

# **2026 Grand Council Proposed Legislation**

1. Article XIX SEC 148 D
2. Article XVI SEC. 140 12

# LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2026 GRAND COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

## PROPOSAL No. 1

### PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

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

#### ARTICLE VXI

#### Endowed Membership (Renamed 5/19/05)

12. The Grand Recorder shall annually remit to the recorders of participating constituent Councils, their prorated portion of the earnings of the Endowed Membership Fund minus per capita. This is provided that no earnings shall be distributed on any Endowed Membership until January 1 of the second (2nd) calendar year after such fee, paid in full, is deposited with the Grand Recorder. ~~When an Endowed Member dies, the Grand Council will continue to receive his per capita, less 20% and his Council will continue to receive his prorated earnings, less 20%. The retained 20% will be added to the Fund's principal to provide for growth in the Fund. Prorated earnings shall be based on the members' council dues that existed at the time the individual entered the Endowed Membership Program. Per capita shall be the per capita that existed at the time the individual entered the Endowed Membership program.~~

The Endowed Membership Fund shall establish as the Base Principal those funds received by the Grand Recorder from subordinate Councils for the purchase of an Endowed Membership. As new memberships are purchased the Base Principal will increase. At no time shall the fund draw down below this Base Principal.

Distribution of the Investment Growth in the fund shall follow these guidelines. The Investment Committee shall, as soon as practical after January 1 of each year, advise the Endowed Membership Committee the amount of gain or loss in the investments of Endowed Membership Fund.

Any gains accrued will be distributed as follows: First, the current Per Capita will be paid for all living Endowed members by the Grand Council. Second, from the remaining funds, 30% will be retained in the Endowed Membership Fund to fortify the continued growth of the fund and become part to the Base Principal. Third, the remaining 70% will be distributed to the subordinate Councils on a prorated basis for the total number of endowed members, living and deceased that are/were members of that Council.

#### *Statement of purpose*

The purpose of this amendment is to clearly define, protect, and strengthen the long-term structure and distribution methodology of the Endowed Membership Fund of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Missouri.

This proposal formally establishes the concept of a protected Base Principal, defined as all funds received from subordinate chapters for the purchase of Endowed Memberships. The amendment ensures that this Base Principal shall continually increase as new Endowed Memberships are purchased and shall never be reduced. This safeguard preserves the perpetual nature of the Endowed Membership Program and protects the integrity of the funds entrusted to the Grand Council.

Additionally, this amendment provides a clear and orderly framework for the annual distribution of investment growth. It:

- Establishes the priority payment of current Per Capita for all living Endowed Members to the Grand Council.
- Retains thirty percent (30%) of remaining gains within the Endowed Membership Fund to strengthen and fortify its continued growth.
- Distributes the remaining seventy percent (70%) to subordinate Councils on a prorated basis for all endowed members, living and deceased, affiliated with each chapter.

By clearly defining principal protection, distribution priorities, and proportional allocation methods, this amendment promotes financial transparency, stability, and responsible stewardship. It ensures the Endowed Membership Fund remains perpetual, equitable, and beneficial to both the Grand Council and its subordinate Councils for generations to come.

Fraternally submitted,

Donald MacCormick, PM  
Russell S. Hanson, PM

Kansas City Council No. 45  
Centralia Council No. 34

**LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2026 GRAND COUNCIL ASSEMBLY**

**PROPOSAL No. 2**

**PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC MASONS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:**

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

**ARTICLE XIX  
Masonic Membership Solutions (MMS)**

**SEC 148. *Council Recorder Responsibilities***

~~D. Recorders and IT Representatives shall log in to MMS no less than monthly to maintain access credentials and to make any approved membership changes.~~

*Statement of purpose*

The purpose of this amendment is to provide reasonable flexibility in the administrative use of the Masonic Membership Solutions (MMS) system by removing an unnecessary mandatory monthly login requirement for Council Recorders and IT Representatives. While maintaining accurate and timely membership records is essential, requiring monthly system access regardless of whether membership transactions or updates are pending places an administrative burden on local Councils without any benefit. Many Councils experience periods in which no membership activity occurs, making routine mandatory logins unnecessary.

This amendment does not diminish the responsibility of Recorders and IT Representatives to promptly process approved membership changes. Rather, it removes a rigid procedural requirement that does not materially improve record accuracy or system integrity. By adopting this amendment, the Grand Council promotes efficient administration, respects the time of its officers, and maintains practical oversight of membership reporting.

Administrative requirements should serve a clear operational purpose and not impose obligations that do not contribute to improved governance or recordkeeping.

Fraternally submitted,

Donald MacCormick, PM

Kansas City Council No. 45