The Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws Committee, as well as component chapters and OSSMA members, may from time to time make recommendations for necessary and desirable changes in the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Ohio Society of Medical Assistants for review by the Advisory Board of Ohio State Medical Association, and action by the House of Delegates of the Ohio State Society of Medical Assistants.

Any proposed Bylaw changes will be discussed during the reference committees. The Reference Committee will convene as soon as possible following adjournment of the first session of the House. The reference committee is a time for all delegates, alternate delegates and members to discuss the proposed bylaw changes and offer opinion of: for or against, changes to wording of proposed Bylaw.

Once the HOD reconvenes a vote will be taken on the proposed amendments. Amendments to the Bylaws of the Ohio State Society of Medical Assistants may be amended by the House of Delegates at any Annual Meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates in attendance at such meeting.

For the 2019 OSSMA House of Delegates we have three proposed changes to our Bylaws for consideration of the membership as follows:

19-01

Proposed by the Bylaws Committee

ARTICLE VII – House of Delegates and Nomination and Election of Officers and Trustees

Section: 4 – B
Page: L

CURRENT: The number of delegates shall be determined by the total active paid membership on December 31st prior to the Annual Meeting as established by dues post-marked at the AAMA Executive Office. There shall be no deviation from this deadline.

PROPOSED: The number of delegates shall be determined by the total active and associate paid memberships on December 31st prior to the Annual Meeting as established by dues post-marked at the AAMA Executive Office. There shall be no deviation from this deadline.

RATIONALE:

1) Clarification to match verbiage:
   Section 4: Each component chapter and the members-at-large of the Ohio State Society of Medical Assistants shall be entitled to one delegate and one alternate delegate for each twenty-five (25) active and associate members or fraction thereof.
Proposed by the Bylaws Committee

**ARTICLE V – Membership**

**Section 7 – Privileges:**

**CURRENT:** Any active, active, associate, or life member may serve as an officer, councilor, delegate, alternate delegate, or committee chair. Privileges on a chapter level shall be determined by the individual chapter.

**PROPOSED:** Any active, active, associate, or life member may serve as an officer, councilor delegate, alternate delegate, or committee chair. *Any active, associate, student or life member may serve as a delegate or alternate delegate.* Privileges on a chapter level shall be determined by the individual chapter.

**RATIONALE:**

1. Add student membership as eligible to hold the office of delegate or alternate delegate to encourage student participation within the OSSMA. Participation on the state level and exposure to the governing structure of the organization will help to encourage the students to convert to active membership and be an active participant for the following years.

Proposed by the Southwest Ohio Chapter

**ARTICLE VIII – Duties of Officers and Trustees**

**Section 1 K) Board of Trustees:**

**CURRENT:** The Board of Trustees of this Society shall consist of the elected officers, the Immediate Past President, and one member from each Council District, and one representative from the members-at-large. The Board of Trustees shall have full authority and power of the House of Delegates, but shall take no action contravening any general policy which shall have been adopted by the House of Delegates and which at the time is still in effect. It shall submit a report of its activities through the President to the House of Delegates at the Annual Meeting. It may fill vacancies as provided in Article VII of the Bylaws. The Parliamentarian and the Editor of the Ohio State Society of Medical Assistants official publication shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees.

**PROPOSED:** The Board of Trustees of this Society shall consist of the elected officers, the Immediate Past President, and one member from each Council District, and one representative from the members-at-large and the chair of each standing committee. *Voting power is limited to one vote per member regardless of the number of positions held concurrently.* The Board of
Trustees shall have full authority and power of the House of Delegates, but shall take no action contravening any general policy which shall have been adopted by the House of Delegates and which at the time is still in effect. It shall submit a report of its activities through the President to the House of Delegates at the Annual Meeting. It may fill vacancies as provided in Article VII of the Bylaws. The Parliamentarian and the Editor of the Ohio State Society of Medical Assistants official publication shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees.

RATIONALE:

1) Committee chairs are responsible for conducting business that promotes the growth and advancement of the organization. In this vital role, they should have a voice in decisions made by the board.
2) It needs to be clarified that holding more than one position does not entitle any individual to more than one vote.
3) The Parliamentarian serves as an advisor to the President and, as such, should remain neutral.