**Proposed Zonta International Bylaws Amendment**

**Proposed by the Zonta District 12 Board of Directors**

**That the following proposal is hereby submitted to the Zonta International Bylaws and Resolutions Committee for consideration at the Yokohama, Japan Convention in 2018.**

**That ZI Bylaw Article XI, Zonta International Nominating Committee, Section 5. Duties, be amended as follows:**

Note: Amendment underlined in red.

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| **Present Wording** | **Proposed Wording** |
| SECTION 5. **Duties**. The Zonta International Nominating Committee shall:  (a) Provide the official slate and qualifications for publication at least ninety (90) days before convention, including, when possible, nominations as follows:  (1) For each Zonta International officer position to be filled, two (2) or more candidates.  (2) For Zonta International director positions, at least fourteen (14) candidates for election of seven (7) directors.  (3) For the Zonta International Nominating Committee, at least:   * Two (2) candidates from the clubs in North, Central and South America; * Two (2) candidates from the clubs in Europe; * Two (2) candidates from the clubs in Africa; * Two (2) candidates from the clubs in Australia and New Zealand; * Two (2) candidates from the clubs in Asia; and * Eight (8) candidates at large.   (b) Report at the convention. Additional nominations may be made from the floor, provided the nominee is qualified and has consented to serve if elected. | SECTION 5. **Duties**. The Zonta International Nominating Committee is an independent committee and is empowered to make all decisions regarding the nomination process and candidates in compliance with the Zonta International Bylaws. The Zonta International Nominating Committee shall:  (a) Provide the official slate and qualifications for publication at least ninety (90) days before convention, including, when possible, nominations as follows:  (1) For each Zonta International officer position to be filled, two (2) or more candidates.  (2) For Zonta International Director positions, at least fourteen (14) candidates for election of seven (7) directors.  (3) For the Zonta International Nominating Committee, at least:   * Two (2) candidates from the clubs in North, Central and South America; * Two (2) candidates from the clubs in Europe; * Two (2) candidates from the clubs in Africa; * Two (2) candidates from the clubs in Australia and New Zealand; * Two (2) candidates from the clubs in Asia; and * Eight (8) candidates at large.   (b) Report at the convention. Additional nominations may be made from the floor, provided the nominee is qualified and has consented to serve if elected. |

***Rationale***: To preserve the integrity and transparency of the ZI and ZIF election processes, the International Nominating Committee must remain completely independent from any other committee or group and make impartial and objective decisions, without input or pressure from all those that may seek nomination. The language added to Article XI, Section 5, is similar to that found in the Zonta International Manual: “The Zonta International Nominating Committee is elected and is independent in fulfilling its duties.” Because the Manual may be revised at any time by the ZI Board, the additional language should be included in the ZI Bylaws to ensure that the Nominating Committee will discharge its duties in an independent and impartial manner. The additional language does not prevent the Nominating Committee from seeking the names of potential candidates from the District Nominating Committees or any other member of Zonta, but preserves a fair and equitable democratic process.

**Proposed Zonta International Bylaws Amendment**

**Proposed by the Zonta District 12 Board of Directors**

**That the following proposal is hereby submitted to the Zonta International Bylaws and Resolutions Committee for consideration at the Yokohama, Japan Convention in 2018.**

**That ZI Bylaw Article XIII, Districts, Section 13, Nominating Committee, (d) Duties, be amended as follows:**

Note: Amendment underlined in red.

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| **Present Wording** | **Proposed Wording** |
| (d) **Duties**. It shall be the duty of the Nominating  Committee to:  **District**  (1) Provide the official slate and qualifications of each candidate for publication at least sixty (60) days before the District Conference.  (2) Nominate one (1) or more qualified candidates for each office to be filled at the next election of district officers.  (3) Nominate at least five (5) candidates for the district Nominating Committee.  (4) Report at the conference. Additional nominations may be made from the floor provided the nominee is qualified.  No member shall be proposed without that member's consent to serve if elected.  **Zonta International**  Work with the Zonta International Nominating Committee to recruit qualified Zontians for Zonta International officers, directors, and Nominating Committee. | (d) **Duties**. The District Nominating Committee is an independent committee and is empowered to make all decisions regarding the nomination process and candidates in compliance with the Zonta International Bylaws and District policies and procedures. It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to:  **District**  (1) Provide the official slate and qualifications of each candidate for publication at least sixty (60) days before the District Conference.  (2) Nominate one (1) or more qualified candidates for each office to be filled at the next election of district officers.  (3) Nominate at least five (5) candidates for the district Nominating Committee.  (4) Report at the conference. Additional nominations may be made from the floor provided the nominee is qualified.  No member shall be proposed without that member's consent to serve if elected.  **Zonta International**  Work with the Zonta International Nominating Committee to recruit qualified Zontians for Zonta International officers, directors, and Nominating Committee. |

***Rationale***: To preserve the integrity and transparency of the District election process, the District Nominating Committee must remain completely independent from any other committee or group and make impartial and objective decisions, without input or pressure from all those that may seek nomination. The language added to Article XIII, Section 13, is consistent with the proposed amendment to the ZI bylaws, Section XI, Zonta International Nominating Committee, Section 5, Duties, which adds language currently contained in the International Manual. The additional language should be included in the ZI Bylaws to ensure that the District Nominating Committee will discharge its duties in an independent and impartial manner. The additional language does not prevent the Nominating Committee from seeking the names of potential candidates from club nominating committees or any other member of Zonta, but preserves a fair and equitable democratic process.

**Proposed Zonta International Bylaws Amendment**

**Proposed by the Zonta District 12 Board of Directors**

**That the following proposal is hereby submitted to the Zonta International Bylaws and Resolutions Committee for consideration at the Yokohama, Japan Convention in 2018.**

**That ZI Bylaw Article XIV, Clubs, Section 8, Nominating Committee, (d) Duties, be amended as follows:**

Note: Amendment underlined in **red.**

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| **Present Wording** | **Proposed Wording** |
| SECTION 8. (d) **Duties.**  (d) **Duties**. It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to nominate one (1) or more members for each office or directorship to be filled at the annual election, and at club option, to nominate at least three (3) members for the next term's Nominating Committee. | SECTION 8. (d) **Duties.**  (d) **Duties**. The Nominating Committee is an independent committee and is empowered to make all decisions regarding the nomination process and candidates on compliance with the Zonta International Bylaws and the club bylaws. It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to nominate one (1) or more members for each office or directorship to be filled at the annual election, and at club option, to nominate at least three (3) members for the next term's Nominating Committee. |

**Rationale:** To preserve the integrity and transparency of the club election process, the club Nominating Committee must remain completely must remain completely independent from any other committee or group and make impartial and objective decisions, without input or pressure from all those that may seek nomination. The language added to Article XIV, Section 8, is consistent with the proposed amendment to the ZI Bylaws, Section XI, Zonta International Nominating Committee, Section 5, Duties, which adds language currently contained in the International Manual. The additional language should be included in the ZI Bylaws to ensure that the club Nominating Committee will discharge its duties in an independent and impartial manner. The additional language does not prevent the Nominating Committee from seeking the names of potential candidates from any member of Zonta, but preserves a fair and equitable democratic process.