

At previous meetings Commission Members have discussed quorum requirements per the Governance and Organizational Structure document. Many questions were raised regarding the effect of changing quorum requirements, and whether the Commission has failed to reach quorum in the past.

The historical analysis of attendance has shown that quorum has failed to be met at the Commission level on one occurrence, and at the committee level approximately four times within the last four years. These occurrences occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic and are not truly indicative of normal operation. The addition of non-voting members to the calculation of quorum would not have remedied being short of quorum.

Additionally, a quorum must contain a majority. A quorum of less than 50% is not valid.

There are two conflicting statements in the Governance and Organizational Structure document regarding quorum requirements that this amendment will attempt to harmonize.

The Nebraska Children's Commission and statutory subgroups have been operating under the following statement from the Governance and Organization Structure document:

*(1) The Commission requires a majority of voting members to be present to conduct business as per the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. (Governance and Organizational Structure 2.22.24, pg. 1)*

The Governance and Organizational Structure document also states:

*(2) A quorum of voting and non-voting members is required to hold a meeting and a quorum of voting members is required to take any action. (Governance and Organizational Structure 2.22.24, pg. 3)*

The options to harmonize the language in the Governance and Organizational Structure document are as follows:

- Continue requiring a simple majority of voting members to be present to hold a meeting and conduct business. This option makes no changes in the current way that quorum has been calculated. Ex-Officio, non-voting members are not required to be in attendance in order to hold a meeting. This option will not impact the quorum requirements of the subgroups of the Children's Commission. This option will change the language of statement (2) to read: "A simple majority of voting members is required to hold a meeting and take any action."
- End the quorum consisting of a simple majority of voting members and begin requiring a quorum consisting of a simple majority of voting and Ex-Officio members. This option will require any combination voting and Ex-Officio members in the amount totaling a simple majority (currently 11) to be present in order to hold a meeting. Taking action during a meeting will require a vote of a majority of voting members in attendance. This option could have the effect of action being taken by less than a simple majority of voting members. This option will impact the quorum requirements of all the subgroups of the Children's Commission. This option will change statement (1) to read: "The Commission requires a majority of voting and non-voting members to be present to conduct business."