

8-418.

(a) A society may adopt and amend [a constitution and] laws to:

- (1) govern the society;
- (2) admit society members;
- (3) manage society affairs; and
- (4) fix and readjust the rates of society members.

(b) (1) The [constitution and] laws of the society may provide that subordinate lodges or branches and their officers and members may not waive any provisions of the laws [or constitution] of the society.

(2) A provision adopted in accordance with this subsection is binding on the society and each member and beneficiary of a member.

(c) Except as prohibited by this subtitle, a society has any other power necessary and incidental to accomplish the purposes for which it is established.

8-419.

(a) A society may amend, in accordance with their provisions, its [articles of incorporation, constitution, or] laws by:

- (1) action of its supreme legislative or governing body at a regular or special meeting of the body; or
- (2) referendum.

(b) (1) An amendment by referendum may be approved in accordance with the [articles of incorporation, constitution, or] laws of a society, by the vote of:

- (i) the society's voting members;
- (ii) the delegates or representatives of the society's voting members; or
- (iii) the society's local lodges or branches.

(2) An amendment may not be adopted by referendum unless, within 6 months after it is submitted for adoption, a majority of all the voting members of the society have consented to the amendment.

(c) (1) An amendment to the [articles of incorporation, constitution, or] laws of a society may not take effect unless the Commissioner approves.

(2) The Commissioner shall approve an amendment if the Commissioner finds that the amendment was adopted properly and is not inconsistent with the laws of the State or [with the articles of incorporation of] the society.

(3) The Commissioner's approval or disapproval shall be in writing and mailed to the secretary or equivalent officer of the society at the society's principal office.