

Information for Delegation Chairs And Delegates

2018 LIBERTARIAN PARTY NATIONAL CONVENTION



HYATT REGENCY, NEW ORLEANS, LA SUNDAY, JULY 1 – TUESDAY, JULY 3

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INTRODUCTION

This booklet is presented to help ensure the 2018 convention in New Orleans, LA, proceeds smoothly for you and your delegation, as well as for the speakers, candidates, officers, volunteers and assistants. It attempts to convey:

- Delegation and delegation chairs' responsibilities
- Convention structure and organization
- Information about delegates, delegations, and regions
- Special convention procedures

It is important we convey the best image possible to the country through the assembled media, so let's put our best foot forward.

Accordingly, please ensure that you and your delegation understand the main points and procedures presented within this document.

Although every effort has been made to accurately reflect the Bylaws and Convention Rules, this document is not the *final authority for rules disputes*.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DELEGATION CHAIR

- Submit initial delegation list to the Credentials Committee by the deadline, one month before the convention. The Credentials Committee has prepared a separate instruction document for delegation chairs about how to enter your delegation list into their credentialing database. The convention starts July 1, 2018, making the deadline June 1, 2018. Failure to provide a delegate list by the deadline shall cause no delegation to be registered from your affiliate. The list may be amended through the close of the Credentials Committee meeting preceding the convention. (Bylaws Article 10.4.c and 10.4.d)
- Submit to the Secretary (secretary@lp.org) and Credentials Committee (credentials@lp.org) a copy of your affiliate party's rules (if any) governing alternates substituting for delegates. (Bylaws Article 10.6.b) These rules may be contained in your bylaws. If your affiliate has not adopted any such rules, or if you do not provide a copy of your rules, the alternate substitution for your affiliate will be governed by LP Bylaws Article 10.6.c and 10.6.d. Those default rules are that if a delegate has not yet arrived and registered with the Credentials Committee, an alternate from that affiliate will be chosen by drawing lots to fill in until the delegate arrives. If a delegate has arrived and registered, but is temporarily absent from the convention floor, an alternate may temporarily vote in place of that delegate only with the written consent of that delegate.

- Turn in your region formation paperwork by the deadline. See the later section titled "Regions of the National Committee".
- Convention Rule 3.1 requires that the Secretary (<u>secretary@lp.org</u>) be notified if an affiliate's delegation has chosen someone besides the affiliate chair to serve as the delegation chair.
- During the convention, ensure your delegation submits written votes to the Secretary whenever written votes are required.
- Ensure your delegation understands and abides by the Party Bylaws and Convention Rules. See the later "Voting Rules" section.
- During the convention, ensure your delegation submits motions to the Secretary <u>legibly</u> in writing on the form provided by the Secretary before seeking recognition to address the convention.

CONVENTION STRUCTURE

Order of Business

The order of business conducted at this convention is prescribed by Convention Rule 1 to be as follows:

- 1. Call to order
- 2. Credentials Committee report
- 3. Adoption of agenda
- 4. Treasurer's report
- 5. Audit Committee report
- 6. Bylaws and Rules Committee report
- 7. Platform Committee report
- 8. Nomination of Party candidates for President and Vice-President (in appropriate years)
- 9. Election of Party Officers and at-large members of the National Committee
- 10. Election of Judicial Committee
- 11. Resolutions
- 12. Other business

Secretary's Table

There is typically an extra table beside the stage to:

• Distribute motion, region formation, and other forms

- Receive written motions, region formation agreements, and other items required to be submitted to the Secretary
- Create, distribute, and collect ballots for state-by-state reporting on party office elections
- Serve as the operations base for convention tellers
- Get written messages to the people on stage

Every year the Secretary needs volunteers to serve as election tellers. State Chairs are requested to recommend qualified people for this task. Please contact Secretary Alicia Mattson at <u>secretary@lp.org</u> with the names of recommended volunteers.

Prospective helpers with the following skills will be the most useful:

- Have experience as an elections teller
- Be a reliable and trustworthy person
- Be familiar with the Bylaws provisions relevant to convention business

Being such a volunteer will <u>not</u> preclude the opportunity to be a voting, credentialed delegate.

Updating Delegate Counts

The Bylaws in Article 10.8 state:

"A quorum shall consist of 40% of the total number of delegates registered in attendance at the Convention."

Frequently at our conventions, delegates start departing before the convention is over, and historically that has created difficulties achieving quorum on the final day to complete all of the necessary business of party elections. On the final day of the 2004 convention, it was necessary to recess for 30 minutes to round up delegates remaining in the hotel to come into the convention hall, and after that effort we barely met quorum to finish electing our party officers. A quorum shortage on the final day of the 2016 convention caused a 1 hour delay in the start time. Please encourage your delegates to stay through the end of the business agenda.

Convention Hall Seating

Convention Rule 3.2 requires that each state affiliate's delegation sit together in the convention hall. This makes it more efficient for state chairs to conduct delegation votes and also for the convention to process any challenges to a delegation vote by polling the individual members of that delegation. Signage in the convention hall will designate where each state is to sit.

DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Delegate Allocations

LP Bylaws Article 10.3 establishes the methodology for calculating the number of delegates your affiliate is entitled to. It states:

"Affiliate Party Delegate Entitlements: Each affiliate party shall be entitled to send delegates to each Regular Convention on the following basis:

- a. One delegate for each 0.14 percent, or fraction thereof, of the total Party sustaining membership in that affiliate; provided that at least one such delegate must be a resident of that State or District.
- b. One delegate for each 0.35 percent, or fraction thereof, of the votes cast nationwide for the Libertarian Party candidate in the most recent presidential election, cast in that affiliate's state."

Since there are approximately 714 slices of a whole at 0.14% each and 286 at 0.35% each, a Libertarian Party convention will have slots for at least 1000 delegates. Since affiliates are credited for 'fractions thereof', the result is approximately 1051 possible delegates.

See the Delegate Allocation Table at the end of this document for the delegate allocations for each affiliate in 2018.

Sustaining Members Counted in Delegate Apportionment

Bylaws Article 4.3 defines a sustaining member:

"Sustaining member" is any Party member who has given at least \$25 to the Party in the prior twelve months, or who is a life member.

Bylaws Article 4.5 directs us to also include as sustaining members:

"Higher levels of contribution by or on behalf of a Party member qualify as sustaining member status for any provision of these Bylaws."

Bylaws Article 4.6 directs us to count only sustaining members for delegate allocation:

"Only sustaining members shall be counted for delegate apportionment and National *Committee representation.* [...]"





Alternate Allocations

Each affiliate may also name alternates who can fill in for a delegate in accordance with the conditions and procedures in LP Bylaws Article 10.6. The number of alternates your state can name is determined by LP Bylaws Article 10.4.c, which states:

"The number of alternates' names submitted shall not exceed the greater of 50 or the number of delegates allocated."

If you have fewer than 50 delegates, you may name up to 50 alternates. If you have more than 50 delegates, you may name as many alternates as you have delegates.

Who Can Be a Delegate?

Bylaws Article 10.2.a specifies who can be a delegate:

"Delegates shall be required to be members of either the Party or an affiliate party. At all Regular Conventions delegates shall be those so accredited who have registered at the Convention."

Membership in the Party is defined by Bylaws Article 4.1 which states:

"Members of the Party shall be those persons who have certified in writing that they oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals."

How Are Delegates Chosen?

Bylaws Article 10.2.b, specifies how delegates are chosen:

"Any federal or state law to the contrary notwithstanding, delegates to a Regular Convention shall be selected by a method adopted by each affiliate party; provided however, that only members of the Party as defined in these Bylaws, or members of the affiliate party as defined in the constitution or bylaws of such affiliate party, shall be eligible to vote for the selection of delegates to a Regular Convention."

In other words, affiliates choose their delegates provided that the choosing is done by only national party or affiliate party members.

Credentialing Delegates and Alternates

See Bylaws Article 10.4.b - 10.4.e in addition to the comments below.

By one month before the convention, your delegation must have submitted a delegate listing to the Credentials Committee by entering at least one delegate name and address into the Credentials Committee database. The Credentials Committee will provide you with a login username/password and a separate instruction document explaining how to do this. You may amend your list, including adding delegates, by making your changes directly in the Credentials Committee database. However, you have the amendment power only until the final Credentials Committee meeting before the convention begins. (This meeting usually happens very early in the morning on the first day of the convention.)

Once the convention begins, you may submit requested delegate list changes to the Credentials Committee, but you must then earn permission of the convention delegates to approve those lastminute changes to the list of delegates. The Credentials Committee reports to the convention at the beginning of each meeting any proposed changes to the delegate lists. Proposed changes must then be approved by the convention by a 7/8ths vote.

The substitution of alternates for delegates is described by Bylaws Article 10.6, which states:

"Voting Eligibility:

- a. Use of the unit rule or unit voting is prohibited at national conventions.
- b. Duly selected alternates may be freely substituted for any members of their delegation who are temporarily or permanently absent from the floor, provided the procedure has been clearly specified by the affiliate party in advance of the Convention, and the Credentials Committee has been provided with lists of the affiliate party's delegates and alternates as well as a copy of the affiliate party's rules governing substitutions.
- c. An alternate, upon certification by the Credentials Committee, may function as a delegate whenever a delegate of the same state has not been registered in attendance. This status shall continue until the absent delegate registers in attendance. If the affiliate party has made no provision for filling delegate vacancies, the alternate substitute shall be decided by drawing lots.
- d. If the affiliate party has made no other provision, an alternate may temporarily vote in place of a delegate from the same state while he or she has the written consent of that delegate; however, no delegate may cast more than one vote on a question.
- *e. All members must wear the identification badge issued upon registration in order to be admitted to the Convention hall."*

DELEGATION VOTING

Most voting during a convention is done with voice votes, but if the outcome is not clear, delegates may be asked to vote by standing or even by individually counting off. Elections to party office are taken with a written ballot turned in by each affiliate's delegation chair.

When these written votes are required, the Secretary will make available a form for your delegation. See a sample ballot at the end of this document.

It is the responsibility of the delegation chair to oversee the delegates casting their votes, ensure the integrity of the process, see that it is done in accordance with the rules, and report your state's results. The ballot form will have a place for you to report vote totals from your delegation, and it will have a place for you as delegation chair to sign and date. Before you turn in your form, make a copy of the numbers for yourself so that when the Secretary's tally spreadsheet is projected overhead for review, you can verify your state's numbers were recorded accurately.

The form will show both the maximum number of delegates your affiliate is entitled to send to the convention, and it will show the current count of your affiliate's delegates registered as being in attendance. Your vote total cannot exceed either of these numbers, nor may it exceed the number of delegates your affiliate has present on the convention floor at the time of the vote.

Voting Rules

It cannot be over-emphasized that your delegation must abide by the rules of delegation voting:

- One person, one vote (RONR, 11th ed., p. 407)
- No unit voting (casting all your affiliate's votes for the candidate who received a majority vote of your affiliate's delegates) Bylaws Article 10.6.a
- No proxy voting (RONR, 11th ed., p. 423, 428-9)
- No absentee voting (RONR, 11th ed., p. 263, 423)
- Votes are only permitted by credentialed delegates physically present in the room at the time of the vote. Even if your affiliate is allocated up to 20 delegates, and 15 attended and were credentialed at the convention, but only 8 are in the room at the time of the vote, you may only submit 8 votes. Even if the 7 people who are out of the room told a friend how they wanted to vote, you may not submit votes for them. (RONR, 11th ed., p. 4)

As has been documented in the appendices of the 2014 and 2016 conventions, because our convention votes are manually tallied by humans under time pressures, errors occur even when people are trying hard to be accurate. As a state chair, your conscientious effort while overseeing your affiliate's vote can prevent or catch these errors.

Vote-for-one elections seem to be less prone to error because the ballots can be sorted into a separate pile for each candidate and then counted. <u>Vote-for-multiple elections are particularly prone to human error, so it's worth taking a little extra time to double-check on these races</u>. In 2016, an after-the-fact audit found that 13 of the 46 reporting state delegations in the At-Large election (28.26%) had errors on their tally sheets. 12 of the 46 reporting state delegations in the Judicial Committee election (26.09%) had errors on their tally sheets. In a close race, these errors could result in the wrong person being declared elected, so it's important.

If you have a question about how to handle a questionable ballot cast in your delegation, <u>ASK</u> <u>for assistance</u> at the Secretary's desk. Help is available so that you don't have to guess.

Here are some suggestions and things to watch for:

- Use the ballots provided by the Secretary's team of tellers, rather than using random scraps of paper of all different sizes. Uniformity makes it easier to manage a stack of ballots.
- When a delegate is allowed to vote for multiple candidates, watch for names on the back of the ballot in case the voter ran out of room on the front
- When a delegate is allowed to vote for multiple candidates, they are still only allowed to cast one vote per candidate. Watch for the same candidate's name receiving more than one vote on a single ballot, and do not count the duplicates.

Under Robert's Rules, only ballots on which the voter has <u>indicated a preference</u> for one of the candidates are counted towards the total votes cast for purposes of computing a majority (RONR, 11th ed., p. 415 lines 28-35). The sample ballot at the end of this document has blanks for you to fill in "Total Votes" and "Total Ballots Cast". Here are some situations that sometimes occur and how to handle them:

- If the delegate writes "abstain" on their ballot, it is not a vote, and you should not count that as a vote in Total Votes, nor as a ballot in the Total Ballots Cast. The word "abstain" literally means to not vote, thus it is not counted as a vote. It is the same as if they had not turned in a ballot at all.
- A campaign flyer for a candidate is not a properly cast ballot. The delegate must take some action to mark the ballot to indicate their preferred candidate, not just hand in preprinted material from which you are left to infer their preference. A campaign flyer does not count as a vote in Total Votes, nor as a ballot in the Total Ballots Cast.
- A ballot which says "not Person X" is not a properly cast ballot, as it does not indicate a preference for any of the candidates, just a disapproval of Person X. Such a ballot does not count as a vote in Total Votes, nor as a ballot in the Total Ballots Cast.
- When a delegate is allowed to vote for multiple candidates, a ballot which says "All candidates except Person X" is valid, and may be counted as votes for each of the other candidates besides Person X, and as a ballot cast.
- Some delegates refuse to do the normal thing and just write a candidate's name on their ballot. Some will write a nickname, an acronym, an inside joke, etc. to be clever. This can cause confusion and waste time while tellers try to discern the intent. If they cannot determine the intent, it will not be credited to the candidate the delegate intended to support, but it will be included in the Total Ballots Cast. Please clear up any such ballots within your delegation before turning them in to the Secretary, if possible.

To help with other questions that may arise, the following table is from Robert's Rules, 11th ed.:

TYPE OF BALLOT	CREDITED TO CANDIDATE(S)	COUNTED TOWARD NUMBER OF VOTES CAST
Ballots That Indicate Preference, Cast by Member		
—if meaning of ballot is clear, and ballot indicates eligible candidate	Yes	Yes
—if ballot indicates ineligible candidate	No	Yes
—if meaning of ballot is unclear, but can't affect result	No	Yes
—if meaning of ballot is unclear, and may affect result	Submit to assembly for decision	Yes
-two or more filled-out ballots, folded together	No	Yes, but counted as one vote
—one filled-out ballot, folded together with one or more blank ballots	Yes	Yes
Blank Ballots, Ballots That Indicate No Preference	No	No
Ballots Cast by Nonmember	No	No ¹
Ballots for Multiple Positions on a Board or Committee		
—with votes for full number of positions to fill	Yes	Yes (one vote) ²
—with votes for less than full number	Yes	Yes (one vote) ²
—with votes for too many candidates	No	Yes (one vote) ²

TABLE OF RULES FOR COUNTING ELECTION BALLOTS

¹ If there is evidence that any ballots were cast by persons not entitled to vote but those ballots cannot be identified, and if there is any possibility that such ballots might affect the result, the entire ballot vote is null and void and a new ballot vote must be taken.

 2 When votes are cast in one section of the ballot for multiple positions on a board or committee, every ballot with a vote in that section for one or more candidates is counted as one vote cast.

Multiple-Round Ballots

For LNC Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer elections, each delegate may cast one vote for one candidate, and a majority is required for election (Convention Rule 8.1.a). If no candidate attains a majority on the first ballot, Convention Rule 8.1.c prescribes that the candidate with the fewest votes on the latest ballot shall be struck from subsequent ballots, and the delegates vote again on the remaining candidates.

For LNC At-Large and for Judicial Committee elections, we use an approval voting process governed by Convention Rule 8.2 and Rule 9. A majority is still required for election, but because delegates may vote for as many candidates as they wish, the chances are greater for

these elections to be completed with a single round of balloting. Any ties affecting the outcome are decided by lot.

By the way, if "None of the Above" wins for any Party office, then the position is considered vacant, subject to being later filled, but none of the candidates defeated by NOTA may be appointed to that vacancy during the term. (LP Bylaws Article 10.7)

PLATFORM TOKENS

The Platform Committee will present proposals for making amendments to our existing platform, but Convention Rule 5.1 provides a special procedure by which delegates have the option to delete up to 5 planks from the existing platform:

- a. The Credentials Committee shall issue five signature tokens to each delegate.
- b. Tokens shall only be issued to delegates. Delegates are responsible for transferring possession of unused tokens to their alternates if necessary.
- *c.* Each delegate may cast each token as a recommendation for deletion of one plank by noting on the token the plank to be deleted and signing the token.
- *d. A* delegate may cumulate recommendations by casting any number of tokens for deletion of the same plank.
- e. Delegates will be given until one hour prior to the scheduled start of the platform report to mark their tokens and deliver them to the Secretary.
- *f. Prior to the scheduled start of the platform report, the Secretary shall review the tokens received and tabulate and report the tokens submitted for deletion of each plank.*
- g. As its first item of platform business, the convention shall vote whether to delete each of those planks that received a number of tokens for deletion equal to 20% or more of the number of credentialed delegates. Such votes shall be cast without amendment or debate.

Tokens in the past have looked similar to the image below and each delegate will receive five of them from the Credentials Committee.

Any platform plank that reaches the threshold – a number of tokens equivalent to 20% of credentialed delegates – will be brought before the convention for a yes/no deletion vote at the beginning of the Platform Committee report.

Platform token collection begins after adoption of the agenda (order of business item #3) and ends one hour before the Platform Committee report (order of business item #7).

Also note that each delegate has five platform tokens and that the threshold to recall a platform plank for an up/down vote is 20%. Thus it follows that 4% of delegates casting all 5 of their tokens on a single plank could bring that plank up for a deletion vote.



2018 Libertarian Party Platform Plank Signature Token			
□ 1.0 Personal Liberty	□ 2.1 Property and Contract	2.11 Potizoment and Income Security	
1.1 Self-Ownership	2.2 Environment	2.11 Retirement and Income Security	
□ 1.2 Expression and Communication	2.3 Energy and Resources	 3.0 Securing Liberty 3.1 National Defense 	
□ 1.3 Privacy	□ 2.4 Government Finance and	_	
□ 1.4 Personal Relationships	Spending	□ 3.2 Internal Security and Individual Rights	
□ 1.5 Abortion	2.5 Government Employees	☐ 3.3 International Affairs	
1.6 Parental Rights	2.6 Money and Financial Markets	□ 3.4 Free Trade and Migration	
□ 1.7 Crime and Justice	2.7 Marketplace Freedom	□ 3.5 Rights and Discrimination	
	2.8 Labor Markets	□ 3.6 Representative Government	
☐ 1.8 Death Penalty	2.9 Education	3.7 Self-Determination	
L 1.9 Self-Defense		4.0 Omissions	
2.0 Economic Liberty	☐ 2.10 Health Care		
DELEGATE (SIGNATURE REQUIRED):			

COMMON ABUSES OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

We routinely have many delegates who are attending their first national convention, and the structured system of Robert's Rules of Order may not be very familiar to them. Naturally, if a person doesn't know the protocol for what they want to do, they will watch other people and then mimic the terminology they hear. This leads to certain parliamentary motions being often misused in ways that cause interruptions, delays, confusion, and frustration for others.

If you are unsure how or when to do something you want to do, there are people you can ask. One good option is the convention parliamentarian. The parliamentarian's primary job is to advise the convention chair on procedure, but when the convention is on a break, the parliamentarian may be able to help you with your question. We often have other delegates who are credentialed parliamentarians or are just experienced with the rules. The Secretary's assistants may be able to help you connect with one of them. If you can't find someone to help in a side conversation, you may also seek recognition from the chair and a make a "Parliamentary Inquiry" to ask the chair for procedural guidance on when/how to do something.

Three of the most commonly abused parliamentary motions are discussed briefly below. A better understanding of these motions and the limitations on their use will help us get convention business completed more efficiently.

Point of Order

New delegates quickly notice that if a person at a microphone says "Point of Order", they get recognized to speak immediately, so this phrase is very frequently misused.

You should only say "Point of Order" at a microphone if you think that the rules of the assembly are being violated, and you are calling upon the chair for enforcement of the rules. After you are recognized for a Point of Order, you should explain how you think the rules are being violated so that the chair can consider your complaint and make a correction if warranted.

It is improper for you to say "Point of Order" just to get recognition to speak, and then use your microphone time for some purpose other than a discussion of adherence to the rules. If you do so, expect the chair to disallow it. It is not a method for you to introduce a motion for subject B during an agenda item for subject A. It is not a short-cut to the front off the line for debate of the current topic. Points of order get priority because there are strict time limits on when you can complain about certain types of rules violations, but please do not delay convention business and frustrate your fellow delegates by abusing the phrase for things other than rules violations.

Point of Information / Request for Information

The parliamentary term "Point of Information" is so commonly misunderstood that the current edition of Robert's Rules has renamed it to be "Request for Information" to more precisely reflect its purpose.

A "Request for Information" is a <u>request</u> -- a <u>question</u> -- directed to the chair, or through the chair to another person, for information <u>relevant to the business at hand</u> but not related to parliamentary procedure. For example, "This motion calls for a large expenditure. Could the treasurer tell us what our cash balance is?"

It does not mean that you have information to provide to others. That's just called "debate". It's not a free pass for "Hey, I have something off-topic that I want to say now because I think it is important." It means you are asking for someone else to provide information to you about the current item of business.

A Request for Information is <u>not</u> a "privileged" motion, such that it can interrupt other pending business and demand urgent attention. A Request for Information does <u>not</u> entitle you to preference in recognition such that you get to skip the line of people waiting to debate a motion.

Point of Personal Privilege / Privilege of the Assembly

Some mistakenly believe that a "Point of Personal Privilege" is a way to ask the assembly to grant them a personal favor, to allow them to introduce a motion that would not normally be in order, but to allow it anyway because it's a social nicety like a compliment or a resolution of thanks. That is an improper use of a parliamentary procedure which grants privileged recognition for particularly nuanced urgent matters, and can at times be used even to interrupt a speaker. If you're asking the body to indulge you to introduce an otherwise currently out-of-order motion, you should instead move to "suspend the rules" to allow introduction of such a motion.

There are two types of questions of privilege, a "privilege of the assembly" and a "personal privilege". A "privilege of the assembly" allows someone to get urgent attention for something

interfering with the ability of the assembly to conduct business. Examples include poor lighting that prevents delegates from seeing their printed reference materials, or construction noises coming in through open windows and making it hard to hear the matters at hand, etc. Such things may need to be addressed urgently so that delegates can cast informed votes. A point of "personal privilege" rarely occurs and even more rarely warrants urgent interruption. It can cover topics like an incorrect record of that person's participation in minutes which were approved in his absence, or charges circulated against the member's character.

PRE-PRINTED FORM FOR MAKING MOTIONS FROM THE CONVENTION FLOOR

Convention Rule 2.2 authorizes the Chair to require "any motion offered from the Convention floor to be in writing, signed by the mover and submitted to the Secretary." Just as in prior years, you should expect the Chair to make use of this in 2018. In particular, this is typically applied to main motions that are to be displayed on the overhead screens. This is not usually required for very simple motions or secondary or incidental motions (e.g., recess/adjourn/point of order).

The Secretary will provide a standard form for submitting motions. See an example at the end of this document. Using this form will help:

- Prepare video displays with the motion's text
- Eliminate delays, so the convention does not have to wait while motions are crafted and edited on the fly
- Accurately document convention proceedings for the minutes
- Ensure motions are presented in the appropriate order

Make sure to write legibly, else the Convention has to wait while sloppy writing is clarified. There is no point in writing it down if someone else can't read it.

REGIONS OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

LP Bylaws Article 7.2.c describes how your affiliate party can band together with others to form a "representative region" to gain representation on the Libertarian National Committee.

This bylaw provision states:

"Any affiliate party with 10% or more of the total national party sustaining membership within affiliate parties (as determined for delegate allocation) shall be entitled to one National Committee representative and one alternate for each 10% of national sustaining membership. Affiliate parties may, by mutual consent, band together to form "representative regions," and each such "region" with an aggregate national party sustaining membership of 10% or more shall be entitled to one National Committee representative and one alternate for each 10% of national party sustaining membership. "Representative regions" may be formed or dissolved once every two years during a period beginning 90 days before the beginning of and ending on the second day of the National Convention, and notice of new formations or dissolutions must be given in writing to the national Secretary prior to the close of the Convention at which they take place."

See the Delegate Allocations Table at the end of this document for your affiliate's sustaining membership as determined for delegate allocation as well as the percentage of national membership that it represents.

The region formation period begins 90 days before the start of the convention (April 2, 2018) and ends the second day of the convention (July 2, 2018).

The Convention Oversight Committee has built designated times into the convention schedule to facilitate region formation caucuses.

Use the form provided at the end of this document to report region formations to the Secretary.

Some regions opt to use regional agreements to document mutually agreed upon rules for their region before any future disputes arise. A recommended basic regional agreement is included at the end of this document, though you are not required to use this particular one or any one at all.

Below are two default rules that are in effect for your region unless you have a regional agreement stating otherwise.

<u>LP Bylaws Article 7.8:</u> "A National Committee Regional Representative may be removed and replaced only by the act of the affiliate parties which constitute the subject region. The voting procedure for the removal and replacement of regional representatives shall be determined by the regions. In the absence of any such procedures, a majority vote of the state chairs shall prevail."

<u>Convention Rule 8.4:</u> "In the event a region has not otherwise provided for the election of its regional representative to the National Committee then the delegates from the region shall elect its regional representative, provided there are at least five delegates present. Each Region's delegates may elect their representative in whatever manner they choose, provided all delegates present from that region are given equal voice in the selection."

Please note that under Robert's Rules, it is a bylaw violation to elect someone who is ineligible for the position. Please ensure that candidates for your regional representative and alternate position are eligible **PRIOR** to the election. If in doubt, eligibility can be confirmed by emailing or phoning our Operations Director Robert Kraus (<u>Robert.Kraus@lp.org</u>) in advance of convention, or at the registration desk during the convention. Eligibility is defined in the bylaws:

<u>LP Bylaws Article 4.6:</u> "[...] Only sustaining members shall be eligible to hold National Party office or be a candidate for President or Vice-President."

If your region is large enough to have more than one LNC alternate, your region should also agree to and document a ranking of those alternates or some clear procedure whereby the LNC

Secretary can determine the ranking. The ranking is relevant for application of Bylaw Article 13 which states:

"Boards and committees may transact business by electronic mail. The chair or secretary shall send out electronic mail ballots on any question submitted by the chair or cosponsored by at least 1/5 of the members of the board or committee. The period for voting on a question shall remain open for ten days, unless all members have cast votes, or have stated an intention to abstain or be absent during the voting period, by electronic mail to the entire board or committee. Votes from alternates will be counted, in accordance with previously defined ranked order, in the absence of the corresponding committee member(s). The outcome of each motion shall be announced promptly and recorded in the minutes of the next meeting. The number of votes required for passage of any motion shall be the same as that required during a meeting. Motions dispensed through electronic mail ballots satisfy the requirement of giving previous notice."

CONVENTION COMMITTEES

There are three convention committees according to LP Bylaws Article 11. These committees include the Bylaws and Rules Committee, the Platform Committee and the Credentials Committee.

Bylaws and Rules Committee

The Bylaws and Rules Committee makes recommendations to the delegates for amendments to our Bylaws and to our Convention Rules. Then the delegates vote whether or not to adopt those recommendations.

The current LP Bylaws are online at www.lp.org/bylaws

The committee's report of recommended changes this year will likely be posted in advance on the convention website.

LP Bylaws Article 11.2 states: "*The Bylaws and Rules Committee shall consist of ten Party members appointed by the National Committee no later than three months before a Regular Convention. No more than five of these members shall be members of the current National Committee.*"

The LNC selected the following Bylaws and Rules Committee members for 2018:

- 1. Joshua Katz
- 2. M Carling
- 3. Andy Craig
- 4. David Demarest
- 5. Caryn Ann Harlos

- 6. Joseph Henchman
- 7. Alicia Mattson
- 8. Chuck Moulton
- 9. Kimberly Ruff
- 10. Aaron Starr

Platform Committee

The Platform Committee makes recommendations to the delegates for amendments to our party platform. Then the delegates vote whether or not to adopt those recommendations.

The current LP Platform is online at: www.lp.org/platform

The committee's report of recommended changes this year will likely be posted in advance on the convention website.

LP Bylaws Article 11.3 states:

"The Platform Committee shall consist of 20 members selected as follows:

- a. One member by each of the five affiliate parties having the greatest per capita sustaining membership as determined for Convention delegate allocations at the most recent Regular Convention.
- b. One member by each of the ten affiliate parties having the largest sustaining memberships, excluding those affiliates from (a), as determined for Convention delegate allocations at the most recent Regular Convention.
- c. Five members selected by the National Committee.
- *d.* These members shall be selected no later than the last day of the fifth month prior to the Regular Convention. "

At its April 15-16, 2017 meeting in Pittsburgh, the LNC selected the following Platform Committee members for 2018.

- 1. Alicia Mattson
- 2. Andy Craig
- 3. John Fockler
- 4. Caryn Ann Harlos
- 5. Jeffrey Miron

LNC-appointed alternates are: Aaron Starr

The top five sustaining-membership-per-capita states are determined based on sustaining membership for convention delegate allocations at the most recent regular convention. The most recent regular convention was the 2016 convention in Orlando, FL. Delegate allocation for that convention was based on sustaining membership counts as of 10/31/2015, making the top five states as shown below:

Rank	State	Sustaining Members as of 10/31/2015	Population as of 2010 Census	Sustaining Members per 10k Population	Platform Committee Representative
1	New Hampshire	116	1,316,470	0.88114	Darryl Perry
2	Alaska	56	710,231	0.78848	Carolyn Clift
3	Colorado	374	5,029,196	0.74366	Mike Seebeck
4	Nevada	165	2,700,551	0.61009	Alex DiBenedetto
5	Virginia	485	8,001,024	0.60617	Matt Cholko

The top ten sustaining membership states for the Platform Committee are determined based on sustaining membership for convention delegate allocations at the most recent regular convention. The most recent regular convention was the 2016 convention in Orlando, FL. Delegate allocation for that convention was based on sustaining membership counts as of 10/31/2015, making the top ten states as shown below (excluding #6-ranked Virginia and #9-ranked Colorado because they are already included in the top-five-per-capita list above):

Rank	s State	Sustaining Members as of 10/31/2015	Platform Committee Representative
1	California	1522	Aaron Starr
2	Texas	796	Geoffrey Adams
3	Florida	654	Tom Knapp
4	New York	512	Jim Rosenbeck
5	Ohio	499	Dustin Nanna
7	Pennsylvania	462	Steve Scheetz
8	Illinois	377	Bennett Morris
10	Michigan	362	Jim Fulner
11	Indiana	341	Elizabeth Van Horn
12	Washington	315	M Carling

State-appointed alternates are: Justin O'Donnell (NH) Cean Stevens (AK) John Pickerill (CO) Mimi Robson (CA) Steven Nekhaila (FL) Roy Minet (PA) John Phillips (IL)

Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee is responsible for compiling and managing the list of eligible convention voters. The committee works before the convention to verify delegate lists sent in by

the states. When the Credentials Committee begins its work, an assigned representative of the committee will contact each state chair about the process of submitting delegate lists. The committee will meet in New Orleans the day before the convention opens, and its work continues throughout the convention until the very last session.

LP Bylaws Article 11.4 states:

"The Credentials Committee, composed of ten members, shall be selected as follows.

- a. Five members chosen by the National Committee no later than six months before a Regular Convention.
- b. One member by each of the five affiliate parties having the largest sustaining memberships as determined for Convention delegate allocations at the most recent Regular Convention. These shall be selected by each of the affiliate parties no later than one month prior to the Regular Convention."

At its August 20, 2017 meeting in Kansas City, the LNC selected the following Credentials Committee members for 2018:

- 1. Ben Bachrach
- 2. Susan Hogarth
- 3. Steven Linnabary
- 4. Emily Salvette
- 5. David Stewart

LNC-appointed alternates are: Mike Kane

The top five sustaining membership states for the Credentials Committee are determined based on sustaining membership for convention delegate allocations at the most recent regular convention. The most recent regular convention was the 2016 convention in Orlando, FL. Delegate allocation for that convention was based on sustaining membership counts as of 10/31/2015, making the top five states as shown below:

_	State	Sustaining Members as of 10/31/2015	Credentials Committee Representative
1	California	1522	Mimi Robson
2	Texas	796	Liz Scripter
3	Florida	654	Mike Kane
4	New York	512	Mark Potwora
5	Ohio	499	TBD

State-appointed alternates are: Boomer Shannon (CA)

TIME ALLOTMENTS

The Convention Rules stipulate the number of minutes allowed for certain events at the convention. The following tables summarize those allotments. While some years are not presidential nominating conventions, the tables are listed here for completeness.

President and Vice-President

16	Total time for nominating and seconding speeches for presidential candidate
10	(Convention Rule 7.5.a)
11	Total time for nominating and seconding speeches for a vice-presidential
11	candidates (Convention Rule 7.5.b)
	Time allowed for presidential nominee to address the convention for the purpose
5	of endorsing or objecting to any of the Vice-Presidential nominees (Convention
	Rule 7.4)
5	Time allowed for a delegate collecting the required number of nominating tokens
5	for None Of The Above to address the convention (Convention Rule 7.5)

Platform Committee Report

	When no minority position on a Platform Committee recommendation exists on
2	an item, the committee chair or designee explains a recommendation
	(Convention Rule 5.3)
2	When a minority position on a platform plank exists, both spokespersons have
2	two minutes to present and explain their positions (Convention Rule 5.4)
	When a minority position on a platform plank exists, delegates have a total of
5	five minutes to debate without offering amendments before voting on committee
	recommendation vs. minority recommendation (Convention Rule 5.4)
15	Discussion without amendment of a main motion platform proposal before
15	voting (Convention Rule 5.3.b)
10	Discussion with amendment of a main motion platform proposal if it failed to be
10	adopted after the 15 minutes of no-amendment debate (Convention Rule 5.3.b)
	Delegate to present and explain a platform amendment proposed from the
2	convention floor rather than from the Platform Committee Report (Convention
	Rule 5.5)

Bylaws and Rules Committee Report

2	The committee chair or designee explains a recommendation (Convention Rule 4)
8	Discussion without amendment of a main motion bylaws/rules proposal before voting (Convention Rule 4)
10	Discussion with amendment of a main motion bylaws/rule proposal if it failed to be adopted after the 8 minutes of no-amendment debate (Convention Rule 4)

National Committee Elections

10	Nominating speeches for National Committee Chair (Convention Rule 8.3.a)
5	Nominating speeches for National Committee Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer,
5	At-Large members, Judicial Committee members (Convention Rule 8.3.b)

VOTE REQUIRED FOR ELECTION/ADOPTION

The Bylaws and Convention Rules state the vote thresholds required for election/adoption of the following:

Candidates

President, Vice-President, LNC Officers, LNC At-Large, Judicial	Majority
Committee (Convention Rules 7.2, 8.1.a, 8.2.c, 9)	

Resolutions

	Adopt a resolution (Convention Rule 6.1)	2/3
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Amendments

Amend the Convention Special Rules of Order (RONR p. 17,	2/3 with previous notice
lines 28-31) - only permitted at a Regular Convention (Bylaw	or majority of all
Article 10.10)	registered delegates
Adopt new platform planks, or amend existing platform plank	2/3
(Bylaws Article 3.3)	215
Delete a platform plank (Bylaws Article 3.3)	Majority
Amend Bylaws (Bylaws Article 17.1) – only permitted at a	2/3
Regular Convention	2/3
Amend Statement of Principles (Article 17.2)	7/8 of registered
	delegates

Challenges

Percentage of delegates needed to challenge an adopted platform plank or resolution believing it to be in conflict with the Statement of Principles (Convention Rule 5.7 and 6.2)	10%
Number of delegates needed to object to the chair's determination of a voice vote in order to bring about a counted vote (Convention Rule 2.1)	20

Reinstatements

Fraction needed to reinstate a platform plank or resolution which the	3/4
Judicial Committee has vetoed (Convention Rule 5.7 and 6.2)	5/4

Procedures

Decide whether to hear amendments to platform plank proposals if they have failed to be adopted after 15 minutes of no-amendment debate	Majority
(Convention Rule 5.3.b)	

Quorum

Convention quorum (Bylaws Article 10.8)	40% of registered
	delegates
Convention Committee quorum (RONR, 11 th ed., p. 347)	Majority

Signatures

Number of signature tokens needed for a candidate to be nominated for	20
President or Vice-President (Convention Rule 7.1)	50

LNC POLICIES

The LNC has established the two policies shown below to keep delegates and candidates on an even playing field.

Delegate Compensation

The following LNC policy forbids using party funds or hotel contract perks to help any delegates fund their convention trips. Please note this only applies to delegates, and it would not forbid compensation of a guest speaker who is not a delegate.

"The Party shall not directly or indirectly compensate or otherwise underwrite or subsidize the convention travel, lodging (excepting room upgrades which the Party received at no cost), entertainment costs or speaker fees/honorariums of any Convention delegates. This policy shall not prohibit the Party from underwriting organized convention events offered to all donors of a particular level. Nor shall it prohibit delegates from receiving complementary meals or access to convention events in rough proportion to their level of volunteer work. All volunteer compensation must be approved by the Convention Oversight Committee, and contemporaneously published when actual compensation is received."



Convention Speakers

The following LNC policy requires that the Convention Oversight Committee obtain a commitment from major convention speakers prior to scheduling them:

"No person shall be scheduled as a convention speaker unless that person has signed this statement:

'As a condition of my being scheduled to speak, I agree to neither seek nor accept nomination for any office to be selected by delegates at the upcoming Libertarian Party convention if the voting for that office occurs after my speech.'

This policy shall not apply to participation in a scheduled candidate debate or breakout session or panel discussion or similar non-major event. This policy shall not apply in the case where someone is exercising official duties (e.g. such as when the Treasurer presents his official report)."

DELEGATE ALLOCATION TABLE

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The following table lists the number of delegates each affiliate is entitled to at the 2018 convention (blue column). See the Bylaws Articles 10.3 and 10.4 for the allocation methodology.

Use the 'Percent of Members' column (yellow) of this table to form representative regions for the Libertarian National Committee. One LNC representative is authorized for each 10% of total party membership that is contained within the affiliates. There is an important note at the end of this table regarding the nuances of the calculation.

		Sustaining Membership			Pre	sidential	Vote	
			LNC Region	Delegate				
	2018	Members	Formation	Allocation	Delegates	Johnson	Percent	Delegates
	Delegate	As of	Percent of	Percent of	Based on	2016	Of	Based on
State	Allocation	12/31/2017	Members	Members	Members	Vote	2016 Vote	2016 Vote
AL	14	212	1.452%	1.445%	11	44,467	0.991%	3
AK	7	93	0.637%	0.634%	5	18,725	0.417%	2
AZ	23	321	2.199%	2.188%	16	106,327	2.368%	7
AR	7	92	0.630%	0.627%	5	29,829	0.664%	2
CA	109	1,585	10.858%	10.806%	78	478,500	10.659%	31
со	34	483	3.309%	3.293%	24	144,121	3.210%	10
СТ	13	167	1.144%	1.139%	9	48,676	1.084%	4
DE	4	44	0.301%	0.300%	3	14,757	0.329%	1
DC	4	43	0.295%	0.293%	3	4,906	0.109%	1
FL	53	798	5.467%	5.440%	39	207,043	4.612%	14
GA	30	436	2.987%	2.972%	22	125,306	2.791%	8
HI	5	56	0.384%	0.382%	3	15,954	0.355%	2
ID	6	66	0.452%	0.450%	4	28,331	0.631%	2
IL	40	517	3.542%	3.525%	26	209,596	4.669%	14
IN	29	409	2.802%	2.788%	20	133,993	2.985%	9
IA	11	140	0.959%	0.954%	7	59,186	1.318%	4
KS	11	136	0.932%	0.927%	7	55,406	1.234%	4
KY	11	141	0.966%	0.961%	7	53,752	1.197%	4
LA	15	246	1.685%	1.677%	12	37,978	0.846%	3
ME	7	80	0.548%	0.545%	4	38,105	0.849%	3
MD	21	296	2.028%	2.018%	15	79,605	1.773%	6
MA	22	251	1.719%	1.711%	13	138,018	3.074%	9
MI	36	500	3.425%	3.409%	25	172,136	3.834%	11
MN	19	215	1.473%	1.466%	11	112,972	2.517%	8
MS	6	98	0.671%	0.668%	5	14,435	0.322%	1
MO	20	251	1.719%	1.711%	13	97,359	2.169%	7
MT	7	85	0.582%	0.579%	5	28,037	0.625%	2
NE	8	95	0.651%	0.648%	5	38,946	0.868%	3
NV	11	159	1.089%	1.084%	8	37,384	0.833%	3
NH	11	169	1.158%	1.152%	9	30,777	0.686%	2
NJ	21	310	2.124%	2.113%	16	72,477	1.614%	5
NM	12	138	0.945%	0.941%	7	74,541	1.660%	5
NY	44	649	4.446%	4.425%	32	176,598	3.934%	12
NC	28	375	2.569%	2.557%	19	130,126	2.899%	9

		Sustaining Membership			Pre	sidential	Vote	
		LNC Regio		Delegate				
	2018	Members	Formation	Allocation	Delegates	Johnson	Percent	Delegates
	Delegate	As of	Percent of	Percent of	Based on	2016	Of	Based on
State	Allocation	12/31/2017	Members	Members	Members	Vote	2016 Vote	2016 Vote
ND	5	42	0.288%	0.286%	3	21,434	0.477%	2
ОН	41	584	4.001%	3.981%	29	174,498	3.887%	12
ОК	14	146	1.000%	0.995%	8	83,481	1.860%	6
OR	15	167	1.144%	1.139%	9	94,231	2.099%	6
PA	39	589	4.035%	4.016%	29	146,715	3.268%	10
RI	3	33	0.226%	0.225%	2	14,746	0.328%	1
SC	16	237	1.624%	1.616%	12	49,204	1.096%	4
SD	4	39	0.267%	0.266%	2	20,850	0.464%	2
TN	24	375	2.569%	2.557%	19	70,397	1.568%	5
ΤХ	73	1,098	7.522%	7.486%	54	283,492	6.315%	19
UT	8	97	0.664%	0.661%	5	39,608	0.882%	3
VT	3	36	0.247%	0.245%	2	10,078	0.224%	1
VA	41	659	4.514%	4.493%	33	118,274	2.635%	8
WA	35	478	3.274%	3.259%	24	160,879	3.584%	11
WV	5	58	0.397%	0.395%	3	23,004	0.512%	2
WI	21	272	1.863%	1.854%	14	106,674	2.376%	7
WY	3	32	0.219%	0.218%	2	13,287	0.296%	1
OTHER		70		0.477%				
Total	1,049	14,668	100%	100%	738	4,489,221	100%	311

Source for presidential vote totals: http://www.fec.gov/pubrec/fe2016/2016presgeresults.pdf

IMPORTANT NOTE: You may wonder why there are slight differences in the percentages given in the region formation column (in yellow) versus the delegate allocation column right beside it. The numerator for each is the same, the number of sustaining members in that affiliate. The difference is in the denominator.

For delegate allocation (and determining which affiliates get to make committee appointments), the denominator is the total number of sustaining members, which is 14,668. For region formation, however, the denominator excludes the 70 people in the "OTHER" row who are not tied to a particular affiliate, so 14,668 - 70 = 14,598. If you are checking your potential region formation status, either use the yellow percent column above, or if you prefer to add the number of members and divide it out yourself remember to use the 14,598 denominator rather than 14,668.

This design means that the 70 people who reside out of the country or don't have addresses on file don't dilute the ability of the state affiliates to form a theoretical 10 regions of exactly 10% each. In reality, of course, the regions don't have exactly 10%. They have a little over, and we usually end up with fewer than 10 regions.



For Office Use Only

Delegate Motion

Motion pertains to:

Bylaws:	Article	_ Section	And is a (an)
Convention Rule:	Number	Section	Addition (new)
Platform	Plank	_	Deletion
Resolution		Attachment	Amendment

Motion Text:

Delegate:	Delegation
Seconder (print):	Delegation



For Office Use Only

Sample Election Ballot

Delegation: MyState

First Ballot for: ThisOffice

Do not exceed <u>##</u> votes per delegate

JUSTIN TYME	
PETE ZERRIA	
DUSTY RHODES	
WRITE-INS:	
TOTAL VOTES	

TOTAL VOTES TOTAL BALLOTS CAST

Total ballots cast shall not exceed any of the following:

MyState Delegate Allocation: ##

MyState Currently Credentialed Delegates: ##

MyState Currently has _____ delegates present in the convention hall

Delegation Chair Name

July 2, 2018 04:00 pm

Delegation Chair Signature



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Region Formation

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY NATIONAL BYLAWS, THE DELEGATION CHAIRS OF THE FOLLOWING AFFILIATES CONVEY TO THE SECRETARY THEIR INTENTION TO FORM A REPRESENTATIVE REGION.

Signatures below:	Printed Name and State:
In addition, the delegates from Regional Representative(s) and	this region select the following as their d Alternate(s):

Regions must be formed by the second day of the convention (July 2, 2018). This notice of a new formation is due to the LNC Secretary by the close of the convention.

Libertarian Party Region Formation Agreement

The state affiliates of the Libertarian Party listed below hereby form a representative region for the purpose of electing the number of members and alternates of the Libertarian National Committee that are allocated by the Libertarian Party bylaws to the region based on the number of national party sustaining members associated with the region.

To facilitate the gathering of signatures, signatures may appear on separate versions of this agreement. All versions together shall constitute the agreement.

A regional caucus shall be held at each regular national convention. Each registered National Convention delegate of states party to this agreement who are present at the caucus shall have one vote. If there is more than one nominee for any office, voting shall be by ballot.

This agreement shall become effective upon filing with the Secretary of the national Libertarian Party a number of versions of this agreement signed by states with enough national party sustaining members to form a representative region. After this agreement has come into effect and before nominations have been opened at the regional caucus, a state affiliate may join or withdraw from this agreement with the written consent of a majority of the other state affiliates party to this agreement if the bylaws of the national Libertarian party so permit. Once nominations have opened, a state affiliate may join or withdraw from this agreement with the written consent of all other state affiliates party to this agreement if the bylaws of the national Libertarian party so permit.

The term of office for a regional representative or alternate shall commence at the close of the convention at which a representative region may be formed and shall end at the close of the next convention at which a representative region may be formed.

Once the elections have been completed, a person elected as a regional representative member or alternate of the LNC may be removed from office by:

1) a vote of the region's registered national convention delegates at a regional caucus, or

2) the signature of state chairs who are both a) a majority of the state chairs in the region and b) chair states which had a majority of the national party sustaining members in the region as determined for the formation of this region.

A vacancy may be filled by:

1) a vote of the region's registered national convention delegates at a regional caucus, or

2) a majority of the state chairs in the region without regard to the number of sustaining members in each state.

The Libertarian Party of the state of ______ agrees, in accordance with the terms above to enter into a

representative region with the Libertarian Parties of the states of ______,

I attest that I am authorized by my state party bylaws to enter into this agreement and contractually bind my state party thereby.

Name:	Office:
Signature:	Date: