**Region IV Bylaws Committee Recommendation Regarding Proposed Amendment of**

**Article IX, Section 6**

**(Recommendation: Bylaws Remain Unchanged)**

This is the same proposed amendment that was considered at the Fall 2022 Region IV Council meeting where the council did not approve the amendment. The justification that was provided by the Executive Committee is shown below.

According to RONR, 12 Edition:

Chapter XVIII speaks to CONTENT AND COMPOSITION OF BYLAWS

* 56:44 “…A separate section devoted to each of these committees should give its name, composition, manner of selection, and duties.”
* 56:8 “In order to give the organization the greatest freedom to act within its object, bylaws should be made no more restrictive nor more detailed in specification than necessary.”
* 56:11 “Indisputability of meaning and application is a more important consideration than “readability,” and the latter must be sacrificed when both cannot be achieved.”

We all know the status of all chapters when reports are received from the Regional Assistant Treasurer, Regional Treasurer and Region Council President. Contacting the chapter to aid in becoming or remaining compliant is an implied responsibility and duty of the Region Council President and Regional Directors.

**Region IV Bylaws Committee Recommendation Regarding Proposed Amendment of**

**Article IX, Section 8**

**(Recommendation: Bylaws Remain Unchanged)**

* As previously stated, “In order to give the organization the greatest freedom to act within its object, bylaws should be made no more restrictive nor more detailed in specification than necessary.” (RONR 56:8). The Region IV bylaws should not be so specific. Government documents and even agencies names change over time and we should not be required to amend Region IV documents when a specified, specifically titled government document is amended, revised, or obsoleted. While the knowledge and wording of the proposed amendment seems impressive, bylaws should not be used to micromanage the members of the organization or its committees.
* The AE/EEO committee is a standing committee as stated in the Region IV bylaws. Standing committees are distinguished at RONR 50:7 as:
* having standing authority to act for the society on matters of a certain class without specific instructions from the assembly; and
* having all business of a certain class automatically assigned to the committee;

There is no need to require specific instructions for the committee to utilize certain federal policies or models in reporting to the council. The committee should be allowed the freedom to use this or any other monitoring and reporting methods. The Region IV Bylaws allow such latitude as currently written.

* The proposed amendment gives full attention to the federal employee but the organization includes state employees, local government employees and associate members. The bylaws should not show disregard for nonfederal members and potential nonfederal members. The bylaws as currently approved represents the interests of all Black government employees without regard to federal, state or local employment.

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**Region IV Bylaws Committee Recommendation Regarding Proposed Amendment of**

**Article X, Section 2**

**(Recommendation: Bylaws Remain Unchanged)**

The previously considered proposed amendment of Article XII, Section 2 clearly and correctly identified the troubling fact that chapter numbers in Region IV are decreasing and this is a critical concern of the council. However, adding penalties and threatening chapter officers does not appear as a viable means to promote inclusiveness and retention of troubled chapters.