

## STATEMENT OF THE SPONSORS RESOLUTION 48-05 PREAMBLE TO CONSTITUTION AND LANDMARKS

Background: In the past decade, we discovered that a significant number of our Grand Councils that had been chartered on the International front outside of the United States of America had been subjected to undue influences and domination by other elements of the Ancient York Rite System.

These Grand Councils were being forced to operate as much less than co-equal branches of the American York Rite System within those international jurisdictions.

The lessons, legends and principles of the Cryptic Rite were deemed of little value and disregarded by those in the dominant body. The finances and the elections of the Cryptic Rite leadership were not being controlled by the voting membership of that Grand Council, all contrary to the basic principles and landmarks of the American York Rite System.

This Amendment to the Constitution memorializes the basic principles and landmarks upon which the General Grand Council was formed in 1880 as well as the practices of all versions of the Cryptic Rite operating within the United States of America. If our Companions outside of the United States of America desire to have the full measure and benefit of the American York Rite System, the Solomonic Rule of Three co-equal elements of that System must be preserved. Necessarily, the basics of justice, mercy and equity revolve around the reward of merit and effort rather than entitlement or tyranny.

With adoption of this Amendment, all future charters of Grand Councils that will operate outside of the United States of America will be conditioned upon these essential steps for the preservation of Ancient York Masonry. This will ensure fairness in the administration of the American York Rite System throughout the World and the balance that Solomon, King of Israel, Hiram, King of Tyre and Hiram Abif worked so diligently to achieve in the building of the First Temple.