



LPTexas | 2026 Convention

Bylaws Proposals - Final

Prepared for the 2026 LPTexas State Convention by the Bylaws Committee

Fellow Delegates:

The Bylaws Committee presents the following proposals for consideration. We hope that each delegate will carefully evaluate each one.

Most of these recommendations are based on issues encountered by LPTexas throughout the last two years. Bylaws have to be dealt with not just every two years at conventions but every day by the party leadership at all levels. Changes can have a significant impact on how the party operates and can either enable or hinder operations. These experiences shape the recommendations before you and have been given careful consideration. A poorly written yet well-intended rule can cause as much hardship on maintaining the party as a bad rule.

Our bylaws are crucial in governing how the party functions, so please keep in mind that the bylaws are only as good as the people that follow them. This is important for each affiliate, county ex-comm, and SLEC member. No rule can be written that can make people follow them. Amending these bylaws is essential but electing excellent and committed representatives of the party is even more vital. Writing clear and well-intentioned bylaws is necessary to enable our party representatives to do their job, making the party a success.

We hope you will take all these considerations into account when evaluating the merit of each change. Thank you for taking the time to be a member of this party and a delegate to this convention. We are proud to have worked together in our common goal to grow the LP, the only party fighting for all of your freedoms all of the time.

2026 Bylaws Committee

Paul Darr
Arthur DiBianca
Patrick Dixon
Matthew Gibbs
Nick Hearn
John Wilford
Anastasia Wilford

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*Immediate effect proposals marked with asterisk.

Temporary Bylaws Amendment Ratification

0. SLEC Bylaws Temporary Amendment

Article IV. Party Organization

IV.a.4 Swearing In and Agreements

[iv. A member that was removed due to failing to submit the above within the specified window shall be re-added to SLEC if that member completes the above items within fifteen \(15\) days after removal and the seat has not otherwise been filled.](#)

Committee Reasoning

This was a temporary amendment made by SLEC on May 9, 2024. The Bylaws Committee is required to present the amendment but is not recommending it for readoption and has a more comprehensive proposal that we believe should be adopted instead of this one.

Noncontroversial Bundle

These proposals are grouped together as a single proposal:

All committee members were given veto power to reject any items, without question, from the bundle for any reason they want. The items made into the bundle are considered non-controversial enough that we believe they could pass together as a single proposal to allow us to go onto items one by one that may need more discussion.

1. Define SLEC In Bylaws

Article II. Definitions

["SLEC" \("State Libertarian Executive Committee"\) means the state executive committee of LPTexas.](#)

IV.a. State Executive Committee.

~~The state Executive Committee hereinafter shall be referred to as "SLEC" which stands for "State Libertarian Executive Committee".~~

Committee Reasoning

This change serves to collect the definition of SLEC into the same place where the rest of our definitions are kept.

2. Clarify SLEC Language In Bylaws

Whenever the phrase “The SLEC” appears in the bylaws, remove “the”.

Committee Reasoning

There are 108 instances where SLEC is used in the document, of those 84 times it is referred to as the SLEC and the other 24 times it is simply SLEC. By defining SLEC in the definition section it can be standardized throughout the document as SLEC, which simplifies the verbiage.

3. Fix “necessary and sufficient”

V.e.7.v. Majority Required

The vote of a majority of the qualified participants voting at the relevant Convention or district caucus shall be necessary ~~and sufficient~~ for election to public or Party office.

Committee Reasoning

The current language does not work with approval voting. It is possible for multiple candidates to get majority support, so a majority cannot be “sufficient” for election.

4. References

Article II. Definitions

“Voting Member” means a class of membership as defined in ~~H.e.2.III.e.2.~~ [Voting Membership](#).

IV.b.1. Jurisdiction.

The Judicial Committee review of a Party action shall be limited to the consistency of that action against the Bylaws and other governing documents of the Party.

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

- i. Censuring a Voting Member
- ii. Removal of a member of the SLEC
- iii. Qualification of State Executive Committee Members (~~III.a.3.~~[IV.a.3.](#))
- iv. Failure to hold a convention (~~III.b.4.~~[IV.c.4.](#))
- v. County governance (~~III.b.1.~~[IV.c.1.](#))

Committee Reasoning

These references to other places in the bylaws did not get updated as the bylaws were changed elsewhere, so this brings them in line with the bylaws as they currently stand and these changes will not be made incorrect by any other bylaws proposals being presented at this convention.

5. Purposes

The purpose for which this Party is organized is to implement and give voice to the principles embodied in the Party's Statement of Principles by:

1. Nomination and supporting Libertarian candidates for public offices;
2. Entering into political information activities;
3. Engaging the Texas Legislature to move state law in alignment with the Party's Statement of Principles and platform;
4. Establishing and supporting ~~county~~ Libertarian county affiliates across the state;
5. Building Party infrastructure, staff, and support systems as needed to fulfill these purposes; and
6. Affiliating with the national Libertarian Party.

Committee Reasoning

One instance of "county" needs to be removed.

End Noncontroversial Bundle

6. Definitions

Article II. Definitions

The following definitions will apply throughout all Party governing documents. [The definitions of any terms not defined in this section, the Party's established parliamentary authority, or in Texas Election Code can be assumed to be defined in the latest edition of Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary in the manner that most appropriately fits the term's use.](#)

~~"Affiliation certificate" means a document that may be requested by a person affiliating with LPTexas which adheres to Sec. 162.009 of Texas Election Code.~~

~~"County convention" means the convention in a county described by Texas Election Code Sec. 181.061 (c).~~

~~"Declaration of vacancy" means a document describing the current circumstances and history that led to an office being declared vacant~~

"Delegation leader" means a member of a delegation whom a delegation has selected to represent them.

~~"District convention" means the convention in a government defined political district required to be held by Texas Election Code Sec. 181.061 (b).~~

"District representative" means a SLEC member that represents a Texas senatorial district.

“Eligible County”, for the purposes of filling vacancies on SLEC, means an affiliated county that is wholly or partially within a senate district and which has a procedure for determining how that county’s ballot is cast in their bylaws on file with the Party.

~~“General election” means an election, other than a primary election, that regularly recurs on fixed dates at which offices of the federal, state, and county governments are elected.~~

~~“Gubernatorial election” means the general election to elect a governor for a full term.~~

“LPTexas” and “Party” mean the Libertarian Party of Texas

“Party office” means any specified position to which a person can be elected to within the Party.

“Party officer” means a statewide official of LPTexas listed as Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.

“Permanent Roll” means the roster of delegates who have registered as attending a given state convention of the Party.

~~“Plank” means an issue statement listed on the Party platform that is contained under its own unique heading identifier.~~

~~“Precinct convention” means a convention of a voting precinct in the county as described by Texas Election Code Sec. 181.061 (e)~~

“Provisional Affiliate” means a county party that has been established through the prescribed appointment process, but that has not yet completed its first County Convention.

“Public office” means office elected by the public or appointed by the state or county.

“Qualified Participant” means a delegate or alternate currently able to vote and conduct business at a convention of the Party.

“Recall petition” means a document circulated for the purpose of revoking the election of a person to a position of party leadership by collecting the signatures and contact information as prescribed in a recall process.

“Regional caucus” means a meeting of a group of qualified participants that are registered to vote within a given region.

“State Convention” means the convention of LPTexas described by Texas Election Code Sec. 181.061 (a).

“Unaffiliated county” means a county that is not recognized by LPTexas as being affiliated.

“Voter registration certificate”, also known as “voter registration”, “voter registration card”, or “voter ID” means the documentation of voter registration issued by the state of Texas.

~~“Voting Member” means a class of membership as defined in II.e.2. Voting Membership.~~

IV.a.9. Filling Vacancies.

Should a vacancy exist in the office of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer, the SLEC may fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

Should a vacancy exist in a District Representative seat the seat may be filled. The following procedure shall be used when filling a vacancy.

~~i. For the purposes of this section, an “Eligible County” is an affiliated county that is wholly or partially within the senate district and which has a procedure for determining how that county’s ballot is cast in their bylaws on file with the Party.~~

IV.a.8.ii. Removal by Recall.

A “Recall Petition” ~~is a document containing a set of valid signatures that~~ shall be clearly marked as a ~~“recall”~~ such, and state that “By affixing your signature and information to this Recall Petition, you call for the SLEC Officer or District Representative indicated on this form be removed from the SLEC immediately.” In addition to their signature, eEach signer shall print ~~their name,~~ as it appears on their voter registration, their name ~~signature~~, county, date of birth, and voter identification number. The signer must also include a phone number or email address to aid in verification questions.

The Officers shall designate a person or persons to collect the Recall Petition and verify that it adheres to the signature requirement. Upon verification the document shall be made available to the SLEC, and the listed SLEC member shall be immediately removed from their position.

Committee Reasoning

These changes were made with the intent to only define things in our bylaws that were not well defined elsewhere, so we pulled out items that are defined in our parliamentary authority, election code, or commonly defined in the dictionary. This leaves only items in our bylaws that would be considered lingo specific to our organization.

7. Electronic Voting (SLEC bylaws)

V. Electronic Voting.

- 1) The SLEC may request to vote on an issue by online balloting, email, or online forums outside of a meeting if 20% ~~10%~~ of current members of the body request a vote by forum or email.
- 2) The chair shall clearly present the issue as a motion to be voted upon so long as that motion would otherwise be in order, ~~by forum or email. If this does not occur within one week after the request to vote the vote on this issue shall not be taken up unless another request to vote is started. In the event that the chair is unable to present the motion to be voted upon, the vice chair shall do so.~~

- 3) At least [forty eight \(48\)](#) hours shall be given after the motion is given before a final tally may be counted. If enough yea votes of all current members to require passage have not been submitted within [ninety six \(96\)](#) hours the motion shall be considered failed.
- 4) If the method of casting votes was hidden then all members along with the name of each member and his or her vote shall be shown along with the final result.

Committee Reasoning

This changes the threshold from 10% to 20% so that the triggering threshold isn't so low that a vote gets called before many members have even had a chance to be aware a vote is being requested. Someone may have input that discourages others from joining a call to vote and a very low threshold works against such time to bring up concerns before a vote starts since, unlike voting in meetings, votes on the forum don't have a mechanism to amend them meaning debate needs to happen before the vote is called, rather than after.

This also makes the language a little more generic so as to not limit it to only forum or email. OpaVote for instance could be clearly used as an "electronic vote".

8. Remove "Against" Voting*

V.e.7.vi. Right to Not Elect Candidates.

A. Qualified participants shall have the right ~~to cast a vote against each candidate seeking Party or public office, and to not~~ [not to](#) elect any person for a Party or public office.

B. Votes cast ~~against a candidate or~~ for "None of the Above" in voting for a Party or public office shall be considered valid and properly recorded.

V.e.8. Balloting for Candidates for Public and Party Office.

V.e.8.i. Single Seat Balloting Procedures.

A. The method for voting by ballot shall be Approval Voting.

B. Each ballot shall contain the full list of all nominees. Each qualified participant shall have the option to vote ~~"for" or "against"~~ [for](#) each nominee.

C. Total votes ~~"for" and "against"~~ [a for each](#) nominee shall be recorded along with the number of ballots cast.

D. ~~No nominee is eligible without receiving the majority of "for" votes of ballots cast for that election.~~ [Eligible nominees shall be those who receive votes on a majority of cast ballots.](#)

E. The eligible nominee receiving the ~~plurality of "for" votes is the winner~~ [largest number of votes shall be elected](#). If multiple eligible nominees ~~have~~ [received](#) an equal number of ~~"for"~~

votes, ~~the nominee with the fewest “against” votes is the winner. If multiple eligible nominees have an equal number of “for” votes and “against” votes~~ then the body may choose how to decide the election between the tied nominees.

F. Order of nominations. In voting on the nomination of candidates for Public Office, the offices shall be considered in the reverse of the order in which they appear on the general election ballot.

G. The qualified participants of the convention may decide by two-thirds (2/3) vote to use whatever balloting method they prefer to elect candidates for Public or Party Offices ~~as long as the ability to vote “against” each nominee is included.~~

V.e.8.ii. Multiple Seat Balloting Procedures.

A. The method for voting by multi seat ballot shall be Approval Voting.

B. Each ballot shall contain the full list of all nominees. Each ~~delegate~~ qualified participant shall have the option to vote ~~“for” or “against”~~ for each nominee.

C. All votes ~~“for” and “against” a~~ for each nominee shall be recorded along with the number of ballots cast.

D. ~~No nominee is eligible without receiving the majority of “for” votes of ballots cast for that election.~~ Eligible nominees shall be those who receive votes on a majority of cast ballots.

E. ~~All nominees that obtain more “for” votes than “against” votes are eligible nominees.~~ Eligible nominees ~~will~~ shall be ranked in order of ~~highest “for” count to lowest “for”~~ vote count. ~~In the case of a tie for votes, the higher preference shall be the eligible nominee with less “against” votes.~~ If a tie occurs ~~when eligible nominees have the same “for” and “against” votes,~~ then the body may choose how to decide the election between the tied nominees.

F. Nominees ~~will~~ shall be seated in ranked order until all seats are filled or until there are no longer eligible nominees.

G. If all positions are not filled, the body may, by majority vote, open nominations to fill more positions.

H. The ~~delegates~~ qualified participants of the convention may decide by two-thirds (2/3) vote to use whatever balloting method they prefer to elect candidates ~~as long as the ability to vote against each nominee is included.~~

****The Bylaws Committee recommends this go into immediate effect for elections to party office, but not for elections to public office.**

Committee Reasoning

Balloting with the "against" option has proven to be unpopular. The current process is non-standard, relatively difficult to explain, and makes the balloting process more cumbersome. If our party is going to use approval voting, we should use straightforward, standard approval voting.

The "NOTA rule" (i.e., the ability of a convention to refuse to elect a person) will still be protected by the majority requirement in subsection D (as well as section V.e.7.v.). If a candidate does not get support on a majority of cast ballots, the candidate will not be elected.

There is a rule in the state election code that prohibits changes to nomination procedures for public office in the middle of an election year, so the committee is asking that this proposal take immediate effect only for party offices.

9. Disband Judicial Committee*

1. Remove section IV.b. from LPTexas Bylaws, and renumber other sections accordingly.
2. Remove subsection V.d.5.xv. from LPTexas Bylaws, and renumber other subsections accordingly.

****The Bylaws Committee recommends this go into immediate effect.**

****If passed, other judicial committee proposals will not be presented.**

Committee Reasoning

Judicial Committees may be helpful in theory, but they have proven to be unhelpful in practice. Rather than resolve conflicts, they tend to exacerbate and prolong them.

If convention delegates cannot be trusted to elect a responsible SLEC, then they cannot be trusted to elect a responsible Judicial Committee. The likelihood of a "bad SLEC" overruled by a "good Judicial Committee" is no greater than the likelihood of a "good SLEC" overruled by a "bad Judicial Committee".

LPTexas has operated well without a judicial committee for over 40 years, and there is no evidence that one is needed.

10. Institute Additional Structure And Safeguards Around The Judicial Committee

IV.b.1. Organization and Process

The Judicial Committee shall elect a Chair, who shall receive all appeals and petitions, [distribute them to the rest of the committee](#), and schedule hearings so as to obtain a quorum of the Judicial Committee. When a hearing is requested, the ~~Chair~~ [Judicial Committee](#) shall decide [within ten \(10\) days whether](#) to accept or reject the appeal or petition. If the ~~Chair~~ [Judicial Committee](#) accepts the appeal or petition, the Chair shall [promptly](#) set a hearing date ~~within ten (10) days of receiving the request~~. [The hearing date shall be within 60 days of receiving the request](#). If the appeal or petition is rejected, the Chair shall notify the requestor and the SLEC within ~~ten~~ [thirty \(30\)](#) days of receiving the request. ~~If the~~

~~Chair has not accepted or rejected the appeal or petition within ten (10) days of receiving the appeal, the Judicial Committee shall be considered to have taken no action on the matter at hand.~~

The Judicial Committee shall provide at least ten (10) days notice to each of the parties to a hearing, unless an earlier date is agreed to by the Judicial Committee and the participants. ~~The Judicial Committee shall hold a hearing within thirty (30) days of receiving a request, unless otherwise specified.~~ All parties to a hearing shall have the right to present their case before the Committee.

The Judicial Committee shall provide a written ruling within ~~seven~~fourteen (~~7~~14) days of the conclusion of the hearing to all participants and SLEC. The minutes of all Judicial Committee proceedings shall be reported to the SLEC at the next normal meeting of the SLEC. In the event that the Judicial Committee fails to issue a written ruling within the timeframe required, the Judicial Committee shall be considered to have taken no action on the matter at hand.

Committee Reasoning

This proposal is to tighten up Judicial Committee procedures. It clarifies the scheduling procedure, and gives the committee more time in which to act. It also puts the decision about hearing an appeal into the hands of the entire committee, not only the chair.

11. Judicial Committee Vacancies

IV.b.3. Vacancies

The SLEC ~~and Judicial Committee members~~ shall vote to appoint new members if vacancies occur, and such appointees may serve until the final adjournment of the next regular non-gubernatorial convention. Such appointments must obtain two-thirds (2/3) of all those eligible to vote.

Committee Reasoning

As the apolitical arm of the party, the Judicial Committee should not then be entered into what is inevitably the political process of filling vacancies on the committee. This practice is already established by the fact SLEC isn't authorized to fill its own vacancies.

12. National Delegate Nomination Deadline

V.e.8.ii. Multiple Seat Balloting Procedures.

- I. [Nominees for national convention delegates must be submitted to the state convention secretary by 5 pm the day before nomination with their name and county.](#)

Committee Reasoning

The most chaotic process in the convention is the nomination of national convention delegates. In the past there has been a lengthy stream of nominations from the floor. This can be very difficult for the convention secretary to

keep up with and prepare a ballot, as well as making it difficult for delegates to know who the nominees are and who they are voting for. Having a deadline to file for nomination allows preparation of a ballot and allows delegates to get to know who the nominees are.

13. Revise Initial SLEC Meeting

Bylaws

IV.a.7. Initial SLEC Meeting

No later than 60 days after ~~Within the same day of~~ the final adjournment of the State Convention the SLEC shall convene a business meeting, ~~and for the purposes of III.A.6.ii (B), this section shall constitute proper notice.~~

The SLEC in the Bylaws of SLEC shall maintain a bylaw governing the agenda of the first meeting, ~~and shall not adjourn sine die without completing all items outlined in that agenda.~~

Bylaws of SLEC

G. The agenda of the initial meeting of the SLEC after the State Convention shall be:

1. Roll call
2. Presentation of LPTexas' Governing Documents ~~state and SLEC bylaws with changes noted~~
- ~~3. Presentation and review of state policies~~
4. Introduction to ~~SLEC membership,~~ LPTexas' communication tools ~~and systems~~
5. Introduction of ~~any established staff and~~ staff structure and its members
6. Completion of documents as required by ~~Oath and signing agreements in accordance with III.a.4. Swearing In and Agreements~~ these Bylaws.
7. Reviewing the SLEC mission statement
8. Budget and expenditure authorizations, if needed
9. ~~New business; to consider new business each item requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote~~

~~H. The initial meeting shall not adjourn sine die without completing all items outlined in the agenda.~~

Committee Reasoning

These changes give the functionaries of the convention time to implement the changes made at convention before the first meeting of SLEC. Historically, we only had a meeting immediately after convention because the budget needed to be reauthorized to allow the party to continue to function. That issue was resolved years ago and having the meeting immediately after convention is simply a holdover from that.

As for the changes to the agenda for the first meeting, while the intention was good when this bylaw was adopted, the wording made it nearly impossible for the body to complete the items as described and being unable to adjourn "sine die" without completing those items lead to a paradox of having to be in violation of our bylaws on day one.

Lastly, all of these changes are intended to make these sections more timeless so that if we reintegrate the SLEC bylaws back in the LPTexas Bylaws, or we change or get rid of the section on swearing in and agreements, or we add a whole new document entirely, we don't have to come back and change these sections to reflect those changes as they will already do so.

14. Apportionment of Delegates and Alternates

ii. The number calculated under subsection (i) shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number and shall not be fewer than ~~three~~ two.

Committee Reasoning

This would reduce the overall number of delegates, allowing the convention to be held in a smaller and more cost-effective venue.

15. Recategorizing Swearing In And Agreements

IV.a.3. Qualifications of State Executive Committee Members.

- i. All ~~Party officers and all~~ members of ~~the~~ SLEC must be Voting Members of the Party.
- ii. All ~~Party officers and all~~ members of ~~the~~ SLEC must be residents of the region or political subdivision they represent, and the moving of his or her residence by a member of SLEC ~~Party official~~ out of such region or political subdivision shall result in the ~~mean an~~ automatic vacancy of his or her office.
- iii. No person shall hold more than one membership on ~~the~~ SLEC at the same time.
- iv. No person shall be elected to the State Executive Committee without having submitted an application to the Party Secretary that indicates interest in filling the position, and verifies Voting Member status. SLEC shall maintain a policy concerning the distribution of applicant information to election participants.
- ~~v. No person shall be elected to the State Executive Committee without first signing the most recent Party Platform, noting any disagreements with planks, and then submitting it to the state Party Secretary. This document shall be made available to all participants voting on the election.~~
- ~~vi. No person shall be elected to the State Executive Committee without first signing an agreement to the Libertarian pledge, "I certify that I oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals."~~
- vii. No person shall be elected to the State Executive Committee without first signing and submitting to the Secretary all of the following:
 - a. An oath that reads: "If I am elected, I swear (or affirm) to uphold the bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Texas, to fulfill my duties in accordance with the party bylaws, and to represent

the Statement of Principles and policies to the best of my ability when acting in my duties as a representative of the Party.”

- a. A statement that reads: “I have reviewed the party Bylaws, Bylaws of SLEC, and LPTexas Policy Manual. I acknowledge my responsibility to understand, follow, and maintain such documents in accordance with the LPTexas bylaws and policies.”
- b. The confidentiality agreement, as maintained by the SLEC, and
- c. The most recent version of the LPTexas Platform, noting any disagreements with planks.

These documents shall be made available to all participants voting in the election.

IV.a.4. Swearing In and Agreements

~~The following items shall be completed within twenty (20) days of taking office or the member shall be removed and their seat be declared vacant:~~

- ~~i.—Each member shall take and sign the following oath, to be submitted to the Secretary, before serving on the SLEC: “I swear (or affirm) to uphold the bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Texas, to fulfill my duties in accordance with the party bylaws, and to represent the Statement of Principles and policies to the best of my ability when acting in my duties as a representative of the Party.”~~
- ~~ii.—Each member shall be required to sign and submit to the Secretary the following statement before serving on the SLEC: “I have reviewed the party bylaws, SLEC bylaws, and party policy documents. I acknowledge my responsibility to understand, follow, and maintain such documents in accordance with the LPTexas bylaws and policies.”~~
- ~~iii.—Each member shall be required to sign a confidentiality agreement, as maintained by the SLEC, before serving on the SLEC. Any existing confidentiality agreements or related policies may be amended at a state convention.~~

I. Meetings of the State Executive Committee.

- A. The state Executive Committee, hereinafter referred to as “SLEC”, of the Libertarian Party of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the “Party”, shall meet at such times and places and in the manner required by:
 1. these rules;
 2. the action of the SLEC itself;
 3. the call of its Chair; or
 4. the action of the Convention which elected it.
- B. The SLEC shall be required to meet upon the written request of one-third or more of its members.
- C. Minutes or a transcript shall be taken at all meetings of the SLEC, and a written copy shall be furnished to each member of the SLEC within thirty days after the meeting.

- D. All meetings of the SLEC of the Party, except for executive sessions, shall be open to attendance by the public and the press.
- E. Notice of the time and place of all SLEC meetings shall be given to all members not less than four (4) weeks prior to each meeting.
- F. No in person meetings of the SLEC shall be held outside the State of Texas.
- G. The agenda of the initial meeting of the SLEC after the State Convention shall be:
 - 1. Roll call
 - 2. Presentation of state and SLEC bylaws with changes noted
 - 3. Presentation and review of state policies
 - 4. Introduction to SLEC membership, communication tools, and systems
 - 5. Introduction of any established staff and staff structure
 - ~~6. Oath and signing agreements in accordance with III.a.4. Swearing In and Agreements~~
 - 7. Reviewing the SLEC mission statement
 - 8. Budget and expenditure authorizations, if needed
 - 9. New business; to consider new business each item requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote
- H. The initial meeting shall not adjourn sine die without completing all items outlined in the agenda.

Committee Reasoning

At the beginning of the 2024 term, a temporary bylaws amendment had to be made to keep quite a few members of SLEC from being removed from the committee for not completing the Swearing In And Agreements portion of the bylaws by the deadline prescribed. The transition period from one set of leadership to another is the weakest point of any term, and it appeared that the short deadline combined with a lack of familiarity with the bylaws was responsible for this oversight.

16. Seating Of Delegates And Alternates

V.d.3. Seating of Delegates and Alternates.

vii. [As a means of ensuring voting integrity, the Credentials Committee may establish such systems as it deems fit to aid in that responsibility. However, t](#)~~The lack of a presence absence~~ of a token ~~or other identifying mechanism~~ shall not preclude a delegate or alternate from being seated nor prohibit a qualified participant from participating in a convention.

Committee Reasoning

This establishes in the bylaws the authority for the Credentials Committee to establish procedures, while maintaining the rights of duly elected delegates and alternates.

17. Clarification Of NOTA

V.e.7.vi Right to Not Elect Candidates

C. Votes for “None of the Above” (NOTA) mean none of the other candidates for the office/position are chosen by the voter. A ballot marked with NOTA and any other candidate for the office/position is invalid and will not be counted.

Committee Reasoning

Uncertainty in counting NOTA has caused problems in prior conventions. This interpretation of NOTA is literal and logical. The same effect can be accomplished when a voter turns in a blank ballot, but NOTA is a traditional way for Libertarians to clearly state that the candidates on the ballot are not acceptable and is preserved.

18. Out Of Season National Delegate Selection

V.d.10.iv. Selection by State Executive Committee.

- A. If national party rules should require election of delegates to a national convention at a time when it would not be possible for a state convention to do so, such delegates and alternates shall be chosen by an open meeting of the SLEC.
- B. Prior public notice of this meeting shall be given including publication in a state Party newsletter or other form of written notice.
- C. Any Voting Member may indicate their interest in being a national delegate or alternate by submitting an application that shall be hosted on LPTexas website and shall accompany any public notice of the meeting at which national delegates and alternates are to be elected. Such application shall be made available at least 45 days in advance of any election for national delegates and alternates. All Voting Members submitting an application shall automatically be nominated for election as a delegate unless their application specifies that they prefer to be an alternate. ~~appear before the SLEC at the meeting for a reasonable time to present arguments for the election of himself or herself or any other Voting Member to be a delegate or alternate.~~

Committee Reasoning

With the prospect of the 2028 National Convention coming up before the 2028 LPTexas State Convention, concerns have arisen around having SLEC choose national delegates. To remedy those concerns while being mindful of the labor and expense of other options, this proposal sets requirements for public notice and an open application period while not restricting nominations to only those people who submit an application. The vote would still be done by SLEC, but would automatically nominate any person otherwise qualified who fills out an interest form.

19. Qualifications Of State Executive Committee Members*

IV.a.3. Qualifications of State Executive Committee Members

[vii. At time of election shall be a Funding Member.](#)

Article II. Definitions

[“Funding Member” is a person who contributes financially to the party in an amount not less than \\$25 per year.](#)

****The Bylaws Committee recommends this go into immediate effect.**

Committee Reasoning

It is a duty of SLEC members to ask members of the party to donate to the party. By being able to show 100 percent of LPTexas leadership have contributed, it demonstrates loyalty and commitment to the mission of LPTexas and helps members to be motivated to show an equal level of commitment. This only asks for the lowest donation level.

20. Reorganize SLEC, 12 At-Large Reps - MAJORITY REPORT*

IV.a.1. Composition.

The SLEC of the Party shall be composed of:

- i. A Chair;
- ii. A Vice Chair;
- iii. A Secretary;
- iv. A Treasurer;
- v. ~~District Representatives from State Senatorial District;~~ [Twelve \(12\) Members At-Large;](#)
- vi. Member(s) of the National Committee representing Texas *ex officio* with voice but no vote.

IV.a.3.ii.

- ii. All ~~Party officers and all~~ members of ~~the~~ SLEC must be residents of [Texas and moving of their residence out of Texas shall result in the automatic vacancy of their office.](#) ~~the region or political subdivision they represent, and the moving of his or her residence by a Party official out of such region or political subdivision shall mean an automatic vacancy of his or her office.~~

IV.a.5. Method of Selection.

- i. The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, ~~and~~ Treasurer, [and At-Large Members](#), shall be elected by majority vote of all the qualified participants at each State Convention.

~~The qualified participants present at each State Convention from each State Senatorial District shall meet and elect in district caucuses up to two representatives from that State Senatorial District.~~

IV.a.6.v. The ~~District~~ [At-Large](#) Representatives shall [serve as an oversight body, ensuring that actions taken by LPTexas are financially responsible, mindful of the health of the organization, and in accordance with LPTexas’ governing documents.](#) ~~actively work to further the growth of the Party. This includes, but is not limited to, communicating current organizational status within their districts to the Party, communicating Party information to their districts, assisting with candidate recruitment efforts, developing county affiliates, oversight of Party administration, and assisting to ensure proper function of official Party events.~~

IV.a.8.i. Removal for Absences.

- A. If a ~~Party officer or district representative~~ member of SLEC is absent from two successive meetings of the SLEC, at the call to order of the second meeting, that position shall be declared to be vacant. The SLEC by majority vote may reinstate the member during the meeting at which the member was removed if the member arrives before the adjournment of that meeting.
- B. An absence shall be counted against any meeting for the purpose of business of the SLEC that requires a quorum and for which two (2) weeks notice was given.
- C. Attendance shall be counted at any meeting of the SLEC that requires quorum.
- D. Whenever any member of SLEC is removed, the Secretary shall officially notify that member and the chair of each affiliated county ~~they represent~~.

IV.a.8.ii. A "Recall Petition" is a document containing a set of valid signatures that shall be clearly marked as a "recall", and state that "By affixing your signature and information to this Recall Petition, you call for the SLEC ~~Officer or District Representative~~ Member indicated on this form be removed from the SLEC immediately." Each signer shall print their name as it appears on their voter registration, signature, county, date of birth, and voter identification number. The signer must also include a phone number or email address to aid in verification questions.

IV.a.8.ii. Removal by Recall.

A "Recall Petition" is a document containing a set of valid signatures that shall be clearly marked as a "recall", and state that "By affixing your signature and information to this Recall Petition, you call the for the SLEC ~~Officer or District Representative~~ Member indicated on this form be removed from the SLEC immediately." Each signer shall print their name as it appears on their voter registration, signature, county, date of birth, and voter identification number. The signer must also include a phone number or email address to aid in verification questions.

The Officers shall designate a person or persons to collect the Recall Petition and verify that it adheres to the signature requirement. Upon verification the document shall be made available to the SLEC, and the listed SLEC member shall be immediately removed from their position.

~~To remove a SLEC member by recall, one must obtain a Recall Petition, as prescribed above, that contains the signatures of a majority of Voting Members that were registered as attending at the election of the named SLEC member. To remove any SLEC member, including any Officer, one of the following processes shall be used to obtain a set of valid signatures for the Recall Petition:~~

- ~~A. Obtaining a Recall Petition that contains the signatures of a majority of Voting Members that were registered as attending at the election of an officer or SLEC member according to the roll recorded in the relevant minutes, or~~
- ~~B. Obtaining a formal Recall Petition that contains the signatures of a majority of Voting Members within the Party in the case of an officer, or the district in the case of a SLEC member. The full roster of Voting Members in each county involved in the recall must be made available to the state Party for verification or the signatures from that county shall be invalid.~~

IV.a.8.v. Notification of Removal.

- A. Whenever any member of SLEC is removed, the Secretary shall officially notify that member and the chair of each affiliated county ~~they represent~~.

IV.a.9. Filling Vacancies.

Should a vacancy exist in the office of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer, the SLEC may fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

Should a vacancy exist in an At-Large position, the vacancy will remain until the next State Convention.

~~Should a vacancy exist in a District Representative seat the seat may be filled. The following procedure shall be used when filling a vacancy:~~

- ~~i. For the purposes of this section, an "Eligible County" is an affiliated county that is wholly or partially~~

~~within the senate district and which has a procedure for determining how that county's ballot is cast in their bylaws on file with the Party.~~

~~ii. A person shall be eligible to be elected only after they have met all qualification requirements set forth in these Bylaws.~~

~~iii. For a district that is either entirely contained within one county, or where only one county is affiliated, the nomination and vote may happen at the same meeting provided proper notice of the meeting is given according to that county's bylaws.~~

~~iv. For a district that wholly or partially contains more than one affiliated county, a majority of CEG members in an Eligible County may nominate one Voting Member from their own county for each available position in that district and send nominations to the state chair.~~

~~v. The State Chair shall notify all Eligible Counties and the SLEC of the nomination, and provide the qualification documentation of the nominee and any subsequent nominees to all Eligible Counties.~~

~~vi. Eligible Counties have thirty (30) days following the initial nomination notification from the State Chair to submit additional nominations.~~

~~vii. Voting begins thirty (30) days after the initial nomination notification from the State Chair and continues for fifteen (15) days. Each Eligible County may submit one ballot to the Party indicating a vote for or against each nominee in accordance with that county's bylaws.~~

~~viii. Ballots shall be submitted to the State Secretary, or their designees.~~

~~ix. Any position is considered filled when a nominee has received votes in favor from a majority of all eligible counties that cast a ballot. The nominee receiving the highest number of votes shall fill the first position available, and any additional positions shall be filled according to the next highest majority number of votes received.~~

V.d.5. Order of Business.

At all State Conventions the order of business shall be as follows:

- i. The Temporary Chair calls the Convention to order;
- ii. The Credentials Committee report on the Temporary Roll;
- iii. The Temporary Chair introduces the temporary officers of the Convention and the Temporary Chair resumes the Convention;
- iv. Any opening ceremonies;
- v. The Credentials Committee report and action to establish the Permanent Roll;
- vi. The nomination and election of permanent officers of the Convention;
- vii. The Permanent Chair resumes the Convention;
- viii. The Bylaws Committee Report;
- ix. Nomination of candidates for public office;
- x. Nomination and election for state Party officers;
- xi. [Nomination and election of SLEC Members At-Large](#); ~~The Chair announces clearly to the Convention the place of each regional caucus;~~
- xii. ~~Recess for regional caucuses;~~
- xiii. ~~Regional caucuses meet and elect District Representatives;~~
- xiv. ~~The Chair calls the Convention back to order;~~
- xv. Nomination and election of Judicial Committee;
- xvi. ~~Regional caucuses submit their minutes to the Convention Secretary;~~
- xvii. Nomination and election, if any, of delegates and alternates to the national convention;
- xviii. The Platform Committee report;
- xix. Nomination and election, if any of Presidential Elector candidates;
- xx. Other business;
- xxi. Acceptance speeches, if any, by nominees for public office;
- xxii. Adjournment.

~~V.d.7. Voting in District Caucuses.~~

~~District caucuses at State Conventions may elect their District Representatives in whatever manner they choose as long as all delegates and alternates present from that region are given an equal voice in the~~

~~election.~~

~~Each district caucus shall submit minutes to the convention secretary containing a roster of participants and election results before a district election shall be considered valid.~~

~~All delegates and alternates that are credentialed on the permanent roll may participate in the district caucus that they belong to, as found on their voter registration, regardless of their status as a qualified participant.~~

****The bylaws committee recommends this go into immediate effect.**

If this proposal passes, Proposal 22 regarding Vice Chair duties will not be taken up.

Committee Reasoning

The vast majority of the party is unhappy with the size and structure of SLEC, but the primary reason it has stayed the same is because we can't get 2/3 of the body to agree on how to change it.

This version of reorganizing SLEC would simplify our election process, and would eliminate the clunky vacancy filling process. It would make voting at convention easier. There has been a lot of concern about it turning SLEC into a popularity contest. However, we have always had a portion of SLEC made up of people who only agreed to serve because nobody else in their district would and they didn't want to see the seats empty, but with this structure, we would end up with a board of people who are there because they care about the oversight of the body while other people who are likely wearing multiple hats would be free to do work in the party they are more passionate about.

We've had the current structure since at least 1996, and one of the arguments for this structure has always been that it mimics the primary parties and when we're a primary party, we'll be able to transition easily, but it's been at least 30 years of dealing with a clunky system. For the love of liberty, let's try something new.

21. Reorganize SLEC One Rep Per SD - MINORITY REPORT*

IV.a.1. Composition.

The SLEC of the Party shall be composed of:

- i. A Chair;
- ii. A Vice Chair;
- iii. A Secretary;
- iv. A Treasurer;
- v. District Representatives from State Senatorial Districts;
- vi. District Alternates from State Senatorial Districts with voice but no vote, unless seated;
- ~~vi~~.vii. Member(s) of the National Committee representing Texas ex officio with voice but no vote.

IV.a.5. Method of Selection.

- i. The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected by majority vote of all the delegates at each State Convention.
- ii. The qualified participant present at each State Convention from each State Senatorial District shall meet and elect in district caucuses up to ~~two representatives~~ [one \(1\) District Representative and up to one \(1\) District Alternate](#) from that State Senatorial District.

IV.a.9. Vacancies.

Should a vacancy exist in a District Representative [or District Alternate](#) seat the seat may be filled. [If the Senate District has a District Alternate, then that District Alternate shall become the District Representative. If the Senate District does not have a District Alternate, then](#) ~~F~~the following procedure shall be used when filling a vacancy.

Article II. Definitions

["District Alternate" is a SLEC member and an alternate representative of a Texas senatorial district.](#)

(SLEC Bylaws)

I. Meetings of the State Executive Committee.

- 1) The state Executive Committee, hereinafter referred to as "SLEC", of the Libertarian Party of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the "Party", shall meet at such times and places and in the manner required by:
 - (a) these rules;
 - (b) the action of the SLEC itself;
 - (c) the call of its Chair; or
 - (d) the action of the Convention which elected it.
- 2) The SLEC shall be required to meet upon the written request of one-third or more of its members.
- 3) Minutes or a transcript shall be taken at all meetings of the SLEC, and a written copy shall be furnished to each member of the SLEC within thirty days after the meeting.
- 4) All meetings of the SLEC of the Party, except for executive sessions solely for the holding of a trial and possible removal of a member of the SLEC, shall be open to attendance by the public and the press.
- 5) Notice of the time and place of all SLEC meetings shall be given to all members not less than four (4) weeks prior to each meeting.
- 6) No in person meetings of the SLEC shall be held outside the State of Texas.
- 7) [If the District Representative is not present, then the District Alternate if present shall be seated with all rights and privileges of the District Representative. The District Alternate shall have speaking privileges at all meetings of SLEC.](#)

****The Bylaws Committee recommends this go into immediate effect.**

Committee Reasoning

In the past there have been multiple proposals to try and reduce the extremely large size of our State Executive Committee. SLEC in Texas is nearly twice as large as any other state executive body. We've kept this structure because, were we to exercise the option of becoming a primary party (or if we were successful enough to be forced into it), Texas Election Code demands that we have a body this big, along with a couple more requirements (opposite genders for Chair and VC, and alternate genders for SLEC reps).

This proposal is a compromise from others (the last attempt involved regional reps), where we keep the total number of members, but split them between representatives and alternates. This way if we were to turn into a primary party we could simply promote the alternates to reps and deal with the gender issue. This also keeps us in alignment with Texas Election Code, which requires us to:

"Provide for representative apportionment of party officers, convention delegates, any convention alternates, and convention officials throughout the state on the basis of population, party strength, or both, within the appropriate territorial unit;" ([Election code 163.002\(4\)](#))

At the end of the day, an executive committee should do boring but critically important things like update policies and approve budgets: if people feel left out of what LPTexas does every quarter because they are not on SLEC, the party needs to do a better job at having participation in the business of the party outside of being on SLEC. A smaller executive committee with fewer people that can devote a material amount of time to this critical oversight position serves the party much better than a huge body with people that are stretched and unable to commit the time necessary to acquire the requisite skills to be effective in the position. Instead, the party should operate through its paid and volunteer staff as leaders instead of simply electing more executive committee members.

Having more SLEC members than volunteers and staff also adds to leadership instability which can have a demoralizing effect upon those actively engaged in the everyday operations of the party.

The largest companies in the world have boards that are only a dozen or so directors: the rest is left to the management of the company.

If we were a "flat, member driven" organization like a worker co-op, we wouldn't have much of an executive committee at all, and our bylaws would be focused on votes by the entire state party membership. Seems like what we have today is the worst of both worlds.

22. Vice Chair Duties

IV.a.6. Duties.

- i. The Chair shall be the principal and presiding officer of the SLEC and the Party, and may perform the duties of any other Party officer whenever such an officer is unable to do so.
- ii. The Vice Chair shall perform the duties of Chair whenever the Chair is unable to do so, and shall assist the Chair. [The Vice Chair shall be considered to represent any and all Senatorial districts that do not have a District Representative.](#)

Committee Reasoning

While it has become increasingly uncommon for a Senate District to be unrepresented on SLEC, it does still happen, and given the duties as they currently exist for the Vice Chair and the duties assigned to Vice Chairs by other similar organizations, it seems that, in order to ensure that those LPTexas members in unrepresented districts have a voice, the best option is to assign their representation to the Vice Chair.

23. Quorum

V.e.3. Quorum.

The quorum at any Convention shall be a majority of the qualified participants registered as attending.

Delegates and alternates may permanently leave the State Convention by [notifying their Delegation Leader and](#) submitting signed notification to the Credentials Committee [of their wish to be removed from the permanent roll](#), at which point they will be removed from the permanent roll.

[Upon permanently leaving the convention, any delegate or alternate, regardless of whether they wish to remain on the permanent roll or not, shall return all materials to the Credentials Committee that have been assigned to them for the purpose of managing the seating of delegates and alternates.](#)

Committee Reasoning

This proposal severs the perceived connection between the "voter button" or other identifying token that is property of LPTexas and the right of delegate to determine whether or not to remain on the permanent roll.

24. Voting Membership Eligibility

III.e.1. Voting Membership Eligibility.

A person is eligible to become a Voting Member of the Party if the person:

- i. is a qualified Texas voter; [and](#)
- ~~ii. signs a statement of general agreement with the Party's Statement of Principles;~~
- ~~iii. signs the Libertarian Pledge: "I certify that I oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals."; and~~
- iv. is not:
 - A. affiliated with any other political party;
 - B. seeking nomination for public or party office in or by any other political party, or;
 - C. a candidate for election to public office by any other political party.

Committee Reasoning

Since the addition of these requirements, the only members it has been faithfully applied to are members of SLEC. While its intent is noble, its implementation throughout the party as a whole isn't feasible and to have it in the bylaws without a means of feasible implementation leaves a whole lot of room for people's ability to participate in party affairs open for attack by the unscrupulous.

25. Clarify Whether "Party Office" Includes Delegates/Alternates

Article II. Definitions

"Party office" means any specified position to which a person can be elected to within the Party, [including the position of delegate or alternate to a county, district, state, or national convention.](#)

Committee Reasoning

At the last state convention, the body ruled that convention delegate/alternate seats should not be considered "party offices". However, that would mean that our bylaws provide no rules for electing delegates and alternates. This clarification would ensure that we have election procedures for delegates and alternates.

26. National Delegation Authority

V.d.10.v. Finality of Delegate Selection.

~~Neither the delegation nor the delegation chair shall have the power to add or remove delegates or alternates.~~

[The delegation may remove a delegate or alternate for cause, which is to be stated in the motion to remove, by a three-fourths \(3/4\) vote of all the state delegates and alternates to the National Convention registered as attending, but shall have no authority to add delegates or alternates.](#)

Committee Reasoning

Nearly every body has some ability to manage its own membership. It has been a long standing practice that once delegates and alternates to the National Convention are selected, no changes are made. However, it is our belief that there needs to be some mechanism for removing a delegate in the case that they are a disruption to the convention and other means of resolving their behavior have proven ineffective, but we believe the threshold should be high enough that the mechanism isn't prone to abuse, hence setting it at three-fourths (3/4) of all Texas delegates and alternates.



Libertarian Party of Texas
2026 State Convention
Bylaws Committee Proposals
PO Box 1766
Austin, Texas 78767
800-422-1776