

RESOLUTION 22R-15

To request the RI Board to consider proposing legislation to provide that representatives shall be elected in the year of the Council on Legislation

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Chigasaki, District 2780, Japan

1 WHEREAS, this resolution addresses RI Bylaws sections 9.040., Terms of
2 Representatives, and 9.060., Election of Representatives at the District Conference

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4 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
5 International consider proposing legislation to a future Council on Legislation that
6 would revise the RI Bylaws to provide that representatives shall be elected in the
7 year of the Council on Legislation, beginning their term on 1 July of the following
8 Rotary year and serving for three years or until a successor is selected and certified
9 by the district.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

10 RI Bylaws subsection 9.060.1. provides that “The election shall take place by 30
11 June in the year two years before the council on legislation.” Section 9.040. provides
12 that “The term of a representative begins on 1 July in the year after the year of
13 selection. Each representative shall serve a term of three years or until a successor is
14 selected and certified.” In accordance with these provisions, many districts currently
15 elect their representatives in the year following each Council on Legislation, and
16 they serve three-year terms beginning on 1 July of the subsequent Rotary year. This
17 scarcely allows sufficient time for representatives to fulfill their primary
18 responsibility: the submission of legislation to the Council on Legislation. Such an
19 issue arises because the enactment submission deadline is scheduled only six
20 months into the first year of a representative’s term. We therefore propose that
21 representative elections be timed to coincide with the end of each Council year, and
22 that representatives begin their term on 1 July of the following year and serve for
23 three years or until a qualified successor is selected and certified by the district. This
24 change would extend to one-and-a-half years the amount of time in which
25 representatives may prepare and submit legislation, an accommodation we believe
26 will enable them to develop a more solid understanding of the process, as well as
27 allow for a more comprehensive educational effort within the district about it.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

1 If implemented, this resolution would have no substantial financial impact on RI,
2 as it is moving the representative election year and start of their term one year
3 earlier in the Council cycle. Under the current process, the next representatives
4 will be selected in 2025-26; however, under this proposal, they would instead be
5 selected in 2024-25 and begin their term on 1 July 2025.