



To: Chief Operating Officer, Marine Corps League

Subject: Proposed Amendments to: National Bylaws, Article V, Section 515b4c

In accordance with the National Bylaws Article XI, Sections 1120, and National Administrative Procedures Section 10020 the following is submitted for consideration by the body assembled at the 2026 National Convention.

CURRENT:

Section 515. Categories of Membership

b. Associate Member.

(4) Voting

- (a) Associate members shall not vote on a regular or associate membership application;
- (b) Associate members shall not participate in the nomination process and/or voting for elected officers; and
- (c) A department or detachment, by provisions in the bylaws and/or administrative procedures, may allow an associate member to vote on its internal affairs if such vote does not affect a policy of the MCL, such as bylaws or bylaw changes.

PROPOSED:

Section 515. Categories of Membership

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and/or voting for elected officers; and
(c) A department or detachment, by provisions in the bylaws and/or administrative procedures, may allow an associate member to vote on its internal affairs ~~if such vote does not affect a policy of the MCL, such as bylaws or bylaw changes.~~

RATIONALE:

The bylaws / administrative procedures are internal affairs of the League. The bylaws / administrative procedures apply equally to Regular members and Associate members alike. Associate members should have the right to vote on the rules that apply to them as the Regular members do. Not allowing all paying members of the League to vote on the rules that apply to them is like taxation without representation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Hamilton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "H".

Laura Hamilton
Judge Advocate
Gen. Raymond G. Davis Detachment #1162