**IMPORTANT NOTICES:**

**National ENA has approved this template for use by the ENA State Councils in drafting their Bylaws. While certain of the provisions set forth below establishing ENA’s structure and purposes are mandatory, provisions controlling the State Council’s corporate governance are meant solely as a guide.**

**The corporate governance of each State Council is subject to and controlled by the not-for-profit corporation act or similar law(s) governing the operation of not-for-profit corporations in the State Council’s state of incorporation (referred to herein as “Applicable Law”) and the State Council is solely responsible for ensuring that its Bylaws comply with Applicable Law. Accordingly, each State Councils is encouraged to engage legal counsel familiar with the Applicable Law to review its Bylaws prior to adoption.**

**The text highlighted in yellow indicates areas where the State Council has flexibility to make its own decisions.**

**If the text is not highlighted, changes to such text are not generally encouraged (unless necessary to comply with Applicable Law).**

**The text that is highlighted in green must appear in the State Council bylaws. If the language highlighted in green (or substantially similar language) is not currently included in the State Council bylaws, the Bylaws must be amended to include such provisions.**

## **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

## **All State Councils must evaluate the current structure and composition of their Board of Directors in order to assure they are following best practices and Applicable Law.**

## **National ENA strongly discourages excessively large Boards or Boards comprised of a representative or “delegate” from each Local Chapter. Under the law, the Board of Directors is responsible for the management and oversight of the corporation and each member of the Board owes fiduciary duties to the organization and has legal responsibility (and liability) for the corporation’s decisions and actions. A large board comprised of “delegates” or “representatives” from each and every Local Chapter renders it extremely difficult for the directors to exercise their fiduciary duties and creates unnecessary legal liability for directors and the State Council.**

## **Accordingly, State Councils that maintain a “State Council” that acts as the Board of Directors or that has the authority to make decisions that should be made by the Board of Directors (i.e., financial decisions, budget decisions, contractual decisions, etc.) must take action to reorganize their structure so that such decisions and authority rest with the Board of Directors alone.**

## **The Board of Directors (and not the “State Council”) must be the governing body of the State Council and, as such, must be responsible for the management the State Council’s affairs and have supervision, control and direction of the State Council. To that end, the Board of Directors must have the sole authority to, among other things:**

## **Perform all duties entrusted to officers and directors of a corporation;**

## **Debate and determine policy;**

## **Oversee the State Council’s business and financial affairs;**

## **Determine the State Council’s policies in accordance its bylaws;**

## **Have discretion in the disbursement of the State Council’s funds;**

## **Adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as it shall deem advisable;**

## **Appoint such agents as it may consider necessary;**

## **Provide direction to and control over all of the State Council’s Local Chapters and committees,**

## **Provide strategic direction for the State Council.**

## **Three-tier states that maintain a “State Council” (which must be renamed to be the State General Assembly per the Definition section below), must take all steps necessary to ensure that the State General Assembly does not have the authority of the Board of the Directors. The role and responsibilities of a State Council’s General Assembly must mirror that of the National ENA General Assembly (as defined in the National ENA Bylaws and below in this template).**

**DEFINITIONS**

**STATE COUNCIL = The term “State Council” refers to the not-for-profit corporation that represents all ENA members residing or licensed in the state. Membership in the State Council is achieved through membership in National ENA.**

**In order to avoid confusion, the term “State Council” should not be used to identify a body comprised of representatives or delegates from each of a State Council’s Local Chapters. The State Council is a legal entity (e.g., the not-for-profit corporation) formed in the state to represent National ENA members residing or licensed in the state.**

**STATE GENERAL ASSEMBLY = State Council’s that maintain Local Chapters (i.e., three tiered states) and have a “State Council” comprised of Local Chapter representatives or delegates must take all necessary action to rename such body in order to obviate confusion. Such representative body should be called the “State General Assembly.” In addition, if the State Council’s “State General Assembly” is acting as its Board of Directors (or has been delegated the authority of the Board of Directors) it must take all action necessary to change this practice.**

**BYLAWS OF**

**ENA [INSERT NAME OF STATE] STATE COUNCIL**

# NAME, PURPOSES AND TERRITORY

## **Name.** The name of this corporation shall be the **[INSERT NAME OF STATE]** ENA State Council (the “State Council”), a **[INSERT NAME OF STATE WHERE INCORPORATED]** not-for-profit corporation.

## **Purposes.** In addition to the purposes set forth in the State Council’s articles of incorporation, the purposes for which the State Council is organized (i) are educational, within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, including but not limited to the advancement of emergency nursing through education and public awareness; and (ii) advancing and promoting the interests of the Emergency Nurses Association, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation (“National ENA”) within the geographic area covered by the State Council (“Territory”) other appropriate purposes.

## **Offices.** The State Council shall have and continuously maintain in the **[INSERT NAME OF STATE WHERE INCORPORATED]** a registered office and a registered agent whose office is identical with that registered office and may have such other offices, within or without the **[INSERT NAME OF STATE WHERE INCORPORATED]**, as the State Council Board of Directors may determine.

## **Rules.** The following rules shall conclusively bind the State Council and all persons acting for or on behalf of it:

### No part of the net earnings of the State Council shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to, its directors, officers, committee members or other private persons, except that the State Council shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth above.

### No substantial part of the activities of the State Council shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the State Council shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any provision of these Bylaws, the State Council shall not carry on any activity not permitted to be carried on by:

#### a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRC (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law); or

#### a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the IRC (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

# MEMBERSHIP

## **National ENA/State Council Dual Membership**. Each member of the National ENA in good standing that is licensed or resides within the Territory automatically shall be assigned membership in the State Council in accordance with National ENA procedures. In addition, any National ENA member in good standing outside of the Territory may elect to become a member of the State Council upon written request to the National ENA in accordance with its procedures, however, members may only belong to one State Council. National ENA members shall be placed in the State Council membership category that corresponds with their National ENA membership category. State Council members must be National ENA members in good standing.

## **Membership Categories.** The membership of the State Council is composed of the following categories and such additional categories as may be established by National ENA from time to time: Voting Members (which includes National, International, Senior and Military members) and Nonvoting Members (which includes Affiliate, Student and Honorary members). The criteria for membership are the same as those established by the National ENA for each such membership category in its bylaws and policies.

## **Member Rights & Obligations.**

### Each member has the responsibility to support the purpose, mission, vision, values and objectives of National ENA and the State Council.

### Voting Members shall be entitled to hold elected office in the State Council; serve and participate in committees and task forces; vote in the State Council’s elections and on all matters presented to the State Council’s Voting Members; and attend the member meetings and social functions of the State Council. Each eligible Voting Member in good standing shall have one (1) vote in the State Council’s elections and on all other matters presented to the Voting Members. All State Council members must abide by these bylaws, the National ENA Bylaws, and such other rules, policies, procedures and regulations as the National ENA or the State Council may from time to time adopt.

### **NOTE: The State Council may determine whether the State Council’s members elect the State Council’s Officers and Board of Directors or if the Local Chapter Representatives, Local Chapter’s or State General Assembly elects the Board and Officers.**

### Nonvoting Members shall be entitled to serve and participate in the State Council’s committees and task forces; and attend the member meetings and social functions of the State Council. Nonvoting Members do not have the right to vote on any matter.

## **Member Resignation.** Any member may resign by submitting notice to the National ENA administrative office in writing. Resignation will be effective upon receipt. Resignation will not relieve the member of the obligation to pay dues and other assessments accrued before the effective date of the resignation. No portion of any dues paid shall be refunded to the resigned member.

## **Member Suspension/Expulsion.** A State Council member may be censured, suspended, expelled for cause or otherwise disciplined by ENA National provided that a statement of the charges shall have been sent by certified mail to the last recorded address of the member at least fifteen (15) days before final action is to be taken. This statement shall be accompanied by a notice of the time and place of the meeting at which the charges shall be considered, and the member shall have the opportunity to appear in person and/or to be represented by counsel and to present any defense to such charges before action is taken by ENA National. Such disciplinary actions shall be conducted in accordance with such additional procedures as may be established by the ENA National Board of Directors.

## **Automatic Termination.** Membership in the State Council automatically shall be terminated whenever a State Council member’s membership in the National ENA is terminated. In addition, the membership of any State Council member who is in default of payment of National ENA dues or any other charges for a period of three (3) months from the date on which such dues or charges become payable, or otherwise becomes ineligible for membership in the State Council or the National ENA, shall be terminated automatically, unless such termination is delayed by the National ENA Board of Directors.

## **Member Reinstatement.** State Council members may request reinstatement in accordance with National ENA’s bylaws, policies and procedures.

## **No Property Rights.** State Council membership is a privilege and not a property right. No member has an ownership or property right or interest in the State Council’s funds, property or other assets.

# DUES, FEES AND ASSESSMENTS

## The initial and annual dues for State Council members, if any, and the time for paying such dues and other assessments or fees, if any, shall be established by the National ENA Board of Directors, and such dues shall be submitted to National ENA in accordance with National ENA’s policies and procedures.

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# MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

* 1. **Annual Meeting.** An annual business meeting of the Voting Members of the State Council shall be held at such time and place as shall be determined by the State Council Board of Directors.
	2. **Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the Voting Members of the State Council may be called at the request of the President, a majority of the State Council Board of Directors, or at the written request of **[10%] [two-thirds (2/3)] [insert the desired number/percentage]** of the State Council’s voting members. The time and place for holding special meetings shall be determined by the State Council Board of Directors.

**[NOTE: State Councils are provided some flexibility here to determine the required threshold for voting members to call for a special meeting. As there is an expense associated with holding a special meeting, the threshold is typically high. However, the State Council must check with the Applicable Law in order to determine if this threshold is controlled by state law.]**

* 1. **Education, Social and other Meetings and Functions.** The State Council shall hold such educational, social and other meetings and functions as may be determined by the State Council Board of Directors.
	2. **Notice.** Notice stating the place, day, and hour of the meeting and, in the case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered **[not more than sixty (60) and not less than five (5) days prior to the date of such meeting, unless otherwise required by applicable law.]**

**[NOTE: The State Council must review Applicable Law to determine the notice required and make any necessary changes to this provision.]**

* 1. **Quorum.** The lesser of **[(i) \_\_ percent (\_\_%) [NOTE: 10% is often used]; or (ii) [insert desired number]** eligible Voting Members of the State Council present [**(in person or by proxy)**] shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any duly called meeting of the voting members, provided that if less than a quorum is present, a majority of the voting members present may adjourn the meeting to another time without further notice.

**[NOTE: The State Council must review Applicable Law to determine any quorum requirements and make any necessary changes to this provision.]**

* 1. **Manner of Acting.** The act of a majority or more of the voting members present **[(in person or by proxy)]** at a duly called meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the members, unless the act of a greater number is required by law, the Articles of Incorporation, or these bylaws.
	2. **Rules of Order.** Generally accepted parliamentary authorities (such as Robert’s Rules of Order) may instruct the State Council in all applicable situations insofar as they are not inconsistent with these bylaws, applicable law, or any rule or regulation of National ENA or the State Council.
	3. **Electronic Communications.** Member meetings may be held via telephone conference call, similar form of telecommunications, or any technology available which would permit all participants to simultaneously communicate and effectively participate.

**[NOTE: The State Council must review Applicable Law to confirm electronic meetings are permitted.]**

* 1. **Voting.** Voting by ballot, proxy, mail, e-mail or other electronic means on any matter before the voting members shall be permitted to the full extent allowed by law (e.g., the not-for-profit corporation act or similar law governing the operation of not-for-profit corporations in the State Council’s state of incorporation) (“Law”). A ballot, mail, e-mail or electronic vote may only be called by the State Council Board of Directors. In order for a mail, e-mail or electronic vote to be valid (i) the action must be approved by a majority of voting members casting votes; (ii) the number of voting members casting votes must be sufficient to constitute a quorum had such action been taken at a meeting; and/or (iv) such other requirements as may be required by Law must be satisfied.

**[NOTE: The State Council must review Applicable Law to confirm electronic voting is permitted and to discern any state-specific requirements.]**

## **Minutes.** The State Council will maintain minutes of all meetings of the Voting Members and provide copies of those minutes to National ENA upon request.

# STATE COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## **Authority and Responsibility.** The affairs of the State Council shall be managed by the State Council Board of Directors, which shall have supervision, control, and direction of the affairs of the State Council; shall determine the policies or changes therein within the limits of these bylaws; and shall actively promote its purposes and have discretion in the disbursement of its funds. The State Council Board of Directors may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as shall be deemed advisable and may, in the execution of the powers granted, appoint such agents as it may consider necessary.

## **Composition.** The State Council Board of Directors shall be comprised of the **[President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President** **and \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_) Members-at-Large] (each a “Director”).**

## **[NOTE: State Councils have a great deal of flexibility here to have such officer positions as may sense for the State Council based on its circumstances, size, member engagement, etc. State Councils must typically, as a matter of Applicable Law, have a President, Secretary and Treasurer – however, the offices of Secretary and Treasurer often may be held by the same individual. In addition, the State Council may elect not to have a President-Elect or Immediate Past President. In addition, while Applicable Law typically requires a minimum of three directors, it is recommended, when feasible, that State Council Boards include a minimum of five - seven directors, including 1 - 4 Members-at-Large in addition to the officers. A Board of Directors consisting of greater than 12 directors is discouraged.]**

## **Qualifications.** Directors must be Voting Members in good standing in both National ENA and the State Council.

## **Term.** Directors shall serve a one (1) year term in office, or until such time as their successors are duly elected, qualified and take office. The term of office for each Director shall begin on the January 1 following his or her election. **[NOTE: If not currently on this schedule, the following language may be added:**] [**In order to provide for a smooth transition and orderly phase-in of the January 1 term for Directors and Officers, the Board shall adopt a transition schedule delaying the election cycle (and thereby extending the terms of certain Directors and Officers) as necessary to complete the transition no later than January 1, 20\_\_.] [NOTE: Optional term limit language] Members-at-Large may serve no more than \_\_ consecutive terms in office.]**

## **Elections.** The Voting Members shall elect the Officers and Directors at or before the Annual Meeting of members in accordance with such procedures as shall be established by the State Council Board of Directors and National ENA.

## **[NOTE: The timing and conduct of the elections is up to the State Council, provided, however, elections must be held at a time that will permit the State Council to submit the names of its incoming officers to ENA National by the annual October 31 compliance deadline. There is a great deal of flexibility and it can be addressed in policy or procedures adopted by the Board outside of the Bylaws. If permitted by Applicable Law, the elections may be conducted electronically.]**

## **Regular Meetings.** The State Council Board of Directors may take action to set the time, date, and place for the holding of a regular annual meeting of the State Council Board of Directors and such additional regular meetings of the State Council Board of Directors as the State Council Board of Directors may determine without other notice than such action.

## **Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the State Council Board of Directors may be called by, or at the request of, the President or upon a written request to the Secretary of three (3) members of the State Council Board of Directors. Notice of any special meeting of the State Council Board of Directors shall state the time, date, and place of the meeting and [shall be delivered at least ten (10) days prior to the date of such meeting].

**[NOTE: The State Council must review Applicable Law to determine the notice required and make any necessary changes to this provision.]**

## **Meeting by Conference Call**. Any action to be taken at a meeting of the State Council Board of Directors or any committee thereof may be taken through the use of a conference telephone or other communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can communicate with each other. Participation in such a meeting shall constitute presence in person at the meeting of the persons so participating. Notwithstanding anything set forth to the contrary in these bylaws, [notice of any meeting to be held by conference call (whether regular or special) may be delivered a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.]

**[NOTE: The State Council must review Applicable Law to determine the notice required and make any necessary changes to this provision.]**

## **Waiver of Notice.** Notice of a State Council Board of Directors meeting need not be given to a Director who signs a waiver of notice either before or after the meeting. Meeting attendance by a Director will constitute a waiver of notice and a waiver of objections to the meeting time and place and the manner in which it was called or convened, except when a Director states, at the beginning of the meeting or promptly upon arrival at the meeting, an objection to transacting business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened.

## **Quorum.** A majority of the State Council Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any duly called meeting of the State Council Board of Directors; provided that when less than a quorum is present at said meeting, a majority of the State Council Board of Directors members present may adjourn the meeting to another time without further notice.

## **Manner of Acting.** The act of a majority of Directors present at a duly called meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the State Council Board of Directors, unless the act of a greater number is required by law, the Articles of Incorporation, or these bylaws.

## **Informal Action.** Any action requiring a vote of the State Council Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting if a consent, setting forth the action taken, is approved by all of the members of the State Council Board of Directors entitled to vote with respect to the subject matter thereof.

## **Minutes.** The State Council shall maintain minutes of meetings of the State Council Board of Directors and provide copies of those minutes to National ENA upon request.

## **Resignation and Removal.** A Director may resign in writing submitted to the State Council’s President. In the case of the resignation of the President, the resignation will be submitted to the Secretary who will refer such resignation to the State Council Board of Directors. A resignation will be effective on the acceptance date of the resignation as determined by the State Council Board of Directors. A Director who no longer meets the qualifications for office shall be automatically removed and such vacancy shall be filled by the State Council Board of Directors. **[Any Director** **may be removed at any time with or without cause by a majority vote of the voting members present and voting, in person or by proxy, at any regular or special meeting at which a quorum of the voting members is present, when in their judgment the best interest of the State Council or the National ENA would be served by such removal.]**

**[NOTE: The State Council must review Applicable Law to determine if there are restrictions or a mandated process that controls removal of Directors that would require changes to this provision.]**

## **Vacancies.** The State Council Board of Directors shall take action to fill any vacancy on the State Council Board of Directors. A Director appointed pursuant to this Section shall hold their position for the remainder of the original term for which he or she was elected to fill.

## **Compensation and Loans.**Neither Directors nor Officers of the State Council shall receive salaries or other compensation for their services as Directors, but the State Council Board of Directors may, by resolution, authorize the reimbursement of expenses of attendance of Directors for each regular and special meeting of the State Council Board of Directors; provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any Director or Officer from serving the State Council in any other capacity and receiving reasonable compensation therefor. The State Council may not make loans to Directors.

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# OFFICERS

# [NOTE: As noted previously, the offices of President-Elect and Immediate Past President are optional and that is why they appear in bold and highlights below. However, every State Council must have a President, Secretary and Treasurer.]

## **Officers.** The Officers of the State Council shall be a **[President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President]** and such other officers as may be determined by the State Council Board of Directors (collectively, the “Officers”).

## **[NOTE: State Councils have a great deal of flexibility here to have such officer positions as may sense for the State Council based on its circumstances, size, member engagement, etc. State Councils must typically, as a matter of Applicable Law, have a President, Secretary and Treasurer – however, the offices of Secretary and Treasurer often may be held by the same individual. In addition, the State Council may elect not to have a President-Elect or Immediate Past President. Check Applicable Law to determine if there is a minimum number of officers (or officer positions) required by law.]**

## **Qualifications.** Officers must be Voting Members in good standing in both National ENA and the State Council.

## **Elections & Term.**

### The Voting Members shall elect the Officers at or before the Annual Meeting of Voting Members in accordance with such procedures as shall be established by the State Council Board of Directors. **[NOTE - AUTOMATIC SUCCESSION OPTIONS:] [At the end of the President’s term, the President-Elect automatically will succeed to the office of President.] [At the end of the President’s term, the President automatically will succeed to the office of Immediate Past President.]**

### The Officers shall serve a one (1) year term in office, or until such time as their successors have been duly elected and qualified. The term of office for each Officer shall begin on the January 1 following his or her election. **[OPTION: The same individual may simultaneously hold the offices of Secretary and Treasurer, but no other offices may be held simultaneously by the same individual.]**

### **[OPTION TERM LIMITS: Officers may not serve more than \_\_\_ (\_\_) consecutive terms in any office. Individuals that have served the maximum term in any office may not stand for reelection for a period of two (2) years following the completion of their term in office.]**

## **Vacancies.** If the office of President becomes vacant, the President-Elect automatically will succeed to the office of President. Vacancies in any other office shall be filled by the State Council Board of Directors**.**

## **Resignation and Removal.** An Officer may resign in writing submitted to the President. In the case of the resignation of the President, the resignation will be submitted to the Secretary who will refer such resignation to the State Council Board of Directors.A resignation will be effective on the acceptance date of the resignation as determined by the State Council Board of Directors. An Officer who no longer meets the qualifications for office shall automatically be removed and such vacancy shall be filled by the State Council Board of Directors.  **[Any Officer may be removed at any time with or without cause by a majority vote of the voting members present and voting, in person or by proxy, at any regular or special meeting at which a quorum of the voting members is present, when in their judgment the best interest of the State Council or National ENA would be served by such removal.]**

**[NOTE: The State Council must review Applicable Law to determine if there are restrictions or a mandated process that controls removal of Officers that would require changes to this provision.]**

## **Duties of Officers.**

### **President.** The President shall be the chief executive officer, and shall in general supervise and control the affairs, of the State Council. Except as otherwise provide by the State Council Board of Directors or the President, only the President may take official action, make public statements, or otherwise hold himself or herself out to the public as authorized to act on behalf of the State Council and all such actions must be approved, in advance, by the State Council Board of Directors. The President may sign, with the Secretary or any other proper officer of the State Council authorized by the State Council Board of Directors, any contracts, or other instruments which the State Council Board of Directors has authorized to be executed, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the State Council Board of Directors or by these bylaws or by the statute to some other officer or agent of the State Council. The President shall preside at all meetings of the State Council’s members and Board of Directors; except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, shall appoint the chair of all committees and, in consultation with the chair, make all committee appointments; and in general shall perform all duties incident to the office of President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the State Council Board of Directors. The President shall automatically succeed to the office of Immediate Past President at the end of his or her term in office as President.

### **President-Elect. The President-Elect shall, in the absence of the President, preside at all meetings of the State Council’s members and Board of Directors; *[shall automatically succeed to the office of President at the end of the presiding President’s term;]* and shall perform all duties incident to the office of President-Elect and such other duties as may be prescribed by the President or by the State Council Board of Directors.**

### **Secretary.** The Secretary shall keep or cause to be kept the minutes of the meetings of the State Council Board of Directors and voting members; shall see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws or as required by law; shall be custodian of the corporate records; and shall in general perform all the duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the President or by the State Council Board of Directors.

### **Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall be responsible for all funds and securities of the State Council; shall receive and give receipts for monies due and payable to the State Council from any sources whatsoever, and shall deposit all such monies in the name of the State Council in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws; shall submit financial reports to the National ENA, to the State Council Board of Directors at its regular meetings, and to the State Council membership at its Annual Meeting; and shall in general perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the President or by the State Council Board of Directors.

### **[Immediate Past President. The Immediate Past President shall perform all duties incident to the office of Immediate Past President and such other duties as may be specified by the President or by the State Council Board of Directors.]**

#  STATE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## **Composition.**

### The State General Assembly shall be composed of delegates from the State Council’s Local Chapters. All Delegates must be Voting Members of both the State Council and National ENA in good standing.

### The State General Assembly shall be composed of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ voting delegates comprised of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

### In addition to the voting delegates, there shall be one nonvoting alternate delegate from each Local Chapter.

## **Authority.** The State General Assembly is responsible for communicating State Council member needs, providing feedback, and input on issues relating to the practice of emergency nursing to the State Council Board of Directors. The State Council General Assembly shall also approve, revise, or amend these bylaws in accordance with Article \_\_\_, and receive reports of the State Council Board of Directors, committees and other volunteer groups, receive reports concerning the State Council’s finances, and transact such other appropriate business as may properly come before the State General Assembly meeting.

## **Quorum**. The presence of a majority of the total voting delegates who have completed credentialing proceduresshall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any duly called session of the State General Assembly.

## **Meeting**. The State General Assembly shall meet on an annual basis at such time and location as may be determined by the State Council Board of Directors.

## **[NOTE: For those State Council’s that maintain a three-tier structure and a State General Assembly, The State Council has discretion in the composition, meeting schedule and other procedures governing the State General Assembly. However, the areas highlighted in green above may not be substantially altered.]**

# COMMITTEES

## **Committees.**

### **Committees with Authority of the State Council Board of Directors.** The State Council Board of Directors, by resolution adopted by a majority of the Directors in office, may designate one or more standing committees, each of which shall consist of a majority of Directors and no fewer than two Directors, which to the extent provided in said resolution shall have and exercise the authority of the State Council Board of Directors in the management of the State Council; but the designation of such committee(s) and the delegation thereto of authority shall not operate to relieve the State Council Board of Directors or any individual Director of any responsibility imposed upon them by Law.In accordance with ENA Procedures, the State Council must maintain the following core committees: (i) Membership; (ii) Government Affairs; (iii) Institute for Quality, Safety, and Injury Prevention (IQSIP); (iv) Pediatric; (v) Trauma; and (vi) Fundraising.

### **[NOTE: This provision allows a State Council to establish, for example, an Executive Committee, Nominating Committee, or Finance Committee. The State Council has the ability to create whatever committees it deems necessary. However, the State Council must, in accordance with the ENA Procedures, maintain the core committees highlighted above in green.]**

### **Other Committees.** The State Council Board of Directors may establish such other committees not having the authority of the State Council Board of Directors as it deems necessary or prudent in the exercise of its authority and responsibility as set forth in these bylaws.

## **Authority.** The action establishing a committee shall set forth the committee’s purpose, authority, and composition, and the qualifications required for membership on the committee. All committees shall report to and be subject to the ultimate authority of the State Council Board of Directors, unless otherwise set forth in the resolution establishing such committee. Committees may be terminated or repurposed by a majority vote of the State Council Board of Directors.

## **Composition**. In the absence of any direction to the contrary in the authorizing action, the President shall appoint the Chairperson and members of all committees, subject to the approval of the State Council Board of Directors.

## **Quorum and Manner of Acting.** At all meetings of any committee, a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business unless otherwise set forth in these bylaws or the resolution establishing such committee. A majority vote by committee members present and voting at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be required for any action.

## **Vacancies & Removal.** Unless otherwise provided in the resolution establishing a committee, vacancies in the membership of a committee shall be filled by appointments made in the same manner as the original appointments to that standing committee. Unless otherwise provided in the resolution establishing a committee, any member of a committee may be removed by the person or persons authorized to appoint such member whenever in their judgment the best interests of the State Council or the National ENA would be served thereby.

## **Policies and Procedures.** The State Council Board of Directors (or its designee(s)) shall develop and approve policies and procedures for the operation of all committees.

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# LOCAL CHAPTERS

## **Local Chapters.** State Council Voting Members that are licensed or reside within the same local geographical territory may be organized as a local chapter of the State Council and each such local chapter will be an integral part of the State Council (each of which is referred to as a “Local Chapter”). The State Council Board of Directors may authorize the establishment of Local Chapters and shall determine the name, boundaries, eligibility requirements and policies and procedures governing their operations (subject to the prior written approval of the National ENA Board of Directors and such rules and policies as may be adopted by the National ENA Board of Directors from time to time including, without limitation, the ENA Procedures). The State Council Board of Directors is responsible for overseeing and managing the activities of its Local Chapters and has the right to disband or dissolve any Local Chapter it creates as set forth below.

## **Application for Recognition as a Local Chapter.** The State Council Board of Directors, or its designee(s), shall adopt an application form and procedures to facilitate the consideration of applicants seeking to be organized as a Local Chapter. All applicants must complete the application form and submit the application to the State Council President. The State Council Board of Directors (or its designee(s)) shall review the application of all applicants and determine, based on the criteria set forth in these bylaws, the ENA Procedures and such other policies or guidelines as the State Council Board of Directors may prescribe, if applicants meet the qualifications necessary for recognition as a Local Chapter.

## **Operation.**

### Local Chapters may not incorporate (except as otherwise provided in the ENA Procedures) and shall operate and function as committees or special interest groups of the State Council.

### All Local Chapters report to and are subject to the ultimate authority of the State Council Board of Directors.

### The State Council Board of Directors (or its designee(s)) shall develop and approve policies and procedures for the operation of all Local Chapters.

### The State Council Board of Directors has the right to disband or dissolve Local Chapters according to due process procedures established by the State Council Board of Directors. Upon dissolution of a Local Chapter, the Local Chapter immediately shall remit any funds in its control or possession to the State Council and any funds held by the State Council for the benefit of the Local Chapter shall be forfeited and used by the State Council for its general purposes.

### **[NOTE: If the State Council does not have a three-tier structure (i.e., it does not maintain local chapters), this Article may be omitted.]**

# RELATIONSHIP WITH NATIONAL ENA

## The State Council shall abide by the terms of its National ENA’s bylaws, rules, regulations, and policies as may be adopted by the ENA National Board of Directors from time to time, which, among other things, set forth the relationship between ENA National and the State Council, the rights, responsibilities and obligations of the State Council and ENA National with respect to one another, the limitations and requirements governing the State Council’s use of ENA National’s name, trademarks, service marks, logos and other intellectual property, and the grounds upon which the State Council’s affiliation with National ENA may be terminated and its charter revoked.

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**CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS AND BONDING**

## **Contracts.** The State Council Board of Directors may authorize any Officer or Officers, agent or agents of the State Council, in addition to the Officers so authorized by these bylaws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the State Council and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

## **Checks, Drafts, Etc.** All checks, drafts, or other orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the State Council shall be signed by such Officer or Officers, agent or agents of the State Council and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the State Council Board of Directors. In the absence of such determination by the State Council Board of Directors, such instruments shall be signed by the President and countersigned by the Treasurer.

## **Deposits.** All funds of the State Council shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the State Council in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the State Council Board of Directors may select.

## **Bonding.** The State Council Board of Directors may provide for the bonding of such Officers and employees of the State Council as it may from time to time determine.

# FINANCIAL MATTERS

## **Books and Records.** The State Council shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of its Voting Members, the State Council Board of Directors and any committees having the authority of the State Council Board of Directors. The State Council shall provide National ENA with copies of such books and records upon request.

## **Fiscal Year.** The State Council’s fiscal year shall be determined by the National ENA Board of Directors.

## **Annual Budget.** A budget showing anticipated revenue and expenses will be adopted annually by the State Council Board of Directors.

## **Financial Review.** The State Council Board of Directors may, in its discretion, provide for an annual review or audit of the State Council’s books and records by an independent accountant. Results of such review or audit, if any, will be reported by such accountant to the State Council Board of Directors, with copies provided to National ENA.

# WAIVER OF NOTICE

Whenever any notice whatsoever is required to be given under the provisions of the applicable Law, or under the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation or bylaws of the State Council, a waiver thereof in writing signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated herein, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice.

# BYLAW AMENDMENTS

## **Section 1.** **Amendment by Voting Members.** These bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed and new bylaws may be adopted by **[a majority vote of the voting members voting in person or by proxy at any meeting of the members at which a quorum is present] [a majority vote of the State Council Board of Directors] [a two-thirds vote of the State Council Board of Directors].** Notwithstanding the foregoing, all proposed bylaw amendments shall be first submitted to National ENA and are subject to the prior written approval of ENA. Amendments not receiving the approval of National ENA shall be of no force or effect.

## **[NOTE: The State Council has a great deal of flexibility with respect to the vote required to amend its bylaws. Set forth above are a few options. If the State Council maintains a State General Assembly, it may want to provide the State General Assembly with the ability to amend the bylaws. In this case, National ENA recommends adopting similar provisions and safeguards as found in Article XIV of the National ENA Bylaws. The State Council must review Applicable Law to determine if there is a mandated vote or process that controls amendment of the bylaws.]**

## **Section 2.** **Amendment by National ENA’s Board of Directors.** National ENA’s Board of Directors (or its designee(s)) also shall have the authority to amend these bylaws from time to time in order to bring them into compliance with National ENA’s policies and procedures without the approval of the State Council’s voting members; provided, however, National ENA’s Board of Directors (or its designee(s)) shall provide the State Council’s voting members notice of any such amendments at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of such amendments.

# INDEMNIFICATION

# The State Council shall indemnify all past and present officers, directors, committee members, and other authorized State Council representatives to the full extent permitted by applicable Law, and shall be entitled to purchase insurance for such indemnification of officers and directors to the full extent as determined by the State Council Board of Directors. Notwithstanding the foregoing, such indemnification shall be limited to the extent of the insurance (i.e., Directors and Officers insurance and other further coverages as may be applicable) maintained by National ENA on behalf of the State Council.

# ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

# Unless otherwise prohibited by Law, (i) any action to be taken or notice delivered under these bylaws may be taken or transmitted by electronic mail or other electronic means; and (ii) any action or approval required to be written or in writing may be transmitted or received by electronic mail or other electronic means.

# DISSOLUTION

## In the event of the dissolution of the State Council, the State Council Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the State Council, transfer all remaining assets of the State Council to National ENA (except any assets held by the State Council upon condition requiring return, transfer or other conveyance in the event of dissolution, which assets shall be returned, transferred or conveyed in accordance with such requirements) or, in the event National ENA previously has been dissolved, the State Council shall dispose of all of the remaining assets of the State Council (except any assets held by the State Council upon condition requiring return, transfer or other conveyance in the event of dissolution, which assets shall be returned, transferred or conveyed in accordance with such requirements) exclusively for the purposes of the State Council in such manner, or to such organization or organizations as shall at the time qualify as a tax-exempt organization or organizations recognized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”) or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue statute, as the State Council Board of Directors shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the court of general jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the State Council is then located, exclusively for such purposes in such manner, or to such organization or organizations that are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes, as said court shall determine.