

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **GOVERNING BODY**

#### **SECTION 1.**

The legislative body of the National Association of Government Employees shall be the National Convention, and except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, the decisions of the Convention shall be by majority vote of the duly elected delegates in attendance. Absentee ballots for the election of National officers may be permitted subject to the regulations of the U.S. Department of Labor and with the approval of the National Executive Committee.

#### **SECTION 2.**

The Convention of the National Union shall be held every four years at a time to be fixed by the National Executive Board. In the event of a local or national emergency which renders the holding of a Convention impracticable, the National Executive Committee, by a majority vote, may postpone the holding of the Convention until such time as it may become practicable to hold a Convention. The date and location of the Convention will be left to the discretion of the National Executive Board.

#### **SECTION 3.**

The National President is authorized to appoint, with the approval of the National Executive Committee, such committees, and chairpersons thereof, as may be necessary to serve during the Convention.

#### **SECTION 4.**

Rules and order of business governing the preceding Convention shall be in force from the opening of any Convention of the National Association of Government Employees until new rules have been adopted by action of the Convention.

#### **SECTION 5.**

**A.** The President of a Local Unit is the ex-officio delegate to all intermediate or national bodies including National Conventions, provided s/he has been elected by secret ballot vote, unless Local Unit By-Laws provide otherwise.

**B.** Local Unit Officers or any member in good standing elected by secret ballot also may be voting delegates to intermediate or national bodies including National Conventions if the Constitution and By-Laws of the Local Unit so provide. Local Units that do not have Local Unit By-Laws shall follow U.S. Department of Labor rules and regulations for holding delegate elections if the Local Unit president declines to be the delegate or additional delegates are needed. An elected delegate must be a member in good standing of the National Union but need not be a member of the Local Unit electing her/him as a delegate.

**C.** Election of delegates, if necessary, must be conducted by secret ballot. Notice of the election must be mailed to each member of the Local Unit at his/her last known address, not less than 15 days prior to the election. Notice of nominations and elections may be combined provided that a reasonable time is allowed for nominations. The Local Unit secretary shall preserve for one (1) year the ballots and all other records pertaining to the election.

**D.** The number of delegates allocated to each Local Unit shall be as follows: One delegate for 500 members or less, and one additional delegate for every 500 members or fraction thereof.

**E.** If the number of elected officers is less than the number of delegates, then arrangements shall be made for nominations in that Local Unit and secret ballot election, if required. If the total number of officers is greater than the number of delegates allowed, then officers shall attend as delegates in the order listed in the Local Unit By-Laws.

**F.** For the purpose of voting, the computation of membership for a Local Unit shall not include life members, retired members paying less than the full dues required for working members of their Local Unit, associate members, or agency fee payers; but the computation of membership shall be based upon the full-time-equivalent membership represented by the Local Unit's dues payment to the National Union.

**SECTION 6.**

At the National Convention, each Local Unit shall be entitled to one vote for each ten members or fraction thereof, in good standing on the first day of June in the year of the National Convention.

**SECTION 7.**

A quorum for the transacting of business shall consist of delegates representing at least 25% of the represented membership of the National Union at the Convention.

**SECTION 8.**

A special National Convention of the National Union can be called by either:

**A.** The National President, with the approval of two-thirds of the members of the National Executive Committee; or

**B.** A majority of signatures of the members of each of twenty-five (25) locals, such total majority to represent ten (10) percent of the overall membership of the National Union.