Proposed Bylaws Amendment #11—2019
Regular Annual Session

Submitted by
North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association
California Veterinary Medical Association
Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association
Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Amend Bylaws ARTICLE V Section 4. Qualifications

Present and Proposed Wording
(deletions are struck through; additions are underlined)

Section 4. Qualifications. Individuals who have been voting members of the Association for at least five (5) ten (10) consecutive years immediately preceding an election shall be eligible to serve on the Board of Directors as a District Director. In addition, District Directors must reside in the district that they represent and must have at least one of the following qualifications:

- served at least one term on the Board of Directors;
- served one term on an AVMA council;
- served two terms on an AVMA committee;
- served four consecutive years as a delegate or alternate delegate or
- served as an officer in a Principal Veterinary Organization or Constituent Allied Veterinary Organization for three (3) years.

Statement about the Bylaws Amendment

The current AVMA Bylaws require only that District Directors be voting members of the Association for five consecutive years. Yet the eleven District Directors serve six-year terms, may hold Officer positions on the Board and be a member of the Board of Governors, are assigned liaison positions on multiple committees and councils and now, along with the rest of the Board, comprise the Board of Directors of the American Veterinary Medical Foundation.

The qualifications being proposed for District Directors are very similar to the qualifications for Vice President, which are: must have been a member of the Association for 10 consecutive years and have served at least one term on the Board of Directors or one full term on an AVMA council or two full terms on an AVMA committee or four years as a delegate or alternate delegate; or must have had extensive experience in a Principal Veterinary Organization, Constituent Allied Veterinary Organization, or regional veterinary medical association.

The wide scope of activities of today’s AVMA requires that experience in organized veterinary medicine should be a prerequisite for Board candidates, including the position of District Director. This amendment would ensure that they have the necessary experience.
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