

PRESS RELEASE

GBTA Direct Members Submit Proposal to Amend Bylaws

A grassroots effort has been undertaken by a group of GBTA direct and allied members in support of a recommendation submitted to amend the current GBTA bylaw addressing appointments of positions on the Board of Directors. It is the group's perspective that there is an inequity on the Board of Directors since there are currently thirteen board members – eleven (11) of which are elected and two appointed. The group feels there is no reason that all thirteen positions should not be treated equally. This is a fairer process for Board membership and the action will provide more opportunity for allied members to be elected and serve in a leadership role on the board.

The two appointed allied positions make up the Allied Leadership Council (ALC) president and vice president. When the organization was founded, these positions were placed on the Board to act as the voice of the allied membership. However, in 2006 the organization amended the bylaws to include two elected allied members which made the allied representation four on the board – two elected and two appointed. The new proposal will eliminate the obsolete council which will be replaced by the two newly elected allied members. The GBTA board does not have a coinciding direct council. It is the opinion of the group that the president of GBTA still has the ability to create a committee or task force to address specific allied needs, if necessary.

The basic premise behind the submitted change is to provide greater opportunity for allied members to have a voice in the strategy of GBTA. It will enhance fairness and equity for all Board positions since all direct and allied, would be elected. It will encourage innovation because new perspectives bring new ideas and new energy. And, it will eliminate the obsolete Council which will be replaced by two (2) newly elected allied members.

The recommended proposal will be placed on the ballot to be voted on by direct members at the GBTA Annual Convention in San Diego in August. Results of the vote will be announced at the general session on Wednesday, August 7.

The proposed bylaw language can be viewed at [link](#).