

MEMBER BYLAWS PROPOSAL #2

DATE SUBMITTED TO BOARD: May 29, 2025

SPONSORS: Caryn Ann Harlos, Wayne Harlos - Sustaining Members by virtue of being registered Libertarian and Life Members of the national Libertarian Party (proof from Executive Director Hannah Kennedy is in possession of signatories and can be provided upon request)

SIGNATURES: 

Submitting this is not a waiver (though notice requirements cannot be waived) of the right any member has to object that the Board has failed to provide Bylaws-required notice of the Annual Convention.

RATIONALE:

Our current process is needlessly complicated with the possibility to create unintended consequences—such as the current lack of ranking of alternates and the possibility that someone could be nominated at the state convention as a delegate without their knowledge and fail to receive a majority vote, thus disqualifying them from later appointment. Additionally, by limiting voting to only the number of spots, it prolongs the process to elect potential alternates and prevent delegates from voting for everyone acceptable to them if that number exceeds the total number of spots. This streamlines the process and removes obvious unintended consequences. Additionally, unneeded language that is already covered by our parliamentary authority is removed such as the ability to nominate oneself and no second needed for a nomination. Lastly, the “application” process was good in theory and it has proved useless.

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Article XI: Conventions

[...]

Section 5. National Convention Delegates and Alternates

- (a) All National Convention Delegates must have been Sustaining Members for at least ninety (90) days immediately prior to the first day of the Convention in which they are elected and must sign a statement to the effect that they support the Statement of Principles of the national Libertarian Party.
- (b) The Board shall solicit applications from qualified Sustaining Members for election as National Convention Delegates and Alternates at least sixty (60) days prior to the Convention and shall publish the completed applications (with addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses redacted) to the Party website at least thirty (30) days prior to the Convention. An application is not required for nomination.
- (c) The Party Chair shall announce the number of National Convention Delegates to be elected by the state Convention Delegates.

- (d) Nominations for National Convention Delegates shall be received from the floor with no seconding required. Sustaining Members may nominate themselves. Each state Convention Delegate in attendance at the state Convention shall cast a single vote for each National Convention Delegate candidate of their choice by submitting a signed ballot prepared by the Board for this purpose. The total votes cast by each state Convention Delegate shall not exceed the number of National Convention Delegates to be elected. National Convention Delegates shall be elected by a majority of the state Convention Delegates voting. Subsequent ballots shall be taken as necessary to fill any remaining National Convention Delegate slots. In the event that there are more candidates receiving a majority vote than there are National Convention Delegate slots to be filled, those candidates receiving the highest vote totals shall be elected. No elections by slate shall be permitted.
- (e) After the National Convention Delegates are elected, National Convention Alternates shall be elected using the same procedure as used for electing National Convention Delegates.
- (f) The Chair shall serve as Delegation Chair or may request that the National Convention Delegates select a Delegation Chair. Substitutions shall only be made from the list of National Convention Alternates selected by the state Convention Delegates or afterwards added by a majority vote of the present Board (provided said National Convention Alternates did not receive a less than majority vote by the last state Convention). Substitutions and selection of additional National Convention Delegates may be made at the National Convention by a majority of the attending National Convention Delegates, provided that such substitutes or additions would have been qualified to be elected at the state Convention, did not receive less than a majority vote at the last state Convention, and have signed a statement to the effect that they support the Statement of Principles of the Libertarian Party.
- (g) For each vote, all National Convention Delegates will sign their physical ballot or submit to the Delegation Chair an accurate list of their electronic ballots. These results will be compiled by the Delegation Chair in a post-National Convention report. Upon request, within thirty (30) days of the National Convention, National Convention Delegates as they are able shall also report how they voted on particular Bylaws, Convention Rules, and Platform changes.

AMENDMENT WITH MARKUP:

Article XI: Conventions

[...]

Section 5. National Convention Delegates and Alternates

- (a) All National Convention Delegates and Alternates must have been Sustaining Members for at least ninety (90) days immediately prior to the first day of the Convention in which they are elected and must sign a statement to the effect that they support the Statement of Principles of the national Libertarian Party.
- (b) ~~The Board shall solicit applications from qualified Sustaining Members for election as National Convention Delegates and Alternates at least sixty (60) days prior to the Convention and shall publish the completed applications (with addresses,~~

- phone numbers, and email addresses redacted) to the Party website at least thirty (30) days prior to the Convention. An application is not required for nomination.
- (c) ~~The Party Chair shall announce the number of National Convention Delegates to be elected by the state Convention Delegates.~~
- (d) Nominations for National Convention Delegates shall be received from the floor ~~with no seconding required. Sustaining Members may nominate themselves.~~ Each state Convention Delegate in attendance at the state Convention may vote for as many candidates as they wish on a signed ballot prepared by the Board for this purpose. ~~shall cast a single vote for each National Convention Delegate candidate of their choice by submitting a signed ballot prepared by the Board for this purpose. The total votes cast by each state Convention Delegate shall not exceed the number of National Convention Delegates to be elected. National Convention Delegates shall be elected by a majority of the state Convention Delegates voting. Subsequent ballots shall be taken as necessary to fill any remaining National Convention Delegate slots. In the event that there are more candidates receiving a majority vote than there are National Convention Delegate slots to be filled, those candidates receiving the highest vote totals shall be elected. No elections by slate shall be permitted.~~
- (e) National Convention Delegates shall be elected by a majority vote of the state Convention Delegates. Subsequent ballots shall be taken as necessary to fill any remaining National Convention Delegate slots, and then the Alternate slots, until a ballot is reached in which there are no new nominations and no candidate reached a majority. In the event that there are more candidates receiving a majority vote in any round of voting than there are National Convention Delegate slots to be filled, those candidates receiving the highest vote totals shall be elected as Delegates with the remainder of those receiving a majority vote being elected as ranked Alternates. All ties shall be resolved in favor of the candidate whose current Libertarian voter registration date is the earliest, and if any ties remain, then through a random roll of a die.
- (e) ~~After the National Convention Delegates are elected, National Convention Alternates shall be elected using the same procedure as used for electing National Convention Delegates.~~
- (f) The Chair shall serve as Delegation Chair or may request that the National Convention Delegates select a Delegation Chair. ~~Substitutions shall only be made from the list of National Convention Alternates selected by the state Convention Delegates or afterwards added by a majority vote of the present Board (provided said National Convention Alternates did not receive a less than majority vote by the last state Convention).~~ Substitutions for absent or vacant Delegate seats at the National Convention shall be made from the existing list of ranked Alternates, and selection of additional National Convention Delegates or Alternates, ranking below Delegates or Alternates selected prior to the national Convention, may be made at the National Convention by a majority of the attending National Convention Delegates, provided that such ~~substitutes or additions~~ persons would have been qualified to be elected at the state Convention, did not receive less than a majority vote at the last state Convention after consenting to their nomination at that time, and have signed a statement to the effect that they support the Statement of Principles of the Libertarian Party.

- (g) For each vote, all National Convention Delegates will sign their physical ballot or submit to the Delegation Chair an accurate list of their electronic ballots. These results will be compiled by the Delegation Chair in a post-National Convention report. Upon request, within thirty (30) days of the National Convention, National Convention Delegates as they are able shall also report how they voted on particular Bylaws, Convention Rules, and Platform changes.

LANGUAGE IF PASSED:

Article XI: Conventions

[...]

Section 5. National Convention Delegates and Alternates

- (b) All National Convention Delegates and Alternates must have been Sustaining Members for at least ninety (90) days immediately prior to the first day of the Convention in which they are elected and must sign a statement to the effect that they support the Statement of Principles of the national Libertarian Party.
- (b) Nominations for National Convention Delegates shall be received from the floor. Each state Convention Delegate in attendance at the state Convention may vote for as many candidates as they wish on a signed ballot prepared by the Board for this purpose.
- (c) National Convention Delegates shall be elected by a majority vote of the state Convention Delegates. Subsequent ballots shall be taken as necessary to fill any remaining National Convention Delegate slots, and then the Alternate slots, until a ballot is reached in which there are no new nominations and no candidate reached a majority. In the event that there are more candidates receiving a majority vote in any round of voting than there are National Convention Delegate slots to be filled, those candidates receiving the highest vote totals shall be elected as Delegates with the remainder of those receiving a majority vote being elected as ranked Alternates. All ties shall be resolved in favor of the candidate whose current Libertarian voter registration date is the earliest, and if any ties remain, then through a random roll of a die.
- (d) The Chair shall serve as Delegation Chair or may request that the National Convention Delegates select a Delegation Chair. Substitutions for absent or vacant Delegate seats at the National Convention shall be made from the existing list of ranked Alternates, and selection of additional National Convention Delegates or Alternates, ranking below Delegates or Alternates selected prior to the national Convention, may be made at the National Convention by a majority of the attending National Convention Delegates, provided that such persons would have been qualified to be elected at the state Convention, did not receive less than a majority vote at the last state Convention after consenting to their nomination at that time, and have signed a statement to the effect that they support the Statement of Principles of the Libertarian Party.
- (e) For each vote, all National Convention Delegates will sign their physical ballot or submit to the Delegation Chair an accurate list of their electronic ballots. These results will be compiled by the Delegation Chair in a post-National Convention report. Upon request, within thirty (30) days of the National Convention, National Convention Delegates as

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Mark-Up Legend:

~~Red, bold, strikethrough indicates deletion.~~

Blue, bold, underline indicates addition.

Re-numbering and moving of points into sub-points when new heading is created is a clerical function to be performed by Secretary. Auto-numbering features may prevent mark-up on the numbering designation only of any deleted or new provisions.