

January 28, 2020

Dear Member:

As President of the Southern Council of Optometrists, Inc., it is my duty to notify you of the purpose of proposed amendments to the Council's Bylaws.

To wit:

Article XX, Section 1.

These Bylaws and the Constitution may be amended at any Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates, a quorum being present, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those Delegates eligible to vote, provided notice of not less than thirty (30) days of the time, place and purpose of the amendment is given to all members of the Council. Amendments shall be effective upon their passage unless otherwise stated therein.

Pursuant to Article XX, Section 1 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Council I hereby notify you that certain amendments to the Bylaws will be submitted for ratification to the House of Delegates on Saturday, March 7, 2020, 3:15 p.m. at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia.

Purpose of the proposed amendments:

1. to insert "housekeeping" language in order to provide additional clarity to existing Sections;
2. to stipulate requirements of submitting an application for state association membership;
3. to clarify the requirement for state association members to maintain membership in the American Optometric Association;
4. to clarify that state association members may have one Officer serve at the same time, and basic qualifications for Office;
5. to include a statement in the Appointment of State Trustee section regarding the organization's conflict of interest policy;
6. to change the requirement to conduct financial audits from one year to a maximum of every three years;
7. to clarify that volunteers are included in the association's whistleblower policy;
8. to add a code of conduct policy, in keeping with not-for-profit entity guidelines;
9. to clarify that the Council's investment policy will determine the minimum amount of funding required for the Reserve Fund.

To download a copy of the complete Bylaws of the Southern Council of Optometrists with proposed amendments, please visit <https://secointernational.com/>. If you need any additional information, please contact Elizabeth Taylor, Executive Director, at etaylor@secostaff.com or 770/451-8206 ext. 122.

Sincerely,

Max Ernst, OD
President