

**RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS  
BYLAWS**

This Society shall be known as  
**THE RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS, INC.**

Founded March 24, 1948,  
Constitution and Bylaws Adopted April 16, 1948

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**ARTICLE I  
PURPOSE AND AIMS**

Section 1.01 It shall be the purpose of this Society to associate and affiliate into one organization all the reputable licensed physicians in Rhode Island who are engaged in the practice of or are otherwise interested in the specialty of anesthesiology; to encourage specialization in this field and in other ways to make available to more people the benefits to be derived from the services of qualified anesthesiologists; to raise the standards of the specialty by fostering and encouraging research and scientific progress in anesthesiology; to disseminate information in regard to anesthesiology; to protect the public against irresponsible and unqualified practitioners of anesthesiology; to safeguard the interest of its members; and in all ways to develop and further the specialty of anesthesiology for the general elevation of the standards of medical practice.

**ARTICLE II  
MEMBERSHIP**

**Qualifications**

Section 2.01 Membership in this Society is a privilege and not a right and is contingent upon compliance with the requirements specified in these Bylaws. No person shall be accepted or continued as a member of this Society unless he or she is of good moral character and adheres to the ethical standards of the medical profession. No person shall be accepted for membership unless he or she meets with the above requirements and is at the time practicing in accordance with the principles of this Society and the American Society of Anesthesiologists "Guidelines to the Ethical Practice of Anesthesiology".

**Categories**

Section 2.02 The categories of membership of this Society shall conform to those of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., and are as follows: Active; Affiliate; Resident; Retired and Honorary.

## Requirements

Section 2.03 The requirements for eligibility in the various categories of membership are:

### Section 2.03-1 Active

Physicians who are engaged in, or especially interested in, the practice of anesthesiology; who are graduates of reputable schools of medicine or osteopathy, who have successfully completed a training program in anesthesiology accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education or equivalent organization, or the American Osteopathic Association, and who are licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in Rhode Island and not active members of any other component society. Physicians serving in the Armed Forces or Public Health Services of the United States or Federal Veterans Administration need not be licensed in Rhode Island but must be licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in another state, District of Columbia, in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a U.S. possession. The above provisions shall not affect the status of any member who is already an Active member of this Society or of any individual who is already an Active member of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., and who wishes to transfer membership from another component society.

### Section 2.03-2. Affiliate

a) Federal. Physicians who are members of the Armed Forces or Public Health Services of the United States or Federal Veterans Administration, who are not eligible for Active membership, and are especially interested in the specialty of anesthesiology.

### b) Scientific

Physicians or other scientists who are not engaged in administering clinical anesthesia to humans, but are nevertheless, interested in anesthesiology.

c) A physician who resides outside the United States and is not a member of any other component society.

### Section 2.03-3 Resident

Physicians who are graduates of medical schools approved by the American Medical Association or by the Canadian Medical Association; or who are graduates of accredited schools of osteopathy; or who have passed the qualifying examination conducted by the Education Council of Foreign Medical Graduates; or who are in possession of a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine or osteopathy in a , territory or province of the United States or Canada; and who are engaged in training in anesthesiology on a full-time basis in a training program accredited by the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association. A physician who engages in unsupervised administration of anesthesia for which a charge is made to the patient is not regarded as being in full-time training. Resident membership shall automatically terminate upon completion of three (3) years of residency training, except that a one (1) year extension of Resident membership for each additional year of residency training may be granted by the Secretary if such extension is also approved by the Program Director, and that such extension not total more than two (2) additional years.

### Section .2.03-4 Retired

Active members of this Society who have been in good standing for five or more years and who have retired from the practice of anesthesiology may, upon application to the Secretary, become retired members. Members who become disabled and are therefore prevented from pursuing the practice of anesthesiology may, upon notification to the Secretary, become Retired members. However, such Retired membership due to disability shall terminate upon resumption of the practice of anesthesiology.

### Section 2.03-5 Honorary

Physicians or other scientists who have rendered years of faithful service to the Society, or who have attained exceptional eminence in anesthesiology and related subjects. Honorary members shall be elected to that category by the Executive Committee.

### Section 2.03-6 Medical Student

Eligible students will be engaged, on a full-time basis, in the study of medicine in an accredited (LCME or AOA) Rhode Island medical school and will express interest in the pursuit of residency training in anesthesiology following the completion of medical school. Medical student membership shall automatically terminate upon completion of four years of medical school; with the exception that a one (1) year extension of Medical Student membership may be granted by the Secretary if the Medical School's Dean of Student Affairs approves such an extension. Student membership extensions may not total more than one (1) additional year.

### **Location of Principal Professional Activity**

Section 2.04. Unless otherwise described in these Bylaws, the term "location of principal professional activity" is defined as the place where a member performs the greater part of his or her duties, as distinguished from his or her place of residence or location of temporary or other professional pursuits. In the event of uncertainty or dispute as to the location of principal professional activity, the matter shall be referred to the Secretary of this Society for a ruling, and their decision shall be final.

### **Application for Membership**

Section 2.05 Application for membership shall be submitted to the RISA on a form provided by this Society or the ASA.

#### **Section 2.05-1 Resident Membership**

Application for membership shall be endorsed by the training program director, sent to the ASA then reviewed by the component secretary for comment and approval or as directed by the ASA.

### **Approval for Membership**

Section 2.06. Application for membership shall be considered by the Secretary who shall investigate each applicant. Applicants approved by the Secretary shall assume membership upon completion of the requirements for membership provided by these Bylaws, including payment of appropriate dues.

Section 2.06-1. Enrollment. Each new members name shall be enrolled on the official membership roster.

### **Rights and Privileges**

Section 2.07 Members in good standing of this Society possess rights and privileges as follows:

Section 2.07-1 Active Members shall be entitled to full voting privileges of this Society.

Section 2.07-2 Honorary Members shall be entitled to all of the benefits and privileges of Active membership but shall be exempt from the payment of dues, and shall not hold office or vote.

Section 2.07-3 Affiliate and Resident Members shall be entitled to the benefits and privileges of the Society and may be appointed to committees. However, they shall not serve as officers, delegates, directors or committee chairs unless otherwise described in these Bylaws; nor shall they vote.

Section 2.07-4 Retired Members shall be accorded all the rights and privileges of Active members but shall be exempt from the payment of dues, and shall not hold office or vote.

### **Maintenance of other Membership**

Section 2.08 All Active, Resident, and Retired Members of this Society are required to maintain membership in The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. Such members who fail to comply with this provision shall be expelled from this Society by the secretary upon notification by The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.

## **Censure, Suspension, and Expulsion**

Section 2.09 A member of this Society may be censured, suspended, or expelled by the executive committee for good cause that may include:

- a) Expulsion from membership in the American Medical Association or any of its constituent associations, including the AOA and the ASA.
- b) Revocation or suspension of a member's license to practice medicine or osteopathy by a regulatory authority.
- c) Conviction in a court of law of a felony or an offense involving moral turpitude.
- d) Conduct unbecoming of a physician.
- e) Any cause or act which is detrimental to this Society.
- f) Failure to abide by the provisions of these Bylaws.
- g) Violation of the standards of professional conduct approved by the Society.

Section 2.09-1 Investigation Investigations and hearings involving a member of this Society shall be conducted in accordance with Article IX of these Bylaws.

## **Effect of Suspension and Expulsion**

Section 2.10 Suspension or expulsion of a member of this Society affects his or her status as follows:

Section 2.10-1 Suspension Suspension of a member shall be for a definite period of time and may, at the sole discretion of the Executive committee and implemented at any time. During the period of suspension, the member shall not be entitled to exercise the rights or privileges of membership. If the suspended member is an Officer, Delegate, Alternate Delegate, the Executive committee may, at its discretion, declare his or her position vacant.

Section 2.10-2 Expulsion All rights and privileges of a member in this Society and its property cease upon his or her termination of membership or expulsion. Any office held by such member in this Society becomes vacant.

## **Reinstatement**

Section 2.11 A member of this Society who has been dropped or expelled from membership may be reinstated, provided he or she makes application for membership in the same manner as provided in these bylaws for an original application for membership, and he or she pays any dues in arrears at the time he or she ceased to be a member, and his or her reapplication is approved by the Secretary. A member who has been suspended from membership shall automatically be reinstated at the termination of his or her suspension. However, if the suspended member was an Officer, Director, Delegate his or her position had been declared vacant, he or she shall not resume the position upon reinstated.

## **Dues**

Section 2.12 Dues Annual dues shall be due and payable by January 15th for that calendar year. If a member has not paid his or her annual dues by March 15th of that year, he or she shall be immediately notified that he or she will be dropped from membership in this Society unless payment is received by/ May

15th. The Executive committee may waive the necessity for payments of dues if it finds that unusual circumstances make that action advisable.

Section 2.12-1 The amount of the annual dues for Active, Affiliate, and Resident members shall be determined by the Executive committee after consideration of the annual budget.

Section 2.12-2 Medical Student, Honorary and Retired Members shall not be required to pay annual or special dues. However, a Medical Student Member must be a member of the ASA to receive RISA dues exemption.

Section 2.12-2 Honorary and Retired Members shall not be required to pay annual or special dues.

Section 2.12-3 Others Past Presidents of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. shall not be required to pay annual dues.

Section 2.12-4 New Members Applicants whose membership applications are accepted prior to July 1st of a year shall pay the full amount of the annual dues for their category of membership for that year. Applicants whose membership applications are accepted after July 1st shall pay fifty percent of the annual dues of their category of membership for that year.

Section 2.12 -5 Reinstated A member whose membership has lapsed by reason of non-payment of dues may be reinstated by paying the full annual dues and any dues that were arrears when his/her membership lapsed.

Section 2.12 -6 Illness When a serious illness or injury prevents a member from pursuing the practice of medicine for more than six months, fifty percent of the annual dues will be waived or refunded as may be appropriate. If such disability persists, fifty percent of the annual dues shall be waived or refunded for each additional six months period of disability.

### **ARTICLE III OFFICERS**

Section 3.01 The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. All officers shall be active members of the American Society of Anesthesiologists and this society.

#### Requirement

Section 3.02 No person shall be eligible for election as an officer of this Society unless he or she has been an active member in good standing of this Society.

#### Election

Section 3.03 Elections shall be held on even numbered years. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee to bring in a slate of officers. The proposed slate of officers shall be mailed to the membership no less than thirty days prior to the annual meeting or special session. Nominations for all Officers shall be made from the floor. The officers and delegates shall be elected by members bi-annually in the manner provided in these Bylaws. Election shall be by secret ballot unless a single candidate is nominated to an office. A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to be elected by members present at the annual meeting or special session. If on any ballot no nominee shall receive a majority, the name receiving the smallest number of votes shall be dropped, and the balloting shall proceed in that manner until a majority is obtained. Absentee ballots will be accepted from dues paying members providing they are received at the main office of the Society no less than 14 days in advance of the meeting.

#### Terms of Office

Section 3.04 The terms of office of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be from the close of the annual meeting at which they were elected until the close of the annual meeting in two years unless they were elected in an off year. The terms are meant to fall on even numbered years.

#### Limitation of Terms

Section 3.05 No member may be elected twice to serve as President of this Society.

#### Duties of Officers

Section 3.06 In addition to the rights and duties provided elsewhere in this Constitution and Bylaws or as such custom or parliamentary usage may require, the officers shall have the rights and duties respectively assigned to them in the succeeding sections of this article. The officers of this Society are charged and entrusted as follows:

Section 3.06 1 President The President shall be the duty of the President to represent the Society, administer the affairs of the Society according to the Bylaws. seek counsel with members toward the best interests of the public and this Society, to attempt to further the aims and the activities of this Society to the fullest extent; and to perform such other services as custom, necessity and parliamentary usage require. The President shall be Chairman of the Executive Committee. He or she shall appoint any committees and shall serve as an ex-officio member, may preside and officiate at all major functions of the annual meeting and shall deliver an annual address.

Section 3.06 2 Vice President The Vice President shall familiarize himself or herself with the duties of the President; issues of the Society in general; and shall be ready to counsel with the President on matters affecting the future of this Society; fill in representing the Society in the president's absence.

Section 3.06 3 Treasurer The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all monies, securities and valuable papers of this Society in such amount as the executive committee may require, pay all authorized obligations of this Society; keep a detailed account of all receipts and disbursements; make an annual report to the Society concerning the financial transactions for the preceding fiscal year; make other reports as may be requested by the Executive committee; maintain an account of all dues received or due to the Society, including bequests and donations.

Section 3.06 4 Secretary The Secretary shall serve as the official correspondent of this Society; make investigations and recommendations concerning applicants to the Society; maintain minutes of executive committee and annual meeting minutes; Maintain a current roster of all members and officers of this Society by category of membership; report changes in the roster as requested by the ASA; shall perform such other duties as are placed by these Bylaws and by the Bylaws of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.; forward to the executive office of the ASA a list of all authorized delegates and alternate delegates representing this society within two months of the ASA annual meeting; annually forward a copy of the bylaws to the ASA by January 15th.

#### Vacancies

Section 3.07 If for any reason an officer becomes unable or unwilling to perform the functions of his or her office, or moves from the jurisdiction of the constituent area which elected him or her to office, such office shall be declared vacant by the President. Vacancies in office shall be filled in the following manner:

Section 3.07 1 President Vice President shall immediately assume office.

Section 3.07 2 Vice President This shall be filled by the Treasurer who will serve to finish this term and the term for which he or she was elected.

Section 3.07-3 Secretary           The Secretary shall maintain assumption of these duties. During the next annual meeting members shall vote to appoint a new secretary.

### **Impeachment**

Section 3.08 Any Officer, Delegate or other official of this Society may be impeached and removed from office upon the recommendation of the Executive committee and subsequent confirmation by a two-thirds two thirds majority in attendance at an annual meeting or special session called by the executive committee.

Section 3.08-1 Charges and Hearing           All charges of impeachment shall be directed to the Executive committee, shall be made in writing, and shall be signed by at least ten Active members who thereby agree to substantiate with means of proof. If the Executive committee, after a diligent and careful investigation, finds just and sufficient cause for removal of a particular Officer or Delegate, it shall present its findings and recommendations at an annual meeting or special session and shall give the accused written notice of its findings and recommendations at least fifteen days prior to that that meeting. The members of the in attendance shall then permit the accused to present evidence and witnesses in his or her behalf, and thereafter shall take final action.

## **ARTICLE IV DIRECTOR AND ALTERNATE DIRECTOR TO THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS, INC.**

### **Eligibility**

Section 4.01 The Director and Alternate Director to The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., Executive committee shall be active members of this Society in good standing for at least five years immediately prior to their election.

### **Election**

Section 4.02 The Director and Alternate Director to The American Society of Anesthesiologists Inc., shall be elected in accordance with the Bylaws of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.

### **Terms of Office**

Section 4.03 The terms of office of the Director and Alternate Director to The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., shall be for three years and shall commence at the close of the Meeting of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. House of Delegates following their election.

### **Powers and Duties**

Section 4.04 The Director shall serve on the Board of Directors of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., as a representative of this Society and shall report to this Society the actions taken and the recommendations made by the Board of Directors of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.

### **Vacancies**

Section 4.05 Director           When a vacancy occurs in the office of the Director to The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., the Alternate Director shall immediately assume the office for the remainder of the term.

Section 4.05-1 Alternate Director           When a vacancy occurs in the office of the Alternate Director to The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., the Executive committee shall, by election, at their next

meeting, fill the vacancy until the next Meeting of The Rhode Island Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., at which time a successor shall be elected for the remainder of the term.

**ARTICLE V  
DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE DELEGATES  
TO THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS, INC.**

**Eligibility**

Section 5.01 The Delegates and Alternate Delegates to The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.. from The Rhode Island Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., shall have been voting members of this Society in good standing for at least five years immediately prior to their election.

**Allocation**

Section 5.02 The number of Delegates and Alternate Delegates elected by this Society to The American Society of Anesthesiologists. Inc., shall be established in the manner provided by the Bylaws of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.

**Election**

Section 5.03 The president shall solicit members who are interested in these positions and present them for a vote at the annual meeting.

**Terms of Office**

Section 5.04 Delegates shall serve for three years and Alternate Delegates shall serve for one year. Their terms of office shall commence at the end of The Rhode Island Society of Anesthesiologists annual meeting.

**Duties**

Section 5.05 Delegates from this Society are charged with the responsibility of attending each meeting of the House of Delegates of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., and all related meetings of the New England Caucus, or of otherwise making certain that this Society is represented therein. A Delegate who fails in this responsibility either by not attending without sufficient cause or who fails to notify his or her Alternate or the Secretary of the Society of his or her possible or impending absence in reasonable time shall immediately forfeit the right to hold this office nor be eligible for election during the ensuing five years.

Delegates and Alternates shall, whenever possible, counsel with the Executive committee of this Society on all matters pending in the House of Delegates of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., in the interest of making certain that the action taken therein is in accord with the desires of this Society.

**Alternates**

Section 5.06 In the event a Delegate is unable to attend a meeting or session of the House of Delegates of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., any elected alternate officer shall be eligible to serve in his or her place during that meeting, as provided in the Bylaws of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.

**Vacancies**

Section 5.07 When a vacancy occurs in the office of Delegate to The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., the President of The Rhode Island Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., shall fill the



vacancy with the Alternate Delegate until the next Meeting, at which time a successor shall be elected for the un expired term.

## **ARTICLE VI ANNUAL MEETING AND SPECIAL SESSIONS**

### **Annual Meeting**

Section 6.01 This Society shall hold an Annual Meeting at such time and place as has been determined by the Executive committee. In the event of change, due notice shall be forwarded to the membership as early as possible, and not less than 30 days before the new date selected.

### **Registration**

Section 6.02 Every member attending an Annual Meeting shall have his or her name officially registered, when his or her right to membership has been verified.

### **Programs**

Section 6.03 The progress of scientific programs at the Meeting shall be presented by the educational committee at the next annual meeting.

### **Resolutions**

Section 6.04 All resolutions and similar official actions issued to public or to other organizations in the name of this Society shall first be approved by the House of Delegates or the Executive committee.

### **Special Sessions**

Section 6.05 Special Sessions of the membership of this Society may be called by the President upon approval by the Executive committee. Special Sessions shall be held at the time and place fixed by the Executive committee. Notice of Special Sessions and the subject or subjects to be presented shall be forwarded to each member of the Society at least fourteen days in advance of the date established for the meeting. A summary of the proceedings shall be recorded by the secretary, distributed at the next meeting or forwarded to members at the president's discretion.

## **ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES**

### **Composition**

Section 7.01 The executive committee shall be the only standing committee consisting of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Immediate Past President, ASA Director or Alternate Director, Delegate and Alternate Delegate to the ASA. The President shall serve as Chairman of the executive committee and shall decide upon the time, place and frequency of meetings excluding the annual meeting.

Section 7.02 Any committees or chairmen of committees of this Society shall be composed of members of this Society appointed by the President except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

### **Terms of Office**

Section 7.03 The terms of office of the Chairs and members of Committees shall be for the term for which the President appointing them was elected. If a vacancy develops in the position of committee chair or

committee member or if the President determines that a committee chair or committee member is incapable of performing that person's duties, that position shall be filled or that person replaced by the President directly or until such time as the President shall determine that said person is again able to assume all their duties and responsibilities.

### **Reports**

Section 7.04 Each presidential appointed committee shall submit a written report to the Secretary not later than 30 days before each annual meeting, and shall submit such other reports as the Executive committee may require.

Section 7.05 Expenditures for committees shall be approved by the executive committee.

### **Committee may Consist of the Following**

Section 7.06 bylaws, judicial, practice management, peer review, public relations and education, nominating, mental impairment and substance abuse, special ad hoc committees.

## **ARTICLE VIII INDEMNIFICATION**

### **Purpose**

Section 8.01. It is the intention of The Rhode Island Society of Anesthesiologists to minimize for members of the Executive committee, Officers, and Executive Director of the Corporation any financial risks which may arise from litigation associated with their actions on behalf of the Society. Accordingly, the Society seeks to provide for such persons the fullest protection available under the laws of Rhode Island.

### **Persons Covered**

Section 8.02 Indemnification as set forth herein shall apply to all members of the Executive committee, all Officers, delegates and alternate delegates.

### **Expenses Covered**

Section 8.03 Indemnification shall consist of reimbursement or payment by the Society of all judgments, fines, amounts paid in settlement, as well as all reasonable expenses and attorney's fees actually and necessarily incurred as a result of the action, proceeding or any appeal therein.

### **Claims Covered**

Section 8.04 Indemnification as set forth herein shall apply to all actual or threatened actions and proceedings of a civil or criminal nature, arising from such officer's acts or omissions for or on behalf of the Society. In order to be indemnified, such person must have acted in good faith for a purpose reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the Society. Additionally, in criminal cases, such person must have no reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was unlawful.

## **ARTICLE IX DISCIPLINE**

### **Medical Ethics**

Section 9.01 The Principles of Medical Ethics of the American Medical Association or of this Society or by The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., as the same may be amended from time to time, or of any

bylaw, rule, regulation or resolution of this Society or of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., shall be binding upon the membership of this Society. In the event of any contradiction among these various principles, those of this Society shall take precedence and then those of The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., shall take next precedence.

### **Judicial Review**

Section 9.02 Specific complaints and charges of unethical conduct or conflict of interest on the part of any member shall be referred to the Executive Committee. A specific complaint shall consist of a written and, signed accusation naming the accused and including the particulars of the breach of ethics involved. Such complaints may be made by any member, by the general public, by the President in the name of the Society.

Section 9.02-1 Investigation The Executive Committee shall examine and investigate the member's professional conduct. If a majority of the members of the Committee shall determine that there is substantial basis for charge of professional misconduct and that the charge, if sustained, would constitute a cause for disciplinary action under these Bylaws, then shall direct the member to appear before it at a hearing.

Section 9.02-2 Notice of Charge At least fifteen days before the date of said hearing, Executive Committee shall give the member written notice of the charges made against him or her and of the time and place of the hearing with respect thereto, by mailing said notice to the member by registered mail to his or her last address as it appears on the records of the Society.

Section 9.02-3 Hearing At the hearing, the member and the Executive Committee may be represented by legal counsel and may call and cross-examine witnesses and produce evidence pertaining to the charges. The Executive Committee, by letter signed by its Chair or by two (2) of its members, may, upon not less than ten days' notice, direct any member of the Society to appear before it at a hearing to give evidence with respect to the charges. Failure of a member to respond to such summons without satisfactory excuse shall be cause for discipline under these Bylaws. All witnesses, including the accused if he or she shall testify, shall be duly sworn before a notary public or other officer duly authorized to administer oaths in the county in which the hearing is held.

The Executive Committee is authorized in its discretion to reimburse witnesses who are not members of this Society for expenses actually incurred in attending the hearing. All evidence or information given to or before the Committee shall be privileged. The proceedings at each hearing shall be stenographically reported and upon payment of the cost hereof, the accused shall be entitled to a copy of such report.

Section 9.02-4 Degree of Discipline There shall be three degrees of discipline: (1) censure; (2) suspension from the rights and privileges of membership; (3) expulsion from membership. The imposition of discipline may also be suspended upon such terms and conditions as may be specified.

Section 9.02-5 Findings After the conclusion of the hearing, the Executive Committee shall make its findings of fact concerning the charges. A finding by the executive Committee that the member has not violated any principle, policy, or any matter referred to in Section 9.01. of this Article shall be final and conclusive. If the Executive Committee shall find such a violation, it shall submit its findings in writing, together with its recommendations concerning the discipline, if any, to be imposed upon the member, and a copy of the stenographic report of the proceedings held before it in the matter.

Section 9.02-5 Notification The Executive Committee shall in every case serve upon the member a copy of its findings of fact and recommendations, if any, by mailing said copy to the member by registered mail to his or last address as it appears on the records of the Society

## **ARTICLE X REFERENDUM**

### **Initiation**

Section 10.01 The Executive Committee may by a two-thirds vote of the member's present order a general referendum on any question pending before the Society.

### **Voting Procedure**

Section 10.02 The question shall then be submitted to the voting members of this Society who may vote by mail. A valid referendum shall require a vote by at least one-third of the members eligible to vote, and a majority vote of the members voting shall determine the question.

## **ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS**

### **Method**

Section 11.01 These Bylaws may be amended at a Meeting or at a Special Session called for that purpose as follows:

Section 11.01-1 Introduction. Proposed amendments may be introduced by any voting member of the Society. The president may appoint an ad hoc bylaws committee to review the bylaws. The Secretary shall serve as Chairman of the appointed bylaws committee. The proposed changes shall be communicated to each member at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting or special session.

Section 11.01-2 Vote. A two-thirds majority vote of those present is necessary to amend these Bylaws.

Section 11.01-3 If a proposed alteration is challenged, members may overrule the challenge by a two thirds majority of those present and voting.

The Constitution of the Rhode Island Society of Anesthesiologists was adopted at a meeting of the Society on April 25, 1948 and amended April 24, 1960, December 9, 1974, May 1979 and January 8, 1991, February 3, 2000, November 8, 2007, February 10, 2009, and January 19, 2015.

**RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS  
BYLAWS CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY**

I, **Trevor S. Sutton, MD**, President of the Rhode Island Society of Anesthesiologists certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the current bylaws followed by the Society and last amended on February 3, 2000.

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PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE

## Policies

**Reimbursement policy for meetings:** \$1,200 for executive committee members traveling to Washington for ASA Legislative Day, and for the Director traveling to the ASA annual meeting and for the Alternate Director to attend Directors meetings. If no executive committee members are able to attend ASA Legislative Day, the committee may allow reimbursement to a non-executive committee member traveling on behalf of the society to Washington, DC. (*Rhode Island Society of Anesthesiologists, Annual Meeting, February 7, 2006*)

The Committee approved setting the limit of reimbursable attendees to the ASA Legislative Conference to five (5) with the initial offer being extended to RISA Executive Committee members and then to members if Committee members are unable to attend. The reimbursement cap remains \$1,200. (*RI Society of Anesthesiologists Executive Committee Meeting, June 16, 2010*)