

We believe the five Members who submitted this argument fundamentally misunderstand the proposed Bylaws. Quite unlike the Trojan Horse, the Bylaw development process was a transparent effort by Membership and its Board towards a common objective.

The “new circumstance” for borrowing prior to member vote is not new! It only applies when the very existence of the Co-op requires it, and clarifies a similar provision in the current Bylaws.

They also object to provisions which merely state existing Cooperative law in plain English, recite modern cooperative practice, or clarify provisions already in our current bylaws.

Finally, our current legal documents being literally not legal is a serious problem.

Their objections simply do not reflect the vast majority of more than 1,000 comments received from Members. Your Board recommended this proposal because the Membership overwhelmingly asked for clear, legal Bylaws that allow us to meet commitments to Members, employees and farmers.

Board of Directors,

Delfina Vargas, Joel Erb, Chris Tucker, Charles Fitzpatrick, Kim Glazzard, Steven Maviglio,
Nicole Klimek