

**Proposed change to Annotated Statutes.**

**Section 12.130. - The Exalted Ruler with approval of the Lodge, may appoint Members of the Lodge especially qualified to organize degree teams for the exemplification of the Rituals, except for the Opening and Closing of Lodge meetings and the Initiatory Ritual provided, however, the Lodge may, by an Amendment to the By-Laws provide for a degree team, not necessarily composed of the duly installed Officers of the Lodge, for the rendition of the Initiatory Ritual. The team shall consist of Members of the Lodge especially qualified in rendition of the Initiatory Ritual appointed by the Exalted Ruler with approval of the Lodge, and who shall perform the Initiatory Ritual from memory. All elected and appointed Officers shall have the right to be a part of the degree team at their elected or appointed positions.**

**Amend Statute, Sec. 12.130 to read,**

**All Officers shall memorize the Opening and Closing and Initiatory Rituals for their respective stations within 60 days after their installation. Failure to do so may require a forfeiture of office if declared by a majority vote of the Lodge at a regular meeting. The Exalted Ruler, with the approval of the Lodge, may appoint Members of the Lodge especially qualified to organize degree teams for the exemplification of the Rituals, except for the Opening and Closing of Lodge meetings and the Initiatory Ritual. The Lodge may use either the short or long version of the Opening and Closing and Initiatory Rituals, provided the Lodge By-Laws allow for the short version.**

**By amending the Statute, this will insure the Lodge Officers know their parts of the Rituals and the 60 days will allow enough time for the Officers to learn their parts, either the long or short versions as the Lodge By-Laws allow.**