

PROPOSED BRANCH BY-LAW CHANGE

SUBMITTED BY: Roselyne Jarrett, Grand Treasurer

Current By-Law:

Chapter XVII

The Annual Convention

Article 4 - All Branches are required to send at least the minimum quota of their delegates; otherwise, they are subject to a fine of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) per day per delegate. Said fine will be levied at the discretion of the delegates at the Convention. A Branch, which desires exemption from this rule, must receive prior approval of the Executive Committee.

Proposed Change:

Chapter XVII

The Annual Convention

Article 4 - All Branches are required to send at least the minimum quota of their delegates; otherwise, they are subject to a fine of ~~one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) per day~~ **eight hundred (\$800.00)** per delegate. Said fine will be levied at the discretion of the delegates at the Convention. A Branch, which desires exemption from this rule, must receive prior approval of the Executive Committee. **When requesting to be excused, a letter stating the reason must be submitted to the Central Council Office by June 30th of that year's convention. A Branch that is fined by the delegates at the Convention shall pay the voted upon fine to the Central Council General Fund within sixty (60) days of notice from the Central Council Office.**

Rationale:

The Convention is a valuable resource for our Branches. It is important that each Branch be represented to allow their delegates the opportunity to attend workshops, vote on their Branch's behalf and take back information to assist and motivate their Branch.

The increased fine is to encourage Branches to send their delegates to the Annual Convention. We often hear "it is cheaper to pay the fine." Depending on the location of the Convention site, Branches spend at least \$800.00 to send a delegate to Convention. Therefore, if the fine is raised to \$800.00 per delegate, Branches may reconsider taking their chances of being excused and send their delegates to the Convention instead.

Including a date for Branches to submit their letters requesting to be excused, allows the Office Staff and the Credentials Committee time to work with the Branch. The deadline also provides the Executive Committee time to review the request and to meet to vote on whether the request be granted or forwarded to the Convention delegates for a vote.

A due date to pay the fine is included to ensure Branches pay in a timely manner and to clarify that the fine is directed to the General Fund as this is where Convention transactions take place.