

*At this time, two bylaw amendments have been proposed for NCRA members to consider at its next Annual Business Meeting.*

## NCRA VOTER'S GUIDE

# 2026 PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS



The following serves as official notice that amendments to NCRA's Constitution and Bylaws have been proposed and will be considered during and voted upon following the next Annual Business Meeting of the membership, on July 16 at the Hyatt Regency Bellevue in Bellevue, Wash. Voting on amendments will be held electronically with a voting period of 24 hours. All voting members are advised to ensure that NCRA has a current email address in the database by July 8.

### **NOTES:**

For your reading ease, the language to be added is *italicized*. Language to be stricken is indicated by ~~strikethrough~~.

To review the full text of the Constitution and Bylaws as well as the proposed changes, visit [NCRA.org/bylaws](https://www.ncra.org/bylaws).

## DATES TO KNOW

- JULY 8** Deadline to verify your email address
- JULY 16** **Discussion of Bylaws:** NCRA Annual Business Meeting, July 16, 2026, Hyatt Regency Bellevue
- JULY 16** Voting starts within 2 hours of the close of the Annual Business Meeting  
**Voting remains open for 24 hours**

## AMENDMENT 1 FELLOWS

This amendment is submitted by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

### RATIONALE

*The term “accumulated” appropriately addresses the need to account for non-continuous time frames. The suggested changes in i) through v) were meant to clarify the minimum standards for the distinction of Fellow by placing a more distinct and explicit focus on NCRA.*

### Constitution and Bylaws: Article X—Academy of Professional Reporters and Council of the Academy of Professional Reporters

#### Section 2—Fellows

- a) Election as a Fellow is a professional distinction that shall be conferred only by the Board of Directors upon a person of extraordinary qualifications and exemplary professional practice who serves as a credit to the profession of verbatim stenographic reporting and/or stenographic captioning. A candidate for Fellow shall ~~be a continuous Registered Member with at least~~ *have accumulated* fifteen (15) ~~years or more years of Registered Membership and at least fifteen (15) years of professional~~ *years of professional* experience and shall have attained distinction as measured by performance. Such performance shall include three (3) or more of the following:
- i) Publication of important papers, articles, books, or other written materials dealing with verbatim stenographic reporting and/or stenographic captioning, *or other professional or-related subjects, with preference given to works published through or recognized by NCRA or its affiliated association publications.*
- ii) Creative, innovative, or technological contributions *that enhance to the enhancement of* the profession of verbatim stenographic reporting and/or stenographic captioning, *particularly those that advance the mission, visibility, or standards of NCRA.*
- iii) Significant and distinguished service to the profession *through as-an* active ~~participant~~ *participation* on a minimum of three (3) NCRA committees within the last fifteen (15) years *demonstrating sustained commitment to NCRA’s goals and initiatives.*

- iv) Contributions in such areas as teaching, editing of publications, ~~other~~ board or committee service, *mentoring, or educating education on-of* the ~~general~~ public that have served to enhance or promote the verbatim stenographic reporting and/or stenographic captioning professions *especially through NCRA programs, events, or collaborations.*
- v) Attainment of the Association’s Registered Merit Reporter, Registered Diplomate Reporter, or qualification in the Speed or Realtime Contest *which reflect excellence within NCRA’s credentialing framework.*

## AMENDMENT 2 ALTERNATIVE AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

This amendment is submitted by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

### RATIONALE

*The bylaws lack clear guidance on amendment timelines, carryover procedures, floor amendments, and signatory membership requirements. Clarifying these provisions in this new paragraph will promote consistency and transparency in the amendment process.*

### Constitution and Bylaws: Article XVIII—Amendments

#### Section 4—Alternative Amendment Procedure

Any amendment which has not been filed with the Executive Director and of which written notice has not been given within thirty (30) days may be submitted at the annual business meeting and shall be adopted upon receiving a unanimous vote by all those Voting Members who are present and voting at the annual business meeting at which a quorum is present. Such amendment shall then be voted upon under the provisions of Article XVIII, Section 2 above.

*Any amendment introduced at the annual business meeting pursuant to this section that fails to receive a unanimous vote of all Voting Members present and voting shall be deemed not approved and shall not advance. Any subsequent consideration of such amendment shall require resubmission in accordance with the requirements of this Article, including all applicable notice and signature requirements.*