

2020 General Law Amendments

Overview and Red-Lined Changes

There is one overarching General Law Amendment proposed for the delegates of 132nd Meeting of the Supreme Lodge.

- **With full support of the Loyal Order of Moose Supreme Council and the Women of the Moose Grand Council, the Fraternity seeks to create a new and unified Moose membership. In this new “One Moose” Lodge, women and men have equal membership rights, privileges, opportunities and a vote in Lodge business and activities.**

If the upcoming General Law Amendments pass by 2/3 majority vote, all active Loyal Order of Moose and Women of the Moose members will become members in the new Moose Lodge, governed by a new set of General Laws on May 1, 2021.

Listed below are highlighted areas from each section of the General Laws that will be impacted by the amendment, if passed. These areas have raised the most questions or hold the most interest to the general membership, as well as lodge and chapter leadership. Also attached are the full sections, with red-line revisions indicating all areas that will change if the vote is returned positive.

Section I – The Constitution of Moose International, Inc. and the Supreme Lodge – Purposes of the Order

1. The “Supreme Lodge” and any references to “the Order” will now be referred to as “The Moose.”
2. Individual title changes and the addition of Past Senior Regents changes the composition of what was previously titled “The Supreme Lodge.”
 - a. “The Moose” shall be and is composed of Past Chairmen of the Board of Directors, members of the Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors, officers of The Moose, committeemen of The Moose, Past Lodge Presidents, Past Senior Regents (having received the honor prior to May 1, 2021) and representatives of the member lodges. Each member, as herein listed and defined, shall be entitled to one (1) vote, and except as otherwise defined herein, the majority shall rule.
3. The men’s higher degrees shall be the “Moose Legion Degree of Service”, "Fellowship Degree of Honor" and "Pilgrim Degree of Merit". The women’s higher degrees shall be "Academy of Friendship", "Star Recorder" and "College of Regents".
4. Individual title changes for what was previously referred to as the “Supreme Council;” now the Board of Directors. Women would be allowed to serve on the Board, however, no terminology change will be necessary to make this happen.
 - a. The Board of Directors shall consist of not less than nine (9) or more than thirteen (13) members, including the following five (5) officers, who shall serve on the Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors during the terms of their respective offices: The Chief Executive Officer, the Junior Past Chairman of the Board of Directors, the Chairman of the Board of Directors, the Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors and a Director/Chaplain.

Section II – By-Laws of Moose International, Inc. and General Laws of The Moose

1. The majority of changes to Section 2 involve the updating of terminology to adapt to the new “One Moose” Lodge transition.
2. All previous honors will transition seamlessly to the new integrated Moose.
 - a. Past Supreme Governor – Any member receiving the honor of Past Supreme Governor shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of any Past Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Moose.
 - b. Past Lodge Governor – Any member receiving the honor of Past Lodge Governor shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of any Past Lodge President of The Moose.

Section III – Laws for Member Lodges - Lodge Organization

1. The majority of changes to Section 3 involve the updating of terminology to adapt to the new “One Moose” Lodge transition.
2. Eliminated the membership qualification “Be a male person.”
3. Applicant qualifications for the Women of the Moose are eliminated from this section, but still exist in the Women of the Moose General Laws (a separate document)
4. Individual title changes will occur for the lodge officers, including “President” for Governor; “Vice President” for Junior Governor; and “Chaplain” for Prelate.
5. Officers must be a member of *one* of the higher degrees or the Women of the Moose.
 - a. Eligibility of Officers - Only active lodge members, who are also either active members of one of the lodge’s men’s higher degrees or the lodge’s Women of the Moose unit (or establish such active membership within sixty (60) day following installation) in the lodge, may be considered for any elected office.
6. The revised Laws for Moose Social Quarters and Homes (Section IV) eliminates the House Committee; those duties will now be performed by the lodge’s Board of Officers.
7. The new Laws for Moose Social Quarters and Homes eliminates the House Committee; therefore, it is no longer listed as one of the duties/responsibilities of the lodge Board of Officers.
8. An Executive Session has been added to every Board of Officer’s meeting to discuss confidential topics (i.e. personnel matters, legal matters, etc.), including issues previously handled by the House Committee, which is eliminated in the “One Moose” Lodge structure. Specific rules and documentation apply to these sessions.
9. Joint lodge and chapter meeting terminology is eliminated as this option is no longer needed.
10. The “Donations from a chapter to a lodge” paragraph (43.4) has been removed, but will still appear in the Women of the Moose General Laws.
11. The Women of the Moose “Chapter Organization” paragraph (46.21) has been removed, but will still appear in the Women of the Moose General Laws.

Section IV – Laws for Moose Social Quarters and Homes

1. The majority of changes to Section 4 involve the updating of terminology to adapt to the new “One Moose” Lodge transition.
2. The House Committee has been eliminated and Chapter 48 has been renamed “Governance” instead of House Committee.
3. The lodge Board of Officers assumes the duties of the House Committee. Matters previously related to the governance of the Social Quarters shall be discussed during the established meetings of the Board of Officers, and as necessary, during the newly instituted Executive Session during those meetings.
4. The paragraph relating to Joint House Committees has been eliminated as this function is no longer needed in the “One Moose” Lodge structure.

Section V – State and Provincial Associations

1. The majority of changes to Section 5 involve the updating of terminology to adapt to the new “One Moose” Lodge transition.
2. The ability to incorporate chapters into an Association is no longer applicable as this function is no longer needed in the “One Moose” Lodge structure. All Moose lodges (as well as the entirety of their membership) will automatically be members of their local Associations.

Section VI – Disciplinary Proceedings - Offenses

1. The majority of changes to Section 6 involve the updating of terminology to adapt to the new “One Moose” Lodge transition.
2. Language regarding charges between lodge and chapter members has been eliminated as both males and females are all now part of the lodge in the “One Moose” Lodge structure.
3. Any rules relating specifically to women who continue as members of the Women of the Moose will be included in the Women of the Moose General Laws.

Section VII – Appeals

1. All changes to Section 7 involve the updating of terminology to adapt to the new “One Moose” Lodge transition.

Section X – Addendum

1. The majority of changes to Section 10 involve the updating of terminology to adapt to the new “One Moose” Lodge transition.
2. Bermuda has been deleted from the Moose International Mission Statement as there is no longer a lodge on the island.
3. The “List of Required Dispensations” includes deletions mentioned in previous sections of this document including Joint House Committee participation; disciplinary actions between lodge and chapter members; and donations to a lodge from a Women of the Moose chapter.

The complete General Laws document, showing all proposed changes, is attached. The document is divided into the sections represented above to make reading and interpretation easier.