

Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire

Revised May 3, 2022

I. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire (hereinafter referred to as the "State Party").

II. Duration

The duration of the State Party shall be perpetual.

III. Purpose and Principles

- A. The purpose of the organization shall be to give voice to the principles in the National Libertarian Party Statement of Principles (hereinafter referred to as the "Statement of Principles") in the state of New Hampshire by:
 1. Nominating and supporting candidates for public office;
 2. Promoting, chartering, and coordinating local Libertarian organizations;
 3. Entering into political and/or educational activities; and
 4. Supporting activities of the National Libertarian Party.
- B. The Statement of Principles affirms that philosophy upon which the Libertarian Party is founded, by which it shall be sustained, and through which liberty shall prevail. The enduring importance of the Statement of Principles requires that it may be amended only by a vote of 7/8 of all registered delegates at a Regular Convention.
- C. The Party Platform shall include, but not be limited to, the Statement of Principles and the implementation of those principles in the form of planks.

IV. Structure & Definitions

- A. The primary governing power of the State Party shall be vested in the Executive Committee and the New Hampshire Libertarian General Court (hereinafter referred to as the "General Court") shall have the powers specified by these bylaws and any special rules of order adopted by the State Party.
- B. The use of a singular pronoun in these bylaws, special rules of order adopted by the State Party, or any other Party documentation is not intended to exclude any person who is not of the specified gender.

V. Membership

- A. All Party Members must certify that they do not advocate the initiation of force as a means to achieve political or social goals.
- B. Levels of Membership
 1. Base Levels
 - a. A Member of the State Party shall be a person who has complied with Section A of this Article and notified the Secretary of their desire to become a Member of the State Party.
 - b. Life Members of the State Party shall be all Members whose donations to the State Party have reached a specified level over a specified period of time, as published by the Executive Committee Policy Manual.
 - c. Dues-paying Members of the State Party shall be all Members who are current in their payment of annual membership dues, plus all Life Members.
 2. The Executive Committee may create additional levels of membership in the Policy Manual, provided that each additional level of membership is a subset of one of the base levels of membership in Section V. B. 1.
 3. The Executive Committee shall set dues, donation levels and dues frequency requirements for each level of membership in the Policy Manual.
 - a. Members who are domiciled in an area that contains a local affiliate shall have a portion of their dues transferred to that local affiliate. The portion of the dues and the frequency of payments to Affiliates shall be determined by the Executive

Committee.

4. The Executive Committee shall set benefits of each membership level in the Policy Manual.

C. Eligibility

1. Delegate-Eligible Members of the State Party shall be all Dues-Paying members who have been Dues-paying Members in good standing for at least the immediately preceding 35 days and have been an inhabitant of New Hampshire for at least the preceding 35 days.
2. Officer-Eligible Members of the State Party shall be all Delegate-Eligible members who have continually been a Dues-paying Member in good standing for at least the immediately preceding 182 days, and:
 - a. If registered to vote, and the Libertarian Party is a recognized option for affiliation, the member shall be registered as a Libertarian.
 - b. If registered to vote, and the Libertarian Party is not a recognized option for affiliation, the member shall not be registered as affiliated with any other political party. This provision shall not apply during the brief period in which an undeclared voter may temporarily change their party affiliation to vote in a partisan primary election on election day, provided they immediately switch their party affiliation back to undeclared.
 - c. If the individual has been a dues-paying member for more than one year, a lapse of less than 30 days of dues-paying membership status during the prior 365 days shall not disqualify officer-eligible membership status unless such a lapse occurred within the prior 90 days.

VI. **Officers**

- A. The Officers of the State Party shall be a Chair, a Vice Chair, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and two Officers at-Large. All officers shall be voting members of Executive Committee.
- B. Officers must meet the criteria for Officer-Eligible Member at the time of election or appointment and during their entire time in office.
- C. Officers shall be elected at the annual convention and shall take office at the adjournment of that convention. The term of office for all officers shall be from the adjournment of the annual convention at which officers are elected until the adjournment of the following annual convention or until their successors are selected and qualified. Elections for officers shall follow the procedure for single winner elections as specified in the Convention Rules.
- D. Any officer who has been elected or appointed to fill a vacancy for the remainder of a term shall take office immediately and shall hold that position until the adjournment of the following annual convention or until the officer's successor is selected and qualified.
- E. No offices shall be combined or held by the same individual.
- F. Chair
 1. The Chair shall be the chief executive officer of the State Party, holding the powers of administration pertaining to the ordinary business affairs of the State Party and such other powers as may be delegated by the General Court. The Chair shall serve as presiding officer for meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Court.
 2. The Chair shall have the power to appoint persons to leadership roles within the State Party, subject to the confirmation of the Executive Committee, and may make immediate temporary appointments without confirmation if required to carry out tasks that require urgency.
 3. The Chair shall be responsible for ensuring the completion of any tasks assigned to the Executive Committee by the General Court or the Libertarian National Committee.
- G. Vice Chair
 1. The Vice Chair shall assist the Chair in the performance of executive duties, hold such executive powers as the Chair may delegate, and shall perform the duties of the Chair as the Executive Committee may direct should the Chair be unable, for any reason, to perform those duties.

2. The Vice Chair shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining regular communication with representatives of affiliates of the State Party and facilitate resource sharing and cooperation among the affiliates.

H. Secretary

1. The Secretary shall be the recording officer of the State Party. The Secretary shall maintain all official records of the State Party and shall disseminate records and notices as may be required by these bylaws or the rules of the State Party.
2. The Secretary shall provide, or make provisions for, legal services to the State Party, and shall ensure that the State Party maintains compliance with any legal mandates regarding official records and communications.

I. Treasurer

1. The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining accurate records of all income and expenses associated with the operation of the State Party and shall present a summary of all income and expenses incurred at the regular meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Court. The income and expense summary may be limited to activity since the last regular meeting of the body for which the report is being presented.
2. The Treasurer shall, if necessary, provide assistance to officers of affiliate organizations regarding budgeting and financial matters.

J. Officer-at-Large

1. All Officers-at-Large shall assume a major volunteer role for the party for which that member's skills, experience, and other qualities may best be utilized. The Executive Committee shall confirm the roles of the Officers-at-Large within the State Party.
2. An Officer-at-Large shall additionally, if required, assist the Chair and Vice Chair with duties as they may assign with the consent of the Executive Committee.
3. There shall be two Officers-at-Large that shall be elected in accordance with the rules of multi winner elections.

K. Duties of Officers

1. All officers of the party shall have any additional duties and powers specified by the General Court, these bylaws, and the rules of the State Party.
2. No Officer shall receive compensation for services as an Officer but may be reimbursed for any reasonable expenses.
3. Whenever an Officer has a personal or financial interest in any matter coming before the Executive Committee, the affected person shall
 - a. fully disclose the nature of the interest and
 - b. withdraw from voting on the matter. The minutes of meetings at which such votes are taken shall record such disclosure, abstention, and rationale for approval.

- L. The Executive Committee may, for cause, suspend any officer by a vote of 2/3 of the entire Executive Committee. The suspended officer may challenge the suspension by an appeal in writing to the Judicial Committee within seven days of receipt of notice of suspension. Failure to appeal within seven days shall confirm the suspension and bar any later challenge or appeal. The Judicial Committee shall set a date for hearing the appeal between 21 and 42 days of receipt of the appeal and shall notify all interested persons, which persons shall have the right to appear and present evidence and argument. At the hearing the burden of persuasion shall rest upon the appellant. The Judicial Committee shall either affirm the Executive Committee's suspension of the officer or order the officer's reinstatement within 28 days of the hearing. Failure of the Judicial Committee to rule within 28 days shall constitute affirmation of the Executive Committee's suspension of the officer. At such time as the suspension is final, the office in question shall be deemed vacant.

M. Vacancies

1. If there is a vacancy in the position of Chair, the Vice Chair will become the interim Chair of the State Party. The Executive Committee may appoint someone to temporarily carry out the duties of the Vice Chair but is not required to do so. A person appointed to temporarily fill the Vice Chair position shall be considered an interim

member of the Executive Committee.

2. If there is a vacancy in any other officer position, the Executive Committee may appoint someone to temporarily carry out the duties of that position. Any person appointed in this manner shall be considered an interim member of the Executive Committee.
3. Interim members of the Executive Committee shall carry out the duties of their position, but they shall not have a vote on the Executive Committee. A Vice Chair who becomes interim Chair is not considered an interim member of the Executive Committee.

N. Officer Recall

1. A petition to remove a member of the Executive Committee may be submitted to the Executive Committee and the Judicial Committee, provided that the petition:
 - a. Contains a statement providing specific reasons why the Executive Committee member should be removed;
 - b. Contains the signatures of at least 25% of the delegates who attended the most recent convention who certify that they agree with the statement;
 - c. Specifies at least one representative from the signatories who may be contacted by the Judicial Committee for additional information regarding the petition.
2. If a recall petition is submitted, the Judicial Committee shall verify its authenticity, investigate the matter, and render a decision no later than 30 days after the verification of the petition. A 2/3 vote of all Judicial Committee members is required to remove an Executive Committee member.

- O. Officers shall have all powers delegated to them by these bylaws and any special rules of order adopted by the State Party. Officers shall have whatever additional duties are specified by these bylaws, any special rules of order adopted by the State Party, and at the direction of the General Court.

VII. **Executive Committee**

A. Executive Committee

1. The purpose of the Executive Committee (referred to as "committee" in this Section of this Article) shall be to oversee and act in respect to all matters pertaining to the organization, maintenance, conduct, affairs, and interests of the State Party consistent with law, these bylaws, and any rules of the State Party. The Executive Committee shall act as directed by these bylaws, the rules of the State Party and the General Court. The ongoing business of the State Party between conventions shall be administered by the Executive Committee.
2. Membership
 - a. The committee shall consist of:
 - i. The Officers of the State Party; and
 - ii. The most recent previous Chair of the State Party that is not an officer of the State Party and is an officer-eligible member shall be a non-voting member of the committee and shall not be considered in determining a quorum.
 - b. The term of the members of the Executive Committee shall be from the time they assume office until the adjournment of the next annual convention, or until their successors are selected and qualified, unless specified differently elsewhere in this article.
3. The committee shall manage the day-to-day operations of the State Party and shall have the control and management of all the affairs, properties, and funds of the State Party consistent with these bylaws and the rules the State Party. The committee shall carry out any duties as specified by these bylaws, the rules of the State Party and the General Court.
4. Meetings
 - a. The committee shall meet at least twelve times per year, and at least once every month. Unless otherwise already scheduled, meetings shall be at the call of the

- chair or at the call of any two other members of the committee.
 - b. The committee may conduct meetings with some or all of the members of the meeting participating via electronic methods of communication. If electronic methods of communication are used, a method that allows video interaction and the sharing of documents is strongly encouraged.
 - c. The committee shall, as part of the agenda of every meeting, set a date, time, and place for the next meeting. A notice reminding the members of the meeting schedule shall be provided to all Executive Committee members via electronic methods of communication by the Secretary at least seven days prior to the start of the meeting.
 - d. The Chair may call for an emergency meeting if circumstances require it. The Secretary shall provide a notice of at least 72 hours prior to an emergency meeting to all members via electronic methods of communication and a phone call.
 - e. A majority of the Officers of the State Party shall constitute a quorum.
 - 5. Vacancies of Officers of the State Party shall be filled as specified in Article VI.
 - 6. The Executive Committee shall maintain a Policy Manual. The manual shall include all rules that govern the Executive Committee not specified within the Bylaws or Rules of Order; The Party's standard operating Procedures; and any other information deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.
- B. General Provisions
- 1. Members of the Executive Committee and Affiliate Chairs shall have access to the current and past records of the State Party.
 - 2. The Executive Committee shall have the power to go into executive session for any matters for which they determine it is necessary. Any discussion related to discipline regarding any member shall automatically be considered to be in executive session.
 - 3. The Executive Committee shall have all the powers granted to them throughout these bylaws, any special rules of order adopted by the State Party, and any additional powers conferred upon them by law, and shall carry out any additional duties assigned to them by these bylaws, the rules of the State Party, and the General Court.

VIII. **New Hampshire Libertarian General Court**

- A. The name of the body of delegates in convention shall be the "New Hampshire Libertarian General Court" (hereinafter referred to as the "General Court").
- B. The General Court shall have the powers conferred upon it by law, these bylaws, and any rules adopted by the State Party.
- C. A Delegate-Eligible Member shall become an official delegate for a convention if the member meets the criteria specified in the previous section of this Article and registers for the convention no later than seven days prior to the first day of the convention.
- D. Delegate-Eligible Members who wish to become an official delegate for the convention who do not register at least seven days prior to the first day of the convention are considered Prospective Delegates and shall become official delegates if, by a majority vote, the General Court approves. When there are Prospective Delegates during the convention, the Credentials Committee shall have priority to the floor over all others in order to make a motion to approve the Prospective Delegates for inclusion as official delegates of the convention. No such motion for delegate approval may be made until at least 15 minutes have elapsed since the last motion for delegate approval has been disposed of. If a meeting is called to order at or after the scheduled time, and the General Court does not yet have a quorum but accepting the Prospective Delegates as official delegates would create a quorum, then all Prospective Delegates shall immediately become official delegates.
- E. Conventions
 - 1. The Party shall meet in convention at least once per year. In the event the convention cannot physically be held with delegates gathering in one place, the Executive Committee may call for the convention to be held using an electronic method of

- communication
2. The Annual Convention shall begin no earlier than the first Friday of January and shall end no later than the last day of April.
 3. Notification of the date or dates of the annual convention must be delivered by electronic methods of communication to State Party members no later than 91 days prior to the first day of the convention. A detailed notice of the annual convention must be sent to dues-paying members no later than 35 days prior to the first day of the convention that shall include (but not be limited to) access to the reports from the Bylaws & Rules Committee and the Platform Committee.
 4. The Executive Committee shall have the power to change the date of the annual convention to a date outside of the date range specified in this section if it becomes necessary due to unforeseen circumstances. If the calling of a Business Convention will resolve the problem, then the Executive Committee shall not change the dates of the convention in question and shall instead schedule a Business Convention.
 5. The Annual Convention shall include (but not be limited to) the following items on the agenda:
 - a. Reports from all standing committees;
 - b. Consideration of proposals for changes to the bylaws, special rules of order, and the party platform;
 - c. Officer elections;
 - d. Elections for the members of committees that are selected by the General Court;
 - e. Nominations for candidates for public office, if authorized by law;
 - i. All persons nominated must meet the requirements of a delegate-eligible member before the beginning of the candidate filing period for that election or times of nomination, whichever is earlier.
 - f. Elections for delegates to the Libertarian National Convention, in years in which a Libertarian National Convention is held.
 6. The sub-items listed in Item 5 may also be held at conventions other than the annual convention, if necessary. The annual convention and other conventions may also include (but not be limited to) the following items on the agenda:
 - a. A report from the regional representative to the Libertarian National Committee;
 - b. Elections to fill vacancies, as authorized by these bylaws and the rules of the State Party.
 7. Bylaws, Rules, and Platform Changes
 - a. The Report of the Convention Rules by the Bylaws & Rules Committee shall be included as soon as practicable in the agenda of any convention.
 - b. Proposals for amendments to the bylaws, new or amended special rules of order, and changes to the State Party Platform may be submitted to the proper committee as specified in the bylaws. No proposal for an amendment to the bylaws or for a new or amended special rule of order shall be considered by the General Court if it has not been evaluated by the Bylaws & Rules Committee, except as allowed in Article VIII, E, 7, c. No proposal for a change to the State Party Platform shall be considered by the General Court if it has not been evaluated by the Platform Committee, except as allowed in Article VIII, E, 7, c.
 - c. A proposed amendment to the bylaws, special rules of order, or the State Party Platform may be heard upon the floor during New Business upon the written request of at least five delegates or 10% of the delegates in attendance, whichever is more. An absolute majority vote is required for consideration of any such proposals. The vote for consideration shall not be amenable or debatable. An absolute $\frac{2}{3}$ vote is required for passage of any such proposal.
 8. Business Conventions
 - a. The Executive Committee shall have the power to call for a Business Convention to conduct State Party business.
 - b. Notification of the date or dates of any business convention must be delivered by

electronic methods of communication to all State Party members no later than 21 days prior to the first day of the convention. The notice shall include an agenda of all items of business scheduled for the meeting.

- c. The Executive Committee may, by a 2/3 vote, determine that no new business shall be introduced during the meeting by members of the General Court. The General Court may overrule this decision, but that shall require a 2/3 vote, and under no circumstances may new business be introduced at a business convention prior to the completion of the business on the agenda prepared by the Executive Committee.
9. A quorum at any convention shall consist of 10% of all Delegate-Eligible members, or majority of all of the delegates who have registered for that convention, whichever is greater.
10. The Executive Committee may, by majority vote, authorize the remote participation of some or all delegates to the state convention in cases where large gatherings are not permitted by law or large gatherings pose a risk to safety or health.
11. A motion to adjourn any convention shall require a 2/3 vote if the business scheduled for the convention is incomplete.
12. No fee shall be charged for a Delegate-Eligible Member to participate in the business session of a convention.

IX. **Standing Committees**

- A. The Standing Committees of the State Party shall be:
 1. The Membership & Outreach Committee
 2. Politics & Campaign Committee
 3. Judicial Committee
 4. Bylaws & Rules Committee
 5. Platform Committee
 6. Credentials Committee
 7. Convention Committee.
- B. These committees shall be governed by these bylaws, the rules of the State Party, and the parliamentary authority. They may be assigned additional powers or duties by the Executive Committee or the General Court.
- C. General Provisions
 1. All committee members must be delegate-eligible members of the State Party for the duration of their term.
 2. The chair of each committee must be an officer-eligible member of the State Party for the duration of their term.
 3. Each committee shall have a minimum of three members.
 4. Committee members shall be elected from a list of volunteers at a regular convention. Additional members may be appointed by the Executive Committee.
 5. Additional requirements for a specific committee may be specified in these bylaws
- D. Committee Operations
 1. Each standing committee shall have a chair and a secretary. For any standing committee which does not have procedures specified elsewhere in these bylaws or the rules of the State Party, the Executive Committee shall determine the initial chair and secretary of each committee within 28 days of the completion of the Annual Convention. The committee members may either confirm these selections or change them as they see fit. If the chair or secretary seat becomes vacant, the remaining committee members shall fill such seat within 14 days of the vacancy occurring. If the committee does not fill the vacancy as prescribed, the Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy within 14 days.
 2. The chair of each committee shall:
 - a. Preside over all committee meetings;
 - b. Provide a report to the Executive Committee at least once per quarter, unless exempted by the Executive Committee;

- c. Present the committee's reports to the General Court at any convention that includes the committee's report as part of the agenda.
 3. The secretary of each committee shall:
 - a. Send a copy of any approved minutes to the Secretary of the State Party within four days of their approval;
 - b. Notify the Secretary of the State Party of any vacancies on the committee within 24 hours of the vacancy;
 - c. Send all official reports produced by the committee to the Secretary of the State Party;
 - d. Notify all committee members and all members of the Executive Committee at least ten days prior to any scheduled meeting;
 4. The terms of members of Standing Committees shall begin at the adjournment of the annual convention and shall end at the adjournment of the following annual convention or until their successors are selected, unless otherwise specified in these bylaws or the rules of the State Party.
 5. Members of standing committees, excluding any person designated to be a member of a committee by these bylaws, may be removed from a committee by a 2/3 vote of the General Court or by a 2/3 vote of the Executive Committee. A motion to remove a member of a standing committee shall require prior notice.
 6. Vacancies
 - a. Members who choose to voluntarily resign from the committee should notify the secretary of the committee.
 - b. A member of a committee shall be deemed to have resigned if the member:
 1. Fails to attend two out of three consecutive meetings and does not provide an adequate explanation for the member's absence to the chair of the committee; or
 2. Fails to attend three out of five consecutive meetings.
 - c. The secretary of the committee shall immediately notify the Secretary of the State Party of any change in membership. The chair or another committee member shall notify the Secretary of the State Party if the committee secretary position is vacated.
 - d. The Executive Committee shall ensure that the committee maintains the required minimum number of members by making appointments to fill vacancies as necessary. The Executive Committee may fill any committee positions normally selected by the General Court that have not been filled at a convention.
 - e. If a Section of this Article for a specific committee describes specific procedures for vacancies that differ from the above, the procedures listed in that Section shall apply for that committee for any procedures in conflict with these.
 7. Members of the Executive Committee shall have the right to attend any meetings of any Standing Committee and participate in deliberations but shall not have a vote on any matter before the committee unless they have been elected or appointed to be a member of the committee.
 8. A Standing Committee may meet entirely in person, or with some or all of the members utilizing electronic methods of communication to attend. Meetings shall conform to the procedures and rules specified in the rules of the State Party and, if applicable, as directed by the Executive Committee.
- E. Membership & Outreach Committee
 1. The Membership and Outreach Committee (referred to as "committee" in this Section of this Article) shall further the goals of the State Party by recruiting and retaining members, planning and performing outreach, and other related activities.
 2. The member appointed as the Membership Director of the State Party by the Executive Committee shall be the committee chair. The Executive Committee shall appoint the initial committee secretary.
 3. The committee shall promote the goals of the party by:

- a. Planning, organizing, implementing, and assisting with outreach activities for the State Party and its affiliates;
 - b. Performing all tasks required to recruit and retain Party members;
 - c. Completing other tasks related to the activities mentioned above;
 - d. Training volunteers to complete all of the above tasks;
 - e. Any other duties assigned by the Executive Committee.
4. The committee shall determine its own schedule for meetings in consultation with the Executive Committee.

F. Politics & Campaign Committee

1. The Politics and Campaign Committee (referred to as “committee” in this Section of this Article) shall further the goals of the State Party by recruiting and training candidates and campaign activists, developing legislative proposals and strategies, and other related activities.
2. The member appointed as the Political Director of the State Party by the Executive Committee shall be the committee chair. The Executive Committee shall appoint the initial committee secretary.
3. The committee shall promote the goals of the party by:
 - a. Recruiting and developing Party candidates for public office;
 - b. Recruiting and developing volunteers to aid candidates running for public office;
 - c. Developing legislative proposals and strategies for use by appointed and elected public officials and candidates for public office;
 - d. Completing other tasks related to the activities mentioned above;
 - e. Training volunteers to complete all of the above tasks;
 - f. Any other duties assigned by the Executive Committee.
4. The committee shall determine its own schedule for meetings in consultation with the Executive Committee.

G. Judicial Committee

1. The Judicial Committee (referred to as “committee” in this Section of this Article) shall serve the State Party by resolving disputes, hearing petition cases brought to it in accordance with these bylaws and any special rules of order adopted by the State Party,
2. The General Court shall elect the members of the Judicial Committee in accordance with the Convention Rules adopted by the State Party.
3. A member of the State Party who is eligible to become a member of the Judicial Committee (hereinafter referred to as “Judicial-Eligible Member”) shall meet the following:
 - a. Has been a dues-paying member of the State Party in good standing for at least one year;
 - b. Be a current inhabitant of the state of New Hampshire and have been an inhabitant of the state of New Hampshire for at least the immediately preceding 91 days;
 - c. If registered to vote, and the Libertarian Party is a recognized option for affiliation, the member shall be registered as a Libertarian;
 - d. If registered to vote, and the Libertarian Party is not a recognized option for affiliation, the member shall not be registered as affiliated with any other political party. This provision shall not apply during the brief period in which an undeclared voter may temporarily change her party affiliation to vote in a partisan primary election on election day, provided that she immediately switches her party affiliation back to undeclared.
 - e. A member of the Judicial Committee shall not be a member of the Executive Committee.
4. The committee shall meet as is needed to carry out its duties, as called for by the chair of the committee or by the Executive Committee.

H. Bylaws & Rules Committee

1. The Bylaws & Rules Committee (referred to as "committee" in this Section of this Article) shall be responsible for evaluating, modifying, and issuing recommendations for or against proposals for amendments to the bylaws and new or amended special rules of order, including proposals for convention rules.
2. Operations
 - a. The committee shall accept proposals from any Delegate-Eligible Member of the State Party. Proposals for consideration at the annual convention must be submitted to the committee at least 70 days prior to the first day of the annual convention. Proposals may suggest an amendment to the bylaws or suggest a new or amended special rule of order, including convention rules.
 - b. The committee shall not accept any proposals made after the deadline for submissions has passed unless ordered to by the Executive Committee. The committee may resume accepting proposals after the adjournment of the annual convention.
 - c. The committee members shall evaluate each proposal submitted by the deadline, modify it as they see fit, and request information from the member who submitted the proposal if they believe that additional information would be helpful. After deliberations on a proposal are complete, the committee members shall then vote on a recommendation regarding the proposal. A majority vote for passage of the proposal shall result in a committee recommendation of "Ought to Pass;" otherwise, the vote shall result in a committee recommendation of "Inexpedient Motion."
3. Meetings
 - a. The chair of the committee shall call meetings as required to complete its work. If there is at least one proposal that has not yet been evaluated, and at least two members of the committee demand a committee meeting, the chair shall call a meeting of the committee.
 - b. The Executive Committee shall have the power to order the committee to meet and process some or all of the existing proposals so that they may be considered at an upcoming business convention.
4. Reports
 - a. The committee shall prepare three reports for each convention that shall include all of the evaluated proposals for each area:
 - b. Report on the Convention Rules;
 - c. Report on the Bylaws;
 - d. Report on the Special Rules of Order and Standing Rules;
 - e. For each proposal included, a brief majority report explaining the reasoning behind the committee's recommendation shall be attached. Additionally, a brief minority report shall be attached if one is prepared by committee members who voted in opposition to the majority on the proposal.
 - f. The Report on the Special Rules of Order shall include all proposals examined by the committee since the most recent convention.
 - g. The committee shall complete its work and submit its reports to the Secretary of the State Party no later than 45 days prior to the first day of the annual convention, or if applicable, no less than 28 days prior to any business convention. At the convention, the committee shall introduce every proposal it has evaluated, announce its recommendation regarding the proposal, and briefly explain its reasoning for its recommendation.
 - h. The committee shall prepare a draft report for the Executive Committee no later than 120 days before the first day of the annual convention of any proposals currently being considered. If there are proposals under consideration at this time, the committee may conduct a survey of party members to solicit their views on the proposals. If such a survey is conducted, the results of the survey shall be included in the final report to the annual convention.

5. The Executive Committee may set submission deadlines and specify what proposals shall be considered if bylaw or rule changes are to be considered at a business convention.
- I. Platform Committee
 1. The Platform Committee (referred to as "committee" in this Section of this Article) shall be responsible for evaluating, modifying, and issuing recommendations for or against proposals for the creation, deletion, or modification of planks of the State Party Platform.
 2. Operations
 - a. The committee shall accept proposals from any Delegate-Eligible Member of the State Party. Proposals must be submitted to the committee at least 70 days prior to the start of a convention in order to be considered by the committee for that convention. Proposals may suggest creating, deleting, or modifying a plank of the State Party Platform.
 - b. The committee shall not accept any proposals made after the deadline for submissions has passed unless ordered to by the Executive Committee. The committee may resume accepting proposals after the adjournment of a regular convention.
 - c. The committee members shall evaluate each proposal submitted by the deadline and modify it as they see fit, except that proposed deletions of existing planks may not be modified. The committee may request information from the member who submitted the proposal if they believe that additional information would be helpful. After deliberations on a proposal are complete, the committee members shall then vote on a recommendation regarding the proposal. A majority vote for passage of the proposal shall result in a committee recommendation of "Ought to Pass;" otherwise, the vote shall result in a committee recommendation of "Inexpedient Motion."
 3. Meetings
 - a. The chair of the committee shall call meetings as required to complete its work. If there is at least one proposal that has not yet been evaluated, and at least two members of the committee demand a meeting, the chair shall call a meeting of the committee.
 - b. The Executive Committee shall have the power to order the committee to meet and process some or all of the existing proposals so that they may be considered at an upcoming business convention.
 4. Reports
 - a. The committee shall prepare a report that includes all proposals evaluated by the committee.
 - b. For each proposal included, a brief majority report explaining the reasoning behind the committee's recommendation shall be attached. Additionally, a brief minority report shall be attached if one is prepared by committee members who voted in opposition to the majority on the proposal.
 - c. The committee shall complete its work and submit its report to the Secretary of the State Party no later than 45 days prior to the convention. At the convention, the committee shall introduce every proposal it has evaluated, announce its recommendation regarding the proposal, and briefly explain its reasoning for its recommendation.
 - d. The report for a convention shall be submitted to the Secretary of the State Party no later than 45 days prior to the first day of that convention.
 - e. The committee shall prepare a draft report for the Executive Committee no later than 120 days before the first day of the annual convention of any proposals currently being considered. If there are proposals under consideration at this time, the committee may conduct a survey of party members to solicit their views on the proposals. If such a survey is conducted, the results of the survey shall be

included in the final report to the annual convention.

5. The Executive Committee may set submission deadlines and specify what proposals shall be considered if platform changes are to be considered at a business convention.

J. Credentials Committee

1. The purpose of the Credentials Committee (referred to as “committee” in this Section of this Article) is to complete all tasks necessary to verify the membership status of all persons wishing to fulfill various roles within the State Party and any related tasks, as specified in these bylaws, the rules of the State Party, and as directed by the Executive Committee.
2. The members of the committee shall be:
 - a. The Membership Director, who shall be the chair of the committee;
 - b. The Secretary of the State Party, who shall be the secretary of the committee;
 - c. At least one member and not more than five members of the State Party who are not members of the Executive Committee.
 - d. The members of the committee, excluding the Membership Director and Secretary, shall be appointed by the Executive Committee no later than 35 days prior to the first day of a convention.
3. The committee shall verify which members of the State Party are qualified as:
 - a. Current dues-paying members of the State Party;
 - b. Delegate-Eligible Members;
 - c. Officer-Eligible Members;
 - d. Judicial-Eligible Members;
 - e. All standard classes of membership;
 - f. Any other subgroup of members for which special qualifications exist;
 - g. Process the registration of delegates at conventions;
 - h. Verify that a quorum exists at conventions;
 - i. Verify that any member nominated at a convention for a position in the State Party is eligible for the position and immediately inform the presiding officer if a nominated member is not qualified;
 - j. Present reports at conventions required by these bylaws, the rules of the State Party, the Executive Committee or the General Court.
4. Meetings
 - a. The committee shall meet at least once no later than three weeks prior to the convention, at which the chair of the committee shall ensure that all members understand their roles for the upcoming convention.
 - b. The committee shall meet in the hour immediately preceding the opening of registration for the convention, beginning no later than 20 minutes prior to the opening of registration on the first day of the convention.
 - c. The committee may, at the call of either the Membership Director or the Secretary, have additional meetings prior to the convention.
5. The committee members shall carry out tasks assigned to the committee by the rules of the State Party or the Executive Committee.

K. Convention Committee

1. The purpose of the Convention Committee (referred to as “committee” in this Section of this Article) is to complete all tasks necessary for planning and executing the annual convention of the State Party.
2. The Executive Committee shall, no later than the first meeting after an annual convention, appoint members to the committee who will plan the following year’s annual convention: and shall have the power to appoint additional members to the committee.
3. After the convention prepared by the committee has completed, the committee shall prepare a final report on the convention. The final report must be completed and submitted to the Executive Committee no later than 30 days after the convention.
4. Whenever a new chair is appointed to lead the committee, the previous chair of the

committee shall attend at least the first meeting of the committee with the new chair and be available for questions via electronic means of communication for at least thirty days after the new chair has been selected.

X. Special Committees

- A. The Executive Committee and the General Court shall have the power to create special committees and appoint persons to those committees to advance the goals of the State Party. The body creating the special committee may assign an initial chair and secretary to the committee, specify reporting requirements, determine its initial membership, and assign the committee specific tasks that must be completed. If the meeting at which the special committee is created adjourns without the completion of the aforementioned tasks, the Executive Committee shall complete those tasks.
- B. If the Executive Committee determines that a special committee should become a permanent Standing Committee, the Executive Committee shall create and submit a proposal for a bylaw amendment to the Bylaws & Rules Committee for consideration.
- C. These committees shall be governed by these bylaws, the rules of the State Party, and the parliamentary authority. They may be assigned additional powers or duties by the Executive Committee or the General Court.

XI. Affiliate Organizations

A. Development Groups

1. For areas of the state without an organized affiliate, the Executive Committee shall create one or more Development Groups in order to promote the activities of the State Party within those areas, including the establishment of a formally recognized affiliate, and assign members to these groups.
2. The boundaries of Development Groups may be determined, with the consent of the Executive Committee, by the persons assigned to the Development Groups.
3. The Development Groups shall have the powers assigned to them by the Executive Committee.
4. Development Groups may be terminated by the Executive Committee at any time for any reason.

B. General Provisions

1. Any five (5) or more dues-paying members may create a local organization and petition the Executive Committee to affiliate with the State Party per the guidelines under these bylaws.
2. Each petition for affiliation must include a copy of the organization's proposed bylaws. These bylaws shall specify a geographical area to be covered by the affiliated organization.
3. No geographical area in the state shall be included in the jurisdiction of more than one affiliate unless otherwise approved by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have the power to adjust geographical boundaries of affiliates.
4. The affiliate shall have the responsibility for the nomination of candidates for office whose districts lie entirely within its geographical region. All nominations shall comply with Article VIII, E, 5, e.
5. If requested by multiple affiliates and approved by the Executive Committee, the affiliates may join together for the responsibility of the nomination of candidates for office whose districts lie entirely or substantially within their combined geographical regions.
6. Membership requirements in affiliated organizations shall not be at odds with the State or National Party requirements. In any dispute, the Judicial Committee shall make a determination.
7. Meetings of affiliated organizations shall be open after proper notice has been given to all State Party members domiciled in the geographic region.
8. Affiliates shall comply with any additional provisions and procedures specified by the bylaws, the rules of the State Party, or the Executive Committee.

C. Disaffiliation

1. If an affiliate organization has acted recklessly or acted in contravention of furthering the goals of the State Party, the State Party may end its association with the affiliate by a 3/4 vote of the Executive Committee.
2. The Judicial Committee shall have the authority to hear an appeal if an affiliate's status is terminated, and may, by a 2/3 vote, reverse the decision to disaffiliate.

XII. Libertarian National Convention

- A. No person shall be seated with the State Party delegation to a National Convention who is not a dues paying member of the State Party.
- B. If the Chair is unavailable to serve as delegation chair, the Vice Chair shall be the chair of the delegation. If both the Chair and Vice Chair are unavailable to serve as delegation chair, the delegation shall select its own chair.
- C. The General Court shall elect the delegates to the National Convention in accordance with the Convention Rules adopted by the State Party.
- D. The delegation shall follow the rules and procedures specified by the Bylaws and Rules of the National Libertarian Party and any applicable rules and procedures specified by these bylaws and the rules of the State Party.

XIII. Parliamentary Authority

- A. The rules contained in the 12th edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the State 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 the State Party may adopt.

XIV. Amendments

- A. Changes to bylaws and special rules of order by the General Court
 1. Proposed amendments to the bylaws, convention rules, and modifications to existing special rules of order may be enacted at a convention and must follow the procedures specified in these bylaws, and any related rules adopted by the State Party.
 2. Proposed amendments to the bylaws, convention rules, and special rules of order shall be available for members to view as soon as practicable after the completion of the reports of the Bylaws & Rules Committee.
 3. Proposed amendments to the bylaws, convention rules, and special rules of order must be approved by a 2/3 vote of the General Court at a convention.
 4. Neither Section B of Article III of these bylaws, nor this part of this section, shall be amended by a vote of less than 7/8 of all registered delegates at a regular convention.
 5. If a proposal passes, it shall take effect immediately, unless otherwise specified in the proposal.
- B. Platform changes by the General Court
 1. The current Platform of the State Party shall serve as the basis of all future platforms.
 2. Proposed modifications to the Platform must follow the procedures specified in these bylaws and any additional related rules adopted by the State Party.
 3. Proposed amendments to the Platform shall be available for members to view as soon as practicable after the completion of the report of the Platform Committee.
 4. The Platform may be only modified at a convention. Additional platform planks or modifications to existing platform planks must be approved by a 2/3 vote at a convention. A platform plank may be deleted by a majority vote at a convention.
 5. Platform changes shall take effect at the close of the convention at which they are adopted.
- C. Regular and Consent Calendars
 1. The Bylaws & Rules Committee and Platform Committee shall divide their reports into a Consent Calendar and a Regular Calendar. For each committee proposal, the committee shall specify whether the proposal shall be listed on the Consent Calendar or the Regular Calendar. Consent calendar items must be included in the bylaws report due 35 days before convention.
 2. The Party Chair may place resolutions on the Consent Calendar. Members wishing to place a resolution item on the calendar shall submit the item in writing to the Party Chair at least two weeks prior to the opening of the convention.

3. Upon the written request of at least three delegates, the Chair may remove an item from the Consent Calendar and place it at the top of the Regular Calendar, prior to a vote on that item.
 4. Items on the Consent Calendar shall be voted on as prescribed in these Bylaws, Convention Rules, and Special Rules of Order.
 5. The Chair shall read the title and summary content of each Consent Calendar item immediately before the delegates vote on the item. The delegates shall vote on the consent calendar item without debate or amendment.
 6. Delegates may reconsider any Consent Calendar item that fails to pass, placing it at the end of the Regular Calendar, only if an absolute majority of the delegates vote to reconsider. If the vote to reconsider is taken after the Report has been completed, the item shall be reconsidered during New Business.
 7. Proposals on the Regular Calendar shall have an initial period of debate during which no amendments to the proposal are permitted. After this period of debate has concluded, the General Court shall vote on the proposal. If the proposal fails, the proposal shall again come to the floor and shall be open to debate and amendment.
- D. A proposed amendment to the bylaws, special rules of order, or the State Party Platform may be heard upon the floor during New Business upon the written request of at least five delegates or 10% of the delegates in attendance, whichever is more. An absolute majority vote is required for consideration of any such proposals. The vote for consideration shall not be amenable or debatable. An absolute 2/3 vote is required for passage of any such proposal.
- E. The Executive Committee is authorized to make grammatical, spelling, and/or editorial modifications to the Bylaws, Rules, and Platform provided it does not change the meaning or intent of the item edited. Documentation of any such changes shall be noted in the Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting immediately following the changes being made.