

Libertarian Party of Nebraska

Bylaws

Article I – NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Libertarian Party of Nebraska, hereafter referred to as the “Party.”

Section 2. The purpose of the Party is to maintain a representative government that protects the inalienable rights of individuals. To that end, the Party shall:

- a) Endorse candidates for partisan and nonpartisan office in Nebraska.
- b) Support, to the extent possible, Party-endorsed candidates
- c) Pursue and maintain ballot access.
- d) Support local, state, and national efforts that further the purpose of the Party.
- e) Promote Libertarian policies

Article II – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Party Members shall consist of all registered Libertarian voters of the State of Nebraska as recognized by the Secretary of State’s Office. If not recognized, the SCC shall develop a method for determining membership.

Article III – OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers. Officers of the Party shall be the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and District Coordinators.

Subsection 1.1. District Coordinators. There shall be one District Coordinator and one Alternate District Coordinator representing each Congressional District. District Coordinators and Alternates shall be residents of the Congressional District they represent at the time of their election.

Section 2. Qualifications. All Officers shall be Members of the Party. No person may hold more than one Officer position at a time.

Section 3. Election.

Subsection 3.1. Officers shall be elected by nomination and majority ballot vote of the Delegates at Convention. Officers shall serve a two-year term and until their successor is selected. Newly elected officers shall begin their term at the close of the Convention at which they were elected.

Subsection 3.2. Should more than two candidates seek any office and none receives a majority vote, a run-off vote or votes will be taken with the candidate in each vote cycle receiving the lowest number of votes eliminated, and runoffs then held between the remaining candidates.

Subsection 3.3. None of the Above (NOTA) will always be an available option for each vote. Should "None of the Above" be selected for any Party office, that position shall be declared vacant. No person who ran and was not elected for that position may be selected to fill the vacancy for that term of office.

Subsection 3.4. All credentialed Delegates to the State Convention are entitled to vote on the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer candidates. Delegates may only vote for the District Coordinator candidates who are running for their District.

Section 4. Vacancies. The SCC will, by majority vote, fill Officer and District Coordinator and Alternate vacancies when needed. Vacancies may include, but are not limited to, vacancies created by illness, death, withdrawal, or disqualification.

Article IV – STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Section 1. The SCC directs and manages the affairs of the Party in accordance with the Party's Purpose.

Subsection 1. 1. The SCC shall be composed of the Officers of the Party and the District Coordinators and is chaired by the Party Chair. The SCC shall direct and manage all the affairs, properties, and funds of the Party consistent with these Bylaws, the parliamentary authority adopted by the Party, and applicable state and federal laws and in accordance with the Party's Purpose. The SCC shall provide for legal service to the Party as needed.

Section 2. Meetings.

Subsection 2.1. The Chair may duly call a Meeting by giving three days' notice to the SCC.

This notice may be in-person or via electronic means (i.e., telephone, email, web notification, or video conference). The SCC may, by majority vote, reject or approve the Meeting date, time, or place. A non-vote to a duly called Meeting is considered approval.

Any member of the SCC may request a Meeting be called. A Meeting called by an SCC member must be seconded by a different member of the SCC to require a vote of the SCC. A simple majority of the SCC is required to approve a Meeting not called by the Chair. Notice of an SCC-called Meeting shall be in accordance with this Subsection minus the requirement that it be called by the Chair.

Subsection 2.2. It is the responsibility of all SCC members to maintain contact with the SCC. Any SCC member that will be out of contact for longer than 14 calendar days will notify the SCC of that status prior to absence, barring illness. Any SCC member that cannot be contacted for longer than 14 calendar

days is subject to replacement. Any SCC member that fails to attend two consecutive Meetings duly called may be requested to relinquish his or her position or removed in accordance with these Bylaws.

Subsection 2.3. A quorum at a meeting shall be a majority of the SCC.

Article V – COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees

Subsection 1.1. Bylaws Committee. The Bylaws Committee must meet to review and propose changes to these Bylaws. The Bylaws Committee must, at a minimum, consist of two SCC members. The maximum number of members is seven. All committee members must be registered as Libertarians in the State of Nebraska. Members of the committee shall be appointed by the SCC.

Subsection 1.2. Convention Oversight Committee. The Convention Oversight Committee (CoC) shall consist of four or more Party Members appointed by the SCC. The CoC will develop options as to location, time, date, and other items to be presented to the SCC for consideration.

Subsection 1.3. Credentials Committee. The Credentials Committee shall consist of three Party Members chosen by the SCC. The Credentials Committee shall verify that SCC nominees and Convention Delegates meet all eligibility requirements listed in the bylaws and shall manage the Convention check-in process. A final list of credentialed Delegates shall be presented to the SCC no later than 10 days prior to the opening of any Convention. No person not on the list of credentialed Delegates shall be seated as a Delegate at Convention. A representative of the Credentials Committee shall report to the Convention the number of Delegates present and the number of votes necessary for simple and two-thirds majorities.

Subsection 1.4. Other standing committees may be established by a majority vote of Delegates at Convention.

Section 4. Other special committees may be established by majority vote of the SCC at Convention or meeting.

Section 2. Special Committees

Subsection 2.1. Platform Committee. The SCC or the assembled Delegates at Convention may establish by a majority vote a Platform Committee consisting of no less than 5 members nor more than 7 members to establish, review and propose changes to a State Party Platform.

Platform change proposals generated by a Platform Committee must be announced and published no less than 90 days prior to the opening of the Convention.

Platform changes may be submitted by any Delegate at Convention. The intention to address platform planks by Delegates must be announced 90 days prior to the opening of the Convention and include the

specific planks to be addressed. The text of the proposed change must be published to the Delegates no later than 15 days prior to the opening of the Convention.

Adoption or amendment of a State Party Platform shall require a two-thirds vote of the Delegates assembled at Convention.

Subsection 2.2. Other special committees may be established by majority vote of the Delegates at Convention or by the SCC.

Subsection 2.3. The term of any special committee shall be from the time formed until the opening of the next Convention.

Section 3. All committees are authorized to meet virtually using any means which meets the requirements outlined in the parliamentary authority.

Article VI – AFFILIATES

Section 1. Affiliate organizations may be chartered by the SCC as a semi-autonomous board to carry out the work of the Party on a local level. Affiliates are empowered to organize, promote, and expand the Party in their recognized area.

Section 2. Organization

- (a) Affiliates may be organized upon a fixed geographic area covering a single county, multiple counties, or other recognized jurisdictional boundaries.
- (b) No Affiliate may overlap the boundaries of another recognized Affiliate.
- (c) Affiliates shall be governed by these Bylaws as well as any applicable state or federal laws.
- (d) A new Affiliate shall be formed when the District Coordinator informs the SCC of a desire for a new Affiliate meeting the above requirements in the District Coordinator's district.
- (e) A new Affiliate will be created in a development status. New Affiliates will have one year to organize and seek recognition as an Affiliate. Recognition as an Affiliate shall require a full Executive Committee, regular meetings of the Affiliate, and a majority approval of the SCC.
- (f) Failure to be recognized after one year may result in the SCC declaring an Affiliate in disorder. Affiliates in disorder will have one year from the date of the ruling of disorder to achieve recognition. If an Affiliate is unable to achieve recognition during this time, the SCC may declare the Affiliate dissolved with a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the entire SCC.

Section 3. Membership

(a) Affiliates may not impose membership requirements beyond the membership requirements of the Party except that geographic restrictions limiting membership to the Affiliate area may be established.

(b) No person shall be a voting member of more than one Affiliate.

Section 4. Officers

(a) Affiliates in development status will, at a minimum, have a Chair. The District Coordinator may appoint a temporary Chair in order to form an Affiliate.

(b) A full Executive Committee will consist of a Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and Vice Chair and any other officer positions required in the Affiliate's bylaws.

(c) For recognized Affiliates, failure to seat a full Executive Committee may result in the SCC declaring an Affiliate in disorder. Affiliates in disorder under this clause will have one year to reorganize. If the Affiliate is unable to reorganize, the SCC may declare the Affiliate dissolved with a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the entire SCC.

(d) Officer elections must be held annually. At least 30 days general notice must be given prior to all elections. Failure to hold elections may result in the SCC declaring an Affiliate in disorder. Affiliates in disorder under this clause will have 90 days to call and hold elections. If an Affiliate fails to hold elections during this time, the SCC may declare the Affiliate dissolved with a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the entire SCC.

(e) Removal of officers shall be governed by the process outlined in RONR Section 62

Section 5. Bylaws

(a) Affiliates may adopt their own bylaws.

(b) Affiliates will submit their proposed bylaws to the state Bylaws Committee for review and recommendation.

(c) The state Bylaws Committee will forward the proposed Affiliate bylaws to the SCC with its recommendation to accept or reject the proposed Affiliate bylaws.

(d) Future amendments to Affiliate bylaws do not require review and approval but must remain consistent with these Bylaws as well as any applicable state or federal laws.

Article VII – CONVENTIONS

Section 1. The Party Convention shall be when the primary business of the Party is conducted and shall be when Delegates vote on various matters to achieve the Party's Purpose. The agenda shall be provided by the Secretary to the SCC at least 15 calendar days prior to Convention and must include a

Chair's report, a treasurer's report, the election of the SCC, and the election of Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention. The SCC must approve the final agenda by a majority vote.

Section 2. The Party Convention shall be held each even-numbered year at least 30 days prior to the National Convention at a time and place established by the SCC by majority vote.

Section 3. The Party Convention shall be considered duly called when placed on public notice 60 calendar days prior to the scheduled start of the Convention. Public notice shall be considered met via Party website notification, Party membership email notification, or SCC posted print article notification.

Section 4. Convention Delegates. Delegates serve as Party leadership during Conventions. Each Delegate is entitled to one vote.

Subsection 4.1. SCC Delegates. All SCC members are entitled to serve as Delegates to the Party Convention.

Subsection 4.2. County Selected Delegates. Each county will select a number of Delegates to the Party Convention equal to the number of registered Libertarians in the county divided by the total number of registered Libertarians in the state multiplied by one hundred (100) and rounded to the nearest whole number or, if that number rounds to zero (0), the county will select one Delegate. Delegates can be selected by any means but must be a resident of the county and a Member of the Party. Affiliates must submit the names and addresses of their selected Delegates to the SCC and the Credentials Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of the Party Convention.

Subsection 4.3. At-large Delegates. The SCC may select a number of Delegates to the Party Convention equal to the total number of registered Libertarians not covered under County Selected Delegates (Subsection 4.2) divided by the total number of registered Libertarians in the state multiplied by one hundred (100) and rounded to the nearest whole number.

At-large Delegates must be registered as Libertarians in Nebraska and not be otherwise-selected Delegates. Those that are registered in counties that don't have an organized Affiliate Party should be given priority consideration by the SCC. The SCC will use best efforts to publish the method of selection for at large Delegates 60 days prior to the Convention.

Section 5. A quorum at a Convention shall be a majority of the Delegates in attendance.

Section 6. National Convention Delegates shall be elected using paper ballots. Each ballot may be marked for no more than the number of National Convention Delegates allocated. Only those nominees who are marked on at least 25% of ballots cast shall be elected. If more nominees receive 25% of the votes than there are National Delegate positions, the nominees receiving the highest votes will fill the positions. If fewer nominees are elected than there are National Delegate positions, the remaining positions will be considered vacant.

Subsection 6.1. National Convention Delegates and Alternates shall be Members of the Party.

Subsection 6.2. Within 10 days of the close of each Convention, the newly elected Chair must appoint one of the National Delegates as the Delegation Chair. If the Chair was elected as a Delegate, they may appoint themselves. The Delegation Chair may appoint any Party Member to fill vacant National Delegate and Alternate slots.

Article VIII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the Party in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order adopted by the Party

Article IX – BYLAWS

Section 1. The SCC shall promulgate these Bylaws in accordance with applicable law.

Section 2. Under normal circumstances, these bylaws may be amended only by the assembled Delegates at Convention. Amendments to the bylaws require prior notification and a 2/3 vote.

- (a) The text of any amendments proposed by the Bylaw Committee must be submitted to the SCC, the Convention Committee, and published to the general membership no less than 90 days prior to the start of the Convention
- (b) Notice of intent to bring a motion to amend the bylaws from the floor must be submitted to the SCC, the Convention Committee, and published to the general membership no less than 90 days prior to the start of the Convention. The text of the proposed amendment must be submitted to the same bodies no less than 15 days prior to the start of the Convention.

Section 3. Under extraordinary circumstances, the Bylaws Committee may propose amendments to the bylaws to the SCC. The SCC may only adopt bylaws exactly as proposed by the Bylaws Committee and may only do so with a 3/4 majority vote of the total SCC.

- (a) Any action taken under this clause must be ratified by the Delegates at the next Convention by a 2/3 vote. Failure to ratify the action will render it null and void.
- (b) This power may not be used to amend bylaws dealing with membership or Delegate selection.

Section 4. The membership may not amend the Bylaws of this organization so that they are in violation of the prevailing laws of the State of Nebraska or of the United States.

Article X – RESOLUTIONS

Section 1. Resolutions are position statements made on current issues. Resolutions may be submitted at Convention and require a two-thirds vote of Delegates.

Resolutions shall sunset at the following Convention.

Article XI – STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

Section 1. The Statement of Principles of the Libertarian Party affirms that philosophy upon which the Party is founded, by which it shall be sustained, and through which liberty shall prevail. The Party affirms the Libertarian Party Statement of Principles