

**Rotary**   
**2016 COUNCIL ON LEGISLATION**  
**10-15 APRIL CHICAGO, IL USA**



Greetings Fellow Rotarians.

It was my honour to attend the recent 2016 Council on Legislation session last week in Chicago as your District Delegate.

Over the course of the week, our collective body of delegates considered some 117 Enactments (Legislation seeking to amend Rotary's constitutional documents are considered Proposed Enactments) and 64 Resolutions (Legislation which do not seek to amend the constitutional documents, yet do express an opinion or make a recommendation to the RI Board) are known as Proposed Resolutions

The full copy of the proposed legislation continues to be on our district web page, see download files: COL Proposed Legislation 2016.

The attached spreadsheet, **I RECOMMEND THAT YOU NOT PRINT THIS FILE**, provides a visual recap of the various results as follows:

Enactments: 47 Adopted as highlighted in Green,  
30 Rejected as highlighted in Red,  
32 Withdrawn as highlighted in Blue

and a further 8 referred to Board and Postponed for consideration indefinitely.

Resolutions: 14 Adopted as highlighted in Green  
23 Rejected as highlighted in Red  
27 Withdrawn as highlighted in Blue

Over the next several months, the various Rotary information pieces will be reviewed and updated as appropriate with careful consideration to ensure that changes follow through to each applicable section for consistency.

Personally, I found this experience, while demanding, to be of great satisfaction. My emotions ranged from frustration with the online application to pride in the quick reactions by the leadership to provide enhanced voting materials and improved internet capacity, from disappointment in the number of seemingly singular requests to great delight in the flexibility desired by all delegates, and finally to a sense of accomplishment in being a part of this Council that will shape the future of our Rotary in the upcoming years.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK:

ENACTMENT 16-21 Flexibility in club meetings and attendance. Provide clubs greater leeway in when and how often they meet, how often they cancel meetings, and what constitutes a meeting, as long as they meet at least twice a month.

ENACTMENT 16-36 Flexibility in membership. Provide clubs with greater flexibility in membership model, through the capacity to create sub-categories, under the ACTIVE member category. The only two types of membership continue to be ACTIVE or HONOURARY.

ENACTMENT 16-38 Revise provisions for membership. Bold removal of the existing membership criteria from the RI Constitution via simple requirements that a member demonstrate good character, integrity, and leadership, possess good reputation within their business, profession and/or community; and are willing to serve the community.

ENACTMENT 16 – 40 Allow Rotaractors to be Active Members. Provide for Rotaractors to hold membership in Rotary.

ENACTMENT 16-99 To increase per capita dues. The pressing need to provide ongoing updates to programs and services to meet the evolving needs of Rotary club, directed support to an increase of \$4.00 in the annual per capita dues payable to Rotary International.

ENACTMENT 16-113 Provided for creation of a Council on Resolutions to propose resolutions to the RI Board as a separate governing body that will meet online annually.

RESOLUTION 16-118 Endorse & affirm that the eradication of Polio is a goal of the highest order of Rotary International ADOPTED 100% UNANIMOUS.

In closing, I extend my sincere THANK YOU for this opportunity to serve our District in this important task. I have an even greater appreciation for the good work of Rotary and for my fellow Rotarians around the world.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Karen L. Oakes