

Quota International

Date: March 15, 2008
To: All Quotarians
From: 2007-2008 Bylaws Committee
Subject: Proposed bylaw amendments for consideration at the 2008 Quota International Convention

In giving all of the proposed bylaw submissions our thorough consideration, the committee also paid attention to the guidelines provided by the 10th Edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised. With its latest revision, Robert's is moving parliamentary procedure forward in step with the changes occurring in our world today and the committee reviewed all proposals with that in mind. Each submission represents important issues and should be given full consideration by every club. In doing so, it might be helpful to keep in mind that our bylaws are a living document and should reflect the needs of our organization today. Thank you for giving your full attention to matters so important to the operation of Quota International.

Bylaw Review Process

The Bylaws Committee met via a telephone conference call to consider proposed amendments to the Quota International bylaws. All suggestions were thoroughly studied and researched to ensure they were technically correct, made sense, and did not conflict with other standing bylaws. In addition, the committee members served as stewards of the organization and reviewed each bylaw submission with regard to whether it is for the general good of the organization to consider the proposal. The pros and cons of all proposals were thoroughly discussed by the members. Action was taken on each proposal by mail ballot. Nine proposed bylaw amendments were approved by the committee for your review at the bylaws session of the Quota International Convention in San Jose on July 13, 2008. They are provided on white paper.

Green-Sheeted Bylaws

Proposed amendments not endorsed by the committee and not recommended for discussion at convention are provided to you on green paper for easy identification. This year, five proposed bylaw amendments were green-sheeted. Green-sheeted proposals may be lifted by a majority vote and then discussed and voted on by the body.

Club Discussion Suggestions

The Bylaws Committee would like to suggest that every club set aside time to carefully deliberate the pros and cons of the enclosed proposals. We know that each club has a preferred method of doing so. Some clubs delegate the discussion to a committee or a group of members who report back to the club. Other clubs prefer a full, in-depth discussion by all members.

Whatever method your club chooses to reflect on these important proposed amendments to Quota's bylaws, we appreciate your taking the time to do so. We have enjoyed the opportunity to serve on your bylaws committee and want to thank you for it. Please let us know if you have any comments on this report.

A copy of this full report can be found on www.quota.org under 'Quota Headlines' and under 'About Quota.'

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1. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY THE 2007-2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**ARTICLE VII: QUOTA INTERNATIONAL
Section 2: Eligibility and Term**

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
|--|--|
| <p>A. Officers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eligibility: An international officer or candidate for such office must: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Be an Active Member in good standing and be from an active club that is in good standing according to Article XII, Section 3.A; b. Have served one term as district governor; c. Not hold a current office in either a club or district; d. Reside in the respective geographic area (for area directors only); e. Have served one term as area director for the position of treasurer or president-elect; and f. Have financial experience for the position of treasurer. 2. Term: (remains as written) | <p>A. Officers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eligibility: An international officer or candidate for such office must: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Be an Active Member in good standing and be from an active club that is in good standing according to Article XII, Section 3.A; b. Have served one term as district governor; c. <i>(Remove this item.)</i> d. Reside in the respective geographic area (for area directors only); e. Have served one term as area director for the position of treasurer or president-elect; and f. Have financial experience for the position of treasurer. 2. Term (remains as written) 3. <i>An international officer shall not hold a club or district officer position.</i> |
| | |

RATIONALE: This recommended bylaw change accomplishes the following:

- It removes the prohibition from a *candidate* serving as a club or district officer by deleting Paragraph c of Section 2.A. which reads: An international officer or candidate for such office must: c. Not hold a current office in either a club or district.
- It keeps the prohibition against a current member of the board of directors holding a club or district office.

Due to the changes in Quota's calendar, governors, as well as other club or district officers, are prohibited from running for international office even though their term would end before they take office on Quota's board. This change addresses that problem by allowing *candidates* to continue to hold an office, but stipulates that once they assume an international officer position, they may not hold a club or district office at the same time.

2. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY THE 2007-2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**ARTICLE VII: QUOTA INTERNATIONAL
Section 2: Eligibility and Term**

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
|--|---|
| <p>Term: The president-elect and treasurer shall be elected for one term of one year only. At the end of the term, the president-elect automatically assumes the position of president for a one-year term. An area director shall be elected for a two-year term and may not serve two consecutive terms in that office.</p> <p>In every even-numbered year, area directors from U.S. West, U.S. South, and Canada shall be elected for a two-year term. In every odd-numbered year, area directors from U.S. Central, U.S. East, and South Pacific shall be elected for a two-year term.</p> | <p>Term: The president-elect and treasurer shall be elected for one term of one year only. At the end of the term, the president-elect automatically assumes the position of president, for a one-year term. An area director shall be elected for a two-year term and may not serve two consecutive terms in that office.</p> <p>In every even-numbered year, area directors from U.S. West, U.S. South, and Canada shall be elected for a two-year term. In every odd-numbered year, area directors from U.S. Central, U.S. East, and South Pacific shall be elected for a two-year term.</p> <p><i>In the circumstances that an election cannot be held, the officer remains in office until a successor is elected.</i></p> |
| | |

RATIONALE: In the highly unlikely event of a war or natural disaster that prohibited the holding of elections, Quota has no mechanism for determining who shall hold international office. This would provide that the current officer would remain in office until a successor is elected. This will also provide for continuity during potentially difficult times.

Specific situations concerning vacancies are defined in Article VII, Section 3.

3. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY THE 2006-2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE 2006-2007 BYLAWS COMMITTEE

ARTICLE VIII: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1: Nominations

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
|---|--|
| A. Any club or district may nominate one of its own members, who meets the eligibility requirements for international office. | A. Any club or district may nominate one of its own members, who meets the eligibility requirements for international office. <i>The nominees shall not be members of the same club.</i> |
| | |

RATIONALE: In order to provide the opportunity for all members within and across Quota International and to avoid internal issues within individual clubs, it is recommended that two candidates from the same club cannot be nominated for an international office. Also, Article IX, Section 2, states "Only one member from any club may serve on the board of directors at any one time." If only one may serve, why have two go through the election process?

4. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY THE 2007-2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ARTICLE VIII: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 2: Elections

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
|--------------------------------|---|
| B. Plurality vote shall elect. | B. <i>A majority vote of the ballots cast shall elect. A preferential voting system will be used.</i> |
| | |

RATIONALE:

In order to better understand the reasons behind this proposal, it is helpful to understand the terms as they are being used here.

Plurality vote is the system currently used in Quota International elections. It is a single winner voting system with the winner being the one who gets the largest number of votes. It is also known as the "winner takes all" and "first past the post" systems.

Majority vote is part of the proposed system. It is also a single winner system, the difference being that the winner must have the majority of the votes as opposed to the largest number of votes. With a two candidate election, this is not an issue. It is when there are more than two candidates that this can become an issue and preferential voting comes into play.

Preferential voting is an election method that ranks all candidates in order of preference. Also known as "ranked choice voting" and "instant runoff voting," this system ensures that the winner is the one with the majority of votes by using the process of elimination until one candidate reaches 50%. In this system, typically voters put "1" beside their first choice for the office, "2" next to their second choice, "3" beside their next choice and so on. If there is a case of three candidates and none of them have a majority of the votes, then the ballots of the candidate with the least number of "1" votes would be sorted according to the voters' second choices and those votes added to the ones already tallied for the other two candidates. This would give one of the candidates a majority of votes.

Under our current system, it is possible for a person to take office, who has not received a majority vote from the membership. It is far preferable that an elected leader receive a majority vote and the proposed system provide that opportunity. Preferential voting really isn't difficult; just rank the candidates in the order of your preference and mark the ballot accordingly.

Our current system also provides the opportunity for a tie; however, Quota International has no practical system for resolving a tie by having a runoff, or second, vote. By changing our voting method as proposed in this amendment, we have already conducted an instant runoff and can't have a tie vote. This will also reduce the time and cost of a second vote while producing a timely result.

NOTE: If this amendment is passed, the definitions of the terms will be included in a rule of procedure.

5. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY THE 2007-2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Article VIII: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 2: Elections

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
|-------------------------------|--|
| No existing paragraph. | D. To participate in elections, a club must be in good standing. |
| | |

RATIONALE: Those clubs participating in the governance of their organization are accountable to the organization by complying with its requirements. This proposed addition to the bylaws is consistent with our current practice.

Good standing is defined as the payment of all financial obligations to Quota International as outlined in Article XII. Finances and Funds. Section 3. Finances. A. Financial Obligations.

6. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY THE 2007-2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ARTICLE XII: FINANCES AND FUNDS
Section 2: Annual Dues

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
|---|--|
| <p>A. Annual per capita dues for each member of Quota International shall not be less than \$45.00 to Quota International. In addition, each member shall pay not less than \$4 directly to the district as dues.</p> | <p>A. Annual per capita dues for each member of Quota International shall not be less than \$75.00 to Quota International. <i>Dues may be increased annually; the amount of an annual increase will be based on the cost-of-living increase determined by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.</i></p> <p>In addition, each member shall pay not less than \$4 directly to the district as dues.</p> |
| | |

RATIONALE:

While the cost of living has gone up worldwide, Quota International has not had a dues increase since 1994. As of January 2008, a total increase of the Consumer Price Index in the United States of 40% since 1994 has meant that it takes \$62.96 to buy what could be bought for \$45.00 in 1994. (Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics at www.bls.gov/ - *Inflation and Consumer Spending* section.) The United States is home to the Quota International World Headquarters and where its international costs are experienced. It should also be noted that inflation is felt in all of our Quota countries. In 2005, for example, the inflation rate ranged from 2.2% in Canada and 2.7% in Australia to 7.9% in the Philippines and 9.5% in Suriname; during this same year, the U.S. rate was 1.03% (source: Time Almanac).

In recent years, the organization has undergone a major streamlining of its operations and expenses at the international level in order to reduce costs. Measures taken include, but are not limited to, reduction in both the number of board and staff members, temporary holds on staff wage increases, moving to biennial conventions with associated calendar changes, and the increased use of technology to reduce costs, while at the same time we have increased communications.

Additionally, at its 2008 mid-term meeting, the 2007-2008 board of directors closely examined the cost of operating its international headquarters at its current location in Washington, D.C., U.S.A., where it has been based since 1928. The board has determined that it is not in the best interests of Quota International, nor is it financially prudent, to consider the relocation of headquarters. (Note: All three of Quota International's

previous office relocation studies [conducted in 1974-75, 1994-95 and 2001] came to this same conclusion.)

In 1994, at the time of Quota International's last dues increase, the organization operated its programs and services from the dues members paid. In addition, advance convention fees paid by clubs assisted with the financing of governance and election costs. Since 1994, Quota's membership base has decreased from 10,339 in 1994 to a current membership base of 6,579, a reduction of 36.36% in dues income. This decline in revenue combined with the 40% inflationary related increases has forced the organization to rely on an aggressive donations program to meet membership needs and provide new services.

The proposed dues increase would permit Quota International to plan programs and services in advance of the Quota fiscal year, since current year's expenses would mostly be covered with current year's dues, and fund-raising donations would be split between funding current year programs and programs for the *upcoming* Quota year. No one would want to operate their household by relying heavily on unknown and, as yet, unearned income (i.e. donations); however, that is the position Quota International and the We Share Foundation find themselves in now.

Further, authorizing a cost-of-living increase would cover anticipated inflationary increases that cannot be avoided. This would keep us from getting into the situation Quota is in now, trying to make up for 14 years of inflationary increases in one dues increase. We have asked for an automatic cost-of-living increase previously, but, it has not been approved. It is our hope that now members will agree that this is a good step forward to maintaining Quota on a sound financial basis. The board plans to implement the proposed cost-of-living increase beginning with dues collected for calendar year 2010.

The Board of Directors recognizes that this increase will affect members on fixed incomes. Possible ways to help them will be outlined at district conferences. Building in an increase based on the cost-of-living not only allows the board and staff to plan for it, but individual members as well.

Simply, dues revenue is inadequate to support even the streamlined operations of Quota International. Cost savings alternatives to a dues increase have been studied and some have been implemented by this and previous boards. However, at this point, we must have a revenue increase to operate without a deficit. This proposed increase allows Quota to return to its prior level of funding. And, by authorizing the option of a cost-of-living increase, the membership avoids the pain of such a substantial increase in years to come.

NOTE: There will be an hour-long segment regarding Quota International's financial situation at each District Conference. It will be presented by the International Representative and provide more detailed information for you. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions.

7. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY THE 2007-2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ARTICLE XII: FINANCES AND FUNDS

Section 3: Finances

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
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| No existing paragraph. | C. If Quota International is obligated to pay a debt of a constituent division (club, district, area), Quota International will collect payment for the debt from the members of the constituent division. |
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RATIONALE: If Quota International is obligated to pay a debt incurred by a Quota leader in performance of her or his duties as a leader of a constituent division of Quota (club, district, area) for which the constituent division has no funds, we do not have a system in place for the payment of the debt. This provides such a system and will distribute the obligation among the members of the constituent division.

8. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY THE 2007-2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ARTICLE XVI: AREAS

Section 1: Area Meetings

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
|---|--|
| A. Area meetings may be held at such time and place as shall be determined by the area directors. | A. Area meetings may be held at such time and place as shall be determined by the area directors <i>in accordance with current board policy.</i> |
| | |

RATIONALE: This additional wording clarifies that area directors may have board approved polices that affect their choice of meeting time. This addition informs the members that this may be the case.

9. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY DISTRICT 12 AND QUOTA INTERNATIONAL OF MOUNTAIN VIEW/LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA, USA

ARTICLE XX: AMENDMENTS

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
|---|--|
| <p>C. Amendments to the international by-laws may be considered at convention only. Amendments to the bylaws adopted at one convention shall not be subject to amendment at the succeeding convention. Proposed amendments to the bylaws defeated at one convention, with the exception of a proposed amendment to international dues, shall not be accepted for discussion at the succeeding convention.</p> | <p>C. Amendments to the international bylaws may be considered at convention only.</p> |
| | |

RATIONALE: When conventions were held every year, the intent of the original bylaw was to have a two-year waiting period between re-introducing changes. Having conventions every two years, the way the bylaw reads now, a re-introduction of a change must wait four years. That is an inordinate amount of time to wait to amend a bylaw in an organization. Unless Quota International returns to yearly conventions, the membership should have a chance to discuss and/or amend their bylaws every two years, which now is at every Convention.

10. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY QUOTA INTERNATIONAL OF SILVER O TULSA, OKLAHOMA, USA, AND DISTRICT 16

**ARTICLE XI: CONVENTIONS
Section 2: Voting Body**

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
|--|--|
| <p>A. The voting body of the convention shall be the elected international officers, the district governors, the past presidents of Quota International, and one delegate from each club in good standing as of its January membership report to Quota International.</p> <p>B. In the event a district governor is unable to vote, the lieutenant governor of the same district shall be a member of the voting body. In the event neither can vote, an alternate from the district can be designated, such alternate to be appointed by the governor.</p> <p>C. No member shall be entitled to more than one vote.</p> <p>D. Each club shall be entitled to two alternates.</p> <p>E. The name of the duly elected delegate and the names of the duly elected alternates shall be certified to the executive director of Quota International by an officer of each club.</p> | <p>A. The voting body of the convention shall be the elected international officers, the district governors, the past presidents of Quota International, and one delegate from each club in good standing as of its January membership report to Quota International.</p> <p>B. <i>In the bylaw session of the International Convention, all members in good standing attending the bylaw session are considered part of the voting body.</i></p> <p>C. In the event a district governor is unable to vote, the lieutenant governor of the same district shall be a member of the voting body. In the event neither can vote, an alternate from the district can be designated, such alternate to be appointed by the governor.</p> <p>D. No member shall be entitled to more than one vote.</p> <p>E. Each club shall be entitled to two alternates.</p> <p>F. The name of the duly elected delegate and the names of the duly elected alternates shall be certified to the executive director of Quota International by an officer of each club.</p> |
| | |

QUOTA INTERNATIONAL OF SILVER Q OF TULSA AND DISTRICT 16

RATIONALE: Allowing voting privileges to members in attendance at the Convention bylaws session, will increase member retention by keeping long time members active at the International level. Many of the members attending the Convention are past club, district and International board members; therefore, they have a good understanding of what Quota is and what is needed to further the organization.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE RATIONALE FOR GREENSHEETING THIS

PROPOSAL: The proposal changes Quota International's voting system from a primarily representative voting system (one vote per club, one vote per district, one vote per board member, and one vote per past international president) to a completely individual voting system. Because Quota International is a membership organization consisting of clubs, it is more equitable to provide one vote per club attending convention (as we now have) rather than one vote per individual member who attends convention. The proposal would unfairly favor those members who would most easily be able to attend convention or who could more easily afford to send multiple members to convention; members who resided off the continent on which a meeting was held would be considerably disadvantaged since it would be far more costly for them to attend convention and vote.

11. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY QUOTA INTERNATIONAL OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO, USA

ARTICLE XII: FINANCES AND FUNDS

Section 2: Annual Dues

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
|--|---|
| A. Annual per capita dues for each member of Quota International shall not be less than \$45.00 to Quota International. In addition, each member shall pay not less than \$4 directly to the district as dues. | A. Annual per capita dues for each member of Quota International shall not be less than \$65.00 to Quota International. <i>Effective with dues payments due to Quota International after July 31, 2010, dues will automatically increase \$1.00 per year per capita.</i> In addition, each member shall pay not less than \$4 directly to the district as dues. |
| | |

QUOTA INTERNATIONAL OF SANTA FE RATIONALE: While the cost of living has gone up world wide, Quota International has not had a dues increase since 1994. As of the end of 2007, a total increase of the Consumer Price Index in the USA of 40% since 1994 meant that it takes \$62.96 to buy what could be bought for \$45.00 in 1994. (Source: US Bureau of Labor and Statistics at www.bls.gov/ - Inflation and Consumer Spending section.) According to the Time Almanac, inflation for 2005 in some of our Quota countries ranged from 2.2% in Canada and 2.7% in Australia to 7.9% in the Philippines and 9.5% in Suriname. If costs are increasing around the world, it is reasonable to expect that they have increased for Quota's operations.

There has been a large reduction of expenses and an innovative streamlining of our organization over the past ten to twelve years, a major accomplishment of the Quota International board of directors and staff. Technology is being used to reduce the workload while increasing communications, staff numbers have been reduced, as have the number of board members, and the calendar has been changed. We are at bare bones and have nothing left to cut if Quota is to continue providing the services that our membership wants.

In addition, the organization is now involved in more internal fund-raising than it ever has done before. Members of the board travel to district conferences and area meetings not only to share news of Quota, but to raise money for our operations. Fund-raising used to be done to pay for extra programs. Now, we can't pay our basic bills without it.

Thus, we are asking the minority of members who give donations to help pay the operating expenses for all of us.

At past conventions, we have spent a great deal of our time talking about money in general and dues in particular. As members of a service organization, we feel that there are better ways to spend our time. If we raise our dues by \$20/year now, it will cover our basic operating expenses. By adding \$1/year starting with dues paid after July 31, 2010, the hope is that dues income will keep up with basic costs and members won't have to spend so much valuable time talking about this at future conventions.

Quota International of Santa Fe recognizes and acknowledges that this increase will affect members on fixed incomes. We have some ourselves. Possible ways to help those members include payment of their increase from administrative funds, sponsorship of those on fixed incomes by those who are willing to help, small fund-raisers such as raffles for the purpose of paying dues at club social events where partners and spouses participate (these cannot be promoted as funds going to our service projects), etc. Building in the future increases of \$1/year allows us all to plan for it, both the members who pay the dues and the board and staff who must make the budget.

As much as we'd like to see this proposal fix all of Quota's financial problems, reality says that it won't. The goal is to have our dues income cover our basic operating expenses (a simple dinner) and then the board won't be asking for so many donations and they (donations) can once again be used for the extras (cake or pie for dessert).

BYLAWS COMMITTEE RATIONALE FOR GREENSHEETING THIS PROPOSAL:

A total of five proposals to increase Quota International dues were received. The Bylaws Committee has chosen to put forward the proposal from the Quota International board of directors for the following reasons:

The board of directors works the most closely with the budget and engages in regular strategic planning on Quota's finances and would be in the best position to determine if a dues increase would be needed (which they did determine was needed) and, if so, what amount would be needed.

The board of directors has access to the information that would be needed to provide a full dialogue on this matter. Board representatives will be discussing Quota's current and future financial situation at district conferences; members will have the opportunity to discuss the matter thoroughly and become well informed about the issue.

Many aspects of the rationale for a dues increase were similar in all submitted proposals. By virtue of their position and access to information, the board of directors provided additional information over and above what the other proposals provided. This information will be important in the consideration of this proposal at convention.

12. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY DISTRICT 14

ARTICLE XII: FINANCES AND FUNDS

Section 2: Annual Dues

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
|--|--|
| A. Annual per capita dues for each member of Quota International shall not be less than \$45.00 to Quota International. In addition, each member shall pay not less than \$4 directly to the district as dues. | A. Annual per capita dues for each member of Quota International shall not be less than \$65.00 to Quota International. In addition, each member shall pay not less than \$4 directly to the district as dues. |
| | |

DISTRICT 14 RATIONALE: Because there has not been a dues increase since 1994, we as an organization have come to rely on fund-raising and member donations to meet our organizational expenses such as payroll and overhead.

This method of funding Quota’s operations is not only risky (donations have no stability for being able to plan for or run the organization), but it is also unfair (a small percentage of the total members give generously, while the greater percentage benefit from these donations).

From 1994 through 2007, the rate of inflation has increased 40%, which means that it takes \$62.96 to buy what could be bought for \$45.00 in 1994 (Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, www.bls.gov/ Inflation and Consumer Spending Section). Although the QI staff and Board of Directors have streamlined our operations by reducing expenses, changing the QI calendar, reducing staff positions, and reducing the number of members on the Board of Directors, this has not been sufficient to meet the financial needs of QI. Further, since the Board has to focus on fund-raising at District, Area, and International meetings, it takes them away from their leadership duties.

We are proud to be a part of Quota International, and now is the time for all members to step forward and fund our beloved organization with income from dues rather than donations from generous members.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE RATIONALE FOR GREENSHEETING THIS

PROPOSAL: A total of five proposals to increase Quota International dues were received. The Bylaws Committee has chosen to put forward the proposal from the Quota International board of directors for the following reasons:

The board of directors works the most closely with the budget and engages in regular strategic planning on Quota's finances and would be in the best position to determine if a dues increase would be needed (which they did determine was needed) and, if so, what amount would be needed.

The board of directors has access to the information that would be needed to provide a full dialogue on this matter. Board representatives will be discussing Quota's current and future financial situation at district conferences; members will have the opportunity to discuss the matter thoroughly and become well informed about the issue.

Many aspects of the rationale for a dues increase were similar in all submitted proposals. By virtue of their position and access to information, the board of directors provided additional information over and above what the other proposals provided. This information will be important in the consideration of this proposal at convention.

13. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY QUOTA INTERNATIONAL OF FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, USA

ARTICLE XII: FINANCES AND FUNDS

Section 2: Annual Dues

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
|--|--|
| A. Annual per capita dues for each member of Quota International shall not be less than \$45.00 to Quota International. In addition, each member shall pay not less than \$4 directly to the district as dues. | A. Annual per capita dues for each member of Quota International shall not be less than \$60.00 to Quota International. In addition, each member shall pay not less than \$4 directly to the district as dues. |
| | |

QUOTA INTERNATIONAL OF FAIRBANKS RATIONALE: There has not been a dues increase in our organization since 1994. From 1994 through 2007, the rate of inflation has increased 40%, which means that it takes \$62.96 to buy what could be bought for \$45.00 in 1994 (Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, www.bls.gov/ - Inflation and Consumer Spending Section).

The Quota International Board of Directors and the staff over the last decade have managed to streamline our organization by reducing expenses, changing the Quota International yearly calendar, reducing staff positions, reducing the number of members on the QI Board, and being fiscally conservative concerning all expenses. Nonetheless, costs, which must be borne by the organization, have continued to rise. As a result, the Board of Directors is taking on the ever-increasing job of fund-raising in addition to their Board of Director responsibilities. Our Board of Directors, our international representatives at conference, need to be concerned with the business of our organization, NOT making sure they meet their benchmark of money at district conferences.

At our present annual dues rate, we are paying \$3.75 a month -- roughly equivalent to a gallon of gasoline. We all certainly know how the price of that commodity has increased.

We are no longer a dues driven organization. We are a donation driven group. Therefore, the expenses of our organization are not paid equally by all members. Those who attend district conferences, area meetings, or convention pay more (through their donations) to support the operations of our organization than those (the majority) who stay home.

We all belong to this international organization, we all feel pride and prestige in our organization, we all support our international service programs, but we also need to feel

commitment. Therefore, we all need to pay for the upkeep of our organization. We must exist on dues and not subsist on the donations.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE RATIONALE FOR GREENSHEETING THIS

PROPOSAL: A total of five proposals to increase Quota International dues were received. The Bylaws Committee has chosen to put forward the proposal from the Quota International board of directors for the following reasons:

The board of directors works the most closely with the budget and engages in regular strategic planning on Quota's finances and would be in the best position to determine if a dues increase would be needed (which they did determine was needed) and, if so, what amount would be needed.

The board of directors has access to the information that would be needed to provide a full dialogue on this matter. Board representatives will be discussing Quota's current and future financial situation at district conferences; members will have the opportunity to discuss the matter thoroughly and become well informed about the issue.

Many aspects of the rationale for a dues increase were similar in all submitted proposals. By virtue of their position and access to information, the board of directors provided additional information over and above what the other proposals provided. This information will be important in the consideration of this proposal at convention.

14. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY QUOTA INTERNATIONAL OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON, USA

ARTICLE XII: FINANCES AND FUNDS

Section 2: Annual Dues

| Reads at Present | Proposed Change |
|--|--|
| A. Annual per capita dues for each member of Quota International shall not be less than \$45.00 to Quota International. In addition, each member shall pay not less than \$4 directly to the district as dues. | A. Annual per capita dues for each member of Quota International shall not be less than \$65.00 to Quota International. In addition, each member shall pay not less than \$4 directly to the district as dues. |
| | |

QUOTA INTERNATIONAL OF TACOMA RATIONALE: There has not been a dues increase in our organization since 1994. From 1994 through 2007, the rate of inflation has increased 40%, which means that it takes \$62.96 to buy what could be bought for \$45.00 in 1994 (Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, www.bls.gov/ - Inflation and Consumer Spending Section).

The Quota International Board of Directors and the staff over the last decade have managed to streamline our organization by reducing expenses, changing the Quota International yearly calendar, reducing staff positions, reducing the number of members on the QI Board, and being fiscally conservative concerning all expenses. The Board of Directors is taking on the ever-increasing job of fund-raising in addition to their Board of Director responsibilities. Our Board of Directors, our international representatives at conference, need to be concerned with the business of our organization, NOT making sure they meet their benchmark of money at district conferences.

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We all belong to this international organization, we all feel pride and prestige in our organization, we all support our international service programs, but we also need to feel

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Many aspects of the rationale for a dues increase were similar in all submitted proposals. By virtue of their position and access to information, the board of directors provided additional information over and above what the other proposals provided. This information will be important in the consideration of this proposal at convention.