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# COA BYLAWS

**Note:** Listed at the end of these bylaws are the COA policy resolutions adopted by the COA House of Delegates over the years.



CALIFORNIA  
OPTOMETRIC  
ASSOCIATION

*Last amended February 2020*

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**CALIFORNIA OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I**  
**MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1. Classes of Members:** The membership of the California Optometric Association (COA) shall consist of the following classes: Active, Affiliate and Associate as defined in this article.

(a) Optometrist defined: An individual who has earned a doctor of optometry degree from a school or college that has been accredited or pre-accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education or by an accrediting body that the COA Board of Trustees determines to be equivalent shall be considered an optometrist for purposes of these bylaws.

**Section 2. Active Member:** An optometrist who resides in the State of California and/or who practices or engages in other related optometric activities in California as outlined in these bylaws and who subscribes to the articles of incorporation, bylaws and code of ethics of this Association shall be eligible for classification as an active member.

(a) Partial Practice Member: An optometrist who otherwise qualifies as an active member as provided by this Article and who works sixteen (16) hours or fewer per week for compensation in active optometric practice or related optometric activities shall be eligible for classification as a partial practice member.

(b) Optometric Educator Member: An optometrist who otherwise qualifies as an active member as provided by this Article and who teaches or engages in other academic- related activities at an educational institution approved by the COA Board of Trustees and who does not otherwise engage in the practice of optometry for compensation more than 16 hours per week shall be eligible for classification as an optometric educator member.

(c) Government Service Member: An optometrist who otherwise qualifies as an active member as provided by this Article and who is employed by a governmental entity and who is not practicing optometry for compensation in any other setting shall be eligible for classification as a government service member.

(d) Postgraduate Member: An optometrist who otherwise qualifies as an active member as provided by this Article and who is a resident or intern in a program accredited or pre-accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education or by an accrediting body that the COA Board of Trustees determines to be equivalent or is a full-time enrollee in a graduate program related to the practice of optometry approved by the COA Board of Trustees shall be eligible for classification as a postgraduate member. Membership may continue until the end of the calendar year in which an eligible optometrist has completed their postgraduate program

(e) Distinguished Member: An optometrist who otherwise qualifies as an active member as provided by this Article and who has completed a term of office as president of the Association shall be classified as a distinguished member upon completion of their term(s) as president. In addition, a past president of the American Optometric Association who is residing in the State of California may be elected as a distinguished member at an annual meeting of the COA House of Delegates by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present.

(f) Retired Member:

(1) An optometrist who otherwise qualifies as an active member as provided by this Article and who is at least fifty-five (55) years old on January 1 of any membership year and who no longer receives compensation for optometric-related activities shall be eligible for classification as a retired member for that membership year provided that the optometrist is a member in good standing of the Association at the time the optometrist first becomes eligible for classification as a retired member

(2) Individuals eligible for classification as a retired member who elect to pay annual dues will receive member benefits and will be entitled to membership rights as set forth in these bylaws. Retired members electing not to pay annual dues will be members of this Association in name only, ineligible for membership benefits and rights, and will not be counted among the members used to determine delegates for the COA House of Delegates.

(g) Life Member: An optometrist who otherwise qualifies as an active member as provided by this Article and who has been determined to have met the qualifications of life membership by the American Optometric Association shall be eligible for classification as a life member. Those members that would have met previous Life Member category requirements between the years 2000-2013 will be grandfathered into the Life Member category.

(h) Special Achievement Member: An optometrist who otherwise qualifies as an active member as provided by this Article and who have been nominated by the COA Board of Trustees for making a significant contribution to the profession of optometry and/or the advancement of this Association over an extended period of time and elected by a two thirds vote of the House of Delegates shall be classified as a special achievement member.

(i) Clinic Practice Member: An optometrist who otherwise qualifies as an active member as provided by this Article and who qualified for this membership category as of the close of the 2010 annual meeting of the COA House of Delegates and has remained qualified since that time shall be eligible for classification as a clinic practice member. When there are no members remaining in this category this subsection shall be repealed.

**Section 3. Affiliate Member:** Affiliate members are those persons who subscribe to the articles of incorporation, bylaws and code of ethics of the California optometric Association and who meet the following criteria.

(a) Student Member: An individual who is enrolled full-time in a school or college of optometry accredited or pre-accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education or by an accrediting body that the COA Board of Trustees determines to be equivalent shall be eligible for classification as a student member. Membership in this classification may continue until the end of the calendar year in which an eligible student has received the degree doctor of optometry and may be members of the affiliated Section, the Optometric Student Section.

(b) Non-California Resident Member: An optometrist who resides in a state outside California and does not engage in the practice optometry or optometric-related activities in California and is a member of the American Optometric Association through membership in an affiliated state optometric Association shall be eligible for classification as a non-California resident member

(c) Non-US resident Member: An optometrist who practices in a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States who is a member of the American Optometric Association where there is no affiliated Association or who resides and practices in a foreign country shall be eligible for classification as a non-US resident member

(d) Paraoptometric Member: An individual who has not earned a doctor of optometry degree or who is not a licensed optometrist in California or the United States and is employed by a member doctor of optometry, as defined in Section 2 of this article or paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, shall be classified as a paraoptometric member.

**Section 4. Associate Members:** Associate Members are those persons or entities who subscribe to the articles of incorporation and bylaws of the association and who meet the following criteria:

(a) Non-Optometrist Educator Member: An individual who has not earned a doctor of optometry degree and who holds a faculty position at a school or college of optometry accredited or pre-accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education or by an accrediting body that the COA Board of Trustees determines to be equivalent shall be eligible for classification as a non-optometrist educator member.

(b) Honorary Member: An individual who has not earned a doctor of optometry degree and who has been nominated by the COA Board of Trustees for making significant contributions to the profession of optometry and/or advancement of this Association over an extended period of time and elected by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the COA House of Delegates shall be designated an honorary member.

**Section 5. Affiliate Societies:** In accordance with the articles of incorporation of this association, active members shall be affiliated through incorporated or unincorporated societies.



(a) These societies shall be defined by the COA Board of Trustees of this association taking into account existing geographic and governmental boundaries and the interests and well-being of their affiliated active members, and shall be organized in conformity with, and subject to, these bylaws.

(b) Defined Affiliate Societies: Alameda and Contra Costa Counties Optometric Society; Cahuilla Optometric Society; Central California Optometric Society; Golden Empire Optometric Society; Humboldt-Del Norte Optometric Society; Imperial Valley Optometric Society; Kern County Optometric Society; Los Angeles County Optometric Society; Mojave Desert Optometric Society; Monterey Bay Optometric Society; Inland Empire Optometric Society; Orange County Optometric Society; Redwood Empire Optometric Society; Rio Hondo Optometric Society; Sacramento Valley Optometric Society; San Diego County Optometric Society; San Fernando Valley Optometric Society; San Francisco Optometric Society; San Gabriel Valley Optometric Society; San Joaquin Optometric Society; San Mateo County Optometric Society; Santa Clara County Optometric Society; South Bay Optometric Society; Tri-County Optometric Society; and Tulare-Kings Counties Optometric Society.

**Section 6. Affiliation of Additional Societies:** Additional societies designated by the COA Board of Trustees in accordance with Section 5 of this Article may be admitted by vote of the COA House of Delegates or, by approval of the COA Board of Trustees provided that such approval is ratified by the COA House of Delegates at its next meeting.

(a) In order to qualify for admission, a society shall:

(1) At least thirty (30) days prior to any meeting of the COA House of Delegates, submit a written application to the COA Board of Trustees, together with payment in full for required American Optometric Association and California Optometric Association dues for all its prospective members; and,

(2) At the time of submission of its application, be legally organized pursuant to a constitution or articles of incorporation and bylaws consistent with the articles of incorporation and bylaws of this association and led by a designated or elected president, secretary and treasurer provided that the offices of secretary and treasurer may be combined into the office of secretary-treasurer.

(b) Active members of one or more societies may petition the COA Board of Trustees to establish a new society by filing a written application. The application shall set forth the names of the proposed members and boundaries of the new society, shall be signed by at least seventy-five percent (75 percent) of the current active members in the area of the proposed new society, and shall be filed with the COA Board of Trustees not later than one hundred twenty (120) days before the next meeting of the COA House of Delegates.

(c) The COA Board of Trustees shall provide copies of the application to the officers of any existing affiliate society affected by it within fifteen (15) days of receipt. Unless an existing society objects in writing within thirty (30) days of notification stating its

reasons for objecting, the COA Board of Trustees shall recommend approval of the application to the COA House of Delegates as filed or with modifications by amendment to these bylaws as provided in Article XII.

**Section 7. Coordinating Councils:** Affiliate societies may form coordinating councils composed of representatives from all interested societies for the purpose of cooperating to achieve common objectives, subject to approval by the COA Board of Trustees. These councils shall organize and govern themselves in a manner consistent with the articles of incorporation of the association and these bylaws.

**Section 8. Presidents' Council:** The Presidents' Council shall be comprised of the president, president-elect and their designees of each COA affiliated society. The purpose of the Presidents' Council is to provide an organized forum to discuss issues of importance to societies and achieve common objectives. The council shall organize and govern itself in a manner consistent with the articles of incorporation of the association and these bylaws.

**Section 9. Society Affiliation of Active Members:** Active members shall be members of the affiliated society in the geographical location in which they practice optometry or are employed in other activities as described in these bylaws and as assigned by the COA secretary-treasurer. An active member may file a request with the secretary-treasurer to be a member of the affiliated society in the geographical location in which they reside.

**Section 10. Affiliation Rights:** Applicants who are accepted for active membership in the California Optometric Association shall be accepted as members by their assigned affiliate society without being required to meet any additional membership requirements.

**Section 11. Transfers of Affiliate Society Membership:** Applications for transfer by an active member to an affiliated society that is not in the geographical location in which they practice optometry or are employed in other activities as described in these bylaws and/or reside shall be filed with the COA secretary-treasurer and be approved by a vote of the COA Board of Trustees. Upon approval, the COA secretary-treasurer shall inform the affected affiliate societies. In the event the COA Board of Trustees refuses or fails to approve the transfer, the member may appeal to the COA Judicial Council. Before such transfer shall be effective, all dues and assessments owing to the affiliate society from which the member is transferring must be paid.

**Section 12. Other Memberships:** Each active member of this association shall be a member of the American Optometric Association, their affiliate society and the Public Vision League.

**Section 13. Resignation of Membership:** Any member may resign their membership in the California Optometric Association upon notification in writing to the COA secretary-treasurer.

[Article I repealed and a new Article I added by the COA House of Delegates at February 8-9, 2013, meeting. Article I, Section 3 amended by COA House of Delegates at April 4-5, 2014, meeting. Article I, Section 8 amended by COA House of Delegates at the February 2020 meeting.]

## ARTICLE II

### VOTING POWER

**Section 1. Voting Power Vested in Delegates:** The voting power of this association shall be vested in delegates from each affiliate society, each section and Student Members as provided for in this Article.

(a) Each affiliate society shall be entitled to representation by such delegates in the proportion of one Delegate to each thirteen (13) Active Members with an additional delegate for a fraction of at least (7) members of thirteen (13). An affiliate society with less than thirteen (13) members is entitled to one delegate. All representation

shall be based on aggregated societal dues from the preceding fiscal year, calculated as of the last day of the fiscal year and counting member dues payable and not delinquent in excess of sixty (60) days by the close of the fiscal year. Each affiliate society delegate present at the House of Delegates, to which they were selected, shall be entitled to one (1) vote.

(b) Each section with approved bylaws and elected officers pursuant to Article XIII shall be entitled to two (2) delegates. Each section delegate present at the House of Delegates, to which they were selected, shall be entitled to one (1) vote.

(c) Student members at each school or college of optometry in California, accredited or pre-accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education or by an accrediting body that the COA Board of Trustees determines to be equivalent as of 120 days prior to any meeting of the COA House of Delegates, shall be entitled to two (2) delegates. Each student member delegate present at the COA House of Delegates, to which they were selected, shall be entitled to one half (1/2) vote.

[Article II, Section 1(c) amended by COA House of Delegates at February 8-9, 2013, meeting.]

**Section 2. Criteria in Selecting Delegates and Alternates:** Any Active Member in good standing in his or her affiliate society, any affiliate member in good standing of a section or any Student Member in good standing shall be eligible to become a delegate or alternate delegate.

(a) Delegates and alternate delegates shall be selected at least ninety (90) days prior to the date of the annual meeting, or at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the date of a special meeting, of the House of Delegates for which they are selected. Alternate delegates shall be selected on the ratio of one (1) alternate delegate for each delegate.

(b) No delegate or alternate delegate may be represented or may vote by proxy in any House of Delegates.

(c) The names of delegates and alternate delegates shall be submitted to the COA secretary-treasurer not later than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the meeting of the COA House of Delegates for which they are selected or at least 21 days prior to the date of a special meeting of the COA House of Delegates.

[Article II, Section 2(c) amended by COA House of Delegates at February 8-9, 2013, meeting.]

**Section 3. Privileges of the House:** Members of the COA Board of Trustees, distinguished members, and any dean or president of a school or college of optometry in California accredited or pre-accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education or by an accrediting body that the COA Board of Trustees determines to be equivalent shall have the privilege of the floor at all meetings of the COA House of Delegates.

[Article II, Section 3 amended by COA House of Delegates at February 8-9, 2013, meeting.]

## ARTICLE III

### MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

**Section 1. Annual Meeting of the COA House of Delegates:** The annual meeting of the members shall be held at a location determined by the board of trustees.

(a) The date for the annual COA House of Delegates meeting shall be determined by the board of trustees. It shall be at least thirty (30) days prior to the Congress of the American Optometric Association.

(b) Notice of annual meeting of the COA House of Delegates: Written notice of the annual meeting of the COA House of Delegates (HOD) meeting shall be given to the president and president-elect of the affiliate societies, the COA Student Section Coordinating Council and section chairs not less than one hundred twenty (120) days before the date of the meeting. The notice shall state the place, date, and time of the meeting and those matters which the COA Board of Trustees intends to present for action by the HOD.

(c) No later than 45 (forty-five) calendar days prior to the first session of that year's COA HOD meeting, a notice containing the names of all those being nominated for a COA officer, trustee, HOD speaker and HOD vice speaker positions by the COA Nominating Committee pursuant to Section 7(d) of this article shall be sent to the societies.

[Article III, Section 1 title amended, Section 1(b) amended and 1(c) added by COA House of Delegates at February 8-9, 2013, meeting. Article III, Sections 1(b) and 1(c) amended by the COA House of Delegates at February 9-10, 2018, meeting.]

**Section 2. Quorum:** Delegates from a majority of the societies, each represented by a majority of its allotted delegates, must be present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the COA House of Delegates.

**Section 3. Special Meetings:** Special meetings of the COA House of Delegates may be held at such times and places as the board of trustees shall decide, or upon petition by two-thirds (2/3) of the societies.

**Section 4. Notice of Special Meetings:** Written notice of a special meeting shall be given to the president and president-elect of the affiliated societies, the COA Student Section Coordinating Council and section chairs not less than thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting, or not less than 45 (forty-five) days before the date of the meeting in the event amendments to these bylaws are proposed. The notice shall state the place, date, and time of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted, and no other business may be transacted. The notice of any special meeting at which officers or trustees are to be elected shall include

the names of all those nominated-in accordance with Section 7(d) of this article as of the date the notice is sent. Proxy voting at any special meeting is prohibited.

[Article III, Section 4 amended by COA House of Delegates at February 8-9, 2013, meeting. Article III, Section 4 amended by COA House of Delegates at February 9-10, 2018, meeting.]

**Section 5. Seating of Delegates and Non-Delegates at Meetings of the House of Delegates and Special Meetings:** Delegates and non-delegates may be seated separately at all business sessions of meetings of the COA House of Delegates.

**Section 6. Right of Members to Attend House of Delegates Meetings:** All Active Members, Affiliate Members and Associate Members may attend any meeting of the COA House of Delegates.

**Section 7. COA House of Delegates Committees:** The committees of the COA House of Delegates shall be as follows:

(a) Advisory Committee. The speaker shall chair and shall appoint an advisory committee, a standing committee of the house. The advisory committee shall advise the speaker and vice-speaker with respect to the order of business of the HOD and in all other matters referred to it by the speaker, vice-speaker or the HOD, concerning the operations of the HOD.

(b) The speaker shall appoint five (5) delegates prior to the annual meeting of the COA House of Delegates to serve as the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee shall be responsible for:

(1) Preparation and submission of rules for adoption by the house.

(2) Interpretation of the Articles of Incorporation and the bylaws of the association in any issue or dispute referred to it by the house or board of trustees. A decision by the Rules Committee may be accepted or rejected upon the majority vote of the house or board of trustees, but modified only with the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the body receiving the interpretation.

(c) Reference Committees. The speaker shall appoint as many reference committees, each consisting of three (3) or more delegates or alternates and chaired by his or her designate from among them, as the speaker determines necessary to study and report to the HOD on business before it. Each reference committee shall:

(1) Take public testimony on resolutions and matters referred to it by the HOD according to a schedule set by the advisory committee.

(2) Retire to review the testimony and other submitted information it deems relevant to each resolution or matter.

(3) Prepare and submit to the HOD a report dealing with and making recommendations on all resolutions and matters submitted to it. The report of each reference committee may be acted upon by the HOD as a whole or section by section, as the HOD determines.

(d) COA Nominating Committee. The COA Nominating Committee shall be responsible for soliciting and presenting to the COA House of Delegates qualified candidates for the COA Board of Trustees and HOD speaker and vice speaker. The COA Nominating Committee shall be composed of eight (8) active members in good standing, seven (7) of whom shall be voting members, as follows:

(1) The COA third past president who shall serve as a non-voting member and committee chair.

(2) The COA second past president who shall serve as vice chair.

(3) Six active members representing COA societies for a two (2) year term who, at the time of their appointment, shall have served as a society officer, a delegate to the COA House of Delegates or on a COA standing committee, as defined in these bylaws, in the most recent five (5) COA fiscal years.

(i) The society representatives appointed by the society shall serve two (2) year staggered terms. Three societies and three alternate societies shall be chosen at random at each COA House of Delegates meeting. A society may not serve again until each society has been selected for the committee.

(ii) Implementation of this subsection shall begin with the random society selections at the 2013 COA House of Delegates meeting.

(4) Committee members may serve one (1) term and are eligible for re-appointment after having not served one (1) full term. The one (1) term limitation shall not apply to time served on the committee as a result of filling a vacancy. However, the second and third past presidents may serve up to two consecutive terms in the event the COA president is re-elected for a second consecutive term.

(5) No current COA officer or trustee shall be eligible to serve on the committee and no more than two committee members may be members of the same society.

(6) Committee members are prohibited from seeking a COA officer, trustee, speaker or vice speaker position while serving on the committee.

(e) The speaker, with the COA House of Delegates concurring, shall have the right to appoint special committees of the house for special work concerning the house.

(f) All committees of the COA House of Delegates shall present their reports to the house in writing.

(g) The terms of all committees of the COA House of Delegates, except the Nominating Committee, shall expire with the adjournment of the COA House of Delegates meeting.

[Article III, Sections 7(a), 7(c) and 7(d) amended by COA House of Delegates at February 8-9, 2013, meeting.]



## ARTICLE IV

### CORPORATE POWERS AND DUTIES

**Section 1. Composition of the Board of Trustees:** The corporate powers of this association shall be vested in a board of no less than eight (8) and no more than ten (10) trustees. The board shall be composed of the president; president-elect; secretary-treasurer; immediate past president; and no less than four (4) and no more than six (6) trustees elected as provided in Section 3 of this Article. The officers and trustees shall be Active Members of the association throughout their terms of service.

**Section 2. Election of Officers:** Officers of the association shall be elected for the terms specified in Article V, Section 1 (b) of these bylaws by a majority of Delegates present and voting at the annual meeting of the House of Delegates and shall perform those duties enumerated in Article V of these bylaws.

**Section 3. Election of Trustees:** Trustees of the association shall be elected by a majority of delegates present and voting at the annual meeting of the House of Delegates and shall serve two-year terms beginning upon election and ending at the second annual meeting following their election. The trustees' terms shall be staggered so that at least two (2) trustees shall be elected at each annual meeting of the House of Delegates.

**Section 4. Nomination and Succession:** Candidates for election as an officer or trustee shall be Active Members of the association in good standing and may be nominated by the COA Nominating Committee as provided in Article III, Section 7(d) of these bylaws or from the floor at a properly convened meeting of the COA House of Delegates. The officers and trustees shall be installed at the meeting of the COA HOD at which they are elected. Each officer and trustee shall serve until a successor is elected or appointed.

[Article IV, Section 4 amended by COA House of Delegates at February 8-9, 2013, meeting.]

**Section 5. Vacancies in Office:** Vacancies in any of the offices of the Association shall be filled as follows:

(a) If a vacancy occurs in the office of president, the president-elect shall become president for the remainder of his or her predecessor's term. Serving the remainder of that term shall not affect the right of the president-elect to succeed to the office of the president as provided had the vacancy not occurred.

(b) All other vacancies among the officers of the association shall be filled by appointment by the president, as provided in Article V, Section 2 (c) (2) of these bylaws, until the next meeting of the House of Delegates.

(c) Officers appointed to complete the term of a vacated office shall serve until they or their successors are elected by the House of Delegates, except that an appointed secretary-treasurer shall be qualified for nomination and election to a full two-year term.

**Section 6. Powers and Duties of Board of Trustees:** Subject to these bylaws, the board of trustees is charged with, and shall have full power to control and manage the property and conduct the business of this corporation. The board is not prohibited from delegating authority to perform these duties, provided, that it retains full responsibility for ensuring that those duties are appropriately carried out. In furtherance of the foregoing powers, but not in limitation thereof, it shall have the power and duty:

(a) To select and remove all other officers, agents and employees of the corporation; prescribe such powers and duties for them as may not be inconsistent with law, with the Articles of Incorporation, or with these bylaws; fix their compensation; and require from them security for faithful service.

(b) To conduct, manage, and control the affairs, fiscal management and business of the corporation; and to establish such policies and procedures therefore not inconsistent with law, with the Articles of Incorporation, or with these bylaws, as they may deem best. Policies and procedures for the association adopted by the board of trustees shall be recorded in a manual maintained by the board and open to inspection by any Active Member upon written request. Policies adopted by the board may be changed only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the board of trustees.

(c) To adopt, make and use a corporate seal; to adopt the membership application forms and membership certificate forms; and to alter the form of such seal and such membership application forms and membership certificates from time to time.

(d) To borrow money and incur indebtedness for the purpose of the corporation; and to cause to be executed and delivered therefore in the corporate name promissory notes, bonds, pledges, hypothecations\*, or other evidences of debt and security therefore.

(e) To appoint, employ, and to annually evaluate the performance of the executive director. Any contract of employment of the executive director shall not exceed a three (3) year term of employment.

(f) To consider all matters relative to the business, finances, and other affairs of this association referred to it for recommendation and action.

(g) To report in writing at the annual meeting of the COA House of Delegates all matters of significance to it. The report shall be presented to the HOD for its consideration and disposition.

(h) To remove, by a three-fourths (3/4) vote, officers, trustees, committee chairs, committee members, or other appointees or agents who fail to perform their duties.

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\* When a person pledges a mortgage as collateral for a loan, it refers to the right that a banker has to liquidate goods if you fail to service a loan. The term also applies to securities in a margin account used as collateral for money loaned from a brokerage.

(i) To authorize expenditures over and above those provided for in the budget approved by the COA House of Delegates. Any such additional expenditures must be authorized by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the board of trustees.

(j) To withdraw funds from COA reserves, provided, that any withdrawal of reserve funds shall require three-fourths (3/4) vote of the board of trustees.

(k) With regard to sections created pursuant to Article XIII of these bylaws, the board shall have the power to:

(1) Appoint a trustee member to serve as a liaison.

(2) Recommend to the COA House of Delegates approval or rejection of any bylaws, or changes in bylaws, which are proposed for any section.

(3) To exercise over any section all other powers which are not inconsistent with this association's Articles of Incorporation or bylaws.

(l) The board of trustees shall submit an annual budget to the COA House of Delegates for approval. The budget may include proposed dues increases as authorized by the COA House of Delegates by way of a continuing resolution. The proposed dues change/budget shall not take effect until approved by the COA House of Delegates. The budget shall be submitted to affiliate societies at least 45 (forty-five) days prior to the next annual meeting of the COA House of Delegates.

(m) The board of trustees shall contract with an independent auditor to conduct a full annual audit of the association and its entities.

[Article IV, Section 6(l) amended by COA House of Delegates at February 9-10, 2018, meeting.]

### **Section 7. Meetings of Board of Trustees:**

(a) Regular meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held at least four (4) times per year at times and locations determined by the president to be necessary and convenient for the transaction of Association business.

(b) Special meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be called by the president or upon the written request of three (3) members of the board. Special meetings of the board shall be held upon four (4) days' regular written notice or forty-eight (48) hours' notice delivered by express delivery or by electronic means.

(c) A majority of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(d) A majority of the elected and appointed members of the trustees present, whether or not a quorum, may adjourn any meeting to another time and place.

(e) Members of the board may participate in a meeting through use of conference telephone or similar communications equipment, so long as all members

participating in such meeting can hear one another. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this section of the bylaws constitutes presence in person at such meeting.

(f) Any action taken by the board consistent with these bylaws may be approved by the board without a meeting, if all of the board's members consent in writing to the action under consideration. Written consent may be obtained by mail delivered by the U.S. Postal Service or other common carrier, facsimile or e-mail. The written consent or consents shall be filed with the minutes of those proceedings of the board. Any action taken by the board without a meeting, by written consent, shall have the same force and effect as vote of the trustees at a regularly constituted meeting.

[Article IV, Section 7(f) amended by COA House of Delegates at February 8-9, 2013, meeting.]

[Article IV, Section 1 amended by COA House of Delegates at April 4-5, 2014, meeting.]

[Article IV, Section 3 amended by COA House of Delegates at April 4-5, 2014, meeting.]

## ARTICLE V

### OFFICERS

**Section 1. Officers:** The officers of this association shall be a president, president-elect, secretary-treasurer, and immediate past president. The officers of the House of Delegates shall be the speaker of the House of Delegates and vice-speaker of the House of Delegates.

(a) Each candidate for office shall be an active member of the association at the time of his or her election, and each candidate for speaker and vice-speaker shall be qualified as a delegate as provided by Article II of these bylaws. Officers shall be elected as provided in Section 2 of Article IV of these bylaws. To be eligible to hold the office of president or president-elect, a candidate shall have served as a member of the Board of Trustees for at least one (1) year immediately preceding his or her election.

(b) For purposes of this subsection, "term" shall mean a period of one (1) year, beginning upon election by the House of Delegates as provided in Article IV, Section 2, and ending at the next annual meeting of the house. Each officer shall serve one term, except that:

(1) A President may serve two (2) consecutive terms. If a president is elected to a second consecutive term, the person holding the office of president-elect during the incumbent's first term is eligible to be nominated from the floor of the House of Delegates on the same terms as any other Active Member for election to a consecutive, one (1) year term.

(2) The secretary-treasurer shall serve a term of two (2) years, commencing with his or her election and until his or her successor is elected or appointed.

(3) A speaker who has served four (4) one-year terms in office as speaker shall not be eligible for either the office of speaker or vice-speaker, and a vice-speaker who has served four (4) one-year terms in office as vice-speaker shall not be eligible for the office of vice-speaker.

### **Section 2. Duties of the President:**

(a) The president or, in his or her absence or incapacity, the president-elect, shall preside at all regular and special meetings of the Board of Trustees.

(b) The president may call special meetings of the Board of Trustees, as provided for in these bylaws.

(c) Subject to approval by the Board of Trustees, the president shall appoint:

(1) All committee chairs and committee members, except as otherwise provided in these bylaws.

(2) Fill any vacancies among officers, trustees, committee chairs, and committee members occurring as a result of death, resignation, or otherwise, as provided for in these bylaws.

(3) Appoint an active member of the association to be the editor of *California Optometry* magazine.

The president, shall, with the assistance of the executive director, notify all officers, trustees, committee chairs, and committee members of their election or appointment and inform them of their duties.

(d) The president shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

(e) The president shall, in conjunction with the secretary-treasurer, certify to all official acts of the association.

(f) The president shall perform such other duties as are necessary to the conduct of the affairs of the association.

(g) The president shall attend the annual Congress of the American Optometric Association.

### **Section 3. Duties of the President-elect:**

(a) The president-elect, in the absence or incapacity of the president, shall exercise the powers and functions of the president.

(b) The president-elect shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

(c) The president-elect shall attend the American Optometric Association Congress if and as directed by the Board of Trustees.

**Section 4. Duties of the Secretary-Treasurer:** The secretary-treasurer shall record the minutes of all meetings and transactions of this association. The secretary-treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of the corporation in charge of the association's funds, investments, and records, and shall direct the preparation of financial and membership reports.

**Section 5. Duties of the Speaker of the House of Delegates:** The speaker shall preside at meetings of the House of Delegates and shall perform such other duties as parliamentary usage may require and shall be responsible for minutes of the proceedings of the House of Delegates. The speaker may appoint a parliamentarian, sergeants at arms, and all committees authorized by the House of Delegates, unless otherwise provided in these bylaws.

**Section 6. Duties of the Vice-Speaker of the House of Delegates:** The vice-speaker shall act as speaker in the absence of or at the request of the speaker.

**Section 7. Reports of Officers:** The officers of the association shall report in writing to the House of Delegates at least forty-five (45) days prior to its annual meeting.

## ARTICLE VI

### COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

**Section 1. Board of Trustees Committees:** The committees of the Board of Trustees, shall be composed of not less than five (5) nor more than (9) members each, appointed in accordance with Article IV, Section 2 of these bylaws, except as otherwise specified, as follows:

- (a) The Executive Committee shall consist of the president, the president-elect, and the secretary-treasurer, with the executive director serving as an ex officio, non-voting member. The Executive Committee is authorized to exercise any of the powers and duties of the board specified in Article IV, Section 6 of these bylaws delegated to it by the board, either when the board is not in session or in circumstances where the president determines that time is of the essence and a special meeting of the full board is impractical. Any decision taken in a meeting of the executive committee shall be supported by the affirmative votes of two members reflected in written minutes and shall be reviewed by the board at its next regular meeting. The entire Board of Trustees shall be informed of decisions made by the Executive Committee as soon as practical.
- (b) The Education and Clinical Practice Committee shall develop, plan, supervise the conduct of, and review meetings, programs, and other activities it determines to be beneficial for educating optometrists and paraoptometric in professional practice and advancing the interests of the association.
- (c) The Finance Committee shall be chaired by the secretary-treasurer and shall review annually preliminary estimates of income, expenditures, and additions to reserves, review and submit an annual budget to the board, and review and report to the board on the financial and operational records of all association entities.
- (d) The Health Care Delivery Systems Committee shall advocate for the full integration of optometrists and their patients into California's health care system by establishing relationships with and monitoring the eligibility and payment practices of public and private third party payers, and by joining with other organizations with similar objectives.
- (e) The Legislation-Regulation Committee shall monitor all legislative and regulatory activity affecting the practice of optometry in California and shall have the authority to negotiate and take positions on legislation and regulations on behalf of the association, consistent with association policy.
- (f) The Membership Committee shall review and recommend for approval or disapproval all applications for membership and shall investigate and recommend to the board policies or initiatives to recruit and retain members of the association, based on periodic assessments of the needs and desires of member and non-member optometrists.



(g) The Sponsored Services Committee shall manage and perform any necessary due diligence with respect to products, services, or vendors sponsored or endorsed by the Association for its members' benefit and may investigate and recommend new ones, consistent with guidelines and policies adopted by the board.

(h) Except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, such other committees as the board deems necessary or desirable for the performance of the activities of the association.

**Section 2. Judicial Council:** The Judicial Council shall consist of the immediate past president, who shall serve as chair, and not less than three (3) nor more than five (5) other members appointed by the president pursuant to Article V, Section 2 of these bylaws. Appointed members shall serve no more than three (3) consecutive two (2) year terms. The Judicial Council shall:

(a) Consider proposals for amending the association's Code of Ethics that, if approved by the council shall be submitted to the Board of Trustees as specified in Article XII, Section 1 of these bylaws.

(b) Provide advisory opinions regarding interpretations of the American Optometric Association's Code of Ethics or the California Optometric Association's Code of Ethics.

(c) Consider appeals from members, applicants for membership, or members of the public concerning conduct by a member or a local society.

(d) Hold hearings and issue decisions in disputes arising between or among affiliate societies.

(e) Enforce the association's Conflict of Interest Policy adopted by the Board of Trustees.

(f) Exercise the powers of the association to discipline members, either upon its own initiative or upon request of an officer of the association, the Board of Trustees, or any society. Investigations and hearings on disciplining members shall comply with the requirements of Article VIII, Section 2 of these bylaws. Decisions of the council shall be final unless otherwise provided in these bylaws or in the bylaws of the American Optometric Association.

(g) Decisions of the Judicial Council may be appealed to the Board of Trustees.

## ARTICLE VII

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Section 1. Functions and Duties of the Executive Director:** The functions and duties of the executive director shall be to administer and supervise the operation of this association, in consultation with the Board of Trustees.

**Section 2. Subordinate Employees:** The executive director is authorized to direct the activities of all other employees in conformance with policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees.

**Section 3. Expenditures:** The executive director and the executive director's designee are authorized to pay any obligation up to and including an amount approved by the Board of Trustees, in addition to distributions to entities, designated accounts and payroll, local, state and federal taxes which may exceed that amount. The executive director, or the executive director's designee as approved by the Board of Trustees, and the secretary-treasurer or, in the absence of the secretary/treasurer, the president, shall be authorized to pay any obligation exceeding that approved amount: provided, that such payable is documented and in compliance with the association's budget as approved by the House of Delegates.

**Section 4. Attendance at American Optometric Association Congress:** The executive director shall attend the annual Congress of the American Optometric Association.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**CODE OF ETHICS**

**Section 1. Code of Ethics:**

- (a) The Code of Ethics set forth in subsection (b) shall regulate and govern all members of this association. Any change to the association's Code of Ethics shall be made in accordance with Article XII, Section 1 (a) and (b) of these bylaws.
- (b) Upon admission to the association, the member resolves and agrees:
- (1) TO KEEP the visual welfare of the patient uppermost at all times;
  - (2) TO PROMOTE in every possible way, in collaboration with the association, better care for the visual needs of humanity;
  - (3) TO ENHANCE continuously his or her educational and technical proficiency so that his or her patients may receive the benefits of all acknowledged improvements in visual care;
  - (4) TO SEE THAT no person shall lack for visual care, regardless of financial status;
  - (5) TO ADVISE the patient whenever consultation with another optometric colleague or referral for other professional care seems advisable;
  - (6) TO HOLD in professional confidence all information concerning a patient and to use that information only for the benefit of that patient;
  - (7) TO CONDUCT himself or herself as an exemplary citizens;
  - (8) TO MAINTAIN his or her offices and practices in keeping with professional standards; and
  - (9) TO PROMOTE and maintain cordial and unselfish relationships with members of the profession of optometry and other professions for the exchange of information to the advantage of humanity.

**Section 2. Suspension or Revocation of Membership for Code of Ethics Violation:** The Judicial Council shall suspend or terminate the membership of members who violate the association's Code of Ethics subject to the following requirements:

- (a) The Judicial Council shall cause fifteen (15) days' prior written notice of termination or suspension to be given to a member accused of violating the association's Code of Ethics and his or her society, addressed to the members and society at their last known addresses.

(b) The notice shall state the right of the member and his or her society to be heard orally or in writing not less than five (5) days before the proposed date of suspension or termination.

(c) The foregoing procedure is intended to conform to the requirements of subdivision of Section 7341 of the Nonprofit Corporation Law of the State of California and shall be interpreted to conform to such requirements.

## ARTICLE IX

### DUES

**Section 1. Method of Fixing Amount and Time of Payment of Dues:** Dues or special assessments of members shall be in such amounts as prescribed by the House of Delegates and proposals for an increase in dues or any form of assessments must be presented in the same manner as amendments to these bylaws, as set forth in Article XII, Section 1 of these bylaws and shall be payable at such time or times as may be fixed by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees may not increase dues or impose assessments without approval by majority vote of the House of Delegates at its next meeting.

**Section 2. Suspension of Membership for Nonpayment of Dues:** The Judicial Council shall establish rules and procedures governing the suspension of members for nonpayment of dues. The council's rules and procedures shall be disseminated to the societies and to the membership and at a minimum shall provide:

- (a) At least thirty (30) days written notice of the proposed date of suspension, to be sent to the member's last address appearing in the association's records and copied to the member's affiliate society;
- (b) A statement of the reasons for the suspension; and
- (c) An opportunity for the member to be heard, orally or in writing, not less than five (5) days before the effective date of the suspension.

**Section 3. Modification of Dues:** Upon petition by a society, the Board of Trustees may modify the dues requirements for an individual in cases of demonstrated hardship other than illness.

**Section 4. Waiver of Dues for Ill Members:** Upon notification to the executive director that a member of the association has been out of his or her office for at least thirty-one (31) consecutive days due to illness, that member's dues shall be automatically waived, retroactive to his or her first day out of the office, until such time as he or she returns to practice.

[Article IX, Section 5 repealed by the COA House of Delegates at February 8-9, 2013, meeting.]

**ARTICLE X**  
**AMERICAN OPTOMETRIC**  
**ASSOCIATION**

**Section 1. Affiliation:** This association shall affiliate with the American Optometric Association.

[Article X, Section 1(b) repealed and Section 1(a) renumbered by the COA House of Delegates at February 8-9, 2013, meeting.]

**Section 2. Delegates to American Optometric Association Congress:** The delegates and alternates of this Association to the annual Congress of the American Optometric Association shall be nominated by the president, approved by the Board of Trustees, and elected at the annual meeting of the House of Delegates preceding the Congress they are elected to attend. If delegates are not so elected, the president is authorized to appoint, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees, the delegates and alternates to such annual Congress.

## ARTICLE XI

### MISCELLANEOUS

**Section 1. Fiscal Year:** The fiscal year of this association and all its related entities shall be determined by the Board of Trustees

**Section 2. Rules of Order:** Except where inconsistent with the provisions of these bylaws, the association shall be governed in all its deliberations by the current revised edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

**Section 3. Income and Property:** The income and property of the association from whatever source derived shall be applied solely toward the promotion of the purposes of the association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus or otherwise, by way of profit to the members of the association: provided, that nothing herein shall prevent the payment in good faith of any obligation to an officer or employee of the association, or any other person in return for any services actually rendered by the authority of the association, or by the Board of Trustees to promote the purposes of the association. A current asset inventory of all property of the association shall be the responsibility of the executive director and is to be submitted to the Board of Trustees on an annual basis. All property of the association shall be indemnified against loss or forfeiture by purchase of appropriate insurance, the premiums to be paid by the association.

**Section 4. Bonding of Employees:** Employees of the association and of its entities and officers and trustees, who owe a fiduciary obligation for fiscal management of the association or a related entity, shall be appropriately bonded by a surety company approved by the board. Each entity of the association shall adopt a similar policy.

**Section 5. Severability Clause:** In the event that any provision, section, or part of section of the bylaws should be declared invalid or inoperative by a court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions, sections, or parts of sections, and the remainder shall be given effect as if such invalid or inoperative provision, section, or part of section, had not been declared invalid or inoperative.

**Section 6. Repeal of Prior Bylaws and Constitution:** Any provision, section, or part of a section of any previously adopted bylaws inconsistent with the provisions of these bylaws is hereby repealed.

**Section 7. Indemnifications of Officers, Trustees, Employees and Agents:** To the fullest extent permitted by law, this corporation shall indemnify its directors, officers, employees, and agents against all expenses, judgments, fines, settlements and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred by them in connection with any threatened, pending or completed civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action or proceeding, by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director,

officer, employee or agent of the corporation. "Expenses," as used in this bylaw, includes, without limitation, attorneys' fees and expenses necessary to establish any right to indemnity.



## ARTICLE XII

### AMENDMENTS OF BYLAWS

**Section 1. Method of Amendment:** These bylaws may be amended at any annual meeting of the COA House of Delegates as follows:

- (a) Societies shall submit to the COA Board of Trustees any proposed amendment not less than 60 (sixty) days prior to the date of the meeting of the COA House of Delegates or
- (b) The board of trustees may also propose amendments to these bylaws and shall submit them with those amendments from the societies to the secretary-treasurer of the association not less than 60 (sixty) days prior to the date of the annual meeting of the COA House of Delegates.
- (c) The COA Presidents' Council may also propose amendments to these bylaws and shall submit them to the secretary-treasurer of the association not less than 60 (sixty) days prior to the date of the annual meeting of the COA House of Delegates.

**Section 2. Notice to Affiliate Societies:** The secretary-treasurer shall give notice of the proposed amendments to the president and president-elect of the affiliate societies, the COA Student Section Coordinating Council and section chairs not less than 45 (forty-five) days prior to the meeting of the COA House of Delegates.

**Section 3. Vote Required:** A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present at the meeting shall be necessary to amend these bylaws: provided, that any amendment to Article VIII of these bylaws shall require a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the delegates present at any meeting of the COA House of Delegates.

**Section 4. When Effective:** Any amendment to these bylaws adopted at any meeting of the COA House of Delegates or shall become effective upon adoption.

[Article XII, Sections 1 and 2 amended by COA House of Delegates at February 9-10, 2018, meeting.]  
Article XII, Sections 1(c) amended by COA House of Delegates at February 2020, meeting.]

## ARTICLE XIII

### SECTIONS

**Section 1. Purpose of Sections - In General:** The Board of Trustees may accept and review petitions for the creation of special purpose sections by and for the benefit of the association's members and recommend their adoption by the House of Delegates by amendment to the association's bylaws. Petitions for creation of sections shall address the following objectives:

- (a) To enhance the visual quality of life and the image of optometry.
- (b) To promote the identity of optometry within the section's area of interest.
- (c) To serve as a forum of discussion in the section's area of interest.
- (d) To educate members of the section and encourage other California Optometric Association members to become involved in the special area of interest.
- (e) To develop information for public relations and legislative activities.
- (f) To advance the level of skill or training of the members within the section's area of interest.

**Section 2. Organization:** The House of Delegates by two-thirds (2/3) vote may create a new section, combine existing sections, change the name of sections, or discontinue sections if the following requirements have been met:

- (a) Members of sections must be Active or Affiliate Members of the association and must meet the requirements of the Bylaws of their respective sections.
- (b) Each section shall elect its own officers in the manner provided for in its bylaws.
- (c) Amendments to the bylaws of a section shall not become effective until approved by the House of Delegates upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees.
- (d) A meeting of each section shall be held at least once a year.
- (e) Dues shall be established for the section in accordance with the section's bylaws.

**Section 3. Sections – Establishment, Combination, Discontinuation or Change of Name:** At least one hundred and twenty (120) days before the meeting of the House of Delegates at which action is to be taken, the proponents must file with the secretary-treasurer a proposal to establish, combine, discontinue, or change the name of a section. The association shall provide to the delegates at least ninety (90) days before the meeting copies of the proposal, setting forth:

- (a) The need for the proposed section.

(b) The contemplated purpose of the section, which must further the objectives of and be compatible with the purposes of any association committee or entity and any other section approved by the house.

(c) The proposed bylaws of the section, including a description of its scope and function, which must be consistent with the constitution and bylaws of the association.

(d) The proposed budget for the section for the first year of its operation.

(e) A list of present or prospective members of the association who have signed statements affirming that they will apply for membership in the section.

#### **Section 4. Approved Sections—In General:**

(a) Affiliation: All sections approved pursuant to this Article and their members shall be deemed affiliated with the association.

(b) Duties and Powers: The Board of Trustees of the association shall exercise the same duties and powers with respect to expenditure of funds and creation of obligations, by an approved Section as they do with regard or on behalf of the association and its entities.

(c) Privileges: All actions involving the assets, policies, or procedures of the association that an approved Section proposes to take must be approved by the Board of Trustees.

#### **Section 5. Approved Sections:**

(a) Employed Optometrist Section. The purpose of the Employed Optometrist Section is to provide a forum and resources for the identification, analysis, and solution of problems unique to the professional practice of optometry by employed optometrists. For purposes of this section, “employed optometrist” shall mean any Optometric Doctor licensed and in good standing with the State of California who practices in a business relationship other than as an independent solo or group practitioner or as an owner or shareholder of a distinct optometric corporation.

(b) Optometric Student Section. The purpose of the Optometric Student Section is to provide a forum in which students preparing themselves for the professional practice of optometry may identify, analyze, and seek solutions to problems unique to optometric students. For purposes of this section, “optometric student” shall mean a student enrolled full-time and in good standing in a California school of optometry accredited or provisionally accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education.

(c) Low Vision Rehabilitation Section: The purpose of this Section is to improve the quality of low vision rehabilitation services provided to the public and to promote the professional development of COA member optometrists, thereby furthering the mission of the California Optometric Association.

[Article XII, Section 5 amended by COA House of Delegates at April 4-5, 2014, meeting.]

## **COA POLICY RESOLUTIONS**

In accordance with 2016 COA Policy Resolution 1, "COA Policy Resolutions: Definitions and Retention," listed below are policy resolutions adopted by the COA House of Delegates (HOD) in chronological order by year. Policy resolutions represent the official policies of COA as adopted by the COA HOD and can cover:

1. Statements on the standards of practice of the profession that provide direction to member doctors of optometry.
2. Position statements on external issues affecting the profession.
3. Statements on the organization, governance and functioning of the organization.
4. Directives, which are statements by the COP HOD to the COA Board of Trustees (BOT) about actions that the organization or the BOT should take; for example, study an issue and report back to the HOD, or advocate a specific position.

The listed resolutions reflect their current standing, being either “Active,” “Standing” or “Archived.” This listing of resolutions is not a part of, and has no bearing on, the COA bylaws that are presented above.

**1964 PR# A-7 Orinda Study**

**RESOLVED**, That the California Optometric Association, in convention assembled, does hereby declare the technique as originated in the Orinda Study to be a recommended vision screening program for the school children of the State of California, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the COA recommends that a the American Optometric Association does declare the technique as originated in the Orinda Study to be a recommended vision screening program for the school children of the United States.

**Archived.**

**1966 PR#A-24 Public Vision League**

**RESOLVED**, That all active members of the California Optometric Association shall forthwith be members of the Public Vision League; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the Secretary of the California Optometric Association be authorized to forthwith notify Public Vision League of the names and addresses of its members who are now such members of the Public Vision League; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That all present and future active members of the California Optometric Association shall, as a condition of membership in the California Optometric Association, maintain membership in and abide by the rules, regulations, bylaws and Articles of Incorporation of Public Vision League.

**Archived.**

**1973 PR#7 School Screening Program**

**RESOLVED**, That the California Optometric Association in convention assembled does hereby declare the following screening program be recommended for the school children of the State of California:

- 1) That the California Optometric Association recommends a comprehensive sight screening for all children.
- 2) That a minimum sight screening program would evaluate:
  - a. Visual Activity
  - b. Refractive Status

- c. Binocular Eye-Co-ordination
  - d. Gross Eye Health
  - e. Color Perception
- 3) That additional visually related services be recommended for underachieving children.
- 4) That additional visually related services can be best coordinated with other special educational services by an optometrist consultant to the school district so that the full scope of optometric knowledge may be utilized for the benefit of school children.

**Archived.**

**1973 PR#A-11 Freedom of Choice**

**RESOLVED**, that the 1973 House of Delegates of the California Optometric Association request that the California Optometric Association continue to make every effort to insure that freedom of choice of health care practitioners is an integral part of all health care delivery systems.

**Active.**

**1975 PR#A-8 Third Party Health Care Programs**

**RESOLVED**, That optometric vision care be included in all third party health care programs; and be it

**RESOLVED** further, That optometric vision care include the full scope of the practice of optometry.

**Active.**

**1975 PR#A-13 Distribution of Congress Resolutions**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Resolutions Committee be instructed to distribute the resolutions to be discussed at the COA Congress to all local societies, not less than thirty (30) days prior to the annual COA Congress; and it be further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Resolutions Committee be instructed to distribute all background data that is available relating to Congress resolutions not less than thirty (30) days prior to the annual COA Congress.

**Standing.**

**1978 PR#A-4 Hypertension Screening**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association go on record using optometrists to actively screen their patients for the detection of hypertension.

**Standing.**

**1979 PR#A-6 Quality of Education at COA Congress**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association continue to upgrade and enhance the level and scope of the annual Congress education.

**Archived.**

**1980 PR#A-5(a) Illegal Yellow Page Listings**

**RESOLVED**, That the California Optometric Association immediately take any and all steps necessary to stop the illegal listings under the “optometrists” heading in the yellow pages.  
**Standing.**

**1981 PR#A2 House Of Delegates Approval Of COA Budget**

**RESOLVED**, That the COA annual budget continue to be presented annually at the annual COA Congress; and be it

**RESOLVED**, further, That the COA House of Delegates be empowered to review and approve the COA Budget presented to the House of Delegates at COA's annual Congress.  
**Standing.**

**1982 PR#A-3 Corporate Practice**

**RESOLVED**, That the board of trustees of the California Optometric Association, in alliance and conjunction with other associations, engage in all endeavors necessary to appeal to the public and other stakeholders to prevent changes in California law that would allow lay control of health care practices in this state.

**Active.**

**1983 PR#A-3 Practice of Optometry by Non-Licensed Persons**

**RESOLVED**, That the COA Board of Trustees pursue the enforcement of current optometric laws relating to what constitutes the practice of optometry; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the COA Board of Trustees be asked to seek changes in California law, if necessary, to restrict non-licensed personnel from practicing optometry.

**Standing.**

**1983 PR#A-6 COA Dues for Litigative Purposes**

**RESOLVED**, That the current maximum dues for litigative purposes be increased to \$100.00 per year, per member.

**Archived.**

**1984 PR#4 School Vision Screenings**

**RESOLVED**, That the California Optometric Association take up the cause of children with undetected vision problems by working with appropriate state agencies that will promote the early detection of vision problems.

**Archived.**

**1984 PR#A-11 Optometric Education Requirements**

**RESOLVED**, That the California Optometric Association support the maintaining of equivalency in educational and clinical requirements to those of American optometry school graduates and nothing less as a prerequisite for California licensure.

**Standing.**

**1984 PR#A-15 Ancillary Personnel**

**RESOLVED**, That the COA Board establish a task force to study all aspects of the utilization of ancillary personnel; and the legalities of the practice modes of optometry, ophthalmology and opticianary; and be it

**RESOLVED** further, That the task force formulate recommendations to the COA Board to insure that the present and future vision care needs of the consumers are legally established an appropriately preserved.

**Archived.**

**1986 PR6 Retired Members**

**RESOLVED**, that those members who are “retired” members as specified in the COA bylaws shall, after February 28, 1986, be charged 10 percent of full COA dues.

**Archived.**

**1987 PR#1 Retired Member Dues (previously 1986 res. 6)**

**RESOLVED**, That those members who become “Retired Members” as specified in the COA Bylaws shall after February 28, 1987 be charged 10 percent of full dues.

**Archived.**

**1987 PR#A-9 Senior Evaluation Guidelines**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA seek to promote educating the elderly on the importance of a complete visual examination; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA encourages the schools of optometry or other appropriate research entities to develop a standardized evaluation technique specifically designed for the elderly.  
**Active.**

**1988 PR#2 Pharmacological Education**

**RESOLVED**, That the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees encourage the development of therapeutic pharmacological education for the members of our profession.

**Archived.**

**1988 PR#4 Residency Dues**

**RESOLVED**, That the California Optometric Association alter its dues policy for the optometric resident whose residency immediately follows his or her acquisition of the O.D. degree so that dues during residency are at the same level as a student and that the graduated scale of dues payment commences during the beginning of the next fiscal year following completion of the residency rather than the fiscal year following graduation from a school of college of optometry; and be it

**RESOLVED** further, That the COA Board of Trustees encourage the AOA House of Delegates to consider a dues category for residency students to be the same as that of regular optometric students.

**Archived.**

**1989 PR#5 Mandatory Continuing Education**



**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association take whatever actions are necessary to encourage and support the California State Board of Optometry in developing regulations for mandatory continuing education for California Optometrists.  
**Archived.**

**1989 PR#A-1 AOA Delegate Votes**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association's Board of Trustees be requested to change COA Codified Policy regulating AOA delegate votes from two (2) to four (4) votes.

**RESOLVED**, that in all cases, the delegate vote shall be at least one-half of total delegation vote. This shall be achieved by dividing the votes equally among the delegates present.  
**Standing.**

**1989 PR#A-9 California Vision Project**

**RESOLVED**, that the members of the 1989 House of Delegates fully support the implementation of the California Vision Project and pledge to encourage our optometric colleagues to offer their services to this worthwhile endeavor.  
**Archived.**

**1989 PR#A-15 Support of American Optometric Foundation**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association continue its ongoing support of the American Optometric Foundation in its function of providing the necessary funds for the support of optometric research.  
**Standing.**

**1990 PR#2 Annual Congress Held In California**

**RESOLVED**, That the California Optometric Association hold its Annual Congress within the State of California.  
**Standing.**

**1990 PR#A-1 Alliance with Allied Health Professionals**

**RESOLVED**, That the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees and staff be encouraged to form a strong and cooperative alliance with other allied health professional organization such as the California Dental Association, the California Pharmacists Association, the California Chiropractic Association and any other organization that shares common interest with the California Optometric Association; and be it

**RESOLVED** further, That the alliance be encouraged to conduct periodic (perhaps quarterly) meetings between the organizations, including letters of support, sharing of information, and any other cooperative measures that the Board and staff feel would be in the best interest of the California Optometric Association.  
**Standing.**

**1990 PR#A-5 COA Working with COLA**

**RESOLVED**, That the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees be encouraged to create a working relationship with the California Optical Laboratories Association for the

purpose of further enhancing the provision of quality service and ophthalmic materials in a timely manner for the benefit of patients.

**Standing.**

**1990 PR#A-3 Freedom of Choice Laws**

**RESOLVED**, That the California Optometric Association continue to seek legislation to strengthen existing freedom of choice laws in California; and be it

**RESOLVED** further, That the California Optometric Association encourage the American Optometric Association to continue to seek federal legislation to give optometry true freedom of choice laws.

**Active.**

**1991 PR#2 California Vision Project, Management**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association urge the California Vision Project board to appoint a proven, committed volunteer to head the California Vision Project, and that this individual have not duties with a higher priority, and be it

**RESOLVED**, further, that an active statewide committee with a regular and frequent meeting schedule be appointed to promote and conduct the California Vision Project; and be it

**RESOLVED**, further, that information and promotional materials concerning the California Vision Project be given to the local societies far in advance so that local efforts can produce a maximum effect.

**Standing.**

**1991 PR#4 Nominating Committee Report**

**RESOLVED**, that the Nominating Committee shall submit to the delegates to the Congress the Nominating Committee's complete prospective slate of officers and trustees not less than forty-five (45) days prior to the date of the annual Congress.

**Archived.**

**1991 PR#6 American Public Health Association Recognition**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association at its 92nd annual Congress does hereby go on record as applauding the American Public Health Association (APHA) for its positive stance on endorsing the "Access to Treatment for Eye Care by Optometrists" resolution; and be it

**RESOLVED**, further, that the members of the California Optometric Association be encouraged to join the American Public Health Association and its Vision/Eye Care Section; and be it

**RESOLVED**, further, that the California Optometric Association strongly encourage the leadership at the individual society level to carry out a program of membership recruitment for the American Public Health Association.

**Archived.**

**1991 PR#12 Clarification Of State Board Policy Regarding Non-Traditional Patient-Doctor Settings**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association's Board of Trustees take the necessary steps needed to bring about a clarification of the official policy of the California State Board of Optometry concerning the opportunity to provide care in non-traditional settings; and be it

**RESOLVED**, further, that the California Optometric Association's Board of Trustees take the necessary and appropriate steps to insure that the patients in such settings have access to optometric care.

**Active.**

**1991 PR#A-1 California Vision Project, Annual Program**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Vision Project be continued as an on-going annual program of the California Optometric Association; and be it

**RESOLVED**, further, that having a successful California Vision Project be given a very high priority by the California Optometric Board of Trustees.

**Archived.**

**1991 PR#A-5 Continuing Education for Practice Management Course**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of the California Optometric Association be encouraged to convey to the California State Board of Optometry its desire to recognize for credit practice administration and patient management courses which could positively impact the quality of patient care.

**Standing.**

**1991 PR#A-8 Communication Network for Infants' and Children's Eye Care**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of the California Optometric Association initiate appropriate communications with appropriate associations, such as pediatric associations, the Association of School Nurses, and the general public, informing them of the crucial need for comprehensive eye health and vision examinations for children prior to the age of three; and be it

**RESOLVED**, further, that the Board of Trustees make every effort to form a communications network with concerned organizations (such as pediatricians, nurses, etc.) regarding the importance of comprehensive eye and vision care for children and the scope of optometric practice today.

**Archived.**

**1991 PR#A -9 COA Members Joining American Diabetes Association**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association support the formation of a vision care section within the American Diabetes Association; and be it

**RESOLVED**, further, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees encourage local society leadership to invite their members to join the American Diabetes Association.

Archived.

**1992 PR#5 COA/California State Board of Optometry Peer Review/Investigation**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association promulgate information to its members regarding methods of complaint submission to the California State Board of Optometry, the processing and prioritizing of their complaints, and the usual course of violation investigation with the California State Board of Optometry.

**Standing.**

**1992 PR#7 Mandatory Continuing Education**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees safeguard the statutory authority for mandatory optometric continuing education and promote the development and maintenance of regulations that have a positive impact on patient care.

**Standing.**

**1992 PR#13 CPR Certification**

**RESOLVED**, that the House of Delegates recommends the COA Legislative Committee pursue, at the appropriate time, legislation mandating optometrists to maintain a current CPR certificate.

**Active.**

**1992 PR#A-6 Medicare Working Relationship**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees be encouraged to create a working relationship with Medicare and its carriers for the purpose of enhancing the provision of quality service and ophthalmic materials for the benefit of the patients and to help in correcting errors or miscalculations in their reimbursement schedules.

**Standing.**

**1993 PR 2 CPR Certification**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees encourages all members to maintain current certification in procedures to cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

**Active.**

**1993 PR#5 Medi-Cal Sponsored Managed Care Programs**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA develop a program for dissemination at a society level that will allow societies to present a competitive program on an organized approach to MEDI-Cal sponsored managed care programs.

**Standing.**

**1993 PR#6 California Optometric Council**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees appoint a committee to study the current role of the California Optometric Council relative to the goals and objectives of the California Optometric Association, related bylaws, the relationship of the California Optometric Council and the American Foundation for Vision Awareness, both

operationally and financially and, if appropriate, present suitable recommendations and/or bylaws changes to the 1994 House of Delegates.

**Archived.**

**1993 PR#8 Public Education on Harmful Ocular Effects of Ultraviolet Radiation**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association should immediately move to educate the optometric profession and disseminate information regarding the harmful ocular effects of ultraviolet radiation; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association board be instructed to urge the American Optometric Association board to move ahead with the resolution passed by the 1989 American Optometric Association Congress to educate the public on a national basis for the prevention of ocular pathologies resulting from ultraviolet exposure.

**Archived.**

**1994 PR#1 Dues Increase**

**RESOLVED**, that for each of the five fiscal years beginning 1995 through 1999, the California Optometric Association membership dues may be increased up to a maximum of 7 percent per year, as may be determined necessary by the COA Board of Trustees, effective March 1, 1995.

**Archived.**

**1994 PR#2 Orange Belt Optometric Society**

**RESOLVED**, that the Orange Belt Optometric Society be renamed the Inland Empire Optometric Society.

**Archived.**

**1994 PR#8 Family Leave Of Absence**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees consider preparing a By-laws amendment to create a family leave membership category that would allow a 90% dues reduction for a period not to exceed six months; and be it further;

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees consider presenting a resolution to the American Optometric Association House of Delegates that would provide for a similar category of membership and dues reduction.

**Archived.**

**1994 PR#A-3 American Foundation for Vision Awareness**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association encourages all spouses to continue their support through voluntary participation in the activities of the American Foundation for Vision Awareness.

**Archived.**

**1994 PR#A-4 Disaster Relief Plan**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees encourage doctors of optometry to volunteer their services during natural and man-made disasters and follow relevant state and federal rules on how they can participate in disaster relief efforts.  
**Standing.**

**1994 PR#A-12 Payment of Dues by Automatic Debit**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees consider implementing a voluntary automatic debit payment system for its dues paying members.  
**Archived.**

**1995 PR#1 Staff/Volunteer Communication**

**RESOLVED**, that the House of Delegates herein assembled declares that there shall be no prohibition against Association staff members and volunteers of the Association maintaining communication with regard to the activities of this Association, and be it further;

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Board of Trustees amend the present employee manual to include a vehicle to address employee grievances as soon as possible.

**Standing.**

**1995 PR#4 Independent Practitioner Associations**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association discuss with the State Board of Optometry ways in which impediments to the formation of Optometric IPAs could be removed without changing the current branch office restrictions.

**Archived.**

**1995 PR#5 Disclosure Of Conflict Of Interest**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees develop disclosure and conflict of interest guidelines; and be it further;

**RESOLVED**, that all elected officials, staff employees and paid consultants of the California Optometric Association and all volunteers in the California Optometric Association structure be required to complete and file a Disclosure of Conflict of Interest Report, and be it further;

**RESOLVED**, that an appropriate Board committee be formed to adjudicate and resolve conflicts as they occur.

**Standing.**

**1995 PR#8 Establishment Of Second Political Action Committee**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees IMMEDIATELY pursue the implementation and establishment of a second Political Action Committee.

**Archived.**

**1995 PR#9 Medi-Cal Fees**

**RESOLVED**, that this 1995 House of Delegates direct the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees to collect all available information and supporting data relevant to the equitability of Medi-Cal fees for optometrists; and be it further;

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association request the Public Vision League to initiate appropriate action to establish equitable optometric fees.  
**Archived.**

**1995 PR#10 Credit Card Dues Payments**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees be encouraged to submit a resolution to the American Optometric Association House of Delegates requesting that state optometric associations collecting dues by credit card be allowed to pass through the discount fee on the American Optometric Association dues portion to the American Optometric Association.  
**Standing.**

**1995 PR#A-3 Board of Trustees/Volunteer Communication**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees and its officers be encouraged to communicate directly and adequately with affected volunteers where they wish to change COA's ongoing programs.  
**Standing.**

**1996 PR#3 Vision Therapy Exclusion**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association legislative program take assertive action to include optometric vision therapy and orthoptic treatment as benefits of California Children's Services, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that litigative action be considered to require that optometrists not be discriminated against in their ability to provide services to those patients covered by either government programs or private insurance companies, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association meet with insurance companies believed to be discriminating against services performed by optometrists to communicate Association members' displeasure with the discrimination and the Association's intent to pursue legislation and/or litigation to correct the situation.  
**Standing.**

**1996 PR#5 Format of House of Delegates**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Board of Trustees implement a return to a two day House of Delegates which will allow us to focus our energies where they must be – on the challenges facing us legislatively, politically and in the battle to become the primary eyecare provider in the managed healthcare system of the future.  
**Archived.**

**1996 PR#6 COA Educational Offerings**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees consider reducing the number of continuing education offerings for fiscal year 1996/97 and conduct a critical review in terms of a cost-benefit analysis of all educational offerings through the Association to determine whether to continue providing continuing education for future fiscal years to its members and the optometric community at large, and if so, in what form should it be offered.

**Archived.**

**1996 PR#13 Optician Filling of Outdated Prescriptions**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association take appropriate steps to inform the general public and appropriate state agencies including the State Board of Optometry as the licensing and regulatory agency for dispensing opticians, and the Pharmacy Board of California, as the licensing and regulatory body governing pharmacists in the State of California, of the danger inherent in the filling of expired prescriptions and to take appropriate steps to insure that their licensees adhere to the expiration date contained in ophthalmic prescriptions.

**Active.**

**1996 PR#14 Vision USA**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Vision Project Board research offering optometric services during the month of December.

**Archived.**

**1996 PR#15 1995 COA House of Delegates Resolution Number Nine**

**RESOLVED**, that this 1996 House of Delegates reaffirm its support of Resolution Number Nine directing the COA Board of Trustees to collect all available information and supporting data relevant to the equitability of Medi-Cal fees for Optometrists; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this 1996 House of Delegates direct the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees to consider implementation of the 1995 House of Delegates Resolution Number Nine as a top priority item; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Board of Trustees report the status of 1995 House of Delegates Resolution Number Nine to the local societies on a quarterly basis.

**Archived.**

**1996 PR#18 "Critical Issues Forum"**

**RESOLVED**, that the future House of Delegates agendas include a time specific for a Critical Issues Forum, directed by an appointed moderator, for the general House of Delegates to discuss issues and concerns, form opinions and consensus, and better represent their membership.

**Archived.**

**1996 PR#20 Non-discrimination**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees research the feasibility of introducing "non-discrimination" legislation which will mandate insurance companies and Health Maintenance Organizations to accept all certified providers who desire to be panel members and also prevent insurance companies from requiring prior authorization for a vision/eye examination from a primary care physician; be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees report the result of their study to the membership prior to January 1, 1997.

**Archived.**



**1996 PR#21 Optometric Locator Service**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Board of Trustees study the necessary steps to promote optometry's interest by way of establishing a public relations program, public service announcements and media advertisements.

**Archived.**

**1996 PR#22 "I'm In" Refund**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees urge each "I'm In" contributor, prior to returning any funds, to "roll over" their unspent contributions into a new fund for furthering amplification legislation.

**Archived.**

**1997 PR#2 Conflict of Interest Policy**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Board of Trustees adopt a conflict of interest policy to be implemented by the 1997 Presidents' Council.

**Archived.**

**1997 PR#3 Resolution Information**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Board of Trustees research, prepare and publish factual background information and potential budgetary impact for each resolution.

**Standing.**

**1997 PR#4 Society Sponsored Trustee Candidates**

**RESOLVED**, that a society may nominate an alternative trustee candidate at least 45 days prior to Congress and shall have his/her biography and the society's board of directors' written endorsement included in the House of Delegates binder.

**Archived.**

**1997 PR#5 Public Relations and Marketing of Optometric Services to Combat Illiteracy**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA consider marketing optometric care to healthy start programs, reading recovery programs, schools, learning centers, and managed care organizations or any other institutions that serve persons who need optometric services.

**Standing.**

**1997 PR#7 Optometric Input in the Establishment of Telemedicine Protocols**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA explore the clinical applications of telemedicine both current and in development and encourage optometric dialogue in the establishment of any future telemedicine conventions, protocols or legislative initiatives; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that COA submits a similar resolution to the AOA House of Delegates.

**Standing.**

**1997 PR#8 Communication of Board of Trustees' Actions to Societies**

**RESOLVED**, that all California Optometric Association Board of Trustees minutes be distributed to all society presidents and secretaries within a thirty day period after approval; and let it further be

**RESOLVED**, that Board members' voting records be documented.  
**Standing.**

**1997 PR#12            Expansion of COA Congress and Spring Optica**

**RESOLVED**, that COA Board of Trustees investigate and report to COA Congress in 1998, the feasibility of expanding the COA Congress and Spring Optica Education Program to feature national leaders in optometric education; and it be further

**RESOLVED**, that course offerings be increased to provide sufficient hours of continuing education, including CPR, to meet the current re-licensing requirements of our expanded scope of practice.

**Archived.**

**1997 PR#21            Optometric Locator Service**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Board of Trustees study the necessary steps to promote optometry's interest by way of establishing a public relations program, public service announcements and media advertisements.

**Standing.**

**1998 PR#B-1           PARCA Support**

**RESOLVED**, that when signed into law, COA take appropriate action related to implementation of the "PARCA" of 1997 in California.

**Archived.**

**1998 PR#B-6           Impartial Bylaw and Resolution Analysis**

**RESOLVED**, that before publication of the bylaw amendment or resolution analysis, it be submitted to the author of the resolution for review and additional comments.

**Standing.**

**1998 PR#B-7           Optometric Stamp**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association actively support the efforts of the American Optometric Association to have a postage stamp issued recognizing the profession of optometry; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association initiate a grass roots petition drive to collect one hundred thousand signatures supporting the issuing of a postage stamp honoring the profession of optometry; these petitions would be presented to the American Optometric Association at the 1998 American Optometric Association Congress; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association encourage each state optometric association to develop a grass roots petition drive to support the American Optometric Association optometry postage stamp campaign.

**Archived.**

**1998 PR#B-8 New Member Acknowledgement**

**RESOLVED**, that new members will not receive their first dues bill until after verbal communication that they have received their welcome and information packet; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this verbal confirmation come from the COA Membership Chair.  
**Archived.**

**1998 PR#B-9 Change in Examination Date for Annual Licensing Examination**

**RESOLVED**, that the House of Delegates requests COA to strongly encourage the California State Board of Examiners to advance their examination for 1999 and subsequent years to as early a date as possible; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that COA encourage the State Board provide the greatest advance notice (at least nine months) for examination dates in future years.

**Archived.**

**1998 PR#B-10 Optometric Vision Therapy**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Board of Trustees should continue actively promoting the broad scope of optometric services as an inclusion in all government and private health care plans.  
**Standing.**

**1998 PR#C-1 Recognition of the University of California, Berkeley, School of Optometry**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association recognizes the many achievements and extends its sincerest congratulations to the University of California, Berkeley, School of Optometry; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA pauses during its 99th Annual Congress to express best wishes to UCBSO upon the occasion of this special anniversary and offer its best wishes for continued success.

**Archived.**

**1999 PR#2 Dues Amnesty**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association adopt a sixty-day, one-time only amnesty policy for all past dues for full-dues paying members who have been a non-member for at least one preceding year.

**Archived.**

**1999 PR#16 Credentialing Criteria**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association endorses and ratifies Resolution #4 of the 1998 AOA House of Delegates, which encourages all optometrists to seek therapeutic licensure and encourages managed care entities to show reasonable accommodations for those doctors of optometry who have not yet attained therapeutic licensure.

**Standing.**

**1999 PR#17 Occupational Vision Services**

**RESOLVED**, all California optometrists including all COA members be encouraged to forward business leads to Occupational Vision Services, Inc. headquarters.  
**Archived.**

**1999 PR#19 American Board of Optometric Practice**

**RESOLVED**, the California Optometric Association supports board certification through the AOA's efforts to establish the "American Board of Optometric Practice".  
**Archived.**

**1999 PR#20 Establishing a COA Financial Advisory Task Force**

**RESOLVED**, that the 1999 House of Delegates appoint a task force consisting of Dr. Tony Carnevali, Dr. Richard Hopping (Chair), Dr. Rick Iwai, Dr. Joseph Mallinger and Dr. Larry Thal to study the financial policies and procedures of the COA and its related entities and develop the necessary recommendations to ameliorate any current fiscal problems; further be it

**RESOLVED**, that a preliminary report be given to the 1999 President's Council and a full report be given by the task force to the House of Delegates at the next COA Congress.  
**Archived.**

**2000 PR#4 Dues Increase**

**RESOLVED**, that in order to develop and submit a balanced annual budget to the House of Delegates, the COA Board of Trustees is authorized, but only if deemed absolutely necessary and properly justified, to increase dues up to a maximum of 7% per year for each of the five fiscal years beginning on January 1, 2000 and ending on December 31, 2004; and be it

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any such dues increase is to become effective only after the annual budget is approved by the House of Delegates.  
**Archived.**

**2000 PR#7 Review of Resolutions A-7 (1964), A-7 (1973) and A-4 (1984)**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association, House of Delegates, recommends that all school children receive adequate eye and vision screening to determine if further referral is necessary, and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association take up the cause of children with undetected vision and eye problems by working with appropriate state agencies that will promote early detection in school screenings.  
**Archived.**

**2000 PR#8 Dues Schedule for Associate Membership Categories**

**RESOLVED**, that the dues for the Associate Substantial Interest Corporate Members be assigned at fifty percent (50%) of full member dues, therefore be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the dues for the Associate (non-OD) Educator Member be assigned at forty percent (40%) of full member dues, therefore be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the dues for the Associate Substantial Interest Members be assigned at forty percent (40%) of full member dues, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the dues for the Associate non-US Resident and Associate non-CA Resident Members be assigned at forty percent (40%) of full member dues.  
**Archived.**

**2000 PR#9 Dues Schedule for Partial Practice Membership Categories**

**RESOLVED**, that Partial Practice Member dues will be assigned at fifty percent (50%) of full member dues.  
**Archived.**

**2000 PR#10 Dues Schedule for Federal Service Membership Categories**

**RESOLVED**, that Federal Service members be assigned dues at fifty percent (50%) of full member dues.  
**Archived.**

**2000 PR#11 Dues Schedule for Special Achievement Members**

**RESOLVED**, that the Special Achievement Membership category be assigned zero percent (0%) of full member dues.  
**Archived.**

**2000 PR#12 Dues Schedule for Life Members**

**RESOLVED**, that the remaining Life Members pay ten percent (10%) of full dues consistent with Retired Members.  
**Archived.**

**2000 PR#14 Dues Schedule for Newly Licensed Optometrists**

**RESOLVED**, that newly licensed members pay dues on a graduated basis, beginning with zero (0) dues the balance of the calendar year after the initial licensure, zero (0) dues for the first full calendar year of licensure, then twenty percent (20%), the second full calendar year, then forty percent (40%) the third calendar year, then sixty percent (60%) the fourth calendar year, then eighty percent (80%) in the fifth calendar year, then full dues the sixth year of licensure and thereafter.  
**Archived.**

**2000 PR# 16 Vision Therapy Inclusion in Vision Coverage**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association encourage all private and government vision carriers, to include vision therapy as a benefit in plans which provide primary care.  
**Standing.**

**2000 PR#17 House of Delegates Financial Task Force Extension**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association House of Delegates extends the charge to the 1999 House of Delegates Financial Task Force through June 30, 2000; and it be further

**RESOLVED**, that upon completion the Financial Advisory Task Force's charge will render a report to the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees.  
**Archived.**

**2000 PR#19                      Review of 5-year Resolutions**

**RESOLVED**, active policy resolutions adopted by the House of Delegates of the California Optometric Association that are 5 or more years old shall be presented to the current House of Delegates for review; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that after review by the House of Delegates the resolutions may be retained in their entirety or deleted as no longer applicable.  
**Archived.**

**2000 PR#20                      Relative Dues Category**

**RESOLVED**, that the percentage of dues paid in any individual dues category will not be changed without passage of a resolution by the House of Delegates.  
**Standing.**

**2000 PR#21                      American Board of Optometric Practice**

**RESOLVED**, that the House of Delegates ask the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees to express concern to the American Optometric Association House of Delegates regarding the present structure and implementation of the Board certification process;

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees encourage the American Optometric Association to collaborate with organizations involved in the future of the Optometric Profession such as National Board of Examiners in Optometry, Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry, American Academy of Optometry to conduct an impact study regarding optometric credentialing prior to implementation.

**Archived.**

**2001 PR#1                      Project Keep**

**RESOLVED**, that in order to be eligible for the dues extension each year (within five years of licensure) the new licentiates must be active in the society and that this be evaluated by the society president on a year to year basis; and be it

**RESOLVED**, that codified policy be changed as follows:

7330 Project Keep

1. As a membership recruitment/retention technique, dues for new optometric licentiates will be based on the following structure.
2. Dues will be zero for the first two years of licensure; 20% of the full amount for the third and fourth years; 40% of the full amount for the fifth and sixth years; 60% of the full

amount for the seventh and eighth years; 80% of the full amount for the ninth and tenth years; and, a full dues obligation for the eleventh year forward.

3. The maximum number of years of dues extension is ten years. *Adopted February 1989*

4. The Project Keep dues scale applies only to COA, Society, Cal-OPAC and PVL-LIT dues.

5. In order to qualify for Project Keep, a member must be continuously active as an officer or committee member in his/her local society, or have made a significant contribution to COA.

6. The Membership Chair and the COA Secretary/Treasurer will report to the Board on Project Keep at the end of each fiscal year. *House of Delegates Resolution 1989*

Dues changes become effective January 2002

### **Standing.**

#### **2001 PR#2 Legislative Fund**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA House of Delegates enact a special dues assessment applied to all COA members excluding retired, life, and honorary members, through March 2005 in an amount not to exceed \$14.00 per month per member; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that all non-OD Educator members pay the assessment in the same percentage as they pay dues; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA House of Delegates direct the COA Board of Trustees to make every effort to secure financial support for these legislative activities from non-COA members, corporations, local societies and any other feasible source in order to mitigate the amount and/or the duration of any additional special dues assessment; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the funds received from the special dues assessment and non-COA sources be maintained in a separate financial account the balance of which will not be published at the COA annual Congress and be utilized for activities supporting enactment of the next optometric scope amplification law either through the legislative or the initiative process, or for other legislative contingencies; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that if the funds are to be used for any other legislative activity or purpose other than optometric scope amplification law purposes, expenditures must be approved by the House of Delegates, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Board of Trustees report at the 2005 House of Delegates on the status of funds raised, the potential for achieving amplification through legislative and/or initiative action, and the need for additional funds to achieve legislative goals.

**Archived.**

#### **2001 PR#5 Standardization of Medication Labeling**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association encourage pharmaceutical companies to enlarge the print on prescription labels and recommend the Food and Drug Administration develop a minimum standard for print on prescription labels.

**Archived.**

**2001 PR#7 Mandated Comprehensive Eye Examinations for Students Prior to 1st Grade**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association study the feasibility of mandatory comprehensive vision examinations for all students prior to entering first grade, and encourage appropriate legislation regarding this issue.

**Archived.**

**2001 PR#9 Pediatric and Child Vision Examinations**

**RESOLVED**, the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees direct the appropriate committees to research the efficacy of Kentucky's mandated exam legislation (of such mandates), the possible funding sources for California school children to receive such exams and possible partners for COA's efforts and make recommendations for future legislative activity at 2001 President's Council; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees consider adopting a legislative strategy to achieve mandated comprehensive vision exams for all California school children.

**Archived.**

**2001 PR#10 DMV Policy for Dealing with the Licensure of Visually Handicapped Applicants for a Drivers License**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association attempt to convene a meeting of those parties involved with the licensing process, including, but not limited to eye doctors, low vision specialists, Dept. of Motor Vehicles staff, concerned consumer groups, researchers in the field of driver safety, etc., to discuss appropriate legislation, regulation and/or DMV policy for dealing with the licensure of visually handicapped applicants for a driver's license, and be it

**RESOLVED**, further, that that the COA urge the AOA to meet with appropriate federal agencies to discuss the requirements of driving with a visual impairment, and be it

**RESOLVED**, further, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees, formally requests that the University of California, Berkeley, School of Optometry and the Southern California College of Optometry present the issue of visually impaired drivers to their faculties as a potential area of research and investigation.

**Archived.**

**2002 PR#1 Life Membership**

**RESOLVED**, that dues for life members in the California Optometric Association be set as zero, retroactive to January 1, 2001.

**Archived.**

**2002 PR#4 Payment of Dues by Credit Card**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association shall offer members the option of paying their dues by credit card; and be it further



**RESOLVED**, that the COA shall offer members the option of paying their annual dues by one credit card payment as soon as possible.

**Archived.**

**2002 PR#5 Third Party Pay**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association aggressively encourage third party payers to reimburse optometrist or patients for the enhanced level of optometric eye care, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association accomplish this through negotiation, the judicial process, legislation or any other feasible avenues.

**Active.**

**2002 PR#7 Rescind Policy Resolution Number Eleven to the 1997 COA House of Delegates**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2002 House of Delegates rescind Resolution Number Eleven to the 1997 House of Delegates to allow overlapping continuing education with the House of Delegates, effective in 2003.

**Archived.**

**2002 PR#8 Promotion of Prescription Inserts**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association should promote legislation or other means to ensure that prescription drug inserts be printed in an adequately large type font size to ensure that they are readable by the general public.

**Archived.**

**2002 PR#14 Legislative Fund Assessments**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2002 House of Delegates confirms the decision of the Board of Trustees to exempt student and postgraduate members of this Association from the Legislative Fund assessment.

**Archived.**

**2002 PR#16 Independent House of Delegates**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees investigate separating the House of Delegates from the annual California Optometric Association OptoWest meeting and report back to the 2003 House of Delegates; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association consider convening a two-day meeting of the House of Delegates on a weekend and date suitable for this function.

**Archived.**

**2003 PR#1 Scope Fund**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2003 House of Delegates confirm the actions of the Board of Trustees in not refunding excess SCOPE Fund assets; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that any amounts still remaining in the SCOPE Fund be used solely for continuing implementation of SB 929.

**Archived.**

**2003 PR# 2 Reserve Fund**

**RESOLVED**, that the size of the reserve fund be set at a minimum of \$1,200,000 for fiscal year 2003-2004; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the appropriate size of the reserve fund should be reviewed every year in conjunction with the annual budget adoption process; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the appropriate size of the reserve fund should be approved annually by the House of Delegates; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that any budget surplus should continue to be automatically transferred into the reserve fund after the completion of the annual financial audit; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote of the entire Board of Trustees continue to be required to authorize spending from the reserve fund.

**Standing.**

**2003 PR#3 Reserve Fund Investment**

**RESOLVED**, that a Task Force be appointed to study and make recommendations regarding the application of the California Optometric Association's investment policy with regard to the reserve fund; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the 2004 California Optometric Association House of Delegates, upon review of the recommendations of the Task Force, consider formal action to establish House of Delegates policy regarding the appropriate investment allocations for the reserve fund.

**Archived.**

**2003 PR#8 Separation of the House of Delegates from Optowest**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association House of Delegates favorably endorse the Board of Trustees decision to separate the House of Delegates from OptoWest in 2004.

**Archived.**

**2003 PR#10 Children's Vision**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association study state legislation, following the pattern of successful Kentucky legislation, that requires infant and children vision examinations be completed before entering elementary school; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that such comprehensive eye examinations be provided by an eye care practitioner.

**Archived.**

**2003 PR#11 State Board of Optometry**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees utilize all available resources such as the Keyperson Program and grassroots optometry to urge policymakers to facilitate appointments to the Board of Optometry; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the issue of appointments to the reconstituted California State Board of Optometry be placed at the California Optometric Association's highest level of priority and the California Optometric Association should utilize all available resources to facilitate the full reconstitution of the California State Board of Optometry.

**Archived.**

**2004 PR#1 Reserve Fund**

**RESOLVED**, that the first \$1,200,000 of the Reserve Fund be held in cash, cash equivalents and fixed income investments; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that an amount not to exceed 20% of the total Reserve Fund may be invested in conservative, minimum risk, securities/equities, as approved by the COA Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees, provided that the minimum amount of \$1,200,000 is maintained in the Fund; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that income derived from investments shall be placed in the Reserve Fund until such time as the total Reserve Fund equals an amount equivalent to 6 months of the annual operating budget.

**Standing.**

**2004 PR#2 Legislative Fund**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2004 House of Delegates approves extending the special monthly dues assessment applied to all COA members through calendar year 2008, excluding student, retired, life, honorary, distinguished, special achievement, and dues level one members, in an amount not to exceed Fourteen Dollars (\$14.00) per member per month, with these funds to be used solely for future scope of practice expansion, amplification, enhancement, and protection.

**Archived.**

**2004 PR#3 Public Awareness**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association continue to seek sources to support and enhance a public awareness/education campaign; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association's House of Delegates authorizes a two-year special assessment of dues up to the maximum monthly amount of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) to be used solely for the purposes of conducting a public awareness/education campaign contingent and commensurate with corporate sponsorship providing matching funds for the program; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that such assessment is to be calculated in the same proportion as the percentage of California Optometric Association dues currently paid by that member.

**Archived.**

**2004 PR#4 Licensure by Endorsement**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2004 COA House of Delegates endorses the concept of Licensure by Endorsement for optometrists.

**Standing.**

**2004 PR#5 House of Delegates Scheduling**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2004 House of Delegates agrees with the recommendation of the Board of Trustees and Presidents' Council with regard to the next House of Delegates being held in January, February or March of 2006, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the 2004 House of Delegates agrees with the recommendation of the Board of Trustees and Presidents' Council that there not be a House of Delegates in calendar year 2005.

**Archived.**

**2004 PR#6 Educator Member- AOA Bylaws**

**RESOLVED**, that upon successful passage of COA Bylaws Amendment Number Four to the 2004 House of Delegates that the COA Board of Trustees seek the following change in Article 1, Membership, Section 1 E of AOA Bylaws:

“An optometrist is considered an “educator” if he or she is primarily engaged in school-related activities such as teaching, research, direct and indirect patient care within the institution, and/or administration at a University or College in the United States. Such institutions may be either an Optometry School or College accredited or pre-accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education, or an equivalent institution of higher learning. An optometrist, certified annually by a school or college for purposes of this membership classification determination as being at least one-half (1/2) full-time equivalent, shall be eligible for “optometric educator” membership in this Association.

**Active.**

**2004 PR#7 State Board of Optometry**

**RESOLVED**, that 2003 Policy Resolution Number Eleven related to the reconstitution of the California State Board of Optometry be deleted, as the objective of said resolution has been met.

**Archived.**

**2004 PR#9 House of Delegates Scheduling**

**RESOLVED** that the House of Delegates recommend to the COA Board of Trustees to hold the Annual House of Delegates meeting during the months the California Legislature is in session in Sacramento if feasible.

**Standing.**

**2004 PR#10 Chair for an Optometric Clinician/Scientist at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2004 California Optometric Association House of Delegates wishes to go on record in support of the successful creation of the position of faculty level Chair for an Optometric Clinician/Scientist to enhance research and educational activities in vision

science at the Jules Stein Eye Institute and Department of Ophthalmology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

**Active.**

**2004 PR#12 InfantSEE**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2004 California Optometric Association House of Delegates strongly supports and endorses the American Optometric Association InfantSEE program and encourages every COA member to sign up for and participate in this public service program to improve the eye and vision care for children in the state of California.

**Standing.**

**2004 PR#15 Nominating Committee**

**RESOLVED** that the 2004 California Optometric Association House of Delegates establish the following structure and composition of the Nominating Committee:

1. COA second Past-President as chair (one year term non-voting member)
2. COA Immediate Past-President (one year term voting member)
3. Additionally six voting members consisting of either the current President or a Past-President of societies chosen at random at each annual House of Delegates serving staggered two year terms. Each chosen society shall select their current president or a past-president and forward their name to the COA Presidents for appointment within 30 days of the close of the House of Delegates.
4. At the 2004 House of Delegates three societies shall be chosen at random to serve one year terms and three societies shall be chosen at random to serve two year terms. Three other societies shall be chosen as alternates at each succeeding House of Delegates three societies and additionally three alternates be chosen at random.
5. A society may not be selected again until that society's member has completed their term.
6. A society may not put forth the name of an individual who has served on the COA Board of Trustees within the last five years.

**Archived.**

**2006 PR#2 Nominating Committee Composition**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Nominating Committee consist of the third Past President serving as non-voting chairman and the second Past President serving as a voting member leaving all other Recommendations of PR Fifteen 2004 intact.

**Archived.**

**2006 PR#6 Support of the American Academy of Optometry**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association be supportive of the American Academy of Optometry and of the Academy's efforts to recruit Fellowship applications and encourage membership of Doctors of Optometry in California.

**Standing.**

**2007 PR#2 Relationship of Computer Vision Syndrome to Musculoskeletal Disorders**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association recognizes that Computer Related Vision Syndrome (to include ocular discomfort, muscular strain and stress) has a significant

impact on the comfort and productivity of individuals who engage in computer use in the work place and in their personal lives, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association urge Doctors of Optometry to actively educate their patients, and where feasible employers, relating to the important role of eye and vision care to minimize the symptoms and enhance the visual performance and overall efficiency of individuals working at a computer, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of the position paper entitled, "The Relationship of Computer Vision Syndrome to Musculoskeletal Disorders," published by the American Optometric Association, be suitably archived for review in conjunction with this policy resolution.

**Standing.**

**2007 PR#3 Eyecare Services in Nursing Facilities**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association affirm its support for regular vision and eye care, and an increased access to such care by those (often elderly) individuals residing in long term care facilities by Doctors of Optometry, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of the California Optometric Association investigate the feasibility of sponsoring legislation to modify the statutes, regulations, or rules that directly or indirectly restrict or encumber access to eye care services within nursing facilities; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of the position statement entitled, "Position Statement on Eye Care Services in Nursing Facilities," or the most recent revision published by the American Optometric Association be suitably archived for review in conjunction with this policy resolution.

**Standing.**

**2007 PR#6 Regular Optometric Care**

**RESOLVED**, that it is the policy of the California Optometric Association that at a minimum regular comprehensive eye examinations be administered by an eye care professional according to the following schedule:

<u>Patient Age</u>	<u>Examination Interval</u>	
	<u>Asymptomatic/Risk Free</u>	<u>At Risk</u>
Birth to 24 Months	By 6 months of age	By 6 months of age or as recommended
2 to 5 years	At 3 years of age	At 3 years of age or as recommended
6 to 18 years	Before first grade and every two years thereafter	Annually or as recommended
18 to 40 years recommended	Every two to three years	Every one to two years or as
41 to 60 years recommended	Every two years	Every one to two years or as

61 and older

Annually

Annually or as recommended

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of the position statement entitled, "Recommendations for Regular Optometric Care," published and revised by the American Optometric Association, be suitably archived for review in conjunction with this policy resolution.

**Standing.**

**2007 PR#7 Low Vision, Learning, and Dyslexia**

**RESOLVED**, that it is the policy of the California Optometric Association that:

- People at risk for learning-related vision problems should receive a comprehensive optometric evaluation. This evaluation should be conducted as part of a multidisciplinary approach in which all appropriate areas of function are evaluated and managed.
  - The role of the optometrist when evaluating patients for learning-related vision problems is to conduct a thorough assessment of eye health and visual functions and communicate the results and recommendations.
  - The expected outcome of optometric intervention is an improvement in visual function for patients with learning-related vision problems by therapy which may include lenses, prisms, and vision therapy
- And be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of the position statement entitled, "Vision, Learning, and Dyslexia," published and revised by the American Optometric Association be suitably archived for review in conjunction with this policy resolution.

**Standing.**

**2007 PR#8 Low Vision Rehabilitation Committee**

**RESOLVED**, that the House of Delegates requests the California Optometric Association Board of Trustees establish a Low Vision Committee. This committee would represent COA at the American Optometric Association Low Vision Rehabilitation Section.

**Archived.**

**2008 PR#2 Legislative Fund Assessment**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2008 House of Delegates approves extending the special monthly dues assessment applied to all COA members through calendar year 2010, excluding student, retired, life, honorary, distinguished, special achievement, and dues level one members, in an amount not to exceed Fourteen Dollars (\$14.00) per member per month, with these funds to be used solely for future scope of practice enhancement and protection.

**Archived.**

**2008 PR#3 Dues Increase 2009-2011**

**RESOLVED**, that COA may increase the full member dues rate up to a maximum of \$60.00 per year for the three-year period of 2009-2011, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that these dues increases will be used for the sole purpose of balancing the Association's general operating budget.

**Archived.**

**2009 PR#1 Adoption of the Low Vision Rehabilitation Section Bylaws**

**RESOLVED**, that each member of the Section shall pay to the California Optometric Association annual dues of \$50.00; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the 2009 COA House of Delegates ratify the proposed Low Vision Rehabilitation Section Bylaws.

**Standing.**

**2009 PR#4 Legislative Fund Assessment**

**RESOLVED**, that it is the sense of the 2009 House of Delegates that, for purposes of expenditures from the Legislative Fund, the phrase “to be used solely for future scope of practice enhancement and protection” may include ongoing efforts recommended by the Legislation-Regulation Committee and approved by the Board of Trustees that build and strengthen the organization’s ability to advocate, communicate, and influence both legislative and electoral outcomes in support of optometry’s agenda.

**Standing.**

**2009 PR#5 Distinguished Membership Status for SCCO President and Past AOA President Dr. Kevin Alexander**

**RESOLVED**, that Dr. Kevin Alexander be elected to California Optometric Association membership as a distinguished member.

**Standing.**

**2009 PR#6 Children’s Vision Legislation**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees direct the Legislation and Regulation Committee to evaluate and make a recommendation on sponsorship and introduction of legislation in 2010 requiring all California children to have a comprehensive eye exam before being admitted to school.

**Active.**

**2010 PR#1 Updating State and Federal Medicaid Laws**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA supports the federal Social Security Act to provide full parity, consistent with scope of practice, for optometrists in the Medicaid program, in the same manner as now provided for Medicare; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the House of Delegates urges every COA member to ask his or her U.S. Senator and Representative to co-sponsor and support federal legislation granting Medicaid parity for doctors of optometry in the same manner as Medicare.

**Active.**

**2010 PR#2 Political Contributions**

**RESOLVED**, that is the sense of the 2010 House of Delegates that all volunteer decision makers called upon to commit COA resources for any reason fully



consider the sensitivity of the issue or issues for which those resources may be used.

**Standing.**

**2010 PR#3 Optometric Services in Hospitals**

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association affirm its support for the affiliation of Doctors of Optometry with hospitals and other multidisciplinary health care settings and optometrists' independent access to diagnostic testing procedures and equal access to hospital privileges, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of the position statement entitled, "Position Statement on Optometric Services in Hospitals," or the most recent revision published by the American Optometric Association be suitably archived for review in conjunction with this policy resolution.

**Standing.**

**2010 PR#5 Dues Reorganization**

**RESOLVED**, that effective fiscal year 2011 newly licensed members pay dues based on the following ascending dues scale and that existing members be reassigned accordingly:

- zero (0) dues for the balance of the calendar year of initial licensure in California;
- ten percent (10%) for the first year following initial licensure in California;
- twenty percent (20%) for the second year following initial licensure in California;
- fifty percent (50%) for the third year following initial licensure in California;
- seventy-five percent (75%) for the fourth year following initial licensure in California;
- one hundred percent (100%) for the fifth year following initial licensure in California and thereafter; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Clinic member category be closed immediately to new members, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the reduced dues applied to new solo practice and new partnership practice member types be closed to new applicants, and requests for dues reductions be considered through the dues waiver process on a case-by-case basis.

**Archived.**

**2010 PR#6 Proportional Voting by California Delegates to AOA House of Delegates**

**RESOLVED**, that each delegate of this Association to the annual Congress of the American Optometric Association House of Delegates shall be free to cast his or her vote(s) independently, and bloc voting shall not be required.

**Standing.**

**2010 PR#7 TPA Credit for Traumatic Brain Injury CE Courses**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2010 COA House of Delegates recommends that the Board of Trustees petition the State Board of Optometry to include all continuing education courses on the subject of Neuro-optometric diagnosis and treatment of vision dysfunctions following traumatic brain injury be recognized for Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents (TPA) continuing education credit; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA evaluate sponsoring legislation to amend Section 3059 of the Business and Professions Code to remove categories of eye diseases and conditions to which TPA credit must be applied.

**Active.**

**2010 PR#12 Extension of the Legislative Fund Assessment**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2010 House of Delegates approves extending the special monthly dues assessment applied to all COA members through calendar year 2012, excluding student, retired, life, honorary, distinguished, special achievement, and dues level one members, in an amount not to exceed Fourteen Dollars (\$14.00) per member per month, with these funds to be used solely for future scope of practice enhancement and protection.

**Archived.**

**2011 PR#1 Collaborative Health Care Task Force**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Board of Trustees encourage the Healthcare Delivery Systems Committee make as a priority collaborations with other health care organizations and agencies.

**Standing.**

**2011 PR#2 Medical Insurance Panels**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of the California Optometric Association explore the legal, fiscal and administrative feasibility of establishing a service within COA that assists member doctors in the process of credentialing, billing and participation on medical insurance panels and report to the 2011 President's Council.

**Archived.**

**2011 PR#5 NBEO Clinical Skills Exam**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA introduce at AOA House of Delegates a resolution urging the postponement of this new policy establishing a single site for administering part three of the NBEO clinical skills exam until all interested parties (i.e. AOA, AOSA, COA, UCBSO, UCOSA, SCCO Student Association, Western University Student Association) have ample opportunity to provide input; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA introduce at the AOA House of Delegates a resolution calling for a second testing site on the west coast prior to any further implementation of a policy consolidating CSE testing sites; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA immediately express its concern and disappointment to the NBEO, as well as AOSA, state boards of optometry, and schools of optometry, regarding the NBEO's decision to offer its part III exam in a single location; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that should there be no other resolution of this unfair and burdensome requirement for west coast applicants to travel to the east coast for testing that the COA petition the California State Board of Optometry to explore the possibility of allowing California schools of optometry to develop an equivalent California State Practical Examination which could be conducted cooperatively by the California schools.

**Standing.**

**2012 PR#2 House of Delegates Procedures and Agenda**

**RESOLVED**, the California Optometric Association reaffirm that it will hold an annual House of Delegates and that the organization of that meeting be so constructed that it primarily and most efficiently has on the House of Delegates agenda matters of major concern to the association and its members, which would include Policy Resolutions; By-Laws amendments; Budget and Financial oversight; Legislation; Board Member Elections, and any other matters of major significance to Optometry in California, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the organization of the House of Delegates give precedence and sufficient time to those matters that require discussion, delegate input, and consideration by the delegates and optometric societies, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association have House of Delegates changes in place for the 2013 annual meeting.

**Standing.**

**2012 PR# 4 Stand-Alone Vision Plan Inclusion in the California State Healthcare Benefit Exchange**

**RESOLVED**, that The California Optometric Association strongly supports, on behalf of the citizens and families of California, the inclusion of stand-alone vision plans in the California Health Benefit Exchange.

**Standing.**

**2013 PR#1 Amendment of the Low Vision Rehabilitation Section Dues Structure**

**RESOLVED**, student members of LVRS shall not be required to pay dues.

**Standing.**

**2013 PR#2 Extension of the Legislative Fund Assessment**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2013 House of Delegates approves extending the special monthly dues assessment applied to all active COA members, excluding, retired, life, and post-graduate members, newly graduated doctors of optometry until the first month of the calendar year following graduation, as well as distinguished and special achievement members who would otherwise qualify for retired or life membership in an amount not to exceed sixteen dollars (\$16.00) per member per month, until such time that the COA House of Delegates determines the assessment is unnecessary. The assessment funds collected shall be used solely for future scope of practice enhancement and protection.

**Standing.**

**2013 PR#3 COA Nominating Committee and Applicant Interview Process**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2013 California Optometric Association House of Delegates establish the following operating procedures for the COA Nominating Committee:

1. The operating policies and procedures of the COA Nominating Committee (Committee) shall provide for the professional, fair and lawful consideration of applicants.
2. A majority of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for any official action of the Committee.

3. The Committee shall, on its own initiative, make a dedicated effort to identify and recruit qualified individuals for office. The committee may seek assistance from, and work with, COA societies, committees and the board of trustees, and may use COA communications mediums to identify and recruit officer, trustee, speaker and vice speaker applicants.
4. In carrying out its duty to identify and recruit qualified candidates, the Committee shall give consideration to broad representation of the COA membership with regards to such factors as, but not limited to, geographical location and modes of practice.
5. The Committee shall schedule and conduct in-person applicant interviews. A telephone interview of an applicant may be conducted subject only to an emergency as determined by a majority vote of the Committee. The Committee's meetings and deliberations shall be held in executive session. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the COA executive director may be present at any applicant interview or committee recommendation deliberation.
6. The Committee shall be prohibited from asking applicants questions or addressing subject areas or otherwise make inferences deemed by the COA House of Delegates or applicable state or federal statute or rules to be inappropriate or unlawful. Such prohibited questions and subject areas shall include, but not be limited to, those that relate to race, color, religion, national origin, age, medical condition, disability, marital status, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation; or could be considered slanderous or otherwise discriminatory of the applicant's legally sanctioned practice style or employment.
7. The Committee shall interview and evaluate applicants relative to who are best qualified in terms of leadership qualities and abilities for the position they are seeking. The interviews may also be based on the information contained in the applicant's application, resume or curriculum vitae and, the qualifications and duties of officers and delegates as set forth in the COA bylaws. The Committee shall not make nominations based on whether the applicant's views coincide with those of individual committee members.
8. The Committee shall be permitted to conduct "exit" or other interviews of currently serving officers, trustees, speaker and vice speaker for the sole purpose of assisting in determining the qualifications of officer, trustee, speaker and vice speaker applicants.
9. The Committee shall submit a written report to the COA secretary-treasurer at least 45 (forty-five) calendar days prior to the first session of that year's COA House of Delegates meeting containing a slate of officer, trustee, speaker and vice speaker nominees it determines best meet the minimum qualifications and ability to fulfill the responsibilities for the applicable position without regard to the number of positions open.
10. The Committee members shall, during the entire term of their appointment, communicate and discuss, in writing or orally, only amongst themselves the consideration or potential consideration of any applicant or potential applicant except as otherwise provided for in these bylaws or COA House of Delegates resolution; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that if the COA Proposed Bylaws Amendment #3, relating to the COA Nominating Committee, considered during the 2013 COA House of Delegates meeting is amended to conflict with or not support any provision of this resolution, then the bylaw amendments so adopted will take precedence; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the adoption of this policy resolution shall render any existing policy resolution related to the COA Nominating Committee, its operations and procedures, null and void.

**Standing.**

**2013 PR#4 COA Member Dues**

**RESOLVED**, that effective fiscal year 2014, annual COA member dues shall be established as set forth below:

<u>Membership Category</u>	<u>Percent of annual dues</u>
Active	100%
Partial Practice	50%
Optometric Educator	50%
Postgraduate	0%
Government Service	50%
Distinguished	0%
Retired (with member benefits)	10%
Retired (without member benefits)	0%
Life	0%
Special Achievement	0%
Clinic Practice	50%

<u>Affiliate Members</u>	<u>Percent of annual dues</u>
Student	0%
Non-California Resident	40%
Non-US Resident	40%
Non-Optometrist Section	Set by Section Bylaws

<u>Associate Members</u>	<u>Percent of annual dues</u>
Non-Optometrist Educator	40%
Honorary	0%

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that if the COA Proposed Bylaws Amendment Number Five relating to the COA membership classifications considered during the 2013 COA House of Delegates meeting is amended to conflict with or not support any provision of this resolution, then the bylaw amendments so adopted will take precedence; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the adoption of this policy resolution shall render any existing policy resolution related to the COA member dues, null and void.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the ascending dues scale currently used for new licensees and Project Keep will remain as is.

**Archived.**

### **2013 PR#5 Review of 2008 and Earlier Resolutions**

**RESOLVED**, that after review by the House of Delegates the resolutions may be retained in their entirety or deleted as no longer applicable, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the action noted on the resolutions listed below be adopted.

**Archived.**

### **2013 PR#6 Review of Policy Resolutions (As amended by 2018 PR# 2, Review of 2013 and Earlier Resolutions)**

**RESOLVED**, that to promote COA HOD meeting efficiency and focus on items of major concern to COA, its members and the profession of optometry, the annual review of COA HOD resolutions five years or more old be reviewed by the COA HOD under the below guidelines:

1. A standing COA HOD meeting agenda item be the review by the COA HOD of then-active and -standing policy resolutions adopted five years previously, along with related recommendations from the COA Board of Trustees and COA societies
2. The COA Board of Trustees be directed to review each year all then-active and -standing policy resolutions adopted five years or more previously and place on the COA HOD agenda only those policy resolutions it recommends for amendment and/or classification change, or rescission and archive
3. COA societies be encouraged to review each year all then-active and -standing policy resolutions adopted five years or more previously and place on the COA HOD agenda those policy resolutions they recommend for amendment and/or classification change, or rescission and archive
4. COA place and maintain on its website the COA HOD active, standing and archived resolutions to which societies and delegates can refer to in carrying out this resolution

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the adoption of this policy resolution shall render any existing policy resolution related to the COA HOD review of policy resolutions null and void.  
**Standing.**

**2013 PR#9                      Presidents' Council and Leadership Council Resumption**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA BOT reinstate Presidents' Council for the year 2013, to be attended by each society's President and President-Elect.

**RESOLVED**, that the COA BOT explore the feasibility of conducting the event jointly with the Monterey Symposium.

**Archived.**

**2014 PR#1                      COA Member Dues**

**RESOLVED**, that effective fiscal year 2014, annual COA member dues shall be established as set forth below:

<u>Membership Category</u>	<u>Percent of annual dues</u>
Active	100%
Partial Practice	50%
Optometric Educator	50%
Postgraduate	0%
Government Service	50%
Distinguished	0%
Retired (with member benefits)	10%
Retired (without member benefits)	0%
Life	0%
Special Achievement	0%
Clinic Practice	50%
<u>Affiliate Members</u>	<u>Percent of annual dues</u>
Student	0%
Non-California Resident	40%
Non-US Resident	40%
<u>Paraoptometric</u>	0%

<u>Associate Members</u>	<u>Percent of annual dues</u>
Non-Optometrist Educator	40%
Honorary	0%

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that if the COA Proposed Bylaws Amendment Number One, relating to the COA paraoptometric membership, considered during the 2014 COA House of Delegates meeting is amended to conflict with or not support any provision of this resolution, then the bylaw amendments so adopted will take precedence.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the ascending dues scale currently used for new licensees and Project Keep will remain as is.

**Standing.**

**2014 PR#3 COA Presidents' Council**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2014 COA House of Delegates (HOD) formally recognizes the annual COA Presidents' Council meeting consisting of representatives from each COA society; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the COA Presidents' Council Planning Committee shall be comprised of two (2) COA trustees appointed by the COA president and confirmed by the COA Board of Trustees to serve as chair and vice chair of the committee; and, representatives from four (4) COA societies chosen at random by the COA societies. All societies will serve a two-year term except for the first year, two societies will be randomly selected to serve two-year terms and two societies will be randomly selected to serve one-year terms. A society may not be represented on the committee again until each society has been selected for the committee.

**Standing.**

**2014 PR#4 California Vision Project Retention**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the California Vision Project be retained as a charitable program of the California Optometric Association within the entity structure of the California Vision Foundation, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA secretary-treasurer and staff determine the minimum cost for COA to administer the California Vision Project and report the results to the California Vision Foundation Board and the COA Board of Trustees, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA secretary-treasurer negotiate, based upon the cost study, a fair and reasonable charge to the California Vision Project for administrative services provided by COA, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the California Vision Project and all those who donate services, products and monies be recognized and congratulated in a manner to be determined by the COA BOT for 25 years of assistance to Californians in need.

**Active.**

**2014 PR#5 Optowest**

**RESOLVED**, that the possibility of retaining OptoWest as a multi-day educational meeting held in a major metropolitan area be reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

**Active.**

**2014 PR#6 Annual Review of Passed Policy Resolutions**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that deleted House of Delegates resolutions that are categorized as “ongoing or completed” be archived and considered in force.

**Archived.**

**2014 PR#7 House of Delegates**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the House of Delegates, designated as the annual meeting of the California Optometric Association, remain a two-day meeting.

**Standing.**

**2016 PR#1 COA Policy Resolutions: Definitions and Retention**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA House of Delegates (HOD), in an effort to clearly set forth the designation of policy resolutions adopted so as to better guide the governance and operation of COA, and to maintain those policy resolutions in an organized manner that is transparent to all members and other stakeholders as deemed appropriate, enacts the following definitions of policy resolutions and the mechanisms for their documentation and storage:

1. **Active:** A policy resolution that represents the policy of COA as adopted by the COA HOD and in which its intent or mandate is being actively implemented or pursued by COA. These resolutions shall be kept in a record called "COA Active Policy Resolutions."
2. **Standing Policy:** An active policy resolution that has been implemented, completed or achieved, and has been determined to reflect an ongoing matter, which the COA HOD determines continues to be policy of COA. These resolutions shall be kept in a record called "COA Standing Policies," which shall replace the “COA HOD Resolution Implementation Record” created by Policy Resolution 6 in 2013.
3. **Archived:** An active or standing policy resolution that has been implemented, completed, achieved or replaced that the COA HOD determines is no longer applicable or representative of COA policy. These resolutions shall be kept in a record called the "COA Policy Resolution Archive."

And, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that active, standing policy and archived resolutions be subject to review as COA societies and the COA Board of Trustees deem necessary in accordance with the procedures set forth in 2013 Policy Resolution 6, titled “Review of Policy Resolutions”; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that active, standing policy and archived resolutions be made accessible electronically or otherwise by **1)** chronologically listed and attached to the COA bylaws, and **2)** as separate documents by classification.

**Active.**

**2016 PR#2 Mandatory Children’s Comprehensive Eye Exams**



**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association take up the cause of children with undetected vision problems by working with appropriate state agencies that will promote the early detection of vision and eye health problems; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Board of Trustees make every effort to communicate with concerned organizations, such as those representing pediatricians, nurses, etc., regarding the importance of comprehensive eye and vision care for children; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that given the fact that vision screenings are not an adequate substitute for the detection of many vision or eye problems in children, that the COA Board of Trustees make every effort to introduce and/or support legislation requiring all California children to have a comprehensive eye exam before being admitted to school; and, be it further

**RESOLVED** that this resolution replace and render null and void 1964 Policy Resolution A-7, 1973 Policy Resolution 7, 1984 Policy Resolution 4, 1991 Policy Resolution A-8, 2000 Policy Resolution 7, 2001 Policy Resolution 7, 2001 Policy Resolution 9 and 2003 Policy Resolution 10, relating to early detection of children's vision and eye problems and place those resolutions in the COA Policy Resolution Archive.

**Active.**

#### **2016 PR#3 Optometric Medi-Cal Fees**

**RESOLVED**, that it is the policy of the California Optometric Association that doctors of optometry be reimbursed equitably under the California Medi-Cal system; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association pursue all options to achieve Medi-Cal reimbursement equality, including, but not limited to, requesting the Public Vision League to initiate appropriate action; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the California Optometric Association keep its membership informed of its actions in this regard; and, be it further

**RESOLVED** that this resolution replace and render null and void 1995 Policy Resolution 9 and 1996 Policy Resolution 15, relating to Medi-Cal reimbursement equity for doctors of optometry, and place those resolutions in the COA Policy Resolution Archive.

**Active.**

#### **2016 PR#4 Review of 2011 and Earlier Resolutions**

**RESOLVED**, that the recommendation noted on the COA HOD policy resolutions listed below be adopted.

**Active.**

#### **2017 PR#4 Presidents' Council**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA President's Council be held annually at an easily accessible location that encourages membership participation and minimizes participants' expenses; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA President's Council be held at least 30 (thirty) days prior to the deadline to submit a bylaw amendment to the COA House of Delegates so that ideas

considered at the meeting for potential policy resolutions or bylaw amendments may be submitted by societies in a timely manner; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA President's Council be held over at least one full day to allow for the dissemination and discussion of topical issues among the attendees.

**Active**

**2017 PR#5 Candidate for California State Legislative Interview Process**

**Resolved**, that the 2017 House of Delegates recommends that the COA Board of Trustees to review and carry out a process to increase the number of COA members and COA student members participating at candidate interviews at the state and local levels; and, be it further

**Resolved**, that COA member and COA student member interviewers submit a summary of the candidate interview to the appropriate COA Key Person Coordinator and COA staff following the interview.

**2017 PR#6 Parental Leave Dues Adjustment**

**RESOLVED**, that a member is eligible for a "parental leave" reduction of 50% of the COA and society dues amount then-paid by that member who takes time off work to deliver and/or bond with a new child or a child in connection with adoption or foster care placement; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this 50% dues reduction applies within one year of the birth, adoption or start of foster care of a child, is limited to the time the member actually takes off work, and shall not exceed six (6) months maximum; and, be it further

**RESOLVED** that this dues reduction may be extended for an additional six (6) months, but not to exceed 12 (twelve) months of parental leave dues reduction eligibility in total, for a serious pregnancy-related medical condition or serious health condition of the new, adopted or foster child; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the eligible member submit a written request to COA for the parental leave dues reduction or parental leave dues reduction extension; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA include information about parental leave dues reduction on the membership category page of the COA website.

**Active**

**2017 PR#7 Children's Vision Legislation**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2017 House of Delegates directs the COA Board of Trustees to make the passage and adoption of children's vision legislation one of its primary goals.

**Active**

**2017 PR#8 Student Submission of Proposed Policy Resolutions**

**RESOLVED**, that the student section of COA may submit policy resolutions for consideration at the COA House of Delegates meetings.

**Active**

**2017 PR#9                      COA Legislative Day**

**RESOLVED**, that the House of Delegates strongly recommends that the Board of Trustees hold the COA Legislative Day annually in Sacramento.

**Active**

**2018 PR#1                      Presidents' Council\***

**RESOLVED**, that 2017 COA House of Delegates Policy Resolution Four be amended to expand options available for the COA Presidents' Council to meet that minimizes expenses and allows for maximum society representation attendance and time to discuss and act on issues of importance to COA societies;

**RESOLVED**, that the COA President's Council meeting be held annually; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA President's Council be held at Monterey Symposium or earlier, so that ideas considered at the meeting for potential policy resolutions or bylaws amendments may be submitted by societies in a timely manner; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the annual COA Presidents' Council meeting be held in conjunction with another COA event, when feasible, excluding the COA House of Delegates; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the COA President's Council be held over at least one full day to allow for the dissemination and discussion of topical issues among the attendees.

\*Amends 2017 PR#4

**Active**

**2019 PR#2                      Policy on California State Board of Optometry Membership**

**RESOLVED**, that it is the policy of the California Optometric Association for the doctor of optometry members of the California State Board of Optometry to represent all modes of optometric practice, including independent doctors of optometry, and that this policy shall guide COA's SBO appointment advocacy activities.

**Active.**

**2020 PR#2                      Submissions of Policy Resolutions by COA Presidents' Council**

**RESOLVED**, that the COA Presidents' Council may submit policy resolutions for consideration at each COA House of Delegates meeting; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the president and president-elect or elected designee of each local society shall be eligible to vote on the question of policy resolution or bylaw amendment submission to the COA House of Delegates; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the president, president-elect or elected designee from at least 50 percent of the COA local societies must be present at any meeting of the COA Presidents' Council to constitute a quorum. Approval to submit a COA Presidents' Council-sponsored policy resolution or bylaws amendment shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote, with each society having one vote and that vote must be cast by the society president or president-elect; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that COA Bylaws Article XII Section 1 be amended to add subsection (c) added with the following language: (c) The COA Presidents' Council may also propose amendments to these bylaws and shall submit them with those amendments from the societies to the secretary-treasurer of the association not less than 60 (sixty) days prior to the date of the annual meeting of the COA House of Delegates.