CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE MONTANA DENTAL ASSOCIATION

APPROVED MAY 5, 2016

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - NAME
Section 1 - This organization shall be known as the "Montana Dental Association."
Section 2 - This organization is a constituent of the American Dental Association, having declared its allegiance to said American Dental Association, and having agreed to the formation and perpetuation of its House of Delegates.

ARTICLE II - MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of the Montana Dental Association is to represent the interests of the members of the dental profession and promote the art and science of dentistry to improve the health of Montanans.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP
The membership of this association shall consist of dentists and other persons whose qualifications and classifications are as established in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV - COMPONENT SOCIETIES
The State of Montana shall be divided into component dental societies as described in the Bylaws. Each component dental society of this Association shall determine the eligibility of dentists within its jurisdiction for membership in this Association and the American Dental Association.

ARTICLE V - GOVERNANCE
Section 1 – LEGISLATIVE – The legislative body of this association shall be the General Assembly of Members which shall meet once a year at the Annual Meeting of the Association.
Section 2 – ADMINISTRATIVE – The administration and management of the Association shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee as described in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS
The officers of this Association shall be a President, a President Elect, a Vice-President, a Secretary-Treasurer, and Immediate Past President. The Officers shall be elected by the General Assembly at the Annual Meeting of the Association. The terms and duties of Officers shall be as described in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII – DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE DELEGATES TO THE AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION
The number of Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the American Dental Association is determined by the ADA House of Delegates and the Bylaws of the ADA. The duties, terms, and selection of Delegates and Alternates shall be as described in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES
Committees, Councils, and Task Forces may be formed to assist with the management of the Association. Standing Committees and Councils are described in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS
Section 1 – Motions to amend this Constitution shall be considered by the General Assembly at the Annual meeting. All motions to amend this Constitution shall be submitted to the membership in writing at least thirty (30) days before the Annual Meeting.
Section 3 – A two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote of those present shall be necessary to adopt; such amendments may be adopted at the session when so offered.

ARTICLE X - ENACTMENT
The Constitution shall take effect and be in force from and after passage, and all constitutions previously in force are hereby revoked.
ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP
Section 1 – All applications for membership shall be acted upon by the governing body of the component dental society. Upon election to membership in a component dental society by its governing body such member shall automatically become a member of this Association and the American Dental Association and shall maintain membership in good standing upon payment of dues and assessments, if any, for membership in each association as determined by the respective governing bodies.

Section 2 - Members of this Association shall be classified as Active, Retired, Service, Honorary, Life, Student, or Associate Dentist.

a) ACTIVE MEMBERS shall consist of reputable dentists who are legally and ethically practicing their profession in the State of Montana and who have been elected to membership by and are good standing in a component dental society. Members elected to active membership in this Association for the first time or reinstated after a lapse in membership of a minimum period of one year and who are elected after July 1 shall pay one-half (1/2) the current annual dues; and who are elected after October 1 shall pay one quarter (1/4) of the current annual dues. Those individuals who have recently graduated from dental school shall be considered NEW GRADUATE MEMBERS of the Association and shall not be required to remit dues to this Association for the balance of the year of their graduation. During subsequent years their dues shall be reduced by the same percentage as provided in current ADA policy. All dues for active membership shall become payable January 1. An active member whose dues have not been paid by March 31 of the current year shall cease to be a member of the Association. These members shall be notified by registered or certified mail by the Executive Director of the Montana Dental Association apprising them of their loss of membership and the requirements for reinstatement as provided in Section 7 below.

b) RETIRED MEMBERS shall consist of those dentists (1) who through illness or disability are unable to engage in the active practice of dentistry; (2) who have retired from the active practice of dentistry; or (3) who no longer earn income from the performance of service as a member of the faculty of a dental school, as a dental administrator or consultant, or as a practitioner of any activity for which a license to practice dentistry is required by the state, U.S. government, or U.S. government dependency, provided such retired members were active members in good standing at the time of their retirement or discontinuance of practice. A member may be classified as retired upon application to the executive director and upon proof of qualification. To qualify for retired status, the active member shall submit a fully verified American Dental Association affidavit for retired membership. Maintenance of retired membership in good standing in the member's component society and the Montana Dental Association shall entitle the retired member to all of the privileges of an active member. Retired members shall not be required to remit the annual dues for membership in this Association.

c) SERVICE MEMBERS shall be those active members of this Association who have been inducted into active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. The dues of members of this Association called to active duty shall be waived. The regular membership dues shall again become payable January 1 following their return from active duty.

d) HONORARY MEMBERS shall consist of persons who have made some valuable contribution to the science or art of dentistry or have rendered important services to the profession. Honorary members shall not be required to remit the usual dues for membership of this Association.

e) LIFE MEMBERS - A member in good standing who has been an active and/or retired member in good standing for thirty (30) consecutive years or a total of forty (40) years of active membership, having attained the age of sixty-five (65) years shall be automatically notified as to eligibility as a life member in the Montana Dental Association. Such applicant must be a member in good standing at the time of their retirement or discontinuance of practice as a member of the faculty of a dental school, as a dental administrator or consultant, or as a practitioner of any activity for which a license to practice dentistry is required by the state, U.S. government, or U.S. government dependency, provided such retired members were active members in good standing at the time of their retirement or discontinuance of practice. A member may be classified as retired upon application to the executive director and upon proof of qualification. To qualify for retired status, the active member shall submit a fully verified American Dental Association affidavit for retired membership. Maintenance of retired membership in good standing in the member's component society and the Montana Dental Association shall entitle the retired member to all of the privileges of an active member. Retired members shall not be required to remit the annual dues for membership in this Association.

f) STUDENT MEMBERS - (1) A student enrolled at a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a member in good standing with the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) may become a member of the Montana Dental Association upon application and payment of dues. (2) A dentist may also be classified as a student member if engaged full time in an advance training course or a residency provided that the advanced training course or residency is at least one academic year's duration in a specialty area recognized by the American Dental Association and accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. A dentist engaged full time in an advanced training course in the field of dentistry of not less than one academic year's duration in an accredited school or residency program in a discipline neither recognized by the American Dental Association nor accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation may apply for membership as a student member and the Board of Directors will determine whether to admit the dentist as a student member. (3) A dentist who was an active member but subsequently becomes a
student member shall be entitled to have the year or years of such subsequent membership counted as active membership for the sole purpose of establishing possible later eligibility for life membership. Student members of the Montana Dental Association shall remit $5 annual dues for membership in the Montana Dental Association. In addition, ASDA dues must have been paid so that the individual is a member in good standing with the ASDA. A dentist who accepts classification as a student member will again commence payment of dues for active membership upon completion of such program at the next period-in-time levied for dues payment.

g) ASSOCIATE DENTIST MEMBERS - Associate dentist members shall be those dentists who are legally and ethically practicing their profession outside the State of Montana and are members in good standing of the American Dental Association and the appropriate component and constituent societies of a U.S. state other than the component and constituent societies in Montana. Associate Dentist Members shall be required to remit only one quarter (1/4) of the annual active member dues which shall not include any assessments required of active members. Associate dentist members are not eligible to vote on the levying of assessments or hold office.

Section 3 - CODE OF ETHICS and PEER REVIEW
a) The Principles of Ethics of the American Dental Association shall constitute the Code of Ethics of this Association to govern the conduct of its members. 
b) It shall be obligatory for a member of this Association to appear before the Peer Review Committees when summoned to do so, and to file a report in answer to a complaint when requested. 
c) Decisions shall be binding upon members and failure to comply with their directives shall be considered a violation of these bylaws, subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Section 4 – SUSPENSION - Any member may be suspended by the Board of Directors. Suspension shall require a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 5 – EXPULSION
a) The Board of Directors may expel, upon petition by the governing body of the component dental society concerned, any member of this Association for good and sufficient cause. A three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the Board of Directors shall be necessary for expulsion. Any member of this Association who has been expelled for cause maybe reinstated upon a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the Board of Directors provided his/her reinstatement is recommended to the Board of Directors by the governing body of the component dental society in which such member resides and/or practices. 
b) All complaints must be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer at least thirty days (30) days prior to the meeting at which such complaint is to be considered. The Secretary-Treasurer inform in writing the person so accused so that he/she may make a defense if he/she so desires.

Section 6 - LOSS OF RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES – No Licensed dentist who is under sentence of suspension or expulsion from this Association or who is delinquent shall be entitled to any of the rights and privileges of membership in the Association, nor shall be permitted to participate in any of its proceedings until by proper procedure his/her privileges have been restored.

Section 7 - REINSTATEMENT
a) Any licensed dentist who has forfeited membership because of nonpayment of dues shall be eligible for reinstatement upon filing a new application for membership with the secretary of the component dental society and may be reinstated as a member of this Association and the American Dental Association upon election to membership by the governing body of the component dental society in which the applicant resides and/or practices and upon payment of dues and assessments, if any for the current year. 
b) Any licensed dentist suspended by the Board of Directors may be reinstated by a three-quarter (3/4) majority vote of the Board of Directors provided his/her reinstatement is recommended to the Board of Directors by the governing body of the component dental society in which such member resides and/or practices.

Section 8 - RESIGNATION – Any member not financially in arrears and in good standing may, upon written application to the Secretary-Treasurer, resign his/her membership in this Association.

Section 9 - PRINCIPLES OF JUDICIAL PROCEDURE - The Principles of Judicial Procedure of the Montana Dental Association including disciplinary penalties, disciplinary proceedings appeals and noncompliance shall follow and comply with those of the American Dental Association.

ARTICLE II COMPONENT SOCIETIES
Section 1 - The State of Montana shall be divided into component dental societies as follows:

No. 1 - Lincoln and Flathead Counties and the northern portion of Lake County in which is located the City of Polson. This district shall also include Glacier National Park.

No. 2 - Sanders, Mineral, Ravalli and Missoula Counties, the northern portion of Powell County, and the southern portion of Lake County in which is located the City of Ronan.

No. 3 - Silver Bow, Jefferson, Beaverhead, Madison, Granite, Deer Lodge Counties and the southern portion of Powell County In which is located the City of Deer Lodge.
No. 4 - Glacier, Toole, Pondera, Teton, Choteau and Cascade Counties
No. 5 - Lewis & Clark, Meagher and Broadwater Counties
No. 6 - Gallatin, Park and Sweet Grass Counties
No. 7 - Blaine, Hill, Liberty and Phillips Counties
No. 8 - Judith Basin, Fergus, Petroleum, Wheatland and Golden Valley Counties
No. 9 - Stillwater, Carbon, Musselshell, Yellowstone and Big Horn Counties
No. 10 - Garfield, McCone, Richland, Treasure, Rosebud, Custer, Prairie, Dawson, Wibaux, Fallon, Powder River, Carter, Valley, Daniels, Sheridan and Roosevelt Counties

Section 2 - The April meeting of each component dental society shall be the annual meeting of that society at which time the officers shall be elected, to be installed the following May. The secretary of each component dental society shall immediately report to the Central Office of the Association the results of the election.

Section 3 - A dentist is eligible for membership in an adjacent component dental society, if approved by the new component society.

ARTICLE III BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1 - The administration and management of this Association shall be vested in a Board of Directors and all other duties not otherwise provided for shall be performed by it.

Section 2 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS AND TERMS - Members of the Board of Directors include:

a) One representative from each component dental society who shall serve for a term of three years. A representative from a Component is not eligible for election for more than two consecutive terms.

b) One representative who graduated from dental school within three years prior to application for appointment to the Board and who is selected by the remaining members of the Board to serve for a term of one year. To the extent practicable this director shall be rotated among the component dental societies. A representative is not eligible for election for more than two consecutive terms.

c) The Officers and Delegates-at-large shall serve as advisory members of the Board of Directors without the right to vote.

d) The President shall be the Chairperson of the Board of Directors

e) The Secretary-Treasurer shall be the Secretary to the Board of Directors.

Section 3 – DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

a) The Board of Directors shall bring before this Association, in General Assembly, nominations for the offices of President, President Elect, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer. Active members of this Association may make further nominations from the floor of the General Assembly after the nominations of the Board of Directors have been placed.

b) The Board of Directors shall determine the time and place of each annual meeting.

c) The Board of Directors shall be the final Court of Appeals.

d) The Board of Directors shall review and approve the annual budget of this Association.

e) The Board of Directors shall authorize and approve payment of all claims against this Association not included in the annual budget.

f) The Board of Directors shall meet at least twice each year and shall determine the time and place of its sessions.

g) The Board of Directors shall have the power and duty to select the mode of management and the personnel required to operate the Central Office.

h) The Board of Directors, in conjunction with the Executive Committee shall have the responsibility to establish goals, objectives, and policies for the Association.

Section 4 - SPECIAL MEETINGS - Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President, or upon the request of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, provided that adequate notice be given to all members of the Board of Directors.

Section 5 – PROXIES AND ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES - No member of the Board of Directors shall be represented by proxy. If a member of the Board of Directors is unable to attend a regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, the component dental society concerned may appoint one of its members to serve as its representative at such meeting, and the secretary of the component dental society concerned or the member of the Board shall notify the Executive Director of this Association of the name of the alternate representative. If the duly elected representative of any component dental society on the Board of Directors or his/her authorized alternate be absent, that component dental society shall have no representation upon the Board of Directors at such meeting.

Section 6 – QUORUM – A majority of members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the Board of Directors

ARTICLE IV - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1 - The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and the Immediate Past President.

Section 2 – Delegates to the ADA shall serve as advisory members of the Executive Committee without the right to
vote.
Section 3 – The President shall serve as chairperson of the committee.

Section 4 – DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
a) The Executive Committee shall act in the capacity of the Board of Directors when that body is not in session, except as otherwise provided.
b) The Executive Committee shall appoint all Standing Committees.
c) The Executive Committee shall meet prior to the ADA Eleventh District Caucus meeting.
d) The Executive Committee shall review the management of the Central Office.
e) The Executive Committee shall review the budget for each calendar year.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS
Section 1 – The officers of this association shall be as defined in the Constitution.
Section 2 - No officer shall have the right to vote at the meetings of the Board of Directors
Section 3 – Qualifications
a) Candidates for these offices must be members who have served a full three year term as director, or who by their efforts on behalf of the Association over a like period of time have demonstrated beyond question their ability to act as an officer.
b) Candidates for these offices shall have been an active member of this Association in the private practice of dentistry in Montana for at least five years preceding his/her nomination.
c) An officer must be domiciled in and maintain the officer's primary residence within the state of Montana during the officer's term in office.

Section 4 – Terms
a) The term of office for all officers except the Secretary-Treasurer shall be one year.
b) The term of office for the Secretary-Treasurer shall be three years.

Section 5 – Duties of the Officers – It is the general duty of all officers to attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. Specific duties to each office are as follows:
a) PRESIDENT
   1) The President shall preside at all meetings of this Association and of the Board of Directors and shall serve as Chairperson of the Executive Committee.
   2) The President, in conjunction with the Secretary, shall certify all official acts of this Association.
   3) The President, in consort with other members of the Executive Committee, shall appoint all special committees, and shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office.
   4) The President shall serve as an Alternate Delegate to the ADA House of Delegates.
b) PRESIDENT-ELECT
   1) In the absence of the President, the President-Elect shall preside and shall assume all duties and responsibilities of the President.
   2) The President-Elect shall supervise and coordinate the activities of all councils and committees of the Association.
   3) The President-Elect shall serve as Secretary to the Delegation during the annual ADA House of Delegates.
c) VICE PRESIDENT
   1) The vice-president shall serve as an assistant to the President and President Elect.,
   2) The Vice-President shall assist in the organization of component dental societies within the State and shall act as a liaison between this Association and the component dental societies.
   3) The Vice President may visit annually each component dental society upon request and shall be reimbursed for his/her expenses by the component dental society.
   4) The Vice President shall be the parliamentarian of this Association.
d) SECRETARY-TREASURER
   1) The Secretary-Treasurer shall be the chair or vice chair of the Financial Oversight Committee.
   2) In consultation with the President, the President-Elect and the Executive Director, the Secretary–Treasurer shall prepare and propose the annual budget for consideration by the Board of Directors.
   3) The Secretary-Treasurer will present a detailed financial report to the Board of Directors at each meeting, to the membership at the annual meeting, and when called upon by the President.
   4) The Secretary-Treasurer shall have access to all records, financial statements, audits, account statements and other information of the Association as needed to fulfill the responsibilities of the office.
   5) The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as the Secretary of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and the General Assembly.
   6) The Secretary-Treasurer, in conjunction with the President, shall certify all official acts of this association.
e) IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT - The immediate past president shall assist the President and other officers
in the performance of their duties.

Section 6 – Nomination and Election of Officers
a) Nominations for the offices of President, President-Elect, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer shall be made by the Board of Directors in the General Assembly at the Annual Meeting.
b) Active members of this Association may make further nominations from the floor of the General Assembly after the nominations of the Board of Directors have been placed.
c) The President shall automatically assume the office of Immediate Past President at the end of his or her term as President.
d) Officers of this Association shall be elected in the order named in the Constitution.
e) Election of officers of this Association shall be on the floor of the General Assembly in the annual session meeting.
f) Voting shall be by ballot unless otherwise provided.

ARTICLE VI – DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE DELEGATES TO THE AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION
Section 1 – The number of Delegates and Alternates is determined by the Bylaws of the ADA.
Section 2 – DELEGATES
a) Delegates shall be elected to a three year term, and the terms of the Delegates shall be staggered.
b) The terms of the Delegates may be adjusted by the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors so that those terms are staggered.
c) Nominations for the position of Delegate shall be made by the Board of Directors in the General Assembly at the Annual Meeting.
d) Active members of this Association may make further nominations from the floor of the General Assembly after the nominations of the Board of Directors have been placed.

Section 3 – ALTERNATE DELEGATES
a) Alternate Delegates shall be elected to a one year term.
b) One of the Alternate Delegate positions shall be filled by the President.
c) Nominations for the remaining position/s of Alternate Delegate shall be made by the President from members of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, or membership at large, in that order.
d) Active members of this Association may make further nominations from the floor of the General Assembly after the nominations of the President have been placed.

Section 4 – DUTIES
a) It shall be the duty of Delegates and Alternate Delegates to attend all meetings of the 11th District Caucus, and of the House of Delegates of the American Dental Association.
b) Delegates shall serve as a liaison between the ADA and the MDA Board of directors, and are expected to attend all MDA Board meetings.

Section 5 – ELECTION - Delegates and Alternate Delegates shall be elected on the floor of the General Assembly at the Annual Meeting. Voting shall be by ballot unless otherwise provided.

Section 6 – CREDENTIALS - The President and the Secretary-Treasurer shall issue credentials to the elected Delegates. If the Delegates find it impossible to attend the meeting of the House of Delegates of the American Dental Association, the President and the Secretary-Treasurer shall issue credentials to Alternate Delegates. All such credentials shall be signed by the Secretary-Treasurer and shall bear the imprint of the Official Seal of this Association.

ARTICLE VII - STANDING COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS
Section 1 – General Provisions – The following general provisions apply to all committees and councils unless specifically stated elsewhere in these bylaws.
a) All Standing Committees and Councils shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.
b) The term for committee members shall be three (3) years.
c) All committees shall be rotating committees with staggered terms for members.
d) The chairperson of each committee or council shall be elected by the other members of the committee or council.
e) The chair of each standing committee and council shall ensure that written minutes of each committee and council meeting are recorded and preserved in the association’s files.
f) The specific provisions and duties of standing committees of the Association shall be as listed below, but these Bylaws shall not preclude the possibility of other duties as assigned by the Executive Committee or Board of Directors.

Section 2 – ETHICS AND PEER REVIEW COMMITTEE
a) The Ethics and Peer Review Committee shall consist of six (6) members.
b) The Secretary/Treasurer of this Association shall serve as an additional advisory member without the right to vote.
c) Ethics: The Committee shall receive all complaints of infractions of the Code of Ethics and make a diligent canvass of such complaints and any other irregularities of practice, and report the findings and recommendations to the Board of Directors for final action.

d) Peer Review: The Committee shall act upon requests by patients, dentists, or third party carriers on matters within their function and scope concerning, but not limited to, fees, utilization and quality of care. It shall be obligatory for a member of this Association to appear before the Peer Review Committees when summoned to do so, and to file a report in answer to a complaint when requested. Decisions shall be binding upon members and failure to comply with their directives shall be considered a violation of these bylaws, subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Section 3 - GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

a) The Government Affairs Committee shall consist of the president, president-elect, vice president, and immediate past president, the chair of MoDePAC, and three (3) at-large members selected for rotating three-year terms.

b) The Government Affairs Committee shall study and develop recommendations on legislation and policy of state and national governments related to dentistry.

c) It shall be the responsibility of this Committee to bring legislative issues before the Board of Directors for policy decisions.

d) The committee shall actively lobby and organize the membership to effectively support the positions of the MDA before government legislatures and agencies.

e) This Committee shall report annually to the General Assembly of this Association any work accomplished and any legislative measures it deems of benefit to the people of the State of Montana and to this Association.

Section 4 - DENTAL BENEFITS COMMITTEE

a) The Dental Benefits Committee shall consist of five (5) members.

b) The President-Elect of this Association shall serve as an additional advisory member without the right to vote.

c) The duties of the Dental Benefits Committee shall be to formulate and recommend policies relating to the planning, administration and financing of dental benefits; to study evaluate and disseminate information on the planning, administration and financing of these programs; and to assist the component societies and other agencies of said programs.

Section 5 - CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

a) The Continuing Education Committee shall consist of five (5) members.

b) The Vice President of this Association shall serve as an additional advisory member without the right to vote.

c) The Continuing Education Committee shall encourage further scientific study among the members of the Association. It shall develop and revise, as needed, guidelines for the performance of its duties. It shall organize and arrange scientific educational programs for the members statewide, and shall be available, on request, to help with such organization and arrangement at the component level and for the Montana Dental Association meetings. It shall monitor the affiliation with the ADA Continuing Education Registry. It shall monitor establishment of any continuing dental education approval or credentialing program. It shall monitor the quality of proposed programs and lectures. It shall work with appropriate committees to promote and insure quality control for dental services in Montana.

Section 6 - CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE

a) The Constitution & Bylaws and Nominating Committee shall consist of the three (3) Immediate Past Presidents of this Association.

b) The first Immediate Past President shall serve as chairperson of this committee.

c) The Constitution & Bylaws and Nominating Committee shall propose such amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of this Association, as it deems necessary and desirable. It shall submit its recommendations for the revision of these instruments to the Board of Directors for consideration after which they shall be submitted to the General Assembly for adoption.

d) It shall be the duty of this Committee to present to the Board of Directors at its meeting immediately preceding the Annual Session, a nominee or nominees for each of the elective offices of the Association and for the positions for Delegates to the American Dental Association.

e) After consideration by the Directors, these nominees, or others of the Directors' selection, shall be referred to the General Assembly at the Annual Meeting for election.

Section 7 - INSURANCE COMMITTEE

a) The Insurance Committee shall consist of five (5) members.

b) The Vice-President of this Association shall serve as an additional advisory member without the right to vote.

c) The Insurance Committee shall study all proposals that this Association sponsor any plan of group life, health and accident or similar insurance program for the membership upon such proposals to the Board of Directors.
d) It shall also serve in a liaison capacity with the underwriters of any insurance program sponsored by the Association and shall endeavor, when feasible, to improve such insurance.

Section 8 - ANNUAL SESSIONS COMMITTEE
a) The Annual Sessions Committee shall consist of the local arrangements chairpersons of the immediate past annual session, as well as the current and assigned future annual sessions, the Executive Director, the CE Committee Chairperson and the President and President-Elect of this Association.

b) The Executive Director will serve as chairperson.

c) The duty of the Annual Sessions Committee shall be to meet immediately following the current year's annual session or prior to the fall meeting of the Board of Directors for the purpose of performing an informal critique of the current year's annual session, and to offer suggestions for improvement or enhancement to the annual session scheduled for the following year.

Section 9 - FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
a) The Financial Oversight Committee shall consist of five (5) members, one of which shall be the Secretary-Treasurer.

b) The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as chair or vice-chair of the committee.

c) The President, President-Elect, and Vice President of this Association shall serve as additional advisory members without the right to vote.

d) The Committee shall meet at least three times each year.

Section 10 – TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
a) The Technology Committee shall consist of six (6) members who are appointed for three year terms.

b) A member is not eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms.

c) The Technology Committee shall formulate plans, provide resources, and coordinate activities to utilize technology to promote the image of dentistry to dentists, allied health professions and the general public. It shall work to provide public education through the use of these technologies. In addition, it will work to use technologies to improve communication among MDA members to serve social and professional needs.

Section 11 - COMMITTEE ON THE NEW DENTIST
a) The members of the Committee on the New Dentist shall consist of:

1) One new dentist representative from each component dental society. If a component is unable to appoint a representative from its district, then it may be represented by a qualifying new dentist from another component. An individual may represent more than one component.

2) The New Dentist member of the Board of Directors.

3) One member of the Executive Committee, who shall serve as an advisory member without the right to vote.

b) The definition and qualifications of a New Dentist shall be as determined by the American Dental Association.

c) A member may serve up to two terms.

d) To serve on this committee as a representative of a component the member must be a new dentist at the time of appointment.

e) Committee officers include a chairperson and vice chairperson/secretary.

f) The chairperson is appointed by the Association president from the members of the committee, and serves a two-year term.

g) At a meeting held in conjunction with the Association Annual Meeting, the committee shall select one member to serve as vice-chairperson/secretary for a one-year term.

h) The duties of the Committee on the New Dentist shall be to formulate and propose practical and feasible activities relating to assisting the new dentist in making the transition to active membership and participation in organized dentistry; to provide insight into the perspective, trends, needs, interest, and issues of new dentists in the State of Montana; to assist the component societies and Association in membership recruitment and retention activities for new dentists; and identify the needs and concerns of new graduate dentists and make recommendations for any programs to assist with their transition to practice.

i) Committee meetings shall be held twice a year in person or by teleconference.

j) The committee shall furnish a report to the Board of Directors after each meeting of the committee and before the next meeting of the Board.
Section 12 - HEALTH AND WELL-BEING COMMITTEE
   a) The Health and Well-Being Committee shall consist of seven (7) members, including one who has practiced dentistry for five or fewer years.
   b) The President-Elect of this Association shall serve as an additional advisory member without the right to vote.
   c) The Health and Well-Being Committee shall recommend policies, formulate programs, and conduct activities to preserve and improve the health and wellness of the Association’s members.

Section 13 - COUNCIL ON DENTAL HEALTH AND HEALTH PLANNING
   a) The Council on Dental Health and Health Planning shall consist of six members.
   b) A member is not eligible for appointment for more than two consecutive terms.
   c) The Council on Dental Health and Health Planning shall formulate plans and recommended policies concerning activities related to dental health and preventive dentistry.
   d) It shall assist component societies, dental public health and other agencies in dental health affairs in planning resources and facilities for preventive dentistry and community health programs and to monitor and evaluate such programs.
   e) It shall also cooperate with other public interest organizations in undertaking dental health initiatives at the State and local level.

ARTICLE VIII– DUES, ASSESSMENTS, and FUNDS
Section 1 – The annual dues for membership in the association shall be $475 unless otherwise provided in these bylaws.
Section 2 - All dues for membership shall be for the calendar year.
Section 3 - Dues and assessments for all members of a component may be collected at either the component or the constituent level. If billing and dues collection is to be done at the component level, arrangements must be made with the MDA Secretary-Treasurer by written request of the governing body of said component by October 1 of each year.
Section 4 - Current component dues and assessments, if any, collected by the Montana Dental Association Central Office shall be returned to the component treasurer each month with a current list of paid membership.
Section 5 - FINANCIAL HARDSHIP - Upon approval of the Executive Director and the component president, members who have suffered a significant financial hardship that prohibits them from payment of their full dues may be excused from the payment of that percentage of MDA and component dues allowed by the ADA.
Section 6 – ASSESSMENTS - The Board of Directors, in case of emergency may, by two- thirds (2/3) majority vote, levy an assessment against the members of this Association. During no calendar year shall the assessment exceed fifty percent (50%) of the annual individual dues for active membership.
Section 7 - FUNDS - The funds of this association shall be kept in a bank designated by the Secretary-Treasurer and approved by the Board in the name of the "Montana Dental Association."

ARTICLE IX - GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Section 1 – The General Assembly of members shall meet once a year as provided in Article V of the Constitution.
Section 2 – the ORDER OF BUSINESS of the General Assembly shall be as follows:
   1. Call to order by presiding officer
   2. Address of welcome
   3. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting
   4. Report of the President
   5. Unfinished business
   6. New business
   7. Election of officers
   8. Installation of officers
   9. Report of the ADA Trustee
   10. Adjournment
Section 3 – QUORUM - Ten percent (10%) of the general membership shall constitute a quorum at the general meeting of the Association. The general membership shall be defined as all active members and new graduate members of the organization.

ARTICLE X - NOMINATIONS TO BOARD OF DENTISTRY
Section 1 - Each component dental society may submit, annually, to the MDA, the name of one or two of its members for nomination for suggested appointment to the Board of Dentistry. Each year the Board of Directors shall annually select no more than three nominees for presentation to the Governor of the State of Montana for his/her consideration for appointment. No component of the MDA shall present the names of nominees other than those selected by the Board of Directors of the MDA to the Governor. No name shall be placed for nomination of a member who has previously served two terms on the Board of Dentistry. Candidates must be members of the Montana Dental
ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS
Section 1 - ALL MOTIONS TO AMEND THESE BYLAWS shall be submitted to the membership in writing at least thirty (30) days before the annual meeting, at which time a two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote of those present shall be necessary to adopt; such amendments may be adopted at the session when so offered.

ARTICLE XII - RULES OF ORDER
The American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure shall govern the Association in all cases to which it is applicable and is not inconsistent with the bylaws and standing rules of the Association.

ARTICLE XIII - INDEMNIFICATION
Section 1 - Each officer, council member, committee member, employee, and other agent of the Association shall be held harmless and indemnified by the Association against all claims and liabilities and all costs and expenses, including attorney's fees reasonably incurred or imposed upon him/her in connection with or resulting from any action, suit or proceeding, or the settlement or compromise thereof, to which he/she may be made a party by reason of any action taken or omitted to be taken by him/ her as an officer, council member, committee member, employee, or agent of the Association, in good faith.
Section 2 - This right of indemnification shall inure to such person whether or not he/she is an officer, council member, committee member, employee, or agent at the time such liabilities, costs or expenses are imposed or incurred and, in the event of his/her death, shall extend to his/her legal representatives.
Section 3 - To the extent available, the Association shall insure against any potential Directors by the governing body of the component dental society in which such member resides and/or practices.

ARTICLE XIV – SEAL
This Association shall use one common seal with such device and inscription as may be agreed upon.

ARTICLE XV – ENACTMENT - These Bylaws shall take effect and be in force from and after passage, and all Bylaws previously in force are hereby revoked.