

Amendment to Change Bylaws Section 8.12 (Vote Timing)

Proponents: NLG National Office Staff

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WHEREAS the resolution and amendment process requires work by National Office staff, more time is needed in the voting procedures timeline to allow certain tasks to take place. We propose allowing more time after the plenary to collect pro and con statements, and for staff to prepare the voting survey. We propose opening voting 10 days after the end of the 2nd plenary, to allow staff time to complete the required work within their normal work hours.

Original Text: 8.12: *“The RC will inform NO staff what matters need to be voted on. NO staff will make voting for officer, amendments, and resolutions available online immediately after the 2nd plenary. NO staff will mail ballots to jailhouse lawyer and other requesting members within 10 days of the 2nd plenary. Voting is open for 31 days. Ballots cast by mail must be returned to the NO by Mail postmarked not later than the 31st day after the date the ballots were mailed to the membership or when electronically posted to email or on the NLG website. The ballot shall prominently specify the date by which it must be postmarked returned or replied to the NO to be counted. The NO shall announce number of votes for and against each proposal and candidate within 45 days on the website and on listserves.”*

We propose that the following language be adopted: 8.12: *“The RC will inform NO staff what matters need to be voted on. NO staff will make voting for officer, amendments, and resolutions available online **10 days** after the 2nd plenary. NO staff will mail ballots to jailhouse lawyer and other requesting members within 10 days of the 2nd plenary. Voting is open for 31 days. Ballots cast by mail must be returned to the NO by Mail postmarked not later than the 31st day after the date the ballots were mailed to the membership or when electronically posted to email or on the NLG website. The ballot shall prominently specify the date by which it must be postmarked returned or replied to the NO to be counted. The NO shall announce number of votes for and against each proposal and candidate within 45 days on the website and on listserves.”*

Implementation: Once this change is made, the National Office will follow the timeline established. No further implementation is needed. The NEC has consented to this amendment.