

RESOLUTION 21R-25

To request the RI Board to consider adding an environmental impact statement to enactments

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Commack-Kings Park, District 7255, USA

1 WHEREAS, each proposed enactment considered by the Council on Legislation
2 includes a financial impact statement provided by the general secretary to advise
3 Council representatives of the anticipated financial costs associated with the
4 proposed change, and

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6 WHEREAS, Rotary as an organization has become keenly aware of
7 environmental issues which affect our world, both human-made and naturally
8 occurring, and

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10 WHEREAS, Rotary has an intrinsic obligation to protect the world's ecology as
11 part of its overall mission to do good in the world, for as past RI President Barry
12 Rassin stated, "As a humanitarian organization, we're obligated to talk about [the
13 environment]. We need to have the conversation." and

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15 WHEREAS, The Rotary Foundation has recently demonstrated its concern for
16 our environment with the addition of a seventh area of focus, supporting the
17 environment, within which clubs and districts are encouraged to participate, and

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19 WHEREAS, while many of Rotary's activities are ecologically neutral, some do
20 have a direct or an indirect effect on the environment and it would benefit
21 concerned Council representatives to be made aware of such influences

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23 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
24 International consider adding an environmental impact statement to each
25 proposed enactment considered by the Council on Legislation, in addition and
26 similar in form to the financial impact statements that the general secretary
27 currently provides. This environmental impact statement shall consider, but not
28 be limited to, the effect of RI's programs and policies on sustainability, climate
29 change, greenhouse gas emissions, the rise in sea levels, soil erosion, the use of
30 fossil fuels, carbon emissions, overpopulation, food waste and depletion of
31 natural resources, and the promotion of alternative energy sources.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

1 This resolution seeks to have an environmental impact statement added to each
2 proposed enactment considered by representatives at the Council on Legislation.
3 This addition will heighten the awareness and understanding of Council
4 representatives regarding ecological issues, so that they may consider the
5 environmental impact that a proposed enactment will generate along with its
6 other merits.

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8 If implemented, this resolution will shift RI's programming and procedures
9 towards more environmentally-friendly and efficient methods and goals.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

10 If implemented, this resolution could have a financial impact on RI which cannot
11 be determined at this time. Cost would be dependent on the scope and extent of
12 support provided by the RI Board to accomplish this goal, as RI does not
13 currently have a process or expertise to conduct environmental impact
14 assessments and draft environmental impact statements.