

October 21, 2020

NW20-029

TO: Northwest Council

FROM: Northwest Council's Legislative & Public Affairs Committee

SUBJECT: **PRE-SUBMITTED NEW BUSINESS:** Revision to SPEEA Northwest Policy and Procedure Manual
Section V, Subsection A: Legislative Actions & Endorsements

Background

In April of 2020, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, all SPEEA meetings have adopted a virtual format. To aid in the deliberation of motions affecting Legislative or Public Affairs issues, a revision to SPEEA Policy and Procedure is recommended.

Under current policy for passage of a Legislative or Public Affairs motion, there are three items of concern:

1. Council Representatives not in attendance are held against passage of the motion
2. Votes include Council Representatives and does not include the Executive Board
3. Council Representatives have access to the meetings virtually

Proposed change

1. Change from all seated Council Representatives to those present
2. Add Executive Board present
3. Remove limitation on attending

This revision will shorten the time in passing or rejection of a motion but not affect the quality of debate. It sets a clear threshold of passage and who participates in the vote.

This motion has been reviewed by members of the Northwest Governing Documents Committee.

Motion

It is moved that: **THE NORTHWEST COUNCIL CONDUCT A PUBLISHED VOTE THAT REVISES SPEEA NORTHWEST POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL, SECTION V, SUBSECTION A, AS FOLLOWS:**

4. Passage or adoption of any legislative or public issues proposal shall be by published ballot and require:

- a) Total affirmative vote must be a majority of [votes cast by Northwest Council members in attendance](#). ~~all Council Representatives including those not present or not voting, excluding Council Representatives working in excess of 50 statute air miles from the meeting and are unable to attend.~~