



2026.23

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – LANGUAGE CLEAN UP

WHEREAS, amendments to the Washington State Labor Council Constitution are subject to review and approval by the AFL-CIO; and,

WHEREAS, the AFL-CIO approved several amendments to the Constitution that can be further refined to improve clarity, consistency, and organization without changing their meaning or intent; now therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 4, Convention, section 4.26, Proxies prohibited, is amended by striking out “No delegate shall be allowed to represent more than one organization”; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 4, Convention, is amended by inserting the following immediately before section 4.22, Quorum, and renumbering the subsequent sections accordingly;

4.22 Each delegate represents one affiliate. No delegate is allowed to represent more than one organization; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 4, Convention, section 4.12, Convention body, is amended by striking out “4.21” and inserting “4.22”; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 6, Officers, section 6.12, Ethical practices code, is amended by striking out “this state labor” and inserting “the”; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 11, Per capita taxes and fees, section 11.6, Reinstatement, is amended by striking out “A union that has been suspended for nonpayment of per capita tax shall pay only the amounts in arrears due at the time of the suspension, but cannot retroactively pay for additional months to increase voting strength” and insert “A local union that has been suspended for nonpayment of per capita tax must pay only the full amount that was due at the time of the suspension and cannot retroactively pay for additional months”; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 12, Financial practices and audits, section 12.3, Audit, is amended by striking out “agreed upon”; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 13, Committees, is amended by striking out section 13.9, Ethical Practices Committee; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 13, Committees, is amended by inserting the following immediately before section 13.3, Convention committees, and renumbering the subsequent sections accordingly;

- 13.3 Ethical practices committee. The ethical practices committee is a standing committee composed of five members who are appointed promptly after the beginning of each term of office. The ethical practices committee will perform the duties specified in the AFL-CIO Ethical Practices Code for AFL-CIO Officers and Representatives, as it applies to the council’s officers and managerial employees; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 6, Officers, section 6.13, Duties of the president, clause f, is amended by substituting

- f) approve all disbursements of the council’s funds while complying with 12.2; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 12, Financial practices and audits, section 12.2, Receipts and disbursements, is amended by adding “Before signing a check or otherwise authorizing a disbursement of funds, the president and the secretary-treasurer will ensure that the disbursement is appropriate, necessary, and properly documented”; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the constitution is amended by striking out section 6, Officers, section 6.13, Duties of the president, clause b, and adding a new section to the end of section 6, Officers, as follows:

- 6.15 President can interpret constitution. The president has the authority to interpret the council’s constitution when neither the convention nor the executive board are in session. The president’s interpretation cannot be incompatible with an interpretation made by the convention or the executive board that is still in effect. An interpretation made by the president is the official interpretation of the council until it is reversed or changed by the convention, the executive board, or the president; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the constitution section 3, Affiliates, section 3.1, Eligibility, clause c, is amended by striking out “including local unions with Solidarity Charters authorized by the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO, for so long as it remains in effect” and inserting “including a local union with a solidarity charter approved by the

AFL-CIO executive council while the solidarity charter and the AFL-CIO solidarity charter program are in effect” and removing the period at the end of the clause; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the constitution is amended by striking out section 19, Strategic Planning, inserting the following immediately before section 15, Boycotts and unfair lists, and renumbering the subsequent sections accordingly;

15 Strategic planning

- 15.1 **Coordination within the state.** This council and the area and local central bodies in Washington State will ensure that their work is coordinated and integrated with each other and with the programs and priorities of the AFL-CIO and affiliated national and international unions.
- 15.2 **Work plan and budget.** The council will coordinate with the area and local central bodies within Washington State to develop a unified work plan and budget at least every two years. This plan will establish the roles, responsibilities, budget, and activities of each organization. The work plans and budget will be submitted to the AFL-CIO president or the president’s designated representative when requested. The AFL-CIO president may modify, approve, or reject any work plan or budget.
- 15.3 **Failure to participate or follow plan.** The council or any of its officers are subject to disciplinary action if they fail to
- a) participate in the unified planning and budgeting process,
 - b) conform their activities to the unified work plan and budget, or
 - c) meet performance standards and benchmarks as established by the AFL-CIO executive council; and be it finally,

RESOLVED, that the constitution is amended by striking out section 18, Chapters, inserting the following immediately before section 10, Charges and hearings, and renumbering the subsequent sections accordingly;

10 Chapters

- 10.1 **Creation and purpose.** This council may create a chapter if the council determines that an organizational presence is needed in a specific geographic area within Washington State that is not already represented by an existing area labor council or central labor council.

10.2 **Authority.** A chapter has no right to representation or involvement in the affairs of this council. A chapter may not assess a per capita or membership fee. This council may authorize a chapter

- a) to enact bylaws consistent with this council's constitution;
- b) to elect a chapter president and secretary-treasurer;
- c) to hold meetings of delegates from local unions within the chapter's geographic jurisdiction; and
- d) to make recommendations to the council for its consideration.

10.3 **Political education activities.** In accordance with the endorsement procedure of this council, the chapter may endorse candidates running for local public office within the chapter's geographic jurisdiction and may screen, interview, and recommend candidates for state and federal legislative office to the council and the council's committee on political education, but these recommendations are not binding.