



## **New Jersey Chapter of NATP Proposed Bylaw Changes**

June 24, 2011

Purpose:

The New Jersey Chapter is proposing to increase our current Board of Directors from 15 members to a maximum of 18 members in response to an increased number of committees, more than doubling our educational responsibilities and increased compliance requirements both from the IRS and from the NATP National Association.

In the past few years, NJNATP has increased educational offerings from 16 credit hours per year to 38 credit hours per year. In addition, the number of standing committees has increased 25%. In order to continue to service our large membership with these added member benefits, additional board members are required.

Further, our chapter has the potential of losing good directors because of current bylaw restrictions that require members to run only in the region for their primary residence as listed at the National Association office. By designating a new "At Large" board member we can accomplish our two objectives: first, providing additional directors to handle larger membership and committees and, second, allowing a board member to represent the entire state rather than a specific region. "At Large" directors would represent less than one quarter of the entire Board of Directors. The following two bylaw changes are required to accomplish our purpose:

### **Article IV: Regions**

Current By-law:

The Association shall be divided into geographic regions. Each Region shall be represented by an equal number on the Board of Directors. The designation of a Director's region, and thus of the region that the Director represents, shall be determined by reference to

their primary residence. In the event that an existing Board member changes the status of their primary residence, from one region to another, they can finish their elected term and then will run for reelection in their new region. Appointments to fill empty slots are discussed in policy and procedures. Regions shall be established and apportioned as necessary to continually reflect a popular membership balance throughout the State of New Jersey.

Proposed Change:

The Association shall be divided into **five (5)** geographic regions. Each Region shall be represented by ~~an equal number~~ **three (3) members** on the Board of Directors **for a total of fifteen Directors representing the five regions**. The designation of a Director's region, and thus of the region that the Director represents, shall be determined by reference to their primary residence. In the event that an existing Board member changes the status of their primary residence, from one region to another, they can finish their elected term and then will run for reelection in their new region. Appointments to fill empty slots are discussed in policy and procedures. Regions shall be established and apportioned as necessary to continually reflect a popular membership balance throughout the State of New Jersey.

**In addition, up to three "At Large" Directors may be appointed. The "At Large" Director will not represent a specific region but rather represent the State in its entirety. This position shall be appointed by the Board of Directors as discussed in policy and procedures for not more than a three year term. Not more than three "At Large" Directors may serve on the Board of Directors at one time.**

## **Article V: The Board of Directors**

Current By-law:

Section 2: Board composition and term. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer and eleven (11) other eligible Association members. The number of voting Board of Director members shall be fixed at fifteen (15). Board members shall serve three year terms that begin the January 1 immediately following their election. Board member terms shall be staggered such that no more than five (5) will end in a year. It has been suggested that Board member terms be limited to three (3) consecutive successful candidacies, or to nine (9) years within any fourteen (14) year period, whichever is shorter, but a final decision has not been made by the New Jersey Chapter.

Proposed Change:

Section 2: Board composition and term. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer and ~~eleven (11)~~ **up to fourteen (14)** other eligible Association members. The number of voting Board of Director members shall be fixed at ~~fifteen (15)~~ **at three (3) members per region or fifteen (15) plus up to three (3) “At Large” Directors for a total of not more than eighteen (18)**. Board members shall serve three year terms that begin the January 1 immediately following their election. Board member terms shall be staggered such that no more than ~~five (5)~~ **six (6)** will end in a year. It has been suggested that Board member terms be limited to three (3) consecutive successful candidacies, or to nine (9) years within any fourteen (14) year period, whichever is shorter, but a final decision has not been made by the New Jersey Chapter.