after which shall succeed to a two-year term as president. The vice president shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office. The vice president may serve a maximum of two consecutive two-year terms in that position, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect. The secretary and treasurer shall each be elected for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that the secretary is elected in the same biennium as two non-officer directors and the treasurer is elected in the same biennium as three non-officer directors. The secretary and treasurer may serve a maximum of one four-year 	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p><u>Article IV, Section 2.B.:</u> A member holding an elected position who has served more than half a term in that position is considered to have served a full term. Terms shall be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The president shall serve a two-year term or until a successor assumes office. The president-elect shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office, after which shall succeed to a two-year term as president. The vice president shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office. The vice president may serve a maximum of two consecutive two-year terms in that position, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect. The secretary and treasurer shall each be elected for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that the secretary is elected in the same biennium as two non-officer directors and the treasurer is elected in the same biennium as three non-officer directors. The secretary and treasurer may serve a maximum of one four-year term,

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	term, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect.	after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect.
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Rationale:

This proposed change simplifies wording and improves readability. It also clarifies who elects the officers.

Impact on Chapters:

This bylaw section only appears in the international bylaws; therefore, no changes in the chapter bylaws.

Proposal to Amend Sigma Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-09	Chapters	VIII	2,3,4	Sigma Governance Committee

<u>Current Language:</u>	<u>Proposed Changes:</u>	<u>If Adopted:</u>
<p>Section 2. Chapters</p> <p>A. A chapter is an organized division of nurse scholars and leaders that has been granted a charter in accordance with requirements and procedures. A chapter may be established in an educational unit that is an integral part of an institution of higher education and that grants a basic degree, which leads to the first professional nursing degree and/or a graduate nursing degree. The basic or graduate degree nursing program within the institution of higher education shall be accredited by a recognized accrediting body. In the event there is no nursing education accreditation system in place in the potential chapter's country, evidence confirming the program's quality shall be provided by the developing chapter. All chapters shall have regular members.</p> <p>B. Chapters shall function as independent, autonomous organizations affiliated with Sigma. Chapters determine the amounts of their fees and assessments. Chapters have control of their income, expenses, contracts, accounting systems, and internal reports. Each chapter shall function under bylaws, policies, and regulations that are not in conflict with Sigma bylaws, policies, and regulations.</p> <p>C. A chapter may be chartered from one institution of higher education, or may be chartered as an at-large chapter. At-large chapters shall be composed of nurse leaders and scholars from two or more institutions of higher education, or from institutions of higher education and practice settings.</p> <p>D. Chapter charters may be amended to separate or combine chapters or, if an institution of higher education no longer offers an eligible degree, create an alumni chapter. However, active members in an alumni chapter</p>	<p>Section 2. Chapters</p> <p>A. A chapter is an organized division of nurse scholars and leaders that has been granted a charter in accordance with <u>models</u>, requirements, and procedures <u>approved by the Sigma board of directors</u>. A chapter may be established in an educational unit that is an integral part of an institution of higher education and that grants a basic degree, which leads to the first professional nursing degree and/or a graduate nursing degree. The basic or graduate degree nursing program within the institution of higher education shall be accredited by a recognized accrediting body. In the event there is no nursing education accreditation system in place in the potential chapter's country, evidence confirming the program's quality shall be provided by the developing chapter. All chapters shall have regular members.</p> <p>B. Chapters shall function as independent, autonomous organizations affiliated with Sigma. Chapters determine the amounts of their fees and assessments. Chapters have control of their income, expenses, contracts, accounting systems, and internal reports. Each chapter shall function under bylaws, policies, and regulations that are not in conflict with Sigma bylaws, policies, and regulations.</p> <p>C. A chapter may be chartered from one institution of higher education, or may be chartered as an at-large chapter. At-large chapters shall be composed of nurse leaders and scholars from two or more institutions of higher education, or from institutions of higher education and practice settings.</p> <p>D. Chapter charters may be amended to separate or combine chapters or, if an institution of higher education no longer offers an eligible degree, create an alumni</p>	<p>Section 2. Chapters</p> <p>A. A chapter is an organized division of nurse scholars and leaders that has been granted a charter in accordance with models, requirements, and procedures approved by the Sigma board of directors.</p> <p>B. Chapters shall function as independent, autonomous organizations affiliated with Sigma. Chapters determine the amounts of their fees and assessments. Chapters have control of their income, expenses, contracts, accounting systems, and internal reports. Each chapter shall function under bylaws, policies, and regulations that are not in conflict with Sigma bylaws, policies, and regulations.</p> <p>C. Chapters shall fulfill the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the purposes of this society; • Select and induct eligible members a minimum of one time annually; • Observe the provisions of these bylaws, comply with the society's policies and regulations, and meet all financial obligations; • Participate in the biennial convention house of delegates; • File required reports according to established guidelines; • Elect at minimum a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and counselor. Duties and terms of office shall be outlined in the chapter bylaws; • Establish the following standing committees: governance (appointed or elected) and leadership succession (elected); • Conduct at least one business meeting each year (may be held by electronic means) that includes the presentation of annual reports and a financial report; and

Proposal to Amend Sigma Bylaws

<p>must agree to meet all of the requirements for a chapter with the exception of inducting members a minimum of one time annually. A chapter may also amend its charter to add one or more institutions of higher education or practice settings.</p> <p>E. Additional chapter models may also be considered by the Sigma board of directors, who shall be responsible for the establishment of the guidelines and procedures for chapter chartering.</p> <p>F. Chapters shall fulfill the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the purposes of this society; • Select and induct eligible members a minimum of one time annually; • Observe the provisions of these bylaws, comply with the society's policies and regulations, and meet all financial obligations; • Participate in the biennial convention house of delegates and other business brought forth during the term; • File required reports according to established guidelines; • Elect at minimum a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and counselor. Duties and terms of office shall be outlined in the chapter bylaws; • Establish the following standing committees: governance (appointed or elected) and leadership succession (elected); • Conduct at least one business meeting each year (may be held by electronic means) that includes the presentation of annual reports and a financial report; and • Sponsor at least two events or programs annually, supporting the purposes and goals of the society. <p>G. Each chapter shall pay an annual fee based on the number of regular active members in the chapter for the prior membership year ending 30 June. For new chapters, fees shall be collected during the year following the granting of a charter.</p>	<p>chapter. However, active members in an alumni chapter must agree to meet all of the requirements for a chapter with the exception of inducting members a minimum of one time annually. A chapter may also amend its charter to add one or more institutions of higher education or practice settings.</p> <p>E. Additional chapter models may also be considered by the Sigma board of directors, who shall be responsible for the establishment of the guidelines and procedures for chapter chartering.</p> <p><u>FC.</u> Chapters shall fulfill the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the purposes of this society; • Select and induct eligible members a minimum of one time annually; • Observe the provisions of these bylaws, comply with the society's policies and regulations, and meet all financial obligations; • Participate in the biennial convention house of delegates and other business brought forth during the term; • File required reports according to established guidelines; • Elect at minimum a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and counselor. Duties and terms of office shall be outlined in the chapter bylaws; • Establish the following standing committees: governance (appointed or elected) and leadership succession (elected); • Conduct at least one business meeting each year (may be held by electronic means) that includes the presentation of annual reports and a financial report; and • Sponsor at least two events or programs annually, supporting the purposes and goals of the society. <p><u>GD.</u> Each chapter shall pay an annual fee based on the number of regular active members in the chapter for the prior membership year ending 30 June. For new</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsor at least two events or programs annually, supporting the purposes and goals of the society. <p>D. Each chapter shall pay an annual fee based on the number of regular active members in the chapter for the prior membership year ending 30 June. For new chapters, fees shall be collected during the year following the granting of a charter.</p> <p>Section 3. Chapter Probation, Revocation, Dissolution, and Reinstatement</p> <p>A. The Sigma board of directors shall adopt policies and procedures for chapter probation, revocation, dissolution, and reinstatement.</p> <p>B. A chapter may be placed on probation or have its charter revoked by the Sigma board of directors for failure to comply with these bylaws or policies and regulations.</p>
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Proposal to Amend Sigma Bylaws

<p>H. Sigma shall pay for the charter, coat-of-arms, book in which the membership roster is recorded, and installing officer's expenses at the time of the chartering of the new chapter. The chapter shall pay a chartering fee plus the cost of inscribing the names on the charter.</p> <p>Section 3. Chapter Probation, Revocation, and Dissolution</p> <p>A. A chapter may be placed on probation by the Sigma board of directors for failure to comply with these bylaws or policies and regulations. The board shall also remove from probation or revoke the charter of a chapter in accordance with procedures adopted by the board.</p> <p>B. Upon revocation of a charter or dissolution of a chapter, all cash and other assets remaining after the chapter's outstanding debts are paid may be returned to the Sigma Foundation for Nursing or any other appropriate non-profit organization approved by the chapter board of directors and as allowed by law. Should a majority of the dissolved chapter's members transfer to the same chapter, remaining funds may be contributed to that chapter. The chapter's charter and coat-of-arms shall be returned to headquarters. All members of the chapter have the opportunity to transfer their membership to a chapter of their choice.</p> <p>C. A chapter may be reinstated following revocation of its charter by meeting all the requirements of a newly organizing chapter. If approved, the chapter shall receive a new charter but retain its original name.</p> <p>D. Any chapter may vote to dissolve itself.</p>	<p>chapters, fees shall be collected during the year following the granting of a charter.</p> <p>H. Sigma shall pay for the charter, coat-of-arms, book in which the membership roster is recorded, and installing officer's expenses at the time of the chartering of the new chapter. The chapter shall pay a chartering fee plus the cost of inscribing the names on the charter.</p> <p>Section 3. Chapter Probation, Revocation, and Dissolution, and Reinstatement</p> <p>A. <u>The Sigma board of directors shall adopt policies and procedures for chapter probation, revocation, dissolution, and reinstatement.</u></p> <p>B. A chapter may be placed on probation <u>or have its charter revoked</u> by the Sigma board of directors for failure to comply with these bylaws or policies and regulations. The board shall also remove from probation or revoke the charter of a chapter in accordance with procedures adopted by the board.</p> <p>B. Upon revocation of a charter or dissolution of a chapter, all cash and other assets remaining after the chapter's outstanding debts are paid may be returned to the Sigma Foundation for Nursing or any other appropriate non-profit organization approved by the chapter board of directors and as allowed by law. Should a majority of the dissolved chapter's members transfer to the same chapter, remaining funds may be contributed to that chapter. The chapter's charter and coat-of-arms shall be returned to headquarters. All members of the chapter have the opportunity to transfer their membership to a chapter of their choice.</p> <p>C. A chapter may be reinstated following revocation of its charter by meeting all the requirements of a newly organizing chapter. If approved, the chapter shall receive a new charter but retain its original name.</p> <p>D. Any chapter may vote to dissolve itself.</p>	
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Proposal to Amend Sigma Bylaws

Rationale:

This proposal reorganizes content and removes details and procedures that belong in other Sigma governing documents, such as policies and procedures. These changes also improve readability.

The elected international Governance Committee conducts all reviews of chapter charter and charter amendment applications, including assuring that all policies and procedures are followed, before recommending to the Board of Directors that a new chapter is chartered or is granted a charter amendment.

Explanation of the chapter development and amendment process, approved models, and the review process can be found on the Sigma website at [SigmaNursing.org/Start-a-Chapter](https://www.sigmanursing.org/Start-a-Chapter), [Sigmanursing.org/connect-engage/chapters/amending-an-existing-sigma-chapter](https://www.sigmanursing.org/connect-engage/chapters/amending-an-existing-sigma-chapter), and in the [All Chapter Officers Workgroup on The Circle](#).

Impact on Chapters:

Most of the changes in this proposal are unique to the international bylaws, and therefore do not impact chapter bylaws. If approved, Article V. Section 3. Chapter Responsibilities c. of the chapter bylaws will be updated accordingly.

Proposal to Amend Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-10	Committees	IX	1	Sigma Governance Committee

<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p>Section 1. Standing and Special Committees</p> <p>A. The standing committees shall be the governance committee, leadership succession committee, and regional chapters coordinating committee. The president and chief executive officer shall be non-voting, ex-officio members of all committees except the leadership succession committee. Committee members shall be elected by plurality vote by the house of delegates. In the event of a tie, the election shall be determined by lot. Members shall hold no more than one elected office at a time. An elected committee member may not serve longer than six consecutive years on that committee, unless otherwise provided in these bylaws.</p> <p>B. A majority of the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.</p> <p>C. Standing committee chairs shall report to the Sigma board of directors as requested by the board. Committees shall provide consultation to chapters in congruence with the mission of the committee.</p> <p>D. Authorized expenses of standing and special committees, board advisory councils and task forces shall be reimbursed by the society.</p> <p>E. Vacancies occurring on a committee between biennial meetings of the house shall be filled by the Sigma board of directors, terminating at the next meeting of the house.</p>	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p>Section 1. Standing and Special Committees</p> <p>A. The standing committees shall be the governance committee, leadership succession committee, and regional chapters coordinating committee. The president and chief executive officer shall be non-voting, ex-officio members of all committees except the leadership succession committee. Committee members shall be elected by plurality vote by the house of delegates. In the event of a tie, the election shall be determined by lot. Members shall hold no more than one elected office at a time. An elected committee member may not serve longer than six consecutive years on that committee, unless otherwise provided in these bylaws.</p> <p>B. A majority of the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.</p> <p>C. Standing committee chairs shall report to the Sigma board of directors as requested by the board. Committees shall provide consultation to chapters in congruence with the mission of the committee.</p> <p>D. Authorized expenses of standing and special committees, board advisory councils and task forces shall be reimbursed by the society.</p> <p><u>E.C.</u> Vacancies occurring on a committee between biennial meetings of the house shall be are filled by appointment of the Sigma board of directors, terminating at until the next meeting of the house election.</p>	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p>Section 1. Standing Committees</p> <p>A. The standing committees shall be the governance committee, leadership succession committee, and regional chapters coordinating committee. The president and chief executive officer shall be non-voting, ex-officio members of all committees except the leadership succession committee. Committee members shall be elected by plurality vote by the house of delegates. In the event of a tie, the election shall be determined by lot. Members shall hold no more than one elected office at a time. An elected committee member may not serve longer than six consecutive years on that committee, unless otherwise provided in these bylaws.</p> <p>B. A majority of the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.</p> <p>C. Vacancies occurring on a committee are filled by appointment of the Sigma board of directors until the next election.</p>
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<p><u>Rationale:</u></p> <p>This proposal consolidates information and aligns with current Sigma practices. Removed language belongs in other Sigma governing documents such as policies and procedures.</p>
<p><u>Impact on Chapters:</u></p> <p>These proposed changes pertain only to the international committee structure, and therefore do not impact chapter bylaws.</p>

Proposal to Amend Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-11	Parliamentary Authority	XI		Sigma Governance Committee

<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p>The rules contained in the most recently published edition of <i>Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised</i> shall govern the society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws or special rules of order the society may adopt.</p>	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p>The rules contained in the most recently published twelfth edition of <i>Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised</i> shall govern the society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws or special rules of order the society may adopt. <u>When a new edition of the parliamentary authority is published, the Sigma board of directors may, by majority vote, update the edition reference in the bylaws. Members shall be notified after the change is made.</u></p>	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p>The rules contained in the twelfth edition of <i>Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised</i> shall govern the society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws or special rules of order the society may adopt. When a new edition of the parliamentary authority is published, the Sigma board of directors may, by majority vote, update the edition reference in the bylaws. Members shall be notified after the change is made.</p>
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<p><u>Rationale:</u></p> <p>Having the correct edition of the parliamentary authority helps members find the right book when they need to use it. However, requiring the entire house of delegates to amend the bylaws when the book is updated may delay the adoption of the most recent parliamentary best practices. The Sigma board of directors should be able to make this change following a study of the changes and the adoption of special rules of order as necessary.</p>	<p><u>Impact on Chapters:</u></p> <p>If passed, Article XIII. Parliamentary Authority of the chapter bylaws will be updated to reflect that the twelfth edition of <i>Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised</i> shall be used. When new editions are published, and if the Sigma board of directors votes to update the edition reference in the international bylaws, the chapter bylaws will also be updated.</p>
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Proposal to Amend Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-12	Amendments	XII	1	Sigma Governance Committee

<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p>A. These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the house of delegates by a three-fourths vote, provided that all proposed amendments have been received by the secretary two months preceding the meeting, and that the proposed amendments shall be appended to the call to the meeting of the house of delegates. If such notice is not provided, these bylaws may be amended only by unanimous vote of the house of delegates.</p> <p>B. Amendments approved by the house of delegates shall be subject to ratification by the Sigma board of directors.</p> <p>C. Amendments to these bylaws approved by the house of delegates or editorial changes approved by the Sigma board of directors that are also applicable to the chapters shall be incorporated into the chapter bylaws.</p>	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p>A. These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the house of delegates by a three-fourths two-thirds vote, provided that all proposed amendments have been received by the secretary two months preceding the meeting, and that the proposed amendments shall be appended to the call to the meeting of the house of delegates. If such notice is not provided, these bylaws may be amended only by unanimous vote of the house of delegates.</p> <p>B. Amendments approved by the house of delegates shall be subject to ratification by the Sigma board of directors.</p> <p>C. Amendments to these bylaws approved by the house of delegates or editorial changes approved by the Sigma board of directors that are also applicable to the chapters shall be incorporated into the chapter bylaws template.</p>	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p>A. These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the house of delegates by a two-thirds vote, provided that all proposed amendments have been received by the secretary two months preceding the meeting, and that the proposed amendments shall be appended to the call to the meeting of the house of delegates.</p> <p>B. Amendments approved by the house of delegates shall be subject to ratification by the Sigma board of directors.</p> <p>C. Amendments to these bylaws approved by the house of delegates or editorial changes approved by the Sigma board of directors that are also applicable to the chapters shall be incorporated into the chapter bylaws template.</p>
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<p><u>Rationale:</u></p> <p>A two-thirds vote is sufficient to amend Sigma bylaws and meets parliamentary best practices.</p> <p>Amendments made without notice, requiring subsequent unanimous votes, have not occurred in the organization's history. Delegates should be given time to review, consider, and discuss significant amendments; therefore, the provision for the introduction of new amendments at the house of delegates has been removed. Formal recommendations for amendments must be submitted to the elected Governance Committee in advance of the house of delegates.</p>
<p><u>Impact on Chapters:</u></p> <p>This bylaw section only appears in the international bylaws; therefore. no changes in the chapter bylaws.</p>

Proposal to Amend Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-13	Housekeeping and Cleanup Amendments			Sigma Governance Committee

The following amendments are grouped together as editorial changes to the Sigma bylaws, removing extraneous and unnecessary material. They are listed in the order in which they appear in the bylaws.

<p><u>Current Language:</u></p> <p><u>Article I:</u> The name of this organization shall be the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Inc. (also referred to as Sigma or the society), and it shall have an official key and corporate seal. The organization is a nonprofit incorporated in the state of Indiana with headquarters located in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.</p>	<p><u>Proposed Changes:</u></p> <p><u>Article I:</u> The name of this organization shall be the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Inc. (also referred to as Sigma or the society), and it shall have an official key and corporate seal. The organization is a nonprofit incorporated and headquartered in the state of Indiana with headquarters located in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.</p>	<p><u>If Adopted:</u></p> <p><u>Article I:</u> The name of this organization shall be the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Inc. (also referred to as Sigma or the society), a nonprofit incorporated and headquartered in the state of Indiana, USA.</p>
<p><u>Article II:</u> The purposes of this society shall be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize superior achievement. • Recognize the development of leadership qualities. • Foster high professional standards. • Encourage creative work. • Strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession. • Provide support, including funding, to other organizations exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. • Assist and engage in any other activities which are permitted to be carried on by organizations exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. 	<p><u>Article II:</u> The purposes of this society shall be to <u>recognize superior achievement and the development of leadership qualities, foster high professional standards, and strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession. Sigma engages in activities permitted under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States (US) Internal Revenue Code.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize superior achievement. • Recognize the development of leadership qualities. • Foster high professional standards. • Encourage creative work. • Strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession. • Provide support, including funding, to other organizations exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. • Assist and engage in any other activities which are permitted to be carried on by organizations exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. 	<p><u>Article II:</u> The purposes of this society shall be to recognize superior achievement and the development of leadership qualities, foster high professional standards, and strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession. Sigma engages in activities permitted under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States (US) Internal Revenue Code.</p>
<p><u>Article III, Section 2.E.:</u> Active regular members shall have the right to vote and hold elective and appointive office. Such members shall also receive official society publications, priority for education</p>	<p><u>Article III, Section 2.E.:</u> Active regular members shall have the right to vote and hold elective and appointive office. Such members shall also receive official society publications, priority for education</p>	<p><u>Article III, Section 2.E.:</u> Active regular members shall have the right to vote and hold elective and appointive office.</p>

Proposal to Amend Bylaws

<p>programs, and priority for research funding. Active regular members may hold membership in more than one chapter by remitting multiple chapter fees and the society fee annually, and may transfer from one chapter to another.</p>	<p>programs, and priority for research funding. Active regular members may hold membership in more than one chapter by remitting multiple chapter fees and the society fee annually, and may transfer from one chapter to another.</p>	
<p><u>Article III, Section 3:</u> Section 3. Honorary Members An honorary member is a person who is not eligible for regular membership but who has gained national or international recognition in the field of nursing or in any field contributing to nursing. Any active member, through a chapter or the Sigma board of directors, may nominate persons for honorary membership. Honorary membership is awarded only by the Sigma board of directors. A vote of three-fourths of the Sigma board of directors shall be necessary for election to honorary membership. Honorary members shall be inducted and awarded the official key in locations and times decided upon by the board, receive the society's publications, and be responsible for promoting and supporting the purposes of the society. There shall be no induction or renewal fee for an honorary member.</p>	<p><u>Article III, Section 3:</u> Section 3. Honorary Members An honorary member is a person who is not eligible for regular membership but who has gained national or international recognition in the field of nursing or in any field contributing to nursing. Honorary membership shall be granted by a three-fourths vote of the Sigma board of directors. Any active member, through a chapter or the Sigma board of directors, may nominate persons for honorary membership. Honorary membership is awarded only by the Sigma board of directors. A vote of three-fourths of the Sigma board of directors shall be necessary for election to honorary membership. Honorary members shall be inducted and awarded the official key in locations and times decided upon by the board, receive the society's publications, and be responsible for promoting and supporting the purposes of the society. There shall be no induction or renewal fee for an honorary member.</p>	<p><u>Article III, Section 3:</u> Section 3. Honorary Members An honorary member is a person who is not eligible for regular membership but who has gained national or international recognition in the field of nursing or in any field contributing to nursing. Honorary membership shall be granted by a three-fourths vote of the Sigma board of directors. There shall be no induction or renewal fee for an honorary member.</p>
<p><u>Article III, Section 4.A.:</u> Each new member shall pay a society membership fee and a chapter induction fee as described in the chapter bylaws, covering the cost of induction and active membership for one, twelve-month period. For subsequent years, each member shall pay an annual fee to maintain active member benefits.</p>	<p><u>Article III, Section 4.A.:</u> Each member shall pay an initial induction fee and annual society membership fees. Each new member shall pay a society membership fee and a chapter induction fee as described in the chapter bylaws, covering the cost of induction and active membership for one, twelve-month period. For subsequent years, each member shall pay an annual fee to maintain active member benefits.</p>	<p><u>Article III, Section 4.A.:</u> Each member shall pay an initial induction fee and annual society membership fees.</p>
<p><u>Article III, Section 5:</u> Section 5. Membership Inactivity and Revocation A. Inactive members who have not paid annual chapter and international fees shall become active at any time by paying current renewal fees. Members may also formally request to discontinue membership.</p>	<p><u>Article III, Section 5:</u> Section 5. Membership Inactivity and Revocation A. Inactive members who have not paid annual chapter and international fees shall become active at any time by paying current renewal fees. Members may also formally request to discontinue membership.</p>	<p><u>Article III, Section 5:</u> Section 5. Membership Revocation A. Membership in the society may be revoked by the member's chapter for just cause and after due process. Revocation shall require a three-fourths vote of those present at a meeting of the chapter.</p>

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<p>B. Membership in the society may be revoked by the member's chapter for just cause and after due process. Revocation shall require a three-fourths vote of those present at a meeting of the chapter.</p> <p>C. A member whose membership has been revoked may appeal to the Sigma board of directors, whose decision shall be final.</p>	<p>B. Membership in the society may be revoked by the member's chapter for just cause and after due process. Revocation shall require a three-fourths vote of those present at a meeting of the chapter.</p> <p>C. A member whose membership has been revoked may appeal to the Sigma board of directors, whose decision shall be final.</p>	<p>B. A member whose membership has been revoked may appeal to the Sigma board of directors, whose decision shall be final.</p>
<p><u>Article VI, Section 3:</u></p> <p>Section 3. Duties and Responsibilities The Sigma board of directors shall have the following duties and responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise fiduciary responsibilities including adopting a budget, setting the appropriate bonding level, and selecting the auditor; • Adopt rules and regulations to govern its own actions; • Review and approve new chapter chartering applications and revoke charters as necessary; • Provide criteria for affiliate relationships and grant affiliation to legally organized groups; • Transact necessary business of this society between meetings of the house of delegates; • Investigate and recommend to the house of delegates any matter pertaining to the welfare of this society; and • Submit an annual report to chapters and a biennial report to the house of delegates. 	<p><u>Article VI, Section 3:</u></p> <p>Section 3. Duties and Responsibilities The Sigma board of directors shall have the following duties and responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise fiduciary responsibilities including adopting a budget, setting the appropriate bonding level, and selecting the auditor; • Adopt rules and regulations to govern its own actions; • Review and approve new chapter chartering applications and revoke charters as necessary; • Provide criteria for affiliate relationships and grant affiliation to legally organized groups; • Transact necessary business of this society between meetings of the house of delegates; • Investigate and recommend to the house of delegates any matter pertaining to the welfare of this society; and • Submit an annual report to chapters and a biennial report to the house of delegates. 	<p><u>None. Strike and renumber accordingly.</u></p>
<p><u>Article VI, Section 6:</u></p> <p>The expenses for board members who attend meetings of the house of delegates or of the board shall be paid by the society.</p>	<p><u>Article VI, Section 6:</u></p> <p>The expenses for board members who attend meetings of the house of delegates or of the board shall be paid by the society.</p>	<p><u>None. Strike and renumber accordingly.</u></p>
<p><u>Article VII, Section 2:</u></p> <p>The legislative and judicial powers of the society shall be vested in the house of delegates. As such, the house shall have the authority to nominate and elect officers, directors, and other positions as allowed by these bylaws; amend the society's articles of incorporation and bylaws; levy special</p>	<p><u>Article VII, Section 2:</u></p> <p>The legislative and judicial powers of the society shall be vested in the house of delegates. As such, the house shall have the authority to nominate and elect officers, directors, and other positions as allowed by these bylaws; amend the society's articles of incorporation and bylaws; levy special</p>	<p><u>Article VII, Section 2:</u></p> <p>The legislative and judicial powers of the society shall be vested in the house of delegates. As such, the house shall have the authority to nominate and elect officers, directors, and other positions as allowed by these bylaws; amend the society's bylaws; levy special assessments by a three-fourths vote;</p>

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assessments by a three-fourths vote; receive the budget as approved by the board; and adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its proceedings as may be determined by a two-thirds vote of the house of delegates at the biennial convention.	assessments by a three-fourths vote; receive the budget as approved by the board; and adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its proceedings as may be determined by a two-thirds vote of the house of delegates at the biennial convention.	receive the budget as approved by the board; and adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its proceedings as may be determined by a two-thirds vote of the house of delegates at the biennial convention.
<u>Article VII, Section 3.D.:</u> Chapter delegates may also vote electronically on the society's articles of incorporation under procedures and time limitations determined by the board.	<u>Article VII, Section 3.D.:</u> Chapter delegates may also vote electronically on the society's articles of incorporation under procedures and time limitations determined by the board.	<u>None. Strike and renumber accordingly.</u>
<u>Article X, Section 1:</u> Section 1. Fiscal Year The fiscal year shall be 1 July through 30 June.	<u>Article X, Section 1:</u> Section 1. Fiscal Year The fiscal year shall be 1 July through 30 June.	<u>None. Strike and renumber accordingly.</u>
<u>Article X, Section 4:</u> The Sigma board of directors shall authorize publication of an official journal and other publications as it deems appropriate according to policies and procedures established by the board.	<u>Article X, Section 4:</u> The Sigma board of directors shall authorize publication of an official journal and other publications as it deems appropriate according to policies and procedures established by the board.	<u>None. Strike and renumber accordingly.</u>
<u>Article XII, Section 1.C.:</u> Amendments to these bylaws approved by the house of delegates or editorial changes approved by the Sigma board of directors that are also applicable to the chapters shall be incorporated into the chapter bylaws.	<u>Article XII, Section 1.C.:</u> Amendments to these bylaws approved by the house of delegates or editorial changes approved by the Sigma board of directors that are also applicable to the chapters shall be incorporated into the chapter bylaws.	<u>Article XII, Section 1.C.:</u> Amendments to these bylaws that are also applicable to the chapters shall be incorporated into the chapter bylaws.

Rationale:

Many current Sigma bylaws contain too much detail. For example, it's not necessary to state in the bylaws that Sigma has a corporate seal; the fiscal year is an administrative and tax issue, not a governance issue that needs to be voted on by the house of delegates. Although in different articles, all of the above amendments have the same purpose: to remove unnecessary (and potentially confusing) language. Removed language should be included in Sigma governing documents such as policies and procedures.

Impact on Chapters:

If approved, the following sections of the chapter bylaws will also be updated:

Article II. Purposes - to mirror the reformatted phrasing used in the international bylaws

Article V. Section 2. House of Delegates. c. - to remove mention of electronic voting on Articles of Incorporation

Article XI. Finance, Section 1. Fiscal Year - to remove mention of the fiscal year

Article XIV. Section 4. Sigma Theta Tau International Bylaws Amendments - to remove "approved by the house of delegates or editorial changes approved by the Sigma board of directors."