

The Grand York Rite Bodies of Freemasonry of Florida

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons • The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons • The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar

JOINT (SINGLE) RESOLUTION FORM

Date: September 11, 2020

Originator(s): James W. Hogg, PHP, PDDGHP

City/State/Zip: Fort Myers, Florida 33906

Officer(s)

TO: Grand Chapter Grand Council Grand Commandery

Regulation to be amended (Article, Section, Page, Paragraph, Line, etc.)

Grand Chapter: Article XIII Chapters, Section 19

LANGUAGE TO BE AMENDED (deleted, changed, etc.)

Section 19. Quorum for Business.

Nine Royal Arch Masons are necessary to constitute a quorum to transact any business, but such quorum may be made up of five members of any Chartered Chapter of which a Council Officer or a Past High Priest must be one, together with four Companions of any other Chapter. A quorum so composed may open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the transaction of any business or for conferring of Degrees, but nothing shall be done unless by the unanimous consent of the members of the Chapter so meeting.

Identification of amended Article, Section, Page, Paragraph, Line, etc.

Grand Chapter Article XIII Chapters, Section 19

NEW LANGUAGE (in **BOLD**).

(continued on reverse)

Effective Date on reverse.

Received by Grand Secretary/Recorder (date) _____

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LANGUAGE TO BE AMENDED

(continued from front)

NEW LANGUAGE (In **BOLD**)

Section 19. Quorum for Business.

- a. Nine Royal Arch Masons are necessary to constitute a quorum to transact any business, but such quorum may be made up of five members of any Chartered Chapter, of which **an elected** Council Officer or a Past High Priest must be one, together with four Companions of any other Chapter. A quorum so composed may open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the transaction of any business or for conferring of Degrees, but nothing shall be done unless by the unanimous consent of the members of the Chapter **present at said meeting**.
- b. Except, that at a Regular Convocation date, time, and place, if there be at least six (6) Royal Arch Masons, four (4) of which are members of that particular Chapter, but not enough to open in ritualistic form as described above, then, a "Business Communication" may be opened by declaration by either the High Priest, an elected Council Officer, or a Past High Priest of the Chapter.

The Chapter so opening in this manner is empowered to act for certain limited purposes; which include, but are not limited to: authorizing the payment of bills, setting dates for special events, receiving and acting on petitions for the Degrees, and election of officers. This limited business herein described must be accomplished only by the unanimous consent of the members of the Chapter who are present at said "Business Communication" meeting. However, no form of degree work may be performed without opening in ritualistic manner with the required minimum number of nine Royal Arch Masons present.

Discussion: This change makes it easier for a Constituent Chapter to accomplish necessary business items in the absence of a necessary quorum of nine Royal Arch Masons, which are required to open a Royal Arch Chapter.

NOTE: Companion legislation to this has been submitted, which amends the following:

CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE --SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS, CONVOCATIONS AND BUSINESS; 25.01 Quorum for Business and Work.

CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE --SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS, CONVOCATIONS AND BUSINESS; 25.02 Form of Opening.

Effective Date: This resolution is to take effect and be implemented on June 1, 2021.