

WASHINGTON STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (PAC)

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1 - NAME and DEFINITION

SECTION 1. *Name*

The name of this organization shall be the Washington State Nurses Association Political Action Committee, hereinafter known as WSNA PAC.

SECTION 2. *Definition*

WSNA PAC is a voluntary, unincorporated non-profit organization of individual nurses and others whose primary concern is the improvement of the nurses' role in the health care delivery system through the political process. The mission of the WSNA PAC is to serve as the political voice for nursing in Washington state. The organization shall be politically non-partisan and shall operate in conformity and compliance with the policies and platforms of the American Nurses Association and the Washington State Nurses Association and in compliance with Washington state campaign financing law in Title 42 RCW.

The WSNA PAC Board of Trustees is the governing body of the WSNA PAC.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSES AND FUNCTIONS

SECTION 1. *Purposes*

The purposes of WSNA PAC are:

- A. To make bipartisan endorsements of candidates for elected office who are supportive of nursing issues.
- B. To educate and assist nurses in organizing efforts for effective political action.
- C. To assist WSNA in providing information regarding health-related issues to legislators and the public.
- D. To collect contributions supporting WSNA political activities.

SECTION 2. *Functions*

The functions of the WSNA PAC shall be:

- A. To evaluate and publish the candidate questionnaire and annual legislative voting record used to make candidate endorsements for elected state office.
- B. To identify, recruit and support candidates who support nursing and patient safety for elected state office and related political activities.
- C. To raise funds for political activities.

ARTICLE III - CONTRIBUTIONS

SECTION 1. *Donations*

Individuals and organizations may make monetary contributions to WSNA PAC.

The name and address of the contributor shall be recorded for purposes of complying with Title 42 RCW. Fundraising and election activities shall be reported to the Public Disclosure Commission in compliance with the Public Disclosure Act, RCW 42.17.

SECTION 2. *Communication with Contributors*

Contributors to WSNA PAC shall receive communication about political activities of WSNA PAC relative to the implementation of WSNA's legislative program.

The name and address of each person or organization who contributes goods or services to WSNA PAC for fundraising activity shall be recorded for reporting purposes.

Fundraising activities of WSNA PAC shall be reported to the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission according to Title 42.17.067.

ARTICLE IV - COMPOSITION OF THE PAC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SECTION 1. *Structure*

- A. The affairs of this organization shall be managed by a Board of Trustees.
- B. Every odd number year the WSNA Board of Directors shall appoint trustees for a two-year term. The number of trustees shall not exceed the number of Washington state's congressional districts plus two representatives of the state at-large. Every effort shall be made to appoint trustees to represent each congressional district.

- C. The WSNA President or his/her designee shall be a trustee and shall serve for the elected term of the presidency.
- D. The Executive Director and Director of Public Affairs of WSNA shall serve as ex-officio members of the WSNA PAC Board of Trustees without vote and shall not be included in the quorum for WSNA PAC. The Executive Director and Director of Public Affairs shall serve as Co-Treasurers of the PAC.

SECTION 2. *Qualifications*

Appointment to the WSNA PAC shall be limited to those members in good standing of WSNA.

ARTICLE V - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- A. The Chairholder shall preside at all meetings of the WSNA PAC Board of Trustees.
- B. The Vice Chairholder shall assist the Chairholder in the discharge of all duties and shall officiate for the Chairholder during the absence of that officer or at the officer's request.
- C. The Co-Treasurers shall be responsible for maintaining records on the financial status of WSNA PAC in accordance with the requirements of Washington law.

ARTICLE VI - TERMS OF OFFICE

SECTION 1. *Officers*

- A. The WSNA PAC Board of Trustees shall elect a Chairholder and Vice Chairholder at its odd-numbered year designated annual meeting.
- B. The term of office for each officer shall be two years, and an officer is eligible to serve two terms in the same office.

SECTION 2. *Board of Trustees*

- A. Each appointed trustee shall serve no more than four consecutive terms.
- B. The terms of office of all trustees shall begin September 1 and end on August 31 of the second year.
- C. The WSNA Board of Directors may declare a trustee position vacant if a trustee is no longer able to serve. The vacancy would be filled for the unexpired term. A trustee who has served more than 12 months of a term would be considered as

having served a full term.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

- A. Meetings of the WSNA PAC Board of Trustees will be held at least one (1) time per year.
- B. A quorum of the WSNA PAC Board of Trustees shall be a majority.
- C. Additional meetings may be held at the discretion of the chairholder or upon request of a majority of the WSNA PAC Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE VIII - DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION

In the event of a dissolution of the organization or the termination of its existence for any reason, any money or assets which may remain in the organization shall be submitted to the Washington State Nurses Foundation, a private non-profit organization, who shall use said contributions for improving the role of nursing in the health care delivery system.

ARTICLE IX - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern this organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws or the special rules of order of this association.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those present at any meeting of the WSNA PAC Board of Trustees, provided written notice of the proposed change has been given to each member of the WSNA PAC Board of Trustees at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of such meeting. Amendments shall become effective upon approval of the WSNA Board of Directors.