

NCJW Resolutions 2020-2023

Process Questions

- **How does the process work?**

In the year before an NCJW National Convention, the president appoints a resolutions committee consisting of seven members including a chairwoman. Then a resolutions packet is sent to solicit suggestions — changes, additions, deletions — from sections and other leadership groups eligible to vote at convention, such as the NCJW board of directors. After the submissions are returned to NCJW, the committee meets to review all the submissions. At this meeting, the committee develops a suggested set of resolutions and principles to submit to the convention delegate body. It is then the responsibility of the voting delegates to debate, amend, and, finally, to approve a set of resolutions and principles for the next triennium, 2020-2023.
- **What criteria are used by the committee in reviewing submissions?**

The committee uses the criteria that are included in the resolutions packet. The committee also depends on the rationales included with the submissions. The committee may also be influenced by how many similar suggestions are received.
- **When do we find out what happened with our recommended changes?**

After the resolutions committee meets in the fall, letters will be sent in response to submissions received. These letters explain the committee's action. Pursuant to NCJW's bylaws, at least 40 days prior to convention, NCJW will mail the report of the resolutions committee to each section, listing the suggested principles and resolutions for consideration by the delegate body and a summary of the committee's deliberations.
- **What happens with the resolutions at National Convention?**

NCJW's convention is where voting delegates actually debate and vote on the resolutions. At convention business sessions, the resolutions and principles will be brought up, one at a time, for consideration. At that time, with the participation of an official parliamentarian, the resolutions are debated, amended, and adopted.
- **What if we don't agree with the resolution's committee's action?**

The committee's action is not final. Final decisions are up to the convention voting delegates. In order to change a resolution at convention, you must offer a written motion with a second from a different section. You will be asked to provide a persuasive rationale for your motion during the resolution session at convention. Often sections advocate with others at or before convention to enlist support. Remember, only changes submitted to the resolutions committee in time for consideration at their fall meeting may be offered on the convention floor.

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➤ **Will there be an opportunity to have questions answered at convention?**

Yes. Early in the convention, a special resolutions hearing will take place at which anyone may ask questions of the resolutions committee. Although debate on the resolutions is not in order at the hearing, questions about the committee's report and the process in general are appropriate. Once the business session begins, questions unrelated to the debate are not appropriate.

➤ **What amendments or new resolutions can be offered during the business session?**

Any recommendation that had previously been submitted to, but not approved by the resolutions committee, may be offered during the business session as a motion by any voting delegate. The motion must be seconded by someone from another section. If a recommendation, including one that is editorial, was not submitted by anyone to the committee, it may not be brought before the delegate body, except in the case of an emergency resolution which involves an issue that arose after the deadline set for receiving resolution submissions and upon which deferred action would be disadvantageous to the program and work of NCJW.

➤ **What if I still have questions?**

If you still have questions about the resolutions process, please contact Jody Rabhan, NCJW Director of Government Relations and Advocacy (JRabhan@ncjw.org or 202 375 5065) or Robin Roger, NCJW Resolutions Committee Chair (rroger.council@gmail.com).