



For people with intellectual  
and developmental disabilities

## MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** August 11, 2019  
**TO:** Chapters of The Arc  
**FROM:** Board of Directors  
**SUBJECT:** Proposed Bylaws Amendments

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At a meeting held on April 7, 2019, the Board of Directors of The Arc of the United States, Inc. (the Corporation) approved proposed amendments to Article 6 of the Bylaws of The Arc of the United States, Inc. (the Bylaws). The proposed amendments are recommended for adoption by Chapters of The Arc as voting members of the Corporation.

Pursuant to Article 10 of the Bylaws, “a vote of two-thirds (2/3rds) of all the votes held and entitled to be cast by Chapters of The Arc that are present in person or by proxy” is required for adoption.

A marked up copy of Article 6 is attached, indicating the proposed amendments. The current Bylaws in their entirety may be found on the website under [About Us>Financials and Reporting>Organizing Documents>Bylaws.](#)

The following is a description of the substance and purpose of the amendments.

Section 6.7 - The Legal Advocacy Subcommittee is converted into a Standing Committee. The Composition, Roles and Responsibilities are defined in terms substantially equivalent to other Standing Committees. The Legal Advocacy Subcommittee was originally constituted as a subcommittee of the Policy and Positions Committee. The Board believes it is more appropriately a separate Standing Committee given The Arc’s increased use of legal advocacy, the need for timely and effective input into the legal advocacy work, and the different knowledge and skills required for and beneficial to legal advocacy, as opposed to legislative and regulatory advocacy.

Section 6.8 – Two subcommittees of the National Conference of Executives -- the Chapter Excellence Subcommittee and the Program Excellence Subcommittee -- are eliminated. This change is being proposed at the request of the NCE Steering Committees as these subcommittees have never been empaneled. Instead, the NCE Steering Committee utilizes a work group structure, constituting and empanelling different work groups from time to time as needed to fulfill the goals and objectives of NCE. The listed subcommittees were unnecessary.

A number of additional non-substantive changes are made to correct ministerial errors in the original document.