

Resolution No. PD3 New

Report: AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT PILOT PROGRAMS Date Submitted: 7-21-2024

Submitted By (Name): Dr. Rose Perpich, President, MDA Board of Trustees

District Choose an item.

Email address Click or tap here to enter text.

Phone Number Click or tap here to enter text.

Submitted By: Board of Trustees

Reference Committee: Reference Committee B: on Officer Reports; Administrative Matters; Constitution, Bylaws and Ethics; Dentists Concerned for Dentists (DCD); Affinity Products; Membership; New Dentist; Peer Review; Editorial Advisory Board; Scientific Session; Minnesota Dent

How does this resolution increase member value: [Required]

Submit form to hod@mndental.org or fax 612-787-8500

Must be submitted on this form no later than June 15, 2024 to be considered without a 2/3 vote at the House

- 1 **TOPIC: AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT PILOT PROGRAMS**
- 2 **Background:** Faced with a continued decline in membership market share, the American Dental
3 Association is aggressively exploring new and innovative structures in membership. The ADA Board of
4 Trustees recognizes, as does the MDA Board, that either it will continue to lose market share past some
5 “tipping point” or it will put forward efforts in an attempt to arrest that decline.
- 6 The MDA, from time to time, is requested by the ADA to participate in pilot programs. A recent request
7 would have the MDA participate alongside 6 states in piloting a dues structure and membership model
8 that departs from the adopted bylaws.
- 9 To effectively participate in and explore programs and projects that may benefit our organization and our
10 members, the MDA Board needs added flexibility to address such projects in both timely and innovative
11 ways. We believe the Board of Trustees is positioned best to accommodate this needed flexibility
12 because of its frequent meetings and administrative duties.
- 13 Accordingly, the Board is proposing a Bylaws amendment that will authorize it to conduct and/or
14 participate in pilot programs, of limited duration and scope and with reporting to the House, which would
15 otherwise contravene some other provision of the Bylaws. Of particular focus would be bylaws that are
16 prescriptive and related to membership categories.
- 17 Rather than rolling out a new idea based on assumptions and projections as a universal change—an
18 often expensive and risky proposition—we must be able to experiment with small pilot programs. Pilots

1 allow us to try out new ideas more cheaply, more quickly and with less risk. Pilot programs are a way to
2 try out new ideas on a smaller scale, to assess the results and take action based on those results.
3 Furthermore, should the project fail to deliver the intended results, one can easily return to the status quo
4 without the need to repeatedly modify bylaws.

5 Some examples will illustrate situations best addressed through pilot programs of limited duration:

6 *Membership Processes:*

7 The Power of 3 encourages all levels of the tripartite structure to work together for the benefit of the
8 member. Many of the processes related to membership are driven by or defined in the Bylaws.

9 *Membership Categories:*

10 The ADA is proposing membership categories that are not available at the state level. Before making a
11 state decision to offer such new categories, the best data for the House's later consideration can and
12 should be developed through limited pilot programs.

13 The Board is not proposing to participate in any pilot program but rather to have the flexibility to pursue
14 pilot programs if and when it is believed to better serve the membership.

15 The Board wishes to emphasize to the House several key points about its proposal:

- 16 • The resolution will authorize the Board to conduct and/or participate in pilot programs of a limited
17 duration, no more than three years.
- 18 • The resolution will require the Board to report to the House on any programs being carried out
19 every year such pilot is in operation and where such pilot departs from the bylaws.
- 20 • The authority to be given to the Board is limited to programs. Structural changes such as
21 eliminating an office or House of Delegates authority and or structure would not be authorized by
22 the resolution.

23 The Board anticipates that the House will recognize the need for innovation and thanks the House for its
24 consideration of the resolution.

25 **Resolution**

26 **Resolved**, that the MDA Bylaws, Chapter V. BOARD OF TRUSTEES, Section 8. POWERS, be
27 amended by addition of a new Subsection "H" which reads as follows:

28 Notwithstanding any provision in these Bylaws, the Board of Trustees may authorize pilot programs of
29 limited scope that do not conform to the current provisions of these Bylaws. As a part of that
30 authorization, the Board of Trustees will approve the guidelines under which the pilot program operates,
31 including the duration of the pilot program, which will not exceed three (3) years without the prior
32 approval of the House of Delegates. The Board of Trustees will submit a report to the House of
33 Delegates annually, reporting on the operation of the pilot program, and any findings and conclusions
34 resulting from the operation of the program.

35 **Fiscal Impact:** \$0

36 **Strategic Plan Goal Organizational**

- 1 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMENTS:** The Board discussed the Resolution and voted to support the
- 2 Resolution as written.
- 3 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES RECOMMENDATIONS:** Click or tap here to enter text.
- 4

NOTES