



By-Laws

Organized in 1887
Incorporated in 1911 under the laws of State of Michigan

A non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

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The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

ORIGINAL

PROPOSED

As Amended at the 53rd Biennial Conference, Lansing, Michigan, August 13, 2011.

By-Laws

ARTICLE I - Name

Section 1: The name of this non-profit organization is "Michigan Deaf Association, Inc." (MDA)

Section 2: This Association, formerly known as Michigan Association of the Deaf, Inc. (MAD) was organized in the City of Flint, Genesee County in 1887 and incorporated in the State of Michigan in 1911.

Section 3: This Association shall be a cooperating member with the National Association of the Deaf, also known as the NAD.

Section 4: This Association is classified as a non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE II - Mission

The mission of the Michigan Deaf Association is to preserve the rights and quality of life of Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals in the State of Michigan.

ARTICLE III - Goals

The goals of the Association are to advocate, promote and achieve:

- A.** Effective communication between Deaf and Hard of Hearing and hearing citizens;
- B.** The rights to the same opportunities, the same access and the same independence as hearing people;
- C.** The preservation of American Sign Language and Deaf Culture and
- D.** Provision of social and educational services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people.

ARTICLE IV - Registered Address

The registered address of this Association shall be the address of the Association's Home Office and/or the Association President.

ARTICLE V - Term

The existence of this corporation is perpetual.

ARTICLE VI - Membership

Section 1: Individual

- A.** The membership of this Association shall be open to any Deaf/HH and hearing individuals with understanding that Hearing members may not be elected officer.
- B.** Any member shall have voice and vote privileges

at the Association meetings.

Section 2: Organization

- A.** Any Deaf organization in the State of Michigan supporting this Association's purpose and objectives may affiliate with this Association.
- B.** Affiliated organization's president or a representative shall have voice and vote privileges at this Association's meetings.
- C.** The affiliated organization shall pay special annual dues on rate per member set forth by the Conference assembly. (See Article 2 in the Policy and Procedures Guidelines.)

Section 3: Each year, graduates of any secondary educational program for the Deaf in the State of Michigan are entitled to a year's free active membership in the Association. Their membership qualifies them to attend meetings of the Chapter nearest their homes. Chapters are responsible in securing the names of such graduates and awarding the membership.

ARTICLE VII - Officers

Section 1: Title and Term

- A.** The Officers of this Association shall be a President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator and Public Relations Coordinator. These seven (7) duly-elected officers shall serve as an Executive Board.
- B.** Their terms of office shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)
- C.** The immediate past President shall serve on the Executive Board and Board of Directors for one year only.

Section 2: Election Procedure

- A.** The election of officers shall take place only at Biennial Conferences of this Association.
- B.** A member is eligible to hold an office in this Association if he/she, 1) is a resident of the State of Michigan, 2) is in good standing, and 3) has been a member for at least one year. A former member who wishes to return to the Association and be eligible to hold an office shall pay current year and last year's dues.
- C.** Newly-elected officers shall take oath on the same day of election. However, they shall not take office until thirty (30) days after an election. The previous officers shall conduct this Association's business during that thirty (30) day period, but shall not initiate any new programs or projects without consulting the newly-elected officers. The newly-elected Board shall be a part of any meeting or business transactions conducted by the previous Board during the thirty (30) day period of transition.

Section 3: Vacancy of Office

The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

If revisions become ratified by membership at the 2025 biennial conference, the first statement will be updated to "As Amended at the 55th Biennial Conference, Troy, Michigan, November 16, 2025."

Regarding...

Article I - Name

No change. Retain as-is.

PROPOSED

As Amended at the 53rd Biennial Conference, Lansing, Michigan, August 13, 2011.

By-Laws
ARTICLE I - Name

Section 1: The name of this non-profit organization is "Michigan Deaf Association, Inc." (MDA)

Section 2: This Association, formerly known as Michigan Association of the Deaf, Inc. (MAD) was organized in the City of Flint, Genesee County in 1887 and incorporated in the State of Michigan in 1911.

Section 3: This Association shall be a cooperating member with the National Association of the Deaf, also known as the NAD.

Section 4: This Association is classified as a non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE II - Mission

The mission of the Michigan Deaf Association is to preserve the rights and quality of life of Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals in the State of Michigan.

ARTICLE III - Goals

The goals of the Association are to advocate, promote and achieve:

- A. Effective communication between Deaf and Hard of Hearing and hearing citizens;
- B. The rights to the same opportunities, the same access and the same independence as hearing people;
- C. The preservation of American Sign Language and Deaf Culture and
- D. Provision of social and educational services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people.

ARTICLE IV - Registered Address

The registered address of this Association shall be the address of the Association's Home Office and/or the Association President.

ARTICLE V - Term

The existence of this corporation is perpetual.

ARTICLE VI - Membership

Section 1: Individual

- A. The membership of this Association shall be open to any Deaf/HH and hearing individuals with understanding that Hearing members may not be elected officer.
- B. Any member shall have voice and vote privileges

at the Association meetings.

Section 2: Organization

- A. Any Deaf organization in the State of Michigan supporting this Association's purpose and objectives may affiliate with this Association.
- B. Affiliated organization's president or a representative shall have voice and vote privileges at this Association's meetings.
- C. The affiliated organization shall pay special annual dues on rate per member set forth by the Conference assembly. (See Article 2 in the Policy and Procedures Guidelines.)

Section 3: Each year, graduates of any secondary educational program for the Deaf in the State of Michigan are entitled to a year's free active membership in the Association. Their membership qualifies them to attend meetings of the Chapter nearest their homes. Chapters are responsible in securing the names of such graduates and awarding the membership.

ARTICLE VII - Officers

Section 1: Title and Term

- A. The Officers of this Association shall be a President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator and Public Relations Coordinator. These seven (7) duly-elected officers shall serve as an Executive Board.
- B. Their terms of office shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)
- C. The immediate past President shall serve on the Executive Board and Board of Directors for one year only.

Section 2: Election Procedure

- A. The election of officers shall take place only at Biennial Conferences of this Association.
- B. A member is eligible to hold an office in this Association if he/she, 1) is a resident of the State of Michigan, 2) is in good standing, and 3) has been a member for at least one year. A former member who wishes to return to the Association and be eligible to hold an office shall pay current year and last year's dues.
- C. Newly-elected officers shall take oath on the same day of election. However, they shall not take office until thirty (30) days after an election. The previous officers shall conduct this Association's business during that thirty (30) day period, but shall not initiate any new programs or projects without consulting the newly-elected officers. The newly-elected Board shall be a part of any meeting or business transactions conducted by the previous Board during the thirty (30) day period of transition.

Section 3: Vacancy of Office

The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

Article II - Mission

Current Language:

"The mission of the Michigan Deaf Association is to preserve the rights and quality of life of Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals in the State of Michigan."

New Language:

"The mission of the Michigan Deaf Association is to preserve, protect, and promote the linguistic, human, and civil rights of Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing individuals in the state of Michigan."

Article III - Goals

Current Language:

- "The goals of the Association are to advocate for, promote, and achieve:*
- A. Effective communication between Deaf and Hard of Hearing citizens;*
 - B. The rights to the same opportunities, the same access, and the same independence as hearing people;*
 - C. The preservation of American Sign Language and Deaf Culture; and*
 - D. The provision of social and educational services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people."*

New Language:

- "The goals of the Association are to advocate for, promote, and achieve the following:*
- A. Effective communication between Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing residents;*
 - B. Equal rights to the same opportunities, access, and independence as hearing individuals;*
 - C. The preservation of American Sign Language and Deaf culture; and*
 - D. The provision of social, advocacy, and educational services for Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing people."*

ORIGINAL

PROPOSED

As Amended at the 53rd Biennial Conference, Lansing, Michigan, August 13, 2011.

By-Laws
ARTICLE I - Name

Section 1: The name of this non-profit organization is "Michigan Deaf Association, Inc." (MDA)

Section 2: This Association, formerly known as Michigan Association of the Deaf, Inc. (MAD) was organized in the City of Flint, Genesee County in 1887 and incorporated in the State of Michigan in 1911.

Section 3: This Association shall be a cooperating member with the National Association of the Deaf, also known as the NAD.

Section 4: This Association is classified as a non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE II - Mission

The mission of the Michigan Deaf Association is to preserve the rights and quality of life of Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals in the State of Michigan.

ARTICLE III - Goals

The goals of the Association are to advocate, promote and achieve:

- A. Effective communication between Deaf and Hard of Hearing and hearing citizens;
- B. The rights to the same opportunities, the same access and the same independence as hearing people;
- C. The preservation of American Sign Language and Deaf Culture and
- D. Provision of social and educational services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people.

ARTICLE IV - Registered Address

The registered address of this Association shall be the address of the Association's Home Office and/or the Association President.

ARTICLE V - Term

The existence of this corporation is perpetual.

ARTICLE VI - Membership

Section 1: Individual

- A. The membership of this Association shall be open to any Deaf/HH and hearing individuals with understanding that Hearing members may not be elected officer.
- B. Any member shall have voice and vote privileges

at the Association meetings.

Section 2: Organization

- A. Any Deaf organization in the State of Michigan supporting this Association's purpose and objectives may affiliate with this Association.
- B. Affiliated organization's president or a representative shall have voice and vote privileges at this Association's meetings.
- C. The affiliated organization shall pay special annual dues on rate per member set forth by the Conference assembly. (See Article 2 in the Policy and Procedures Guidelines.)

Section 3: Each year, graduates of any secondary educational program for the Deaf in the State of Michigan are entitled to a year's free active membership in the Association. Their membership qualifies them to attend meetings of the Chapter nearest their homes. Chapters are responsible in securing the names of such graduates and awarding the membership.

ARTICLE VII - Officers

Section 1: Title and Term

- A. The Officers of this Association shall be a President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator and Public Relations Coordinator. These seven (7) duly-elected officers shall serve as an Executive Board.
- B. Their terms of office shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)
- C. The immediate past President shall serve on the Executive Board and Board of Directors for one year only.

Section 2: Election Procedure

- A. The election of officers shall take place only at Biennial Conferences of this Association.
- B. A member is eligible to hold an office in this Association if he/she, 1) is a resident of the State of Michigan, 2) is in good standing, and 3) has been a member for at least one year. A former member who wishes to return to the Association and be eligible to hold an office shall pay current year and last year's dues.
- C. Newly-elected officers shall take oath on the same day of election. However, they shall not take office until thirty (30) days after an election. The previous officers shall conduct this Association's business during that thirty (30) day period, but shall not initiate any new programs or projects without consulting the newly-elected officers. The newly-elected Board shall be a part of any meeting or business transactions conducted by the previous Board during the thirty (30) day period of transition.

Section 3: Vacancy of Office

The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

Article IV – Registered Address

Current Language:

"The registered address of the Association shall be the address of the Association's Home Office and/or the Association President."

New Language:

*"The registered address of the Association shall be the address of the Association's Home Office **or the home residence of** the Association President."*

Article V - Term

No change. Retain as-is.

PROPOSED

As Amended at the 53rd Biennial Conference, Lansing, Michigan, August 13, 2011.

By-Laws
ARTICLE I - Name

Section 1: The name of this non-profit organization is "Michigan Deaf Association, Inc." (MDA)

Section 2: This Association, formerly known as Michigan Association of the Deaf, Inc. (MAD) was organized in the City of Flint, Genesee County in 1887 and incorporated in the State of Michigan in 1911.

Section 3: This Association shall be a cooperating member with the National Association of the Deaf, also known as the NAD.

Section 4: This Association is classified as a non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE II - Mission

The mission of the Michigan Deaf Association is to preserve the rights and quality of life of Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals in the State of Michigan.

ARTICLE III - Goals

The goals of the Association are to advocate, promote and achieve:

- A. Effective communication between Deaf and Hard of Hearing and hearing citizens;
- B. The rights to the same opportunities, the same access and the same independence as hearing people;
- C. The preservation of American Sign Language and Deaf Culture and
- D. Provision of social and educational services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people.

ARTICLE IV - Registered Address

The registered address of this Association shall be the address of the Association's Home Office and the Association's President.

ARTICLE V - Term

The existence of this corporation is perpetual.

ARTICLE VI - Membership

Section 1: Individual

- A. The membership of this Association shall be open to any Deaf/HH and hearing citizen with understanding that Hearing member may vote but may not be elected officer.
- B. Any member shall have voice and vote privileges

at the Association meetings.

Section 2: Organization

- A. Any Deaf organization in the State of Michigan supporting this Association's purpose and objectives may affiliate with this Association.
- B. Affiliated organization's president or a representative shall have voice and vote privileges at this Association's meetings.
- C. The affiliated organization shall pay special annual dues on rate per member set forth by the Conference assembly. (See Article 2 in the Policy and Procedures Guidelines.)

Section 3: Each year, graduates of any secondary educational program for the Deaf in the State of Michigan are entitled to a year's free active membership in the Association. Their membership qualifies them to attend meetings of the Chapter nearest their homes. Chapters are responsible in securing the names of such graduates and awarding the membership.

ARTICLE VII - Officers

Section 1: Title and Term

- A. The Officers of this Association shall be a President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator and Public Relations Coordinator. These seven (7) duly-elected officers shall serve as an Executive Board.
- B. Their terms of office shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)
- C. The immediate past President shall serve on the Executive Board and Board of Directors for one year only.

Section 2: Election Procedure

- A. The election of officers shall take place only at Biennial Conferences of this Association.
- B. A member is eligible to hold an office in this Association if he/she, 1) is a resident of the State of Michigan, 2) is in good standing, and 3) has been a member for at least one year. A former member who wishes to return to the Association and be eligible to hold an office shall pay current year and last year's dues.
- C. Newly elected officers shall take oath on the same day of election. However, they shall not take office until thirty (30) days after an election. The previous officers shall conduct this Association's business during that thirty (30) day period, but shall not initiate any new programs or projects without consulting the newly-elected officers. The newly-elected Board shall be a part of any meeting or business transactions conducted by the previous Board during the thirty (30) day period of transition.

Section 3: Vacancy of Office

The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

Article VI – Membership

Current Language:

“Section 1: Individual

- A. The membership of this Association shall be open to any Deaf/HH and hearing citizens with understanding that Hearing member may vote but may not be elected officer.
- B. Any member shall have voice and vote privileges at Association meetings.

Section 2: Organization

- A. Any Deaf organization in the State of Michigan supporting this Association's purpose and objectives may affiliate with this Association.
- B. Affiliated organization's President or a representative shall have voice and vote privileges at this Association's meetings.
- C. The affiliated organization shall pay special annual dues on rate per member set forth by the Conference assembly. (See Article 2 in the Policy and Procedures Guidelines.)

Section 3: Each year, graduate of any secondary educational program for the Deaf in the State of Michigan are entitled to a year's free active membership in the Association. Their membership qualifies them to attend meetings of the Chapter nearest their homes. Chapter are responsible in securing the names of such graduates and awarding the membership.”

New Language:

“Section 1: Individual

- A. Membership in this Association is open to all individuals. The Michigan Deaf Association does not discriminate based on any protected characteristic, in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
- B. Voting privileges extend to all general sessions, special sessions, and the Biennial Conference, unless otherwise specified.
- C. Deaf, DeafBlind, and hard of hearing members are eligible to hold elected office. Hearing members are not eligible for elected office but may serve in appointed positions on committees.

Section 2: Organization Affiliates

- A. Any organization in the State of Michigan supporting the Deaf, Deafblind, and Hard of Hearing community and this Association's mission and goals may affiliate with this Association.
- B. Affiliated organization's President or a representative shall have voice and vote privileges at the Council of Representatives, but may not have any vote or authority on the Executive Board.
- C. The affiliated organization shall pay special annual dues set forth by the Executive Board.

Section 3: Graduates of Secondary Education Program

Each year, graduate of any secondary educational program for the Deaf in the State of Michigan are entitled to a year's free active membership in the Association.“ ~~Their membership qualifies them to attend meetings of the Chapter nearest their homes. Chapter are responsible in securing the names of such graduates and awarding the membership.~~

As Amended at the 53rd Biennial Conference, Lansing, Michigan, August 13, 2011.

By-Laws

ARTICLE I - Name

Section 1: The name of this non-profit organization is "Michigan Deaf Association, Inc." (MDA)

Section 2: This Association, formerly known as Michigan Association of the Deaf, Inc. (MAD) was organized in the City of Flint, Genesee County in 1957 and incorporated in the State of Michigan in 1911.

Section 3: This Association shall be a cooperating member with the National Association of the Deaf, also known as the NAD.

Section 4: This Association is classified as a non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE II - Mission

The mission of the Michigan Deaf Association is to preserve the rights and quality of life of Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals in the State of Michigan.

ARTICLE III - Goals

The goals of the Association are to advocate, promote and achieve:

- A. Effective communication between Deaf and Hard of Hearing and hearing citizens;
- B. The rights to the same opportunities, the same access and the same independence as hearing people;
- C. The preservation of American Sign Language and Deaf Culture and
- D. Provision of social and educational services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people.

ARTICLE IV - Registered Address

The registered address of this Association shall be the address of the Association's Home Office and/or the Association President.

ARTICLE V - Term

The existence of this corporation is perpetual.

ARTICLE VI - Membership

Section 1: Individual

- A. The membership of this Association shall be open to any Deaf/HH and hearing citizen with understanding that Hearing member may vote but may not be elected officer.
- B. Any member shall have voice and vote privileges

at the Association meetings.

Section 2: Organization

- A. Any Deaf organization in the State of Michigan supporting this Association's purpose and objectives may affiliate with this Association.
- B. Affiliated organization's president or a representative shall have voice and vote privileges at this Association's meetings.
- C. The affiliated organization shall pay special annual dues on rate per member set forth by the Conference assembly. (See Article 2 in the Policy and Procedures Guidelines.)

Section 3: Each year, graduates of any secondary educational program for the Deaf in the State of Michigan are entitled to a year's free active membership in the Association. Their membership qualifies them to attend meetings of the Chapter nearest their homes. Chapters are responsible in securing the names of such graduates and awarding the membership.

ARTICLE VII - Officers

Section 1: Title and Term

- A. The Officers of this Association shall be a President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator and Public Relations Coordinator. These seven (7) duly-elected officers shall serve as an Executive Board.
- B. Their terms of office shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)
- C. The immediate past President shall serve on the Executive Board and Board of Directors for one year only.

Section 2: Election Procedure

- A. The election of officers shall take place only at Biennial Conferences of this Association.
- B. A member is eligible to hold an office in this Association if he/she, 1) is a resident of the State of Michigan, 2) is in good standing, and 3) has been a member for at least one year. A former member who wishes to return to the Association and be eligible to hold an office shall pay current year and last year's dues.
- C. Newly-elected officers shall take oath on the same day of election. However, they shall not take office until thirty (30) days after an election. The previous officers shall conduct this Association's business during that thirty (30) day period, but shall not initiate any new programs or projects without consulting the newly-elected officers. The newly-elected Board shall be a part of any meeting or business transactions conducted by the previous Board during the thirty (30) day period of transition.

Section 3: Vacancy of Office

The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

Article VII – Officers

Current Language:

”Section 1: Title and Term

- A. The Officers of this Association shall be a President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator, and Public Relations Coordinator. These seven (7) duly-elected officers shall serve as an Executive Board.
- B. Their terms of office shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)
- C. The immediate past President shall serve on the Executive Board and Board of Director for one year only.”

New Language:

”Section 1: Title and Term

- A. The Officers of this Association shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Relations Coordinator. These five (5) duly-elected officers shall serve as an Executive Board.
- B. No change. Retain as-is.
- C. The immediate past President shall serve as an advisor to the newly elected board for one year.

PROPOSED

As Amended at the 53rd Biennial Conference, Lansing, Michigan, August 13, 2011.

By-Laws

ARTICLE I - Name

Section 1: The name of this non-profit organization is "Michigan Deaf Association, Inc." (MDA)

Section 2: This Association, formerly known as Michigan Association of the Deaf, Inc. (MAD) was organized in the City of Flint, Genesee County in 1957 and incorporated in the State of Michigan in 1911.

Section 3: This Association shall be a cooperating member with the National Association of the Deaf, also known as the NAD.

Section 4: This Association is classified as a non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE II - Mission

The mission of the Michigan Deaf Association is to preserve the rights and quality of life of Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals in the State of Michigan.

ARTICLE III - Goals

The goals of the Association are to advocate, promote and achieve:

- A. Effective communication between Deaf and Hard of Hearing and hearing citizens;
- B. The rights to the same opportunities, the same access and the same independence as hearing people;
- C. The preservation of American Sign Language and Deaf Culture and
- D. Provision of social and educational services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people.

ARTICLE IV - Registered Address

The registered address of this Association shall be the address of the Association's Home Office and/or the Association President.

ARTICLE V - Term

The existence of this corporation is perpetual.

ARTICLE VI - Membership

Section 1: Individual

- A. The membership of this Association shall be open to any Deaf/HH and hearing citizen with understanding that Hearing member may vote but may not be elected officer.
- B. Any member shall have voice and vote privileges

at the Association meetings.

Section 2: Organization

- A. Any Deaf organization in the State of Michigan supporting this Association's purpose and objectives may affiliate with this Association.
- B. Affiliated organization's president or a representative shall have voice and vote privileges at this Association's meetings.
- C. The affiliated organization shall pay special annual dues on rate per member set forth by the Conference assembly. (See Article 2 in the Policy and Procedures Guidelines.)

Section 3: Each year, graduates of any secondary educational program for the Deaf in the State of Michigan are entitled to a year's free active membership in the Association. Their membership qualifies them to attend meetings of the Chapter nearest their homes. Chapters are responsible in securing the names of such graduates and awarding the membership.

ARTICLE VII - Officers

Section 1: Title and Term

- A. The Officers of this Association shall be a President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator and Public Relations Coordinator. These seven (7) duly-elected officers shall serve as an Executive Board.
- B. Their terms of office shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)
- C. The immediate past President shall serve on the Executive Board and Board of Directors for one year only.

Section 2: Election Procedure

- A. The election of officers shall take place only at Biennial Conferences of this Association.
- B. A member is eligible to hold an office in this Association if he/she, 1) is a resident of the State of Michigan, 2) is in good standing, and 3) has been a member for at least one year. A former member who wishes to return to the Association and be eligible to hold an office shall pay current year and last year's dues.
- C. Newly-elected officers shall take oath on the same day of election. However, they shall not take office until thirty (30) days after an election. The previous officers shall conduct this Association's business during that thirty (30) day period, but shall not initiate any new programs or projects without consulting the newly-elected officers. The newly-elected Board shall be a part of any meeting or business transactions conducted by the previous Board during the thirty (30) day period of transition.

Section 3: Vacancy of Office

The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

Article VII – Officers

Current Language:

”Section 2: Election Procedure

- A. The election of officers shall take place only at Biennial Conferences of this Association.
- B. A member is eligible to hold an office in this Association if he/she, 1) is a resident of the State of Michigan, 2) is in good standing, and 3) has been a member for at least one year. A former member who wishes to return to the Association and be eligible to hold an office shall pay current year and last year’s dues.”

New Language:

“Section 2: Election Procedure

- A. The election of officers and regional representatives shall take place at the Biennial Conference of this Association during odd-numbered years.
- B. A member is eligible to hold an office in this Association if he/she/~~they~~, 1) is a resident of the State of Michigan, 2) is in good standing, and 3) has been a member for at least one year. A former member who wishes to return to the Association and be eligible to hold an office shall pay current year and last year’s dues. “Good standing” is defined as a member who has paid all required dues and fees, is actively involved in the association and the local Deaf, DeafBlind, and hard of hearing community, adheres to the organization’s bylaws and code of conduct, and is not currently under suspension or disciplinary action.

Section 3: Transition Period

- Newly elected officers shall be sworn in on the same day as the election. However, they shall not assume office until thirty (30) days after the election to allow for a formal transition period. During this thirty (30) day period:
 - A. The outgoing officers shall continue to conduct the Association’s day-to-day business but shall not initiate any new programs, projects, or policy decisions without consulting the newly elected officers.
 - B. The newly elected officers shall participate in all meetings and business discussions conducted by the outgoing Board during the transition period in a collaborative, non-voting advisory role.
 - C. Both outgoing and incoming officers shall work together to ensure a smooth and informed transfer of responsibilities, including the handover of physical and digital assets, and the reporting of new registered agents to the appropriate legal authorities, all within the thirty (30) day transition period.

PROPOSED

A. In the event of the death or resignation of a resident, the 1st Vice-President shall assume the presidency and appoint another person from the Board of Directors to the office of 1st Vice-President, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.

B. In the event of the death or resignation of an officer other than the President, the President may appoint another person to fulfill the vacancy, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.

C. An officer who desires to resign from office shall submit a written resignation to the Executive Board and it shall be read at the next scheduled Board of Director's meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - Regional Representatives

Section 1: Title and Term

- A. The Association shall have two (2) representatives from each of four regions. (Eight representatives total):
See Article 4, Section H in Policy and Procedures Guidelines for list of counties for each region.)
- B. Their term shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)

Section 2: Election Procedure

- A. The election of Representatives shall take place at Biennial conference of the Association. Two representatives are elected from each region.
- B. A member is eligible to be Representative in this Association if he/she, 1) is a resident of the region in the State of Michigan, 2) is good standing member, and 3) does not hold any office.
- C. Newly-elected Representative shall take oath on the same day with the new officers.
- D. If not all Representatives are elected at the conference, the President shall appoint members to fill the positions with the approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX - Board of Directors

This Association shall have a Board of Directors. It shall consist of seven (7) duly-elected officers. The Presidents of recognized Chapters and affiliated organizations, Regional Representatives and appointed members-at-large. All members of the Board of Directors shall have equal voice and vote.

ARTICLE X - Meetings

Section 1: The Business of the Board of Directors shall be conducted at any time and place in the State of Michigan, whenever a duly-called meeting of its officers and directors shall be assembled. They shall meet at least two (2) times a year and a meeting before the General Session during the Biennial Conference.

Section 2: The meeting of this Association shall convene at Biennial Conferences during odd-numbered years.

ARTICLE XI - Home Office

Section 1: Authorization

The Association may maintain a home office on such location and in such quarters as shall be designated by the Board of Directors. The designated location shall be remained until changed by vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Executive Director

Applications for the Office of Executive Director shall be screened and appointed by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall have the responsibility of maintaining the home office within the policies, guidelines and financial limits established by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall report to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII - Amendments

The By-Laws of this Association shall be amended only at the Biennial Conferences by affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present. Such proposed changes must be written and distributed to members sixty (60) days prior to the Conference.

ARTICLE XIII - Dissolution

In the event this Association decides by majority vote at a duly-called Conference to dissolve itself, the Association shall decide by majority vote to distribute all tangible goods and assets included reserve and special funds to any organization or program that focus on Deaf people in the State of Michigan. The recipients of Association assets shall be tax exempt within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue code, or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code.

Dates of Amendments

- 1985 - Kalamazoo
1993 - Flint
1995 - Troy
1999 - Mt. Pleasant
2001 - Troy
2005 - Pontiac
2007 - Kalamazoo
2009 - Bay City
2011 - Lansing
2013 - Kalamazoo

The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

Article VII – Officers

Current Language:

”Section 3: Vacancy of Office

- A. In the event of death or resignation of a resident, the 1st Vice-President shall assume the presidency and appoint another person from the Board of Directors to the office of 1st Vice-President, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.
- B. In the event of the death or resignation of an officer other than the President, the President may appoint another person to fulfil the vacancy, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.
- C. An officer who desires to resign from office shall submit a written resignation to the Executive Board and it shall be read at the next scheduled Board of Director’s meeting.

New Language:

”Section 3: Vacancy of Office

- A. In the event of death or resignation of a **President, the Vice-President** shall assume the presidency and appoint another person from the **Executive Board to the position of Vice-President**, subject to approval of the Executive Board.
- B. In the event of the death or resignation of an officer other than the President, the President may appoint another person to fulfil the vacancy, subject to approval of the **Executive Board**.
- C. **If a regional representative is not elected for a specific region or resigns, the President may appoint another individual, subject to the approval of the Executive Board.**
- D. An officer who desires to resign from office shall submit a written resignation to the Executive Board and it shall be read at the next scheduled **Board meeting**.

Section 4: Administrative Services

The Executive Board may contract staff to perform administrative services, including an Executive Director, provided the Association has the financial capacity to do so. These staff members report to the Executive Board and do not have voting privileges on the Executive Board, the Council of Representatives, or at the Biennial Conference.

ORIGINAL

PROPOSED

- A. In the event of the death or resignation of a resident, the 1st Vice-President shall assume the presidency and appoint another person from the Board of Directors to the office of 1st Vice-President, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.
- B. In the event of the death or resignation of an officer other than the President, the President may appoint another person to fulfill the vacancy, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.
- C. An officer who desires to resign from office shall submit a written resignation to the Executive Board and it shall be read at the next scheduled Board of Director's meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - Regional Representatives

Section 1: Title and Term

- A. The Association shall have two (2) representatives from each of four regions. (Eight representatives total); See Article 4, Section H in Policy and Procedures Guidelines for list of counties for each region.)
- B. Their term shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)

Section 2: Election Procedure

- A. The election of Representatives shall take place at Biennial conference of the Association. Two representatives are elected from each region.
- B. A member is eligible to be Representative in this Association if he/she, 1) is a resident of the region in the State of Michigan, 2) is good standing member, and 3) does not hold any office.
- C. Newly-elected Representative shall take oath on the same day with the new officers.
- D. If not all Representatives are elected at the conference, the President shall appoint members to fill the positions with the approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX - Board of Directors

This Association shall have a Board of Directors. It shall consist of seven (7) duly-elected officers. The Presidents of recognized Chapters and affiliated organizations, Regional Representatives and appointed members-at-large. All members of the Board of Directors shall have equal voice and vote.

ARTICLE X - Meetings

Section 1: The Business of the Board of Directors shall be conducted at any time and place in the State of Michigan, whenever a duly-called meeting of its officers and directors shall be assembled. They shall meet at least two (2) times a year and a meeting before the General Session during the Biennial Conference.

Section 2: The meeting of this Association shall convene at Biennial Conferences during odd-numbered years.

ARTICLE XI - Home Office

Section 1: Authorization

The Association may maintain a home office on such location and in such quarters as shall be designated by the Board of Directors. The designated location shall be remained until changed by vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Executive Director

Applications for the Office of Executive Director shall be screened and appointed by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall have the responsibility of maintaining the home office within the policies, guidelines and financial limits established by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall report to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII - Amendments

The By-Laws of this Association shall be amended only at the Biennial Conferences by affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present. Such proposed changes must be written and distributed to members sixty (60) days prior to the Conference.

ARTICLE XIII - Dissolution

In the event this Association decides by majority vote at a duly-called Conference to dissolve itself, the Association shall decide by majority vote to distribute all tangible goods and assets included reserve and special funds to any organization or program that focus on Deaf people in the State of Michigan. The recipients of Association assets shall be tax exempt within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue code, or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code.

Dates of Amendments

1985 - Kalamazoo
1993 - Flint
1995 - Troy
1999 - Mt. Pleasant
2001 - Troy
2005 - Pontiac
2007 - Kalamazoo
2009 - Bay City
2011 - Lansing
2013 - Kalamazoo

The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

Article VIII – Regional Representatives

Current Language:

“Section 1: Title and Term

- A. *The Association shall have two (2) representatives from each of four regions. (Eight representatives total); See Article 4, Section H in Policy and Procedures Guidelines for list of counties for each region.)*
- B. *Their term shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)*

New Language:

“Section 1: Title and Term

- A. *The Association shall have two (2) representatives from each of four regions (refer to the map and list of counties, for a total of eight (8) representatives. Any redistricting changes may be determined at the Biennial Conference and take effect at the next election cycle.*
- B. *No change. Retain as-is.*

~~*Strike out the entire Section 2: Election Procedure*~~

ORIGINAL

PROPOSED

- A. In the event of the death or resignation of a resident, the 1st Vice-President shall assume the presidency and appoint another person from the Board of Directors to the office of 1st Vice-President, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.
- B. In the event of the death or resignation of an officer other than the President, the President may appoint another person to fulfill the vacancy, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.
- C. An officer who desires to resign from office shall submit a written resignation to the Executive Board and it shall be read at the next scheduled Board of Director’s meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - Regional Representatives

Section 1: Title and Term

- A. The Association shall have two (2) representatives from each of four regions. (Eight representatives total);
See Article 4, Section H in Policy and Procedures Guidelines for list of counties for each region.)
- B. Their term shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)

Section 2: Election Procedure

- A. The election of Representatives shall take place at Biennial conference of the Association. Two representatives are elected from each region.
- B. A member is eligible to be Representative in this Association if he/she, 1) is a resident of the region in the State of Michigan, 2) is good standing member, and 3) does not hold any office.
- C. Newly-elected Representative shall take oath on the same day with the new officers.
- D. If not all Representatives are elected at one conference, the President shall appoint members to fill the positions with the approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX - Board of Directors

This Association shall have a Board of Directors. It shall consist of seven (7) duly-elected officers. The Presidents of recognized Chapters and affiliated organizations, Regional Representatives and appointed members-at-large. All members of the Board of Directors shall have equal voice and vote.

ARTICLE X - Meetings

Section 1: The Business of the Board of Directors shall be conducted at any time and place in the State of Michigan, whenever a duly-called meeting of its officers and directors shall be assembled. They shall meet at least two (2) times a year and a meeting before the General Session during the Biennial Conference.

Section 2: The meeting of this Association shall convene at Biennial Conferences during odd-numbered years.

ARTICLE XI - Home Office

Section 1: Authorization

The Association may maintain a home office on such location and in such quarters as shall be designated by the Board of Directors. The designated location shall be remained until changed by vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Executive Director

Applications for the Office of Executive Director shall be screened and appointed by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall have the responsibility of maintaining the home office within the policies, guidelines and financial limits established by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall report to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII - Amendments

The By-Laws of this Association shall be amended only at the Biennial Conferences by affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present. Such proposed changes must be written and distributed to members sixty (60) days prior to the Conference.

ARTICLE XIII - Dissolution

In the event this Association decides by majority vote at a duly-called Conference to dissolve itself, the Association shall decide by majority vote to distribute all tangible goods and assets included reserve and special funds to any organization or program that focus on Deaf people in the State of Michigan. The recipients of Association assets shall be tax exempt within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue code, or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax

Dates of Amendments

- 1985 - Kalamazoo
- 1993 - Flint
- 1995 - Troy
- 1999 - Mt. Pleasant
- 2001 - Troy
- 2005 - Pontiac
- 2007 - Kalamazoo
- 2009 - Bay City
- 2011 - Lansing
- 2013 - Kalamazoo

The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

Article IX – Board of Directors

Current Language:

This Association shall have a Board of Directors. It shall consist of seven (7) duly-elected officers. The Presidents of recognized Chapters and affiliated organizations, Regional Representatives and appointed members-at-large. All members of the Board of Directors shall have equal voice and vote.

New Language:

Article IX – Council of Representatives

Section 1: Roles and Membership

- A. *This Association shall have a Council of Representatives, consisting of five (5) duly elected officers, regional representatives, and representatives from affiliated organizations.*
- B. *The Council of Representatives advises the Executive Board on community priorities, assists with programming and fundraising, and supports organizational goals, policies, and procedures.*
- C. *The Council of Representatives may support the Executive Board by serving on ad-hoc committees.*

PROPOSED

- A. In the event of the death or resignation of a resident, the 1st Vice-President shall assume the presidency and appoint another person from the Board of Directors to the office of 1st Vice-President, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.
- B. In the event of the death or resignation of an officer other than the President, the President may appoint another person to fulfill the vacancy, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.
- C. An officer who desires to resign from office shall submit a written resignation to the Executive Board and it shall be read at the next scheduled Board of Director’s meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - Regional Representatives

- Section 1: Title and Term
- A. The Association shall have two (2) representatives from each of four regions. (Eight representatives total):
See Article 4, Section H in Policy and Procedures Guidelines for list of counties for each region.)
 - B. Their term shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)
- Section 2: Election Procedure
- A. The election of Representatives shall take place at Biennial conference of the Association. Two representatives are elected from each region.
 - B. A member is eligible to be Representative in this Association if he/she, 1) is a resident of the region in the State of Michigan, 2) is good standing member, and 3) does not hold any office.
 - C. Newly-elected Representative shall take oath on the same day with the new officers.
 - D. If not all Representatives are elected at one conference, the President shall appoint members to fill the positions with the approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX - Board of Directors

This Association shall have a Board of Directors. It shall consist of seven (7) duly-elected officers. The Presidents of recognized Chapters and affiliated organizations, Regional Representatives and appointed members-at-large. All members of the Board of Directors shall have equal voice and vote.

ARTICLE X - Meetings

- Section 1: The Business of the Board of Directors shall be conducted at any time and place in the State of Michigan, whenever a duly-called meeting of its officers and directors shall be assembled. They shall meet at least two (2) times a year and a meeting before the General Session during the Biennial Conference.
- Section 2: The meeting of this Association shall convene at Biennial Conferences during odd-numbered years.

ARTICLE XI - Home Office

- Section 1: Authorization
- The Association may maintain a home office on such location and in such quarters as shall be designated by the Board of Directors. The designated location shall be remained until changed by vote of the Board of Directors.
- Section 2: Executive Director
- Applications for the Office of Executive Director shall be screened and appointed by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall have the responsibility of maintaining the home office within the policies, guidelines and financial limits established by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall report to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII - Amendments

The By-Laws of this Association shall be amended only at the Biennial Conferences by affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present. Such proposed changes must be written and distributed to members sixty (60) days prior to the Conference.

ARTICLE XIII - Dissolution

In the event this Association decides by majority vote at a duly-called Conference to dissolve itself, the Association shall decide by majority vote to distribute all tangible goods and assets included reserve and special funds to any organization or program that focus on Deaf people in the State of Michigan. The recipients of Association assets shall be tax exempt within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue code, or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax

Dates of Amendments

- 1985 - Kalamazoo
- 1993 - Flint
- 1995 - Troy
- 1999 - Mt. Pleasant
- 2001 - Troy
- 2005 - Pontiac
- 2007 - Kalamazoo
- 2009 - Bay City
- 2011 - Lansing
- 2013 - Kalamazoo

The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

Article X – Meetings

Current Language:

“Section 1: The Business of the Board of Directors shall be conducted at any time and place in the State of Michigan, whenever a duly-called meeting of its officers and directors shall be assembled. They shall meet at least two (2) times a year and a meeting before the General Session during the Biennial Conference.

Section 2: The meeting of this Association shall convene at the Biennial Conference during odd-numbered year.”

New Language:

“Section 1: Board Meeting

The business of the Executive Board shall be conducted at any time and place within the State of Michigan, whenever a duly called meeting of its officers is convened. The Executive Board shall meet at least two (2) to three (3) times per year.

Section 2: Council of Representatives

The business of the Council of Representatives may be conducted at any time and place within the State of Michigan. A quorum shall consist of two-thirds (2/3) of the Regional Representatives, and either the President or Vice President must preside over the meeting. The number of meetings is determined by the members of the Council of Representatives.

Section 3: Membership Participation

Members may attend the Executive Board’s open sessions, General Sessions, Council of Representatives meetings, and the Biennial Conference. The Executive Board shall provide updates by arranging at least two (2) general sessions for members, during which members may have voice and voting privileges, in addition to those granted at the Biennial Conference.

- Section 4: Special Sessions
- A. The Executive Board may arrange special sessions to address urgent matters, provided that all officers receive at least forty-eight (48) hours’ notice. A quorum with a minimum of three (3) officers or 2/3 of the Executive Board must be present.
 - B. B. Members may request a Special Session by submitting a petition signed by at least ten (10) members outside of the Executive Board.

Section 5: The Biennial Conference shall take place during odd-numbered year.

PROPOSED

- A. In the event of the death or resignation of a resident, the 1st Vice-President shall assume the presidency and appoint another person from the Board of Directors to the office of 1st Vice-President, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.
- B. In the event of the death or resignation of an officer other than the President, the President may appoint another person to fulfill the vacancy, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.
- C. An officer who desires to resign from office shall submit a written resignation to the Executive Board and it shall be read at the next scheduled Board of Director's meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - Regional Representatives

Section 1: Title and Term

- A. The Association shall have two (2) representatives from each of four regions. (Eight representatives total):
See Article 4, Section H in Policy and Procedures Guidelines for list of counties for each region.)
- B. Their term shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)

Section 2: Election Procedure

- A. The election of Representatives shall take place at Biennial conference of the Association. Two representatives are elected from each region.
- B. A member is eligible to be Representative in this Association if he/she, 1) is a resident of the region in the State of Michigan, 2) is good standing member, and 3) does not hold any office.
- C. Newly-elected Representative shall take oath on the same day with the new officers.
- D. If not all Representatives are elected at the conference, the President shall appoint members to fill the positions with the approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX - Board of Directors

This Association shall have a Board of Directors. It shall consist of seven (7) duly-elected officers. The Presidents of recognized Chapters and affiliated organizations, Regional Representatives and appointed members-at-large. All members of the Board of Directors shall have equal voice and vote.

ARTICLE X - Meetings

Section 1: The Business of the Board of Directors shall be conducted at any time and place in the State of Michigan, whenever a duly-called meeting of its officers and directors shall be assembled. They shall meet at least two (2) times a year and a meeting before the General Session during the Biennial Conference.

Section 2: The meeting of this Association shall convene at Biennial Conferences during odd-numbered years.

ARTICLE XI - Home Office

Section 1: Authorization

The Association may maintain a home office on such location and in such quarters as shall be designated by the Board of Directors. The designated location shall be remained until changed by vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Executive Director

Applications for the Office of Executive Director shall be screened and appointed by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall have the responsibility of maintaining the home office within the policies, guidelines and financial limits established by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall report to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII - Amendments

The By-Laws of this Association shall be amended only at the Biennial Conferences by affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present. Such proposed changes must be written and distributed to members sixty (60) days prior to the Conference.

ARTICLE XIII - Dissolution

In the event this Association decides by majority vote at a duly-called Conference to dissolve itself, the Association shall decide by majority vote to distribute all tangible goods and assets included reserve and special funds to any organization or program that focus on Deaf people in the State of Michigan. The recipients of Association assets shall be tax exempt within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue code, or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code.

Dates of Amendments

1985 - Kalamazoo
1993 - Flint
1995 - Troy
1999 - Mt. Pleasant
2001 - Troy
2005 - Pontiac
2007 - Kalamazoo
2009 - Bay City
2011 - Lansing
2013 - Kalamazoo

The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

Article XI – Home Office

No change. Retain as-is.

Update “Board of Directors” to ”Executive Board.”

ORIGINAL

PROPOSED

- A. In the event of the death or resignation of a resident, the 1st Vice-President shall assume the presidency and appoint another person from the Board of Directors to the office of 1st Vice-President, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.
- B. In the event of the death or resignation of an officer other than the President, the President may appoint another person to fulfill the vacancy, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.
- C. An officer who desires to resign from office shall submit a written resignation to the Executive Board and it shall be read at the next scheduled Board of Director's meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - Regional Representatives

Section 1: Title and Term

- A. The Association shall have two (2) representatives from each of four regions. (Eight representatives total):
See Article 4, Section H in Policy and Procedures Guidelines for list of counties for each region.)
- B. Their term shall be from conference to conference. (2 years)

Section 2: Election Procedure

- A. The election of Representatives shall take place at Biennial conference of the Association. Two representatives are elected from each region.
- B. A member is eligible to be Representative in this Association if he/she, 1) is a resident of the region in the State of Michigan, 2) is good standing member, and 3) does not hold any office.
- C. Newly-elected Representative shall take oath on the same day with the new officers.
- D. If not all Representatives are elected at the conference, the President shall appoint members to fill the positions with the approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX - Board of Directors

This Association shall have a Board of Directors. It shall consist of seven (7) duly-elected officers. The Presidents of recognized Chapters and affiliated organizations, Regional Representatives and appointed members-at-large. All members of the Board of Directors shall have equal voice and vote.

ARTICLE X - Meetings

Section 1: The Business of the Board of Directors shall be conducted at any time and place in the State of Michigan, whenever a duly-called meeting of its officers and directors shall be assembled. They shall meet at least two (2) times a year and a meeting before the General Session during the Biennial Conference.

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ARTICLE XI - Home Office

Section 1: Authorization

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Applications for the Office of Executive Director shall be screened and appointed by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall have the responsibility of maintaining the home office within the policies, guidelines and financial limits established by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall report to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII - Amendments

The By-Laws of this Association shall be amended only at the Biennial Conferences by affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present. Such proposed changes must be written and distributed to members sixty (60) days prior to the Conference.

ARTICLE XIII - Dissolution

In the event this Association decides by majority vote at a duly-called Conference to dissolve itself, the Association shall decide by majority vote to distribute all tangible goods and assets included reserve and special funds to any organization or program that focus on Deaf people in the State of Michigan. The recipients of Association assets shall be tax exempt within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue code, or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code.

Dates of Amendments

- 1985 - Kalamazoo
- 1993 - Flint
- 1995 - Troy
- 1999 - Mt. Pleasant
- 2001 - Troy
- 2005 - Pontiac
- 2007 - Kalamazoo
- 2009 - Bay City
- 2011 - Lansing
- 2013 - Kalamazoo

The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

Article XII – Amendments

No change. Retain as-is.

Article XIII – Dissolutions

No change. Retain as-is.

Upon membership ratification of the revised bylaws, a new entry shall be added to the “Dates of Amendments” section as follows:

“2025 – Troy”

ORIGINAL

PROPOSED

The 2025 Bylaws Committee has proposed the following language change:

Please remove any blank pages and ensure that all pages containing content are numbered sequentially and in the correct order.

ORIGINAL

PROPOSED