

FROM: Sons of Norway International Corporate Matters and Governance Committee
DATE: April 21, 2020
A MOTION: That the Sons of Norway Constitution **Section 3, District Lodge, Chapter 10**, shall be amended as follows:

REFERENDUMS

WHEREAS, in the interim period between meetings of the District Lodge, during which time there may be an urgent need to conduct business that cannot wait for the next such meeting; and

WHEREAS, for the purpose of improving District Lodge communication and decision making using the most rapid, efficient and technologically advanced methods available today; and

WHEREAS, using such up-to-date methods will provide the Sons of Norway districts with a more economical and money saving method with which to communicate and make decisions; will provide for a more secure method with which to share and pass on confidential and private information and decision making; and will provide for a more timely and speedier method with which to execute the management and affairs of the Sons of Norway districts, eliminating the two-year wait for the District Lodge's affirmation of District Board decisions:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sons of Norway Charter and Constitutions **Section 3, District Lodge, Chapter 10**, shall be amended to read as follows:

Please note that crossed out words are to be removed and underlined words are to be added. All other wording is exactly as it appears in the current (2018-2020) Constitutions.

CHAPTER 10

3.10. LAWS AND AMENDMENTS

3.10.1. ADOPT LAWS AND RULES

The district lodge shall be authorized to adopt all necessary laws and rules concerning the district lodge, including the election, employment, or appointment of one (1) or more competent auditors to audit the books of the district lodge.

3.10.1.1. At least once each year the auditors shall submit a written report of each audit.

3.10.1.2. A district lodge may authorize, in its bylaws, its district board of directors to elect, employ or appoint such auditor or auditors.

3.10.2. Reserved

3.10.3. ~~Reserved~~ REFERENDUMS

The district board of directors may adopt a resolution to conduct a referendum of the district lodge by mail or electronic communication. The district president shall oversee ~~to~~ the referendum by directing the district secretary to send to each member of the district lodge via mail, electronic communications, or other methods of electronic or internet-based communication, a copy of the district board of directors' resolution directing the referendum, a summary of the referendum presented for consideration, and depending on the voting method utilized, instructions for casting a vote, including the timeline in which the vote must be cast. ~~a printed ballot for voting and a prepaid postage return envelope~~. Each member voting in a referendum shall be entitled to cast one (1)

~~ballot~~. vote and provided a quorum or majority of the district lodge casts a vote, the results of the referendum shall be binding.

~~**3.10.4.1.** The district board of directors shall declare whether the vote is to be secret or non secret. If the vote is to be secret, the referendum ballot shall not be signed, but shall be placed in an envelope containing no identification of the voting delegate, and which remains sealed until the ballots are counted. This envelope, which preserves the secrecy of each vote, shall be placed in a mailing envelope. The mailing envelope shall include a signature line for the voting delegate. No ballot shall be counted if the envelope has not been signed.~~

~~**3.10.4.2.** If the vote is not declared secret, the referendum ballot itself shall be signed. An unsigned referendum ballot shall not be counted. Ballots must be returned to the district president or his or her designee within 30 days after the date it was sent to the member. Said ballots shall be counted by the district president's designees and the results of the balloting shall be declared at the next district executive committee meeting. If the majority of the members of the district lodge shall have cast their ballots and a majority of the ballots cast approve the referendum, the proposal shall be adopted. (8/06)~~

3.10.4. REFERENDUMS Reserved

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this chapter be renumbered as set forth above in order to be in agreement with numbering conventions in Charter & Constitutions Section 2, International Lodge, Chapter 10.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any district bylaw amendments passed through referendum, or any other means, may not be put into effect until approval by the chief executive officer and the legal counsel are secured as outlined in Policy & Procedures Section 3, District Lodge, Chapter 10, paragraph 3.10.1.