



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS®

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RESOLUTION:

CENSURING NAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FAILURE TO PROVIDE DUE PROCESS REQUIRED BY BYLAWS AND PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY BEFORE REMOVING MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ON CREDENTIALING ON 8 SEPTEMBER 2022

Whereas, The Board of Directors of the National Association of Parliamentarians should set an example and high standard for all members of the National Association of Parliamentarians; and

Whereas, Regarding removal of members of the independent Commission on Credentialing, NAP Bylaws Article XI, Section 6 states, “The NAP Board of Directors may remove commission members for cause by a vote of two-thirds of the entire board”; and

Whereas, NAP’s parliamentary authority states that when “an officer can be removed from office only for cause—that is, neglect of duty in office or misconduct—[removal must occur] in accordance with the procedures described in 63; that is, an investigating committee must be appointed, charges must be preferred, and a formal trial must be held” (RONR (12th ed.) 62:16); and

Whereas, Whatever the merits of any allegations of neglect of duty or misconduct by members of the Commission on Credentialing, its members were entitled under the NAP bylaws to due process, including the opportunity to be formally notified of any such allegations and to contest them in accordance with the disciplinary procedures provided in the parliamentary authority, before the Board could legitimately vote to remove them for cause; and

Whereas, On 8 September 2022 the NAP Board of Directors voted to remove four of the six members of the Commission on Credentialing without having first appointed an investigating committee and thereafter receiving its report, without having then adopted a resolution setting forth charges and specifications and providing notice of it to those accused, and without having conducted a formal hearing on their validity at which the accused were given an opportunity to contest the allegations; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the National Association of Parliamentarians in convention assembled, That the Board of Directors of the National Association of Parliamentarians is censured for voting on 8 September 2022 to remove members of the Commission on Credentialing for cause without having first accorded the removed members the due process protections required by the bylaws and parliamentary authority of the National Association of Parliamentarians, and

Resolved, That the text of this resolution be posted on the National Association of Parliamentarians website with the same prominence and for the same duration as the previously posted announcement of the removal of the members of the Commission on Credentialing.

Submitted by Jeanette Williams, PRP
September 7, 2023