**2026 CCE Association Constitution Templates Changes Summary**

1. **Title & Naming Conventions in Article I:**

This change was made at the request of an association that has had difficulty contracting with NYS agencies based on the differences in naming conventions between our [2003 IRS 501(c)(3) eligibility determination letter](https://cornell.app.box.com/s/01w69wztk3dptrl26byiwzm4auxg8drp) and the constitution. This change should remove a barrier to explaining an association’s status as a legislatively created entity, eligible to contract with NYS and exempt from federal income tax.

1. **Article III: Equal Opportunity**

The title and language of the former Article III: Affirmative Action was changed to be consistent with language provided by independent legal counsel to the associations and has been reviewed by the Office of General Counsel at Cornell University (OGC) for compliance with executive orders issued by the current Federal administration.

1. **Article V, Section 2:**

Language was updated to more accurately reflect the action taken at the board level regarding policies and procedures.

1. **Article V, Section 3, subsection F (1):**

Grammatical correction.

1. **Article V, Section 3, subsection H:**

Subsection H was removed after OGC review. There is no standard, legally accepted definition of an “executive officer”, making the designation confusing.

1. **Article V, Section 4, subsections B & D:**

Language changes to more accurately reflect the duties of the board, clarifying roles and allowing for delegation (via annual authorizations) of legal agreements.

1. **Article V, Section 5:**

Added the super-majority requirement at the suggestion of OGC to reflect the significant nature of the action.

1. **Article V, Section 6:**

This section was added at the request of an association, recognizing and formalizing a practice that may already be occurring within associations. Leaves of absence are limited and may only be approved by the board president. Approval is not automatic, and the position still counts towards quorum (consistent with NYS law regarding quorum.)

1. **Article VI, Section 1, subsection F:**

Added the super-majority requirement at the suggestion of OGC to reflect the significant nature of the action.

1. **Article X, Section 1:**

Simplified language at the suggestion of OGC.