



## Parliamentary Opinion

November 20, 2010  
(Rempel)

### Question:

Does the president need the approval of the board to remove a board member?

### Facts:

In accordance with the bylaws, the chairs of all standing committees are appointed by the president. According to the bylaws, these chairs also serve as board members. The president decided to replace one of these chairs. He did so without the approval of the board.

### Comments:

- The appointing authority has the power to remove or replace members of that committee. RONR (10<sup>th</sup> ed.), p. 169, I. 31-32.
- When the chair appoints a committee, no vote is taken on the appointees. RONR (10<sup>th</sup> ed.), p. 478, I. 31-33.

### Opinion:

No. The president does not need the approval of the board to replace a board member that the bylaws state is to be appointed by the president. If the bylaws state that the power to make an appointment belongs to the president, the bylaws also grants to the president the power to remove and replace that appointee. In this case, the president is replacing one of his committee appointees who happens, by power of the appointee's office, to also serve as a board member.

### Recommendations:

The chair needs to explain that the board members are not elected or appointed by the assembly, but rather as a result of the bylaws that grant the president the power to appoint chairs of standing committees. By definition these chairs also serve as board members.

<p>This opinion is based on general principles of parliamentary law and <i>Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised</i>; nothing in this opinion should be construed as interpretation of statutory law.</p>
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*Lorenzo Cuesta*