

ARTICLE VI

State Officers

Current text:

Section 3. Qualifications: To be eligible to run for elective office, a candidate must be a member in good standing and shall be enrolled in or shall have taken Latin, Greek, or another classically-related subject. Post-graduates and mid-term graduates shall not be eligible for office. All candidates for office must be accompanied by their sponsors at the Nominations Committee meeting.

Proposed text:

Section 3. Qualifications: To be eligible to run for elective office, a candidate must be a member in good standing and shall be enrolled in or shall have taken Latin, Greek, or another classically-related subject. The parliamentarian is not eligible to run for another term or another state office while serving as parliamentarian. Post-graduates and mid-term graduates shall not be eligible for office. All candidates for office must be accompanied by their sponsors at the Nominations Committee meeting.

This amendment will take effect 2026-2027 if it passes. It would not impact 2025-2026 elections.

Rationale: One of the main responsibilities of the parliamentarian is to recruit new officers for the upcoming year and to run elections at state convention. This amendment will allow them to focus on that work without the distractions of also trying to run their own campaign. It also removes the possibility of the parliamentarian choosing to run for office at the last minute due to insider information. This amendment would make the parliamentarian a terminal state position. Here are some of the possible outcomes from this amendment:

1. A sitting officer chooses to run for parliamentarian the next year. This helps the organization as the new parliamentarian will be an experienced officer and therefore also better connected with members of the organization allowing them to better recruit candidates for office.
2. A junior chooses to run for parliamentarian. In many instances, such a junior has been involved in the organization for several years and is more likely to be better connected with members of the organization allowing them to better recruit candidates for office.
3. A younger parliamentarian chooses to run for national office. We have seen many state parliamentarians choose to run for national office, often NJCL parliamentarian or president. Having served as a state parliamentarian, this person will be better served to campaign, win, and serve as a national officer.