

## PROPOSED AMENDMENT – 39<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL CONVENTION

Material removed is denoted in ~~strickethrough~~

Material added is denoted in **bold**

1 AMENDMENT TO THE NATIONAL BYLAWS  
2 ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP  
3 SECTION (NEW SECTION)  
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### PRESENT LANGUAGE

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7 New Section (Insertion between Section 1 and Section  
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### PROPOSED LANGUAGE

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**SECTION 2. MEMBERSHIP DEMOGRAPHICS. Alpha Phi Omega believes that all people have the potential to be of service. Each chapter shall in turn have the right to determine their own membership so long as their membership requirements do not conflict with the governing documents of the National Fraternity. All chapters, petitioning groups, interest groups and the like are encouraged to recruit a diverse membership that is demographically representative of their collegiate campus, though no chapter shall be required by the National Convention, National Board of Directors, its members, representatives or staff to actively recruit members of any particular demographic, nor maintain any reflective membership quotas whether implicit or implied. Chapters and the like shall not be sanctioned for nor expected to have a perfectly demographic membership representation of their collegiate school.**

PURPOSE: To establish an official policy on the membership demographics of chapters to encourage demographic recruitment, but not require anything perceived as a quota.

RATIONALE: In these drastically changing times and with universal conflict between all people, tensions about demographic populations of chapters can lead to oversensitivity and cause more stressful issues, leading to tensions within the emotional and social environment of chapters, misinterpretation of other's intentions, a lack of closeness and brotherly bond among the members and furthermore producing withdrawals from social relations to avoid further conflict and promoting social phobias and stereotypes about members' differences. Chapters should not be concerned with the exact makeup of their membership, but to promote the growth and quality of their membership. Furthermore, chapters should be open to all students, not the demographic representation of their student population; anyone wishing to be of service and proving their worth to the chapter by meeting their pledge requirements and demonstrating character desirable to Alpha Phi Omega should have the privilege of membership upon selection of that chapter. Memberships should focus on who they have, not who they should have because of physical differences. Chapters furthermore have the right to determine their own membership and should a chapter be forced to accept members, regardless of character and solely based on physical characteristics, that chapter is no longer a brotherhood of acceptance, but a forced conglomeration of distrust. Alpha Phi Omega's founding purpose by Frank Reed Horton was to establish a standard of manhood that would withstand the test of time and help the nations of the world settle their differences in a more peaceful manner than by war. That standard is a brotherhood between all peoples regardless their differences, based on their character and willingness to help others and peace is brought forth through understanding and acceptance, not demographic consistency.

The National Fraternity's long range goals for the last few years have been to implement a marketing plan to deliver the

50 Fraternity's leadership program to internal and external audiences in order to SHARE Alpha Phi Omega; to GROW  
51 Alpha Phi Omega by increasing the number of chapters to five hundred and increasing the retention rate to seventy five  
52 percent; to IMPROVE Alpha Phi Omega by reducing the number of at risk chapters and to conduct high quality programs  
53 addressing the campus and community needs; to INVEST in Alpha Phi Omega through a comprehensive plan to ensure  
54 financial security and support for the current and future programming, to develop programs to increase alumni volunteer  
55 activity and involvement and to change the membership culture from campus-based to lifelong involvement.  
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57 Alpha Phi Omega was founded on three cardinal principles: Leadership, Friendship, and Service; and should be sold to  
58 members on the premise of Brotherhood, the central core supported by those primary building blocks. Alpha Phi Omega  
59 should not be sold on the basis of distrust because we have perfectly diverse demographic memberships. Chapters,  
60 petitioning groups, interest groups and the like should not be held back by concerns of demographic memberships, but  
61 should excel to find any and all members willing to be of service. Improve Alpha Phi Omega, don't disprove its purpose.  
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63 SUBMITTED BY: Delta Chapter