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Resolution

Whereas, the covid-19 pandemic has caused a ban on all face-to-face meetings of both our Subordinate and Grand Lodges via orders and restrictions established by Local and State authorities, and

Whereas, said restrictions have severely hampered the ability of this Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge to function at any degree of normalcy, and

Whereas, the covid-19 pandemic has put unprecedented strain on our leadership and the general membership to sustain the business of Prince Hall Masonry, and

Whereas, the effects of the covid-19 pandemic have not been seen in the United States in more than one hundred years and caught all of us unawares and unprepared,

Therefore, be it resolved that in order to give future leadership the Constitutional authority from which to operate should a similar situation appear in the future, that Article 5, Communications, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge be amended as follows:

Article 5, Section 3, Force Majeure – In case of emergency or epidemic should any laws, ordinances, regulations rulings, orders or any other government actions by Local, State or Federal authorities; acts of God including tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, fires, or other catastrophic weather; war; sabotage; labor dispute; or any other circumstance beyond the control of this Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge and/or its official legal representatives cause the cancellation/postponement of the Grand Communication at its Constitutional time, the Grand Lodge Trustees shall arrange for use of the available technology at that time to schedule and hold a Grand Communication whereby the business of this Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, including elections where necessary, may be properly conducted. This Grand Communication shall take place within ninety (90) days of the cancelled/postponed Constitutional date.

Brethren, this amendment will in no way usurp the authority of the Grand Master to change the time and place of the meeting; it will provide a guideline or tool for his use to assist him. It is my fervent prayer that the Grand Architect of the Universe in His infinite wisdom and power will in the future withhold such conditions from our midst, but we have the opportunity, and we must seize it, to prepare for those situations that we have the ability to prepare for.

Respectfully and Fraternally,

PM Robert L. Jones, #97, MWPGM