

# **South Central – 2024 Provincial Council Meeting**

## **HOW TO USE THIS LEGISLATION BOOKLET AT PROVINCIAL COUNCILS**

This document describes in detail a Bylaw amendment submitted to the South Central Provincial Council for consideration. Any amendment that passes will be considered at the 2025 Grand Chapter Congress. Bylaw amendments must achieve a 2/3 majority vote at Congress to pass.

Proposals related to National Policy and Procedures may be discussed and voted upon by the Council, but ultimately all National Policy and Procedures are administered by the Fraternity's elected Board of Directors. The Board, of course, will take any recommendation passed by a majority vote of the Provincial Council very seriously.

- Any language with ~~strikethroughs~~ would be deleted if the proposal or amendment passes.
- Any language listed in ALL CAPS indicates language that would be added if the amendment or proposal was adopted.
- Language in *italics* is included occasionally for explanatory purposes.

### **EXAMPLE:**

~~Bylaw~~ - would be deleted

BYLAW - would be added

*Bylaw* - would be an explanatory note offering more detail or interpretation

# PROPOSAL

## PROPOSAL 1 – Bylaws Article III and Article VII

**SUBMITTED BY:** Dustin Casey, Dallas Area Alumni — [Rookie.mailman@yahoo.com](mailto:Rookie.mailman@yahoo.com)

**DATE:** January 3, 2024

### ***What does this proposal do?***

Adds a line to Bylaws blocking Grand Officers from serving as a delegate or alternate from any chapter.

The purpose of this proposal is to ensure the Grand Officers at Grand Chapter Congress and Provincial Council Meetings are seated in their respective positions and not as a delegate of a chapter. Grand Officers are expected to be present at Grand Chapter Congress and Provincial Council Meetings and to serve as a resource for collegiate members during business sessions. If a Grand Officer was to sit as a delegate for a chapter, they are then removing themselves as that resource. Additionally, they are provided with a budget specifically to be present and participate. They should not be permitted to participate in any capacity at Grand Chapter Congress or Provincial Council Meetings outside of the expectations of their elected role.

In addition, Grand Officers are specifically removed from the delegate count of the Grand Chapter and therefore should not be allowed to cast a vote as a delegate of a chapter.

### ***How does this proposal impact our organizational Strategic Priorities and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives?***

This improves our Member Engagement by helping involve more members in the voting process by making sure that people already seated in a Grand Officer role cannot vote on behalf of a chapter, therefore encouraging them to send another representative.

### ***Next Steps if Approved:***

If approved by the Provincial Council, it will be debated at the 2025 Grand Chapter Congress.

### ***History of Proposal:***

At the 2023 Grand Chapter Congress, multiple Regional Vice Presidents decided to exploit this loophole in the current Bylaws and, instead of sitting amongst the delegates as a Regional Vice President, they sat as a credentialed delegate for their respective alumni chapters. Some also voted in Grand Officer races where they themselves were candidates. We feel that it is not appropriate for Grand Officers who are reimbursed from the national budget to be at Grand Chapter Congress or Provincial Council Meetings to be able to vote.

***Positive aspects of implementing Proposal/Recommendation***

More members will potentially be engaged in the voting and decision-making process at Grand Chapter Congress and Provincial Council Meetings. This helps level the playing field - incumbent Grand Officers cannot vote for themselves while being reimbursed for their travel arrangements to Grand Chapter Congress or Provincial Council Meetings for leadership purposes, therefore providing them with an advantage over other candidates.

***Negative aspects of implementing Proposal/Recommendation***

Some alumni chapters might not send any members except Grand Officer and therefore, will not have a vote.

***Financial Impact:***

Financial impact to the national fraternity would be minimal, if any. Potential cost of staff time to update documents. Grand Officers are already expected to attend Grand Chapter Congress and Provincial Council Meetings

***Recommended implementation date and logic for selecting this date:***

At the conclusion of the 2025 Grand Chapter Congress, if approved by the Grand Chapter.

***Proposal Details (and/or exact Policy, Bylaw or Ritual Language proposed -- use ALL CAPS for new language and strikethrough for deletions.)***

**National Bylaws**

**Article III Grand Chapter and Grand Chapter Congress**

**Section 3. Representation and Participation** --- To be entitled to any representation or vote in the Grand Chapter Congress, a Collegiate Chapter shall be in good standing and shall send one (1) delegate who shall be a Collegiate Member of the chapter represented and who will return the following academic term as a student in a qualified program where the chapter is situated. In order to be entitled to any representation, or vote in the Grand Chapter Congress, an Alumni Chapter shall be in good standing, shall have a minimum membership of ten (10), and shall send one (1) delegate who shall be a member of the chapter represented and who will return to the locality in which the chapter is situated as a member of that chapter. **CURRENT GRAND OFFICERS MAY NOT SERVE AS A DELEGATE OR ALTERNATE FOR ANY CHAPTER.** No member of this Fraternity except official delegates and Grand Officers shall have the right to introduce or second motions, or to make nominations on the floor of the Grand Chapter Congress. Any Collegiate Member, Alumni Member, Faculty Member, or Honorary Member in good standing may be present at or speak to any question before the Congress.

**Article VII Provincial Councils**

**Section 3. Delegates** —The Delegates of a Provincial Council shall be in good standing with the Fraternity and shall include the Provincial Vice President, who shall serve as chair, the Regional Vice Presidents and the President of each Collegiate and Alumni Chapter, in good standing, within the Province. **CURRENT GRAND OFFICERS MAY NOT SERVE AS A DELEGATE OR ALTERNATE FOR ANY CHAPTER.** Should a chapter President be unable to attend a Provincial Council Meeting, the chapter may select another of its members to serve as Delegate as hereafter prescribed in these Bylaws.

**NOTES:**

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Passed

Passed as amended

Failed