

Updates to the TABE Constitution

Recommended Amendment #1:

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

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Current

TABE has been organized to serve the following purposes:

- A. to serve as a professional association for persons interested in the education of bilingual learners **as limited** by Article II Section B. Bilingual learners are defined as students who possess a native language other than English, regardless of instructional settings;

Proposed

Change “as limited” to **“as specified”**

Recommended Amendment #2

Article IV Affiliate Structure

Section 3: Minimum Standards

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Current

A local affiliate shall:

A. adhere and promote the goals and missions of TABE.

B. have the same membership year as TABE – November 1 to October 31;

C. guarantee open nominations and conduct all elections using secret ballots;

D. apply the one-person/one-vote principle in elections;

E. provide for proportionate representation from the different segments of the membership on local committees;

F. guarantee due process to members in matters of censure, suspension, or expulsion, and to officers in matters of impeachment and removal;

G. require all members to maintain membership in TABE and encourage membership in the National Association for Bilingual Education;

H. ensure that officers assume office on November 1st following election;

I. conduct an internal yearly audit of financial transactions and submit a copy of the audit to the TABE office;

J. submit, by November 1st a list of officers, a copy of any changes to the Constitution and/or bylaws, and the annual affiliate fee; and

K. hold a minimum of three (3) board meetings and at least one (1) general meeting or representative meeting per year.

Proposed

B. establish their own membership year;

H. ensure that offices assume office following election;

ARTICLE IV

AFFILIATE STRUCTURE

SECTION 1: ORGANIZATION

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Current

- A. A **student affiliate** consists of undergraduate college or university students **enrolled in a minimum of twelve (12) semester hours or graduate students enrolled in a minimum of nine (9) semester hours** organized under BESO, sponsored and supervised at a University setting.

Proposed

A student affiliate consists of undergraduate college or university **students enrolled in coursework,** organized under BESO, and sponsored and supervised at a University setting.

Recommended Amendment #4

ARTICLE V
OFFICERS AND APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES
SECTION 5: DUTIES OF ELECTED OFFICERS

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Current

E. The **Secretary** shall record, distribute to the Executive Board, and transmit to the TABE office, minutes of each Executive Board meeting and the House of Delegates meeting. These records shall include, but are not limited to minutes, agendas, and correspondence. The Secretary shall preserve all records in a permanent file, conduct Association correspondence, and perform other duties as required by the President. All documentation shall be made available to any TABE member at the TABE office and/or on the TABE website, upon written request and within thirty (30) days. If a hard copy of records is requested, then the actual cost for reproducing and mailing shall be borne by the member requesting such documentation or records. The secretary shall submit a written end-of-term report to the House of Delegates at the annual conference.

Proposed

E. The **Secretary** shall record, distribute to the Executive Board, and transmit to the TABE office, minutes of each Executive Board meeting and the House of Delegates meeting. The secretary shall submit a written end-of-term report to the House of Delegates at the annual conference.

Recommended Amendment #5

Add a higher education representative to the TABE Executive Board.

Wording:

The **Higher Education Representative** shall be a faculty member at an institute of higher education who holds a position impacting bilingual/ESL programs. This representative shall maintain continuous contact with institutes of higher education in the State of Texas with regards to the education of bilingual learners and submit a written report to the House of Delegates at the annual conference.