

2023 Conference  
Committee on  
Grapevine and La Viña

ITEM D

# ITEM D

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Consider a request to provide all area alternate delegates the same Conference materials as sitting delegates.

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From the PAI - What problem does this proposed item address?

This ensures that the chosen possible Area Representatives from the 93 Areas arrive at the General Service Conference as fully informed as possible. This helps greatly when the common event of an alternate being tasked, at last minute, to attend. The 72nd GSC was a perfect example - 2 days notice and the Delegate from NY on the Trustees Conference Committee was sick and the alternate was tasked. The alternate was not aware of much of the dashboard information, background information, and had not been privy to any of the "Eyes Only Material" The present process is contrary to the intent of the 93 Areas when they elect both a Delegate and an Alternate-Delegate.

# BACKGROUND NOTES

The Conference Dashboard is where Conference reference documents, committee background, and other essential information is posted for delegates who can access it remotely in English, French, and Spanish. The current software provider for the Dashboard is HyperOffice.

The estimate of the cost to add 93 additional HyperOffice licenses, after discounts, would be \$3,254. Adding new user information takes a minimal amount of time and is not a cost factor.

The Tech Services department is considering moving to a new software provider for the Dashboard. The cost implications of adding 93 additional users would depend on who the new vendor is and what kind of user agreement could be negotiated.

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This topic was a presentation and detailed discussion at the 72nd GSC Delegate's Only Meeting. The discussion resulted in broad support among the Panel 71 and Panel 72 Delegates. It was a consensus of the group that access should be granted, and that this proposal be brought to the 73rd GSC via the Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) Submission process.

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"The areas hold an important position in the U.S./Canada General Service Conference structure. The areas are directly connected to the A.A. groups and their members through DCMs and GSRs. At the same time, they participate in the decision-making of A.A. through area delegates."

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" As the alternate delegate for my area, should I be prepared to step in for the delegate if for some reason they cannot attend the Conference? Yes. An alternate, when stepping in, acts with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of a delegate until the delegate is again available to serve. Therefore, an alternate will want to eagerly serve the area in order to be prepared for just such an instance. Since the alternate may stand in the next area election for delegate, this is experience that will not be wasted".

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# Thank you

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Questions?