

2024 Grand Chapter Proposed Legislation

1. John Lambros Resolution No. 15
2. Article IX Section 45
3. Article IX Section 142
4. Article X Section 47
5. Article X Section 46
6. Article X Section 47 – E
7. Article XVIII Section 164 – G
8. Article II Section 9A
9. Article II Section 10
10. Article VI Section 1B
11. Article VI Section 30
12. Article III Section 20
13. Repeal of Standing Resolution No. 1
14. Officers Resolution No. 16

STANDING RESOLUTION NO. 15

Whereas, Right Excellent Companion John Samuel Lambros, Grand King of the Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri 2023-2024, has served the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri with particular dedication and sense of responsibility for many years, and

Whereas, Right Excellent Companion Lambros most assuredly would have progressed to the office of Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter for the 2024-2025 year, and

Whereas, he was taken from us and passed to his eternal home on November 15, 2023, and

Whereas, the Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri will forever remember fondly his friendship, his kindness, his infectious joy and laughter, and his incredible sense of duty to the Craft, and

Whereas, his admirable and self-sacrificing example of honor and courage, placing the welfare of the Order above all personal ambition, will remain in perpetuity an inspiration to all who wear the apron of Missouri Capitular Masonry,

Therefore, be it resolved, that Right Excellent Companion John Samuel Lambros be posthumously invested with the rank and dignity of Honorary Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri, with all honors and privileges thereto appertaining.

Fraternally submitted,

Kevin M. Ritter, PHP, Springfield Chapter No. 15

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2024 GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION

PROPOSAL No. 1

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

ARTICLE IX Revenues of the Grand Chapter

Section 45. *Royal Arch Foundation.* There is hereby created a Foundation to be known as the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri Foundation as the assignee and successor of the Bublitz Foundation Fund, the income from its investments to be used for religious, educational, and charitable gifts. All funds placed in the above named fund shall be separate and apart from the general fund of the Grand Chapter. The Investment Committee shall be charged with the control and management of the restricted base, as designated by the Finance Committee, in such ways as, in its judgment, is prudent and adheres to sound business principles, while balancing the total return in accordance with the specific Chapter fund needs. All warrants drawn against this account shall be signed by the Grand High Priest and the Grand Secretary, upon recommendation of the Finance Committee and shall be paid by the Grand Treasurer.

Statement of Purpose

It is the responsibility of the Finance Committee to determine exactly how this money will be spent in regard to the foundation's original intent. Any monies considered part of the restricted base or not distributed or apportioned should be placed to maximize their long-term return. The Investment Committee is best suited for making this determination.

Fraternally submitted,

Terry Coppotelli, PHP
Jim McManigle, PHP

Bellefontaine Chapter No.25
Bolivar Chapter No. 5

**sLEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2024 GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION
PROPOSAL No. 2**

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

**ARTICLE IX
Revenues of the Grand Chapter**

Section 44. Investments. ~~The Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, and the Committee on Finance~~ The Investment Committee is authorized, for and in behalf of this Grand Chapter, and in the name of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri, to invest any surplus funds of the Grand Chapter in ~~an amount not less than one-half of all investments in obligations of the United States, or in the securities or accounts fully insured or guaranteed by the United States or an agency of the United States, except for those received by gift or bequest which may be retained in kind.~~ The remainder may be invested in common stock or equal securities in nationally known corporations traded on the New York Stock Exchange and rated "A": or better by Standard and Poore's or Moody's or by some equally well recognized investment rating service. ~~The Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, and the Committee on Budget/Finance/Investment are is authorized, for and in behalf of this Grand Chapter, and in the name of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri, to invest any surplus funds of the Grand Chapter, in direct U.S. Government obligations, from time to time, as they may deem advisable, and from time to time sell, exchange, transfer, or reinvest such funds in direct U.S. Government obligations. such ways as, in its judgment, is prudent and adheres to sound business principles, while balancing the total return in accordance with the specific Chapter fund needs.~~

Statement of purpose

The Investment Committee is a specialized committee. There is no merit having a member of this committee based on the Grand Chapter office position they hold. All members of the Investment Committee should possess a knowledge of or acumen in financial matters. It must be assumed that the Grand High Priest will consider these qualifications when choosing these members. By his chair responsibilities, the chairman of the Finance Committee Finance should be knowledgeable in this area as well.

This does not mean the Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, or for that matter any other companion can't be a member of this committee. It just means that there is no merit for making a blanket, standing appointment based on a Grand Chapter office held.

In addition, the added language regarding the amount of assets placed in a specific investment is not necessary. The old language chose an arbitrary percentage of the surplus funds and locks the committee into taking a position REGARDLESS OF WHAT PREVAILING MARKET CONDITION AND CLIMATE may call for. A committee that is qualified will make the proper allocations based on what is appropriate at the given time.

Fraternally submitted,

Terry Coppotelli, PHP
Jim McManigle, PHP

Bellefontaine Chapter No.25
Bolivar Chapter No. 5

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2024 GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION
PROPOSAL No. 3

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

ARTICLE X
Standing Committees

Section 47. Duties of Committees

- I. The Committee of Investments. The committee will be comprised of at least three companions, preferably with a background or expertise in financial matters. One shall be the Chairman of the Finance Committee; the others who shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest. Their duties shall be to manage the surplus, foundation, endowment, and any other funds which may be allocated to them.

Statement of purpose

To set qualifications for members of the Investment Committee.

Fraternally submitted,

Terry Coppotelli, PHP
Jim McManigle, PHP

Bellefontaine Chapter No.25
Bolivar Chapter No. 5

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2024 GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION
PROPOSAL No. 4

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

ARTICLE X
Standing Committees

Section 46. Standing Committees

I. Investments

Statement of purpose

The Investment Committee needs to be a standing, ongoing committee.

Fraternally submitted,

Terry Coppotelli, PHP
Jim McManigle, PHP

Bellefontaine Chapter No.25
Bolivar Chapter No. 5

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2024 GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION

PROPOSAL No. 5

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

**ARTICLE X
Standing Committees**

Section 47: Duties of Committees

E. *The Committee on Finance and Accounts* shall examine the financial statements of the Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, and Examiner's report, and report upon the same. It shall also report upon all matters touching the finances of the Grand Chapter; and no appropriations shall be made without having been considered and reported on by this Committee. It shall be a committee of three consisting of the Grand King, Grand Scribe and Grand Captain of the Host. Each year, the Grand High Priest shall appoint one of the aforementioned three officers as the chairman for the ensuing year. All remaining elected Grand Chapter Line Officers shall be ex- officio members of the Committee. The committee shall be authorized to determine and identify the surplus funds of the Grand Chapter and make them available to the Investment Committee for placement in appropriate investments and securities.

Statement of Purpose

It is the responsibility of the Finance Committee to determine exactly how this money will be spent in regard to annual needs and budgeting. Any monies not distributed or apportioned in the budget should be placed to maximize their long-term return. The Investment Committee is best suited for making this determination.

Fraternally submitted,

Terry Coppotelli, PHP
Jim McManigle, PHP

Bellefontaine Chapter No.25
Bolivar Chapter No. 5

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2024 GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION

PROPOSAL No. 6

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

ARTICLE XVIII

Dues

Section 164. Endowed Membership.

G. All monies received by the Grand Secretary from the constituent chapters for the purchase of Endowed Memberships shall be placed in the Endowed Membership Fund. The principal of this Endowed Membership Fund shall be invested ~~in a manner determined by the Governing Body~~ by the Investment Committee in such ways as, in its judgment, is prudent and adheres to sound business principles, while balancing the total return in accordance with the specific Chapter fund needs.

Statement of Purpose

It is the responsibility of the Finance Committee to determine the restricted base and the amount of annual return of endowed monies to be returned to the individual chapters. Any monies not distributed should be placed to maximize their long-term return, while still providing an income component for annual distribution. The Investment Committee is best suited for making this determination.

Fraternally submitted,

Terry Coppotelli, PHP
Jim McManigle, PHP

Bellefontaine Chapter No.25
Bolivar Chapter No. 5

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2024 GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION

PROPOSAL No. 7

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

ARTICLE II
Grand Officers

Section 9A. Elective Officers. The elective officers of this Grand Chapter shall be a

Grand High Priest,

Grand King,

Grand Scribe,

Grand Treasurer

Grand Secretary

~~Grand Captain of the Host~~

~~Grand Principal Sojourner~~

~~Grand Royal Arch Captain~~

~~Grand Master of the Third Veil~~

~~Grand Master of the Second Veil, and~~

~~Grand Master of the First Veil.~~

A majority of the votes cast shall elect, and such elected officers shall hold their respective offices until their successors are installed.

Statement of Purpose

To democratize the election of Grand Officers and shorten the line.

Fraternally submitted,

Donald MacCormick, PHP

Mark A. Bean, PHP

Kevin B. Sample, PHP

Kansas City Chapter No. 28

Columbia Chapter No. 17

Poplar Bluff Chapter No. 14

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2024 GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION

PROPOSAL No. 8

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

ARTICLE II
Grand Officers

Section 10. *Appointive Officers.* The appointive officers of this Grand Chapter shall be a

Grand Captain of the Host,
Grand Principal Sojourner,
Grand Royal Arch Captain,
Grand Master of the Third Veil,
Grand Master of the Second Veil,
Grand Master of the First Veil,

Grand Chaplain,
Grand Sentinel,
Grand Organist,
Grand Chorister, and
Grand Lecturer.

They shall serve for one year under the Grand High Priest making the appointment. ~~They may succeed themselves by further appointment or may be elected to the progressive line as provided by Section 9.~~

Statement of Purpose

To democratize the election of Grand Officers and shorten the line.
Fraternally submitted,

Donald MacCormick, PHP
Mark A. Bean, PHP
Kevin B. Sample, PHP

Kansas City Chapter No. 28
Columbia Chapter No. 17
Poplar Bluff Chapter No. 14

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2024 GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION

PROPOSAL No. 9

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

ARTICLE VI

Officers

~~Section 1. B. Nominations for Grand Master of the First Veil shall be entertained at the time called for the election of officers. Past Grand High Priests may collectively select a single individual and introduce that individual to the Grand Chapter by means of a brief, verbally presented biography. Each Chartered Chapter, legally represented and registered with the Credentials Committee, may select and introduce one Companion by means of a brief, verbally presented biography.~~ Availability. Any eligible member of this Grand Chapter desiring to serve in any elective office as provided in the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri may, on or before the forty-fifth (45th) day prior to the Annual Assembly, file with the Grand Secretary a "Statement of Availability" for such office; containing a resume of his service to his Chapter(s) in which he holds or has held membership; his service to this Grand Chapter; and a photo, if available.

Such "Statement of Availability" shall be published on the Grand York Rite Website, Social Media, and shall be forwarded by the Grand Secretary to all subordinate Chapters along with all Resolutions and/or Recommendations as required by this Grand Chapter. However, this Grand Chapter may elect any eligible member whether or not he has previously submitted such statement of availability.

Statement of Purpose

To democratize the election of Grand Officers and shorten the line.

Fraternally submitted,

Donald MacCormick, PHP
Mark A. Bean, PHP
Kevin B. Sample, PHP

Kansas City Chapter No. 28
Columbia Chapter No. 17
Poplar Bluff Chapter No. 14

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2024 GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION

PROPOSAL No. 10

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

ARTICLE VI
Grand Secretary

~~Section 30. *Standing Resolutions.* He shall print on replacement pages all the standing resolutions and amendments, as adopted, and shall mail a copy to each secretary, Past Grand High Priest and officer of the Grand Chapter of Missouri.~~

Statement of Purpose

All standing resolutions and amendments, when adopted are provided online for download by all.

Fraternally submitted,

Donald MacCormick, PHP

Kansas City Chapter No. 28

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2024 GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION

PROPOSAL No. 11

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

ARTICLE II

Powers and Duties of the Grand High Priest

~~Section 20. *Representatives.* He may appoint representatives of this Grand Chapter near other Grand Chapters and may receive and accredit representatives of such other Grand Chapters near this Grand Chapter. When such a representative shall fail to attend the annual convocation of the Grand Chapter for two consecutive years, the Grand High Priest shall request the Grand High Priest of the jurisdiction which he represents to declare the position vacant and recommend some suitable companion to be his successor.~~

Statement of Purpose

The Grand Representatives Program has not been active for several years, and the vast majority of the Grand Representatives do not visit their designated jurisdiction nor report to the Grand Chapter. The removal of this section of the Constitution and By-Laws will terminate the Grand Representatives Program.

Fraternally submitted,

Donald MacCormick, PHP

Kansas City Chapter No. 28

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2024 GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION

PROPOSAL No. 12

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(Deletions appear in ~~strike through~~, additions appear underlined)

Be It Resolved That: Standing Resolution No. 1 be repealed in its entirety.

Standing Resolution No. 1

~~Adopted May 14, 2004, Repealed June 8, 2024~~

~~**Be It Resolved That,** the funds of the Retirement Fund be disbursed to a newly created reserved fund in its entirety, still protected under section 501(c)(10) of the IRS Code. And, from which only the annual earned interest and dividends may be used for general fund purposes.~~

Statement of Purpose:

I proposed that Standing Resolution No. 1 be repealed. The former Retirement Fund was discontinued by legislative actions taken during the 2004 Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Missouri on May 14, 2004. Since that date, the former Retirement Fund money has become known as the Special General Fund money. During the passing years the Special General Fund money has not always been invested with the earned gains being used for General Fund purposes. Therefore, it is now time to convert all of the Special General Fund money into General Fund money and discontinue the using Special General Fund as a separate fund label.

Fraternally Submitted:

Russell S. Hanson, PHP,

Columbia Chapter 17

STANDING RESOLUTION NO. 16

Whereas, the Grand Captain of the Host, Grand Principal Sojourner, Grand Royal Arch Captain, Grand Master of the 3rd Veil, Grand Master of the 2nd Veil having been previously elected to those stations by the Grand Chapter, and

Whereas, each would normally advance through each station to the Grand East, and

Whereas, those Offices are now appointed stations.

Therefore, be it resolved, that each elected Officer shall advance through each station as elected by the Grand Chapter. As the current Grand Master of the 1st Veil advances, the Office vacated shall become an appointment.

Fraternally submitted,

Donald MacCormick PHP

Kansas City Chapter No. 28