

**The Senior Alliance
Pros and Cons of Various Board Attributes**

	Pros	Cons	Notes
Smaller board size	Easier to obtain quorum (?); easier to have in-depth discussion and analysis of issues	Less diversity; less fundraising capability	Corporate and Advisory Committees can provide fundraising capability and diverse representation; committees can do in-depth analysis and discussion
Board term	May encourage people to work harder during tenure if term is finite	Valuable members may find it easier to leave after finite term has ended	Dividing board into [three] classes helps ensure orderly turnover.
Term limits	Easier to remove unwanted board members. promotes fresh ideas, “culture of change;” can help address unwanted concentration of power in small number of board members	Can be arbitrary, resulting in unintended loss of expert, knowledgeable, and enthusiastic board members	Term limits for appointed members may not make sense; may exacerbate problem of finding qualified and enthusiastic “volunteer” board members. Periodic board member evaluations (e.g., at end of board terms) and/or removal policy in bylaws can address issues
Board composition	Appointed board cultivates important relationships with local governments	Less ability to tailor board membership to meet governance needs; appointed members may have less commitment to organization than “volunteers”	
Alternate board members	Easier to meet quorum requirements; provides mechanism to keep board members and their constituents informed of board developments	May encourage non-participation by board members; alternates may be less informed, less committed than regular members	
Board member qualifications	60+ membership helps ensure consumers’ needs are accurately identified and served	60+ requirement for governing body may arbitrarily constrain board recruitment and selection	Advisory Committee already has mandatory 60+ membership requirement
Appointment or election process	Appointments enable local governments providing matching funds to ‘monitor’ TSA’s use of public funds	Appointment process divests board and organization of control over its leadership	
Restrictions on board membership and participation	Avoids potentially harmful conflicts of interest	May cause organization to lose valuable expertise	Individuals with duality of interest may serve on Advisory Committee

			(with appropriate conflict of interest disclosure and abstention)
Matching funds provisions	Gives matching fund providers a stake in the outcome (encourage increased involvement?)	Gives matching fund providers a stake in the outcome (encourage parochialism?)	