

## Slide #2

Pro: District Consolidating will increase our pool of leaders.

Con: Consolidating districts will not increase the pool of leaders. Why! Because we would only be using the current four district to make two districts using the same pool of possible leadership. Also, increasing the size of the district could potentially make it in possible for Lions who are working to step up to district leadership.

Pro Increase district membership to 1250 members and 35 clubs.

Con: This would only be the case for a short period at our current loss of membership. I will show later what that might look like.

Pro: Expand district's finances to provide the appropriate services needed by our clubs.

Con: Consolidating will not solve our loss of membership problem; therefore, the only way to expand a district's finances is to raise the district's dues.

## Slide #3

Pro: We will not have to recycle District Governors.

Con: District O is the only district that is recycling District Governors and District N has a Lion that was a DG in Illinois has their 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG. Consolidating districts is no guarantee we will not have to recycle DG's. I can tell you that from my personal experience. In 2012 when I was taking my DG training in Korea I met a Lion that was my DG when I lived in Iowa. That was six years

into their district consolidation. We have in the Eureka Springs club two Lion from Iowa that serviced as DG and one of them was recycled.

#### Slide #4

Based on the average membership loss over a six-year period July 2010 through July 2016 combining the districts as shown you can see what the average membership loss is per year.

Also, the number of clubs to be visited would more than double what each district governor has now.

If you combined L & I the membership would be under 1250 in seven years at the current membership average loss. I as your GMT-MD have not seen any reason to believe this trend will not continue.

#### Slide #5

Iowa consolidated districts in 2006 with 1600 members in each of the seven Districts. Ten years later four of their seven district are back in transition.

#### Slide #6

Missouri consolidated district in 2007 in nine years three of their seven district are in transition.

## Slide #7

Iowa and Missouri had nine districts so reducing to seven did not add a significant amount of area to each district. But, we if go from four to two districts it will make each district's size one half of the state.

Lions Clubs International will not force us to consolidate districts.

Consolidating districts will not solve the membership problem, only we as Lions can solve the membership problem. Both Iowa and Missouri lost a significant number of members the first year they consolidated districts.

## Slide #8

My main concern is that the Lions proposing district consolidation want to do the Process backwards. If a resolution is put forth at the state convention that reads Only: THIS RESOLUTION IS TO CONSOLIDATE DISTRICTS IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AND IF APPROVED we would essentially be handing the Lions proposing consolidation, a blank check to write the plan for the LCI Board without the requirement to include any other Lions in the process or to communicate the plan to the Lions of Arkansas.

Slide #9

The correct resolution might read: **This resolution is put forth 1) to form a Committee to study district consolidation. 2) To write a plan for district Consolidation and to communicate the plan to the Lions of Arkansas. 3) Present A resolution to consolidate districts per the written plan to be put forth to the Lions Clubs International Board of Directors.**

This would better ensure that past, present and future leadership would be involved in any planning and writing of the plan and that plan would be communicated to Lions of Arkansas before they must vote on a resolution to consolidate districts. **THEN AND ONLY THEN SHOULD A RESOLUTION BE PUT FORTH TO CONSOLIDATE DISTRICTS.**