

03/26/2021

Dear VAMLIS Members,

Due to this year's COVID restrictions, the Executive Council will be unable to conduct an election of new officers that follows the current VAMLIS ByLaws, as described below:

*Under Article VII - Nominations and Elections*, the Executive Council is expected to appoint a nominating committee with the sole responsibility of selecting at least one member in good standing from the pool of voting members for each open Executive Council. Any voting member in good standing may make additional nominations from the floor at the annual conference VAMLIS business meeting. *Article VII, Section 3. Elections*, further states that Officers shall be elected by simple majority vote at the annual conference (which is currently postponed indefinitely due to Virginia's COVID-19 restrictions).

However, under *Article V Officers, Section 3. Governing Body*, the Executive Council "shall have the power to pass any resolution or propose any bylaw it deems necessary to accomplish the objectives of the Association." Therefore, the VAMLIS Board has decided to update the ByLaws with more flexible language that can better handle emergency situations going forward. The redlined VAMLIS ByLaws can be read in detail [here \(link\)](#). *These amendments will be voted on at the May 27th Executive Board Webex meeting – check the [Announcements page](#) of the vamlis.org website for more information.*

Also, to maintain continuity of governance, the Nominating Committee recommends that the *current Executive Leadership* continue their roles for another year to get us through these unprecedented times. Just as annual VAMLIS memberships have been rolled-over for 2021, the Executive Board would also roll-over their positions until new elections could be held in the Spring of 2022. This timeline extension would allow VAMLIS to resume proper nomination and voting procedures next year under the guidelines set forth in the new ByLaws.

No action is required on your part at this time. This announcement is merely to share information with VAMLIS members. Look for a survey coming from VAMLIS to collect members' feedback on this issue. Please do not hesitate to contact [VAMLIS](#) if you have any further questions or comments.

Best,

VAMLIS Nominating Committee:

Jennifer Ciminelli (Education sector)

Terry Whitt (Government sector)

Jennifer Hale (Private sector)

