

# PENNSYLVANIA STATE GRANGE

# Resolutions



**148<sup>th</sup> Annual Session**

**October 16 – 17, 2020**

**Erie, PA**

# AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

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## Resolution #1 — Food Donation Improvement Act Beaver County Pomona Grange #66

**WHEREAS:** under current regulations, many food items that might be donated or sold at a reduced price to those in need are lost due to possible liability issues on the part of the donor; and

**WHEREAS:** farmers, retailers and private organizations often have food items of good quality that could readily and easily be made available to food banks, soup kitchens and others providing food to the needy; and

**WHEREAS:** Senators Toomey and Blumenthal have introduced into the U.S. Senate, the “Food Donation Improvement Act” which would, if passed into law, extend to food donors, caterers, and others, additional liability protections; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** ~~that the Beaver County Pomona Grange ask the Pennsylvania State and National Grange to support the goals of the “Food Donation Improvement Act” to furnish additional liability protections to food donors who would under the Act, meet the requirements of regulations established and monitored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to insure quality and labeling standards.~~ that the Pennsylvania State and National Grange support the goals of the “Food Donation Improvement Act” and similar legislation to furnish additional liability protection to food donors who would meet the requirements of regulations established and monitored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to insure quality and labeling standards.

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

1 **Resolution #2 — Livestock Slaughter/Processing**  
 2 **Venango County Pomona Grange #57**

3  
 4 **WHEREAS:** the Coronavirus Pandemic has shown us some weak spots in our food supply chain; and

5  
 6 **WHEREAS:** one issue has been the processing of livestock for sale at the local level. Local butchers  
 7 are not able to kill, process, and sell to individuals unless an inspector is on site when the animals are  
 8 slaughtered; and

9  
 10 **WHEREAS:** the local butcher is only allowed to slaughter for individuals if the packaged meat is  
 11 marked “Not for Resale.” This makes it impossible for the local farmer to sell his livestock to two or  
 12 three families to be split at the time of processing; therefore, be it

13  
 14 **RESOLVED:** that the Pennsylvania State Grange urge the ~~Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture~~  
 15 ~~United States Department of Agriculture- USDA~~ to review existing policy and ~~adopt new standards~~  
 16 ~~provide opportunities~~ allowing any butcher who operates an inspected butcher shop ~~be allowed~~ to  
 17 slaughter, package and sell animals from local farms to the local community for individuals use  
 18 without an Inspector on site; ~~and be it further~~

19  
 20 ~~**RESOLVED:** this ruling would only apply to local farmers who are seeking to sell their own animals at~~  
 21 ~~the local level. Any butchers or processing plant that will sell outside the local community or to retail~~  
 22 ~~stores will still need to follow current guidelines requiring an inspector to be on site at the time of~~  
 23 ~~slaughter.~~

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COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES					

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1 **Resolution #3 — Reinstate Country of Origin (Cool) Labeling**  
 2 **Berks County Pomona Grange #43**  
 3 **Ontelaunee Grange #1617**

4  
 5 **WHEREAS:** people want to know where their source of food comes from, especially if it is from  
 6 another country and the products are meat; and

7  
 8 **WHEREAS:** Congress in 2016 repealed the short-lived law regarding Country-of-Origin Labeling  
 9 (COOL) because of trade disputes; and

10  
 11 **WHEREAS:** meat that comes in from other countries has been legally sold as “Product of U.S.A.”  
 12 or labeled “Made in U.S.A.,” even if it’s only been repackaged here, thus misleading shoppers; and

13  
 14 **WHEREAS:** consumers need to know where their food comes from with the use of Country-of-  
 15 Origin Labeling (COOL) labels; therefore, be it

16  
 17 **RESOLVED:** our Congressmen/Congresswomen should work with the Department of Agriculture  
 18 (USDA) to close loopholes **reinstate** within the labeling system of all meat products to include the  
 19 “Country-of-Origin **and not only the Country of Processing to the** Labeling” (COOL).  
 20

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COMMITTEE		<b>X</b>			
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1 **Resolution #4 — Showing Projects at Fairs**  
 2 **Lawrence County Pomona Grange #65**

3  
 4 **WHEREAS:** the basic premise of the Grange (The Order of Patrons of Husbandry) has always been to  
 5 support learning about animals and other skills that are important to our families. The National  
 6 Grange Fair Program provides guidance as youth develop a greater understanding and appreciation  
 7 for agricultural, as well as creating and developing individual skills; and

8  
 9 **WHEREAS:** the Grange has been instrumental in developing and supporting the 4-H and FFA  
 10 Programs and has not wanted to compete and have our young members choose between showing  
 11 animals and other projects under the National Grange Fair Program, 4-H and FFA programs; and

12  
 13 **WHEREAS:** this past year with the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Pennsylvania’s 4-H Program,  
 14 governed by Penn State University (as the Land Grant College for Pennsylvania) was restricted by  
 15 government entities and did not allow young people to work on their projects under the umbrella of  
 16 4-H. Similarly, the FFA Programs which are connected to the public school system had the same  
 17 dilemma; and

18  
 19 **WHEREAS:** the National Grange Fair Program offers Junior Grange, Junior Grange plus 1, and Grange  
 20 Youth members the opportunity to exhibit at County Fairs and Expositions within a State that has  
 21 recognized and approved the National Grange Fair Program; therefore, be it

22  
 23 **RESOLVED:** that the Pennsylvania State Grange approach the Pennsylvania **Board of Fairs**  
 24 **Department of Agriculture** and request that they consider allowing young people to show their  
 25 animals, home arts and general exhibits under the National Grange Fair Program Handbook in case  
 26 the occasion arises where they are unable to show under 4-H or FFA. This would in no means replace  
 27 either the 4-H or FFA programs, but instead would give the young people the option of finishing their  
 28 projects by another means. **Participation would be consistent within Public Health Policies.**

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		<b>X</b>			
DELEGATES					

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# GOVERNMENTAL ISSUES

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**Resolution #5 — Game Commission Land  
Berks County Pomona Grange #43  
Berks County Agriculture – Legislative Committee**

**WHEREAS:** the Pennsylvania Game Commission owns open land which is currently rented out to farmers; and

**WHEREAS:** they have enacted a plan to take 10% every year out of cultivation to become animal habitats; and

**WHEREAS:** land which has been taken out of cultivation is not being tended to noxious weeds and other unwanted weeds are growing; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** that any land owned by the Game Commission that is taken out of cultivation be properly planted with non-invasive plant species, grasses or young trees to produce a proper habitat for wildlife and that the Game Commission be required to inhibit the growth of noxious weeds.

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

**Resolution #6 — Therapy Dogs, Service Dogs and Emotional Support Dogs  
Berks County Pomona Grange #43  
Berks County Agriculture – Legislative Committee**

**WHEREAS:** therapy dogs, service dogs and emotional support dogs are of great value for their respective duties; and

**WHEREAS:** some confusion has been created by people who are using various types of animals to gain freebies, plus other advantages; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** that if it be a therapy, service or emotional support animal, people are only allowed to use dogs; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** that some form of registration card, and/or vet certification be held by owner to prove that fact.

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

1 **Resolution #7 — Preserving the USPS**  
 2 **Hookstown Grange #1980, Beaver County**

3  
 4 **WHEREAS:** the National Grange was an integral part of securing rural free delivery of the mail to  
 5 those living in our country’s farmlands; and  
 6

7 **WHEREAS:** having a reliable and continuous delivery of mail via the United States Postal Service is  
 8 important to all Americans, especially those living in rural areas; and  
 9

10 **WHEREAS:** life-sustaining products such as prescriptions, diabetic supplies and CRAP/BiPAP  
 11 equipment are most easily and reliably obtained via the USPS; and  
 12

13 **WHEREAS:** many of our elderly population who no longer drive but are still able to live  
 14 independently rely on USPS to deliver prescriptions and other health supplies to their homes; and  
 15

16 **WHEREAS:** some remote areas of our country require a lengthy drive to pick up prescriptions and  
 17 other health needs when these items may be procured via the mail; and  
 18

19 **WHEREAS:** the UPSP **USPS** is an “independent agency, which depends on postage for its revenue, is  
 20 facing an unprecedented crisis caused by a combination of forces: a global pandemic that has  
 21 drastically reduced revenue, a 2006 law that required the USPS to prepay billions for retiree health  
 22 benefits”<sup>1</sup> and the potential for the government to not support its continuation; and  
 23

24 **WHEREAS:** other delivery companies, which compete with the package delivery component of the  
 25 USPS, do not deliver the mail, nor do they take the same care in personal deliver of goods, not being  
 26 obligated to provide service to every address as the Postal Service does; and  
 27

28 **WHEREAS:** “the postal service has been an economic lifeline to small retail businesses...by allowing  
 29 them to ship their products to customers at a reasonable cost”<sup>2</sup>, and  
 30

31 **WHEREAS:** the National Grange’s current concentrated focus is on securing broadband for all citizens  
 32 in our nation regardless of where they live, we must at the same time ensure those same people do  
 33 not lose the security of delivery of packages by the USPS; therefore, be it  
 34

35 **RESOLVED:** that the National Grange use its lobby in the U.S. Legislature to ensure the United States  
 36 Postal Service remains as is to provide for the needs of rural America.  
 37

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

**National Grange Policy**

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40 <sup>1</sup> Postal Service Collapse Could Devastate Seniors, Small Businesses and rural areas, Tribune News  
 41 Service, msn.com

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43 <sup>2</sup> Postal Service Collapse Could Devastate Seniors, Small Businesses and rural areas, Tribune News  
 44 Service, msn.com

1 **Resolution #8 — Protection of Nursing Home Residents and Staff for COVID-19**  
 2 **Chester-Delaware Pomona Grange #3**

3  
 4 **WHEREAS:** the corona virus has unreasonable affected nursing home residents and their caregivers.  
 5 Since the start of the Corona Virus Pandemic, over 200 nursing home residents and caregivers have  
 6 died in Pennsylvania. This vulnerable population needs protection from the ravages of the COVID-19  
 7 virus and other virus pandemics; and

8  
 9 **WHEREAS:** nursing homes have not had sufficient access to personal protective equipment (PPE) or  
 10 testing for residents and caregivers on an ongoing regular basis; and

11  
 12 **WHEREAS:** care facilities must have the personal protective equipment (PPE) and testing for staff and  
 13 patients. They need to identify cases and prevent the spread of the virus, as well as adequate staffing  
 14 to provide care; therefore, be it

15  
 16 **RESOLVED:** that the Pennsylvania State Grange support appropriate legislation to ensure that  
 17 nursing homes have sufficient access to personal protective equipment (PPE) and testing for all staff  
 18 and patients; and be it further

19  
 20 ~~**RESOLVED:** that daily, clear reports from nursing homes on COVID-19 cases be made available to the~~  
 21 ~~**public.**~~

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

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 25 **Resolution #9 — Repeal of Fireworks Act of 2017**  
 26 **Chester-Delaware Pomona Grange #3**

27  
 28 **WHEREAS:** the Pennsylvania Fireworks Act of 2017 relaxed the restrictions on consumer purchase  
 29 and use of fireworks in Pennsylvania; and

30  
 31 **WHEREAS:** local municipalities, police and fire departments across the state are unable to keep up  
 32 with the number of complaints of property damage, serious injuries, and emotional distress to  
 33 children, individuals with special needs, Veterans and animals with fireworks exploding day and  
 34 night; therefore, be it

35  
 36 **RESOLVED:** that the Pennsylvania State Grange support any legislation to repeal or further restrict  
 37 the consumer purchase and use of fireworks in order to protect vulnerable populations.

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



1 **Resolution #10 — School Bus Safety**  
2 **Chester-Delaware Pomona Grange #3**

3  
4 **WHEREAS:** school buses transport millions of children to and from school each weekday. In 2018, the  
5 last year for which information is available at this time, there were over 31,000 school buses  
6 registered in Pennsylvania. In 2018 it was also estimated that they carried over one million children  
7 to school; and

8  
9 **WHEREAS:** in Pennsylvania, it is illegal to pass a school bus when its red lights are flashing and the  
10 stop arm is extended. If convicted of breaking this law, you could get a \$250 fine, five points on your  
11 driving record, and a 60-day suspension of your license; and

12  
13 **WHEREAS:** motorists illegally pass stopped school buses tens of thousands of times each day, but  
14 many are not caught. Only about 750 citations were issued in 2018; and

15  
16 **WHEREAS:** parents have the right to know that their children are being transported to school safely;  
17 and

18  
19 **WHEREAS:** installing cameras on stop arms of school buses to catch motorists who put students at  
20 risk of an accident would act as another tool in enforcing the law against passing a stopped school  
21 bus; therefore, be it

22  
23 **RESOLVED:** that Pennsylvania State Grange support a bill ~~to have cameras installed on all of the stop~~  
24 ~~arms of school buses~~ that advocates for using available exterior technology and reliable vision  
25 systems installed on the outside of buses.  
26

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

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1 **Resolution #11 — USPS**  
 2 **Stony Point Grange #1694, Mercer County**

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 4 **WHEREAS:** projected efficiencies are being installed in the United States mail delivery system; and

5  
 6 **WHEREAS:** the same projected efficiencies are causing delays in the deliveries of mailed goods that  
 7 include prescription drugs, pension and Social Security checks, farm supplies and a multitude of  
 8 important correspondence for businesses and individuals; and

9  
 10 **WHEREAS:** the USPS is operated under the direction of the Postmaster General that is appointed by  
 11 the United States President with needed funding provided by Congress; therefore, be it

12  
 13 **RESOLVED:** that the Pennsylvania State Grange and the National Grange encourage congress and the  
 14 Trump Administration to support the United States Postal Service and stop projected efficiencies  
 15 until it has been determined that there will be no disruption or delay of deliveries.  
 16

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

National Grange Policy

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19 **Resolution #12 — Removal of Dead Trees along Roadways**  
 20 **Plumsteadville Grange #1738, Bucks County**

21  
 22 **WHEREAS:** A large number of Ash trees are dying due to Emerald Ash Borer; and

23  
 24 **WHEREAS:** Many of these trees (and other dead trees) are located along roadways with utility right-  
 25 of-ways; and

26  
 27 **WHEREAS:** In many cases, nothing seems to be done until such time as trees/branches fall blocking  
 28 roadways or downed utility wires causing health and/or safety issues. Even then, utilities tend to  
 29 trim only the obstructing tree parts affecting their own wires and not those affecting other utilities;  
 30 therefore, be it

31  
 32 **RESOLVED:** that the PA State Grange support legislation and/or regulations requiring the responsible  
 33 authorities to proactively remove dead trees located along State and Municipal roadways; and be it  
 34 further

35  
 36 **RESOLVED:** that said entities be enabled to remove all branches and/or entire trees obstructing wires  
 37 regardless of which utility or authority first responds to the initial report.  
 38

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

1 **Resolution #13 — Supporting the US Postal Service**  
 2 **2020 Government Issues Committee**

3  
 4 **WHEREAS:** the United States Postal Service, formerly known as the Post Office, was established July  
 5 26, 1775, with the founding Father Benjamin Franklin as the first Postmaster; and

6  
 7 **WHEREAS:** communications between people and businesses is an essential to society today as it was  
 8 in the early days of the Nation; and

9  
 10 **WHEREAS:** the United States Postal Service has provided that communication and this enable far-  
 11 spread parts of our country to know that America is one country and that they are part of it; and

12  
 13 **WHEREAS:** the common denominator is especially important to rural America since, with the advent  
 14 of Rural Free Delivery, rural areas were truly included into the fabric and our Nation; and

15  
 16 **WHEREAS:** the United States Postal System operates 31,322 post offices and delivered 142.6 billion  
 17 pieces of mail and 6.2 billion packages to 160 million homes and businesses in 2019; and

18  
 19 **WHEREAS:** currently, the United States Postal Service is undergoing unprecedented challenges with  
 20 an ever-mounting workload, insufficient budget and an immense unfunded liability in meeting  
 21 pension obligations; and

22  
 23 **WHEREAS:** the United States Postal Service, as an essential function, is in danger of not being able to  
 24 fulfill its communications mission because of challenges, therefore, be it

25  
 26 **RESOLVED:** the Pennsylvania State Grange urges action by the United States Congress to:

- 27  
 28 • Provide public funding to the United States Postal Service to allow for sufficient staffing  
 29 and overtime pay to deliver the United States efficiently and in a timely manner.  
 30 • Reduce the unfunded pension liability of the United States Postal Service.  
 31 • Revert the status of the United States Postal Service to that of being a Federal Cabinet  
 32 Department rather than the partially privatized system in existence established by the  
 33 Postal Reorganization Act of 1970. After all, the previous model served this country well  
 34 between 1775 and 1970 and the new model has caused nearly insurmountable  
 35 difficulties to the United States Postal Service in achieving its mission.  
 36

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

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1 **Resolution #14 — Vehicle Safety**  
 2 **Harveys-Aleppo Grange #1444, Greene County**

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 4 **WHEREAS:** many vehicles are now equipped with push button starting systems; and  
 5  
 6 **WHEREAS:** in order for these starting systems to function, certain features of the vehicle must be  
 7 engaged; i.e. vehicle must be in “park” gear, and the brake pedal must be depressed; and  
 8  
 9 **WHEREAS:** Pennsylvania Law requires drivers and passengers in motor vehicles be safely and  
 10 properly in seat belts when in a moving vehicle; therefore, be it  
 11  
 12 **RESOLVED:** that in order for a vehicle to start via push-button ignition, the driver must be  
 13 properly secured via his/her seatbelt.  
 14

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

15  
 16 \* Insufficient documentation on vehicle safety  
 17  
 18

19 **Resolution #15 — Service Animal Certifications**  
 20 **Hamburg Grange #2103, Berks County**

21  
 22 **WHEREAS:** there seems to be an increasing amount of service animals; and  
 23  
 24 **WHEREAS:** there is no actual certification or requirements needed to designate an animal as a  
 25 service animal; and  
 26  
 27 **WHEREAS:** clothing, badges and other insignia which make the animal look like a service animal are  
 28 available without any proof and owners are taking advantage of the system through travel, store and  
 29 entertainment access to which they are not entitled; therefore, be it  
 30  
 31 **RESOLVED:** any animal that is used as a service animal must go through proper training ~~and~~  
 32 ~~certification every four years~~ and owners must carry documentation to that effect when they bring  
 33 the animal to a public place.  
 34

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

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1 **Resolution #16 — Public Pensions Debt**  
2 **Hamburg Grange #2103, Berks County**

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4 **WHEREAS:** public pensions in this country are underfunded; and

5  
6 **WHEREAS:** municipalities, state and school district budgets are stretched thin and taxes have to be  
7 increased to cover the costs; and

8  
9 **WHEREAS:** most public sector employees have pensions that have defined benefits, which are  
10 typically funded through taxation; and

11  
12 **WHEREAS:** the employees typically only have to work 20 years or fewer in order to get their full  
13 benefits; and

14  
15 **WHEREAS:** people that work in private sector jobs, typically collect social security, and typically have  
16 to work much longer in order to get their full benefits; and

17  
18 **WHEREAS:** they have to pay into their own retirement accounts known as defined contribution  
19 plans; therefore, be it

20  
21 **RESOLVED:** that employees receiving public pensions should have to work at least 40 years to get  
22 their full pensions.  
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COMMITTEE			X		
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25 **Factual Inaccuracies**  
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1   **Resolution #17 — Covid**  
2   **Government Issues Committee**

3  
4   **WHEREAS:** the COVID-19 crisis adversely affected individuals, farmers, businesses and entire  
5   communities in rural Pennsylvania; and

6  
7   **WHEREAS:** many PA State Government decisions had to be made quickly in order to confront the  
8   crisis; and

9  
10   **WHEREAS:** the implementation, fine-tuning, and “one size fits all” nature of some of these decisions,  
11   resulted in unforeseen consequences on various sectors of society and commerce; and

12  
13   **WHEREAS:** legislators in the General Assembly have made numerous proposals to help those sectors  
14   cope with hardships brought on by the COVID-19 crisis and state decisions addressing the crisis.  
15   Therefore, be it

16  
17   **RESOLVED:** that the Pennsylvania State Grange support reasonable proposals and particularly those  
18   affecting rural Pennsylvanians, rural businesses, and communities.  
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COMMITTEE	X				
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1 **Resolution #18 — Recreational Easements**  
2 **Government Issues Committee**

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4 **WHEREAS:** property owners’ rights to use their property as they see fit is a value enshrined in our  
5 culture; and

6  
7 **WHEREAS:** eminent domain is the one exception, where private property is taken for a public  
8 purpose providing that property owners’ rights, including that of appeal and just compensation, are  
9 obeyed; and

10  
11 **WHEREAS:** in some situations, part of private property is used as a pathway by others for  
12 recreational purposes without getting authorized consent of the owner, and at times these  
13 trespassers feel they have the right to carve out a recreational easement for the continued use of  
14 someone’s property, called by some “squatters rights”. Therefore, be it

15  
16 **RESOLVED:** that the Pennsylvania State Grange reaffirms property owners’ rights to use their  
17 property as they choose in accordance with the law; and be it further

18  
19 **RESOLVED:** that this position be communicated to legislators and other policy makers should specific  
20 situations arise where these rights are compromised.

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1 **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

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3 **Resolution #19 — Pomona Grange Password**  
4 **Potter County Pomona Grange #54**

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6 **RESOLVED:** that we have the National Grange establish a permanent password for Pomona. ~~The~~  
7 ~~word should correspond with the Pomona Degree words.~~  
8

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

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12 **Resolution #20 — 2023 State Grange Session**  
13 **Pennsylvania State Grange History Committee**

14  
15 **WHEREAS:** the Pennsylvania State Grange is preparing to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its  
16 founding in Reading on September 18, 1973; and

17  
18 **WHEREAS:** by delegate action at the 2019 session of the Pennsylvania State Grange, the anniversary  
19 will be climaxed at the 2023 state session to be held in Reading and special events being planned  
20 include but are not limited to: historical pageant, anniversary banquet, tours and conferral of the  
21 Fifth and Sixth Degrees in full form; and

22  
23 **WHEREAS:** additional time will be needed to include these events at that session; therefore, be it

24  
25 ~~**RESOLVED:** that Section 1.4.1 of the Pennsylvania State Grange By-Laws be temporarily~~  
26 ~~suspended in 2023 for the year only so that the annual meeting may begin one day earlier than~~  
27 ~~currently provided by those By-Laws; and be it further~~

28  
29 **RESOLVED:** that in order to accommodate special events contemplated for the 2023 PA State Grange  
30 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the 2023 PA State Grange annual meeting begin one day earlier than as in past  
31 years to begin on Thursday, October 19, 2023; and be it further

32  
33 **RESOLVED:** that if possible, business sessions be conducted and completed on Thursday, October 19,  
34 2023 and Friday, October 20, 2023, thereby freeing the schedule on Saturday, October 21, 2023 for  
35 the anniversary celebration activities.  
36

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

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1 **Resolution #21— By-Law Change – Lifetime Membership**  
2 **2020 Good of the Order Committee**

3  
4 **WHEREAS:** the Delegate body ended the opportunity for new Lifetime memberships by Delegate  
5 action at the 2019 Pennsylvania State Grange convention; and

6  
7 **WHEREAS:** the lifetime membership program is listed as a part of the Pennsylvania State Grange  
8 Bylaws; and

9  
10 **WHEREAS:** after the Delegate action was taken at the 2019 session a line was added in the Bylaws  
11 stating that effective 01/01/2020 the Lifetime membership program is no longer available; therefore,  
12 be it,

13  
14 **RESOLVED:** that the current section 1.10.7 be deleted as currently worded and replaced by the  
15 following:

16  
17 “No new Lifetime Memberships are available as of 1/1/2020. The Lifetime memberships as of  
18 12/31/2019 will continue to be honored by the Pennsylvania State Grange. The Secretary of the  
19 C/S Grange shall take a credit of \$11.00 per Lifetime member on each quarterly report to the  
20 State Grange.  
21

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

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1 **Resolution #22— 2020 Grange Grant Application during a Pandemic**  
2 **Liberty Grange #1780, Lawrence County**

3  
4 **WHEREAS:** COVID-19 has impacted the financial operations of Granges, especially if they maintain a  
5 Grange building; and

6  
7 **WHEREAS:** most Granges who have buildings need to do fundraising to pay the taxes, insurance and  
8 upkeep on those buildings. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, fundraising efforts have been difficult  
9 and sometimes restricted; and

10  
11 **WHEREAS:** the government has offered grants to businesses and non-profit organizations but  
12 Granges usually do not qualify for these grants since we do not have employees; and

13  
14 **WHEREAS:** Pennsylvania State Grange could provide funds through an application process reviewed  
15 by the Pennsylvania State Executive Committee and paid through the Treasury; therefore, be it

16  
17 **RESOLVED:** that Pennsylvania State Grange assist local Granges by establishing a grant program to  
18 provide financial assistance during difficult times such as a pandemic.  
19

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			<b>X</b>		
DELEGATES					

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1 **Resolution #23 — National Grange Virtual Hall of Fame**  
2 **Pennsylvania State Grange History Committee**

3  
4 **WHEREAS:** the National Grange established in 2015 a “Virtual Hall of Fame” to recognize deceased  
5 individuals who had a significant role in the history of the National Grange; and  
6

7 **WHEREAS:** the announcement of the recipients is made during the National Grange Annual Meeting  
8 and then posted on the National Grange website; and  
9

10 **WHEREAS:** very little promotion and publication of the Hall of Fame program takes place; therefore,  
11 be it  
12

13 **RESOLVED:** ~~that the word “virtual” be removed from the title making it “National Grange Hall of~~  
14 ~~Fame”;~~ that the National Grange remove the term “virtual” from the “National Grange Hall of Fame”;  
15 and be it further  
16

17 **RESOLVED:** that the National Grange more actively promote and publicize the Hall of Fame program  
18 by posting of recipient’s brief biography and picture on the National Grange website; and be it  
19 further  
20

21 **RESOLVED:** in addition to putting the names on the website that a plaque be established with the  
22 names of recipient, state and year be hung in the National Grange headquarters to honor those  
23 individuals.  
24

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

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1 **Hosting of State Session**

2  
3 Based on the following resolution that was approved at the 2019 State Session, the herein named  
4 committee made the following recommendation to the Good of the Order Committee. The committee  
5 consisted of—

- 6  
7 *Wayne Campbell, President*  
8 *Richard Mangel, Executive Committee*  
9 *Janet Fishovitz, Southwest*  
10 *Ashley Furman, North Central*  
11 *Terry Murray, Southwest*  
12 *Ricky Oakley, Northeast*  
13 *Lizzie Bailey, South Central*  
14 *Barbara Gross, Northwest*  
15

16 **WHEREAS:** the hosting of Pennsylvania State Grange sessions has become a burden that falls on just  
17 a few Grange members in several hosting areas; and

18  
19 **WHEREAS:** this burden should be spread out among all Grange members or Granges in a hosting  
20 area; and

21  
22 **WHEREAS:** this burden has caused some areas to have serious doubts as to whether they will be able  
23 to host a Pennsylvania State Grange session in the future; and

24  
25 **WHEREAS:** if session is held at the same location on a rotating basis; and Hotels could depend on  
26 that business on a regular schedule, they may be willing to make better deals; therefore, be it

27  
28 **RESOLVED:** the Master/President of the Pennsylvania State Grange and the Executive Committee  
29 of the Pennsylvania State Grange appoint a committee comprised of the Master/President, one  
30 member of the Executive Committee; and on representative from each of the six current hosting  
31 regions to review how hosting State Grange should be handled in the future and report back to  
32 the Delegate body at the 2020 Pennsylvania State Grange session; and be it further

33  
34 **RESOLVED:** this committee should look into the possibility of hosting State Grange in either an East  
35 and West location or an East, Central; and Western Pennsylvania location; and be it further

36  
37 **RESOLVED:** the funding of future sessions of the Pennsylvania State Grange should be evaluated by  
38 the committee, including the possibility of a per member assessment being assessed to fund future  
39 sessions which would equally spread the burden to all Grange members.

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1 **Resolution #24 — Hosting & Funding of Future Pennsylvania State Grange Sessions**  
 2 **Future State Session Committee**

3  
 4 **WHEREAS:** the hosting of the Pennsylvania State Grange sessions has created hardship in several of  
 5 the six hosting areas; and

6  
 7 **WHEREAS:** the six areas were created to help ease this burden; and

8  
 9 **WHEREAS:** in some cases, the planning and coordinating of State Session has been placed on just a  
 10 few people; therefore, be it

11  
 12 **RESOLVED:** that the current six **Pennsylvania State Grange session** hosting areas be combined into  
 13 three areas consisting of an Eastern, Central and Western area; and be it further

14  
 15 **RESOLVED:** that a statewide advisory committee to assist the regional hosting committee be  
 16 assembled with representatives from the current six areas to form a single committee who will be  
 17 responsible for coordinating the Pennsylvania State Grange **session** each year.  
 18

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE		<b>X</b>			
DELEGATES					

19  
 20 *Committee is recommending to try this for a few years before doing any mandatory funding. If this*  
 21 *improves the ability of each of the three areas to host and obtain adequate funding an assessment*  
 22 *would not be needed.*  
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# FAMILY ISSUES

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## Resolution #25 — Pennsylvania No Fault Divorce Hamburg Grange #2103, Berks County

**WHEREAS:** Pennsylvania has no fault divorces; and

**WHEREAS:** some spouses may choose to commit misdemeanors and felonies, that put their spouses and children at risk about which they have no knowledge, until the spouse is arrested, and possibly convicted; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** ~~that when the spouse decides to divorce the convicted spouse, the innocent spouse should not be liable to pay fines, court costs, attorney fees and the arrested or convicted spouse should be responsible for meeting these obligations.~~ that when a couple divorces and one spouse has been arrested or convicted of a crime, the other spouse should be exempt from any costs related to the alleged crime and incurred by the arrested or convicted spouse.

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

1 **Resolution #26 — Chronic Pain Management**  
 2 **Family Issues Committee**

3  
 4 **WHEREAS:** The health and wellness of rural citizens is important in terms of human suffering and  
 5 economic loss; and

6  
 7 **WHEREAS:** The Centers for Disease Control found that 24 percent of rural adults suffer from chronic  
 8 pain; and

9  
 10 **WHEREAS:** There are less than 40 primary care physicians per 100,000 rural dwellers according to the  
 11 National Rural Health Association; and

12  
 13 **WHEREAS:** Many rural medical facilities have closed in recent years making proper care for pain even  
 14 more difficult; and

15  
 16 **WHEREAS:** Chronic pain has contributed to the tragic opioid crisis in rural America; therefore, be it

17  
 18 **RESOLVED:** The Pennsylvania State Grange urges the National Grange to support

- 19
- 20 • Research into identifying the causes of chronic pain especially in rural life
  - 21
  - 22 • National and state initiatives that encourage research and development of new pain relief
  - 23 therapies that avoid opioids and other addictive drugs
  - 24
  - 25 • Research into possible mitigation strategies through education, technology and other
  - 26 mechanisms
  - 27
  - 28 • Robust policy discussions and education about pain management among Grange
  - 29 members and their rural communities
  - 30

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	<b>X</b>				
DELEGATES					

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