

PROPOSED CONFERENCE MOTIONS

2008 NAD Conference

The following motions were submitted online to the Steering Committee (chaired by Trudy Suggs, secretary) by individual members of the NAD, prior to the extended June 6, 2008 deadline. These will be voted upon by the Council of Representatives to become NAD priorities (top 20 motions) for the 2008-2010 term.

TITLE: Open Captioning in Public Movie Theaters **RANK:** 1
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-001 **TOTAL VOTES:** 149
INTRODUCED BY: Larry Forestal (Arizona)
SECONDED BY: Jim Oster (Arizona)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall aggressively push the technically practical concept of having first-run movies open-captioned in all public movie theaters across America.

RATIONALE:

There has been a disparity of perspectives among a variety of movie companies about what deaf and hard of hearing movie viewers need for the appreciation of viewing movies in public theaters just like the general public does, in the eyes of the ADA.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact on the NAD. This motion impacts the equal access needs of deaf and hard of hearing Americans immeasurably.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Movie theater accessibility is of the many areas that the NAD Law and Advocacy Center deals with on a case-by-case basis.

TITLE: Federal Recognition of American Sign Language **RANK:** 4
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-002 **TOTAL VOTES:** 140
INTRODUCED BY: Larry Forestal (Arizona)
SECONDED BY: Glenna Ashton (Florida)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall pursue, as part of its long-range plan, federal legislation recognizing American Sign Language as a natural and legitimate language of deaf Americans. Further, the NAD shall investigate all legal precedents and legislative possibilities on the federal level, including historical reviews of other nations that have succeeded with similar national legislation with respect to their sign languages.

RATIONALE:

The NAD strongly believes in ASL as a legitimate and natural language, a cause that can be dated back to 1880. Historically, the NAD was established to protect and preserve the sign language rights of deaf Americans. This cause came up again during the times of NAD President George Veditz in the early 1900s. In reflection of Dr. William Stokoe's early linguistic research and current linguistics, ASL has become a popular course in American educational institutions.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This would be worth every cent. The allocation of \$25,000 for research should make a good start for the NAD; this funding would be obtained through collaboration with colleges and universities. There is no question that ASL is one of the NAD's top priorities. In the long run, ASL meets and will meet the equal access needs of deaf Americans.

BOARD COMMENTS:

This motion, if passed, would require additional legal (staff and volunteer) resources, considerably greater than the estimated fiscal impact.

TITLE: Video Hotline System **RANK:** 22
CODE: 2008-LA-MEM-001 **TOTAL VOTES:** 98

INTRODUCED BY: Tawny Holmes (Pennsylvania)
SECONDED BY: Manny Johnson (California)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD headquarters shall establish a hotline for police issues, starting with Mondays only, and a feedback line to provide input to NAD, starting with Wednesdays only, with the possibility of later expansion.

RATIONALE:

This way, the NAD could keep track of complaints and people could feel more comfortable expressing themselves in their natural language. Also, if online by webcam, this would be even more transparent and give the NAD room to respond at their earliest convenience.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None, only staff/volunteer time to review complaints and comments.

BOARD COMMENTS:

This is already an item on the NAD "wish list." Intern/volunteer resources would be required, in addition to increased Headquarters LAN (internet) bandwidth, an estimated \$15,000 yearly for an additional T1 or fractional T3 conduit, with contractual information technology services.

TITLE:	Disclosure of Cochlear Implant Risks	RANK: 21 (tied)
CODE:	2008-LA-PUB-003	TOTAL VOTES: 112
INTRODUCED BY:	Renwick Dayton (Oregon)	
SECONDED BY:	Teresa Rogers (South Carolina)	

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall pursue federal action to prevent false expectations regarding cochlear implant successes with infants and children until manufacturers and medical professionals can prove that cochlear implants are one hundred percent safe without any risk. Further, the NAD shall seek ways whereby such manufacturers and medical professionals must report any problems or failures, including death, caused by cochlear implants.

RATIONALE:

There is no law that protects parents and their deaf or hard of hearing babies, including their basic human rights in the event of device failure, surgical risks, and so forth.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This may require a lot of time in preparing the documents and evidence based on the history of abuse to date. Cost unknown.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The resources required for this motion are beyond the current capacity of the NAD.

TITLE:	Certified Deaf Interpreters	RANK: 2
CODE:	2008-LA-PUB-004	TOTAL VOTES: 144
INTRODUCED BY:	Dawn Watts (Ohio)	
SECONDED BY:	Delynn Saunders (Arizona)	

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall investigate why there are not enough Certified Deaf Interpreters (CDIs) around the country and possibly set up a special committee to work closely with RID for modification of written and performance exams for CDIs.

RATIONALE:

For the past five years, approximately 60 percent of test-takers have failed the CDI examination. Some deaf interpreters had to re-take and the written exam four or five times, and some had to take the performance exam two or three times. Currently, there are about 64 CDIs in the U.S.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

BOARD COMMENTS: The NAD has long worked jointly with RID on several areas (i.e., joint national interpreter certification test, joint code of professional conduct, and involvement on several RID committees), so this would be added as an area of joint scrutiny.

TITLE: National Agenda for Mental Health **RANK:** 5 (tied)
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-005 **TOTAL VOTES:** 139
INTRODUCED BY: Liz Hill (Alabama)
SECONDED BY: Judith Gilliam (Alabama) and Region III Conference

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall promote a national agenda for mental health, including: a) services provided in ASL which is a human right, b) with emphasis on statewide coordination of services to ensure a continuum array of services, c) with emphasis on a life span developmental approach to mental health, and d) provide resources as part of the NAD's clearinghouse.

RATIONALE:

Because our human right to culturally affirmative, linguistically accessible mental health services are being violated.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This would require use of the NAD's website, volunteer/staff time to apply for grants, as well as committee support/resources.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The NAD has the resources to carry out this motion, and could capitalize on its relationship with ADARA to do so.

TITLE: Equal Access via Captioning **RANK:** 3 (tied)
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-006 **TOTAL VOTES:** 141
INTRODUCED BY: Rachel Bavister (Virginia)
SECONDED BY: Harvey J. Corson (Connecticut)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall address the issue of captioning to afford deaf people equal access in movie theaters, on TV, including HDTV, videos and Internet streaming, DVDs, public information bulletins, and emergency broadcasts everywhere.

RATIONALE:

Self-explanatory.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Probably for staff/members to attend hearings, etc. Mail and paperwork.

BOARD COMMENTS:

This reflects the ongoing activities of the NAD Law and Advocacy Center.

TITLE: Promotional DVD About the NAD **RANK:** 19 (tied)
CODE: 2008-LA-MEM-002 **TOTAL VOTES:** 115
INTRODUCED BY: Rachel Bavister (Virginia)
SECONDED BY: LaDonna Larson (Virginia)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall develop and distribute a DVD to disseminate information about the NAD to state associations, affiliates, and other interested persons.

RATIONALE:

Not all folk have access to NAD.org. A state association could make a really great pitch for dual membership in state associations and NAD if it had this DVD on hand.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Cost of making the DVD. Staff time. Technical know-how.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The NAD has the resources to carry out this motion.

TITLE: Early Intervention and Parent Education **RANK: 8**
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-007 **TOTAL VOTES: 135**
INTRODUCED BY: Rachel Bavister (Virginia)
SECONDED BY: LaDonna Larson (Virginia)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall address the issue of parent education so as to participate actively in early intervention and assist parents in making informed/educated decisions for their deaf and hard of hearing children.

RATIONALE:

Early intervention is the law in most states, but I don't see NAD's involvement. Perhaps the NAD could provide support to state associations in working with state parent educational advocacy and training centers and other groups. Something must be done to stop manipulation of deaf kids via their parents by doctors, and the medical field, which propagates the pathological view of deafness.

FISCAL IMPACT:

I'm not sure, but to take on the medical profession may be costly.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The NAD has long been involved in EHDI efforts at the federal level. Greater collaboration is needed for state and local efforts. The NAD also wants to create vlogs on its EHDI related web resources and disseminate these widely. More information is available at:

- <http://www.nad.org/site/apps/s/content.asp?c=foINKQMBF&b=3930755&ct=3724293>
 - <http://www.nad.org/EHDIBill>
 - <http://www.nad.org/infant>.
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TITLE: Hearing Aids/Molds/Batteries/and Services **RANK: 9 (tied)**
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-008 **TOTAL VOTES: 133**
INTRODUCED BY: Natalie Beckman (New Jersey)
SECONDED BY: Joshua Beckman (New Jersey)

PROPOSED MOTION:

Be it moved that NAD advocate for all health insurance companies to cover hearing aids, molds, batteries and related services for deaf children and adults with no restrictions.

RATIONALE:

Insurance companies routinely cover cochlear implants but not hearing aids for children and adults.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

BOARD COMMENTS:

The NAD Law and Advocacy Center has worked with and continues to work with other national organizations on hearing aids and insurance coverage.

TITLE: Vocational Rehabilitation Service **RANK: 9 (tied)**
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-009 **TOTAL VOTES: 133**
INTRODUCED BY: Alicia Epstein (Maryland)
SECONDED BY: AI Sonnenstrahl (Maryland)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall pursue and advocate the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitative Service Administration to retain the position, Coordinator of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services.

RATIONALE:

The position was cut a few years ago. Ever since then, the quality of vocational rehabilitation services for deaf people has deteriorated. There is no consistency in services for deaf people from the national level.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

BOARD COMMENTS:

This is very similar to a 2006 NAD Conference priority. The NAD currently collaborates with CSAVR on this very matter, which is also impacted by politics at the federal level (and more so since this is a presidential election year).

TITLE:	Naming of Jr. NAD Chapters	RANK: 23
CODE:	2008-LA-MEM-003	TOTAL VOTES: 95
INTRODUCED BY:	Alicia Epstein (Maryland)	
SECONDED BY:	Al Sonnenstrahl (Maryland)	

PROPOSED MOTION:

The names of all local and state Junior NAD chapters shall be changed to represent the local and state associations.

RATIONALE:

Local and state association names enhance recognition and involvement of local and state personnel, especially the youth. For example, the Jr. NAD chapter in the state of Maryland would be called Jr. MDAD.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

BOARD COMMENTS:

State associations are free to do what they wish with state association-run youth programs. However, Jr. NAD resources are only available to chapters with the Jr. NAD "brand."

TITLE:	Health Care Insurance	RANK: 13
CODE:	2008-LA-PUB-010	TOTAL VOTES: 125
INTRODUCED BY:	Alicia Epstein (Maryland)	
SECONDED BY:	Al Sonnenstrahl (Maryland)	

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall aggressively push for health care insurance companies to provide reasonable accommodations service such as interpreting and CART for patients who are deaf or hard of hearing.

RATIONALE:

Currently, insurance companies are not required to provide reasonable accommodations for patients seeking health care service. The costs of the service are presumed to be covered by the health care providers.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

BOARD COMMENTS:

This reflects the ongoing work of the Law and Advocacy Center. More information is at the following:

www.nad.org/healthcare
www.nad.org/hospitalsnursinghomes
www.nad.org/doctors
www.nad.org/adaq&a

TITLE:	NAD and Deaf Education	RANK: 6
CODE:	2008-LA-PUB-011	TOTAL VOTES: 137
INTRODUCED BY:	Ralph Singleton (California)	
SECONDED BY:	David Reynolds (California)	

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD and state associations shall form a task force to develop strategies for the inclusion of bilingual-bicultural education at all university-level deaf education programs, including working closely with the Association of College Educators of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, state associations, and appropriate agencies/organizations. This committee's work will then be shared with United States Department of Education, State Department of Education, and appropriate agencies.

RATIONALE:

The NAD should form and push for this because ASL is being taught in many schools and not being expanded to include deaf education portions, such as Deafhood, and the bilingual-bicultural philosophy. This should be changed to an approach that incorporates the bilingual philosophy utilizing the cultural perspective instead of the pathological perspective.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Minimal impact to NAD if they announce a task force to create guidelines for how to form such programs, with representatives from several universities such as Ohlone College, NTID, Gallaudet University, and CSUN, who can serve as role models.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The NAD would rely on volunteer experts to assist in setting up and carrying out the task force.

TITLE:	Requiring Closed Captions on All Size TVs	RANK: 11 (tied)
CODE:	2008-LA-PUB-012	TOTAL VOTES: 129
INTRODUCED BY:	Ralph Singleton (California)	
SECONDED BY:	David Reynolds (California)	

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall work with the FCC to require that all size television sets/monitors to include closed-captioning capability, especially in accordance with the new HDTV regulations to be enforced by February 17, 2009.

RATIONALE:

The 1986 regulations of requiring all television sets over 13 inches to include closed-captioning is obsolete and discriminatory since many public places, such as airports and on buses, use small television sets that do not meet deaf people's needs in understanding movies, announcements and other things shown on said sets. We need to ensure that the FCC recognizes that smaller monitors used in general public settings, such as transportation, must meet closed captioning requirements without having size restrictions.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is minimal impact for NAD, since they already have a committee to regulate FCC waivers of movies/shows. This same committee could file a lawsuit to ensure all public settings using smaller television sets provide captions.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The NAD is already working on this via our COAT involvement. We will continue to push for this.

TITLE:	Protect State Deaf Schools	RANK: 3 (tied)
CODE:	2008-LA-PUB-013	TOTAL VOTES: 141
INTRODUCED BY:	Ralph Singleton (California) & David "Jerry" Wilding (Idaho)	
SECONDED BY:	Nancy Carroll (California)	

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall create a position statement in supporting state/residential schools for the deaf and reiterate the importance of their existence.

RATIONALE:

With the closure of several state deaf schools and the possible closure of others, such a position statement would be useful in helping the fight for deaf schools' continued existence.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The NAD is currently at work on a position statement on this matter. We are strongly opposed to the closure of state schools for the deaf, and have provided support to state associations working to prevent the closure of their state schools for the deaf.

TITLE: Deafhood Training **RANK:** 21 (tied)
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-014 **TOTAL VOTES:** 112
INTRODUCED BY: Ralph Singleton (California)
SECONDED BY: David Reynolds (California)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD board and all headquarters staff shall receive Deafhood training. Additionally, all state associations shall be trained, and also host Deafhood trainings.

RATIONALE:

Deafhood courses are now accepted at some universities and should be widely pushed by the NAD, too. The NAD should cherish the Deafhood concept and promote it among its board, all state associations and headquarters staff. There are currently 40 trainers available to teach Deafhood to all types of audiences around the nation.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Minimal, other than presentation costs.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The board supports this concept for the NAD; however, state associations and affiliates make their own decisions regarding training opportunities.

TITLE: ASL is a Deaf Child's Human Right! **RANK:** 5 (tied)
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-015 **TOTAL VOTES:** 139
INTRODUCED BY: Ralph Singleton (California)
SECONDED BY: David Reynolds (California)

PROPOSED MOTION:

ASL is a deaf child's human right. The NAD shall include this right in its bylaws to reflect the original reason for the NAD's establishment, so that this right is always there in print.

RATIONALE:

ASL is not an option for communication; rather, ASL is every deaf human's right and should be protected in the NAD's mission statement.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Minimal if NAD accepts this fact in its bylaws.

BOARD COMMENTS:

This motion, if passed, will be referred to the 2010 conference bylaws committee.

TITLE: Feasibility Study on Preserving American Deaf History and ASL **RANK:** 10 (tied)
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-016 **TOTAL VOTES:** 130
INTRODUCED BY: Cathy Haas, Library Friends Section (California)
SECONDED BY: Alice Hagemeyer (Maryland)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall do a feasibility study on how to preserve American Deaf History and American Sign Language. The NAD president shall formally establish a task force and invite the chair of the Library Friends Section to recommend a person to lead the task force.

RATIONALE:

To better expand and expose the American deaf history collection to the public. This study will also allow the NAD and the deaf community to be more comprehensive in knowing there are various libraries and museums that have historical collections related to the deaf community and ASL. This will also help the nation's libraries and their local library friends groups enhance local deaf history resources for observing March 13 - April 15 as National Deaf History

Month. The 2004-2006 AD Hoc Committee on National Deaf History Month has accomplished its mission in 2006 but we are still a long way from the US President to proclaim it. This study will help.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The task force should utilize existing resources for its study. Further, the Library Friends Section will seek grants and raise funds to build up its treasury.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The NAD would rely on Library Friends Section volunteer/expert resources to carry out this activity.

TITLE: Advocacy support for 21st Century Video and Accessibility Act. **RANK:** 16
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-017 **TOTAL VOTES:** 121
INTRODUCED BY: Dean DeRusso (New York)
SECONDED BY: Steve Lovi (New York)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD should strongly support the passage of the federal bill H.R. 6320 supporting the 21st Century Video and Accessibility Act in the House of Representatives and Senate.

RATIONALE:

Many deaf members are behind in upgrades of Internet systems such as videos on the Internet that are either not captioned, not compatible with hearing aids, or do not support VOIP systems where 911 calls will be lost with new technologies today. We ask that the NAD work hard to get this bill passed so our members will have improved and equally accessible access to Internet technologies of the 21st century.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None except for the time required of NAD staff/volunteers researching this federal bill and providing outreach to NAD members/supporters with information.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The NAD is already involved with COAT on this matter (see Motion 2008-LA-PUB-012, above). State associations and affiliates are also encouraged to sign on with COAT in support of NAD efforts at the federal level.

TITLE: Advocacy and support for the ADA Restoration Act. **RANK:** 15
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-018 **TOTAL VOTES:** 122
INTRODUCED BY: Dean DeRusso (New York)
SECONDED BY: Steve Lovi (New York)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD should strongly support the passage of federal bills supporting the ADA Restoration Act in the House of Representatives (H.R.3195) and Senate (H.R.1881).

RATIONALE:

The federal-level U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has passed many regulations that reduced the rights of many people with disabilities across the U.S.A. The ADA Restoration Act will remove several poor decisions made in the past. Many of our Deaf and Hard of Hearing members have additional disabilities such as diabetes, HIV/AIDS, mental health or developmental issues. One rather unusual regulation that was passed stated that if a deaf person who wears hearing aids, they do not need an interpreter in certain settings such as courts or medical facilities. Another instance in one state requires a doctor signature before they can get an interpreter. These poor decisions made by the United States DOJ need to be removed with help of NAD's advocacy support in helping to ensure the passage of the ADA Restoration Act.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None except for the time required of NAD staff/volunteers researching this important federal bill and providing outreach information to members/supporters.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The NAD is already involved with COAT on this matter (see Motion 2008-LA-PUB-012, above). State associations and affiliates are also encouraged to sign on with COAT in support of NAD efforts at the federal level.

TITLE: Department of Transportation Requirements **RANK:** 14
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-019 **TOTAL VOTES:** 123
INTRODUCED BY: Noella Kolash (New York)
SECONDED BY: Teresa Rogers (South Carolina)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD should strongly research, support and encourage the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to recognize that the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) requirement Section 391.41(b)(11) is not a valid regulation, therefore discriminatory and needs to be removed.

RATIONALE:

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) requirement Section 391.41(b)(11) states, "First perceives a forced whispered voice in the better ear at not less than 5 feet with or without the use of a hearing aid or, if tested by use of an audiometric device, does not have an average hearing loss in the better ear greater than 40 decibels at 500 Hz, 1,000 Hz, and 2,000 Hz with or without a hearing aid when the audiometric device is calibrated to American National Standard (formerly ASA Standard) Z24.5-1951;" This needs to be challenged and researched. We have deaf truck drivers who have received a DOT waiver in every state to get a Class A truck driver's license who claim that they can feel the vibration better than a hearing person can hear it. Even some hearing truck drivers have claimed that while driving there is no way of hearing that required whisper at all. Currently, there is high demand for truck drivers nationwide. This requirement prevents our deaf and hard of hearing population from receiving employment and should be removed. Some corporations have applied this regulation as their reason for not hiring deaf and hard of hearing people in order to receive permission to drive for delivery services with Class B, and C license requirements.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None directly, except for the time required of NAD staff/volunteers to research this existing barrier and develop a plan to address this with federal regulators.

BOARD COMMENTS:

This is an area that the NAD has addressed many times at the federal level, and this also involves variances in state regulations. The NAD certainly can keep pushing for needed changes at the federal level and develop resources to this effect.

TITLE: NAD Employment Task Force **RANK:** 19 (tied)
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-020 **TOTAL VOTES:** 115
INTRODUCED BY: David Baughman (New York)
SECONDED BY: Alan McCall (Michigan)

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall establish an employment task force that focuses on deaf and hard of hearing people and other persons with hearing loss.

RATIONALE:

Many deaf and hard of hearing members are unemployed and underemployed, working at jobs not related to their academic studies or are stuck under glass ceilings. The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) does not follow up with industries that are mandated to provide deaf and hard of hearing people who claim that the industries would not hire them fearing the need to hire an interpreter. More and more people are returning from overseas warfare with hearing loss. They are not exposed to sign language and are struggling to get jobs. The NAD should focus on the employment status of all people who have hearing loss and identify where the ones who use sign language or do not use sign language are at this moment. This will help find new directions that are needed for our current and future NAD members while seeking ways to get them to get employment opportunities in different businesses and locations across our country.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Some expense in setting up a research database with the use of NAD staff/volunteers.

BOARD COMMENTS:

CSAVR has already completed task force efforts in this area; the NAD will follow up with them on collaborative efforts to place resources on the NAD website.

TITLE:	Action Alert System for State Associations	RANK: 12
CODE:	2008-LA-PUB-021	TOTAL VOTES: 127
INTRODUCED BY:	Steve Lovi (New York)	
SECONDED BY:	Ann Cooper (Kansas)	

PROPOSED MOTION:
The NAD shall establish an Action Alert system for State Associations on the Internet.

RATIONALE:
This type of system is a great way for our members to be part of local, state and federal legislative processes. It would also be a great benefit for our state associations to be a more connected part of the NAD system. It would also help the NAD and state associations build better relationships with state and local legislatures and a great benefit for state associations to interface via the Internet with their legislators with the support of the NAD.

FISCAL IMPACT:
Minimal. The only expense would be for the NAD's information technology specialist to help set up this action alert system on their website and connect with state associations via the Internet.

BOARD COMMENTS:
Although we have this in place for national action alerts, the NAD board is committed to working more closely with state associations on ways to tie national efforts to state/local efforts (advocacy, marketing, etc.)

TITLE:	Live CC for Local TV News	RANK: 7
CODE:	2008-LA-PUB-022	TOTAL VOTES: 136
INTRODUCED BY:	Jim Revell (Arizona), USADSF	
SECONDED BY:	Larry Forestal	

PROPOSED MOTION:
The NAD shall form a task force to identify people at the government level to require a bill for cable/satellite television companies to provide closed-captioning of live local television news.

RATIONALE:
Right now, the FCC mandates only the top 25 cities to provide live closed-captioning for local television news. None is required for the rest of the country to provide full access, which does not comply with current laws.

FISCAL IMPACT:
Minimal.

BOARD COMMENTS:
Additional staff time and resources would be required for this.

TITLE:	NAD Exhibitions at Expos/Conferences	RANK: 18
CODE:	2008-LA-MEM-005	TOTAL VOTES: 118
INTRODUCED BY:	Mike Berger (Illinois)	
SECONDED BY:	Jerrod Keim (Wisconsin)	

PROPOSED MOTION:
NAD shall set new exhibits, materials and equipment to recruit new members to promote new growth.

RATIONALE:
NAD shall recruit and expose the entire deaf and hard of hearing community to the NAD organization, and develop new brochures and materials.

FISCAL IMPACT:
\$15,000 for exhibits, materials and equipment.

BOARD COMMENTS:

This will require at least \$25,000 in external funds, which is beyond the NAD's current budget.

TITLE:	NAD Youth Programs Task Force	RANK: 11 (tied)
CODE:	2008-LA-HQ-001	TOTAL VOTES: 129
INTRODUCED BY:	Sara Bianco (Illinois)	
SECONDED BY:	Joshua Beckman (New Jersey)	

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall establish a task force to restructure the NAD youth programs to become more efficient and accountable, promote consistency among participating state association programs, and be able to provide more resources and support to participating state association programs.

RATIONALE: The NAD Youth Programs offers four vital programs nurturing deaf youth to become leaders. In order to maximize resources, the structure needs to be revisited.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Unsure.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The NAD is in process of revamping its youth programs, such as adding the recent NAD Leadership Training Conference (NLTC). We also will form a Youth Initiatives Task Force.

TITLE:	Testing Materials for Deaf Test-Takers in ESL	RANK: 17
CODE:	2008-LA-PUB-025	TOTAL VOTES: 119
INTRODUCED BY:	Karl Reddy (Vermont)	
SECONDED BY:	Beatrice Pfaff (Indiana)	

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall investigate why there are no English as a Second Language (ESL) testing materials across the nation. The NAD shall develop a special committee to work closely with ETS (Praxis, SAT), ACT and RID for modification of written and performance exams in ESL for deaf test-takers.

RATIONALE:

To this day, the Department of Education in every state requires a license for specialization in "special skills" (i.e., teachers, psychologists, CDIs, high school students). The number of qualified deaf test-takers receiving their licenses is dramatically decreasing due to failing because the tests are for English as a first language test-takers (approximately 80%) and they have to re-take the test more than three to five times. FYI: Other nations, including Britain, provide ESL materials for Deaf and non-English speaking test-takers, while the U.S. does not.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None indicated at this time.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The NAD board recognizes that this issue needs to be addressed.

TITLE:	Immigration Access	RANK: 20
CODE:	2008-LA-PUB-026	TOTAL VOTES: 113
INTRODUCED BY:	Lisa McNiven (New Mexico)	
SECONDED BY:	Luke Walker (New Mexico)	

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the NAD reform access to immigration offices nationwide.

RATIONALE:

Access has been denied, limited or substandard for deaf immigrants, when processing paperwork for work visas to citizenship status. Access is defined as having sign language interpreters, oral interpreters, real-time captioning or other specialized services to be informed of regarding an individual's own immigration status. It is difficult on a state level to work with various immigration offices to provide access. State associations working with local entities have made very little progress. If the NAD works on this issue, it will have an impact nationwide, such as strengthening existing federal laws to benefit all deaf people.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None indicated at this time.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The NAD board recognizes that this issue needs to be addressed.

TITLE: Early Intervention
CODE: 2008-LA-PUB-027
INTRODUCED BY: Ruth Ann Schornstein (Maryland)
SECONDED BY: Shelley Gillis (Pennsylvania)

RANK: 10 (tied)
TOTAL VOTES: 130

PROPOSED MOTION:

The NAD shall work with the federal Department of Education to require each state to include information about schools for the deaf as an educational option.

RATIONALE:

Most states have omitted information about schools for the deaf.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Minimal.

BOARD COMMENTS:

This will require funds and staff/volunteer resources for the development and dissemination of materials. The NAD could also collaborate with CESAD and other appropriate groups.