

WRITING A RESOLUTION

The Grange has a long history rooted in member participation in our policy development through our resolution process. Each Granger is tasked with addressing voids and surpluses in our policy and can propose to implement these changes by offering amendments to your local and State Granges. Drafting resolutions may seem like a daunting task at first, but if you follow the simple format listed below, you will soon be on your way to writing a clear and effective resolution.

PARTS OF A RESOLUTION

The Title

The title should clearly state the issue to be addressed. Be clear about the topic, the more specific you are the easy it is to differentiate between resolutions on similar topics.

The Body

These are the “WHEREAS.” The body of the resolution is where you get to make your argument for why this resolution is necessary. This section does not become policy but explains to other Grangers why the issue is important and provides details, data, and other reference material so they can be better educated on voting for the issue. It is important to note that these should be rooted in facts and not based on the opinions of the writer. These are the “WHEREAS.” Where you state the problems and the facts. The problem and each fact are a separate paragraph starting with WHEREAS and ending with a semicolon followed by “and” at end of paragraph. End the last WHEREAS paragraph with a period followed by “Therefore be it.”



To obtain additional copies of this brochure, contact the:

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The Conclusion is the Resolve

The RESOLVED states the action you wish to take. If there is more than one solution, tie them together with “and be it further resolved” using punctuation as before. The conclusion must be one or more complete sentences which sums up what your resolution is trying to achieve, action you desire taken and must stand alone without any of the supporting WHEREASES. Once adopted this section becomes policy.

SAMPLE RESOLUTION

USDA FUNDS

WHEREAS, funds appropriated to USDA often give the impression to many people not associated with farming that these funds go directly to the farmer for his personal use; and

WHEREAS, many public programs such as school lunch, forest service, meat inspection and food stamps are federal programs funded by USDA; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Grange urge that USDA programs be separated and listed as to amount of money received and all other means be used to promote a dearer understanding between consumers and farmers concerning USDA appropriations.



For help with resolutions contact:

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WRITING GRANGE RESOLUTIONS



FROM IDEA TO POLICY

Resolutions start at the Subordinate/Community or Pomona Grange level. A resolution can be the work of an individual or a committee of several members but it must be voted on and adopted by the Grange.

Once a resolution is adopted by the local Grange it can be sent to the Pomona Grange if it is a regional, state or national issue. The Pomona Grange will consider the resolution and vote to adopt or reject the resolution. Resolutions adopted at the local level may also be sent directly to the State Grange for consideration at the annual convention if it is a state or national issue.

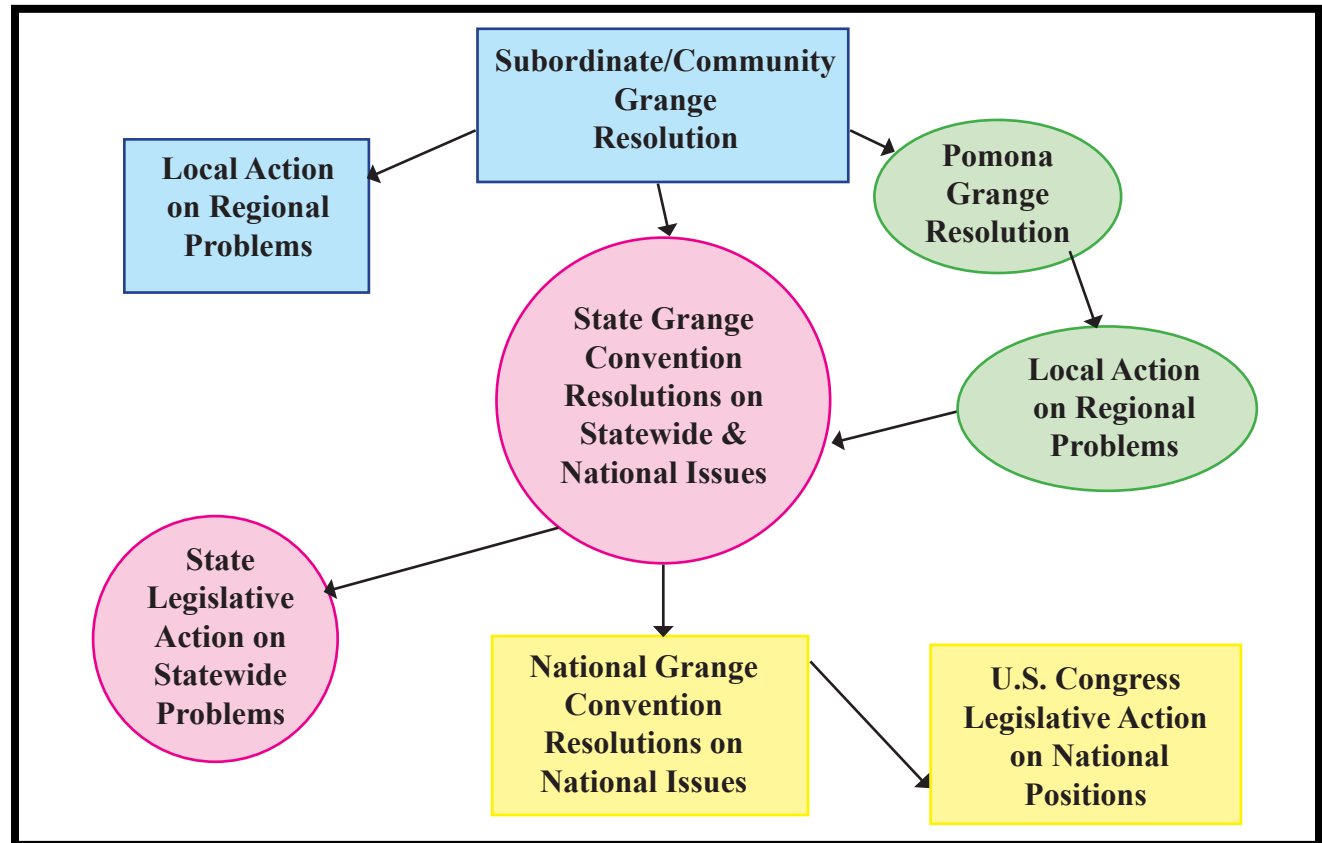
At state a resolution is assigned to a committee based on its subject matter. The committee will act on all resolutions and may:

1. Recommend approval of the resolution as written; reported as favorable.
2. Recommend rejection of the resolution; reported as unfavorable.
3. Amend the resolution or redraft it as they so decide; reported as favorable as amended.
4. Recommend that the resolution be transferred to another committee, be indefinitely postponed, or referred for further study to avoid action on it directly or if no agreement could be reached "without recommendation".

Once the committee reports their recommendation the report is properly before the delegate body for discussion and action without the necessity for a motion to adopt. The Master will announce, "The report of the Committee is favorable/unfavorable/no recommendation, will you discuss it?" At the termination of discussion, he/she will call for the vote as follows: "All in favor of adopting the report of the committee will manifest it by the voting sign of the Order."

Should the unfavorable committee report not receive a majority affirmative vote, the action of the committee (their report) is not approved and the resolution is now properly before the members for consideration. A motion is necessary for consideration of the resolution by such means as approval as written, or as amended, returned to the committee for further study, or to be indefinitely postponed.

How Grange Policy is Developed: It all Begins in the Local Grange



If a member desires a change in a portion of a resolution or a report, they may move that an amendment be made. Such motion requires a second and must be decided before the original question is voted upon.

Amendments may be proposed in three ways:

1. By inserting or adding a word, phrase, sentence or section;
2. By striking out some particular word, phrase sentence or section;
3. By striking out some particular part and inserting in its place some other word, phrase, sentence or section. (or combination of the above)

An amendment once adopted cannot be further amended, except by a vote to reconsider (*chapter XIII, sec. 14.2, 2018 Digest*).

An amendment to an amendment may be proposed while the first amendment is under consideration. In such cases the amendment to the amendment is voted upon first, then the amended amendment, and finally, the report or resolution as amended.

A motion to amend an amendment to an amendment is never in order.

A committee may rewrite one or more resolutions and offer their draft as a substitute. As such it is the report of the committee and acted upon as above.

All resolutions adopted at the State Grange Convention become policy. Those covering multi-state or national issues are then sent on to the National Grange for consideration.