Resolution No 1

Proposed amendment to Section 116 Returns and Dues

Proposed for consideration November 21, 2026

Whereas, the operating expenses of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons in Virginia have continued to increase since the capitation tax was last increased in 2019; and

Whereas, declining membership and rising costs have placed increasing pressure on the revenues available to support the work, programs, and obligations of the Grand Chapter; and

Whereas, the combined effects of inflation and membership decline have caused the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons in Virginia to draw upon reserve accounts held by the Grand Trustees, and continued withdrawals may be necessary unless additional revenue is approved; and

Whereas, an increase in Grand Chapter dues is necessary to meet the obligations of the Grand Chapter, sustain its work into the future, and provide the level of service that the Subordinate Chapters and Companions deserve;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that Section 116, Returns and Dues, be amended as follows:

Section 116. Returns and Dues. Every Chartered Chapter shall, with its annual returns, make payment to the Grand Chapter the sum of thirty-six (36) dollars for each member reported (including Honorary Members) of such Chapter, and for any members not accounted for on its latest returns, together with such sum for each exaltation during the Chapter year as shall be determined by Grand Chapter, provided, however, that no Grand Chapter dues shall be paid on any member of a Chapter who holds perpetual membership in such Chapter, or on any member of a Chapter who shall have an aggregate of fifty years in a regular Chapter chartered by this Grand Chapter, or by a Grand Chapter recognized by the Grand Chapter of Virginia, and whose membership for the five years last past shall have been in a Virginia Chapter, and whose name shall be certified annually by the Grand Secretary as having such membership.

(Adopted November 23, 2019)

Be Amended to Read:

Section 116. Returns and Dues. Every Chartered Chapter shall, with its annual returns, make payment to the Grand Chapter the sum of **forty-five (45) dollars effective October 1, 2027, fifty (50) dollars effective October 1, 2028, and fifty-five (55) dollars effective October 1, 2029** for each member reported (including Honorary Members) of such Chapter, and for any members not accounted for on its latest returns, together with such sum for each exaltation during the Chapter year as shall be determined by Grand Chapter, provided, however, that no Grand Chapter dues shall be paid on any member of a Chapter who holds perpetual membership in such Chapter, or on any member of a Chapter who shall have an aggregate of fifty years in a regular Chapter chartered by this Grand Chapter, or by a Grand Chapter recognized by the Grand Chapter of Virginia, and whose membership for the five years last past shall have been in a Virginia Chapter, and whose name shall be certified annually by the Grand Secretary as having such membership.

(Adopted _____)

Submitted by:

Kyle W. Strickland, PHP
Cradock RAC No. 72

Thomas L. Varner, PHP
Petersburg Union RAC No. 7

Dr. Joel T. Bundy, PHP
Princess Anne RAC No. 1607

Clifford H. Gregory PhD, PHP
Richmond Washington RAC 3-9