



TO: Department Officers
Department Chairs
Unit Presidents
Unit Secretaries
Past Department Presidents

FROM: Department Constitution & Bylaws Committee

DATE: March 15, 2026

SUBJECT: 2026 ALA Department Convention Governing Document Proposed Amendments

Attached please find the **AMENDED** document containing the proposed amendments to our Department's Constitution, Bylaws, Standing Rules and Policies & Procedures that will come before the 2026 Department Convention during April 23-25, 2026 in Wasilla.

During our Question & Answer Session via Zoom on March 14, 2026, some minor changes were made in concurrence with the 20 or so members that attended. For ease, we have highlighted those within the documents in **YELLOW**. As well, we list them here:

Constitution – *no changes to original distribution of February 10, 2026*

ByLaws – ARTICLE VI - Unit Organization, Item 14 – removed in its entirety as it is a duplicate of Item 6 - redundant

Standing Rules – page 8 under Whistleblower Policy, added the words recommending to the Unit the” as only the Unit may remove a member’s membership

Page 10 Calendar, removed “15% of Poppy proceeds to Department” as few Units comply.

Page 10 Calendar, moved “Girls State Information/Application Information to all high schools and units” from November to September

Page 11 Calendar, added “American Legion Family Day – last Saturday” to April

Policies & Procedures – pages 19-20 re: J. History & Scrapbook, K. Poppy Contest and L. Chaplain’s Prayer Book, simply removed any reference to a dollar amount.

Page 28 regarding National Executive Committee Member responsibilities for hosting National Officers/dignitaries. Added the word “dignitaries” throughout.

Page 40, VII. FINANCE, removed Item B. regarding 15% poppy contribution from Units to Department to align with removal in Standing Rules.

We hope that having a Q&A Session will help us alleviate extremely long discussions at Department Convention, and allow us to update our governing documents quickly.

As a reminder and in compliance with ALA Department Constitution Article VII. Amendments and ALA Department Bylaws Article X. Amendments, this memorandum serves as official notice prior to Department Convention of the proposed amendments to the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska Constitution, Bylaws, Standing Rules and Policies & Procedures that will be considered at the 2026 Department Convention.

Many of the amendments – highlighted in green – were approved at the recent National Convention, and as such, according to our Constitution and Bylaws, are automatic to our Department. However, we wanted to indicate those as a courtesy.

“Amendments to the National Constitution (or Bylaws) adopted by National Convention action shall become effective in this Department.”

A couple others were approved at the National Convention but specific to the National organization. We felt that we needed to include them in our governing documents, but step them down to reflect our Department.

For ease of reference, those approved at National Convention are predominantly in the Constitution or Bylaws.

It was discovered that no mention to our Department Fall Conference was found in our governing documents. Sections in the Constitution and the Policies & Procedures were created to capture that.

We did consult with the Finance Committee Chair on a few items to include Fall Conference and Assessments as there were financial implications, and found that instead of putting a dollar amount in any of it, we referenced their recommendation and DEC approval. This alleviates having to update those portions each year.

Proposed amendments to the Standing Rules and Policies & Procedures reflect updates to our current practice with no substantial changes. They simply are “housekeeping” amendments to update our governing documents to reflect ALA’s current practices.

We did our best to ensure numbering, bullets and formatting were correct in the proposed changes, and hope that the DEC will give us the latitude to update those, if needed, once the governing documents have been approved.

Please email williamsonlisad@gmail.com should you have any questions or comments.

Units are responsible for distributing the proposed amendments to their delegates to the Department Convention.

These amended proposed amendments will also be posted in the Department website – www.AlaskaLegionAuxiliary.org – for easy reference.