

Agriculture and Environmental Issues

Resolution #1 - Ag Plastics Berks County Pomona Grange #43

WHEREAS, many areas of agriculture use plastics in their farming practices, such as bale wrap, bunk covers, silage baggers, and vegetable growers for weed control, to mention a few; and

WHEREAS, State, county and local government bodies are creating and enforcing new burning laws which forbid the burning of plastics; and

WHEREAS, the cost of recycling agronomic plastics could create an enormous burden to agricultural operations; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that until a solution to the problem is found, that State, county and local governments exempt farm plastics from ~~these~~ burning laws; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, that county governments make funding available in their recycling programs to purchase the necessary pieces of equipment to assist farmers in their respective counties to keep costs of recycling **ag plastics** to farmers at a minimum.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

Resolution # 2 - Marcellus Shale Severance Tax Bradford Sullivan Pomona Grange #23

WHEREAS, Governor Rendell wants to put a severance tax on Marcellus Shale gas, a revision to sales tax; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, the Grange go on record to have sixty percent (60%) of the severance tax stay in the area where the gas is taken from, to be used to reduce property tax and improve roads and bridges.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		Yield to #3
DELEGATES			x		

**Resolution #3 - Marcellus Shale Severance Tax
Lycoming County Pomona Grange No. 28**

WHEREAS, the Marcellus Shale natural gas exploration has become a large industry in Pennsylvania, and

WHEREAS, there is current discussion about the state imposing a severance tax on the natural gas industry; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that should legislation be proposed imposing a severance tax, the Pennsylvania Grange will only support any legislation that provides at least **30%** of those tax proceeds be returned to the counties and municipalities in which natural gas production is taking place.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

**Resolution #4 - Marcellus Shale Severance Tax
Tioga County Pomona Grange #30**

WHEREAS, with the exploration and drilling of natural gas and oil in Pennsylvania and with the increased costs the areas affected are incurring and experiencing the loss of their non-renewable resource; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, a minimum of one percent (1%) royalty should be collected from each producing oil or gas well to be returned to the local municipality in which the well is located.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		Yield to #3
DELEGATES			X		

**Resolution #5 - Rural Road Development
Tioga County Pomona Grange #30**

WHEREAS, rural communities have a right to drive automobiles to their homes and conduct normal businesses while gas companies are drilling in their areas; and

WHEREAS, the state of Pennsylvania receives large sums of money from forestry sales and hydrocarbon leases; and

WHEREAS, the rural roads do not have sufficient base materials to support the heavy equipment that is presently using them; Therefore Be It

1 RESOLVED, a portion of the windfall revenues coming to the state of PA **from forestry sales**
 2 **and hydrocarbon leases** needs to be earmarked for rural road development. ~~Road conditions~~
 3 ~~near drilling sites are not acceptable with the present system of bonding which is \$12,000 per~~
 4 ~~mile by gas companies to repair after they are finished.~~

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

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**Resolution #6 - Milk Pricing
 Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

10 WHEREAS, milk pricing formulas have been cumbersome, manipulative, and the worst enemy
 11 of the dairy farmer, and

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 13 WHEREAS, the pricing of milk on many instances omits one of the key components of
 14 production, the Cost; Therefore Be It

15
 16 RESOLVED, that a new formula be instituted that is based on three main ingredients– forage,
 17 energy and protein, and Be It Further

18 RESOLVED, that a floor price per cost of milk in tank be established, and Be It Further

19 RESOLVED that quality and components be a plus and minus to the milk check, and Be It
 20 Further

21 RESOLVED, that if production exceeds demand, that a quota system be also ready for
 22 implementation.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	x				
DELEGATES			x		

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**Resolution #7 - Milk Cost of Production
 Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23**

30 WHEREAS, the price paid to dairy farmers has been far too low for far too long; and

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 32 WHEREAS, the government is still allowing imports of casein and milk protein concentrates
 33 from foreign countries when it is a known fact that sanitary conditions in some cases are far
 34 more lenient than those imposed on dairy farmers in the United States; and

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WHEREAS, this certainly is a factor in keeping the price to the United States dairymen too low;
Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that the Grange urge our Congressmen to take immediate action and support S-
1645 which, if approved, would base the milk price on the dairy farmer's cost of production.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

**Resolution #8 - Milk Pricing
Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23**

WHEREAS, for years many dairy farmers have continued to remain in business even with severely low milk prices; and

WHEREAS, it is extremely important that milk prices paid to the farmers include the cost of production taken into account; and

WHEREAS, there seems to be an excessive amount of imported dairy products from countries whose sanitary regulations are not as strict as those imposed on the American dairymen; and

WHEREAS, it is urgent that the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture consider some relief immediately for dairy farmers; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that the Grange ask our U.S. Senators and Representatives give their utmost support of passage of S1645 to give some financial relief to dairy farmers before more are forced out of business.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

1 **Resolution #9 - Milk Hauling Fees**
 2 **Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23**

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 4 WHEREAS, Rep. Carney has co-sponsored a bill that would eliminate all hauling costs for milk
 5 producers that protects dairy farmers from paying unfair fees to milk processors to have milk
 6 transported to milk plant stations or transfer stations; Therefore Be It

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 8 RESOLVED, that the Grange support passage of Rep. Carney’s bill to eliminate transportation
 9 fees for dairy farmers.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

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14 **Resolution #10 - Farm Vehicle Law Update**
 15 **Lawrence County Pomona Grange #65**

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 17 WHEREAS, agriculture is Pennsylvania’s number one industry; and

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 19 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania agriculture depends on many unlicensed drivers to accomplish its
 20 production; Therefore Be It

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 22 RESOLVED, that the new Motor Carrier Safety rules not apply to farm tractors and other farm
 23 equipment in tow that travel on roadways, as Pennsylvania law already permits such non-truck
 24 vehicles on the roads.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	x				
DELEGATES	x				

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29 **Resolution #11 - Agricultural Vehicle Regulations**
 30 **Lawrence County Pomona Grange #65**

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 32 WHEREAS, agriculture is Pennsylvania’s number one industry; and

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 34 WHEREAS, farm equipment continues to increase in size to maintain our production efficiency;
 35 Therefore Be It

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1 RESOLVED, that for persons under 18 years of age not permitted to drive a truck-trailer farm
2 vehicle combination on public roads exceeding 17,000 pounds, the weight limit should be
3 increased from 17,000 pounds to 26,000 pounds; and Be It Further

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5 RESOLVED, that the weight limit for single unit farm vehicles operating under certificates of
6 exemption be increased from 17,000 pounds to 26,000 pounds to be exempted from keeping
7 vehicle maintenance records.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	x				
DELEGATES	x				

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12 **Resolution #12 - PA Livestock Care Standards Board**
13 **Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

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15 WHEREAS, families need the safe, nutritious, affordable, locally grown food that Pennsylvania
16 farmers provide each day, but consumers also want to know more about how their food is
17 produced on Pennsylvania farms. That means knowing:

- 18 Animals are healthy and well cared for,
- 19 Food is safe and of the highest quality,
- 20 Locally produced food is available at the grocery store and
- 21 Farmers are running their farms responsibly and following relevant regulations;

22 Therefore Be It

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24 RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture create the Pennsylvania
25 Livestock Care Standards Board for the purpose of establishing standards governing the care and
26 well-being of livestock and poultry in this state. In carrying out its purpose, the Board shall
27 endeavor to maintain food safety, encourage locally grown and raised food, and protect
28 Pennsylvania farms and families. The Board shall be comprised of the following thirteen
29 members:

- 30 A. 1. The Secretary of Agriculture who shall be the chairperson of the Board;
- 31 2. Ten members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.
32 The ten members appointed by the Governor shall be residents of this state and shall
33 include the following:
 - 34 a. One member representing family farms;
 - 35 b. One member who is knowledgeable about food safety in this state;
 - 36 c. Two members representing statewide organizations that represent farmers;

- 1 d. One member who is a veterinarian who is licensed in this state;
- 2 e. The State Veterinarian in the Department of Agriculture;
- 3 f. The dean of the agriculture department of a college or university located in this
- 4 state;
- 5 g. Two members of the public representing Pennsylvania consumers;
- 6 h. One member representing a county humane society
- 7 3. One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives who shall be
- 8 a family farmer;
- 9 4. One member appointed by the President of the Senate who shall be a family farmer.
- 10 Not more than seven members appointed to the Board at any given time shall be of
- 11 the same political party.

12 B. The Board shall have authority to establish standards governing the care and well-being
 13 of livestock and poultry in this state. In establishing those standards, the Board shall
 14 consider factors that include, but are not limited to, agricultural best management
 15 practices for such care and well-being, biosecurity, disease prevention, animal morbidity
 16 and mortality data, food safety practices, and the protection of local, affordable food
 17 supplies for consumers.

18 C. The Department of Agriculture shall have the authority to administer and enforce the
 19 standards established by the Board.

20 D. The General Assembly shall enact laws that are necessary for the Board to carry out its
 21 functions and that set the length of terms of office for the Board's members.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

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**Resolution #13 - Dog Tethering
 Russellville Grange #91, Chester County**

WHEREAS, House Bill 1254 is intended to prevent the neglect and cruel treatment of dogs; and
 WHEREAS, House Bill 1254 would also make it illegal (1) to tether “a dog outside and
 unattended to any stationary object by use of a restraint between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.”
 or (2) if a person fails to satisfy certain restrictions listed in the bill on the tethering of a dog
 outside; and

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WHEREAS, the hours during which such dog tethering would be illegal under House Bill 1254 are arbitrary, will not necessarily prevent neglect or cruel treatment of dogs, and may encourage persons not to restrain their dogs during such hours; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 1254 contains certain limited exceptions regarding the tethering of dogs that would not result in an offense, but such exceptions are arbitrary and unreasonably biased in favor of persons who own dogs for certain commercial and competitive uses; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, the Grange denounces the neglect and cruel treatment of dogs and supports reasonable legislation that provides dog owners the flexibility to exercise reasonable care under the circumstances with respect to the care and tethering of dogs outside; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, the Grange oppose *legislation and other regulations placing* ~~House Bill 1254 and its arbitrary~~ time restrictions on the tethering of dogs outside, and opposes any legislation that renders the tethering of a dog outside per se illegal.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

**Resolution #14 - Smokestack Height on Outdoor Wood Burning Boiler
Keystone Grange #2, Montgomery County**

WHEREAS, the Department of Environmental Protection has ruled that outdoor wood burning boilers shall have a smoke stack which exceeds the height of any residence within 150' of the wood boiler by at least 5'; and

WHEREAS, the excessive height of said smokestacks will cause enormous amounts of creosote to form in these chimneys. This will create great fire hazards as flaming embers of creosote are released when the fire in the boiler intensifies upon a call for heat or from chimney fires which will result frequently; and

WHEREAS, the manufacturers of outdoor wood burning boilers will have no idea what amount of pipe will need to be supported by the stove dependent upon its final location. This in itself will create a public safety hazard due to the probable instability of towering smokestacks; Therefore Be It

1 RESOLVED, that the Department of Environmental Protection should rescind their 2010 ruling
 2 *regulating smokestack height and proximity to residences* or at minimum provide engineering
 3 and scientific studies and data to support the need to jeopardize public safety, and endanger real
 4 property and structures as a result of leaving the ruling stand.

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COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

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**Resolution #15 - Termination of Preferential Tax Treatment from Mining Operations
 Keystone Grange #2, Montgomery County**

WHEREAS, the owner of a piece of real property may not be the owner of the mineral rights under the surface of the property; and

WHEREAS, the use of the surface acreage may allow for a preferential tax assessment (Act 319 or Act 515); Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that the extraction of minerals *and other natural resources* ~~and gas, etc.~~ which may or may not result in above ground termination facilities shall not be reason to force a subdivision, or change of use with regard to the assessment of the parcel; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, that no rollback of real estate tax should be levied.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	x				
DELEGATES		x			

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**Resolution #16 - Alternative Energy Development
 Keystone Grange #2, Montgomery County**

WHEREAS, depending on fossil fuels and foreign oil as our primary energy sources has been a concern of our country for many years; Therefore Be It

1 RESOLVED, that the federal government encourage the development of wind and solar energy
 2 technology; and Be It Further
 3 RESOLVED, that more suitable tax credits be enacted to make these alternative energy sources
 4 affordable to the farmer and homeowner.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	x				
DELEGATES	x				

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Resolution #17 - Farm Vehicle Safety
Keystone Grange #2, Montgomery County

10 WHEREAS, the recently enacted Farm Vehicle Safety Law is patterned after DOT’s highway
 11 commercial interstate trucking guidelines; and
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 13 WHEREAS, these guidelines put an undue hardship on farm operators who use rural roads on
 14 occasion; Therefore Be It

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 16 RESOLVED, that *farm vehicle safety and motor carrier laws are to be monitored, and this law*
 17 *be modified in ways a manner* that will provide safety to the public but not put an undue strain on
 18 the farm community.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

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Resolution #18 - Tractor Engine Emissions
Keystone Grange #2, Montgomery County

24 WHEREAS, great strides have been made over the last 15 years in quality of air emissions from
 25 farm diesel tractors in response to EPA guidelines; and

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 27 WHEREAS, we have now reached a “Tier 3” level of engine emissions, with emitting air as
 28 clean as intake air; and

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 30 WHEREAS, further refinement to a “Tier 4” level would add additional unnecessary cost to the
 31 engines produced, and result in emitting air actually being cleaner than intake air; Therefore Be
 32 It

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1 RESOLVED, that EPA guidelines should consider fuel consumption, manufacturing costs and
2 locale of operation, as well as emissions, when establishing future regulations affecting
3 agriculture. ~~the EPA guidelines should remain at a “Tier 3” level.~~

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

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Family Issues

Resolution #19 - AdultBasic Insurance Program Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23

WHEREAS, AdultBasic is a state sponsored low cost health insurance program covering more than 45,000 low income Pennsylvanians; and

WHEREAS, the agreement with not-for-profit insurance companies to contribute about \$200 million per year to help fund AdultBasic is set to expire in June 2011; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, the agreement with not-for-profit insurance to support AdultBasic should be extended until the new federal health care law is fully implemented.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	x				
DELEGATES	x				

Resolution #20 - Medicare Advantage Cuts Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23

WHEREAS, the federal government wants to cut 100 billion dollars from the Medicare Advantage Fund; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that the Grange urge our Senators and Representatives to **continue to support all Medicare options.** ~~vote no on this cut in the Medicare Advantage Fund so our senior citizens won't need to pay more out-of-pocket for health care.~~

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

Resolution #21 - Insurance Coverage of Hearing Aids Kennett Grange #19, Chester County

WHEREAS, insurance providers do not consistently cover the cost of hearing aids, in some cases providing only for children up to a specific age, full coverage or no coverage; and

WHEREAS, a hearing aid is not an optional but a medically necessary item and is prescribed by a physician; and

1 WHEREAS, more people are needing hearing aids due to the increase in noises in our society
2 today, and

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4 WHEREAS, many insurance companies will pay for eye glasses often by setting a limit to how
5 much the companies will pay and how often they will pay for the patient’s glasses; Therefore Be
6 It

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8 RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania State Grange work with the state insurance boards/
9 commissions and legislators to **mandate** regulate uniform coverage of hearing aids. ~~to everyone~~
10 ~~who qualifies with appropriate insurance that covers other durable medical devices such as~~
11 ~~glasses, prosthetics, etc., and Be It Further~~

12 ~~RESOLVED, that all State Granges be encouraged to work with insurance companies in their~~
13 ~~states and with legislators to include hearing aids to everyone who qualifies in their insurance~~
14 ~~companies, considering limiting costs insurance companies must pay and the frequency of claims~~
15 ~~by the insured person.~~

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

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20 **Resolution #22 - Access to Controls on Appliances**
21 **Kennett Grange #19, Chester County**

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23 WHEREAS, independence for people who are blind or visually impaired is grounded in their
24 ability to develop alternative ways to do what people with vision can do; and

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26 WHEREAS, home appliances, consumer electronic devices and point-of-sale machines have
27 traditionally had knobs, buttons and switches that blind people can touch and memorize to use
28 are now being replaced with touch pads and displays that can only be read visually, thus creating
29 problems for the blind by forcing them to a dependency on older appliances when the new
30 devices are on appliances; and

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32 WHEREAS, technological solutions exist with controls that can be detected and operated and
33 also status information that can be heard or read using Braille or audio output; and

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35 WHEREAS, independent access to this equipment by the blind and the creation of new
36 equipment that better meets the needs of all the buying public can best be addressed through a
37 cooperative relationship between the organized blind, who understand the challenge of achieving
38 and maintaining independence, and the manufacturers who design, build and sell quality
39 products to American consumers; Therefore Be It

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1 RESOLVED, that the National Grange and State Granges urge the United States Department of
 2 Commerce to work with the National Federation of the Blind and representatives of the home
 3 appliance and consumer electronics industries with the goal of working together to **manufacture**
 4 **appliances and consumer electronic products with optional audio or mechanical controls.** **And**
 5 **Be It Further**

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 7 **RESOLVED, that if these voluntary efforts to achieve this goal are not met, the State and**
 8 **National Granges seek Federal legislation mandating the manufacture of appliances and**
 9 **consumer electronic products with optional audio or mechanical controls.** ~~make the life-~~
 10 ~~enhancing products accessible to blind consumers by having operating equipment on home~~
 11 ~~appliances and consumer electronic products.~~

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

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Resolution #23 - Access to Electronic Devices
Kennett Grange #19, Chester County

WHEREAS, electronic devices are becoming ever more essential in the lives of all citizens, including the lives of blind people; and

WHEREAS, these devices include such things as toys, telephones, appliances, heating and cooling controls, video equipment, security systems, health care devices, electronic devices in all professions, and many more things; and

WHEREAS, many controls have multiple functions requiring the user to *read* a display in order to use the functions; and

WHEREAS, modern equipment is becoming more difficult for blind and/or visually impaired people to use because of the lack of access to information on the visual displays; and

WHEREAS, technology is readily available and the cost of adding speech output to inform the user is shown on the visual display is very inexpensive and would benefit the general public as well as all people who need it (i.e. blind people); and

WHEREAS, it is no longer acceptable for the blind to be denied access to home or at work sites electronic devices as well as electronic things in communities; and

1 WHEREAS, there is a high priority today at all levels of government, especially at the Federal
2 level, for equal access and equality for *all* citizens; and

3
4 WHEREAS, no single site exists where the blind can work with the electronics manufacturers
5 directly to persuade them to include built-in devices fully usable for everyone and working with
6 thousands of manufacturers individually is an impossible undertaking; Therefore Be It

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8 RESOLVED, that the State and National Granges seek Federal legislation mandating present and
9 future technology be installed by manufacturers on electronic products if voluntary efforts to
10 achieve this goal are not achieved.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE					Yield to #22
DELEGATES					

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14 **Resolution #24 - Federal Health Care Overhaul Bill**
15 **Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

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17 WHEREAS, the U.S. Senate's passage of health care overhaul legislation has a provision which
18 is unrealistic; and

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20 WHEREAS, this provision of legislation lightens Nebraska's funding burden in the bill; and

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22 WHEREAS, the provision in question would require the federal government to pick up
23 Nebraska's full tab for an expansion of Medicaid (a health care program for the poor and
24 disabled); and

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26 WHEREAS, all other states, including Pennsylvania, are required to pay those expenses, and it
27 would be unfair to foot the cost of Nebraska's Medicaid recipients; Therefore Be It

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29 ~~RESOLVED, that our U.S. legislators remove the Nebraska funding burden provision from the~~
30 ~~health care overhaul legislation that is currently being considered; and Be It Further~~

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32 RESOLVED, that all states or commonwealths associated with the United States, who would be
33 affected by the **future** health care overhaul legislation, each foot their own costs and not rely on
34 others to pay their portions.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

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**Resolution #25 - Health Care Reform for All U.S. Citizens
Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

WHEREAS, the current health care reforms currently taking place within the legislature of the United States Congress is to give every American access to health insurance; and
WHEREAS, this reform would affect all citizens of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the members of Congress are making legislative decisions for ALL citizens, of which Congress is a part of this citizenship; and

WHEREAS, Congress and federal governmental employees currently have insurance plans exclusive for these particular groups; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, the health care reforms currently being discussed and worked on in Congress should be for ALL citizens of the United States, of which Congress and federal government employees are a part of this citizenship; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, that if Congress wants a health care plan for ALL citizens of the United States, then they should consider providing the health care plan they currently are covered under.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		No action
DELEGATES			x		

**Resolution #26 - Psychiatric Medication Insurance Parity
Kennett Grange #19, Chester County**

WHEREAS, psychiatric medications prescribed by physicians, when covered by insurance, often cost more than other prescribed medications (whether generic or brand names); and

WHEREAS, higher costs can prohibit the purchase and/or proper dosage compliances of such medications for many patients; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania State Grange work with the state insurance boards/commissions to help control the high costs ~~to individuals~~ of prescribed **medications, including** such psychiatric medications. ~~and require parity of pricing for those with drug coverage as part of their insurance plan, and Be It Further~~

~~RESOLVED, that all State Granges be informed of pricing for psychiatric medication by insurance companies so those Granges can help patients in their respective states who use psychiatric medications get fair pricing.~~

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

1 **Resolution #27 - Birthplace of Ice Cream**

2 **York-Adams Pomona Grange # 40**

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4 WHEREAS, in the early 1800’s, ice cream was not commercially produced in the United States
5 of America; and

6 WHEREAS, farmers of the Seven Valleys basin in York County, Pennsylvania built thriving
7 dairy businesses by daily shipping hundreds of heavy cans of milk and cream to the Baltimore
8 market on the Northern Central Railroad constructed in 1838; and

9 WHEREAS, Jacob Fussell, a Quaker born on February 24, 1819 at Little Falls, Harford County,
10 Maryland, ran a four-route milk and cream delivery business in Baltimore selling “country
11 fresh” pure and healthy dairy products from farms in York County; and

12 WHEREAS, an opportunity arose when a dairyman who ran a small catering business that sold a
13 frozen concoction consisting of milk, eggs and sugar, to the Baltimore trade, defaulted on his
14 debt to an elder Quaker, who had no desire to run a dairy business, but approached Jacob Fussell
15 to take on the business enterprise and run it; and

16 WHEREAS, while knowing that consumer demand and supply of milk are unpredictable --- as
17 with the dairy industry today --- Mr. Fussell reasoned that he could take his surplus milk and
18 cream, manufacture ice cream as a “*country produce dealer*” and sell his ice cream product “*for*
19 *25 cents per quart, delivered in moulds or otherwise day or night,*” which was significantly less
20 than the prevailing 60 cents per quart price, while still making a good profit; and

21 WHEREAS, Jacob Fussell was faced with the decision to manufacture close to the market or
22 close to the supply, he decided in the winter of 1851-52, to go to Seven Valleys, Pennsylvania,
23 and contracted with local flour miller, Daniel Henry, to have him build a ice house and ice cream
24 factory on his land next to the Codorus Creek on Main Street. He supervised ice cream
25 manufacturing during the summer of 1852 and for the next two years Fussell’s ice cream was
26 packed in ice, and shipped via train to Baltimore through the fall of 1854. He abandoned his
27 factory and decided to move his operations to Baltimore closer to the consumer market, but
28 nonetheless Fussell established himself as the father of the wholesale ice cream industry
29 expanding operations nationally to Washington, DC, Boston and New York. Meanwhile,
30 Fussell’s abandoned factory operations were watched by the shrewd farmers of Seven Valleys,
31 so ice cream production, by several different manufacturers, continued, with boxcar shipments of
32 ice cream going to Baltimore through the 1900’s, up until the 1930’s when natural ice was too
33 difficult to produce with milder winters, and

34 WHEREAS, today, Pennsylvania ranks fifth in our nation in milk production with 545,000 cows;
35 with nine per cent (9%) of all U.S milk from America’s dairy farmers turned into ice cream that
36 generates more than \$21 billion in annual sales providing jobs for thousands of citizens; and

37 WHEREAS, Proclamation 5219, signed by President Ronald Reagan in 1984, declares the month
38 of July as “*National Ice Cream Month*” and that the third Sunday of July is “*National Ice Cream*
39 *Day,*” with the President and Congress calling upon the people of the United States to observe
40 these events annually with “*appropriate ceremonies and activities*” recognizing that ice cream is
41 a nutritious and wholesome food, enjoyed by over ninety percent of the people in the United
42 States, with a reputation as the perfect dessert and snack food, contributing substantially to the
43 economic well-being of the Nation’s dairy industry; Therefore Be It

44

1 RESOLVED that the Pennsylvania State Grange supports the recognition of the Commonwealth
 2 of Pennsylvania being known as the *birthplace to the fabulous commercial ice cream industry*,
 3 and that the Susquehanna Valley, County of York and the Borough of Seven Valleys be
 4 especially considered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) for a
 5 State Historical Marker, near Seven Valleys, PA, to recognize Jacob Fussell, the County of York
 6 and its farmers, and the Borough of Seven Valleys, for their early contributions to the ICE
 7 CREAM industry. ~~from the day when the average American ate just one teaspoon of ice cream~~
 8 ~~per year, to today's average per capita consumption of over 23 quarts annually. — ICE CREAM~~
 9 ~~a fun and nutritious food for Americans of all ages!~~

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

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**Resolution #28 - National Grange Stamp
 Lancaster County Pomona Grange #71**

WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service is proud of its role in portraying the American experience to a world audience through the issuance of postage stamps and postal stationery; and

WHEREAS, the National Grange is the oldest national agricultural organization, whose grassroots efforts have strengthened agriculture and our rural communities through community service, education, non-partisan political participation and fraternal bonds; and

WHEREAS, subjects should be submitted to the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee at least three years in advance of the proposed date of issue to allow sufficient time for consideration and for design and production, if the subject is approved; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that the National Grange seek the issuance of a United States postage stamp celebrating the 150th anniversary of the founding of the National Grange, Order of Patrons of Husbandry, to be made available in the year 2017.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	x				
DELEGATES	x				

33

Government Issues

Resolution #29 - Keep Government Local Bradford Sullivan Pomona Grange #23

WHEREAS, there seem to be bills pending which would put government and policies under county control; and

WHEREAS, it has been proven through the years that whenever local (township, borough, etc.) control is lost and consolidation occurs, rather than be cheaper financially, everything escalates and costs rise; and

WHEREAS, county control would abolish local control of many things that only the present townships and boroughs have so effectively, in most cases, taken care of with limited financial resources and as low a tax base as possible; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that the PA State Grange oppose any proposed legislation that would give county governments exclusive control of issues and policies presently under the control of townships, boroughs, cities and any other local municipality. ~~the Grange ask State Representatives and Senators to oppose the intents of former House Bill 2431 and Senate Bill 1357 because most local elected officials and volunteers have proven to be very efficient in dealing with local issues.~~

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

Resolution #30 - Equality in Representation Berks County Pomona Grange #43

WHEREAS, the U.S. House and Senate vote themselves yearly raises as well as receiving a COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment); and

WHEREAS, not all citizens of the United States receive a yearly raise or a COLA but their insurance premiums, taxes, food, and other commodities increase thus making a hardship for these citizens; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that Congress does not provide itself yearly raises or a COLA when the economy is affecting a lot of citizens.

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COMMITTEE				x	
DELEGATES					

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**Resolution #31 - Laws Being Made by Congress
Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

WHEREAS, Congress makes a lot of laws that affect millions of individuals in the United States; and

WHEREAS, some of these laws are for the good of the citizenship, and some are burdensome for its citizenship; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that Congress will not make any law that applies to the citizens of the United States that does not apply equally to the Senators and Representatives, and Congress will make no law that applies to the Senators or Representatives that does not apply equally to the citizens of the United States.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

**Resolution #32 - Pay for Incumbents While Campaigning
Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

WHEREAS, elected federal and state officials seem to spend a large portion of their term campaigning to get re-elected; and

WHEREAS, our elected federal and state officials continue to receive their salaries and benefits, despite not directly working for their constituents; and

WHEREAS, challengers to these incumbents who are campaigning for those same positions do not have the privilege to campaign and receive their salaries and benefits from their current employers; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that the Grange go on record to suggest that our elected federal and state officials should not receive their salaries and benefits while they are campaigning for re-election.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

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**Resolution #33 - Judges Retention
Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23**

WHEREAS, some judges opt to run for retention to keep their jobs; Therefore Be It
RESOLVED, that the Grange oppose this practice of retention as the people should be able to vote for their judges.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

**Resolution #34 - Election of Judges
Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23**

WHEREAS, Governor Rendell wants to amend the law to have the authority to appoint a judge; Therefore Be It
RESOLVED, to let the people vote for judges with the exception of temporarily filling of vacancies as provided for by the Constitution.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

**Resolution #35 - Saturday Mail Delivery
Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23**

WHEREAS, the Postal Service has proposed ending Saturday delivery of mail; and

WHEREAS, this would seem to affect especially the rural area of America; and

WHEREAS, Rural Free Delivery was one of the major accomplishments of the Grange (Patrons of Husbandry); Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, the Grange urge the chairman of the Postal Regulatory Commission to do all that can be done to keep Saturday delivery of mail at its present level, especially for the benefit of rural America as this is the chief course of correspondence with the events of the world.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE				x	National
DELEGATES					

**Resolution #36 - Propane Pricing
Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23**

WHEREAS, propane consumers should get what they pay for; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, the Grange urge that propane be priced per gallon like other liquid fuels and have the price prominently displayed at filling stations and that the customer be given a receipt that acknowledges payment, price per gallon and gallons purchased.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

**Resolution #37 - State Integrity Commission
Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23**

WHEREAS, Representative Curt Schroder, a Chester County Republican, and Eugene DePasquale, a York Democrat, have announced their intention to introduce a bill to create a powerful public Integrity Commission to replace the toothless state Ethics Committee; and

1 WHEREAS, the proposed Integrity Commission would oversee an investigation staff with
2 subpoena power and be able to refer its findings to the State Attorney General and local District
3 Attorneys; and

4
5 WHEREAS, under this proposal a seven-member commission would be required to include
6 Democrats, Republicans and Independents. A panel of law school deans, district attorneys and
7 good-government advocates would recommend 15 candidates to the Governor, who would
8 nominate seven of them. Nominees would have to be confirmed by two thirds of the Senate;
9 Therefore Be It

10
11 RESOLVED, the Grange support the proposed bill which would require the Integrity
12 Commission to provide ethical guidance to public officials at all levels of state government.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	x				
DELEGATES			x		

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17 **Resolution #38 - State Liquor Stores**
18 **Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23**

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20 WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania government has no legitimate business directly selling alcohol to
21 the public at either the wholesale or retail level; Therefore Be It

22
23 RESOLVED, the Grange support the sale of both the wholesale and retail aspects of the
24 government liquor monopoly while retaining government’s proper role of license sales,
25 regulation and enforcement, provided wine and liquor is not sold in grocery, department and
26 convenience stores.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

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**Resolution #39 - Natural Gas Pipelines
Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23**

WHEREAS, the natural gas companies want to become public utility companies so they can put gas lines anywhere they want by eminent domain; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, the Grange go on record to oppose natural gas companies being considered, given status of, or otherwise treated as, public utility companies.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

**Resolution #40 - Retirement for Federal Elected Officials
Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

WHEREAS, most Americans primarily rely upon Social Security income for their retirement supplemented only by their personal retirement savings; and

WHEREAS, our elected federal officials have the privilege to use a retirement system that operates independently of the Social Security program with funds specifically and solely for the use of these officials, independent of any personal retirement savings; and

WHEREAS, our elected federal officials write the laws which establish and maintain both their retirement system and the Social Security system; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that the Grange go on record to suggest that the current retirement system of elected federal officials be changed so that the elected federal officials receive only their earned Social Security benefits and not an additional retirement of their own design.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE				x	National
DELEGATES					

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**Resolution #41 - Taxpayer Guaranteed Pension Plans
Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

WHEREAS, there are multiple retirement plans throughout the United States, such as the Pennsylvania State Employees Retirement System (SERS) and Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS), that guarantee the pensions of those enrolled; and

WHEREAS, these guarantees come at the expense of the taxpayers of the state; and

WHEREAS, United States Senator Bob Casey introduced legislation in May 2010 that would allow private multiemployer pensions to be guaranteed by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, a federal program funded by the taxpayers of the United States; and

WHEREAS, many citizens with private retirement funds do not have these guarantees and have in recent years suffered major losses to their retirement funds; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED that the Grange opposes any retirement fund that would be guaranteed in value at the expense of the taxpayers; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, that the Grange opposes the transfer of responsibility for private multiemployer pensions to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and therefore the taxpayers; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Grange supports any program that would eliminate guaranteed pensions which are financially supported by taxpayers during times of financial hardship for the pensions.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE					Send back to the Pomona
DELEGATES					Send back to the Pomona

**Resolution #42 - Tracking of Sex Offenders
Bradford-Sullivan Pomona Grange #23**

WHEREAS, there are thousands of sex offenders in the United States; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, the Grange urge that a tracking chip be implanted in a sex offender so they can be tracked by satellite or cell phones with a proximity alert.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

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**Resolution #43 - Telemarketing
Keystone Grange #2, Montgomery County**

WHEREAS, telemarketing continues to nag households in spite of a recent law aimed at preventing the problem; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that no one calling a household for commercial or charitable request reasons may ~~use the~~ **use a restricted number or call a** phone with a restricted number.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			

**Resolution #44 - State Funding Cuts in Agriculture
Keystone Grange #2, Montgomery County**

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania state government has been forced to cut certain line items in its budget; and

WHEREAS, certain Agricultural related educational institutions are vital in conducting research and educating young students in agricultural and related fields; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that state budget assistance be maintained and/or restored to: Penn State University College of Agriculture, Penn State Cooperative Extension programs and University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	x				
DELEGATES	x				

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**Resolution #45 - Funding for State Police Protection
Fulton Grange # 66, Lancaster Co.**

WHEREAS, all taxpayers in Pennsylvania support the state police; and

WHEREAS, local municipalities are free to create their own police services; and

WHEREAS, the quality of our police forces will be diluted by adding large numbers to their ranks; and

WHEREAS, there is little serious crime in rural municipalities; and

WHEREAS, much of the rural crime is theft and burglaries happening in various municipalities making it necessary for a unified command to recognize criminal patterns occurring across county and township lines; and

WHEREAS, municipalities composed of responsible decent citizens should not have to pay for police services because other municipalities have serious crime problems; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that rural municipalities should not be coerced into paying extra for state police protection or forced by law to create new police departments.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE				x	
DELEGATES					

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Good of the Order

**Resolution #46 - Alcoholic Beverage Policy for Granges
Progress Grange #96, Centre County**

WHEREAS, the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry has adopted a policy allowing the individual State Granges to establish the terms regarding the leasing of property belonging to the State, Pomona, or Subordinate Grange to lessees who will bring alcoholic beverages to be available during the events held on the leased premises; and

WHEREAS, many State, Pomona, and Subordinate Granges own property which requires the raising of funds for maintenance, taxes, utilities, etc. Renting the property for events such as weddings, retirement parties, graduation parties, community fundraising proceedings, and other such gatherings, would produce much needed revenue for such Granges; and

1 WHEREAS, many organizations are engaging in “Wine & Cheese” fundraisers; indeed the
 2 Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has instituted a program of “Agritourism” that includes
 3 farm tours, winery tours and fairs. To be able to rent facilities to those offering samples from
 4 local wineries, or to those holding fundraising events offering wine, would enhance revenue for
 5 the organization, the winery, and the Grange, thereby promoting Pennsylvania agriculture, our
 6 Commonwealth’s number one industry; Therefore Be It

7
 8 RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania State Grange allow State Pomona and Subordinate Granges
 9 to enact their own policies regarding allowing the availability of alcoholic beverages on their
 10 premises.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE					See #46A
DELEGATES					

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 14 **Resolution #46 A – Alcoholic Beverage Policy for Granges**
 15 **Good of the Order Committee**

16
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 18 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Article XIII be added to the Pennsylvania State Grange By-laws to read as
 19 follows:

20
 21 **ARTICLE XIII - Alcoholic Beverages**

- 22 1.13.1 All Granges are prohibited from having alcoholic beverages either in the Grange Hall or on any Grange
 23 Property during any Grange meeting, except as provided in Section 1.13.3. Granges meeting in buildings
 24 or on property not owned by the Grange may not allow the consumption of alcoholic beverages during any
 25 Grange meeting.
- 26
 27 1.13.2 The Pennsylvania State Grange will allow the use of alcoholic beverages at Grange-sponsored activities, if
 28 the sponsoring Subordinate or Pomona Grange so desires. The individual Grange shall obtain host liquor
 29 or liquor liability coverage if it sponsors any events where alcohol will be served.
- 30
 31 1.13.3 All Granges may have sealed containers of alcoholic beverages at Grange meetings and activities for use as
 32 demonstration aids, gifts, or fundraisers. Such containers shall remain sealed at such Grange meeting or
 33 activity.
- 34
 35 1.13.4 The Pennsylvania State Grange will allow the use of alcoholic beverages at functions sponsored by non-
 36 Grange groups that rent or lease Grange property, if the Subordinate or Pomona Grange owning the
 37 property so desires. Such renters shall provide proof of host liquor or liquor liability coverage.
- 38
 39 1.13.5 No Grange on any level shall apply for or hold a liquor license except for temporary permits for special
 40 events.

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 42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Article XIII-Amendments be re-numbered Article XIV.

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DELEGATES		x			

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**Resolution #47 - Elimination of Annual Password
York-Adams Pomona Grange #40**

WHEREAS, the annual password played an integral role in the early days of our Grange organization to prevent nonmembers from accessing our meetings; and

WHEREAS, we currently encourage nonmembers to attend our meetings to learn more about the organization; and

WHEREAS, the majority of our Granges no longer use the password; and

WHEREAS, the annual membership dues card is recognized as proof of membership; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that the National and State Granges eliminate the password in its entirety and that the annual membership dues card or Lifetime membership card be recognized as official proof of membership.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	x				
DELEGATES	x				

**Resolution #48 - Admission to National and State Grange Sessions
Hayfield Grange #800, Crawford Co.**

WHEREAS, the annual password has not been used for many years; and

WHEREAS, the annual dues card or Lifetime Membership card, regardless of whether it is the National Dues Card or a state-issued dues or Lifetime Membership Card, should be proof of Grange membership; and

WHEREAS, the annual password is not distributed to Subordinate Granges unless requested; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that members attending National or State Grange conventions and presenting a Lifetime or Annual Dues Card be admitted to the Sessions without question; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, that Deputies at the doors be so instructed that this form of proof of Grange membership is acceptable.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE				x	10.27.4
DELEGATES					

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**Resolution #49 - Liability Insurance
York-Adams Pomona Grange #40**

WHEREAS, many Granges throughout the State and Nation are being required to have Liability Insurance or some kind of protection for the Grange and its Officers; and

WHEREAS, many Granges do not understand insurance or the requirements asked for their protection; Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania State Grange and/or the National Grange seek information, and the possibility of the Pennsylvania State Grange and/or the National Grange to provide a liability policy that Subordinate and Pomona Granges could buy into, as an umbrella policy.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	x				
DELEGATES	x				

**Resolution #50 - Setting State Grange Policy
Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

WHEREAS, policy is very important between State sessions, and

WHEREAS, when creating Agricultural policy, too many times actual farmers are not on State Grange committees, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED that every effort be used by our State President and Vice-President to include actual farmers on State Committees.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

**Resolution #51 - Location of State Session
Lawrence County Pomona Grange #65**

1 WHEREAS, the cost of travel to the extreme sides of the Commonwealth has grown
 2 exponentially; and
 3
 4 WHEREAS, the cost for the host hotel fluctuates based on room availability and location;
 5 Therefore Be It
 6
 7 RESOLVED, the 2010 State Grange Session shall appoint a committee to investigate *all options*
 8 *including*, holding the State Grange Session annually in the Harrisburg area on a permanent basis
 9 with each region playing host on a rotation basis.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	x				
DELEGATES			x		

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 11 **Resolution #52 - Length of State Session**
 12 **Butler County Pomona Grange #17**
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14 WHEREAS, the length of State Session has been shortened beginning in 2008; and
 15
 16 WHEREAS, the short cuts taken by shortening the length of the Session at the 2008 State
 17 Session of the PA State Grange has restricted much needed time for the work of the Grange to be
 18 done; and
 19
 20 WHEREAS, the back-to-back scheduling of the events has caused considerable confusion and
 21 disorder; Therefore Be It
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 23 RESOLVED, that the length of the Session for future Sessions be extended one additional day.
 24
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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

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 30 **Resolution #53 - Mandatory Payment Based on Membership**
 31 **Beaver County Pomona Grange #66**
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33 WHEREAS, under the State Grange By Laws the only authority given to the delegates to a State
 34 Grange convention to assess payments to the State Grange from the Subordinate Granges is
 35 annual dues; and
 36
 37 WHEREAS, the delegates voted to assess a charge of \$1.00 per member per year, and placed
 38 that on a Quarterly Report form, without going through the process of increasing dues, the

1 payment being collected in order to contribute to the Host National Grange Fund; Therefore Be
2 It

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4 RESOLVED, that the delegates to the 2010 annual convention rescind the action of assessing the
5 payment of \$1.00 per member per year for the National Grange Host Fund and request that the
6 National Grange remove the mandatory payment by State Granges to the said fund.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

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11 **Resolution #54 - Grange Public Relations**

12 **Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

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14 WHEREAS, many times, very important issues come and go without hearing a word from the
15 State leadership, and

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17 WHEREAS, if handled properly, it would do much to enhance the image of the Grange,
18 Therefore Be It

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20 RESOLVED, that a better working relationship between our leadership, public relations people
21 and our Legislative firm to keep abreast of pressing issues and increase the Grange's image, and
22 Be It Further

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24 RESOLVED that a form of protocol be made available to Pomona and Subordinate Granges as
25 to how to contact our legislative people.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

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30 **Resolution #55 - Pomona Grange Meetings**

31 **Berks County Pomona #43**

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33 WHEREAS, Pomona Granges often do not have business that necessitates meetings every three
34 months; and

35

1 WHEREAS, many Pomona Granges have difficulties scheduling meetings every three months as
2 designated in Chapter 7, Section 7.6.1 of the National Grange Digest, and often struggle with
3 attendance, Therefore Be It

4
5 RESOLVED, that Chapter 7, Section 7.6.1 of the National Grange Digest be revised to read:

6 “Pomona Granges shall meet at least three times a calendar year, and may hold
7 intermediate meetings as may be deemed necessary for the good of the Order.”

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

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**Resolution #56 - PA State Grange Staffing Task Force
Crawford County Pomona Grange #26**

15 WHEREAS, over the past fifty or more years, the Pennsylvania State Grange has had a “full-
16 time” Master, along with other full and part-time employees in the offices; and

17
18 WHEREAS, each off-election year a Salary Committee is appointed by the State Master to make
19 recommendations for salary for the Master, Lecturer, Secretary and Treasurer who would be
20 elected the following year; the same are approved by the delegates at that same Session of the
21 State Grange; and

22
23 WHEREAS, the dues paying membership of the Grange in Pennsylvania has dropped by more
24 than 75% over the same period of time, the number of Subordinate Granges is less than half, but
25 we continue to employ a full-time Master, two full-time, and several part-time employees in the
26 office; and

27
28 WHEREAS, an independent Study Committee needs to be selected and directed to make
29 recommendations for the future staffing of the Pennsylvania State Grange prior to the next
30 setting of salaries for the 2012 election cycle; Therefore Be It

31
32 RESOLVED, that a committee, to be known as the Pennsylvania State Grange Staffing Task
33 Force, be selected at this annual session, by election by the delegates of one member to represent
34 each District of the State Grange (four members), and by appointment by the State Master with
35 approval of the State Grange Executive Committee of one member. Members who wish to be
36 elected to the Task Force may have their names presented in the same manner as State Officers,
37 with each given a two-minute time to introduce themselves and state their qualifications for the
38 position; and Be It Further

39

1 RESOLVED, that the Task Force shall be instructed to meet, and have all access necessary to
 2 records of the State Grange that may be needed. They shall prepare their recommendations
 3 which shall be mailed to each Subordinate and Pomona Grange by September 15th, 2011. The
 4 report shall be presented to the delegates at the 2011 Session for review and consideration.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

6
7
8
9
10
11 **Resolution #57 - Deaf & Community Service Reports**
 12 **Crawford County Pomona Grange #26**

13
14 WHEREAS, submitting reports to State Grange in any Department requires an enormous amount
 15 of time; and

16
17 WHEREAS, because of time constraints on peoples' time, fewer and fewer Granges are
 18 reporting; and

19
20 WHEREAS, the 2009-10 Community Service/Deaf Activities report is now requiring a page be
 21 completed for each project which will undoubtedly result in fewer Granges reporting and loss of
 22 funding from National Grange; Therefore Be It

23
24 RESOLVED, that the Community Service/Deaf Activities Committee re-evaluate the
 25 requirement of completing a page for each project.

26

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			x		
DELEGATES			x		

27
28
29 Resolution # 58
 30 Submitted by Lycoming County Pomona #28

31
32 WHEREAS, the Marcellus Shale natural gas exploration has become a large industry in Pennsylvania, and;

33
34 WHEREAS, there is current discussion about legislation to permit natural gas companies to acquire ~~land~~ **gas rights**
 35 for pooling purposes through eminent domain, and;

36
37 WHEREAS, this may lead to a loss in lease negotiation capabilities of landowners with gas companies,

1
2
3
4

5

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania State Grange appose acquisition of ~~land mineral~~ gas rights by the natural gas industry through the process of eminent domain.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		x			
DELEGATES		x			