

RESOLUTION 24R-09

To request the RI Board to consider recommending that each district establish a District Council on Legislation committee

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Kobe Seishin, District 2680, Japan

1 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
2 International consider recommending that each district establish a committee that
3 is equivalent to the Council on Legislation or the Council on Resolutions of Rotary
4 International, to be referred to tentatively as the District Council on Legislation
5 committee.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

6 Currently, enactments and resolutions are proposed by districts and clubs
7 throughout the world and are then considered by the Council on Legislation and
8 the Council on Resolutions. The single representative elected by each district has
9 one vote for each item. The Council on Legislation is convened triennially in
10 person, while the Council on Resolutions meets annually to consider resolutions
11 which are voted on electronically.

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13 In preparing enactments and resolutions, it is necessary to go through the
14 process of receiving proposals from the clubs in each district and compiling the
15 opinions in the district. It is already a significant burden for a single
16 representative to handle these tasks.

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18 It cannot be denied, moreover, that the procedure of deliberating and gathering
19 opinions on many enactments and resolutions, proposed by districts and clubs
20 around the world, may also be an excessive burden if it is left to the
21 representative alone.

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23 Noting also that club presidents and secretaries are unfamiliar with the RI
24 Constitution, the RI Bylaws, and the Standard Club Constitution, it would seem
25 necessary to have a body that is in charge of promoting and raising awareness of
26 the deliberations of the Council on Legislation or Council on Resolutions.

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28 Therefore, it would be desirable to establish a District Council on Legislation
29 committee within each district that would be responsible for developing,
30 promoting, raising awareness about, and deliberating upon each of these
31 proposals.

1 Since it is natural that the autonomy of each district should be respected, it does
2 not seem appropriate to make the District Council on Legislation committee a
3 mandatory committee. It should be a voluntary committee and should only be
4 recommended by the RI Board. Similarly, the organizational and authoritative
5 relationship between the governor, the representative, and the District Council
6 on Legislation committee should be left to the discretion of the district, which
7 shall decide whether this committee should be a fully independent committee or
8 merely an advisory body of representatives.

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10 The establishment of this committee in each district to prepare and deliberate on
11 proposals for each Council on Legislation and Council on Resolutions would help
12 to enhance Rotarians' awareness of the RI Constitution, the RI Bylaws, and the
13 Standard Rotary Club Constitution, as well as the Recommended Rotary Club
14 Bylaws. It would also help to increase general awareness about RI at the club level.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

15 If implemented, this resolution would have no substantial financial impact on RI.