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**BYLAWS of the Region VI Head Start Association, Inc.
Board of Directors**

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the organization shall be Region VI Head Start Association, Incorporated
(hereinafter referred to as "the corporation").

ARTICLE II - PURPOSES

The purposes of the Board of Directors shall be:

- Section 1:** To review and provide input concerning proposed state, regional, and national policies and directives on behalf of the Region VI Head Start Programs.
- Section 2:** To help strengthen the four classes of members: The Head Start Directors class of members, the Head Start Staff class of members, the Head Start Parents class of members, and the Head Start Friends class of members in the five Region VI states of Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.
- Section 3:** To elevate the status, promote respect, and coordinate efforts of Head Start Directors, Staff, Parents, and Friends in working toward the common goal of strengthening the services set forth in the Head Start Performance Standards.
- Section 4:** To develop a system for communicating policies, positions, or statements that reflect a consensus of the opinions of the corporation.
- Section 5:** To develop a system for communicating and sharing among directors, staff, parents, and friends in Region VI for the purpose of exchanging ideas and opinions relating to Regional and National Head Start issues.
- Section 6:** To mobilize resources of Region VI to ensure the continuation and improvement of services to Head Start children and their families.
- Section 7:** To ensure representation from Region VI to the National Head Start Association as appropriate to the National Head Start Association Bylaws.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERS

Section 1: CLASSES OF MEMBERS

The corporation shall have the following classes of members:

Class A: Class A members shall consist of those members of the corporation who are full-time directors of a Head Start grantee or delegate agency.

Class B: Class B members shall consist of those members of the corporation other than Class A members who are employed in a local Head Start program.

Class C: Class C members shall consist of those members of the corporation other than Class A or Class B members, who are parents or legal guardians of children who are currently enrolled in a Head Start Program.

Class D: Class D members shall consist of those members of the corporation other than Class A, Class B, or Class C members.

Section 2: MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the corporation shall automatically be granted to individuals who are Class Members in good standing in their State Associations; providing the State Association is a paid member of the corporation.

Section 3: DUES

Membership in the corporation for each State Association shall require membership dues of two hundred (\$200.00) dollars annually. The membership year will be January 1 through December 31.

Section 4: VOTING PRIVILEGES

All members of the corporation shall have equal rights and privileges to all business of the general body of the corporation.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

Section 1: OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION

The officers of the corporation shall consist of a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, an Assistant Treasurer, and a Parliamentarian.

Section 2: ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE

The officers of the corporation shall be elected every other year by plurality vote from the twenty members of the Board of Directors during the Annual Training Conference. Officers and newly elected Board members duly elected by their states, shall be installed and assume their responsibilities at the first quarterly meeting following the Annual Training Conference.

Section 3: ELIGIBILITY

All officers shall be members in good standing with the State Association they represent.

Section 4: COMPOSITION

At least one office will be held by a Board Member representing the Directors, the Staff, the Parents, and the Friends Class Members.

Section 5: The officers of the corporation will be elected for a two-year term with no officer serving more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office. No member shall hold more than one office at a time.

Section 6: If an officer of the corporation resigns or changes class memberships during an unexpired term, the President shall appoint a member of the Board to serve in that office for the remainder of the unexpired term in accordance with Article IV, Section 3.

Section 7: In the event that the office of President is vacated, the First Vice-President will move into the President's position for the remainder of the unexpired term in accordance with Article IV, Section 3.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Section 1: Regular meetings of the Association shall be held quarterly to include the Annual Business meeting. The Annual meeting shall be held in the fall in conjunction with the Region VI Training Conference, unless otherwise ordered by the Association or the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD

The corporation's affairs shall be managed by a Board of Directors composed of 20 members, four (4) from each of the five (5) Region VI states. Board members shall be members in good standing with their State Associations. In addition, the immediate past president shall serve as an ex officio member of the Board of Directors.

Section 2: REPRESENTATIVES AND ALTERNATES

Each State Association shall elect one representative and one alternate to sit on the corporation's Board of Directors representing the four (4) classes (A, B, C, D) of membership.

Section 3: TERM OF DIRECTORS

Arkansas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico will elect representatives to the Board during the years ending in an even number. Louisiana and Texas will elect representatives to the Board during years ending in an odd number. Representatives and alternates will serve for a two-year term.

Section 4: VACANCIES

State Associations will be notified of their responsibility to maintain ongoing representation on the Board when their representatives and alternates have two (2) consecutive absences from the same two (2) consecutive meetings; and will be asked to affirm this by written communication signed by the President of the State Association.

Section 5: DUTIES OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall be responsible, among other duties, for (1) setting policy and overseeing the implementation of the policy, (2) approving all policy statements issued on behalf of the corporation, (3) approving an annual budget, (4) approving Committee appointments, and (5) devising and carrying into operation such other measures as they deem proper and expedient to promote the objectives of the corporation.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended and new bylaws adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board of Directors, provided that prior written notice has been given at least fifteen (15) days in advance of the meeting, and provided further that no such action shall be taken if it would in any way adversely affect the corporation's qualification under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue law).

STANDING RULES

1. The customary order of business shall be composed of the following subdivisions:
 - 1) Roll Call to Establish Quorum
 - 2) Consideration of Agenda
 - 3) Reading and Approval of Minutes
 - 4) Reports of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees
 - 5) Reports of Special (Select or Ad Hoc) Committees
 - 6) Special Orders
 - 7) Unfinished Business and General Orders
 - 8) New Business

2. The Recording Secretary's minutes shall include a statement of which Board members (representative and alternate) are not in good standing due to two consecutive absences by both the representative and alternate from the same meeting.

3. A written agenda shall be sent to each Board member at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting date.

4. The Region VI Head Start Association Board representatives of class members (A, B, C and D) in good standing and present at the Annual Region VI Head Start Association Board meeting, shall elect a representative from each class of members to the National Head Start Association Board.

5. There shall be a Caucus for each membership class during the Annual Training Conference. The President will appoint Board members of each class to convene and serve as facilitators at the Caucus meeting.

6. The Board of Directors shall request the assistance of advisors/resource persons to the Board. Such advisors will not have voting powers. The advisors will consist of the following: two (2) Region VI Office Officials, two (2) Representatives from each Head Start Quality Improvement Center, and other advisors as deemed necessary and approved by the Board.