

State Lions Per Capita Tax (Dues) Increase

Our Multiple District has always operated very conservatively and efficiently. The only source of income is the annual per capita dues paid by each Lion in the state.

The last time we had a dues increase was 1993. The Multiple District at the time had 34,000 Lions in over 900 Lions Clubs and only 162 Lions Clubs under 20 members. Today, 19 years later, our Multiple District has 22,984 members 775 Lions Clubs and about 20% or more of the clubs under 20 members. Three years ago, to avoid a dues increase the Council of Governors cut all the discretionary funds out of the budget, downsizing some committees, changing the structure of the state council meetings, and streamlining the entire operation of the Multiple District.

Our Multiple District By-Laws state: The Council of Governors shall have control and management of all budgetary matters of the Multiple District and Multiple District Convention. No obligation may be approved or made which shall effect an unbalanced budget or deficit in any fiscal year.

The Finance committee met with our auditor and investment committee chairperson and reviewed the audit for the 2010-2011 year, and the group agreed to propose a dues increase to the Lions of Pennsylvania. If we do not increase our per capita dues, the State Council of Lions Clubs will not be able to present a balanced budget as outlined in the By-Laws.

The Finance Committee has proposed a \$3.00 increase over the next 2 years. The increase will be as follows: \$1.50 beginning July 1, 2012, and \$1.50 beginning July 1, 2013. The dues increase has the support of the Council of Governors. The proposed increase will only amount to ½ cent per day per Lion. The increase will be divided into the following accounts: State Council Administrative Fund \$1.00, State Convention Fund .20 cents, International Convention Fund .20 cents, Promotional Fund .10 cents, Sub-District Administrative Fund .50 cents, and the Pride Magazine (State newsletter) \$1.00.

How will the proposed increase benefit the Lions of Pennsylvania?

1. The State Council Administrative Fund increase will provide ample funds to perform the administrative duties of the Multiple District.
2. The State Convention Fund increase will help defray any increase in the state convention registration fees.
3. The International Convention Fund's small increase will assure a visible presence of the Lions of Pennsylvania at the international convention.
4. The Promotional Fund increase will help provide ample funds to promote candidates for the office of International Director.
5. The Sub-district Administrative Fund increase will give each district more funds to help operate the sub-district.
6. The State Newsletter (Pride Magazine) increase will solve the annual deficit and keep the publication solvent for the future.

The dues increase assures the Lions of our Multiple District that we will remain solvent in the future, and it will keep our Multiple District as one of the leaders in Lionism throughout the world.

The State Council of Governors and the PA Counselors organization voted unanimously to support the proposed dues increase.