

Addressing Regional Councillor Vacancies on the OPTN/UNOS Board of Directors

Sponsoring Committee:	Executive Committee
Policy/Bylaws Affected: Councillor)	Article 2.3 (Terms), Article 2.4.A (Regional
Public Comment:	No
Effective Date:	July 1, 2016

Problem Statement

Current OPTN Bylaws prohibit regional councillors from serving successive terms, which impairs filling these vacancies with qualified individuals with the support of their respective regions. Historically, vacancies have been created by a regional councillor's resignation, death, or relocation outside of the region they represent. There have recently been a couple of councillor relocations, creating an urgent need to address this issue at the June 2016 Board meeting.

Summary of Changes

These approved changes to the Bylaws will allow the Board to appoint a regional councillor to serve for up to one year before or after their term as councillor to fill a vacancy in their respective region.

What Members Need to Do

The change does not require anything new of members.

Affected Policy/Bylaw Language:

New language is underlined and language that will be deleted is ~~struck through~~.

Article II: Board of Directors

2.3 Terms

Directors will serve for a term of two years, with exceptions as noted below. Terms begin on July 1 following the election of the Board of Directors.

These Directors serve three-year terms:

- Transplant candidates.
- Transplant recipients.
- Organ donors.
- Family members of transplant candidates, recipients or organ donors.
- Representatives of voluntary health organizations.

- Representatives of the general public.

The Board of Directors may vote to extend the term of any of these Directors and regional councillors for one year. A Director's term may not be extended more than two times.

The treasurer, secretary and the vice president of patient and donor affairs serve two-year terms. All other officers serve one-year terms.

2.4 Regional Representatives

There are 11 identified OPTN geographic regions in the United States. For more information about the OPTN regions, see Article IX: Regions of these Bylaws. Each OPTN region elects a councillor and associate councillor through a vote of its members with voting privileges.

A. Regional Councillor

The councillor serves as the region's representative on the Board of Directors. Each region determines the guidelines for ~~the~~ electing councillors. The councillor from each region is responsible, along with the president and the Executive Director, for coordinating regional activities to transact the business of the OPTN.

Regional councillors are included on the national ballot of candidates for Board of Directors. Members then elect the regional councillors at the annual meeting to serve for two-year terms that begin July 1 following the election. Councillors cannot serve consecutive terms as councillors, except that councillors may be appointed by the Board of Directors to serve for up to one year before or after their term as councillor to fill a vacancy in their respective region.

A councillor may be removed from the Board of Directors for any reason by majority vote of the region's members, member electors, and individuals with voting privileges. The majority vote must be supported by signed ballots presented to the president or the Board of Directors.