

How do you write a good amendment? Focus on these tips:

**DO NOT WORDSMITH:** Issues and resolutions are not legislation; they are part of the WSPTA platform. Delegates do not need to struggle over every word, as the proposal will not be turned into a bill precisely as it is worded.

**COLLABORATE:** Work with other delegates to draft the best possible amendment and to build support.

**LANGUAGE:** Amendments must clearly state what change(s) you want to happen:

- You can ask to strike words and/or insert words using the language “add or insert” and “strike or delete.”
- For example, *“I move to amend resolved clause #2, bullet #1, by striking the word “parent” after the word “authentic” and inserting the words “family and community.”*
- Your motion needs to specify where these inserted words would go.

**FOCUS:** Amendments should try to stick to one focus at a time. For example, if there is a resolution with four resolved clauses and you would like to propose changes to two of them, it would be better to submit two separate amendments. The reason is that if delegates like one of your proposals but not the other, the whole motion may fail with neither change taking place.

**REMINDERS:**

- Only the parts of positions that are in the shaded boxes in the Voters’ Guide are open for amendment and debate.
- Resolutions may not have more than four resolved clauses.

## Amendment best practices

### EXAMPLE

“I move to amend resolved clause #2, bullet #1, by striking the word “parent” after the word “authentic” and inserting the words “family and community.”

- Do not wordsmith
- Collaborate with others in caucus sessions
- Clearly state the changes you want
- Use “add/insert” or “strike/delete”
- Include the language you want and where it goes
- Stick to one focus at a time