This petition was APPROVED at the August 24, 2016 Council meeting in Philadelphia and CONFIRMED September 28, 2016 by the Board of Directors. EFFECTIVE DATE: September 28, 2016.

**ALTERNATE VERSION**

**FOR ACTION**

**Petition to Extend the Unemployed Members’ Dues Waiver**

**Bylaw XIII, Sec. 3, k**

**Petition**

We, the undersigned Councilors and members of the American Chemical Society, hereby petition to amend the SOCIETY Bylaws as follows (additions **underlined**; deletions struck through):

**Bylaw XIII**

**Finances**

**Sec. 3.**

**k.** After one year of paid membership, a member who is unemployed and is seeking full-time professional employment, upon request to the Executive Director and affirmation of such status, shall be entitled to an annual waiver of membership dues. Such annual waiver shall commence on the member's anniversary date and may be renewed each year for a total not to exceed three years for a second year so long as this status is reaffirmed each year. This provision may be invoked again only after a period of full-time professional employment. (10/4/99)

**Explanation**

The petitioners propose changes to the ACS’s Bylaws to allow unemployed members of the Society to remain as members without paying dues for a period of up to three years. Bylaw XIII, Sec. 3, k currently provides for the dues to be waived for an unemployed member for a period of up to two years. The Committee on Membership Affairs (MAC) has conducted a three-year test and has prepared a Market Data Status Report (as of 5-14-15), which resulted in the following data.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consecutive Years Unemployed</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-year unemployed</td>
<td>882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-years unemployed</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-years unemployed</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8/16
9/28/16
Expanding this benefit to a third year prevented 179 members from being removed from membership in the Society. The extension of the benefit by another year may have small cost implications that are difficult to determine but are far outweighed by the preservation of membership status for those individuals who have been unemployed as chemists for up to three years.

Signed:

Dr. Lisa Balbes  
Dr. Mark T. Blankenbuehler  
Dr. Peter Joseph Bonk  
Ms. Merle I. Eiss  
Mr. Dana Ferraris  
Ms. Barbara R. Hillery

Dr. Michael Hurrey  
Dr. Wayne E. Jones, Jr.  
Dr. Resa M. Kelly  
Dr. Melanie J. Moser  
Dr. Kevin Pate  
Mr. Frank Romano

Dr. Herbert B. Silber 
Dr. Ann Marie Sullivan 
Dr. Ruth Tanner 
Dr. John R. Vercellotti 
Ms. Sharon V. Vercellotti

(This petition has been referred to the Committee on Membership Affairs, Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs, Council Policy Committee, Society Committee on Budget and Finance, and Committee on Constitution and Bylaws.)

*Committee having primary substantive responsibility

FINAL STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL IMPACT

The Society Committee on Budget and Finance has examined this petition and cannot assess with reasonable accuracy the range of potential costs. Therefore, the financial impact of the petition is unknown.

FINAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) received a revised version of the petition, signed by a majority of the petitioners, to address C&B's concerns. C&B made one slight editorial change to the Explanation, which also was approved by a majority of the petitioners.

The Committee finds the revised petition to be legal and consistent with other provisions of the Society's documents.

A two-thirds (2/3) vote of Council is required for approval of amendments to the Bylaws. If approved by Council, the amendments will become effective upon confirmation by the Board of Directors.

Dr. James C. Carver  
Chair