Council on Legislation

What is Council on Legislation?

- **Legislative body (Parliament) of Rotary International**

- **Has authority to amend RI Constitutional documents**

What happens at Council on Legislation?

- Meet every 3 years
- Every Club and District may propose legislation
- Debate and vote on legislation
- Able to amend RI Constitution and adopt resolutions

Who are the Council members?

- Voting members: One Past District Governor (PDG) from each District (532 Districts)
- Must be a member of a Rotary Club in that District

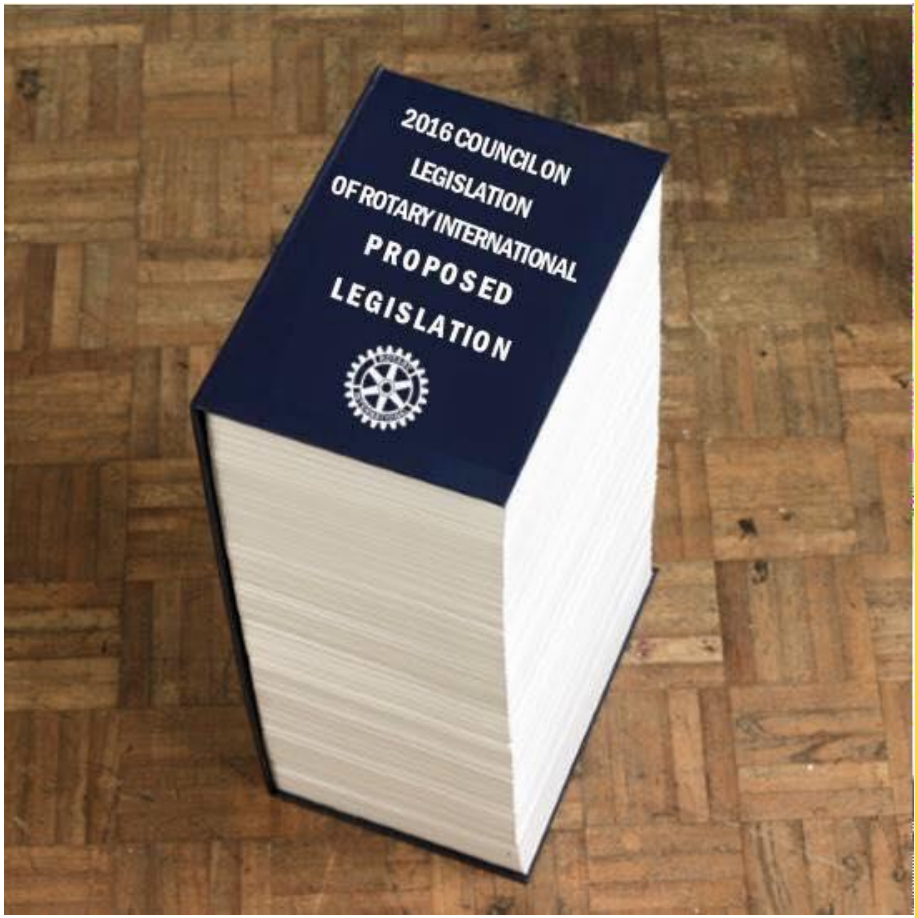
- PDG Helyn Bolanis Representing District 6600 for 2016 COL

Who attends the Council on Legislation?

- 532 voting delegates (PDG from each district)
- RI Board (non-voting)
- Foundation Trustees (non-voting)
- RI Past Presidents (non-voting)
- Observers (non-voting)

What types of legislation?

- **Enactments**
  - Enactments seek to change RI Constitutional Documents:
    - » RI Constitution
    - » RI Bylaws
    - » Standard Rotary Club Constitution
- **Resolutions**
  - Do not seek to change RI Constitutional Documents



Council on Legislation

- **All delegates are housed at the downtown Chicago Marriott**

Council on Legislation

- **And all sessions are held inside the Chicago Marriott**

Council on Legislation

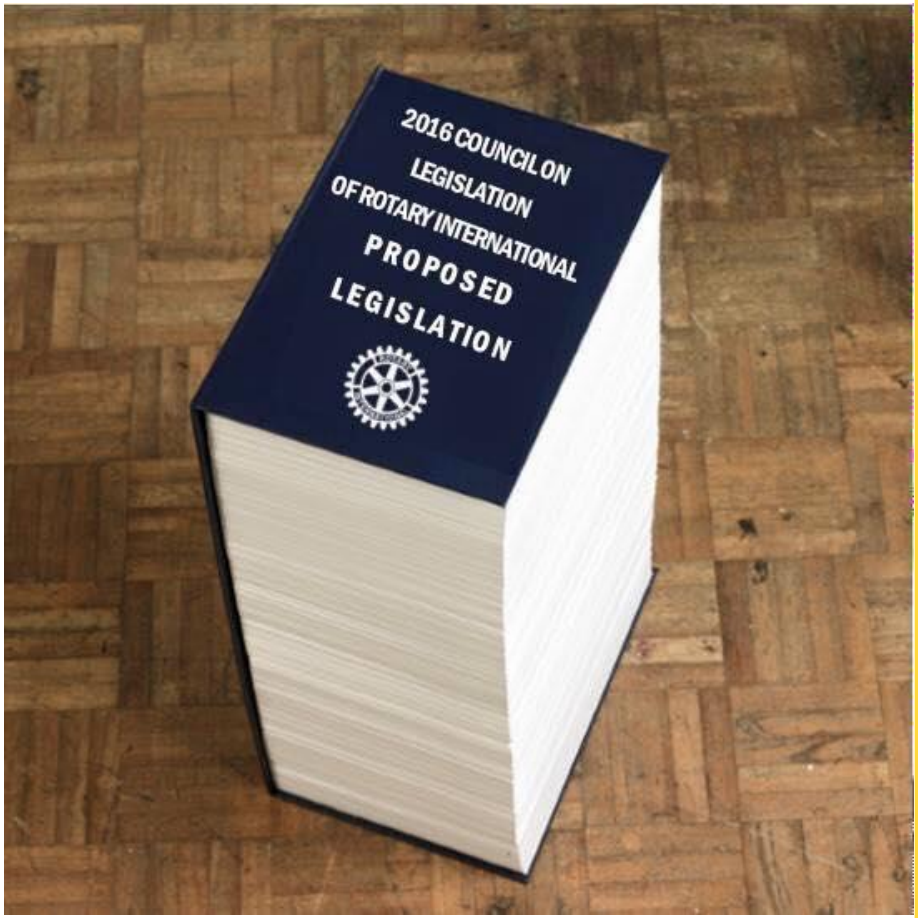
- **The legislation is presented in six (6) languages**

Rotary Event App

Rotary Event App

Legislation Considered?

- **Enactments**
  - 117 rule changes proposed
    - » 48 New Rule Changes Passed
    - » 26 Rejected
    - » 34 Withdrawn
    - » 3 Referred to the Board
- **Resolutions**
  - 64 Resolutions proposed
    - » 16 Resolutions Passed
    - » 20 Resolutions Rejected
    - » 27 Resolutions Withdrawn



Examples of a Resolution?

- **Resolution 16-118**

"To endorse and affirm that the eradication of polio is a goal of the highest order of Rotary International."

Resolution 16-141

"To request the Trustees to consider amending the terms for Foundation grants to permit the purchase of equipment for pre-or post-surgical care units."

Enactment 16-113 To provide for a Council on Resolution Adopted: Yes: 443 No: 67

Enactment 16-05

- To amend the Standard Rotary Club Constitution as follows: Article 10 Directors and Officers and Committees
- Section 7 – Committees. This club should have the following committees
  - **Club Administration**
  - **Membership**
  - **Public Relations**
  - **Rotary Foundation**
  - **Service Projects**
  - **Additional committees may be appointed as needed**

  - **Adopted as Amended 283-213**

Enactment 16-06

- To define the purpose of Rotary clubs

- **The purpose of this club is to**
  - pursue the Object of Rotary,
  - carry out successful service projects based on the Five Avenues of Service,
  - contribute to the advancement of Rotary by strengthening membership,
  - support the Rotary Foundation,
  - and develop leaders beyond club level.

- **Adopted 236-217**

Enactment 16-07

- To remove admission fees for club members
- The language for admission fees or “initiation fees” has been removed from the BYLAWS of Rotary International.
- Clubs to still have the option to charge an admission fee but it is not mandatory.
- **Adopted 232-228**

Enactment 16-21

- To provide Rotary clubs flexibility in their club bylaws to determine the provisions for meeting frequency and attendance.

- **Clubs will have the option to:**
  - Determine when and how often the club meets
  - Set applicable attendance requirements
  - Modify or eliminate termination policies for non-atttendance

- **Adopted 392-82**

Enactment 16-26

- To amend the provisions for canceling a meeting
- Regular meeting cancellation
  - The board may cancel a regular meeting if it falls on a legal holiday, including a commonly recognized holiday, **or during the week which includes a legal holiday, including a commonly recognized holiday…..**
- **Adopted 272-222**

Enactment 16-35

- To amend the provisions for excused absences
- A member's absence shall be excused if
  - the **aggregate of member's years** of age and years of membership in one or more clubs **is 85** years or more,
  - **the member has been a member of one or more clubs for a least 20 years**,
  - and the member has notified the club secretary in writing the member's desire to be excused from attendance and the board approved.
- **Adopted 334-170**

Enactment 16-36

- To allow for flexibility in membership and classification
- Individual clubs are in the best positon to determine if the classification system helps or hinders membership attraction and retention in the community it serves. If a club chooses to disregard this additional flexibility, the existing constitutional rules and requirements will remain in effect for that club.
- Examples of such flexibility might include:
  - Eliminating the classification system and allowing quality individuals to be considered for membership based on criteria that is representative of the community and best fits the club's strategic vision
- **Adopted 386-75**

Enactment 16-38

- To revise the provisions for membership
- A club shall be composed of
  - **adult persons who demonstrate good character, integrity, and leadership;**
  - **possess good reputation within their business, profession, and/or community;**
  - **and are willing to serve in their community and/or around the world.**
- **Adopted 426-85**

Enactment 16-82

- To remove the distinction between traditional cubs and e-clubs
- This enactment would allow traditional clubs to have weekly meetings online occasionally and e-clubs to have weekly meetings in person as well as online.
- This amendment will eliminate the distinction between traditional clubs and e-clubs. Therefore, the reference to e-clubs will be removed from the RI Bylaws.
- **Adopted 355-145**

Enactment 16-99

- To increase per capita dues
- Legislation approved three $4 increases in annual per capita dues that clubs pay to Rotary International.
  - $60 in 2017-2018
  - $64 in 2018-2019
  - $68 in 2019-2020
- **Adopted 347-197**

Council on Legislation 2016

- **Council grants clubs greater flexibility in meeting, membership**

  - **"The 2016 Council on Legislation may well be remembered as one of the most progressive in Rotary history."** Jennifer Jones, Rotary International Director Zone 28-29