



# Minutes *of the* SPECIAL CONVENTION *of the* Libertarian Party of Hawaii

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## **Date**

September 12, 2026

## **Place:**

Hilo Hawaiian Hotel, Room Moku'ola, 71 Banyan Drive, Hilo, Hawaii 96720

## **Time:**

Called to order 11:21 a.m. HST; adjourned approximately 2:25 p.m. HST

## **Purpose:**

*Convened by direction of the 2025 State Convention pursuant to the motion adopted August 30, 2025; held in conjunction with a General Membership Meeting and limited in purpose by this call.*

**Presiding Officer:** Austin Martin, Chairman

**Recording Officer:** Abbra Green, Secretary

## Attendance

The Credentials Committee consisted of Aaron Toman, Nicholas Zehr, and Abbra Green. The Credentials Committee initially reported thirteen (13) credentialed delegates, later increased to fourteen (14) during the Bylaws Committee report (see Item 4(d), below). Chris Luchini was absent for all votes.

Voting members:

1. Chairman Austin Martin
2. Treasurer Nicholas Zehr
3. Secretary Abbra Green
4. At-Large Celina Monge
5. Aaron Toman
6. Roger Christie
7. Fred Fogel
8. Nicholas Kirby
9. Silas Martin
10. Starr Cole
11. Azalea Martin
12. Kelly Nguyen
13. Chris Luchini
14. Kevin Hill

Attendees:

1. Karah Creekmore
2. Alexandra Kho
3. Zach Wittenhagen
4. Malu Gierau
5. Alex Stephen

*Chairman Martin recognized Don Johnson, a lifetime member of the party since 1974–75, as a major sponsor of the special convention.*

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## 1. Call to Order

Chairman Martin called the special convention to order at 11:21 a.m. HST.

## 2. Credentials Report

The Credentials Committee reported thirteen (13) members credentialed, establishing a quorum of six (6), a majority of seven (7), a two-thirds vote of nine (9), and a seven-eighths vote of twelve (12).

- a. Motion to accept the Credentials Report as presented. Seconded. Adopted without objection.

## 3. Recognition of Sponsor

Chairman Martin recognized Mr. Don Johnston and read remarks he had submitted recalling the party's founding era, its early officers and conventions, and his decades of continued

support, including sponsoring a major portion of the day's proceedings. The membership extended its thanks to Mr. Johnston.

#### **4. Bylaws Committee Report**

a. By direction of the Bylaws and Platform Committee, Secretary Green moved the Committee's report and the following resolution. As a motion made on behalf of the committee, no second was required:

*"Resolved, that the bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Hawaii be revised by substituting the proposed bylaws contained in Part 1 of the Bylaws report of the Bylaws and Platform Committee."*

b. Chairman Martin noted the resolution would require a two-thirds vote and that each article of the proposed bylaws would be open to amendment during consideration.

c. The assembly considered the proposed bylaws with recesses for informal discussion and an opportunity for members to submit proposed amendments in writing at the Credentials Committee table.

d. Kelly Nguyen raised for floor discussion a proposed amendment to Article III that would establish a minimum age requirement for participation in party business. It was noted by the body that the EC can set a policy for age if needed. The proposal was discussed but was not formally moved.

e. Motion, by Secretary Green, to amend the Credentials Report to add Kevin Hill. Seconded. Passed without objection. Voting membership was increased to fourteen (14), establishing a quorum of six (6), a majority of eight (8), a two-thirds vote of ten (10), and a seven-eighths vote of thirteen (13).

f. Motion by Nicholas Zehr to order the previous question on the pending revision by substitution in (a). Seconded by Azalea Martin. A counted vote was taken: 9 in favor, 2 opposed, 2 abstaining. Motion Passed.

g. The question was brought on the revision by substitution in (a). A counted vote was taken: 11 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstaining. The resolution having received more than the two-thirds required, Chairman Martin declared the motion adopted. The proposed bylaws were thereby adopted as the revised bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Hawaii, to take effect upon adjournment of the convention.

h. Chairman Martin declared a recess at approximately 12:29 p.m. HST for lunch; convention reconvened at approximately 1:20 p.m. HST.

#### **5. "Announcements"**

a. Following the recess, Chairman Martin recognized Ms. Nguyen, who addressed the convention at length with remarks critical of the Chairman's conduct on the LPHI and LNC boards, including an accusation that his on-campus activism amounted to harassment of students and staff, prompting them to call campus security.

b. In response to the concerns Ms. Nguyen had just raised regarding his interactions with the college, Chairman Martin announced a free-speech victory: after the intervention of the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE) and Young Americans for Liberty (YAL), Hawai'i Community College rescinded its prior order against him and changed its statewide policy.

c. Kevin Hill was then recognized and, referencing what he termed "Kelly's diatribe," asked what procedure exists under the bylaws for a member to raise an objection to a member's conduct. Chairman Martin explained the process under the new Article VII, including referral to the Executive Committee, due process for the accused, and oversight by the general membership. Secretary Green clarified the new version of the bylaws is not in effect until adjournment.

d. In the course of discussion, Pastor Hill stated to the floor that the good-faith resolution process required under Article VII, Section 2 (the Pre-Filing Requirements, incorporating the Good Faith Rule at Section 5.b) had already been undertaken, describing that he had personally met with Ms. Nguyen and, consistent with the related biblical process, also involved additional parties before raising the matter with the body.

## **6. Platform Committee Report**

a. The convention proceeded to the Platform Committee's report.

b. On behalf of the Bylaws and Platform Committee, Nicholas Zehr moved the Committee's report and the following resolution:

*"Resolved, that the Libertarian Party of Hawaii adopt the platform set out in Part II of the report of the Bylaws and Platform Committee as a complete substitute for the Party Platform, under Article VI, Section 3.B of the Bylaws."*

c. The Committee chair summarized the report: the current (2015) platform's seven planks would be reorganized and expanded into thirteen, restating the party's existing philosophical foundation more clearly and applying it more consistently, while carrying forward every subject addressed by the 2015 platform in substance (some consolidated where they overlap). The report added explicit new planks on freedom of speech, privacy rights, right to self-defense, medical freedom, parental rights and educational choice, community autonomy, environmental policy, and foreign entanglements, and retained a clause noting that the platform's silence on a given issue is not to be read as approval of it.

d. Discussion followed, with members invited to submit proposed amendments in writing.

e. Hearing no further discussion and no proposed amendments, Chairman Martin ordered the previous question without objection.

f. A counted vote was taken on the motion in (b). The vote was unanimous in the affirmative. Chairman Martin declared the motion adopted.

## **7. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn sine die was made by Aaron Toman and seconded by Secretary Green. Hearing no objection, Chairman Martin declared the convention adjourned at approximately 2:25 p.m. HST.

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Respectfully submitted,

**Abbra Green** Secretary, Libertarian Party of Hawaii

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The Executive Committee held a vote on the adoption of these minutes on:

Results: