

**Proposed Amendment to Constitution Article 5.10
(Removal from Office)**

WHEREAS the NLG Constitution does not currently contain clear voting standards or procedures for removing members of the National Executive Committee or Executive Committee from office for just cause; and,

WHEREAS clear standards for just cause, appropriate voting thresholds, and adequate notice of procedures are necessary to ensure accountability in any democratic organization.

Current Language

Article 5.10: Removal from Office

- (a) Removal for Cause - Upon 30 days advance notice, any elected member of the National Executive Committee may be removed from office by the remaining National Executive Committee members upon the occurrence of either of the following: failure to attend two consecutive meetings of the National Executive Committee, and/or failure to complete tasks assigned by the National Executive Committee, except that the National Jailhouse Lawyer Vice President shall not be removed for failure to attend meetings. In addition, elected members may be removed for other reasons that in the judgment of the remaining National Executive Committee members constitute just cause. Any vacancy created by the removal of an elected National Executive Committee member shall be filled as provided herein.

Proposed Amendment (changes in red)

Article 5.10: Removal from Office

- a) **Suspension for Failure to Engage** - Upon 14 days advance notice of the meeting at which the vote shall occur, any ~~elected~~ member of the National Executive Committee may be suspended from office by a vote of two thirds of the remaining National Executive Committee members upon the occurrence of either of the following: ~~unexcused~~ failure to attend two consecutive ~~quarterly~~ meetings of the National Executive Committee, and/or failure to complete tasks assigned by the National Executive Committee ~~within a reasonable amount of time~~, except that the National Jailhouse Lawyer Vice President shall not be suspended for failure to attend meetings.
- b) **Suspension for Just Cause** - In addition, ~~elected~~ members of the Executive Council and the National Executive Committee may be immediately suspended until the next convention for other reasons that constitute just cause by a vote of two thirds of the remaining National Executive Committee members. ~~for other reasons that in the judgment of by a vote of two thirds of the remaining National Executive Committee~~

~~members constitute just cause.~~ Just cause shall include, but is not limited to, a violation of the Constitution or conduct inconsistent with the aims and purposes of the organization.

c) Removal Procedures

- i) Executive Council Members: Following a vote to suspend a member of the EC, the remaining NEC members must inform the general membership of the Executive Council member's suspension, along with an explanation for its decision, and set a date for the general membership to vote on removing or reinstating the Executive Council member within thirty (30) calendar days of the NEC's vote to suspend. The vote for removal must be supported by a simple majority. If the vote for removal is not adopted by the membership, the EC member must be reinstated immediately.
 - ii) National Executive Committee Members: Following a vote to suspend a member of the NEC (who is not a member of the Executive Council), the remaining NEC members must inform the body of members who elected/appointed the suspended NEC member (the "impacted members") of that individual's suspension, along with an explanation for its decision, and set a date for the impacted members to vote on removal of the NEC member within thirty (30) calendar days of the NEC's vote to suspend. The vote for removal must be supported by a simple majority. If the vote for removal is not adopted by the impacted members, the NEC member must be reinstated immediately.
 - iii) Members at large shall have the ability to call for the removal of a member of the NEC or EC by submitting a resolution during the annual convention.
- d) **Vacancy** - Any vacancy created by the removal of an elected National Executive Committee **or Executive Council** member shall be filled as provided herein.

Implementation: No steps are needed to implement the proposed amendment. The National Executive Committee is responsible for ensuring compliance with the amendment and updating the Constitution in accordance with pre-existing procedure to reflect the amendment.

Compliance with Bylaws § 8.7: The proponents of this amendment consulted the NEC and all chapters to request their consent to the proposed changes. The NEC did not respond to this request. Any chapters/committees not listed did not respond to the request for consent.

The following chapters/committees consented to the proposed changes:

- Mass Defense Committee
- South Florida Chapter
- Chicago Chapter

- Massachusetts Chapter
- North Carolina Chapter
- New Mexico Chapter
- Ohio Chapter
- University of Houston Law Center Chapter
- Houston Chapter

The following chapters/committees objected to the proposed changes:

- None

The following chapters/committees took no position on the proposed changes:

- Wenatchee Chapter
- Colorado Chapter

Proponents: Kyla Clay

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Endorsers: Massachusetts Chapter, Chicago Chapter

Submitted: July 18, 2025 (*Revised September 18, 2025*)