

Resolution No.	15	New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Substitute <input type="checkbox"/>	Amendment <input type="checkbox"/>
Submitted By:	Special Session House Committee			
Date Submitted:	April 8, 2026	Reference Committee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Direct to House <input type="checkbox"/>	
Total Financial Implication:	\$ none			
Amount One-time	\$ none	Amount On-going	Approx. \$ none	

**House Committee to Study Calling a Special Session**

1 **Background Statement:** The Committee was charged with reviewing Resolution 25H-  
 2 2025, which sought to amend the Bylaws governing how a Special Session of the  
 3 House of Delegates may be called. This review was initiated in response to concerns  
 4 raised at the 2025 House of Delegates. Both the House of Delegates and this  
 5 Committee recognize the need for greater transparency, clearer procedural guardrails,  
 6 and assurance that such sessions reflect broad and legitimate support across the  
 7 Association.

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 9 During deliberations, the Committee examined the existing Bylaws, which require a  
 10 written request from at least one-third (1/3) of the component societies and not less than  
 11 one-fifth (1/5) of the certified delegates. The Committee noted that while the numerical  
 12 threshold had been met in the recent attempt, the process lacked clarity regarding how  
 13 support was gathered, who had endorsed the call, and whether the requesting  
 14 components' delegates supported the action. Committee members agreed that the  
 15 ambiguity created unnecessary confusion and mistrust among components.

16  
 17 The Committee also reviewed the original resolution proposed by the Seventh District  
 18 Dental Society, which recommended changing the requirement to allow a special  
 19 session to be called by at least seven component societies and the majority of  
 20 delegates of those seven component societies. After thorough discussion, the  
 21 Committee concluded that increasing the number of components would actually take  
 22 power away from the House of Delegates. The Committee therefore agreed that the  
 23 long-standing standard of one-third (1/3) of component societies (five components)  
 24 should be preserved.

25  
 26 At the same time, the Committee unanimously recognized that improvements were  
 27 needed to ensure transparency and to establish that each requesting component's  
 28 delegates genuinely support the call for a special session. Members emphasized that a  
 29 special session is a significant event that imposes obligations on the entire House and  
 30 should occur only when there is clear, documented, majority support among the  
 31 delegates of the requesting components.

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33 To address these concerns, the Committee voted to recommend the following clarifying  
34 changes:

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- 36 • Retain the requirement that five component societies must join the request.
  - 37 • Require that a majority of certified delegates from each of those five components  
38 must support the request.
  - 39 • Require verified electronic or wet signatures from delegates to document support  
40 clearly and transparently.
- 41

42 The Committee believes these revisions strike an appropriate balance. They maintain  
43 the House's authority to call a special session while ensuring that such action reflects  
44 genuine, broad-based support. The recommended language adds much-needed  
45 transparency, provides clear procedural steps for all parties, and helps prevent  
46 misunderstanding or misapplication of this important governance mechanism.

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48 For these reasons, the Committee respectfully submits the revised resolution to the  
49 House of Delegates for consideration.

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51 **15. Resolved**, that Chapter III., Section 80 of the NYSDA Bylaws be amended as  
52 follows (new language is underlined, deleted language is ~~struck through~~):

53

54 Section 80. Special Sessions: A special session of the House of Delegates shall  
55 be called by the President on a three-fourths (3/4) affirmative vote of the  
56 members of the Board of Trustees or on written request of a majority of certified  
57 delegates of each component who representing at least one-third (1/3) of the  
58 component societies and not less than one-fifth (1/5) of the officially certified  
59 delegates of the last House of Delegates. The time and place of a special  
60 session shall be determined by the President, provided the time selected shall be  
61 not less than fifteen (15) days and not more than thirty (30) days after the request  
62 was received. The business of a special session shall be limited to that stated in  
63 the official call except by unanimous consent.

64

65 To ensure total transparency, whenever a written request for a special session of  
66 the House of Delegates is being considered, it must be initiated by a declaration  
67 of intent, followed by a thirty (30) day window to obtain the necessary wet or  
68 electronic signatures of the affirmative delegates wishing to pursue this  
69 endeavor.

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71 **Board Comments:** The Board supports the special committee's suggested changes for  
72 calling a special meeting of the House of Delegates. It provides greater clarity  
73 regarding the intent of such meeting and ensures it is backed by a significant proportion  
74 of the delegates.

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Special Session House Committee  
REFERENCE COMMITTEE

77 **BOARD RECOMMENDATION: VOTE YES**

name	yes	no	abstain	absent	name	yes	no	abstain	absent	name	yes	no	abstain	absent
<b>Demas</b>	X				<b>Hills</b>	X				<b>Ramjattansingh</b>	X			
<b>Dominger</b>	X				<b>Jacobs</b>	X				<b>Rothas</b>	X			
<b>Edwards</b>	X				<b>Jacobo</b>	X				<b>Samuels</b>	X			
<b>Gamache</b>	X				<b>Korkosz</b>	X				<b>Scharoff</b>	X			
<b>Giordano</b>	X				<b>Krishnan</b>	X				<b>Stacy</b>	X			
<b>Greenberg</b>	X				<b>Miller</b>	X				<b>Stacey</b>	X			
										<b>Res #15</b>				

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