



T LIBERTARIAN

Report of the Bylaws and Rules Committee to the delegates of the 2020 Libertarian National Convention

Members of the Committee:

Joe Bishop-Henchman, District of Columbia (Chair)

Dr. Chuck Moulton, RP, Pennsylvania (Secretary)

Andy Craig, Maryland

Cris Crawford, Massachusetts

Richard Longstreth, Arizona

Alicia Mattson, PRP, California

Dr. Kenneth Brent Olsen, California

Mark Rutherford, Indiana

Paige Sexton, Tennessee

Christopher Thrasher, Nebraska

Chris Wiest, Kentucky (alternate)

David Blau, Massachusetts (alternate)

Alex DiBenedetto, Arizona (alternate)

Shawn Levasseur, Maine (alternate)

Key: [language proposed to be added](#) ~~language proposed to be deleted~~

Table of Contents

Proposal 2 Create Delegate Allocation Rules for States that Use Ranked-Choice Voting	4
Proposal 3 Clarify Platform Amendments Language	5
Proposal 4 Nomination Procedures for President, Vice-President, LNC Officers, and National Committee	6
Proposal 5 Eliminate State-by-State Roll Call Except for First Presidential Ballot	8
Proposal 6 Prohibit Officers and At-Large From Voting on Their Own Removal	9
Proposal 7 Disqualify Assistant Treasurer from Audit Committee	12
Proposal 8 Effective Date of Judicial Committee Rules	14
Proposal 9 Platform and Bylaws Procedures	16
Proposal 10 Standing Seconds at Convention	18
Proposal 11 Limitations on Use of Executive Session by LNC and Its Committees	20
Proposal 12 Report Procedures for Platform & Bylaws Committees	21
Proposal 13 Elect Judicial Committee by Regions	23
Proposal 13-A Fill Judicial Committee Vacancies at Intervening Conventions	26
Proposal 14 Committee Procedures on Seconds and Division of the Question	28
Proposal 15 Committee Transparency	29
Proposal 16 Robert’s Rules of Order Being Guiding Rather Than Governing	31
Proposal 17 Allow LNC to Authorize Online or Remote Participation at Conventions ..	32
Proposal 18 Multi-Round Voting for LNC At-Large and Judicial Committee	34
Proposal 19 Restrict Usage of Voice Votes at Convention	37
Proposal 1 Remote Participation for 2020 Convention	39

Note: Proposal 1 has been moved to after Proposal 19.

Proposal 2
Create Delegate Allocation Rules for States that Use Ranked-Choice Voting
 Adopted 10-0

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>ARTICLE 10: CONVENTIONS [...] 3. Affiliate Party Delegate Entitlements: Each affiliate party shall be entitled to send delegates to each Regular Convention on the following basis: [...] One delegate for each 0.35 percent, or fraction thereof, of the votes cast nationwide for the Libertarian Party candidate in the most recent presidential election, cast in that affiliate's state.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 10: CONVENTIONS [...] 3. Affiliate Party Delegate Entitlements: Each affiliate party shall be entitled to send delegates to each Regular Convention on the following basis: [...] One delegate for each 0.35 percent, or fraction thereof, of the votes cast nationwide for the Libertarian Party candidate in the most recent presidential election, cast in that affiliate's state. <u>If a state conducts its presidential election via Ranked-Choice or Instant Runoff Voting, the ballots for the Libertarian candidate as tabulated in the first round of ballot counting will be used for this purpose.</u></p>	<p>ARTICLE 10: CONVENTIONS [...] 3. Affiliate Party Delegate Entitlements: Each affiliate party shall be entitled to send delegates to each Regular Convention on the following basis: [...] One delegate for each 0.35 percent, or fraction thereof, of the votes cast nationwide for the Libertarian Party candidate in the most recent presidential election, cast in that affiliate's state. If a state conducts its presidential election via Ranked-Choice or Instant Runoff Voting, the ballots for the Libertarian candidate as tabulated in the first round of ballot counting will be used for this purpose.</p>

Rationale for Proposal 2:

With the state of Maine's adoption of ranked-choice voting (aka instant runoff voting) for the presidential general election, a clarification is needed on the allocation of delegates to the LP National Convention which is based in part on presidential vote totals. With more and more states considering moving to RCV, this will only grow in importance, and would best be handled sooner than later.

First round of votes is used, because if the final round of tabulation is used, then an affiliate under this system could easily be considered to have had no votes at all for the Libertarian candidates, or if in the position of gaining more votes in later rounds (unlikely, but theoretically possible) have an unfair advantage over other affiliates without RCV.

Proposal 3
Clarify Platform Amendments Language
 Adopted 10-0

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>ARTICLE 3: STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND PLATFORM [...]</p> <p>3. The current Platform shall serve as the basis of all future platforms. The existing Platform may be amended only at Regular Conventions. Additional planks, or additions to planks, must be approved by 2/3 vote. A platform plank may be deleted by majority vote.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 3: STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND PLATFORM [...]</p> <p>3. The current Platform shall serve as the basis of all future platforms. The existing Platform may be amended only at Regular Conventions. Additional planks, or additions to planks, must be approved by 2/3 vote. A platform plank may be deleted by majority vote. <u>New planks or amendments to existing planks require a 2/3 vote.</u></p>	<p>ARTICLE 3: STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND PLATFORM [...]</p> <p>3. The current Platform shall serve as the basis of all future platforms. The existing Platform may be amended only at Regular Conventions. A platform plank may be deleted by majority vote. New planks or amendments to existing planks require a 2/3 vote.</p>

Rationale for Proposal 3:

The existing language already requires a 2/3 vote for additional planks or additions to planks. In attempting to describe other types of platform amendments besides deletion of an entire plank, does not cover the full range of possibilities. What vote is required if one wishes to delete a word/sentence from a plank? It's not deletion of a plank. It's not an additional plank. It's not an addition to a plank.

With the existing language, one could argue that to remove text from a plank (even deletion of the word "not") only requires a majority vote. We believe the intended rule is that all amendments besides deletion of an entire plank should require the consistent standard of a 2/3 vote. This proposal would implement that intention.

Proposal 4
Nomination Procedures for President, Vice-President, LNC Officers, and National Committee
 Adopted 10-0

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>RULE 7: NOMINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES</p> <p>1. No person shall be nominated for President or Vice-President unless at least 30 registered delegates join in the nomination in writing submitted to the Chair. No delegate may join in nominating more than one candidate for each office. The affixing of signatures to a nominating petition per this requirement shall be effected by a transfer of signature tokens issued by the Credentials Committee. [...]</p>	<p>RULE 7: NOMINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES</p> <p>1. No person shall be nominated for President or Vice-President unless at least 30 registered delegates join in the nomination in writing submitted to the Chair <u>Secretary, and the nominee has submitted to the Secretary evidence of sustaining membership and a statement of willingness to accept the nomination.</u> No delegate may join in nominating more than one candidate for each office. The affixing of signatures to a nominating petition per this requirement shall be effected by a transfer of signature tokens issued by the Credentials Committee. [...]</p>	<p>RULE 7: NOMINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES</p> <p>1. No person shall be nominated for President or Vice-President unless at least 30 registered delegates join in the nomination in writing submitted to the Secretary, and the nominee has submitted to the Secretary evidence of sustaining membership and a signed statement of willingness to accept the nomination. No delegate may join in nominating more than one candidate for each office. The affixing of signatures to a nominating petition per this requirement shall be effected by a transfer of signature tokens issued by the Credentials Committee. [...]</p>
<p>RULE 8: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE [...]</p> <p>3. Nominations for each candidate may be made by any delegate present on the floor, provided he or she has the candidate's permission.[...]</p>	<p>RULE 8: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE [...]</p> <p>3. Nominations for each candidate may be made by any delegate present on the floor, provided he or she has the candidate's permission. <u>No person shall be nominated unless at least 15 registered delegates join in</u></p>	<p>RULE 8: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE [...]</p> <p>3. No person shall be nominated unless at least 15 registered delegates join in the nomination in writing submitted to the Secretary, and the nominee has submitted to the Secretary</p>

	<p><u>the nomination submitted to the Secretary, and the nominee has submitted to the Secretary evidence of the required level of membership and a statement of willingness to accept the nomination. No delegate may join in nominating more than one candidate per seat.[...]</u></p>	<p>evidence of sustaining membership and a signed statement of willingness to accept the nomination. No delegate may join in nominating more than one candidate per seat.[...]</p>
--	--	--

Rationale for Proposal 4:

Because it is the Secretary rather than the Chair who receives and counts nomination tokens, the first change aligns the rule with existing practice.

In 2018 there were 35 candidates nominated for the 5 at-large LNC positions. It was evident that a number of these were nominations made on-the-fly by persons not actually intending for the candidate to be elected. The large number of candidates took extra floor time for nomination speeches as well as making the ballot tabulation take longer, despite the dwindling time left to complete elections.

Verifying eligibility status in advance of the election allows the candidate to correct the deficiency before this problem occurs. In recent years, even when delegates have requested that the eligibility of nominees be verified, we have presumed it without pausing to verify it. We have even had instances where individuals were elected to the LNC were ineligible and could not be seated. This creates a vacancy that is then filled by appointment by the LNC or by the regional chairs in the case of a regional representative. Many times delegates have nominated persons not even present, only to then scramble to try to contact the person and verify that they are willing to accept the nomination. Providing evidence of the required level of membership would be as simple as visiting the registration desk to obtain a verification from staff attesting to their membership status.

Running for our presidential ticket or for the LNC are important enough that candidates should be willing to spend a few minutes of intentional preparation for it, and this proposal establishes very low requirements for a person to demonstrate eligibility, willingness to serve, and the support of more than just a single nominator, all of which could be accomplished with one sheet of paper per candidate.

Proposal 5
Eliminate State-by-State Roll Call Except for First Presidential Ballot
 Adopted 10-0

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>RULE 7: NOMINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES [...]</p> <p>3. Each delegation shall tabulate its total vote, and the delegation chair shall deliver a written total to the Secretary. When all the delegations have submitted their votes, the Secretary shall declare the voting closed. At this point, an announcement of each delegation's vote total shall be made by delegation chairs in alphabetical order beginning with a randomly selected delegation.</p>	<p>RULE 7: NOMINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES [...]</p> <p>3. Each delegation shall tabulate its total vote, and the delegation chair shall deliver a written total to the Secretary. When all the delegations have submitted their votes, the Secretary shall declare the voting closed. At this point <u>Following the first presidential ballot</u>, an announcement of each delegation's vote total shall be made by delegation chairs in alphabetical order beginning with a randomly selected delegation. <u>For all ballots, the Secretary shall then display the results.</u></p>	<p>RULE 7: NOMINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES [...]</p> <p>3. Each delegation shall tabulate its total vote, and the delegation chair shall deliver a written total to the Secretary. When all the delegations have submitted their votes, the Secretary shall declare the voting closed. Following the first presidential ballot, an announcement of each delegation's vote total shall be made by delegation chairs in alphabetical order beginning with a randomly selected delegation. For all ballots, the Secretary shall then display the results.</p>

Rationale for Proposal 5:

Our rules currently require a state-by-state roll call of each presidential and vice-presidential ballot. The state-by-state roll call for the first presidential ballot is a fun and time-honored tradition. Because it is redundant to do a state-by-state roll call for all ballots, the delegates have consistently voted to waive this requirement for all subsequent presidential and vice-presidential ballots. This proposal would align our rules with our practice: state-by-state roll call for the first presidential ballot, with no roll call for all subsequent ballots.

Proposal 6
Prohibit Officers and At-Large From Voting on Their Own Removal
 Adopted 9-0

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>ARTICLE 6: OFFICERS [...] 7. The National Committee may, for cause, suspend any officer by a vote of 2/3 of the entire National 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 20 and 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 either affirm the National Committee's suspension of the officer or order the officer's reinstatement within 30 days of the hearing. Failure of the Judicial Committee to rule within 30 days shall constitute an affirmation of the National Committee's suspension of the officer. At such time as</p>	<p>ARTICLE 6: OFFICERS [...] 7. The National Committee may, for cause, suspend any officer by a vote of 2/3 of the entire National Committee, <u>excepting the officer that is the subject of the vote who may not participate in that vote</u>. 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 20 and 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 either affirm the National Committee's suspension of the officer or order the officer's reinstatement within 30 days of the hearing. Failure of the Judicial Committee to rule within 30</p>	<p>ARTICLE 6: OFFICERS [...] 7. The National Committee may, for cause, suspend any officer by a vote of 2/3 of the entire National Committee, excepting the officer that is the subject of the vote who may not participate in that vote. 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 20 and 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 either affirm the National Committee's suspension of the officer or order the officer's reinstatement within 30 days of the hearing. Failure of the Judicial Committee to rule within 30</p>

<p>the suspension is final, the office in question shall be deemed vacant.</p> <p>ARTICLE 7: NATIONAL COMMITTEE [...]</p> <p>5. The National Committee may, for cause, suspend any member-at-large by a vote of 2/3 of the entire National Committee. The suspended member-at-large 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 20 and 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 either affirm the National Committee's suspension of the member-at-large or order reinstatement of the member-at-large within 30 days of the hearing. Failure</p>	<p>days shall constitute an affirmation of the National Committee's suspension of the officer. At such time as the suspension is final, the office in question shall be deemed vacant.</p> <p>ARTICLE 7: NATIONAL COMMITTEE [...]</p> <p>5. The National Committee may, for cause, suspend any member-at-large by a vote of 2/3 of the entire National Committee, <u>excepting the member that is the subject of the vote who may not participate in that vote</u>. The suspended member-at-large 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 20 and 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 either affirm the National Committee's suspension of</p>	<p>days shall constitute an affirmation of the National Committee's suspension of the officer. At such time as the suspension is final, the office in question shall be deemed vacant.</p> <p>ARTICLE 7: NATIONAL COMMITTEE [...]</p> <p>5. The National Committee may, for cause, suspend any member-at-large by a vote of 2/3 of the entire National Committee, excepting the member that is the subject of the vote who may not participate in that vote. The suspended member-at-large 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 20 and 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 either affirm the National Committee's suspension of</p>
---	--	---

<p>of the Judicial Committee to rule within 30 days shall constitute an affirmation of the National Committee's suspension of the member at-large. At such times as the suspension is final, the office in question shall be deemed vacant.</p>	<p>the member-at-large or order reinstatement of the member-at-large within 30 days of the hearing. Failure of the Judicial Committee to rule within 30 days shall constitute an affirmation of the National Committee's suspension of the member at-large. At such times as the suspension is final, the office in question shall be deemed vacant.</p>	<p>the member-at-large or order reinstatement of the member-at-large within 30 days of the hearing. Failure of the Judicial Committee to rule within 30 days shall constitute an affirmation of the National Committee's suspension of the member at-large. At such times as the suspension is final, the office in question shall be deemed vacant.</p>
---	--	--

Rationale for Proposal 6:

No person is fit to be their own judge, and no person should be participating in a vote on their own removal.

Proposal 7
Disqualify Assistant Treasurer from Audit Committee
 Adopted 8-0

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>ARTICLE 9: FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING [...] 2. The National Committee shall cause an efficient double-entry system of accounts to be installed and maintained. Financial statements of the Party shall be prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Audits shall be performed annually by an independent auditor. The non-officer members of the National Committee shall appoint a standing Audit Committee of three members with power to select the independent auditor. One member shall be a non-officer member of the National Committee and the other two shall not be members of the National Committee. The Audit Committee shall present its findings to each Regular Convention and clarify for the National Committee any recommendations made by the auditor.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 9: FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING [...] 2. The National Committee shall cause an efficient double-entry system of accounts to be installed and maintained. Financial statements of the Party shall be prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Audits shall be performed annually by an independent auditor. The non-officer members of the National Committee shall appoint a standing Audit Committee of three members with power to select the independent auditor. One member shall be a non-officer member or alternate of the National Committee and the other two shall not be members or alternates of the National Committee. <u>The Assistant Treasurer is not eligible to serve on the Audit Committee.</u> The Audit Committee shall present its findings to each Regular Convention and clarify for the National Committee any recommendations made by the auditor.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 9: FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING [...] 2. The National Committee shall cause an efficient double-entry system of accounts to be installed and maintained. Financial statements of the Party shall be prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Audits shall be performed annually by an independent auditor. The non-officer members of the National Committee shall appoint a standing Audit Committee of three members with power to select the independent auditor. One member shall be a non-officer member of the National Committee and the other two shall not be members of the National Committee. The Assistant Treasurer is not eligible to serve on the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee shall present its findings to each Regular Convention and clarify for the National Committee any recommendations made by the auditor.</p>

Rationale for Proposal 7:

The existing eligibility requirements already preclude the Treasurer from serving on the Audit Committee, since he is an officer. For the same obvious reasons, the rule should also preclude the Assistant Treasurer from serving on the Audit Committee. Additionally, this proposal clarifies that LNC regional alternates may hold an Audit Committee seat.

Proposal 8
Effective Date of Judicial Committee Rules
 Adopted 8-0

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>ARTICLE 8: JUDICIAL COMMITTEE [...] 3. Within 90 days following the Regular 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 National Committee for approval, which approval shall be deemed given unless denied by a 2/3 vote of the National Committee within 60 days of submission. A copy of the current Rules of Appellate Procedure shall be maintained by the Secretary at the Party Headquarters and shall be available to any member at cost.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 8: JUDICIAL COMMITTEE [...] 3. <u>The Rules of Appellate Procedure established by the immediately preceding Judicial Committee term shall be the rules in the ensuing committee term until and unless amendments are approved as described herein.</u> Within 90 days following the Regular Convention at which elected, the Judicial Committee shall establish <u>propose any desired changes to the existing</u> Rules of Appellate Procedure to which 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 <u>Such proposed changes shall be submitted</u> to the National Committee for approval, which approval shall be deemed given unless denied by a 2/3 vote of the National Committee within 60 days of submission. A copy of the current Rules of Appellate Procedure shall be maintained by the Secretary at the Party Headquarters and shall be</p>	<p>ARTICLE 8: JUDICIAL COMMITTEE [...] 3. The Rules of Appellate Procedure established by the immediately preceding Judicial Committee term shall be the rules in the ensuing committee term until and unless amendments are approved as described herein. Within 90 days following the Regular Convention at which elected, the Judicial Committee shall propose any desired changes to the existing Rules of Appellate Procedure which govern its consideration of matters within the scope of its jurisdiction. Such proposed changes shall be submitted to the National Committee for approval, which approval shall be deemed given unless denied by a 2/3 vote of the National Committee within 60 days of submission. A copy of the current Rules of Appellate Procedure shall be maintained by the Secretary at the Party Headquarters and shall be available to any member at cost.</p>

	available to any member at cost.	
--	----------------------------------	--

Rationale for Proposal 8:

This change impacts the time at which amended Judicial Committee Rules of Appellate Procedure would take effect. The existing language has the prior term's rules remain in effect until the newly elected Judicial Committee SUBMITS the new rules to the LNC for (presumably) automatic approval. However, if there is some provision in those new rules which is so objectionable that the LNC exercises its power to disapprove the new rules with a 2/3 vote, then the time sequence is that the new rules went into effect briefly, and then went out of effect when the LNC disapproved them. If the new rules are so broadly objectionable, they never should have gone into effect for even a short period of time. This revised protocol changes the effective date from the status quo of when the rules are SUBMITTED to instead be when the new rules have been reviewed and APPROVED (or deemed approved) by the LNC.

Proposal 9
Platform and Bylaws Procedures
 Adopted 8-0

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>ARTICLE 11: OTHER COMMITTEES [...] 6. Committee Procedures a. A majority vote of those Committee members present is necessary for a “do pass” recommendation, and in the case of the Platform Committee, a majority must approve each specific plank separately. b. Four or more members of the Platform Committee may join together to issue a minority report regarding any plank reported to the floor of the Convention. Two or more members of the Bylaws and Rules Committee or of the Credentials Committee may join together to issue a minority report regarding their business.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 11: OTHER COMMITTEES [...] 6. Committee Procedures <u>Minority Reports</u> a. A majority vote of those Committee members present is necessary for a “do pass” recommendation, and in the case of the Platform Committee, a majority must approve each specific plank separately. b. Four or more members of the Platform Committee may join together to issue a minority report regarding any plank proposal reported to the floor of the Convention. Two or more members of the Bylaws and Rules Committee or of the Credentials Committee may join together to issue a minority report regarding their business.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 11: OTHER COMMITTEES [...] 6. Committee Minority Reports Four or more members of the Platform Committee may join together to issue a minority report regarding any proposal reported to the floor of the Convention. Two or more members of the Bylaws and Rules Committee or of the Credentials Committee may join together to issue a minority report regarding their business.</p>

Rationale for Proposal 9:

As our parliamentary authority, Robert’s Rules already provides that a majority vote is a fundamental necessity for official action to be taken by a body, thus the first portion of Bylaw Article 11.6.a is redundant with Robert’s Rules and doesn’t need to be stated again in our bylaws.

It is difficult to understand what is even intended by the second portion of the section. Does it mean that the Platform Committee must vote on every single plank in the platform even if they are proposing no changes to some of them? Does it instead mean that no proposal can be made if it affects more than one plank, such as moving language from one plank to another, or that could be done as long as two separate votes were taken?

The final word change from “plank” to “proposal” is made to allow for the possibility that a single proposal from the committee might simultaneously impact two planks, such as moving language from one plank to another.

With section (a) removed, the section title seems too broad, as the only remaining subject would be minority reports, thus the section header is proposed to be updated as well to better reflect the content of the rule.

Proposal 10
Standing Seconds at Convention
 Adopted 9-1

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURE AND MOTIONS [...]	RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURE AND MOTIONS [...] <u>3. All motions originating from the floor, including motions to amend, must receive a standing second in which 20 delegates rise and stand as seconds to the motion.</u>	RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURE AND MOTIONS [...] 3. All motions originating from the floor, including motions to amend, must receive a standing second in which 30 delegates rise and stand as seconds to the motion.

Rationale for Proposal 10:

In a 1045 person assembly, it is important that motions have some threshold of support to come to the floor.

Minority Report on Proposal 10 by Ms. Mattson and Mr. Thrasher:

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURE AND MOTIONS [...]	RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURE AND MOTIONS [...] <u>3. All original main motions originating from the floor must receive a standing second in which 20 delegates rise and stand as seconds to the motion.</u>	RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURE AND MOTIONS [...] 3. All original main motions originating from the floor must receive a standing second in which 20 delegates rise and stand as seconds to the motion.

The committee report goes too far such that it treads into delegate rights in some cases, and in other cases it adds another hurdle to such minor things as a motion to recess.

This alternate proposal restricts the requirement to only “original main motions” which is a defined term in our parliamentary authority (RONR p. 100). It’s essentially a motion which introduces a new item of business, which unlike the committee proposal would not apply to motions to close debate, motions to postpone, motions to recess, raise a question of privilege

about too much noise in the hall, or even call for orders of the day (which normally a single delegate can demand), etc.

If a delegate needs to raise a point of order because they perceive a rule violation, other delegates less familiar with the rules may not yet be aware of the rule violation and won't have an opportunity to see the problem and agree with it until the mover gets to speak to explain what the problem is, which doesn't happen until after the motion has been seconded. The committee proposal could prevent a delegate from successfully pointing out that an important rule is about to be violated.

Proposal 11
Limitations on Use of Executive Session by LNC and Its Committees
 Adopted 9-1

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
	ARTICLE 7: NATIONAL COMMITTEE [...] <u>15. The LNC and all of its committees shall conduct all votes and actions in open session; executive session may only be used for discussion of personnel matters, contractual negotiations, pending or potential litigation, or political strategy requiring confidentiality.</u>	ARTICLE 7: NATIONAL COMMITTEE [...] 15. The LNC and all of its committees shall conduct all votes and actions in open session; executive session may only be used for discussion of personnel matters, contractual negotiations, pending or potential litigation, or political strategy requiring confidentiality.

Rationale for Proposal 11:

Executive session is when a meeting is conducted in secret. This proposal would adapt the LNC's current policy on executive session, elevate it to the bylaws, and apply it to other LNC-created committees. It would also take the reasons which the LNC Policy Manual currently allows for executive session called by a majority (instead of two-thirds for anything else) and make those the only permissible reasons. In practice, the LNC only ever uses those reasons anyway, but this would close a loophole for potential abuse and strengthen the requirements for transparency and accountability. It would also require other committees to adopt the LNC's good practice of rising from executive session before taking votes or other actions.

Proposal 12
Report Procedures for Platform & Bylaws Committees
 Adopted 8-1

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>ARTICLE 11: OTHER COMMITTEES [...] 6. Committee Procedures [...] b. Four or more members of the Platform Committee may join together to issue a minority report regarding any plank reported to the floor of the Convention. Two or more members of the Bylaws and Rules Committee or of the Credentials Committee may join together to issue a minority report regarding their business.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 11: OTHER COMMITTEES [...] 6. Committee Procedures [...] b. <u>The Platform Committee and Bylaws and Rules Committee shall prepare reports of their recommendations, including one argument for each recommendation and (if submitted by members who did not vote with the majority on a recommendation) one argument against a recommendation.</u> Four Five or more members of the Platform Committee <u>who did not vote with the majority may present an alternative minority recommendation for a particular committee proposal</u> join together to issue a minority report regarding any plank reported to the floor of the Convention. Two Three or more members of the Bylaws and Rules Committee or of the Credentials Committee may <u>who did not vote with the majority may present an alternative minority recommendation for a particular committee proposal</u> join together to issue a minority report regarding their business. No</p>	<p>ARTICLE 11: OTHER COMMITTEES [...] 6. Committee Procedures [...] b. The Platform Committee and Bylaws and Rules Committee shall prepare reports of their recommendations, including one argument for each recommendation and (if submitted by members who did not vote with the majority on a recommendation) one argument against a recommendation. Five or more members of the Platform Committee who did not vote with the majority may present an alternative minority recommendation for a particular committee proposal regarding any plank reported to the floor of the Convention. Three or more members of the Bylaws and Rules Committee or of the Credentials Committee who did not vote with the majority may present an alternative minority recommendation for a particular committee proposal. No person may join in more than one minority recommendation for a particular committee proposal.</p>

	<u>person may join in more than one minority recommendation for a particular committee proposal.</u>	
--	--	--

Proviso: This proposal shall take effect only after the final adjournment of the 2020 convention.

Rationale for Proposal 12:

Our current rules do not require the Bylaws and Platform Committees to provide arguments for and against each proposal, and allow for multiple minority reports on each proposal. While the committees are de facto providing arguments for and against proposals, this is technically not allowed, as the rules envision one majority report and one minority report, rather than proposal-by-proposal analysis.

In 2018 there were a number of abuses of the minority report process:

- committee proposals had up to three minority reports on the SAME committee proposal
- some committee members signed more than one minority report on the SAME committee proposal
- committee members both voted for the committee proposal and then also joined a minority report on the same proposal

Initially on the convention floor it was ruled that the multiple minority reports were out of order, and only the minority report with the most signers would be taken up. This would have effectively allowed the committee majority to submit two proposals and prevent an ACTUAL minority report from being heard at all. Then the convention spent a large amount of time wrangling over the situation.

This proposed change seeks to prevent these types of abuses in the future. It slightly raises the number of signers required for a minority report such that it is mathematically less likely for there to be multiple minority reports.

The goal is for the committee to come to a more unified consensus rather than offering 4 different competing proposals to burn the clock at a convention with limited floor time. This proposal would also formalize committee majorities and minorities on each proposal providing written arguments to the delegates.

Proposal 13
Elect Judicial Committee by Regions
 Adopted 8-2

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>ARTICLE 8: JUDICIAL COMMITTEE</p> <p>The Judicial Committee shall be composed of seven Party members elected at each Regular Non-Presidential Convention, and any five members shall constitute a quorum. No member of the National Committee may be a member of the Judicial Committee. The members of the Judicial Committee shall select the Chair of the Judicial Committee. The Judicial Committee shall take office immediately upon the close of the Regular Non-Presidential Convention at which elected and shall serve until the final adjournment of the next Regular Non-Presidential Convention. All Judicial Committee members shall have been Party members at least four years at the time of their selection. The remaining members of the Judicial Committee shall appoint new members if vacancies occur, such appointees to serve until the final adjournment of the next Regular Non-Presidential Convention.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 8: JUDICIAL COMMITTEE</p> <p>The Judicial Committee shall be composed of seven Party members elected at each Regular Non-Presidential Convention, and any five members shall constitute a quorum. <u>Each National Committee region shall elect, in the same manner as Regional Representatives, one Judicial Committee member for each Regional Representative to which the region is entitled.</u> No member of the National Committee may be a member of the Judicial Committee. The members of the Judicial Committee shall select the Chair of the Judicial Committee. The Judicial Committee shall take office immediately upon the close of the Regular Non-Presidential Convention at which elected and shall serve until the final adjournment of the next Regular Non-Presidential Convention. All Judicial Committee members shall have been Party members at least four years at the time of their selection. The remaining members of the Judicial Committee shall appoint new members if</p>	<p>ARTICLE 8: JUDICIAL COMMITTEE</p> <p>The Judicial Committee shall be composed of Party members, and any five members shall constitute a quorum. Each National Committee region shall elect, in the same manner as Regional Representatives, one Judicial Committee member for each Regional Representative to which the region is entitled. No member of the National Committee may be a member of the Judicial Committee. The members of the Judicial Committee shall select the Chair of the Judicial Committee. The Judicial Committee shall take office immediately upon the close of the Regular Non-Presidential Convention at which elected and shall serve until the final adjournment of the next Regular Non-Presidential Convention. All Judicial Committee members shall have been Party members at least four years at the time of their selection. The remaining members of the Judicial Committee shall appoint new members if vacancies occur, such appointees to serve until the</p>

<p>RULE 1: ORDER OF BUSINESS [...] 7. Election of Judicial Committee (in appropriate years)</p> <p>RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURE AND MOTIONS 1. On all matters, except the retention of platform planks, the election of Judicial Committee Members, Party Officers and at-large members of the National Committee, and the nomination of Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates, voting will be by either voice vote or rising vote. If any delegate objects to the Chair's ruling on the outcome of a voice vote, a rising vote shall be conducted. If 20 or more delegates object to the Chair's ruling on the outcome of a rising vote, a counted vote will be held.</p> <p>RULE 9: ELECTION OF JUDICIAL COMMITTEE Nominations and elections for members of the Judicial Committee shall be conducted in the same</p>	<p>vacancies occur, such appointees to serve until the final adjournment of the next Regular Non-Presidential Convention.</p> <p>RULE 1: ORDER OF BUSINESS [...] 7. Election of Judicial Committee (in appropriate years) <u>[renumber subsequent sections]</u></p> <p>RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURE AND MOTIONS 1. On all matters, except the retention of platform planks, the election of Judicial Committee Members, Party Officers and at-large members of the National Committee, and the nomination of Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates, voting will be by either voice vote or rising vote. If any delegate objects to the Chair's ruling on the outcome of a voice vote, a rising vote shall be conducted. If 20 or more delegates object to the Chair's ruling on the outcome of a rising vote, a counted vote will be held.</p> <p>RULE 9: ELECTION OF JUDICIAL COMMITTEE Nominations and elections for members of the Judicial Committee shall be conducted in the same</p>	<p>final adjournment of the next Regular Non-Presidential Convention.</p> <p>RULE 1: ORDER OF BUSINESS [...]</p> <p>RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURE AND MOTIONS 1. On all matters, except the retention of platform planks, Party Officers and at-large members of the National Committee, and the nomination of Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates, voting will be by either voice vote or rising vote. If any delegate objects to the Chair's ruling on the outcome of a voice vote, a rising vote shall be conducted. If 20 or more delegates object to the Chair's ruling on the outcome of a rising vote, a counted vote will be held.</p>
--	---	---

manner as specified for at-large members of the National Committee.	manner as specified for at-large members of the National Committee. [renumber subsequent sections]	
---	--	--

Rationale for Proposal 13:

The convention body moved this to a 4-year term to try to get the voting time reduced, but then was left in limbo with no members of the Judicial Committee. By moving this to regions, we ensure that there is distributed interests in the party, that the elections happen, that there's a replacement mechanism outside the LNC and convention, and the regions know their members better than the convention body anyway.

Minority Report on Proposal 13 by Dr. Moulton and Dr. Olsen:

We oppose this proposal and encourage delegates to vote it down because:

- 1) The best qualified candidates for the Judicial Committee are not necessarily evenly distributed by geography.
- 2) Much of the time saved on the main convention agenda would be offset by added time to regional caucus agendas.

Proposal 13-A
Fill Judicial Committee Vacancies at Intervening Conventions
 Adopted 8-1

Contingent: This proposal will only be introduced if Proposal 13 “Elect JC by Regions” is not adopted by the convention delegates.

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>ARTICLE 8: JUDICIAL COMMITTEE</p> <p>The Judicial Committee shall be composed of seven Party members elected at each Regular Non-Presidential Convention, and any five members shall constitute a quorum. No member of the National Committee may be a member of the Judicial Committee. The members of the Judicial Committee shall select the Chair of the Judicial Committee. The Judicial Committee shall take office immediately upon the close of the Regular Non-Presidential Convention at which elected and shall serve until the final adjournment of the next Regular Non-Presidential Convention. All Judicial Committee members shall have been Party members at least four years at the time of their selection. The remaining members of the Judicial Committee shall appoint new members if vacancies occur, such appointees to serve until the final adjournment of the next Regular Non-Presidential Convention.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 8: JUDICIAL COMMITTEE</p> <p>The Judicial Committee shall be composed of seven Party members elected at each Regular Non-Presidential Convention, and any five members shall constitute a quorum. No member of the National Committee may be a member of the Judicial Committee. The members of the Judicial Committee shall select the Chair of the Judicial Committee. The Judicial Committee shall take office immediately upon the close of the Regular Non-Presidential Convention at which elected and shall serve until the final adjournment of the next Regular Non-Presidential Convention. All Judicial Committee members shall have been Party members at least four years at the time of their selection. The remaining members of the Judicial Committee shall appoint new members if vacancies occur, such appointees to serve until the final adjournment of the next Regular Non-Presidential Convention. Should all</p>	<p>ARTICLE 8: JUDICIAL COMMITTEE</p> <p>The Judicial Committee shall be composed of seven Party members elected at each Regular Non-Presidential Convention, and any five members shall constitute a quorum. No member of the National Committee may be a member of the Judicial Committee. The members of the Judicial Committee shall select the Chair of the Judicial Committee. The Judicial Committee shall take office immediately upon the close of the Regular Non-Presidential Convention at which elected and shall serve until the final adjournment of the next Regular Non-Presidential Convention. All Judicial Committee members shall have been Party members at least four years at the time of their selection. The remaining members of the Judicial Committee shall appoint new members if vacancies occur, such appointees to serve until the final adjournment of the next Regular Non-Presidential Convention. Should all</p>

	<u>Judicial Committee positions be vacant, an intervening convention may fill such vacancies.</u>	Judicial Committee positions be vacant, an intervening convention may fill such vacancies.
--	--	--

Rationale for Proposal 13-A:

The existing rule allows Judicial Committee vacancies to be filled by the remaining members of the Judicial Committee. If, however, all Judicial Committee positions are vacant, there are no remaining members to fill the vacancies. Under our parliamentary authority, the principles of interpretation applied to such a situation say that since the rule specifies a particular appointment process, it precludes any other process such as an intervening convention filling the vacancies. This addition will allow a convention to act when all positions are vacant for whatever reason.

Proposal 14
Committee Procedures on Seconds and Division of the Question
 Adopted 7-2

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>ARTICLE 12: MEETINGS Boards and committees may conduct business by teleconference or videoconference. The National Committee shall have power to adopt special rules of order and standing rules to facilitate the conduct of business by teleconference or videoconference.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 12: MEETINGS <u>1.</u> Boards and committees may conduct business by teleconference or videoconference. The National Committee shall have power to adopt special rules of order and standing rules to facilitate the conduct of business by teleconference or videoconference.</p> <p><u>2. Committees shall require seconds in the same manner as boards unless they have fewer than 6 members. Committees may limit or extend the limits of debate. Division of the question in boards and committees shall always require either a majority vote or unanimous consent, even if parts of the motion to which it is applied are unrelated.</u></p>	<p>ARTICLE 12: MEETINGS 1. Boards and committees may conduct business by teleconference or videoconference. The National Committee shall have power to adopt special rules of order and standing rules to facilitate the conduct of business by teleconference or videoconference.</p> <p>2. Committees shall require seconds in the same manner as boards unless they have fewer than 6 members. Committees may limit or extend the limits of debate. Division of the question in boards and committees shall always require either a majority vote or unanimous consent, even if parts of the motion to which it is applied are unrelated.</p>

Rationale for Proposal 14:

Currently our boards and committees use Robert’s Rules, but several of those rules make business much harder to conduct. Specifically:

- a) requiring a second prevents one member from taking time on a motion which does not have enough support to pass
- b) allowing committees to limit debate prevents filibustering and saves time
- c) preventing unilateral division (splitting one motion into several other motions, which RONR allows on motion of one person, without even requiring a second) prevents one person from hijacking a meeting or unraveling compromises.

Proposal 15
Committee Transparency
 Adopted 7-2

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
ARTICLE 11: OTHER COMMITTEES [...]	ARTICLE 11: OTHER COMMITTEES [...] <p><u>7. The Bylaws and Rules Committee, Platform Committee, and Credentials Committee shall use roll call voting on all main motions. Additionally, those committees must have a roll call vote upon request of any two Committee members present on any motion. On all roll call votes, the vote of each individual Committee member shall be recorded in the minutes.</u></p> <p><u>8. Any person may record the proceedings of the Bylaws and Rules Committee, Platform Committee, and Credentials Committee while in open session.</u></p>	ARTICLE 11: OTHER COMMITTEES [...] <p>7. The Bylaws and Rules Committee, Platform Committee, and Credentials Committee shall use roll call voting on all main motions. Additionally, those committees must have a roll call vote upon request of any two Committee members present on any motion. On all roll call votes, the vote of each individual Committee member shall be recorded in the minutes.</p> <p>8. Any person may record the proceedings of the Bylaws and Rules Committee, Platform Committee, and Credentials Committee while in open session.</p>

Rationale for Proposal 15:

This bylaws proposal would extend some of the transparency provisions of the LNC to the convention committees: Platform, Bylaws and Rules, and Credentials. Many years these committees (collectively) or their secretaries (unilaterally) have refused roll call votes. Because Robert's Rules prevents a committee from setting its own rules of order, the committee could not pass an open meeting policy. Potential observers would come at their own risk, not knowing until on-site whether meetings would be open or recordings would be allowed.

Minority Report on Proposal 15 by Mr. Rutherford and Mr. Thrasher:

The minority is not opposed to the sentiment of this bylaws proposal, and would in fact prefer that committees choose to operate in this exact manner. However, the minority feels strongly

that you can have only so many rules before an organization becomes unwieldy, and unsustainably complex. It is an unfortunate situation when the rules overwhelm the mission. This proposal offers a solution for a problem that does not exist. Not only can roll call votes be superfluous at times, needlessly increasing the time it takes to conduct business, this proposal goes on to codify in section 8 an action that is already in practice, as it is the members and delegates of the Libertarian party that hold the ultimate check over all committee activities. As committees answer to the delegates, the committees should operate as they see fit. If the delegates are unhappy with the committees, for any reason, the authority to initiate change rests with them alone. It is time to stop becoming a miniature version of the federal regulatory bureaucracy in which the rules are more important than the mission.

Proposal 16
Robert's Rules of Order Being Guiding Rather Than Governing
 Adopted 7-3

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>ARTICLE 16: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY</p> <p>The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the Party in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order adopted by the Party.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 16: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY</p> <p>The rules contained in the current <u>most recent</u> edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised <u>as of July 1, 2020</u> shall govern <u>guide</u> the Party in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order adopted by the Party.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 16: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY</p> <p>The rules contained in the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised as of July 1, 2020 shall guide the Party in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order adopted by the Party.</p>

Rationale for Proposal 16:

Editions of Robert's Rules of Order can be issued between our conventions, meaning our rules can be changed without us having any say. This proposal would require an affirmative step by the delegates to accept a new version of Robert's.

Robert's Rules should not be more important than the mission of the party, and there are times when the fixation on what Robert's would or would not do in a situation is detrimental to our mission. To remedy this, the second change replaces the word "govern" with "guide."

Delegates or committee members can then give Robert's a heavy weight when resolving a procedural situation, without it being the only factor.

Proposal 17
Allow LNC to Authorize Online or Remote Participation at Conventions
 Adopted 6-4

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>ARTICLE 10: CONVENTIONS 1. Regular Conventions The Party shall hold a Regular Convention every two years, at a time and place selected by the National Committee. Regular Conventions shall be held sometime during the period of July of an odd-numbered year through August of an even-numbered year. All business required to be conducted at Regular Conventions shall be conducted at Regular Conventions only.</p>	<p>ARTICLE 10: CONVENTIONS 1. Regular Conventions The Party shall hold a Regular Convention every two years, at a time and place selected by the National Committee. Regular Conventions shall be held sometime during the period of July of an odd-numbered year through August of an even-numbered year. All business required to be conducted at Regular Conventions shall be conducted at Regular Conventions only. <u>In the event that extraordinary circumstances affect the ability to hold a regular convention or cause unusual barriers to attendance, the National Committee may authorize an online location and/or remote participation at a Regular Convention by a two-thirds vote.</u></p>	<p>ARTICLE 10: CONVENTIONS 1. Regular Conventions The Party shall hold a Regular Convention every two years, at a time and place selected by the National Committee. Regular Conventions shall be held sometime during the period of July of an odd-numbered year through August of an even-numbered year. All business required to be conducted at Regular Conventions shall be conducted at Regular Conventions only. In the event that extraordinary circumstances affect the ability to hold a regular convention or cause unusual barriers to attendance, the National Committee may authorize an online location and/or remote participation at a Regular Convention by a two-thirds vote.</p>

Rationale for Proposal 17:

Various authorities have disputed whether our Bylaws require conventions to be in-person; the debate affected the party's options for completing convention business in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. This proposal would explicitly empower a supermajority of the LNC to authorize online or remote participation in specified extraordinary circumstances.

Minority Report on Proposal 17 by Mr. Bishop-Henchman and Mr. Rutherford:

While we agree that our Bylaws should be fixed to authorize online or remote participation in certain circumstances, we believe the current proposal is both too limiting (allowing it to be

used only in narrow circumstances) and not limiting enough (allowing it be invoked by action of the LNC only). Instead, we propose that the section should read as follows:

The National Committee may by a two-thirds vote authorize an online location and/or remote participation at a Regular Convention, if ratified by at least 26 state chairs within thirty days.

Proposal 18
Multi-Round Voting for LNC At-Large and Judicial Committee
 Adopted 6-4

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>RULE 8: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE</p> <p>1. Nominations for Party Officers shall be from the floor. The election shall be conducted in the following manner:</p> <p>a. For each office, a majority vote will be necessary for election.</p> <p>b. Each delegation shall tabulate its total vote, and the delegation chair shall deliver a written total to the Secretary. When all delegations have submitted their votes, the Secretary shall declare the voting closed.</p> <p>c. In cases where no candidate receives a majority, runoff votes will be held, dropping the candidate with the fewest votes after each ballot.</p> <p>2. Nominations for the at-large members of the National Committee shall be from the floor. The election shall be conducted in the following manner:</p> <p>a. Each delegate may cast a ballot with a vote for either none-of-the-above or one vote per candidate for any number of candidates. Every ballot with a vote for none-of-</p>	<p>RULE 8: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE</p> <p>1. Nominations for Party Officers shall be from the floor. The election shall be conducted in the following manner:</p> <p>a. For each office, a majority vote will be necessary for election.</p> <p>b. Each delegation shall tabulate its total vote, and the delegation chair shall deliver a written total to the Secretary. When all delegations have submitted their votes, the Secretary shall declare the voting closed.</p> <p>c. In cases where no candidate receives a majority, <u>the candidate with the fewest votes and any candidates polling less than 5% shall be struck from subsequent ballots</u> runoff votes will be held, dropping the candidate with the fewest votes after each ballot.</p> <p>2. Nominations for the at-large members of the National Committee shall be from the floor. The election shall be conducted in the following manner:</p>	<p>RULE 8: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE</p> <p>1. Nominations for Party Officers shall be from the floor. The election shall be conducted in the following manner:</p> <p>a. For each office, a majority vote will be necessary for election.</p> <p>b. Each delegation shall tabulate its total vote, and the delegation chair shall deliver a written total to the Secretary. When all delegations have submitted their votes, the Secretary shall declare the voting closed.</p> <p>c. In cases where no candidate receives a majority, the candidate with the fewest votes and any candidates polling less than 5% shall be struck from subsequent ballots.</p> <p>2. Nominations for the at-large members of the National Committee shall be from the floor. The election shall be conducted in the following manner:</p> <p>a. Each delegate may cast a ballot with a vote for either none-of-the-above or one vote per seat to be elected. Every ballot with a vote for</p>

<p>the-above or one or more candidates is counted as one ballot cast. A vote for none-of-the-above shall be ignored if the ballot also includes a vote for any other candidate.</p> <p>b. Each delegation shall tabulate its total vote, and the delegation chair shall deliver a written total to the Secretary, along with the ballots cast.</p> <p>c. When all delegations have submitted their votes, the Chair shall declare the voting closed. The top five candidates receiving a majority vote of the ballots cast shall be elected. Tie votes affecting the outcome shall be decided by lot.</p>	<p>a. Each delegate may cast a ballot with a vote for either none-of-the-above or one vote per <u>seat to be elected candidate for any number of candidates</u>. Every ballot with a vote for none-of-the-above or one or more candidates is counted as one ballot cast. A vote for none-of-the-above shall be ignored if the ballot also includes a vote for any other candidate.</p> <p>b. Each delegation shall tabulate its total vote, and the delegation chair shall deliver a written total to the Secretary, along with the ballots cast.</p> <p>c. When all delegations have submitted their votes, the Chair shall declare the voting closed. The top five candidates receiving a majority vote of the ballots cast shall be elected. Tie votes affecting the outcome shall be decided by lot.</p> <p><u>d. In cases where vacancies remain after a round of voting: after the first round of voting, the number of vacancies that remain to be elected will be multiplied by two, and top candidates who fail to reach a majority equaling that number in the previous round, will be eligible to be voted upon in a second round, with any candidates polling less than 5% struck from subsequent ballots along with the last place finisher in the</u></p>	<p>none-of-the-above or one or more candidates is counted as one ballot cast. A vote for none-of-the-above shall be ignored if the ballot also includes a vote for any other candidate.</p> <p>b. Each delegation shall tabulate its total vote, and the delegation chair shall deliver a written total to the Secretary, along with the ballots cast.</p> <p>c. When all delegations have submitted their votes, the Chair shall declare the voting closed. The top five candidates receiving a majority vote of the ballots cast shall be elected. Tie votes affecting the outcome shall be decided by lot.</p> <p>d. In cases where vacancies remain after a round of voting: after the first round of voting, the number of vacancies that remain to be elected will be multiplied by two, and top candidates who fail to reach a majority equaling that number in the previous round, will be eligible to be voted upon in a second round, with any candidates polling less than 5% struck from subsequent ballots along with the last place finisher in the preceding round if not otherwise eliminated; this process will repeat itself for the third round of voting if necessary.</p>
---	---	--

	<p><u>preceding round if not otherwise eliminated; this process will repeat itself for the third round of voting if necessary.</u></p>	
--	--	--

Rationale for Proposal 18:

We have repeatedly failed to elect a full number of LNC at-large representatives and most recently have failed to validly elect anyone on the judicial committee. Those failures have been the result of three things: (1) a large field of candidates, many of whom with little to no support; (2) approval voting, where large numbers of delegates have engaged in strategic voting for their favorite candidates; and (3) significant floor time spent on trying to get a vote to permit another round of voting. Other proposals do address (somewhat) the large field, but it is still likely that there will be a field of 15-20 (as opposed to 40-50) candidates for LNC and JC with that proposal, approval voting has its draw backs of strategic voting, and it does not address the issues with approval voting, and, most significantly, a lack of a procedure to automatically move to additional rounds of voting without a need to suspend the rules. This proposal streamlines our voting procedures, dropping off LNC officer, at-large, and JC candidates who do not have appreciable support (5% or more) after the first round, along with a narrowing of the field to twice the number of vacancies that remain after the first round. Real favorites versus merely acceptable candidates will emerge from this process of moving away from approval voting, resulting in an election that is more representative of the desires of the body, and a third round is automatically called for. In short, this makes it far more likely we will elect a full, or almost full, slate of LNC at-large and JC members.

Minority Report on Proposal 18 by Mr. Bishop-Henchman and Ms. Crawford:

The problems we have had with approval voting are likely due to large fields of candidates, with many candidates entering the race casually with little forethought or support, serving to make voting decisions more difficult. Another proposal, Proposal 4, addresses this problem by requiring more delegates supporting a nomination before a candidate is accepted as a nominee. That proposal, instead of this one, should be adopted and given a chance to give us better results.

Proposal 19
Restrict Usage of Voice Votes at Convention
 Adopted 5-2

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
<p>RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURES AND MOTIONS</p> <p>1. On all matters, except the retention of platform planks, the election of Judicial Committee Members, Party Officers and at-large members of the National Committee, and the nomination of Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates, voting will be by either voice vote or rising vote. If any delegate objects to the Chair’s ruling on the outcome of a voice vote, a rising vote shall be conducted. If 20 or more delegates object to the Chair’s ruling on the outcome of a rising vote, a counted vote will be held.</p>	<p>RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURES AND MOTIONS</p> <p>1. On all matters, except the retention of platform planks, the election of Judicial Committee Members, Party Officers and at-large members of the National Committee, and the nomination of Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates, voting will be by either voice vote, rising vote, <u>or counted vote. Voice votes may only be used for motions that require a majority vote.</u> If any delegate objects to the Chair’s ruling on the outcome of a voice vote, a rising vote shall be conducted. If 20 or more delegates object to the Chair’s ruling on the outcome of a rising vote, a counted vote will be held.</p>	<p>RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURES AND MOTIONS</p> <p>1. On all matters, except the retention of platform planks, the election of Judicial Committee Members, Party Officers and at-large members of the National Committee, and the nomination of Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates, voting will be by voice vote, rising vote, or counted vote. Voice votes may only be used for motions that require a majority vote. If any delegate objects to the Chair’s ruling on the outcome of a voice vote, a rising vote shall be conducted. If 20 or more delegates object to the Chair’s ruling on the outcome of a rising vote, a counted vote will be held.</p>

Rationale for Proposal 19:

Some delegates cast voice votes more loudly than others. Even so, it is often quite easy to discern from a voice vote whether there were more yes votes than no votes, so that works reasonably well for motions which require a majority vote for adoption. But it is much harder to accurately discern with the ear whether the yes votes were mathematically double the number of no votes.

RONR p. 45-46 recommends that: “A vote by voice is the regular method of voting on any motion that does not require more than a majority vote for its adoption... The simple rising vote (in which the number of members voting on each side is not counted) is used ... as the normal method of voting on motions requiring a two-thirds vote for adoption.”

Instead, our conventions often use voice votes for motions which require a 2/3 vote. Rising votes are almost as quick to conduct as are voice votes, and the few extra seconds are worth it to decrease the chances of an error in judgment on such floor votes.

Minority Report on Proposal 19 by Mr. Bishop-Henchman and Mr. Craig:

Under the status quo, there is the option to use rising or counted votes on close votes, but this proposal would make it mandatory in many cases. Voice votes work fine since many of the votes we take that require a two-thirds threshold (suspensions of the rules, adopting or rejecting Bylaws proposals, adopting or rejecting Platform proposals) end up being lopsided with nearly everyone on one side. We do not believe this proposal is necessary, and believe that it will make convention business take longer.

Proposal 1
Remote Participation for 2020 Convention
 Adopted 9-0

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ
	<p><u>ARTICLE 19: REMOTE PARTICIPATION FOR 2020 CONVENTION</u></p> <p><u>For the 2020 Regular Convention, if authorized by their state delegation chair, delegates may register in attendance, be counted as virtually present on the floor, and participate in business remotely through electronic means provided for by the national committee.</u></p> <p><u>Provided, this article shall take immediate effect and be automatically repealed upon the final adjournment of the 2020 Regular Convention.</u></p>	<p>ARTICLE 19: REMOTE PARTICIPATION FOR 2020 CONVENTION</p> <p>For the 2020 Regular Convention, if authorized by their state delegation chair, delegates may register in attendance, be counted as virtually present on the floor, and participate in business remotely through electronic means provided for by the national committee.</p> <p>Provided, this article shall take immediate effect and be automatically repealed upon the final adjournment of the 2020 Regular Convention.</p>

Rationale for Proposal 1:

Note: Due to the vote of the LNC authorizing the simultaneous online and in-person convention, the Committee believes that this proposal is no longer necessary. This proposal and its rationale are presented here for informational purposes.

This proposal authorizes, with minimal alteration to the usual rules and procedures, remote participation of delegates who are not physically present at the second sitting of the 2020 convention. This would be a one-time accommodation to the unusual circumstances of the 2020 convention and would not affect future conventions. It would be automatically repealed upon final adjournment with no need for the convention to take any further action.

This proposal incorporates by reference the work that has already been done by the LNC, staff, and volunteers to make such a system available and ready to use. This system includes a method to track the queue to be recognized and would allow for calling on speakers in the “digital mic” line, the same as the presiding officer usually rotates between in-person mics at a convention. This will also enable remote delegates to fully participate in nomination speeches and elections for LNC and Judicial Committee. Remote delegates would thus be able to participate in all of the convention’s business rather than being excluded from some matters

or requiring any special rules to limit their participation. Roll call votes will be taken with an electronic ballot for remote delegates and state delegation chairs will be provided their totals to report as usual, similar to the first sitting. Other votes may be taken through a quick electronic poll. These capabilities may also be used by delegates who are present in Orlando to accommodate the need for social distancing.

As a compromise that helped this proposal garner unanimous support on the committee, authorizing delegates to participate remotely would rest with the state delegation chairs, who may consult with their delegates and/or affiliate party as they wish. This would allow delegations to prioritize their in-person alternates over remote delegates if they prefer. It would also allow states that have no need for remote delegates to not use them. This provision would respect the right of each state affiliate party to be represented in the manner and by the delegates they prefer.