

PROPOSED BY-LAWS AMENDMENT REGARDING WORKING GROUPS

ARTICLE X WORKING GROUPS

Section 10.1 - Purpose

Working groups may be established within the chapter by members to focus on specific organizing issues. Working groups are groups whose structure is determined internally by members of that working group and should make its best efforts to maintain a parity of members from marginalized communities and identities (i.e.: BIPOC, queer, sexual preference, sex workers, immigration status, et al.). Working groups shall be governed by their own by-laws, as adopted by the chapter members who choose to be a part of the working group. Membership in any working group established within the chapter shall be open to every member of the chapter. Working groups may be established to focus on specific local issues that a minority group of members deem relevant to the chapter's goals or purpose.

Section 10.2 – Process to Propose a Working Group

In order to establish a working group, members must submit a formal, written proposal regarding the proposed working group's purpose and goals, to the chapter's Executive Committee. The proposal can be proposed in any form that explains the working group's purpose and goals. The proposal must be accompanied by the names of any members of good standing of the chapter who endorse the establishment of the proposed working group. Upon receipt of a written proposal to establish a working group, the Executive Committee shall notify the chapter of the proposal and submit it to the chapter for a vote as set forth in Sections 10.3 and 10.4.

A vote by the chapter's general membership shall be taken to either accept or reject the working group. If rejected, the working group may submit a revised proposal to the Executive Committee.

Section 10.3 – Notice of a Vote to Establish a Working Group

Upon receipt of a proposal to establish a working group, the Executive Committee shall notify the chapter's general membership of the proposal by email and at the next scheduled monthly chapter meeting (the "Proposal Meeting"). At the Proposal Meeting, time shall be provided for one or more sponsors of the proposal to introduce the proposal to the chapter, as well as for discussion and debate of the proposal. Members shall be notified at the Proposal Meeting that a vote to establish the working group will take place at the next scheduled monthly chapter meeting that follows, as well as by absentee ballot, as set forth in Section 10.4.

The initial notice of the proposed working group must include the formal, written proposal submitted by the proposed working group and a list of the members in good standing of the

chapter that endorsed the establishment of the proposed working group. The written proposal and list of sponsoring members shall also be provided to members at the Proposal Meeting. Following the Proposal Meeting, a follow-up email shall also be sent to the chapter's general membership regarding the vote to establish the working group.

Section 10.4 – Voting to Establish a Working Group

The vote to establish a proposed working group shall be conducted by both absentee ballot and by a vote of the members in good standing at the next scheduled monthly chapter meeting that follows the Proposal Meeting (the "Voting Meeting").

Following the Proposal Meeting, the chapter's members in good standing shall be provided an opportunity to vote to establish the proposed working group by absentee ballot. Absentee voting to establish the proposed working group shall remain open until the start of the Voting Meeting. Absentee voting shall be conducted by whatever means practicable to record member's votes.

At the Voting Meeting, additional time shall be provided to further discuss and debate the proposal, as needed. Following any discussion and debate, a final vote shall take place regarding the establishment of the proposed working group. Any member in good standing present at the Voting Meeting that did not already vote by absentee ballot may vote on the establishment of the working group.

A vote in favor of establishing the proposed working group by a two-thirds majority of the members in good standing that submitted a vote by either absentee ballot or at the Voting Meeting shall establish the working group.

Section 10.5 – Working Group By-Laws

Following a vote to establish a working group, the working group shall adopt by-laws under which the working group will operate within 60 days. Failure to adopt by-laws within 60 days may result in a vote at the following general chapter meeting to dissolve the working group, unless reasoning is given to extend the amount of time to adopt by-laws.

Section 10.6 - Working Group Nominations to Serve on the Executive Committee

Following the adoption of a governing document, the working group shall select one of its members to be the representative for the working group to serve as a member of the Executive Committee (the "Working Group Representative"). The Working Group Representative shall enjoy the same rights and responsibilities, and be subject to the same oversight by the chapter membership through recall, as the other members of the Executive Committee, as set forth in Article VII of these by-laws.

Section 10.7 - Required Report Backs to General Membership

At least one member of the working group will provide report backs to the chapter through general chapter meetings. Such report backs may be communicated by whatever means are appropriate to inform the general membership of the working group's activities; report backs should take place during general chapter meetings whenever practicable.

Section 10.8 – Dissolving a Working Group

A working group may vote to dissolve itself at a regularly scheduled meeting of its members. Prior to such a vote, notice of a vote to dissolve the working group shall be provided to the working group members at a regularly scheduled meeting of its members and communicated to all members of the working group by email. Following such notice, a vote to dissolve the working group shall take place at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the working group. A vote to dissolve the working group shall require a two-thirds majority of the working group's members present at the meeting. Working groups may adopt additional requirements to dissolve itself in its by-laws, however, any procedure to dissolve set forth in a working group's by-laws must at least satisfy the requirements set forth in this section.

Section 10.9 – Rechartering Working Groups at the Chapter Convention

At each chapter convention, members shall vote to recharter all existing working groups for the year. Prior to voting to recharter a working group, each working group shall be given the opportunity to select one or more of its members to address the convention regarding the working group's efforts the previous year and goals for the current year.

The vote to recharter the working groups shall require a 2/3rd majority vote of all members in good standing during the open voting period at the convention. A working group that fails to receive a majority vote to be rechartered for the year shall be dissolved.

A list of all working groups established within the chapter shall be maintained in an Appendix to these by-laws, and shall be amended throughout the year upon the establishment or dissolution of working groups.

APPENDIX - LIST OF ESTABLISHED WORKING GROUPS

Mutual Aid Working Group
Immigrant Justice Working Group
Labor Working Group
Electoral Working Group
Housing Justice Working Group
Eco-Socialist Working Group
Rationale:

The purpose of this amendment is to formalize the current, ad hoc procedures used to create

working groups and to establish general guidelines for their functioning and relationship to the chapter as a whole. To be clear, the working groups that have already been established in the chapter, listed in the appendix, will be considered an already established group and will NOT need to go through the process of becoming established as set forth above. These already established working groups will only be subject to the rechartering process beginning with the next chapter convention in 2022.

Changes:

There is no existing section of the by-laws regarding working groups. They are only mentioned in passing in Article V, which deals with branches.