

2017 PEF Convention

**CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENT**

NO. 3

Constitutional Amendment – Referendum with Triennial Election

Article XVII REFERENDA

- A. The highest level of governance in PEF shall be the referendum of the entire regular membership. Positions or policies established by referendum shall not be subject to reversal or modification by any PEF governing body nor be subject to a subsequent referendum for a period of at least two (2) years.
- B. A referendum shall be called by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of either the Executive Board or the Convention, or by a petition signed by twenty (20) percent of the regular membership, this membership size being the total taken for the last Annual Convention delegate election.
- C. Matters not subject to referendum are:
 - 1. Employment, assignment, promotion, discharge or compensation of staff;
 - 2. Issues or programs requiring a budgetary expenditure of funds or a change in PEF's dues structure.
- D. Procedure for Referendum shall be as follows:
 - 1. For the purposes of this Article, the term "Referendum Statement" shall mean a clear statement of the issues on which the referendum is to be held, or in the case of a Constitutional provision or substitution, a complete copy of the new Constitution, or provision.
 - 2. Within thirty (30) days of a vote for a referendum by the Executive Board or Convention, the Secretary-Treasurer shall mail a copy of the referendum as it will appear on the ballot to every regular member; or, have the referendum published in the official PEF newspaper with copies of the newspaper sent to each member, **or if called by the Executive Board in a Tri-annual Election year, the referendum will be included as part of the Tri-annual Election Candidate Directory and Information Sheet.**
 - 3. In the case of a membership petition, a copy shall be filed with the Secretary-Treasurer prior to the first day of circulation by any member. The petition shall conform to the rules in effect for petitioning during the last Presidential Election except that each petition shall be dated and the date

of each signature shown. The completed petition showing the required number of signatures shall be filed with the Secretary-Treasurer within ninety (90) days of the original filing of the petition copy with the Secretary-Treasurer.

4. The Secretary-Treasurer upon receipt of a petition containing the required number of signatures shall have thirty (30) days to validate the signatures before mailing or publishing a copy of the referendum statement.
5. The referendum shall be held by secret ballot and certified by the American Arbitration Association. All ballots are to be mailed within fifteen (15) days of the mailing or publication of the referendum statement, **or if called by the Executive Board, in a Tri-annual Election year, the referendum will be included as part of the Tri-annual Election ballot.**
6. The results of a Referendum shall not be considered valid unless at least forty percent (40%) of the regular membership of PEF have returned ballots.
- ~~7. Amendments to this Article approved by the 1985 Convention will become effective April 1, 1986.~~