



Proposed Legislation
for the
217th Annual Communication
of the
Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
of
Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio

October 16, 2026
Dayton, Ohio

My Brethren:

The following is information regarding Proposed Legislation for the next Annual Communication. As you review this information in your Lodges, I would ask that you remember the following:

1. The Lodge should not “direct” you to vote any certain way. You should go to Grand Lodge as an independent delegate. You should hear the arguments presented and make up your own mind.
2. The presentation of proposed legislation is covered in the Code and By Laws of the Grand Lodge of Ohio.
3. In the following documents, legislation numbered 2026-1 through 2026-4 are ready for consideration. Legislation number 2026-A and 2026-B are asking for immediate consideration.
4. The Jurisprudence Committee will review the Legislation and attempt to determine if it is in proper form. This Committee will not pass on whether it is desirable legislation.
5. The Jurisprudence Committee will present the Proposed Legislation and move its adoption. The Motion for Adoption of the Legislation is only to place it properly before the delegates. It does not imply that the Jurisprudence Committee endorses the legislation. An affirmative vote supports adoption; a negative vote will reject the vote.
6. The Advisory Committee of the Grand Lodge (the Elected Officers of the Grand Lodge; the Immediate Past Grand Master; and the Chairman of Ways, Means and Accounts; Chairman of Masonic Jurisprudence and the Chairman of Membership) has reviewed the legislation. Their recommendation will be given to the delegates after the Legislation is submitted for decision.

Richard A. Dickerscheid, PGM
The Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence

C. Michael Watson, PGM, Vice Chairman

Brian Arehart, Junior Grand Deacon
Eric Muehlenbein, Grand Orator
Neil M. Smalley, PGM, Emeritus
Terry W. Posey, PGM, Emeritus
Douglas N. Kaylor, PGM
Jonathan Krapf
Robert R. Rettig
Thomas R. Schuck

Partial Report 1
Proposed Legislation 2026-1

*Submitted legislation found to
be out of order*

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ohio:

We, the undersigned, propose the following Resolution 20 – Election of Grand Lodge Officers for consideration at the 2026 Grand Lodge Session:

Resolution 20 - Election of Grand Lodge Officers

Be It Resolved, that the members of the Grand Lodge of Ohio desire to be more involved in the selection of their leadership.

Effective with the passage of this resolution, the following rules shall be used for election of Grand Lodge Officers:

- 1. Each candidate for elected office shall declare his intention to run for the office no earlier than January 1st and no later than sixty days prior to the scheduled opening of the Grand Lodge Communication.**
- 2. Each candidate for elected office shall be permitted to address and discuss their plans and vision with the brethren of Masonic Lodges, at Masonic meetings, and at other Masonic functions and gatherings. These addresses and discussions do not constitute electioneering.**
- 3. Each candidate for elected office shall have up to 10 minutes during the Grand Lodge Communication to introduce himself, his plans, and his vision to the voting delegates of the Grand Lodge. This speech does not constitute electioneering.**
- 4. After each candidate for an office has spoken, a ballot shall be taken. A majority (fifty percent plus one) of the valid ballots (voting for a nominated candidate) shall constitute election. Blank or invalid ballots shall reduce the number required for election.**
- 5. If no majority is reached, the top two candidates will be eligible for a runoff election. A majority (fifty percent plus one) of the valid ballots (voting for only one of these two candidates) shall constitute election. Blank or invalid ballots shall reduce the number required for election.**

Timothy S. Wheeland, PGM
Charles Buck, PDDGM
L. Keith Fields, DDGM
Elbridge Brewer, AGC
Steven E. Cokonougher, PGM

Partial Report 2
Proposed Legislation 2026-2

*The Advisory Committee
recommends to adopt*

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ohio:

The undersigned members of the Grand Lodge of Ohio propose the following changes to the Ohio Masonic Code.

Current:

SEC 29.06 Membership and Memorial Endowment Fund

(c) The fee of eight hundred (\$800) dollars collected by a Lodge for Endowed Membership shall be immediately transmitted to the Grand Secretary so as to be received by him no later than the succeeding August 31 in order to qualify for a distribution under paragraph 4 hereof.

Change:

SEC 29.06 Membership and Memorial Endowment Fund

(c) The fee of ~~eight hundred (\$800)~~ **twelve hundred (\$1,200)** dollars collected by a Lodge for Endowed Membership shall be immediately transmitted to the Grand Secretary so as to be received by him no later than the succeeding August 31 in order to qualify for a distribution under paragraph 4 hereof.

Steven E. Cokonougher, PGM
Steven M. Grindle, PGM
Kirk Miller, GC
Shawn Johnson, DGM
Keith W. Newton, PGM

Partial Report 3
Proposed Legislation 2026-3

*Submitted legislation found to
be out of order*

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ohio:

RESOLUTION 2025-

The Grand Lodge shall publish a description of the responsibilities, expectations, skills and abilities necessary and qualifications for each appointed officer of the Grand Lodge.

David L. Daugherty, PDDGM
Daniel D. Hrinko, PDDGM
W. Pat Comer, GT
William M. Carter III, PGM
Kenneth B. Cohen, PDDGM
Shawn Johnson, DGM
Chad Kopenski, PDDGM

Partial Report 4
Proposed Legislation 2026-4

*Submitted legislation found to
be out of order*

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ohio:

Resolution 2025-

The Grand Lodge shall create a pool of qualified brothers who are interested in being considered as a candidate to serve as an appointed or elected officer of the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

The Grand Lodge shall create an application process for brothers to express their desire to serve as an elected or appointed officer of the Grand Lodge of Ohio. These applications shall be reviewed on the district level before being included in the final pool. There is no limit on the number of brothers submitted to the final pool.

The Deputy Grand Master will select his appointments from the final pool. This requirement will apply to the Deputy Grand Master in the year after passage of this resolution.

David L. Daugherty, PDDGM
Daniel D. Hrinko, PDDGM
W. Pat Comer, GT
Kenneth B. Cohen, PDDGM
William M. Carter III, PGM
Shawn Johnson, DGM
Chad Kopenski, PDDGM

**Partial Report 4
Proposed Legislation 2026-A**

*Advisory Committee
recommends to adopt*

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ohio:

We, the undersigned members of Grand Lodge, propose the following changes to the Ohio Masonic Code. Immediate consideration is requested:

Current:

Section 18.01 Election of Officers

18.01(d) Electioneering in connection with the selection of an officer or trustee of a Lodge is forbidden and constitutes unmasonic conduct.

Be amended to read:

18.01(d) Electioneering in connection with the selection of an officer or trustee of a Lodge, **or a Grand Lodge office** is forbidden and constitutes un-Masonic conduct.

(e) A current Grand Lodge Officer garnering support for a certain year only without using names, or the Deputy Grand Master preparing for the following year if so elected, does not constitute “electioneering”.

Eric R. Schau, PGM
Joseph C. Radocy, PDDGM
William M. Carter III, PGM
Daniel P. Mossop, PDDGM
Robert C. Cygan, PDDGM

**Partial Report 4
Proposed Legislation 2026-B**

*Advisory Committee
recommends to adopt*

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ohio:

We, the undersigned members of Grand Lodge, propose the following legislation. Immediate consideration is requested:

NOW: Current CHAPTER 6:

CHAPTER 6 GRAND LODGE DUES, FEES AND APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 6.01. *Dues, Fees and Appropriations.* (a) Every Subordinate Lodge shall pay to the Grand Lodge, previous to its annual communication the following Annual Grand Dues, namely: the sum of two dollars (\$2.00) for each candidate initiated (made an Entered Apprentice), during the fiscal year, and the sum of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) in 2016-2017 and each year thereafter, for each member (Master Mason) in good standing.

CHANGE TO READ:

CHAPTER 6 GRAND LODGE DUES, FEES AND APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 6.01. *Dues, Fees and Appropriations.* (a) Every Subordinate Lodge shall pay to the Grand Lodge, previous to its annual communication the following Annual Grand Dues, namely: the sum of two dollars (\$2.00) for each candidate initiated (made an Entered Apprentice), during the fiscal year, and the sum of ~~fifteen dollars (\$15.00) in 2016-2017~~ **TWENTY-ONE (\$21.00) in 2026-2027** and each year thereafter, for each member (Master Mason) in good standing.

Wayne A. Fischer, Senior Grand Warden
Jeffrey M. Sime, Junior Grand Warden
Steven M. Grindle, Grand Treasurer
Eric W. Muehlenbein, Grand Orator
Troy L. Davis, Grand Marshal