



NGAM National Guard Association of Michigan

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 20 May 2023

TO: NGAM Membership and General Conference Attendees

FROM: NGAM Bylaws Committee

SUBJECT: 2023 NGAM Bylaws Committee Report

1. The NGAM Bylaws Committee has received 1 amendment request to the currently approved NGAM Bylaws.
2. The Committee convened on 3 April 2023 to consider the change and to compile the report to be presented to the general membership. Membership will have an open period for remarks lasting until open discussion is called for on the conference floor on 20 May 2023.
3. The submission to the committee are as follows:
 - a. Amendment 2023-001, Article III- Membership: Pertaining to expanding eligibility of membership.
4. At the conclusion of the open discussion, the report will be submitted for the record, without objection, then the changes will be voted on. Approval of changes requires a 2/3 majority vote from all eligible voting members to pass.

Mike Wilson, Army Retiree Rep
Bylaws Committee Chairman



NGAM National Guard Association of Michigan

1. Amendment 2022-001, Article VIII- Committees: Pertaining to adding a standing committee for Communications.

2. **Article III- Membership- 1. Annual.**

As reads:

1. Annual. Upon application and payment of the prescribed dues, an Annual membership may be issued to any current, former or retired member of the Michigan National Guard (MING) or any National Guard veteran from another state or territory having established a permanent residence in Michigan.

Change to read:

Add: 1. Annual. Upon application and payment of the prescribed dues, an Annual membership may be issued to any current, former or retired member of the Michigan National Guard (MING), **any current, former, or retired member of the National Guard, or any** veteran from another state or territory having established a permanent residence in Michigan.

3. **Justification:**

Most states around the country follow IRS rules for a 501 (c) 19 when it comes to membership into their professional organization, which states that voting members of the organization must be made up of at least 75% from those who have served in the Armed Forces. By following this rule, states are allowed to accept membership from the military and veteran community that might not fall into a particular geographic region. By allowing additional paid membership, the organization adds to the voice into which it represents. Larger numbers, in turn, develop into more legislative influence. We do not limit who we ask congress to make changes for, thus we should not limit the voice to who we represent. Almost always, those seeking to be a member of a particular state organization have a vested interest in that state's association being strong and successful.

4. **Submitted by:** James Crosby