

RESOLUTION 21R-14

To request the RI Board to consider ensuring that at least 30 percent of future Rotary Foundation Trustees are women, and set a goal to have a female chair of The Rotary Foundation

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Balwyn, District 9800, Australia

1 WHEREAS, the RI Board should remove any obstacles that would prevent a
2 suitably qualified female Rotarian from being selected as chair of The Rotary
3 Foundation, and

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5 WHEREAS, in the 105 years of The Rotary Foundation, a woman has led the
6 organization only once, and then only when completing a partial term of 10 weeks
7 in 2018-2019, and

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9 WHEREAS, it is now 33 years since women were accepted as members of RI.
10 During that time, no woman has been appointed as trustee chair. The first female
11 RI president has been selected for 2022-2023. There is no evidence that The
12 Rotary Foundation has near-term plans to follow the lead of the RI Board, and

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14 WHEREAS, the nine qualifications sought for an ideal candidate for trustee chair
15 emphasize a wide range of experience and skills specific to the role. There should
16 not be any convention or expectation that the trustee chair must be a past RI
17 President

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19 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
20 International consider emphasizing the importance of its January 2019
21 “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement” by ensuring that at least 30 percent
22 of future Rotary Foundation Trustees are women, and set a goal to have a female
23 chair of The Rotary Foundation within a reasonable timeframe.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

24 At the January 2019 RI Board meeting, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
25 Policy statement was approved for RI. That statement says “Rotary values
26 diversity and celebrates the contributions of peoples of all backgrounds,
27 regardless of their age, ethnicity, race, color, abilities, religion, socioeconomic
28 status, culture, sex, sexual orientation and gender identity.”

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30 At the same meeting the Board set “a goal for the number of women in Rotary
31 and in Rotary Leadership positions to be 30 percent by June 2023.”

- 1 This resolution is consistent with both the statement and the goal.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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