



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NURSE-MIDWIVES CELEBRATES PASSAGE OF REVISED BYLAWS**

**SILVER SPRING, MD – The American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) announced the passage of a revised set of bylaws at its Annual Business Meeting on Sunday, May 25.** As the first major revision to the ACNM bylaws in many years, this represents an enormous effort from hundreds of ACNM staff and volunteers.

“This is an important step for ACNM to ensure compliance with current state and federal regulations and to establish a stronger, more effective national organization,” says ACNM Executive Director Lorrie Kline Kaplan. “These revised bylaws represent countless hours of committee and subcommittee work and feedback from more than 100 ACNM members with diverse opinions.”

Out of 889 total ballots, 91% were cast in favor of the revised bylaws. Over 740 ballots were submitted via Web voting. This is the first year that members were able to exercise their voting privileges via electronic voting thanks to the mail/electronic voting provision that was passed at the 2007 ACNM Annual Meeting.

The ACNM Bylaws Committee, the national office staff, and the Board of Directors are pleased with the voting results. The revised bylaws provide needed flexibility for the College while strengthening its state advocacy initiatives. The bylaws now reflect the independent relationship between ACNM and the American Midwifery Credentials Board (AMCB) and will also allow the Division of Accreditation to move forward with changing its name to the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME).

The Bylaws Committee has been instrumental in this latest achievement for ACNM and its members. To view the newly passed bylaws, visit [http://www.midwife.org/bylaws\\_update.cfm](http://www.midwife.org/bylaws_update.cfm).

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With roots dating to 1929, the American College of Nurse-Midwives is the oldest women's health care association in the U.S. ACNM's mission is to promote the health and well-being of women and newborns within their families and communities through the development and support of the profession of midwifery as practiced by certified nurse-midwives and certified midwives. Midwives believe every individual has the right to safe, satisfying health care with respect for human dignity and cultural variations. More information about ACNM can be found at [www.midwife.org](http://www.midwife.org).