

## **Resolution N<sup>o</sup>. 8**

*July 26, 2023*

**Subject:** *Resolution Encouraging the Use of the Multi-Card Rebate*

### **Multi-Card Rebate Resolution**

Whereas, Musicians who play with orchestras which belong to the Regional Orchestra Players' Association ("ROPA") often perform in more than one local of the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada ("AFM"); and

Whereas, The AFM bylaws, at Article 9, Section 16, state: "A member may petition the Secretary-Treasurer for a rebate equal to the Per Capita dues received by the AFM by virtue of that member's membership throughout the entire prior year in each AFM local in excess of two"; and

Whereas, The AFM Per Capita rebate, when a member belongs to more than one local, is called the "multi-card rebate"; and

Whereas, ROPA believes that approximately 3,000 members of the AFM qualify for the multi-card rebate; and

Whereas, Fewer than 100 members apply for this rebate each year; and

Whereas, Because of the nature of ROPA musicians' work lives, sometimes known as "driving for dollars," ROPA believes that most of the AFM members who qualify for the multi-card rebate are members of at least one ROPA orchestra; and

Whereas, The ability to avoid the cost of multiple annual Per Capita dues payments would be a great benefit to musicians who have to cobble together a living from multiple sources, as many ROPA orchestra musicians do; and

Whereas, Imposing multiple payments of Per Capita dues on ROPA musicians creates an inequity in our Union where members who earn the least pay the most for membership; and

Whereas, The ability to easily avoid paying extra Per Capita dues may encourage ROPA orchestra musicians to join locals where they have not in the past; and

Whereas, ROPA believes that AFM locals that represent and support our orchestras would be stronger with such increased membership and therefore be better able to help our musicians; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Regional Orchestra Players' Association ("ROPA") urges the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada ("AFM") to make the multi-card rebate easier to access for all members who qualify; and be it further

*Resolved*, That ROPA encourages all musicians who qualify for the multi-card rebate to apply each year they are eligible.

**Submitted by:** The ROPA Executive Board