

2016 Council on Legislation How to Propose Legislation

Every three years Rotary International's Council on Legislation meets to debate and vote on legislation submitted by clubs, districts, the RI Board, and the general council or conference of RIBI. The Council has the authority to amend RI's constitutional documents, as well as adopt resolutions. Every district sends one representative to the Council, and every club and district may propose legislation. If your club or district is considering proposing legislation for the Council, please follow the guidelines below.

What's New for the 2016 Council?

All proposed legislation should be submitted through the 2016 Council Legislation online form found [here](#). As part of the form, a Word version of the constitutional document with the proposed changes will need to be uploaded. The Word documents can be found on the governance documents page of the Rotary [website](#).

Who May Propose Legislation?

Clubs, districts, the RI Board, and the general council or conference of RIBI may propose legislation. However, legislation proposed by a club must first be endorsed by the clubs of the district in order to be presented to the Council.

When is the Deadline?

Legislation from clubs and districts for the 2016 Council must be *received* by Rotary International on or before **31 December 2014**. There are no exceptions to this deadline. Legislation received after the deadline will not be considered.

The submission must include the following items to be complete:

- 1) Name of the proposer
- 2) Confirmation from the district governor that legislation was proposed or endorsed by the district
- 3) The proposer's statement of purpose and effect
- 4) Word document with the proposed changes

In addition, submit all legislation endorsed at a district conference or district resolutions meeting through the online form within 45 days of the conclusion of the conference or meeting, or of the date fixed by the governor for receipt of the ballots for a ballot-by-mail.

How Does My Club Submit Legislation?

For a club to propose legislation:

1. The club's board of directors must first submit proposed legislation to the club members for adoption at a regular club meeting.
2. If adopted, the proposal must then be forwarded to the district with a letter signed by the club president and secretary certifying that it has been adopted by the club.

Resolutions

Resolutions seek actions by the Council that do not change the RI constitutional documents. When considering a resolution, determine whether the issue involved would have a universal impact on all Rotarians, or whether it would have a limited impact on only a few Rotarians. If the impact would be limited or if you would like to receive a more rapid response, then consider submitting a petition to the RI Board. If the issue is more universal, a proposed resolution may be appropriate. Proposed resolutions are also submitted online through the [legislation form](#). To submit a proposed resolution, please use the [resolution template](#).

A resolution is formatted as follows:

IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary International consider (insert words of the resolution).

(or IT IS RESOLVED that the 2016 Council on Legislation adopt [insert words of the resolution]).

Example of a proposed resolution in proper form:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

To request the RI Board to consider recommending to governors to conduct training seminars for new Rotary club members

Proposed by

WHEREAS, lately, due to weakened leadership and member education and rushing for membership development, many clubs do not provide satisfactory education to new members, either before and/or after they join a club, and

WHEREAS, as a result, many new members lack knowledge and understanding of Rotary so that love for the club and desire to attend regular meetings cannot be sensed

IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary International consider taking these situations into account and recommending to district governors to conduct training seminars for new members who joined Rotary within three years. With district training seminars, it is expected that the qualities of the new members will be bettered and that the club meetings will be rejuvenated, which, ultimately will lead to membership development.

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