



NAVIGATING ISSUES AT THE MAY 2022 PSEA HOUSE OF DELEGATES

The PSEA House of Delegates (“House”) is the supreme policymaking body of PSEA. The House meets twice each year, in December and May, and directs PSEA by adopting New Business Items, Resolutions, and the Government Policy Agenda for the Association. At its May meeting, the House also elects PSEA’s statewide officers, Pension Plan Directors, and NEA State Directors from Pennsylvania.

PSEA is holding a hybrid House on May 13-14, 2022, and delegates have the option of attending in person or remotely through a virtual meeting platform. To ensure that the House can conduct the business of the organization, the Board has adopted a set of Interim Rules to govern the procedures leading up to the House and has recommended Standing Rules of Procedure and Election Procedures for approval by the delegates.

The following is an overview of the procedures for the upcoming House. For additional information, please see <https://www.psea.org/hod>.

New Business Items

New Business Items (“NBIs”) are motions by delegates related to PSEA’s organizational structure and operations or its advocacy and policy efforts. An NBI, once adopted by a majority vote of the House, remains in effect until (1) a specified expiration date, (2) it is fully implemented, or (3) it is rescinded by a subsequent House.

An NBI cannot conflict with PSEA’s Constitution and Bylaws (though the Bylaws may be formally amended through the NBI process, requiring a three-fifths vote). An NBI should be within PSEA’s control and should not merely ask delegates to adopt a statement about PSEA’s beliefs or organizational positions.

New Business Office

Delegates may submit NBIs through the virtual New Business Office (“Office”). The Office will be conducted through Zoom on May 4, 2022, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.; May 5, 2022, from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m.; and May 9, 2022, from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. The Office will be staffed by members of the PSEA Constitution, Bylaws and Rules Committee who are there to assist delegates to prepare their NBIs for submission.

Both the moving and seconding delegates must appear on one of these three dates in the virtual NBI Office and must use the NBI form provided by PSEA. While not required, delegates are encouraged to sign up in advance for a time slot to log in to the virtual Office. Delegates who do not sign up for a time slot may still join the Office on any of the dates and times listed but may need to wait while Committee members are working with other delegates. For more information about the Office, including the Zoom links and the link to sign up for a time slot, please review the New Business Office flyer available at <https://www.psea.org/hod>.

Movers and seconders of NBIs may submit revisions to their NBI no later than noon on May 11, 2022. In the meantime, an interim NBI report will be posted for delegates after each New Business Office session. Final NBIs, including short titles and cost implications, will be posted for the delegates in advance of the first business session of the House, which convenes at 8:00 p.m. on May 13, 2022.

Debate on NBIs

At the appropriate time on Saturday, May 14, 2022, both the mover and seconder of an NBI must request to be recognized by the chair to move their NBI. In-person delegates will request recognition by reporting to a microphone, where PSEA staff will enter the delegate into the speaker queue. Remote delegates will place themselves into the speaker queue by typing a message into the virtual meeting platform.

Both the mover and seconder will have up to two minutes to speak in favor of their NBI. Should a mover or seconder of an NBI become unable to attend the House of Delegates, a request for substitution should be submitted to the PSEA President before the House reconvenes on Saturday morning.

The proposed Standing Rules provide that debate will be limited to no more than five additional speakers per NBI (two additional speakers for, and three against). Any delegate wishing to speak to an NBI should seek recognition by reporting to a microphone on the House floor (for in-person delegates) or typing their request to speak into the virtual meeting platform (for remote delegates).

Amendments to NBIs

The proposed Standing Rules provide that any proposed amendments to the posted NBIs must be submitted in writing to the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules Committee on or before May 14, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Delegates may submit amendments by email to nbiamendments@psea.org. The email should include the mover's name, local association, personal email address, and telephone number.

An amendment must clearly identify the NBI that the mover seeks to amend and must specifically identify the changes requested by underlining text to be added and striking through or placing brackets around text to be deleted. For example:

*Motion to amend **NBI 1** as follows: "PSEA investigate avenues to assist colleges and universities in submitting Act 48 credits to the [state] Department of Education."*

Amendments to an NBI will be considered in the order in which they are received by the Committee. Where multiple amendments to the same NBI are submitted, the later amendments may ultimately be ruled out of order based on the disposition of any earlier amendments.

Resolutions

PSEA's Resolutions set forth the formal expressions of the organization's beliefs, intent, or positions. PSEA's Resolutions and the Addendum Report of the Resolutions Committee can be found in the House pre-mailing materials, available at www.psea.org/hod.

Hearing on Resolutions

The PSEA Resolutions Committee conducts a hearing in advance of each House to hear testimony regarding proposed amendments to the Resolutions. For the May 2022 House, the Resolutions Committee hearing will be conducted virtually on May 2, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. A proposed Resolution should be submitted to the PSEA Resolutions Committee prior to or during the Resolutions Hearing.

Amendments to Resolutions

The proposed Standing Rules provide that any proposed new resolutions that have not been submitted to and adopted by the Resolutions Committee must be submitted in writing to the PSEA President and the Chair of the Resolutions Committee on or before May 14, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. with the mover and seconder clearly identified. Delegates may submit proposed new resolutions by email to resamendments@psea.org, and the email should include the names, local associations, personal email addresses, and telephone numbers for both the moving and seconding delegates. Such proposed new resolutions will only be presented to the floor of the House upon a two-thirds vote of the delegates.

Proposed amendments to existing resolutions must also be submitted on or before May 14, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., by email to resamendments@psea.org.

For additional information, including the Zoom link for the hearing, review the Resolutions Hearing flyer available at www.psea.org/hod.

Nominations and Elections

The delegates to the May 2022 House will elect the PSEA Pension Plan Director, as well as two NEA State Directors and six Alternate NEA State Directors. Candidates for these positions must be nominated by a delegate to the House.

Any preregistered delegate may submit a nomination in writing prior to the House. Such nominations must be submitted on or before April 29, 2022, and should be sent to Credentials and Elections Committee Chair Erica DeVose at nominations@psea.org. A nomination email should indicate the name, local association, and region of both the nominator and nominee, as well as the position for which the candidate is nominated. Nominations will still be accepted from the floor of the virtual House from any credentialed delegate.

The proposed Elections Procedures provide that elections for contested offices will be conducted by mail ballot after the May House of Delegates adjourns. Mail ballots will be sent on or before May 24, 2022, to preregistered delegates who are eligible to vote in the elections. Completed ballots must be returned to PSEA Headquarters no later than June 24, 2022.

For more information about the nominations and elections procedures, please review the Interim Rules of Procedure and proposed Elections Procedures for the May 2022 House of Delegates, available at www.psea.org/hod.

Delegate Resources

Resources for delegates, including rules and announcements, are available at www.psea.org/hod2021.

Delegates should contact their local president, PSEA Region officers, or any member of the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules Committee with questions about the procedures for the upcoming House.