Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina

As revised in Convention May 2025

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Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Libertarian Party of North Carolina, hereinafter referred to as the Party or by the acronym LPNC.

Article II. Purpose

The purpose of the Party is to conduct the following activities consistent with the Statement of Principles:

1. Disseminating libertarian political ideas by entering into political information activities.
2. Nominating candidates for statewide political offices and supporting candidates for political office within the State.
3. Promoting, recognizing, and coordinating local organizations throughout the State.
4. Supporting national Libertarian candidates.

Article III. Membership

Section 1. Member

1. A resident of North Carolina may become a member of the LPNC provided they are not a registered voter affiliated with another political party, and by fulfilling at least one of the following criteria:
    a. Maintaining voter registration as a Libertarian, as long as the party is recognized by the State of North Carolina, or;
    b. Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian National Committee, or;
    c. Maintaining current membership dues with the LPNC established by the state Executive Committee, or;
    d. Maintaining current membership dues in a recognized affiliate of the LPNC, or;
    e. Submitting a written or electronic affirmation to the Secretary that they do not advocate the initiation of force to achieve social, political, or economic goals. (Note: having submitted the previous version of the NIOF pledge—which omitted “economic”—prior to 19 May 2025 will still be considered a valid criterion for LPNC membership.)
2. Only LPNC members may serve on state or local affiliate executive committees and as delegates to the state and national Libertarian Party Conventions.

Section 2. Associate

1. A resident of North Carolina who is a registered voter affiliated with another political party may become an associate of the LPNC by fulfilling one of the following criteria:
    a. Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian National Committee, or;
    b. Maintaining current associate dues with the LPNC established by the state Executive Committee, or;
    c. Maintaining current associate dues with a recognized affiliate of the

LPNC, or;

d. Submitting a written or electronic affirmation to the Secretary that they do not advocate the initiation of force to achieve social, political, or economic goals. (Note: having submitted the previous version of the NIOF pledge—which omitted “economic”—prior to 19 May 2025 will still be considered a valid criterion for LPNC membership.)

2. Associates may not serve on state or local affiliate executive committees and may not serve as delegates to the state or national Libertarian Party Conventions.

Article IV. Officers

Section 1. Officers

The officers of the Party shall be a Chair, a Vice Chair, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary shall be elected by the State Convention. The Treasurer shall be appointed by the Chair, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, and serve until a new Treasurer is appointed. Officers shall take office immediately upon the close of such Convention. No State offices shall be combined.

Section 2. Chair

The Chair shall be Chief Executive Officer of the Party and shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Party. The Chair shall:

1. Preside at meetings of the Executive Committee and the State Convention;
2. Convene the Executive Committee as needed, but for at least six (6) meetings per calendar year;
3. Appoint convention officials, including the credentials committee;
4. Appoint, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, the Chair and members of all adjunct committees, and the Chair and members of working committees established by the Executive Committee;
5. Select, as deemed necessary, an Executive Director, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, to supervise any LPNC staff;
6. Appoint an Assistant Treasurer or Assistant Secretary, as deemed necessary, to assist said officers in carrying out their duties;
7. Serve as a spokesperson for the Party;
8. Raise funds necessary for the Party to meet its goals.

Section 3. Vice Chair

The Vice Chair shall act as assistant to the Chair and preside in the Chair’s absence. The Vice Chair shall perform duties as directed by the Chair or Executive Committee. In the event

of a vacancy in the Chair position, the Vice Chair shall become Chair.

Section 4. Secretary

The Secretary shall:

1. Keep and maintain all minutes of Executive Committee meetings and the State Convention;
2. Issue all meeting notices for the Executive Committee and annual State Convention;
3. Distribute Executive Committee meeting minutes to all members of the Executive Committee no later than fourteen (14) days after said meeting is held;
4. Transmit all records pertaining to the office to successor within ten (10) days of vacating office.

Section 5. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall receive, disburse, and account for the funds of the Party under the supervision and direction of the Chair. The Treasurer shall:

1. Maintain the state executive committee treasury at an insured commercial bank;
2. Maintain all records of contributions received and disbursements made required by law or by the Executive Committee;
3. Prepare and file any reports as may be required by law or by the Executive Committee;
4. Distribute a summary of the general finances of the Party as well as a summary of the funds received and disbursed by the Party for each calendar quarter to all Executive Committee members within thirty (30) days of the end of each calendar quarter;
5. Transmit all records pertaining to the office to successor within ten (10) days of vacating office.

Article V. Executive Committee

Section 1. Purpose

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the control and management of all of the affairs, properties, and funds of the Party consistent with these Bylaws and any resolutions that may have been adopted in Convention.

Section 2. Composition

The Executive Committee of the Party shall be composed of the following members: the elected officers of the Party and four (4) members At-Large elected at the Convention of the Party by attending delegates. The Treasurer shall be a non-voting member. The Executive Director, if one is appointed, shall also be a non-voting member.

Section 3. Election

1. Executive Committee members shall be elected every two years in odd-numbered years, or in even-numbered years to fill a vacant position. Voting shall be as described in the Convention Rules.

2. If no qualified candidates are nominated for any position on the Executive Committee at the Convention, then that position may go unfilled, and the position shall be considered vacant.

Section 4. Term

The term of the Executive Committee, including At-Large members, shall run for two years, expiring at the end of the State Convention two years from the State Convention at which they were elected, if elected in an odd-numbered year. If the member was elected in an even-numbered year or appointed in the interim, then the term expires at the end of the next State Convention.

Section 5. Resignation

Any voting member of the Executive Committee who fails to attend at least three (3) meetings and has attended less than eighty-five percent (85%) of the meetings held in the term is automatically considered to have resigned from the Committee, and the position shall be declared vacant unless the committee votes before the end of that meeting to reject that member's resignation.

Section 6. Vacancies

The Executive Committee may appoint new members, if vacancies or suspensions occur, such members to complete the term of the position vacated, until the next State Convention, where a special election shall be held to fill such position(s), if necessary. If the appointed new member fails to be elected, the Executive Committee cannot reappoint that person to the same position during that term of office.

Section 7. Quorum

A majority of the filled voting positions on the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings.

Section 8. Contributions

Contributions shall be used for their designated purpose or, if not designated, as decided by the Executive Committee or local body that receives the contribution.

Article VI. Executive Director and Staff

1. The Chair may, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, select an Executive Director to serve at the pleasure of the Chair. The Executive Director:

a. Shall serve as principal administrative assistant to the Chair;

b. May be a full-time or part-time paid or volunteer position, as deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee;

c. Shall be a non-voting member of the Executive Committee.

2. The Executive Director duties and responsibilities shall be outlined in a job description approved by the Executive Committee. These duties and responsibilities shall include:

    a. Administering the day to day affairs of the Party;

    b. Assisting Party officers and committee chairs in the execution of their duties;

    c. Implementing the strategic plan approved by the Executive Committee.

3. The Executive Director shall supervise staff members, including volunteers, appointed or hired by the Executive Committee or Chair.

4. The Executive Director's performance shall be subject to annual review by the Chair and the Executive Committee.

Article VII. Judicial Committee

Section 1. Formation

1. The Judicial Committee is an independent standing committee of the LPNC. The Judicial Committee shall be composed of five (5) Party members elected at each State Convention, and any four (4) members shall constitute a quorum;

2. Judicial Committee members must have been a member of the LPNC for at least one (1) year. They must also be registered Libertarians (if the party is recognized under North Carolina statutes);

3. No member of the Executive Committee may be a member of the Judicial Committee. The members of the Judicial Committee shall select the Chair of the Judicial Committee;

4. The Judicial Committee shall take office immediately upon the close of the State Convention at which elected and shall serve until the final adjournment of the next State Convention. In the event of a vacancy on the Judicial Committee, the remaining members of the Judicial Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next State Convention.

Section 2. Jurisdiction

The subject matter jurisdiction of the Judicial Committee is limited to consideration of only those matters expressly identified as follows:

1. Suspension of affiliate parties

2. Suspension of Officers by a vote of the Executive Committee
3. Suspension of At-Large Executive Committee members by a vote of the Executive Committee
4. Voiding of Executive Committee decisions
5. Challenges to Platform planks
6. Challenges to Resolutions
7. Censure of candidates
8. Interpretation of the LPNC Bylaws and Convention Rules

Section 3. Rules

Within ninety (90) days following the State Convention at which elected, the Judicial Committee shall establish Rules of Appellate Procedure to govern its consideration of matters within the scope of its jurisdiction. The existing Rules shall remain in effect until and unless the Judicial Committee submits new proposed rules to the Executive Committee for approval, which approval shall be deemed given unless denied by a two (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee within sixty (60) days of submission. A copy of the current Rules of Appellate Procedure shall be maintained by the Secretary and shall be available to any member upon request.

Section 4. Appeals

The Judicial Committee shall set a date for hearing an appeal between twenty (20) and forty (40) 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 issue a ruling within thirty (30) days of the hearing. Failure of the Judicial Committee to rule within thirty (30) days shall constitute a ruling in favor of the appellant.

Section 5.

Judicial Committee members shall be simply called members. The chair of the judicial Committee shall be styled chair.

Article VIII. Advisory Senate

The Advisory Senate shall be an honorary council consisting of those Executive Committee members or other officers who have completed their terms of office, those who have completed a federal or statewide campaign as Libertarian nominees, or those who have been appointed Senators by the Party in Convention, and who remain members of the Party in good standing.

Article IX. Committees

Section 1. Adjunct Committees

For each State Convention, the Chair shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, an Adjunct Committee of at least five (5) Party members to make recommendations to the Convention.

1. For a Convention in an odd-numbered year, the subject of the Adjunct Committee shall be the Bylaws and Convention Rules.

2. For a Convention in an even-numbered year, the subject of the Adjunct Committee shall be the Platform.

Section 2. Working Committees

There shall be such working committees appointed by the Chair as the Executive Committee deems appropriate. Working committees shall exist at the pleasure of the Executive Committee.

Article X. Meetings

Section 1. Notification

The Executive Committee shall meet at such times and places as may be determined by actions of the Committee, by call of the Chair, or by written request of one-third (1/3) or more of the Executive Committee. The Secretary will send written notification, either electronically or by surface mail, of the time and place of all meetings to each member of the Executive Committee not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.

Section 2. Transaction of Official Business

1. The Executive Committee may transact business by electronic mail, or other electronic means, or by other methods approved by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. Once a motion is recognized by the Chair, and seconded by another member, the motion can be discussed and voted on. The Chair shall establish procedures for taking the votes. The Secretary shall record the votes

2. Members may abstain from voting, either affirmatively or by inaction. Affirmative abstentions count toward the required quorum defined in Article V, Section 8; abstentions via inaction do not.

3. If, at the expiration of the applicable period, the quorum of the Executive Committee has not returned their votes, the measure being voted on shall be deemed to have failed; in all other cases, majority of the votes required shall carry the measure except where a higher vote is required by the Bylaws. The Secretary must preserve all such votes until the next meeting of the Executive Committee, at which meeting the Executive Committee shall order the disposition of the votes.

Article XI. Local Organization

The Libertarian Party of North Carolina may recognize local affiliate organizations of any kind. County affiliates may, in turn, recognize precinct or other local affiliates. County affiliates may send delegates to the LPNC State Convention, using the procedures below.

Section 1. Organizing

For any organization not yet recognized, any Party member(s) may organize an affiliate of the LPNC as follows:

1. To be recognized by the LPNC, an affiliate must have a Chair, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. There must be at least one person who has held a meeting to form an affiliate. One person may hold one or more offices.

2. Public notice must be posted no less than ten (10) days before holding an organizational meeting.

3. A precinct organizational meeting must be held no less than thirty (30) days before the County Conventions. County Conventions must be held no less than thirty (30) days before the LPNC State Convention.

4. To hold an organizational meeting, to be elected for an office, or to serve as a delegate, a person must have been a member of the LPNC for at least thirty (30) days.

5. Financing for the state and affiliate organizations is maintained separately.

6. In order to be recognized by the LPNC, an affiliate must identify their Chairperson and treasurer to the LPNC Executive Committee and certify to the Executive Committee that all procedures of the Bylaws were followed.

7. An affiliate may adopt its own plan of organization or bylaws so long as there are no violations of the Bylaws and Convention Rules of the LPNC. Affiliates without published bylaws or plan of organization will defer to the bylaws of the LPNC.

8. Recognition of all new local organizations must be approved by a majority vote of the LPNC Executive Committee. Withdrawal of recognition requires a two-thirds (⅔) majority vote of the LPNC Executive Committee.

Section 2. Selection of Delegates

County affiliates will select delegates to the State Convention. Each county affiliate is entitled to select whichever is greater of two (2) delegates, or a number of delegates equal to one percent (1%) of the registered Libertarians in that county as of the last day of the month four (4) months before the State Convention, rounded to the nearest whole numbers. County affiliates may also select an equal number of alternates. If the Party loses ballot access, the numbers from the previous convention will be used.

Section 3. Resolutions

Any resolutions adopted at County Conventions may be presented to the Platform or Bylaws Committees of the LPNC.

Section 4. Removal of officers

The Executive Committee may, by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, remove the officers of county or other local organizations, for reasons of bylaws violations, plan of organization violations, Board of Elections violations or public behavior that brings discredit to the name of the Libertarian Party. Local officers who are removed in this manner may appeal the decision of the Executive Committee to the Judiciary Committee. An affiliate removed by a vote of the Executive Committee may challenge the removal by an appeal in writing to the Judicial Committee within thirty (30) days of receipt of notice of suspension. Failure to appeal within thirty (30) days shall confirm the removal and bar any later challenge or appeal.

Article XII. Convention & Platform

Section 1. Definitions

For the purposes of these bylaws the term “convention” is defined as, a gathering of the body of such members of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina as shall choose to participate in the LPNC State Convention, irrespective of physical location. This shall include either solely physical presence in a single location, or solely remote presence via virtual technology in its entirety, or any other combination thereof, as the Convention Committee, with the advice and consent of the LPNC Executive Committee, shall determine is appropriate. A quorum shall be forty percent (40%) of the total number of delegates registered and checked in at any point during the Convention.

Section 2. Continuing Affiliation

To maintain the status of an organized affiliate, the affiliate must have a convention where officers are elected at least every two (2) years. Public notice must be posted no less than ten (10) days before holding a local convention.

Section 3. Convening

The Party shall hold an annual State Convention to conduct such business as may properly come before it and in conformance with the Bylaws and Convention Rules. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to set the time, place, and schedule of events for the State Convention. The time and place of the State Convention shall be announced to the membership by all the means by which the Party regularly communicates with the membership at least sixty (60) days prior to the Convention.

Section 4. County Delegates

Delegates to the State Convention shall be selected in each organized county as set forth in Article XI, Section 2. In addition, the Convention shall seat up to two delegates from each

unorganized county and from each county that failed to submit a list of delegates to the Secretary. If more than two Party members from such a county are in attendance, then the first two to register for the Convention are entitled to become delegates, and the next two to become alternates.

Section 5. Ex-officio Delegates

In addition to the delegates selected by the County Organizations, the following persons shall be ex-officio delegates, automatically entitled to delegate status, provided they maintain Party membership as defined by Article III and are not affiliated with any other political party:

1. Members of the Executive Committee;
2. Any former Party nominees for the offices of Governor of the State of North Carolina and United States Senate in the State of North Carolina; and
3. Each member of the General Assembly, member of the North Carolina Council of State, Mayor, County Commissioner, and City Council member who is elected to office in the State of North Carolina.

Section 6. Delegates Designated by the Body

After the Convention convenes and the Secretary (or designee) makes their initial report, the body may, by a two-thirds vote, designate any member or members as delegate(s).

Section 7. Speaking

Any attendee may seek recognition to speak at the State Convention.

Section 8. Platform

The Party Platform, as adopted by vote at the Party Convention, shall consist of a number of planks, which state the Party position on specific state and national issues. Except as altered or amended by the Convention, in accord with its Rules, the current Platform shall endure.

Section 9. National Convention Delegates

1. The State Convention shall (in even-numbered years) elect credentialed LPNC members as delegates and alternates to the National Convention.
2. Elections shall occur during usual convention business and follow Convention Rules. Neither Delegates nor alternates may be named after the State Convention has adjourned. Delegate positions for which there is no delegate or alternate named must remain unfilled.
3. LPNC members who are not in attendance at the State Convention, but wish to be considered for delegate or alternate, must be credentialed in advance by the Secretary and nominated in Convention by an LPNC member in attendance.
4. The delegation shall elect its chair.

5. Each alternate's rank shall determine the order of precedence in which each person shall be elevated.

Section 10. Presidential Electors

1. The State Convention shall elect a slate of nominees for Presidential Electors in presidential election years under applicable N.C. General Statutes.
2. Persons desiring nomination as a Presidential Electors shall deliver notice to the Party Secretary at least thirty (30) days before the start of the Convention. The Party Secretary shall verify those candidates' eligibility under these bylaws and appropriate N.C. General Statute and deliver to the State Convention a list of eligible persons seeking nomination as Presidential Electors. Only party members shall be eligible to serve as Presidential Elector nominees.
3. If the State Convention does not elect a sufficient number of Presidential Elector nominees, the Convention may delegate the authority to select additional nominees to the Executive Committee.

Section 11. Results of the Convention

The Secretary or designee shall be responsible for recording actions taken by the Convention and producing a new version of the Bylaws, Convention Rules, Platform and Statement of Principles when changes have been made. If the Secretary is unable to complete this task within 60 days of the Convention, the Chair may appoint someone to complete it, or to assist the Secretary. The Executive Committee shall review drafts of the documents prepared, and submit them to the membership for review within 90 days of the Convention.

Article XIII. Candidates

Section 1. Presidential and Vice-Presidential Nominees

Pursuant to the relevant statutes of the State of North Carolina, the LPNC Executive Committee shall submit to the State Board of Elections the names of the nominees for President and Vice President of the United States as chosen by the National Convention of the Libertarian Party, and shall appoint and submit the names of Presidential Electors committed to those nominees.

Section 2. Local Candidates

A local office is any office in North Carolina where votes are allowed only in some region smaller than the whole state. A local candidate is a candidate for a local office. In years where the state statutes indicate that the Party shall nominate candidates in Convention, the following applies:

1. Endorsements or nominations for a local candidate can be made by any regional affiliate whose region is contained in, or intersects with, the region where votes for the local office are accepted.

2. Each local affiliate, in accordance with its bylaws, may establish procedures for making nominations between the time of its convention and the filing date for the local office. 3. When all local affiliates making nominations or endorsements according to (1) and (2) above agree on a candidate for a local office, that person shall be the nominee of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina; otherwise a candidate will be selected by the State Convention according to the procedures established in these bylaws.

Section 3. Qualifications

All candidates nominated for partisan office in any year must be members of the Party, as defined in Article III.

Article XIV. Parliamentary Authority

The Democratic Rules of Order (Francis & Francis, 10th ed.) shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by these Bylaws. The rules of procedure may be suspended for a specific purpose, if approved by two thirds (2/3) of those present and voting provided a quorum is present.

Article XV. Amendments

Section 1. Bylaws

Except as noted in Section 2 below, these Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all delegates present and voting at a State Convention, provided a quorum is present, or by referendum or initiative as outlined in Article XVI.

Section 2. Statement of Principles

The enduring importance of the Statement of Principles of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina requires that it shall not be amended by a vote of less than seven-eighths (7/8) of the delegates registered at the annual State Convention. The restrictions of this section shall not be reduced or deleted by a vote of less than seven-eighths (7/8) of the delegates registered at the annual State Convention.

Article XVI. Bill of Rights

Section 1. Recall

1. A member of the Executive Committee may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee or by a majority vote of members voting in a recall election. The Executive Committee will hold a recall election if it receives a petition for recall signed by 100 members of the Party. By a two-thirds (2/3) vote, the Executive Committee may, itself, decide to hold a recall election.

2. Notification of the recall election will be made through the Party website and via the Party's electronic announcement list. Ballots will be available on the website or, upon written request, through the mail. Members will have thirty (30) days from the time of

the announcement to return their ballots to the Executive Committee. All Party members may vote in a recall election.

3. An Executive Committee member removed by a vote of the Executive Committee may challenge the removal by an appeal in writing to the Judicial Committee within seven (7) days of receipt of notice of suspension. Failure to appeal within seven (7) days shall confirm the removal and bar any later challenge or appeal.

Section 2. Referendum

The Bylaws may be amended by a referendum: a special election called by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee. Notification of the referendum election will be made through the Party website and via the Party's electronic announcement list. Ballots will be available on

the website or, upon written request, through the mail. Members will have thirty (30) days from the time of the announcement to return their ballots to the Executive Committee. All Party members may vote in a referendum. Approval requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those voting.

Section 3. Initiative

The Bylaws may be amended by initiative: a special election called by a petition signed by at least 100 members of the Party and presented to the Chair or to the Executive Committee. Notification of the referendum election will be made through the Party website and via the

Party's electronic announcement list. Ballots will be available on the website or, upon written request, through the mail. Members will have thirty (30) days from the time of the announcement to return their ballots to the Executive Committee. All Party members may vote in an initiative. Approval requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those voting.

Section 4. Review of Executive Committee decisions

Upon appeal by five (5) percent of the Party members, the Judicial Committee shall consider the question of whether or not a decision of the Executive Committee contravenes specified sections of the Bylaws. If the decision is vetoed by the Judicial Committee, it shall be declared null and void.

Section 5. Open Meetings

Members shall be entitled to attend all Party committee and administrative meetings, except executive sessions authorized by the Executive Committee.