

# CONVENTION RULES OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF ILLINOIS

As Amended through April 8th, 2017

## RULE 1. RULES IN EFFECT IN REGARDS TO PARTY STATUS

Section 1. If the Party is currently a non-established party, as defined by Illinois law, Rules 2 through 8 shall be in effect after a vote pursuant to Article VI, Section P of the party Bylaws. If the Party is currently established, or said vote fails, Rules 2 and 9 through 13 shall be in effect.

## RULE 2. PARLIAMENATARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the conduct of the State Convention unless inconsistent with these Convention Rules.

## RULE 3. STATE CONVENTION AS NON-ESTABLISHED PARTY

Section 1. There shall be an annual State Convention at which all Party Officers and National Convention delegates are elected and statewide candidates are nominated.

Section 2. There shall be a business session to consider Party finances, Bylaw changes, and a membership report.

Section 3. No Party member shall be charged admission for the business session.

Section 4. Business session minutes shall be treated as regular minutes as stipulated in Article VI. Section Q of the State Bylaws.

Section 5. The interval between consecutive State Conventions shall be no fewer than eight months and no greater than sixteen months

## RULE 4. VOTING

Section 1. Any person who is a Party member in good standing for the thirty days immediately preceding the State Convention and who is present at the Convention business session may vote.

Section 2. Any person who is a Party member in good standing may give a Proxy vote to any other person who is a member in good standing. No person may hold more than two (2) proxies. Proxies may not be transferred among recipients, and must be recorded by the Secretary. Valid proxies are to be treated in the same manner as votes personally cast in all matter, including the determination of quorums, majorities, pluralities, etc.

Section 3. A Party member in good standing is one who meets the requirements of Bylaw Article II.

Section 4. A quorum for conducting State Convention business sessions shall be a minimum of fifteen (15) Party members in good standing who are qualified under Section 1 of this rule.

#### RULE 5. ELECTION PROCEDURES FOR OFFICERS

Section 1. All candidates for Party offices may declare their candidacy at any time before the commencement of the first vote for said office, without prior notice.

Section 2. Nominating speeches shall be no longer than two minutes each. There shall be no more than two seconding speeches of no longer than one minute each.

Section 3. "None of the above" shall automatically be a candidate for each office.

Section 4. Elections shall, at the request of any Party, be by secret ballot.

Section 5. Any candidate getting a number of votes greater to or equal to a majority of people voting shall be elected.

Section 6. After the results of the second (and subsequent) ballots are announced, the candidate with the fewest votes will be dropped from consideration, except "None of the Above"

Section 7. If "None of the Above" gets a number of votes greater than or equal to a majority of people voting, then all remaining candidates shall be eliminated from the ballot and nominations shall be re-opened. No one eliminated from the ballot under this Section will be eligible for the same office for the remainder of the Convention. Except for Chair, if no one is nominated, the office will remain vacant. If no one is nominated for Chair, then the office will be offered to the following officers and former officers in the following order until someone agrees to become Chair. The previous Chair, previous Vice Chair, previous Secretary, previous Treasurer.

#### RULE 6. NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES

In years when delegates, alternates, or other representatives are to be elected to the National Convention, the following rules shall apply.

Section 1. Each candidate shall nominate him or herself or otherwise indicate a willingness to serve.

Section 2. No person who is not an Illinois resident and current Party member shall be a candidate.

Section 3. The election shall be by secret ballot and each person (or Proxy) may vote for as many delegates as allotted by the National Committee to Illinois, but no one shall cast more than one voter for each delegate.

Section 4. Candidates shall be ranked by total votes and the Secretary shall record the ranking. The first and subsequent ranks are delegates, up to the number allotted by the National Committee. Thereafter, candidates are alternates, with floor preference determined by their ranking. Tie rankings shall be determined by a coin toss.

Section 5. After the results are announced, the Chair shall call the question, "Does the Convention reaffirm this vote?" IF the question fails, each delegate will run individually against "None of the Above." If any delegate receives fewer votes than "None of the Above," he or she will be struck from the delegate list.

Section 6. The LPI convention delegation will elect one of its members as Delegation Chair prior to or at the National Convention.

Section 7. In the event that the State Convention fails to elect a sufficient number of delegates to the National Convention, the SOC is authorized to select delegates as needed.

## RULE 7. DEBATE

The following shall apply during debate.

Section 1. Each proposed rule or amendment shall be debated for a maximum of ten minutes. Debates may be extended or closed by a two-thirds vote.

Section 2. The Chair of the Convention may require that any motion be made in writing, signed by the maker, and delivered to the Convention Secretary.

Section 3. Voting shall be by voice vote, except where stated otherwise in these Convention Rules. A show of hands or rising vote may be taken at the request of any Party member.

## RULE 8. STATEWIDE ELECTIONS

Section 1. Statewide candidates shall be nominated at the State Convention, unless this task is delegated in whole or in part to the State Organizing Committee by a two-thirds vote of the State Convention.

Section 2. All statewide candidates must; (a) meet eligibility requirements for their offices; (b) have expressed a willingness to accept; and (c) have signed the following pledge: "I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."

Section 3. Presidential electors are not required to live in separate Congressional districts.

Section 4. In the event that a statewide candidate or presidential elector resigns or changes residence, the SOC may appoint a replacement.

#### RULE 9. STATE CONVENTION AS ESTABLISHED PARTY

Section 1. If the Party is currently "established" as defined by Illinois law, the Party shall meet in a Primary and Secondary Convention Years as defined in Article VI, Section A of the State Bylaws.

Section 2. There shall be a business session to consider Party finances, Bylaw changes, and a membership report. Additionally the following Committees shall meet in Primary years: The Convention Committee on Credentials, the Convention Committee on Rules and Procedures and The Convention Committee on Resolutions. In Secondary Years, the additional committees shall include: The Convention Committee Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention and the Convention Committee on Presidential Electors whose membership shall be selected to state Bylaws.

Section 3. No Party member shall be charged admission for the business session.

Section 4. Business session minutes shall be treated as regular minutes as stipulated in Article VI. Section Q of the State Bylaws.

Section 5. The Central Committee Chair shall issue a call for the Convention pursuant to law and shall chair such Convention. The Convention shall be called to order on the day specified by law.

#### RULE 10. VOTING RULES

Section 1. All votes shall be cast by Precinct, Township or Ward Committeemen, (referred to herein as "Committeemen") elected or appointed to pursuant to state law.

Section 2. A delegation from any county, except Cook county or the City of Chicago shall consist of the Precinct Committeemen from that county. The Cook County delegation shall consist of the Township Committeemen and Ward Committeemen from within Cook County and the City of Chicago respectively.

Section 3. All roll call votes shall be taken in the following manner by the Convention Secretary: First, all county delegations (except Cook) shall be called alphabetically. Second, all Cook County

Township delegates shall be called alphabetically. Third, all City of Chicago Ward delegates shall be called in numerical ascending order beginning with the First Ward. When a delegation is called by the Convention Secretary for its vote, the Chair of the delegation or the Township or Ward Committeeman shall announce the weighted vote of the delegation, as provided by state law. The unit rule shall be in effect for all delegations. No proxy voting of delegations shall be allowed. In the event of a dispute within a delegation as to how its vote shall be cast, that delegation shall be passed and an Assistant Secretary shall poll the delegation and report the results to the Secretary of the Convention for recording. The report of such Assistant Secretary shall be final. Following a roll call vote for election of a candidate to any position, the State Chair, before reporting the final tally, shall ask "Shall the vote be declared unanimous?" If answered in the affirmative, the vote shall be so recorded.

Section 3. A quorum of the Convention must be present to conduct any substantive business. A quorum shall consist of one more than one-half of all delegates to the Convention approved and reported by the Convention Credentials Committee.

Section 4. When any business or motion is presented to the Convention for consideration and passage, the affirmative vote of an absolute majority of the total number of delegates as prescribed by law shall be required for adoption, unless a greater number is provided for in these Bylaws.

Section 5. Roll call voting shall not be re required except at the direction of the State Chair or at the request in writing of a majority of attending delegates.

Section 6. No votes either in committee or on the floor shall be taken by secret ballot.

#### RULE 11. COMMITTEES

Section 1. Each convention committee shall meet upon the call of committee Chair, or the State, or upon the written request of a majority of the members of the committee submitted to the committee Chair within 48 hours notice.

Section 2. The convention committees may adopt rules, including the right to limit debates in committee, upon the affirmative vote of a majority of committee members. Convention Rules and Procedures shall be published on the Libertarian Party of Illinois` website and made available in printed form to the chair of each delegation 48 hours prior to the opening of the convention.

#### RULE 12. DEBATE

The following shall apply during debate:

Section 1. No delegate will be permitted to speak to any question for more than three (3) minutes nor more than once on any subject unless by special leave of the State Chair, except that the maker of a motion or resolution, if debatable, shall have an additional three (3) minutes to close the debate.

## RULE 13. NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES

In years when delegates, alternates, or other representatives are to be elected to the National Convention, the following rules shall apply.

Section 1. Each candidate shall nominate him or herself or otherwise indicate a willingness to serve.

Section 2. No person who is not an Illinois resident and current Party member shall be a candidate.

Section 3. The election shall be by secret ballot and each person may vote for as many delegates as allotted by the National Committee to Illinois, but no one shall cast more than one vote for each delegate.

Section 4. Candidates shall be ranked by total votes and the Secretary shall record the ranking. The first and subsequent ranks are delegates, up to the number allotted by the National Committee. Thereafter, candidates are alternates, with floor preference determined by their ranking. Tie rankings shall be determined by a coin toss.

Section 5. After the results are announced, the Chair shall call the question, "Does the Convention reaffirm this vote?" If the question fails, each delegate will run individually against "None of the Above." If any delegate receives fewer votes than "None of the Above," he or she will be struck from the delegate list.

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