

TO: THE ALA MEMBERSHIP
FROM: Leslie Burger, ALA Interim Executive Director & Secretary of the Council
DATE: February 2025
RE: **PROPOSED CHANGES TO ALA BYLAWS**

The following amendment to the ALA Bylaws has been approved by ALA Council on June 30, 2024 for referral to the ALA Membership for ratification in accordance with the ALA Bylaws, Articles XVII.

[Removing reference of Annual Estimates of Income in the ALA Bylaws ALA CD 25.1](#)

BYLAWS AMENDMENT FOR REMOVING REFERENCE OF ANNUAL ESTIMATES OF INCOME

ACTION ITEM: Adopt ALA Bylaws Amendment to Remove Annual Estimates of Income references.

- Yes
- No

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Section 1. Review and Approval. The annual budget, including the annual estimates of income and budget objectives, shall be submitted for Executive Board review and approval as part of the budget process. Except for projects supported by grants to the Association, annual estimates of income shall be based upon the unexpended balance remaining from the previous fiscal year plus anticipated revenues for the next budgeted year. In no case may expenditures be budgeted in excess of the estimates of income arrived at in this manner except for projects supported by grants to the Association.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Section 1. Review and Approval. The Executive Board shall review and approve the annual budget, including the budget objectives, as part of the budget process.

TRACK CHANGES:

Any text to be **deleted** is shown in **[brackets]**; **new text** to be inserted or substituted is **underlined**.

Section 1. Review and Approval. The Executive Board shall review and approve the annual budget, including the **annual estimates of income and** budget objectives, **[shall be submitted for Executive Board review and approval]** as part of the budget process. **[Except for projects supported by grants to the Association, annual estimates of income shall be based upon the unexpended balance remaining from the previous fiscal year plus anticipated revenues for the next budgeted year. In no case may expenditures be budgeted in excess of the estimates of income arrived at in this manner except for projects supported by grants to the Association.]**

CURRENT LANGUAGE:	TRACK CHANGES: Any text to be deleted is shown in [brackets] ; new text to be inserted or substituted is <u>underlined</u> .	PROPOSED LANGUAGE:
<p>Section 1. Review and Approval. The annual budget, including the annual estimates of income and budget objectives, shall be submitted for Executive Board review and approval as part of the budget process. Except for projects supported by grants to the Association, annual estimates of income shall be based upon the unexpended balance remaining from the previous fiscal year plus anticipated revenues for the next budgeted year. In no case may expenditures be budgeted in excess of the estimates of income arrived at in this manner except for projects supported by grants to the Association.</p>	<p>Section 1. Review and Approval. The <u>Executive Board shall review and approve the annual budget</u>, including the annual estimates of income and budget objectives, [shall be submitted for Executive Board review and approval] as part of the budget process. [Except for projects supported by grants to the Association, annual estimates of income shall be based upon the unexpended balance remaining from the previous fiscal year plus anticipated revenues for the next budgeted year. In no case may expenditures be budgeted in excess of the estimates of income arrived at in this manner except for projects supported by grants to the Association.]</p>	<p>Section 1. Review and Approval. The Executive Board shall review and approve the annual budget, including the budget objectives, as part of the budget process.</p>

ALA Councilor Statements

ALA Policy A.5.8 states “Amendments to the Bylaws, when placed on the ballot, will be accompanied by pro and con statements of not more than 250 words each, such statements to be prepared by two Council members (who voted on opposite sides of the issue as indicated by their voting record) appointed by the president.”

PRO STATEMENT:

“Greetings voting ALA members, my reasoning for voting to approve this amendment to the ALA Bylaws includes the following: 1. Bylaws language should be broad enough to accommodate potential, future procedural changes while clearly stating outcome expectations and requirements (which this does), 2. The current Bylaws language erroneously includes specific procedures that do not reflect anticipated improved practices (which is why we should update this Bylaws language), and 3. Stating broad requirements in fewer words means fewer "big" votes are needed when adjustments in practice happen. I encourage you to join me and vote to approve this Bylaws language update.” – *Aaron Dobbs, Small Round Table Councilor*

CON STATEMENT:

“My understanding during the debate/discussion is that it wasn't a necessary change to make because the annual estimates of income should still be part of the annual review and approval process and specifically called out. Though it is noted that they are not referred to again in the rationale, the Executive Board should still understand and approve their understanding of estimated income as it impacts the annual budget as a whole.” – *Annie Miskewitch – Councilor at Large*