

RESOLUTION 19R-16

To request the RI Board to consider summarizing vocational service

Proposer(s): District 2580, Japan

Endorsed by: District 2580 through a ballot-by-mail, 15 May 2019

1 WHEREAS, the Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as
2 a basis of worthy enterprise and it is closely linked to vocational service. Clearly
3 defining vocational service, therefore, will help to clarify the Object of Rotary,
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5 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
6 International consider summarizing vocational service in the following manner to
7 the Rotary world:
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- 9 • There are many Rotarians around the world, most of whom are active in
10 their occupations. Although the admission of homemakers and retirees to
11 Rotary membership has attracted some attention in recent years, we must
12 focus our attention on those Rotarians who are actively working.
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- 14 • Rotarians are able to contribute to international understanding and peace
15 by lobbying national, regional, and municipal governments, as well as
16 organizations such as the United Nations. However, Rotarians have no
17 right to directly impact such organizations, nor their superior or
18 subordinate organizations around the world, nor are such organizations
19 obligated to respond to Rotarians' lobbying. While many politicians have
20 been Rotarians, their professional activities and Rotary's foundational
21 ideals are unrelated.
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- 23 • There are, however, areas that do not have secure sources of safe water,
24 lack proper educations for children, have areas in need of communicable
25 disease prevention, and need assistance for older or disabled people. For
26 them, Rotary can provide direct assistance, which is needed in some form
27 or fashion in all countries. In its truest sense, then, this is the meaning of
28 service, whether international, community, youth, or vocational.
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- 30 • Vocational service is a type of service in which Rotarians use their own
31 vocational skills to serve. Although unable to directly impact national,
32 regional, and municipal governments, the world's Rotarians are able to
33 improve communities through their vocational activities. By doing the
34 utmost in their work, Rotarians can be instrumental in community
35 development and the improvement of the lives of their employees. The
36 taxes they pay can be used to improve social infrastructure. Therefore, it is
37 centrally important for Rotarians to practice vocational service by doing
38 the utmost in their own occupations and professions.

- 1 • Lastly, the foundation of vocational service is integrity. Leveraging this
2 philosophy in their lives as Rotarians is the best application of vocational
3 service and the best way to pursue the ideal of service.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

- 4 Positioning vocational service as one of our foundational ideals will further
5 advance the Object of Rotary.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 6 If implemented, this resolution would have no substantial financial impact on RI.
7 Vocational service remains one of the foundational pillars of Rotary's
8 programmatic activity and is regularly featured in the Rotary media.