

2023 General Assembly Minutes

September 20, 2023

The first session of the 2023 General Assembly and annual business meeting of the members of the Emergency Nurses Association was held in San Diego, California and was called to order at 7:30 a.m. Pacific time on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, by ENA President Terry Foster.

The Credentials Report was moved by ENA Immediate Past President Jennifer Schmitz and adopted.

President Terry Foster recognized Heather Knapp for her rendition of the Star-Spangled Banner, Tyler McCulloch from California who presented the colors, and Dave Johnson for providing a moment of reflection prior to the start of General Assembly.

Secretary/Treasurer, Ryan Oglesby delivered the state of the association to the delegation.

The 2023 General Assembly Standing Rules of Procedure was moved and adopted.

The Business Agenda included in the 2023 General Assembly Handbook was moved and adopted.

Resolutions Committee Chairperson Cody Staub led the open reference hearings, which invited delegates, ENA past presidents and other ENA members to speak to all proposals.

Discussion was held regarding the following submitted proposals:

Bylaw Amendment Proposals

- GA23-01: Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Membership Categories
- GA23-02: Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Expanding Councils for International Inclusivity
- GA23-03: Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Leadership Development and Elections Committee

Resolution Proposals

- GA23-04: Virtual Option for All Future Emergency Nurses Association Conferences
- GA23-05: Infant Safe Haven Law Awareness and Alignment
- GA23-06: Education and Mitigation to Decrease Pediatric Window Falls
- GA23-07: The Emergency Nurses Association Exploring the Advancement of the Specialty of Geriatric Emergency Nursing
- GA23-08: Management and Mitigation of Actual or Perceived Conflicts of Interest for Current and Future Volunteers of the Emergency Nurses Association
- GA23-09: Improving Emergency Department Team Member Safety by Identifying Environmental Design Precautions
- GA23-10: Licensure Requirements for Emergency Nurses Association Membership
- GA23-11: Support for the Use of the Title "Doctor" by Doctorate-Prepared Registered Nurses
- GA23-12: Support the Use of Nasal Naloxone on U.S. Airlines and in Public Schools and Universities
- GA23-13: Support Epinephrine Auto Injection, Nasal Spray, Sublingual Route on Domestic Airlines

The meeting recessed at 11:50 a.m. Pacific time.

2023 General Assembly Minutes

September 21, 2023

The second session of the 2023 General Assembly was called to order at 9 a.m. Pacific time on Thursday, September 21, 2023, by ENA President Terry Foster.

The Credentials Report was moved by ENA Immediate Past President Jennifer Schmitz and adopted.

Resolutions Committee Chairperson Cody Staub provided the delegates with an overview of the committee's report and recommended amendments to the proposals before the General Assembly. ENA President Terry Foster led the debate and vote on all proposals.

The following proposals were adopted by the General Assembly as originally presented without amendment.

- GA23-01: Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Membership Categories
- GA23-02: Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Expanding Councils for International Inclusivity
- GA23-05: Infant Safe Haven Law Awareness and Alignment
- GA23-10: Licensure Requirements for Emergency Nurses Association Membership

The following proposals were adopted by the General Assembly with amendments and other changes:

- GA23-03 Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Leadership Development and Elections Committee
- GA23-04: Virtual Option for All Future Emergency Nurses Association Conferences
- GA23-06: Education and Mitigation to Decrease Pediatric Window Falls
- GA23-07: The Emergency Nurses Association Exploring the Advancement of the Specialty of Geriatric Emergency Nursing
- GA23-09: Improving Emergency Department Team Member Safety
- GA23-11: Support the Use of the Title "Doctor" by Doctorate-Prepared Registered Nurses
- GA23-12: Support for the Use of Nasal Naloxone on Airlines and in Public Schools and Universities
- GA23-13: Support Epinephrine Auto Injection on Airlines

The following proposal was not adopted:

- GA23-08: Management and Mitigation of Actual or Perceived Conflicts of Interest for Current and Future Volunteers of ENA

Based on discussion during General Assembly, some proposal titles were updated by the Resolutions Committee to reflect the resolved clauses.

The General Assembly meeting adjourned at 2 p.m. Pacific time.

Set forth below is a copy of each proposal as adopted by the General Assembly.

2023 General Assembly Minutes

GA23-01 Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Membership Categories

Article III: Section 2

Section 2. Classifications and Criteria. Membership may be granted to any individual who (i) abides by these bylaws, the ENA Code of Ethics, and such other policies, rules and regulations as ENA may adopt; and (ii) meets the criteria for membership set forth in one of the following categories:

- A. Voting Members – Only licensed (or the equivalent thereto) professional registered nurses are eligible to be Voting Members. Voting Members shall have the right to vote, hold elected office, serve on the Board of Directors, serve on committees, and attend ENA’s meetings and social functions.
- B. Nonvoting Members – Nonvoting membership may be granted to any individual who shares interest in and supports the purpose, mission and objectives of ENA, but does not otherwise meet the criteria for voting membership in ENA. Nonvoting Members shall be entitled to serve on ENA committees and attend ENA member meetings and social functions.

Article V: Section 1

Section 1. General Assembly

- A. The General Assembly shall be composed of delegates from states, territories, federal districts, and those members representing the international membership.

GA23-02 Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Expanding Councils for International Inclusivity

Section 1. Councils

Voting Members of ENA who are licensed or reside within a clearly defined region, country, state, province, or other geographical area (the “territory”) may be organized as a constituent of ENA (each of which is referred to as a “Council”). The Board of Directors may authorize the establishment of Councils which shall:

- i. be organized and operated in accordance with these Bylaws, and such additional rules, regulations and policies as may be adopted by the Board of Directors from time to time;
- ii. fulfill criteria for affiliation as may be established by the Board of Directors from time to time;
- iii. enter into charter agreements with ENA, as determined by ENA;
- iv. be issued a charter by ENA; and
- v. organize and conduct their activities in such a manner as to establish its fundamental alignment and functional compatibility with ENA.

A. Council’s general purposes and objectives shall be complementary and consistent with those of ENA and the Council will advance the general and specific purposes of ENA within its territory. All members of a Council must be members of ENA in good standing.

Section 2. Application for Recognition as a Council

The Board of Directors, or its designee(s) shall adopt an application form, criteria, and procedures for application review to facilitate the consideration of applicants seeking to be organized as a Council and approve those who meet the qualifications. The 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 and such other

2023 General Assembly Minutes

guidelines as the Board of Directors may prescribe, if applicants meet the qualifications necessary for recognition as a Council.

- A. ENA shall fund chartered Councils pursuant to a formula determined by the Board of Directors.
- B. Each Council shall be incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation (or the equivalent thereto), have a Board of Directors, officers and bylaws in such form as shall be approved by the Board of Directors or its designee(s) consistent with applicable local laws and regulations in the country of incorporation. Councils must maintain voting membership categories and criteria that are identical to ENA's. Any changes to a Council's bylaws require the prior written approval of the Board of Directors, or its designees(s).
- C. Each Council may hold such meetings as it deems appropriate.
- D. Members may belong to only one Council.
- E. A member of a Council may transfer to another Council by written request to ENA.
- F. Charters for the operation of Councils may be revoked by the ENA Board of Directors according to due process procedures established by the Board of Directors. Upon revocation of a Council's charter, the Council immediately shall remit all of its funds (after satisfying any existing debts or obligations) and records to ENA.
- G. No Council or other entity shall use ENA's name or trademarks in any manner whatsoever unless duly authorized to do so by ENA pursuant to the terms of a written agreement or policy.

Section 3. Chapters

Voting members of the same Council that are licensed or reside within the same territory may be organized by the Council as a chapter (each a "Chapter"). Each Chapter will be an integral part of the Council (i.e., it shall operate and function as a committee or special interest group of the Council). The name, boundaries, eligibility requirements for Chapters, and policies and procedures governing their operations, shall be determined by the Council, subject to applicable local laws, the prior written approval of the Board of Directors, and such rules and policies as may be adopted by the Council or Board of Directors from time to time. A Council is responsible for overseeing and managing the activities of its Chapters and shall have the right to disband or dissolve any Chapter it creates, with appropriate due cause.

GA23-03 Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Leadership Development and Elections Committee

Leadership Development and Elections Committee.

1. Composition

- a. The Leadership Development and Elections Committee shall consist of up to eleven (11) Voting Members elected to serve on the Leadership Development and Elections Committee in the ENA national election. The Leadership Development and Elections Committee shall include at least one member from each of six regions (as determined by the Leadership Development and Elections Committee) who has not previously served on the Board of Directors

2023 General Assembly Minutes

and one member who has served on the Board of Directors. Leadership Development and Elections Committee members may only represent the region in which they hold a voting membership.

The General Assembly also voted to replace “Nominations and Elections Committee” with “Leadership Development and Elections Committee” in all places that it appears in the Bylaws.

GA23-04 Virtual Option for All Future Emergency Nurses Association Conferences

Resolved, ENA explore offering a virtual option (either live or asynchronous) to enhance global accessibility for all future conferences (including viewing general assembly as an observer) with a pricing structure focused on affordability for ENA members (e.g. 20% off the in-person member registration rate); and

Resolved, ENA explore offering a virtual option (either live or asynchronous) to enhance state and chapter leader accessibility for all future leadership orientation meetings with a pricing structure focused on affordability for ENA’s volunteer leaders (e.g. 20% of the non-complimentary in-person registration rate).

GA23-05 Infant Safe Haven Law Awareness and Alignment

Resolved, That the ENA campaign to raise awareness of variability in state to state laws related to Safe Haven;

Resolved, That the ENA promote education for emergency nurses regarding state to state variability of Safe Haven laws and how these laws impact their practice in the state in which they work, or are licensed; and

Resolved, That the ENA collaborate with other professional organizations such as the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWOHNN) and the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) to explore the impact of variability on patients and nurses.

GA23-06 Education and Mitigation to Decrease Pediatric Window Falls

Resolved, that ENA strategically disseminate educational materials to patients, caregivers, administrators, and policy makers, in order to raise awareness of the risk of and ways to prevent window falls; and

Resolved, that ENA collaborate with relevant organizations to identify and reduce barriers to support legislation around window safety and window fall prevention to improve equity and inclusion.

2023 General Assembly Minutes

GA23-07 The Emergency Nurses Association Exploring the Advancement of the Specialty of Geriatric Emergency Nursing

Resolved, ENA will explore opportunities to advance education around the specialty of geriatric emergency nursing.

GA23-09 Improving Emergency Department Team Member Safety

Resolved, ENA will recruit subject matter experts in ED team member safe practice strategies to develop criteria to improve environmental safety with micro and macro-level interventions; and

Resolved, The subject matter experts recruited by the ENA will utilize the available interdisciplinary literature to develop inclusive environmental prevention strategies that could be prioritized, dependent upon hospital setting by ED leaders and team members to promote a safe environment.

GA23-10 Licensure Requirements for Emergency Nurses Association Membership

Resolved, the ENA Board of Directors or their designee(s) be tasked with investigating changes to the ENA Bylaws that would allow nurses without current active, unencumbered licenses to continue to participate in ENA as voting members in some situations; and

Resolved, the ENA Board of Directors submit a proposed amendment or amendments to the ENA Bylaws regarding licensure requirements for voting membership if warranted by the findings of the investigation, for discussion and vote by the General Assembly at the next possible opportunity.

GA23-11 Support the Use of the Title “Doctor” by Doctorate-Prepared Registered Nurses

Resolved, That ENA formally support the use of the title *doctor* for nurses who have completed doctoral education (e.g., Ph.D., D.N.P., Ed.D.,) with the acknowledgment that nurses are not attempting to replace or supersede physicians;

Resolved, That ENA work with stakeholders (e.g., American Nurses Association, American Association of Colleges of Nursing, American Association of Nurse Practitioners, and other specialty nursing organizations) to provide education and clarity to the public around the use of the title of *doctor* by nurses who have achieved the doctoral level; and

Resolved, That ENA collaborate with other stakeholders to advocate against legislation limiting the use of earned doctorates.

2023 General Assembly Minutes

GA23-12 Support for the Use of Nasal Naloxone on Airlines and in Public Schools and Universities

Resolved, The Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) supports use of nasal naloxone on airlines, in public schools and universities, and in public facilities that have AEDs and STBs; and

Resolved, ENA collaborates with other stakeholders in expanding access to naloxone and support for harm reduction programs with the goal of informing the public about the use of naloxone to prevent overdose deaths.

GA23-13 Support Epinephrine Auto Injection on Airlines

Resolved, The Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) support use of epinephrine via auto injection route for inflight anaphylactic reactions that could occur; and

Resolved, ENA collaborate with other stakeholders to develop education and training for the use of epinephrine in emergency situations in accordance with best practices.