

PENNSYLVANIA STATE GRANGE

Resolutions



149th Annual Session

October 15 – 17, 2021

King of Prussia, PA

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Resolution #1 — Solar Farms Walker Grange #__

WHEREAS: there is a widespread belief held by some that solar energy generation must be promoted wherever geographically possible; and

WHEREAS: this has led to development of solar generating facilities on formerly productive Class 1 and Class 2 farmland; and

WHEREAS: the land and soil are critical natural resources for food security which should not be compromised by energy generation projects that remove farmland from production; and

WHEREAS: there are usable and accessible alternative locations for solar generating facilities such as mine reclamation areas, brownfields, and inherently non-productive rural lands; therefore, be it,

RESOLVED: that the Pennsylvania State Grange opposes the granting of permits or zoning approvals for construction of solar generating facilities on productive Class 1 and Class 2 PA farmland; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the dual usage with solar may be considered where the solar panel structures do not inhibit what is considered normal agronomic production.

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

Class 1 land: very good in all respects. Nearly level, no risk of erosion, rich in fertility and good water holding capacity.

Class 2 land: good in all respects. May require certain conservation practices to allow full production.

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**Resolution #1A — Solar Development
AG Committee**

RESOLVED: The Pennsylvania State Grange endorses the development of alternative energy sources by agricultural enterprises to meet their own needs; and be it further.

RESOLVED: that if alternative power in excess of an agricultural enterprise needs can be generated from roof areas or land areas or by other means without adversely affecting agriculture or nature of the operation, it may be considered part of the agricultural operation.

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**Resolution #2 — Where’s the Beef?
Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

WHEREAS: the beef industry is being blamed for producing 10% of the greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS: food chains and large restaurants are being encouraged to replace beef with plant-based “meats” to reduce their carbon footprint; and

WHEREAS: in 2019, a \$111 billion retail equivalent value of United States beef was sold and the 2020 retail value of plant-based “meat” in the United States had a retail value of \$4 billion, cutting into the real meat market; and

WHEREAS: there are feed additives being produced to help diminish greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS: the good gases produced each year by our country’s corn crop to help feed those beef cattle outweighs the carbon footprint produced by the beef cattle; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: ~~that anytime the production and consumption of beef is blamed for a negative impact on the carbon footprint, the total picture, including the positive~~

The Pennsylvania State Grange work to show the overall positive impact on the carbon footprint of consuming beef.

~~impact on the carbon footprint, must be taken into consideration; and be it further.~~

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RESOLVED: labeling of plant-based “meats” must include potentially hazardous ingredients. ~~such as ferric phosphate, which is used in slug pesticide, methylcellulose, which is used in laxatives, and propylene glycol, which is used in antifreeze.~~

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

**Resolution #3 — Milk and Gen Youth
Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

WHEREAS: several administrations ago it was decided to form a dairy check-off funded by dairy farmers, with the purpose to introduce youth to proper nutrition and diets; and

WHEREAS: a 15-member board was formed to help divide funds to promote nutrients for young people; and

WHEREAS: \$4 billion or more is spent annually from the check-off funded by dairy farmers; and

WHEREAS: many times, the money spent provides funding for non-dairy or artificially-made nutrient products; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that all money used by Gen Youth provided by milk check-off funds only be used to fund promotions for true dairy products from ~~animals~~ **mammals**; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the federal government recognizes and seeks advice from nutrition 28 experts who have studied real milk products. ~~and know their true value.~~

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COMMITTEE		X			
DELEGATES					

**Resolution #4 — Labeling of Plant-Based Products as “Milk”
Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

WHEREAS: companies are producing so-called dairy items from plant-based products; and

WHEREAS: agricultural organizations have been asking the FDA for accurate labeling in the dairy industry; and

WHEREAS: dairy farmers are already struggling to survive, and are facing a growing threat due to the misleading practices of marketing plant-based items as milk and dairy products; therefore, be it

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21 **RESOLVED:** that legislation be introduced to prevent the labeling of nuts, seeds,
22 and other plant-based products as milk; and be it further

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24 **RESOLVED:** that the legislators call on the Food and Drug Administration to
enforce 25 its regulations that define milk and cream and stop the labeling of plant-
based 26 products as milk, yogurt, and cheese.

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COMMITTEE				X	
DELEGATES					

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**Resolution #5 — Establishment of Pennsylvania Dairy Production Tax Credit
Elizabethtown Area Grange #2076**

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WHEREAS: Pennsylvania’s dairy industry is a vital segment of our state’s agricultural economy, contributing \$14.7 billion annually, while making Pennsylvania the nation’s seventh largest milk producing state; and

WHEREAS: Pennsylvania dairy farmers, challenged by feed, labor, and operational costs, continue to face economic hardships by being paid substantially less for their milk than what fluid milk and other products are sold for in retail, and

WHEREAS: it has been difficult finding an equitable way to alleviate some of the financial burdens when every farm is unique, and faces its own set of advantages and challenges; and

WHEREAS: the one common obligation that all farms have is an income tax liability to the state; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that the Pennsylvania State Grange seek an amendment to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Tax Code establishing a Dairy Farmer Tax Credit program, which would provide tax relief in the form of a credit, and be it further

RESOLVED: that the tax credit would only be triggered by predetermined statewide average profit margins and metrics, acting as a safety net of revenue stability when either milk prices paid to farmers fall or costs of production rise relative to one another; and be it further

RESOLVED: the tax credit would be based on the volume of milk produced and sold by each individual farm.

ATTN: AG & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

For reference, search “Massachusetts dairy tax credit” on Mass.gov which was the basis of this resolution.

Code of Massachusetts Regulations 300-399 CMR 330

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GOVERNMENTAL ISSUES

**Resolution #6 — Election Day as a Federal Holiday
Valley Grange #1360**

WHEREAS: the U.S. Constitution guarantees all citizens aged 18 and up the right to vote; and

WHEREAS: there is no federal law requiring businesses to allow employees time off to vote; and

WHEREAS: laws giving employees time off to go to the polls vary widely from state to state; and

WHEREAS: Pennsylvania is one of 20 states that have no law requiring businesses to allow employees time off to vote; and

WHEREAS: eleven states including New York, Delaware, Michigan, Kentucky, and Virginia have made Election Day a public holiday; and

WHEREAS: in the 2018 midterm elections and 2020 Presidential election, there were unprecedented lines of people waiting to vote, which could extend beyond the time employers may be required to give off without employee penalty; and

WHEREAS: being unable to take time away from work to vote may disenfranchise many workers; and

WHEREAS: not all states allow mail-in voting for reasons other than absentee balloting, nor do all states offer “unconditional” early voting¹; and

WHEREAS: the Grange is a nonpartisan organization that has always encouraged all

38 people to use their voice and continues to “strongly believe that voting and
39 participation in our governing systems is a civic responsibility”²; therefore, be it
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41 **RESOLVED:** that the Pennsylvania State Grange urge legislators to make Election
42 Day (the Tuesday following the first Monday in November) a public holiday to allow
43 all Pennsylvania citizens the ability to cast their vote; and be it further
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2 **RESOLVED:** that the Pennsylvania State Grange urge state legislators to create
3 legislation mandating companies be required to give all employees time off to vote;
4 and be it further

5 **RESOLVED:** that the National Grange urge legislators to make Election Day (the
6 Tuesday following the first Monday in November) a Federal Holiday to allow all US
7 citizens the ability to cast their vote; and be it further
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9 **RESOLVED:** that the National Grange urge federal legislators to create legislation
10 mandating companies be required to give all employees time off to vote.

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12 ¹“State Laws Governing Early Voting.” National Conference of State Legislatures.
13 <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/early-voting-in-state-elections.aspx> 14
14 ²“Grassroots, Nonpartisan Advocacy.” National Grange website.
15 <https://www.nationalgrange.org/our-values/grassroots-nonpartisan-advocacy/>
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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE			X		
DELEGATES					

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19 **Committee Reason—Adequate system to vote with mail in voting.**

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21 **Resolution #7 — AED Tax Credits**
22 **Valley Grange #1360**
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24 **WHEREAS:** the American Heart Association reported in 2018 that there are more
25 than 356,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests annually in the United States. Nearly
26 90% of these are fatal, and
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28 **WHEREAS:** deaths from cardiac arrest can be prevented by using an automated
29 external defibrillator (AED) to shock the heart and restore a normal heart rhythm, and
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31 **WHEREAS:** trained individuals can use AEDs, which are simplified and portable

32 electronic medical devices, to treat a person in cardiac arrest, and

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34 **WHEREAS:** most businesses and organizations are not required to maintain an AED
35 on the premises, and

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37 **WHEREAS:** the cost to own and maintain an AED can be prohibitive to companies
38 and organizations, therefore, be it

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40 **RESOLVED:** that the Pennsylvania State Grange support legislation that offers tax
41 credits to businesses and organizations that purchase and maintain an AED on
their 42 premises.

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

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**Resolution #8 — Dormancy Fees for Bank Account in Minor’s Names
Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

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WHEREAS: current banking rules impose dormancy fees on any account without activity during a defined period of time; and

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WHEREAS: bank accounts for minors often have fewer transactions as they do not have paychecks being deposited or bills being withdrawn on a regular basis; and

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RESOLVED: ~~that Berks County Pomona Grange #43 recommends~~ Pennsylvania State Grange passage of legislation eliminating any dormancy fees for accounts held by a minor; and be it further

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RESOLVED: that such legislation also requires banks to notify any account owner (both the minor and the parent or guardian listed on the account) of the change in status of the account six months prior to the minor’s 18th birthday.

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

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**Resolution #9 — Permanent Identification
Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

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WHEREAS: most everything people do or buy today (buy alcohol, bank business, apply for food stamps and welfare, apply for a job, buy a car) requires them to show permanent identification; and

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32 **WHEREAS:** permanent identification is critical to functioning in our current society;
33 therefore, be it

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35 **RESOLVED:** that during elections voters produce a state or federal form of
36 identification and poll workers shall be required to confirm signatures and identities.

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

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3 **Committee Reason—Enacted into Law 2012 and Court overruled it in 2014.**

4 **Resolution #10 — Mileage Fee, No Fuel Taxes**
5 **Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

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7 **WHEREAS:** the Federal Government and the Pennsylvania Department of
8 Transportation (PennDot) is losing highway taxes due to better fuel economy of 9
fossil fuel engines and electric vehicles; and

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11 **WHEREAS:** the cost of replacing or adding new highway and road infrastructure
12 items are getting more expensive; and

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14 **WHEREAS:** every one of us depends on good roads for commerce and to travel;
15 therefore, be it

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17 **RESOLVED:** that Berks County Pomona Grange #43 proposes that fuel taxes are
18 removed from fossil fuels needed for transportation and a mileage rate is
19 established that is paid by the vehicle owner based on their vehicle’s annual mileage
20 to provide the Federal Government and PennDOT with needed funding.

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

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23 **Committee reason—requires more research on implementing and the overall effect.**

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**Resolution #11 —Poison Hemlock
Walker Grange #786**

WHEREAS: Poison Hemlock has become a problem along State and Local roadways; and

WHEREAS: it is a highly poisonous plant that is toxic to people and animals, even the dead stalks can remain toxic for up to three years; and

WHEREAS: Penn Dot has been spraying, but only for a limited time and in limited areas; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and Local Pennsylvania townships and Municipalities, be encouraged to start a spray program that begins early in the spring so that this noxious weed can be eradicated.

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

Committee Reason—This is covered under the Pennsylvania State noxious weed control.

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**Resolution 12 — Permanent Daylight Savings
Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

WHEREAS: many people have been stating that time changing twice a year is no longer needed; and

WHEREAS: permanent daylight-saving time has been shown to reduce car accidents, decrease strokes, lessen energy usage, and diminish obesity through greater physical activity; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that Pennsylvania and the United States move to permanent daylight-saving time as soon as feasibly possible; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the Grange support House Bill 335-2021 or similar legislation, which allows Pennsylvania to follow daylight saving time year-round if the United States Congress permits states to do so.

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

**Resolution #13 — Budget/Property Taxes
Berks County Pomona Grange #43**

WHEREAS: every year budget time rolls around and the Governor and/or legislature often suggest a possible new tax; and

WHEREAS: many times, the new money is already ear-marked for a new venture; therefore, be it

38 **RESOLVED:** that any time a new tax proposal is introduced, and it is not a tax-
 swap 39 situation, it must be designated for the reduction or elimination of property
 taxes.

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

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2 Committee Reason—Don't know how this would be implemented.

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4 **Resolution #14 —Priority Postal Delivery of Living Organisms (such as chicks
 5 and bees)**

6 **Plumsteadville Grange #1738**

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8 **WHEREAS:** The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) and the Grange have historically had
 a 9 long relationship; and

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11 **WHEREAS:** the Grange was instrumental in the development of Rural Free Delivery
 12 and the parcel Post System; and

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14 **WHEREAS:** USPS priority mail shipments of live chicks, bees and other living
 15 organisms are extremely time sensitive; and

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17 **WHEREAS:** recent developments in USPS policies have resulted in massive
 18 slowness and delays in receiving mail; and

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20 **WHEREAS:** long delays in shipping time have resulted in chicks and bees arriving
 21 damaged or dead; therefore, be it

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23 **RESOLVED:** that the Pennsylvania State Grange join with the National Grange to
 24 the lobby the entity over for U.S. Postal System to make timely delivery of living

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organisms (such as chicks and bees) and other time-
 sensitive shipments be made a 26 priority in the postal

delivery system.

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**Resolution #15 — Vaccine Passport
Hookstown Grange #1980**

WHEREAS: the world pandemic caused by the spread of the Coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, has changed the way even everyday activities occur; and

WHEREAS: the impact of COVID-19 has touched everyone in some way across our nation and throughout the world; and

WHEREAS: this impact has resulted in the need for consistent and widespread regulations to ensure the safety of everyone; and

WHEREAS: each state in our country has been given the authority to determine the response to, rules for, and restrictions in regard to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS: there are no specific federal regulations or guidelines in place for domestic and international travel; and

WHEREAS: many people have received the Coronavirus vaccine, but, other than a paper record issued by the medical institution that administered the vaccine, there is no established method to indicate whether a person has received it; and

WHEREAS: ensuring the safety of travelers, as well as the workers involved in the travel industry, is of utmost importance; and

WHEREAS: the virus has been spread throughout the world unknowingly by travelers; therefore, be it

39 **RESOLVED:** that the Pennsylvania State Grange send a resolution to the National
 40 Grange requesting they lobby with Congress to enact a law establishing a national
 41 “vaccine passport” document that may be used as proof of full vaccination against
 42 the Coronavirus for domestic and international travel and be required for all those 43
 who pass through check points at airports, ports of call, and train stations in the 44
 United States, regardless of their citizenship.

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

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2 **Committee reason—Deeper investigation needed.**

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5 **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

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7 **Resolution #16 — Youth and Junior Funding Assessment** 8 **Valley Grange #1360**

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10 **WHEREAS:** the National Grange Youth and Junior Departments have budgets/lines of
 11 funding in both the National Grange and Grange Foundation, and
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13 **WHEREAS:** the Directors’ stipends, office budget and travel are paid out of the National 14
 Grange budget while all programming for the participants, such as Ambassador travel, 15
 workshops for the children and young adults involved and accommodations for participation 16 in
 the National Grange Convention is paid out of the Grange Foundation, and
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18 **WHEREAS:** the money to cover those participant costs – about \$30,000 annually – from
 the 19 Grange Foundation comes from donations, primarily by Granges and members across the
 20 country, and

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22 **WHEREAS:** donations have been declining sharply over the past two decades, and
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24 **WHEREAS:** the programs are running at or near negative levels and very little participation
 25 in fundraisers by Granges and members has put in jeopardy the ability for them to function,
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28 **WHEREAS:** individual Youth and Junior members who win regional competitions or are 29
 selected as their state’s ambassador are not funded through the National Grange or Grange 30
 Foundation, and
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WHEREAS: Grange Youth and Young Adults and Junior Grange members are not just our future, but our present, and a necessary part of our continued success as an organization, and

WHEREAS: there is much that can be done to bolster the programming to attract more participation, but funding stability is required, and

WHEREAS: members in the past gave so that today’s older generation of Grangers could learn, laugh and grow as a member of the Grange, and we should feel called on to do the same, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that the National Grange levy an assessment of \$2 on all Subordinate fraternal members¹ with \$1 earmarked each year for the Youth/Young Adults Program budget and \$1 earmarked for the Junior Grange budget, and be it further

RESOLVED: that \$2 of each annual e-membership be earmarked for the Junior and Youth programs equally.

¹ The fraternal membership is about 55,000.

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

**Resolution #17 — 2023 Session Location
Pennsylvania State Grange History Committee**

WHEREAS: in 2019 the delegates at the 147th annual session took action to adopt Resolution #42 which suspended the regional hosting rotation of the annual convention for 2023 and designated that the 150th anniversary celebration session would be held in Reading, PA, as had the 75th, 100th and 125th anniversary sessions, and

WHEREAS: the State Grange History Committee responsible for planning this session is encountering considerable difficulties finding a suitable hotel location for this event, due to closings, mergers and down-sizing of many facilities in that area, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania State Grange, upon recommendation from the History Committee, be authorized if necessary to change the site of the 2023 session from Reading to another location with facilities able to

28 accommodate the many special events that are planned for the 150th anniversary 29
celebration, and be it further

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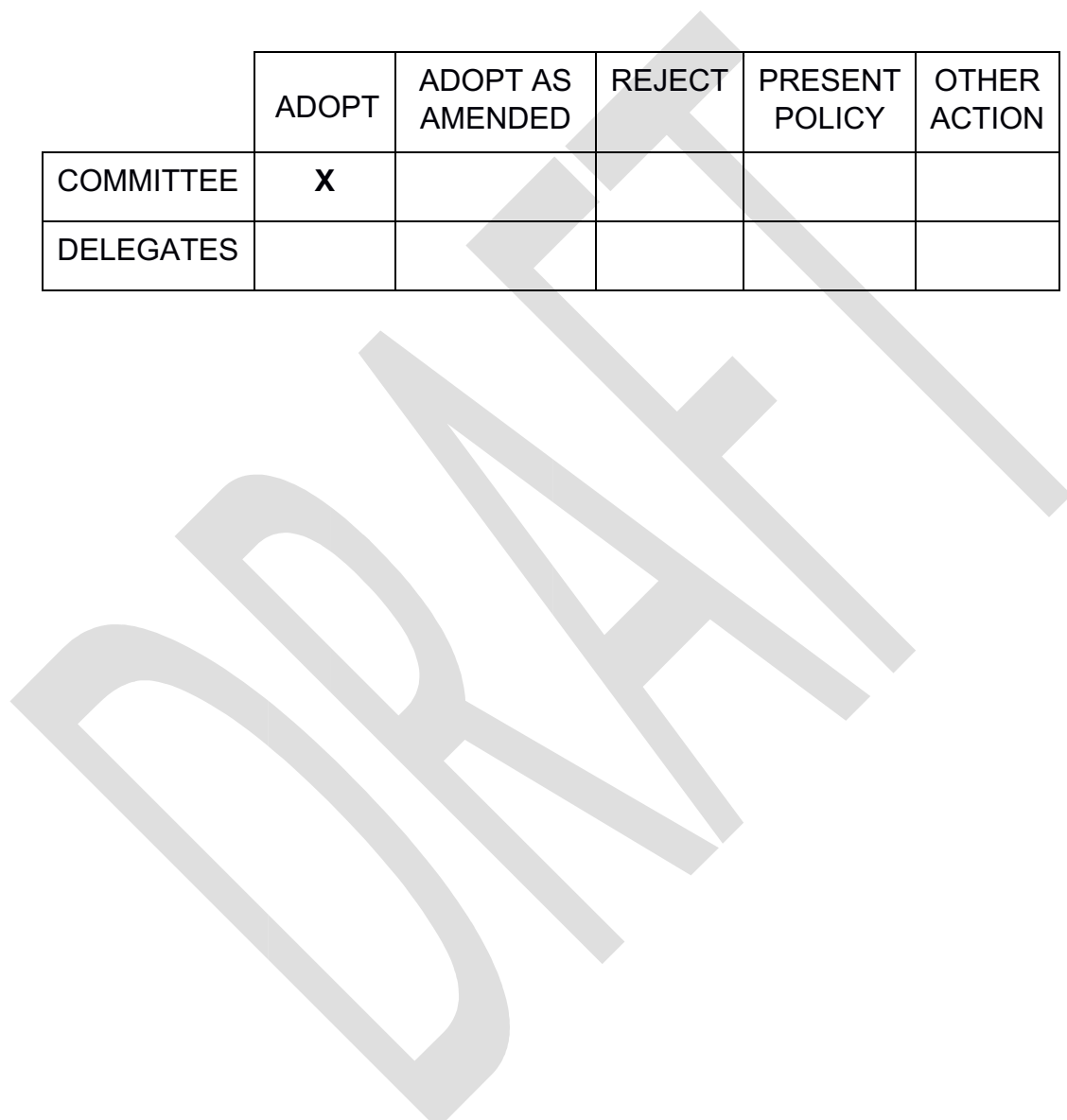
31 **RESOLVED**, that a reminder be issued that the 2019 delegate action urged all
32 Granges in Pennsylvania to accept responsibility and contribute toward the costs to
33 host the 2023 convention rather than the financial responsibility being borne
by any 34 one region of the state.

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**Resolution #18 — Equal Access to proposed Grange State Budget
Harveys-Aleppo Grange #1444**

WHEREAS: Equal Access to proposed Grange State Budget; and

WHEREAS: Delegates at State Grange Session have the right to review the proposed State Grange budget and present questions and concerns before the budget is voted on; and

WHEREAS: Subordinate Grange members have been afforded no such access to the proposed budget to read and discuss beforehand at a subordinate meeting; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that State Grange will support this motion to submit the proposed yearly budget one month before State Grange Session so that all Subordinate Grange members have the opportunity to review and submit questions and concerns to their delegates to take to the State Session.

	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE				X	
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**Resolution #19 — National Grange Theme
Harveys-Aleppo Grange #1444**

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WHEREAS: many Granges use a different theme for their exhibits at fairs; and

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

WHEREAS: Granges use the National Grange theme, State Grange theme, Fair theme, their own theme etc., which may be confusing to the viewing public. To be consistent and highlight our continuity, it would be less confusing for every Grange to ~~use~~ use our national Grange ~~them~~; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that all Granges be ~~required to~~ encouraged to incorporate ~~use~~ the

National Grange theme for their exhibits throughout the year. 11

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

**Resolution #20 — Officers to stay at Stations during Sessions
Harveys-Aleppo Grange #1444**

WHEREAS: the proceedings of the State Grange provide the highest level of Grange meetings that most members ever witness; and

WHEREAS: Grange ritual is very specific regarding the sanctity of the meeting room and the procedures for moving into and out of the meeting area; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that Pennsylvania State Grange Sessions should comply with those specific instructions that all officers and members will respect the Grange proceedings, and that those proceedings should exemplify the dignity with which they were intended, respecting all aspects of our ritual by staying at their appointed stations.

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**Resolution #21 — Pennsylvania State Grange Deputies
Harveys-Aleppo Grange #1444**

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WHEREAS: the dwindling number of Granges and Grangers have made statewide communication and instruction more difficult; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that the Deputy Program be reinstated with at least one Deputy per Pomona District.

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

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**Resolution #22 — Establish a Pre-Junior Membership Category
Keystone Grange #2**

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WHEREAS: the Grange is proud to call itself an organization in which the entire family may take part, and

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WHEREAS: membership at the Subordinate Grange begins at 13-and-a-half years old, and

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22 **WHEREAS:** membership at the Junior Grange begins at 5 years old, and

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24 **WHEREAS:** children newborn through 4 years of age currently has no official place
25 in the Grange, and

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27 **WHEREAS:** we understand that some of our earliest encounters in these formative
28 years solidify our values and deep connections for life, and

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30 **WHEREAS:** local Granges have at times offered opportunities for these young
31 children in a club-based (PJ Club or Grange Sprouts) or individual fashion (similar to
32 the 1+ Junior program), such as civic and agriculture-oriented coloring and activity
33 pages, short stories and virtual (video-based) field trips, therefore, be it

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35 **RESOLVED:** the Pennsylvania State Grange and National Grange create a
36 membership category for pre-Junior age individuals (0-5) whose parent(s) or
37 guardian(s) are members of a Subordinate Grange, and be it further

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39 **RESOLVED:** that age-appropriate programming and activities be made available for
40 these young members, and be it further

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RESOLVED: that a National Coordinator be named and an initial budget to provide
for the development and distribution of pre-Junior materials, and be it further

RESOLVED: these pre-Junior members are counted in fraternal membership totals
but do not pay dues to the State or National Grange.

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

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13 **Resolution #23 — Junior Grange Ritual**

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14 **PA Junior Grange Committee**

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16 **WHEREAS:** the Junior Grange is meant to be a learning and training ground for
17 children age 5-14 to experience how a Subordinate/Community Grange operates;
18 and

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20 **WHEREAS:** the ritual of the Grange is meant to be instructive, but the current
21 language of the ritual in the Junior Grange is difficult for children to both understand
22 and say, particularly in the Opening and Closing, and this language may discourage
23 children from wanting to continue to learn about the Grange; and

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25 **WHEREAS:** Junior Grange members should be encouraged to play and learn and
26 grow, and should not be made to feel like they can't succeed on their own; and

27

28 **WHEREAS:** other language in the Junior Grange has been updated in the recent
29 past; therefore, be it

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31 **RESOLVED:** that the Assembly of Demeter examine updating the language of the
32 Opening, Closing, and other ritual used in the Junior Grange to a more
33 contemporary language that is easier for children to learn and understand, while
34 retaining the similarities to the Subordinate/Community Grange ritual.

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	ADOPT	ADOPT AS AMENDED	REJECT	PRESENT POLICY	OTHER ACTION
COMMITTEE	X				

DELEGATES					
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**Resolution #24 — Departmental Committee Members
PA State Grange Good of the Order Committee**

WHEREAS: the number of PA State Grange regions was reduced from eight to six by previous action of the PA State Grange Session Delegates; and

WHEREAS: the current PA State Grange By-Laws Section 1.8.1 concerning Departmental Committees indicates eight regions; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that Section 1.8.1 of the Pennsylvania State Grange By-Laws be changed to read as follows:

1.8.1 Departmental Committees of the State Grange, unless otherwise ordered, shall consist of six members, one representing each region. Other standing and special committees may be appointed as needed by the President/Master and Vice President/Overseer.

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

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**Resolution #25 — Family Membership
PA State Grange Good of the Order Committee**

WHEREAS: Section 1.3.8 (B) of the PA State Grange By-Laws is currently:
“A family shall consist of a husband and wife and their dependents, or a single person and their dependents. Dependents are defined as children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren under the age of 23, who live as a member of the same household or in absence due to illness, education or military service. Foster adopted or step children and other legal dependents shall be considered part of their legal guardians’ family. There are exceptions for children who remain a dependent beyond age 23 because of developmental delays.”; and

WHEREAS: the National Grange rewrote Section 4.6.6 (B) of the National Grange By-Laws to revise the definition of “Family” regarding Family Plan Membership; and

WHEREAS: the Committee feels that the definition of “Family” in Section 1.3.8 of the PA State Grange By-Laws should be updated to align with the National Grange By-Laws; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that Section 1.3.8 of the Pennsylvania State Grange By-Laws be changed to read as follows:

1.3.8 Family Membership – A family whose members are fourteen years of age (thirteen years and six months or more) with an interest in the purposes of the Order may be proposed as candidates and, upon payment of the annual dues as prescribed in Article X, Section 1.10.5, be elected to membership in a Community/Subordinate Grange as follows:

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A. The process of election to membership and becoming a full member for all members of the family shall be the same as for an individual.

B. A family shall consist of a couple and their dependents, or a single person and their dependents. Dependents are defined as children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, foster, adopted or step-children under the age of 23, who live as a member of the same household or in absence due to illness, education or military service. Legal dependents of any age shall be considered part of their legal guardians' family.

C. At such time as a member no longer qualifies as a dependent, the status of the member shall be as an individual with no interruption of their membership.

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

**Resolution #26 — Community Grange Dues
PA State Grange Good of the Order Committee**

WHEREAS: dues are the lifeblood of the Order; and

WHEREAS: bill-paying procedures have changed to faster, easier methods; and

WHEREAS: many Grange members would prefer the ability to pay their dues electronically; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that the National Grange Digest of Laws, Chapter 6, Sections 6.11.3, 6.11.4, 6.11.5, 6.11.6, and 6.11.7 be deleted and replaced with the following new sections:

6.11.3. The State Grange shall set a uniform dues rate for Community Grange membership in that state.

6.11.4. A member's Community Grange dues are considered paid timely when postmarked or received into the State Grange bank account within the time limit set by the State Grange having jurisdiction.

35 6.11.5. The State Grange shall establish a membership database with the capability of
36 automatic annual generation of dues notices to each Grange member in that state, notices
37 to be sent thirty days prior to January 1 of each year. Community Granges will no longer be
38 responsible for dues collection.

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40 6.11.6. The State Grange shall return to each Community Grange annually a portion of
the 41 dues collected from membership in that Community Grange, the amount to be set in the
42 State Grange bylaws.

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

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Current National Digest Sections are copied below for reference.

6.11.3 A Subordinate Grange may regulate the amount and time of dues payments provided such regulations conform to the By-Laws and Laws of the State Grange having jurisdiction and of the National Grange.

6.11.4 A member’s Subordinate Grange dues are considered legal tender when paid by mail and postmarked within the time limit set by the State Grange having jurisdiction.

6.11.5 A Subordinate Grange shall pay quarterly dues to the State Grange beginning with the calendar quarter following the calendar Quarter in which the Subordinate Grange is organized.

Resolution #26 — Community Grange Dues continued

6.11.6 Thirty days prior to January 1 of each year the Secretary of a Subordinate Grange shall notify each member of that Grange of the amount of annual dues to be paid in advance.

6.11.7 The National Grange and State Granges shall make available to Subordinate Granges suitable dues statement blanks.

FAMILY ISSUES

THERE WERE NO FAMILY ISSUES RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED.