

For a side-by-side comparison of the 2024 bylaws vs. proposed Member Bylaws (up to date as of Wednesday, 13 May), please visit this link:

<https://bylaws.thetorch.media/>

While no LLMs were used in any part of the creation of or research for these bylaws and their rationales, an LLM was used in formatting the above side-by-side comparison of the two documents. We have double-checked the linked copy to make sure nothing is summarized or confabulated; however, we will check more thoroughly over the next day to guarantee that all copy is verbatim.

Bylaws of the Libertarian Party

ARTICLE 1: NAME

These articles shall govern the association known as the “Libertarian Party”, hereinafter referred to as the “Party.”

ARTICLE 2: PURPOSES

*These additions specify the **mutually interdependent functions** central to the Libertarian Party’s mission.*

Arguably, the Party has one core, yet more generalized, purpose that is furthered through several interlocking material dimensions. If the Libertarian Party is meant to serve as a sort of prism through which individual liberty can be transmitted and refracted politically, each of the purposes below can be thought of as one of the faces of that prism. Without acknowledging these faces and their connectivity to the others, our work becomes fractured; and our momentum as the liberty movement’s political vehicle stagnates.

***Running and electing ideologically-aligned candidates has always been, and will always be, a critical purpose of the Libertarian Party.** On that matter, two points bear mentioning: First, that running and electing ideologically-aligned candidates is a critical facet of the Libertarian Party’s role as the political vehicle of the liberty movement—and this points to the fact that **other purposes necessarily coexist within the Party and do not detract from, but rather aggrandize, its work of running and electing candidates**—and second, that **no successful political party has ever run candidates in a vacuum.** Instead, major parties and other successful minor parties liaise with media networks, build coalitions, engage in legislative advocacy, and promote their ideological or policy platforms via Party-managed networks in order to further their political agenda. It makes no more sense to argue that a party—least of all the Libertarian Party—can be successful (or hope to recruit members and raise funds) only by tasking its members with serving one discrete function than it does to argue that the Party can be successful only by playing second-fiddle to more powerful partisan contingents under auspices of engaging in coalition work.*

*Perhaps more fundamentally, since each of these purposes is necessary to support the others, **clarifying what these purposes are and establishing their relevance to one another improves the quality of work performed by volunteers and committee members.** When members understand that*

their role supporting candidates (for example) is related to and part of the same mission as establishing libertarianism as an alternative to our current major party-dominated institutions, engaging in policy advocacy, publishing libertarian literature, and providing resources to states, the work they do to support candidates will be more beneficial to our holistic mission; and they will feel more empowered and engaged by recognizing the centrality of their work to the Party's agenda.

Apart from its first item, this list is currently organized in ascending order by sector and/or geographic scope (social → grassroots → local / state → legislative → national → international). Because each of these items is a dimension of a greater ultimate objective and cannot stand without the others, this list is not meant to be ranked in ascending or descending order of importance. These are, in truth, not different "jobs", but separate tasks within the same vocation, none of which can be outsourced without the others losing their integrity or capacity to be optimally fulfilled.

The Party is organized to implement and give voice to the principles embodied in the Statement of Principles by:

1. Functioning as a libertarian political entity separate and distinct from all other political parties or movements;
2. Coordinating and facilitating issue-based advocacy and agitation to move social sentiment in a libertarian direction;
3. Entering into public information activities and advocating for libertarian causes at the grassroots and policy levels;
4. Chartering Affiliate Chapters throughout the United States and promoting their growth and activities;
5. Electing Libertarians to public office to move public policy in a libertarian direction;
6. Nominating candidates for President and Vice President of the United States, and supporting Party and affiliate party candidates for political office; and
7. Liaising in solidarity and engaging in joint activities with libertarian parties and counterparts worldwide.

ARTICLE 3: STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND PLATFORM

The current bylaws permit the deletion of platform planks by a majority vote. This alters that threshold to 2/3 in order to prevent a majority at a single convention from removing those pillars that two-thirds of a prior convention body has decided are central to libertarianism's ideological foundations. It thus fortifies the Party platform against factional co-optation.

1. The Statement of Principles affirms that philosophy upon which the Libertarian Party is founded, by which it shall be sustained, and through which liberty shall prevail. The enduring importance of the Statement of Principles requires that it may be amended only by a vote of 7/8 of all registered delegates at a regular convention.
2. The Party Platform shall include, but not be limited to, the Statement of Principles and the implementation of those principles in the form of planks.
3. The existing platform may be amended only at regular conventions. A platform plank may be deleted by a 2/3 vote. New planks or amendments to existing planks require a 2/3 vote.

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP

The first paragraph of this article **strengthens and renders politically viable** our opposition to coercive action—commonly referred to as “**the non-aggression principle**”—by giving voice to the crux of that opposition, which is the principle of self-authorship.

The teleological core of an ideology cannot be fundamentally negative. Prior to any “against,” there exists a “for”: If we, as libertarians, stand against aggression, we stand against aggression because we stand for and upon something deeper. **The purpose of a political membership pledge is to articulate what we stand for, so that we can confront what we are against with greater solidarity, firmer purpose, and clearer direction.**

Several contingents of our Party have taken umbrage with the current membership pledge from its inception. Some have weaponized these objections selectively, at one moment arguing that the pledge should be rejected in order to permit “physical removal” of cultural undesirables, and at another averring that their political opponents are in perpetual violation of this pledge (and should, thus, be physically removed). Opportunistic naysaying against the pledge too often drowns out the fact that most scruples raised against it have been raised in good faith: Some, for instance, oppose the pledge’s status as a membership requisite on the grounds that it privileges the Objectivist wing of the Party. **Others protest that the pledge’s foundations are problematic, inasmuch as it was first inserted in order to signal to the government that Libertarians did not seek radical institutional change.** It is therefore—and not wholly inaccurately—considered by some to be a pledge of fealty to the state, and, what is more, to the state as it currently exists.

Minor parties, by their definition, seek radical institutional change. Even if the implementation is piecemeal, the object is still radical, for there is nothing more radical, nor more threatening, to the state than the sovereignty of the fundamental denominator of agency; the principle of individual self-governance.

In 2026, therefore, we stand firm in our certitude that we cannot oppose state aggression with any degree of efficacy if we do not ground that stance within our deepest principles as libertarians; nor can our opposition bear out any real meaning in the world if we do not commit to bearing forward those principles in our actions. As libertarians, we do not merely oppose state authoritarianism. We affirm self-authorship. This renewed pledge renews the commitment we owe to our cause and to ourselves to fight for a world set free in our lifetime.

1. Members of the Party shall be those individuals:
 - a. Who agree to support actively the spirit of the Party’s Statement of Principles and Platform to the best of their understanding and the furthest of their ability; and
 - b. Who have certified in writing that they accept and affirm the calling to advance the cause of human liberty in speech, action, and association; to fight for the self-determination of all people; and to actively oppose the initiation of force and fraud.

Proviso: At the time of the above paragraph’s adoption and implementation, all current Party members shall be considered to have certified the above pledge and their current membership shall remain in effect through the remainder of its term.

2. The National Committee may offer life memberships and may create other levels of membership. and shall determine the dues levels for such memberships.

The third paragraph of this article establishes a process by which **volunteers may earn lifetime memberships by collecting signatures for ballot access**, allowing members who would not otherwise enjoy the means an opportunity to obtain the Party's highest membership level. It is proposed by an individual who has calculated the rough monetary value of a ballot access signature and determined a quantity relatively equal to that of a current life membership.

3. The National Committee shall offer Life memberships to any member of the Libertarian Party who, from the date of this bylaw's passage forward, collects 500 valid signatures for Presidential ballot access for the Libertarian Party within any 365-day period, provided that the member does not receive monetary or any other significant compensation for gathering those signatures.

The fourth paragraph of this article modifies the terminology of "sustaining members" to "active members", a change carried forward throughout this document. In addition to the fact that the phrase "sustaining member" lacks an intuitive signifier, the phrase "sustaining member" places the conceptual onus on the Party rather than the member: It is the Party being sustained, rather than the member being active within the Party, that the phrase "sustaining member" treats as an end-in-itself. What sustains the Party is the members' activity—not the other way around. This terminological change makes that clear.

4. "Active members" or "active Party members" are members of the Party who:
 - a. During the prior 12 months have paid, or have had paid on their behalf, membership dues in an amount of at least \$25 to the National Party; or
 - b. Have held office on an Executive Committee or subcommittee in a state or local Libertarian Party Affiliate Chapter for one or more years within the past two years; or
 - c. Are Life members of the National Party.

Proviso 1: Upon this bylaw's passage, all existing bylaw references to "sustaining member(s)" shall be amended to read "active member(s)".

Proviso 2: If the above language on "active members" is not passed, all future references to "active member(s)" in this document shall be amended to read "sustaining member(s)".

The fifth paragraph of this article, also found in the 2026 Bylaws Committee Report, establishes the **clear and non-fungible character of "membership dues", the lack of which was recently used to confer a ruling that donations and merchandise and event purchases could be treated as membership dues**. Treating payments made to the Party for purposes beyond maintaining membership as "dues" risks the loss of revenue for the Party; the imposition of a multi-tiered system that separates members who have purchased their membership at "full price" and received "only" membership in return from those who have purchased another item and received, for the same price, both a membership and (for example) a t-shirt; and irregularities in state and National membership totals whose accuracy is essential to tabulating National Convention delegate allotments fairly.

5. "Membership dues" shall be defined as unrestricted payments made for the sole purpose of maintaining membership. Donations or purchases, monetary or in-kind, shall not be construed, substituted, or used as membership dues.

The sixth paragraph of this article introduces a means of insulating the Party against violent felonious offenders, which allows the Party to distance itself from the worst actors without opening the matter of expulsion to abuse.

6. A member of the Party may be expelled only in cases where (1) they have been expelled by any Affiliate Chapter of which they are a member; (2) the expelling Affiliate Chapter petitions for the member's expulsion from the National Party; and (3) the National Committee votes in favor of the expulsion.
 - a. Upon a member's expulsion by their Affiliate Chapter, the Affiliate Chapter's Chair or Secretary may notify the National Committee Secretary of the member's expulsion in writing, attach the minutes of the expulsion proceedings and cause for expulsion, and directly request that the member be expelled by the National Party.
 - b. A majority vote of the National Committee shall be sufficient to expel those members eligible for expulsion. The proceedings of the National Committee's expulsion vote shall be open to the membership, recorded, and posted in a permanent archive section on the Party's website. At the National Committee's expulsion proceedings, the member subject to expulsion shall have the opportunity to address the Party and respond to questions from the National Committee.
 - c. Following expulsion, the member may appeal their expulsion to the Judicial Committee.
 - i. The Judicial Committee shall set a date for hearing the appeal within 20 to 40 days of receipt of the appeal, and shall notify all Party members, who shall have the right to observe the appeal. The proceedings of the hearing shall be recorded fully and posted to a permanent archive section on the Party's website and the business forum.
 - ii. No more than three representatives for the appellant and no more than three representatives for the plaintiff(s) shall have the right to appear and submit evidence and argument. However, the hearing shall have an open comment period during which members in attendance may address the Committee for five minutes in support of, and five minutes against, the appeal. Time for open comment may be extended by a majority vote of the Judicial Committee, but equal time must be extended to both positions.
 - iii. At the hearing, the burden of persuasion shall rest upon the appellant.
 - iv. The Judicial Committee shall either affirm the appellant's expulsion or order the reinstatement of the appellant's National member rights within 30 days of the hearing and in no case later than 60 days prior to a regular convention. The National Judicial Committee shall have no jurisdiction to rule on the appellant's expulsion from any Affiliate Chapter. Failure of the Judicial Committee to rule within 30 days shall constitute an affirmation of the appellant's expulsion.

ARTICLE 5: AFFILIATE CHAPTERS AND PARTY GROUPS

This article distinguishes between Affiliate Chapters and Party Associations thus: Affiliate Chapters are territory-based parties chartered as part of the National Libertarian Party; and Party Groups are intra-Party associations, such as caucuses, that (1) are occupied by a formal membership body incorporating a threshold portion of the Party's active membership, (2) agree in writing to the Party's Statement of Principles, and (3) petition for Party Group status and the privileges afforded thereby.

In so doing, the article makes clear that National is not a separate entity that exists to command and steer the states; nor are states rogue actors that can capitalize on Party branding and forsake Party

principles when it suits them, diluting and in some cases distorting the identity of the Libertarian Party and libertarianism writ large. Instead, the states, together, constitute the national Party. There is no Party that exists without the states.

Especially in tandem with Article 7, this article situates what are currently “affiliates” as joint drivers of National’s agenda, rendering National a network of self-governing Affiliate Chapters with (1) local interests that individualize a distributed national mission; and (2) shared national resources that amplify and strengthen targeted local efforts. By the same token, the Affiliate Chapter amendments make it so that all Affiliate Chapter members are innately National members so long as they are members of an Affiliate Chapter, thereby nullifying frequent debates about whether state members who are not National members can be delegates at the National Convention.

Further changes to this article include the incorporation of U.S. territories and first nations as potentially eligible hosts for Affiliate Chapters, in addition to an amendment identical in quality to one proposed by the National Bylaws Committee (rendering optional the chartering of state-level Affiliate Chapters, contingent upon a majority vote of the National Committee). This latter amendment protects the Party from being forced to charter the first theoretically eligible Affiliate Chapter applying within any state, territory, or first nation in the event that concerns exist regarding the applicant’s legitimacy or fidelity to the Statement of Principles. Finally, there is a provision for automatic disaffiliation in extreme cases where an Affiliate Chapter with Libertarian ballot access endorses non-Libertarian candidates in partisan elections.

1. No person, group, or organization may use the name "Libertarian Party" or any confusingly similar designation except the Party or an organization to which the Party grants Affiliate Chapter status or as otherwise provided in these bylaws.
2. The National Committee may charter state, territory, or tribe-level Affiliate Chapters (hereinafter, "Affiliate Chapter" in the singular and "Affiliate Chapters" in the plural) from any qualifying organization requesting such status in each state, territory, first nation, and the District of Columbia (hereinafter, state) with a majority vote of the National Committee.
 - a. Organizations that wish to become Affiliate Chapters shall apply for such status on a standard petition form as adopted by the National Committee, which petition shall be signed by no fewer than ten members of the party residing in the appropriate state. Affiliate Chapter status shall be granted only to those organizations that adopt the Statement of Principles and file a copy of their constitution and/or bylaws with the Party Secretary. The most recent version of each Affiliate Chapter’s constitution and/or bylaws shall be kept publicly available; and each Affiliate Chapter’s webpage shall be made accessible via the Party website.
 - b. Affiliate Chapters shall be recognized subsidiaries of the National Party, notwithstanding formal disaffiliation.
 - c. As Affiliate Chapters of the Libertarian Party, no Affiliate Chapter’s constitution or bylaws shall be in conflict with or violation of the National bylaws. If an Affiliate Chapter’s constitution or bylaws are in conflict with the National bylaws, the National bylaws shall take precedence. If, in the event of such conflict, an Affiliate Chapter elects to prioritize its local bylaws, that Affiliate Chapter shall be subject to sanctions up to and including disaffiliation.
 - d. An Affiliate Chapter may charter sub-affiliates within the state, which shall entitle such sub-affiliates to use the name "Libertarian Party."
 - e. Each Affiliate Chapter shall, in accordance with its own bylaws and these bylaws, determine who shall be its delegates to all regular conventions.

Proviso 1: Following this bylaw's passage, all existing bylaw references to "affiliate(s)" shall read "Affiliate Chapter(s)".

Proviso 1: If the above language on "Affiliate Chapters" is not passed, all future references to "Affiliate Chapter(s)" in this document shall be amended to read "affiliate(s)".

Much has been made about the highly fractious nature of Libertarian Party caucuses. While such complaints are undoubtedly valid, caucuses are not detrimental by their nature but rather enjoy little incentive to operate in a way conducive to the flourishing of the Party writ large. The below provisions regarding Party Groups acknowledge the enduring reality of caucuses and fashion their existence into an asset rather than a liability.

According to the terms delineated within this article, the institution of Party Groups binds the Party to provide Party Groups a platform for promoting ideas and policies advocated by a high enough proportion of the Party's membership (joined together in a Party Group), regardless of whether those ideas and policies conflict with one another, or whether Party leadership happen to agree with a given association or caucus' agenda.

In addition to the fact that the institution of Party Groups allows such groups to do part of the Party's work of ideological promulgation—through their ability to use Party branding, publish in Party media, and benefit from incentives to create opportunities for Party member engagement—platforming opposing libertarian policy positions and schools of libertarianism helps perform the critical work of re-situating politics as an ideological rather than interest-based enterprise. The United States' two major parties are interest-based parties: They are steered by elite policy demanders to whom, in exchange for voter and financial yields, the parties rent out preferred policy "real estate" within their platforms and throughout their rhetoric. As a result, major party politics becomes tribal, superficial, rudderless, and issue-based—indulging, in the process, the Marxian misconception that "ideology" itself is determined by the ideologue's material interests.

Minor parties have a major role to play in correcting this trend. By illuminating the reality that two individuals with shared ideological principles can, from those first principles, arrive at entirely separate policy conclusions, the Libertarian Party can (through the institution of Party Groups) simultaneously appeal to a broader swath of potential members via amplifying (rather than abandoning) its principles; and magnify the still ideological core of political thought and action in contemporary America.

3. The National Committee may, with a majority vote of the National Committee, enter into agreements with Libertarian Party caucuses and associations (hereinafter, "Party Groups") that:
 - a. Petition on a standard petition form as adopted by the National Committee;
 - b. Adopt the Libertarian Party Statement of Principles; and
 - c. Are composed of dues-paying members totaling 2.5 percent or more of the Party's active membership.
4. Party Groups may:
 - a. Use the name "Libertarian Party" and similar designations in all public communications (unofficial caucuses and other Party groups may still form and associate at will);
 - b. Publicly address the membership for up to ten minutes at monthly National Committee meetings, with the exception of the National Convention, at which Party Groups may publicly address the membership for up to fifteen minutes; and

- c. Issue regular print communications via official Party publications.
- 5. Party Group platforms and webpages shall be made and kept accessible via the Party website.
- 6. The existence of Party Groups shall not be taken to preclude, in any manner, the formation or existence of unofficial caucuses and groups within the Party.
- 7. The autonomy of Affiliate Chapters and Party Groups shall not be abridged by the National Committee or any other committee of the Party, except as provided by these bylaws and below:
 - a. No Party Group or Affiliate Chapter in a state with Libertarian Party ballot access (i.e., a state where Libertarian Party candidates may be listed as Libertarians on electoral ballots) shall endorse any candidate for public office who runs as a member of another party in any partisan election.
 - i. If an Affiliate Chapter in a state with Libertarian Party ballot access endorses a candidate for public office who runs as a member of another party in a partisan election, that Affiliate Chapter shall be automatically disaffiliated and may reapply for Affiliate Chapter status.
 - ii. If a Party Group endorses a candidate for public office who runs as a member of another party in a partisan election, that Party Group shall automatically lose its status as an official Party Group and may reapply.
 - b. No Affiliate Chapter or Party Group shall take any action inconsistent with the Statement of Principles or these bylaws.

*Finally, the foregoing paragraphs introduce the institution of the **Absolute Member Referendum**, a provision designed to award members a direct and powerful voice in most Party business, from disaffiliation to recalling officers to passing resolutions to overturning decisions of the National and Judicial Committees at high enough thresholds. **Article 9 of these bylaws describes the digital voting mechanism by which referenda shall take place**; and the digital voting platform proposed toward this end, *Vox*, has already been developed for one state.*

*The Party's paucity of member involvement owes to many ills, but among the more correctible yet most egregious—considering the ideology it espouses—is its institutional disregard for member voice. **When members do not feel seen, heard, or cared about by the Party, they struggle to care for and about the Party, its candidates, its initiatives, and, ultimately, its solvency.** The Absolute Member Referendum codifies within these bylaws two ideas: **(1) The Party belongs to those who show up; and (2) members must be given better incentives to show up to the Party.***

*Other minor parties have tried and failed to pass similar measures toward member-based governance. Passing the provisions for member referenda as delineated in these bylaws would make the **Libertarian Party unique in the level of agency it affords its active members, and would enable the Party's institutions to more faithfully represent its principles of individual liberty, voluntary association, and decentralized decision-making.***

*Guardrails are critical to the health and potency of the Absolute Member Referendum. Within its provisions stand rules that referendum voters be seasoned, active members; and a **"minimum quorum"** requirement for all valid ballots mitigates the risk of both majority and minority tyranny. Informally, the minimum quorum sets the threshold number of votes (Aye, No, or Abstain) for any Member Referendum to pass at 10% of the Party's total vote-eligible membership, defined as those individuals who have been active Party members for one or more years and whose membership has not lapsed for longer than 30 days within the past one year (in order to provide a grace period for accidental lapses, insufficient funds, and new payment accounts). At the time of this bylaw's drafting, that quota is approximately 1,000 members, meaning that 1,000 members would need to*

vote in a Member Referendum for the result of that referendum to be valid. If 60% of members need to vote “Aye” on such a referendum in order for it to pass, and 1,000 vote-eligible members have voted, then at least 600 members must vote “Aye”. If fewer than 1,000 vote-eligible members have voted in total, the ballot does not carry. This prevents a small number of members—say, 20 voting on a ballot with only 30 members voting in total—from being able to change core Party decisions unilaterally. It also prevents an out-of-touch National or Judicial Committee—containing a comparably meager portion of the membership—from being able to do the same against members’ will.

8. Notwithstanding those grounds for automatic disaffiliation enumerated in section 7.a.ii of this article, the Party shall have the right to revoke the status of (disaffiliate) any Affiliate Chapter, for cause, only by:
 - a. A vote of 3/4 of the entire National Committee;
 - b. A vote of 2/3 of the entire delegate body at the National convention; or
 - c. A vote, by virtual ballot, of 50% of the active Party members whose membership has been active for the past one or more years and has not lapsed for more than thirty (30) days within the past year (hereinafter, “vote-eligible members”), among those voting on a ballot for which a minimum quorum of 10% of vote-eligible members has been reached.
 - i. In order to open a virtual ballot for disaffiliation, a petition signed by no less than 100 active Party members must be submitted to the Secretary of the National Committee. For purposes of verification, the petition shall include the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the signatories, which shall be kept confidential. The Secretary shall notice and publish the petition, with all identifying information redacted, to the membership; and balloting shall remain open for fourteen (14) days.
9. The Party shall not disaffiliate any Affiliate Chapter within 60 days prior to a regular convention.
10. The Party shall have the right to revoke the official status of any Party Group, for cause, only by:
 - a. A vote of 7/8 of the entire National Committee at the National Convention;
 - b. A vote of 7/8 of the entire delegate body at the National Convention; or
 - c. A vote, by virtual ballot, of 75% of those vote-eligible members voting on a ballot for which a minimum quorum of 10% of vote-eligible members has been reached.
 - i. In order to open a virtual ballot for disaffiliation, a petition signed by no less than 100 active Party members must be submitted to the Secretary of the National Committee. For purposes of verification, the petition shall include the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the signatories, which shall be kept confidential. The Secretary shall notice and publish the petition, with all identifying information redacted, to the membership; and balloting shall remain open for fourteen (14) days.
11. “Cause” is defined here to include any one or more of the following:
 - a. Violation of the Party bylaws or Statement of Principles;
 - b. Endorsement, in any Affiliate Chapter or Party Group communications, of any non-Libertarian candidate for office;
 - c. Endorsement, in any Affiliate Chapter or Party Group communications, of any candidate not nominated by the National Party for an office for which the National Party has nominated a candidate;
 - d. Language or action, in an official capacity (including in public communications such as Affiliate Chapter or Party Group social media accounts), repeatedly determined to be in direct opposition to one or more planks of the Party platform or Statement of Principles (a failure to address directly one or more planks of the Party platform shall not constitute opposition thereto; and any platform plank currently under review by the Judicial Committee at the time of the language or action in question may be exempted from this clause).

12. An Affiliate Chapter or Party Group that has been disaffiliated or had its status revoked may challenge the action by written appeal to the Judicial Committee within 30 days of receipt of notice of such action. Failure to appeal the action within 30 days shall confirm the action and bar any later challenge or appeal.
 - a. The Judicial Committee shall set a date for hearing the appeal within 20 to 40 days of receipt of the appeal, and shall notify all Party members, who shall have the right to observe the appeal. The proceedings of the hearing shall be recorded fully and posted to a permanent archive section on the Party's website and the business forum.
 - b. No more than three representatives for the appellant and no more than three representatives for the plaintiff(s) shall have the right to appear and submit evidence and argument. However, the hearing shall have an open comment period during which members in attendance may address the Committee for five minutes in support of, and five minutes against, the appeal. Time for open comment may be extended by a majority vote of the Judicial Committee, but equal time must be extended to both positions.
 - c. At the hearing, the burden of persuasion shall rest upon the appellant.
 - d. The Judicial Committee shall either affirm the revocation of Affiliate Chapter or Party Group status or order reinstatement of the Affiliate Chapter or Party Group within 30 days of the hearing and in no case later than 60 days prior to a regular convention. Failure of the Judicial Committee to rule within 30 days shall constitute an affirmation of the revocation of Affiliate Chapter or Party Group status.
 - e. In cases of upholding an Affiliate Chapter's disaffiliation, the decision of the Judicial Committee may be overturned by a vote of 60% of those vote-eligible members voting on a ballot for which a minimum quorum of 10% of vote-eligible members has been reached. In cases of overturning an Affiliate Chapter's disaffiliation, the decision of the Judicial Committee shall be considered final, except in cases where new evidence is brought to light.
 - f. In cases of upholding a Party Group's revocation of status, the decision of the Judicial Committee may be overturned by a vote of 70% of those vote-eligible members voting on a ballot for which a minimum quorum of 10% of vote-eligible members has been reached. In cases of overturning a Party Group's revocation of status, the decision of the Judicial Committee shall be considered final, except in cases where new evidence is brought to light.

ARTICLE 6: OFFICERS

This article on National Committee officers contains five significant changes worth noting. In the first place, a **more explicitly worded lapsed membership clause** preempts the circumstance—as has occurred multiple times this past term on the National Committee—whereby National Committee members are found to have not been dues-paying members at the time of their election or appointment; or to have had their membership lapse at some point in their term without cure.

1. The officers of the Party shall be the Chair; Vice Chair; Secretary; and Treasurer.
 - a. All officers shall be active Party members at the time of their election, and shall remain active Party members throughout their term. Any lapse in an officer's membership that is not corrected within 72 hours shall result in the officer's automatic removal.
 - b. All officers shall be elected by a regular convention of the Party, shall take office immediately upon the close of the convention, and shall serve thereafter until the final adjournment of the regular convention following the next regular convention, except in cases of removal as enumerated within these bylaws.
2. No offices shall be combined.

In the second, this article directly binds all National Committee officers to the Party Statement of Principles, to which this past term's Judicial Committee ruled the National Committee was not bound according to the current bylaws. Correcting this oversight also permits members to petition in favor of "for-cause" removal of officers whom they believe to have broken faith with the Statement of Principles.

3. The Chair:
 - a. Shall represent and uphold, according to their most faithful interpretation thereof, the Party Statement of Principles;
 - b. Shall be the chief executive officer of the Party with full authority to direct its business and affairs, subject to express policies and directives issued by the membership, National Committee, its subcommittees, and/or other entities as enumerated within these bylaws;
 - c. Shall publicly address the membership at each National Committee meeting; and
 - d. Shall preside at all conventions and all meetings of the National Committee.
4. The Vice Chair:
 - a. Shall represent and uphold, according to their most faithful interpretation thereof, the Party Statement of Principles;
 - b. Shall be the chief assistant to the Chair, performing such duties as the Chair shall prescribe, and holding such executive powers as the Chair shall delegate;
 - c. Shall publicly address the membership at each National Committee meeting; and
 - d. Shall perform the duties of the Chair in the event that the Chair is, for any reason, unable to perform the duties of the office.
5. The Secretary:
 - a. Shall represent and uphold, according to their most faithful interpretation thereof, the Party Statement of Principles;
 - b. Shall be the recording officer of the Party;
 - c. Shall communicate with members and the National Committee regarding upcoming meetings and other events as necessary;
 - d. Shall attend all meetings of the National Committee and all Party conventions and shall act as Secretary thereof, keeping such minutes and records as necessary;
 - e. Shall maintain and oversee the accessibility public records of minutes and other information of interest to the membership;
 - f. May publicly address the membership at each National Committee meeting; and
 - g. Shall perform such duties as are assigned by the membership, subcommittees, Chair, Vice Chair, National Committee, and/or other entities as enumerated within these bylaws.
6. The Treasurer:
 - a. Shall receive, expend, and account for the funds of the Party under the supervision and direction of the Chair, Vice Chair, and National Committee;
 - b. Shall report to the membership, the National Committee, and the convention both the financial situation of the Party and the results of its activities;
 - c. Shall make an annual financial report to the National Committee;
 - d. Shall be responsible for oversight of all financial functions, including, but not limited to receipts, disbursements, internal and external reporting;
 - e. Shall publicly address the membership at each National Committee meeting, and
 - f. Shall perform all duties required of the office by applicable federal and state law.
7. The report of the Treasurer to the convention, specified in Convention Rule 1 agenda item 4, shall include an independent auditor's report opining whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Party and the changes in its net assets and its cash

flow for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Unaudited interim financial statements shall also be presented. Such reports shall be made available to every delegate.

In the third, officers are here granted four-year terms, barring suspension or removal, in order to (1) grant such officers greater time to execute the program on which the membership elected them; and (2) stagger (and in the latter case shorten) conventions by alternating between officer election and bylaw conventions on the one hand, and Presidential and Vice Presidential nominating conventions on the other.

8. The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected for four-year terms.
9. No officer shall be subject to removal from office except for failure to perform the duties of office (including service to the Statement of Principles), dereliction of fiduciary duty, or gross malfeasance.
10. Officers shall be removed according to any of the following processes:
 - a. 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.
 - b. A vote of 2/3 of all National Convention delegates, at convention.
 - c. A vote of 2/3 of the National Convention delegates credentialed at the most recent regular convention and who are active Party members at the time of voting.
 - d. A vote, by virtual ballot, of 60% of those vote-eligible members voting on a ballot for which a minimum quorum of 10% of vote-eligible members has been reached.
11. If removed by a vote of 2/3 of the National Committee, written notice of removal must be issued to the officer in question within 72 hours of voting.
12. The National Committee membership rights of the officer under consideration for removal may be suspended by a 3/4 vote of the National Committee for up to 60 days pending appeal.

Additional transparency provisions for hearings on the removal of officers are found in paragraph 13. This language codifies the Judicial and National Committees' obligations to communicate clearly and thoroughly to the membership all removal proceedings; and guarantees that a permanent record of such processes be kept.

13. The officer subject to removal may appeal their removal in writing to the Judicial Committee within seven days of receipt of notice of removal. Failure to appeal within seven days shall confirm the removal and bar any later challenge or appeal.
 - a. 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 active members and all interested persons, which persons shall have the right to appear and present evidence and argument.
 - b. The proceedings of the hearing shall be recorded fully and posted to a permanent archive section on the Party's website and the business forum.
 - c. No more than three representatives for the appellant and no more than three representatives for the plaintiff(s) shall have the right to appear and submit evidence and argument. However, the hearing shall have an open comment period during which members in attendance may address the Committee for five minutes in support of, and five minutes against, the appeal. Time for open comment may be extended by a majority vote of the Judicial Committee, but equal time must be extended to both positions.
 - d. At the hearing the burden of persuasion shall rest upon the appellant.
 - e. The Judicial Committee shall either affirm the removal of the officer or order reinstatement of the officer within 30 days of the hearing. Failure of the Judicial Committee to rule within 30 days shall constitute a ruling in favor of removal and result in the officer's removal.

- f. The decision of the Judicial Committee shall be final and not subject to member referendum.

Finally, paragraph 14 grants Party members, and not merely the National Committee, the right to fill a Committee vacancy between National conventions, a provision that safeguards the likelihood that the National Committee remain staffed by officers who represent member interests rather than Committee preferences.

14. If Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer vacancies occur, all vote-eligible members shall have the opportunity to nominate and elect the individual to fill the vacancy.
- a. Vacancies shall be filled by virtual ballot within thirty (30) days of opening.

ARTICLE 7: NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Our present At-Large and Regional Representative systems are vulnerable to factional co-optation, subject to exploitation via gerrymandering (in the case of the latter), and, perhaps most vitally, impose an unnecessary and fatally cumbersome barrier between the National Committee, state Parties, and the general membership that impedes communication, cooperation, and resource-sharing on matters of mutual import.

Today, our officers and At-Large Representatives are chosen only by a small handful of delegates who happen to enjoy both the means and the availability to attend the National convention. Our Regional Representatives are appointed by an even paltrier cohort of state Chairs who happen to hold the ideological majority over an often ideologically fractious “region”. This critically disenfranchises—and prompts an exodus of both dollars and volunteer hours from—countless active, hardworking Libertarians who lack the time or resources to travel to and navigate a remote biannual meeting; and who feel underserved and undervalued due to the dearth of mechanisms through which they can take action and be seen. An individual can far more easily show up to a state convention and elect an officer directly every one to two years than they can repeatedly fly across the country and patronize a lavish hotel in hopes of electing one of a few faithful At-Large representatives (with whom members are, for that matter, unlikely to have built any sort of relationship or acquired any direct familiarity with their service in the Party).

Over time, this consistent lack of enfranchisement at the National and sub-National levels prompts Libertarians to withdraw their money, energy, attention, and activity from the Party. This result is unnecessary, unacceptable, and untenable.

In 2026, more state parties than ever before are withdrawing or seriously considering withdrawing from the Regional system entirely. The Party should welcome this trend and adapt to the signals its states are sending. For years, the most compelling arguments for Region-formation have been arguments born of factional reactivity: “My rival faction might form Regions and weaponize them against my faction; thus, I must compel the rest of my faction to form Regions and weaponize them against the other faction”. The result is the mutually-assured destruction of coalitional exit, member voice, and Party loyalty.

An institution that exists chiefly to overpower one’s factional opposition is a sick institution; and a party that protects its existence out of fear that the institution will continue to exist regardless, such that all factions of the party elite should have equal chance to exploit it, is a sick party. We need only examine the scandals and fractures that have most roiled our National Party over the past two years

and ask: “How many of these would not have occurred—how many hours spent litigating these controversies could the Party have devoted instead to furthering its political and social goals—if not, directly, for Regions?”

The answer is: Nearly all.

It is a small wonder that so many in our Party believe that nothing good happens on the National level. But this is not a fault of National’s existence. It is the direct and mounting consequence of National’s structure.

The fact that most Libertarians know that they stand a far better chance of making a material difference on their state committees than they do on the National Committee weakens our inter-state mission cohesion at the national level (where the majority of public political attention is concentrated), aggravates our struggle to acquire national earned media due to a dearth of coordinated activity, impedes our efforts to accrue political and attention capital that can be deployed across national campaigns, and has yielded a scenario in which the strongest advocates for liberty serve on state Executive Committees while the weaker ones have held outsized voting power on the National stage. It is imperative to correct this second factor without countervailing the first.

The current social, political, and cultural conditions demand that our Party be organized at the national level. The fact that our Party must be organized at the national level demands that it be reorganized.

Currently the Libertarian Party operates rhizomatically, but it lacks any mechanism of consistent access or means of redress between the National and state parties, to say nothing of the membership. The National Committee sits at the center of a siloed network, directly adjoined only to those particular individuals who serve as Regional and At-Large representatives; and those Regional and At-Large representatives are adjoined to the membership only remotely, either only to those Chairs of only those ideologically-aligned states in their region; or only to those individuals who comprise the majority of only those delegates situated as to have attended the National convention. In no way is our National Committee a representative body; and in very few ways is it an effective one—not because of the individuals who constitute it; but because of the manner in which it is constituted.

Rather than the mission-bereft center of a horizontal line disconnected from the majority of Libertarians, this proposal makes the Libertarian National Committee the hub of a wheel that facilitates information- and resource-sharing between members and states while enriching, rather than infringing, member and state sovereignty; and provides a direct and highly visible platform for Libertarian voices nationwide.

In order for libertarian causes and candidates to prevail, there must be a through-line that connects the individual, local, state, and national levels directly so that members and states across the country can be readily informed of, assist with, and learn from others’ initiatives, challenges, and successes. A 55-member Libertarian National Committee, composed of four National officers and (currently) 51 Affiliate Chapter officers, resolves all of the above liabilities without depriving states—but rather amplifying the efficacy—of invaluable Libertarian leaders.

States, whose executive committees are elected directly by the membership rather than by a small contingent of delegates with the means to travel to a National convention, must play a powerful role in shaping the direction of the Party, not least because they are indeed the far more representative bodies when it comes to the membership. Each state possesses unique attributes, advantages, disadvantages, and political issues on which mass attention and advocacy is critical; and still more critical are those policy initiatives and political patterns that pervade across states, on which inter-state coordination and support are imperative to victory.

This mechanism of restructuring the National Committee allows the National Committee to take what is at once a more active and less unilateral role in empowering state parties, while also encouraging greater member attention to and participation in the Party as a whole, fostering a sense of connection and solidarity between states and remote members that can be harnessed to galvanize volunteer energy and promote donor activity.

1. The National Committee ("National Committee"):
 - a. Shall be composed of the following members:
 - i. The officers of the Party;
 - ii. One delegate from each Affiliate Chapter, elected by that Affiliate Chapter's voting membership at such time as the Affiliate Chapter decides (in accordance with relevant law), to take office at the close of the next regular National Convention following that delegate's election.

Proviso 1: For the year in which this amendment is passed, Affiliate Chapter delegates shall be elected by their Affiliate Chapter's voting membership within one year; and shall take office immediately upon election.

Proviso 2: The convention at which this amendment is passed shall elect At-Large representatives according to the prior bylaws; and At-Large representatives shall serve as interim National Committee representatives until all Affiliate Chapter seats have been filled. At-Large representatives' Affiliate Chapters may subsequently elect such representatives to remain on the National Committee as Affiliate Chapter delegates.
 - b. Shall represent and uphold, according to their most faithful interpretation thereof, the Party Statement of Principles;
 - c. Shall establish and oversee an organizational structure to implement the purposes of the Party as stated in Article 2;
 - d. Shall adopt rules of procedure for the conduct of its meetings and the carrying out of its duties and responsibilities; and
 - e. Shall have control and management of all the affairs, properties, and funds of the Party consistent with these bylaws.
2. All National Committee members shall be active members of the Party at the time of their election, and shall remain active Party members throughout their term. Any lapse in a National Committee or subcommittee member's membership that is not corrected within 72 hours shall result in the member's automatic removal.
3. No National Committee member shall be a member of or candidate for any other political party.
4. A National Committee member who fails to attend two consecutive regular sessions of the National Committee shall be deemed to have vacated his or her seat.

- a. If the member is an Affiliate Chapter delegate, that Affiliate Chapter's voting membership shall elect another eligible member to fill the vacancy within thirty (30) days of opening. The membership may re-elect the same delegate.
 - b. If the member is a National officer, all vote-eligible members shall have the opportunity to elect the individual to fill the vacancy within 30 days of opening. The membership may re-elect the same officer.
5. An Affiliate Chapter delegate serving on the National Committee may be removed and replaced only by:
- a. A vote of 2/3 of the Affiliate Chapter's Executive Committee, which a vote of 2/3 of the Affiliate Chapter's vote-eligible membership may overturn;
 - b. A vote of 2/3 of the Affiliate Chapter's vote-eligible membership;
 - c. A vote of 2/3 of the National Committee, excepting the delegate subject to removal, which may be overturned by 30% of those vote-eligible members voting on a ballot for which a minimum quorum of 10% of vote-eligible members has been reached.
 - d. A vote of 60% of those vote-eligible members voting on a ballot for which a minimum quorum of 10% of those vote-eligible members has been reached.
6. Any decision of the National Committee subject to member reversal as enumerated within these bylaws, including the removal of a National Committee officer or the disaffiliation of an Affiliate Chapter, shall be put to a virtual referendum upon the submission of a petition challenging the decision, signed by at least 100 active members, to the National Secretary.
- a. For purposes of verification, the petition shall include the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the signatories, which shall be kept confidential. The Secretary shall notice and publish the petition, with all identifying information redacted, to the membership; and balloting shall remain open for fourteen (14) days unless otherwise specified within these bylaws.

ARTICLE 8: NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

This long-overdue set of revisions reconciles the rules governing National Committee meetings with the capabilities of the digital age. It creates a spate of bylaws that facilitate efficient digital balloting and member referenda, along with transparency in debate. The revisions also develop streamlined meeting processes that make possible the restructuring of the National Committee as outlined in Article 7, all while fortifying Committee meetings against further dilatory action.

Current National Committee meetings are over-long, procedurally dense, and structured in such a way that malign actors have an easy time weaponizing parliamentary process and hijacking what should be a time for member dialogue and transparent execution of essential Party business. At the same time, meetings—which could serve as vital opportunities to amplify member engagement and interest in Party business—are conducted in such a fashion as to make them, and by extension their business and the actions of the National Committee, seem unimportant to and distant from the membership; and the membership unimportant to and distant from the Committee. This exacerbates the false notion that the actions of the National Committee should be distant from and unimportant to the members. Yet, for a small political party whose lifeblood is its active membership, this perception is untenable relative to furthering the Party's goals.

Conducting the majority of National Committee business via virtual meetings, which are (within the current bylaws) required to be neither recorded nor posted, deepens the opacity of Committee processes and officer activity. As it stands, members desiring an eye into what is currently National's single transparent business institution must hope that they can either make themselves available at

the same time as that month's National Committee meeting or locate a recording of that meeting after the fact; and then, in order to learn what a given representative has had to say on a given measure, or in order to derive the substance of a particular argument for or against a particular proposal, they must trawl through the entire recording for an auditory record.

None of this is necessary. The following revisions draw in part from the Georgia state Executive Committee's model for meetings, which—despite a 24-person board—run almost universally under one hour in length and enjoy among the highest member attendance and participation rates in the country. The revisions articulate parameters for online business and debate in an organized web forum rather than via an easily diluted email list, with spaces for member comment, subcommittee meeting recordings and minutes, proposals, discussion, and debate. The revisions also recodify “regular meetings” to include the National Committee’s monthly meetings and add further transparency provisions for member visibility into Committee processes.

Below are also a set of structural changes for National Committee meetings, which now include officer and subcommittee reports, member inquiry, and opportunities for vote-eligible members to participate in referenda as further articulated in Article 9.

1. The National Committee shall meet at such times and places as may be determined by:
 - a. Action of the Committee;
 - b. Call of the Chair;
 - c. Written request of 1/3 or more of its members; or
 - d. A petition signed by at least 5% of the Party’s active members, which shall specify the intended substance of the meeting.
 - i. For purposes of verification, the petition shall include the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the signatories, which shall be kept confidential. The Secretary shall notice and publish the petition, with all identifying information redacted, to the membership; and balloting shall remain open for fourteen (14) days unless otherwise specified within these bylaws.
 - ii. The National Committee shall not be obligated to meet at the precise time and place as specified within the petition, but must meet within seven (7) days of its receipt unless a longer time frame is specified within the petition.
2. The National Committee shall hold at least one regular meeting monthly, which shall be advertised and open to all Party members.
3. The National Committee and subcommittees may conduct regular business by teleconference or video/webconference. 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.
4. All non-confidential Committee and subcommittee meetings shall be open and publicly accessible to all active Party members.
5. Electronic email communications regarding all Party business not covered by non-disclosure agreement shall be available to active Party members.
6. The Secretary shall notify all active Party members of upcoming Committee meetings, proposed agendas, and any registration procedures via email and the Party business forum.
7. The Secretary shall promptly post approved minutes of each convention and open National Committee meeting or session to a permanent archive section on the Party’s website and the business forum. Non-confidential Committee meetings conducted by videoconference shall be recorded and uploaded to the permanent archive section of the Party website, and to the business forum, within seven days of the meeting.

8. Any person may record the National Committee's proceedings while in open session, subscribe to an email list or forum on which Party business is discussed and debated (hereinafter, "business forum"), and subscribe to an email list and forum on which National Committee votes are recorded.
9. Party business shall be discussed and debated and National Committee votes shall be recorded in an online forum ("business forum"), from which members may elect to receive email updates.
 - a. The business forum shall include per-state and per-affiliate channels for all Affiliate Chapters and Party Groups, from which Affiliate Chapters and Party Groups may upload regular meeting minutes and activity reports.
 - b. Executive Committee members and designated subcommittee representatives shall upload to the business forum at least monthly addresses and activity reports, on which active members may comment and ask questions.
 - c. For substantive motions and noticed agenda items:
 - i. Primary debate and discussion shall take place in the business forum rather than during meetings.
 - ii. Secondary debate and discussion shall take place during meetings, during which time an item's sponsor shall introduce the item; and debate time shall be limited according to the Policy Manual.
 - d. All Party members shall have access to the Party business forum and shall have the ability to register for an account that allows them to comment in specified member discussion channels for the National Party and each Affiliate Chapter.
 - e. The National Committee or appointee shall have the right to moderate member discussion forums for inappropriate or abusive content.
10. A majority of the membership of the National Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings.
11. The National Committee and all subcommittees shall conduct all votes and actions in open session. Executive session shall only be used for discussion of personnel matters, contractual negotiations, pending or potential litigation, or political strategy requiring confidentiality.
12. Monthly National Committee meetings shall commence with 10 minutes of public comment open to active Party members; and 10 minutes of open comment from National Committee members.
13. Monthly National Committee meetings shall include the delivery of monthly addresses and/or activity reports from all officers and active subcommittees, excepting any content deemed sensitive, for purposes of engaging and informing the membership of current activity and upcoming or ongoing events or business. Addresses and reports follow the open comment period and are meant to be forward-looking rather than a mere summation of the past month's business.
 - a. Full addresses and/or reports may be issued in writing via the business forum rather than orally; and a one- to two-minute oral summary may be provided.
 - b. Each address and/or report shall be followed by up to five minutes of discussion between the speaker and the membership on the content of the address and/or report. In lieu of holding a discussion period at the end of every report, a longer discussion period may be entertained once all officer and subcommittee reports have been delivered.
 - c. Reports and addresses shall be circulated via the electronic public business forum in advance of each meeting, and made publicly available at the permanent archive section on the Party's website and the business forum within one week of each meeting.
14. Following the delivery of officer and subcommittee reports, representatives of Party Groups may address the membership for up to five minutes each.
15. The Party may adopt public policy resolutions by a majority vote of all those vote-eligible members, including the National Committee, who are in virtual or in-person attendance during the specified balloting period for that resolution.

- a. Public policy resolutions adopted by the Party shall be publicized in official Party media to the membership, and a good faith effort shall be made to publicize the substance and rationale of the resolution to the general media and mass public.
16. The National Committee may, by a majority vote, elect to open any ballot introduced in any open session of any National Committee meeting to those vote-eligible members in attendance at the meeting, which shall include all those members of the National Committee present at the meeting except for any explicitly exempted under the bylaws or policy manual.
 - a. In cases of virtual membership balloting, National Committee members' votes shall be recorded by roll call vote; and non-National Committee vote-eligible members' votes shall be recorded by virtual balloting as discussed in Article 9.2 of these bylaws.
17. The National Committee may, by a majority vote, elect to open any ballot or question to those vote-eligible members in attendance as a non-binding advisory poll.
 - a. In cases of advisory polling, non-National Committee vote-eligible members' votes shall be recorded by virtual balloting as discussed in Article 9.2 of these bylaws.
18. The National Committee shall use roll call voting on all substantive motions.
 - a. The National Committee must hold a roll call vote upon request of any single committee member present on any motion.
 - b. On all roll call votes, the vote of each individual committee member shall be recorded in the minutes.
 - c. Vote-eligible members who are not members of the National Committee but eligible to vote on a motion shall not be required to participate in roll call voting in order to have their votes counted.
19. Upon appeal by ten percent of the delegates credentialed at the most recent regular convention, or one percent of active Party members, the Judicial Committee shall consider the question of whether a decision of the National Committee contravenes specified sections of the bylaws. If the decision is vetoed by the Judicial Committee, it shall be declared null and void.
 - a. The Judicial Committee's decision may be overturned by a virtual ballot vote of 40% of those vote-eligible members voting on a ballot for which a minimum quorum of 10% of vote-eligible members has been reached.

ARTICLE 9: ELECTRONIC MAIL BALLOTS AND VIRTUAL BALLOTS

Balloting as it is currently conducted on the National Committee is cumbersome, frequently hijacked by out-of-order debate, and challenging for members to follow. The Party's digital capacities have also thus far precluded it from being able to engage more direct member voice on ballot measures, but such handicaps are unnecessary in 2026.

Paragraph 2, on virtual balloting, is entirely new. It defines a procedure for an original voting system, initially commissioned on the state level and successfully stress-tested for functionality, that deploys hardware keys and encryption technology to allow members to vote on questions of national substance, including resolutions, the removal or reinstatement of Party officers, the election of new officers to vacant seats, and the veto of National and Judicial Committee decisions.

1. ELECTRONIC MAIL BALLOTING
 - a. The National Committee and subcommittees may transact business by electronic mail.

- i. Motions dispensed through electronic mail ballots satisfy the requirement of giving previous notice.
- ii. The Chair or Secretary shall send out electronic mail ballots on any question submitted by the Chair or co-sponsored by at least 1/5 of the members of the Committee or subcommittee.
- iii. The period for voting on a question shall remain open for seven days; unless all members have cast votes, or have stated an intention to abstain or be absent during the voting period, by electronic mail to the entire board or committee.
- iv. Votes from alternates shall be counted, in accordance with previously defined ranked order, in the absence of the corresponding committee member(s).
- v. The number of votes required for passage of any motion shall be the same as that required during a meeting.
- vi. The outcome of each motion, including the vote of each Committee member, shall be announced promptly and recorded in the minutes of the next meeting as well as the business forum.

2. VIRTUAL BALLOTING

- a. As specified within these bylaws, the Party shall conduct remote and referendum voting, including elections and National Convention voting, among vote-eligible membership through the use of virtual balloting via a secure and anonymized system, whose maintenance shall chiefly be the purview of the Information Services Committee.
- b. All members shall, upon attaining vote-eligibility, be issued a hardware key with instructions for activation.
 - i. The Information Services Committee and Secretary shall together be responsible for maintaining current records of vote-eligible members, and deactivating keys of previously vote-eligible members whose membership has lapsed for a period greater than thirty (30) days.
- c. Hardware keys may be inserted into the member's computer or phone, at which point members may access Vox, the Party's voting system, via a password or keyphrase. Upon logging into Vox, members will have access to all ballots on which they are eligible to vote, including the time period remaining for balloting.
- d. Members may then vote on any and/or ballots available through their interface. Once a member has cast their ballot, their Vox interface will update with a "results" page, permitting the member to view live results and make sure their vote has been counted via the presence of their key code.
- e. Voting shall be anonymized and members able to discern the status of their vote only through the presence of a unique code linked to their key that shall be displayed on the voting tabulation.
- f. Unless otherwise specified within these bylaws, the time periods for virtual balloting shall be as follows:
 - i. Ballots opened and to be decided during a National Committee meeting outside convention, for which verbal acknowledgment of the ballot's issuance shall constitute notice: Five (5) minutes
 - ii. Ballots to reverse a decision of the National Committee or Judicial Committee, for which notice shall be delivered immediately upon the ballot's opening by the Secretary or designee via email, as well as via an opt-in push notification system on members' devices: Fourteen (14) days
 - iii. Ballots to remove a member of the National Committee, for which notice shall be delivered immediately upon the ballot's opening by the Secretary or designee via

email, as well as via an opt-in push notification system on members' devices:
Fourteen (14) days

- iv. Ballots to remove a member of a National subcommittee, for which notice shall be delivered immediately upon the ballot's opening by the subcommittee Secretary or designee via email, as well as via an opt-in push notification system on members' devices: Seven (7) days
- v. Ballots to elect a National Committee or subcommittee member, for which notice shall be delivered immediately upon the ballot's opening by the subcommittee Secretary or designee via email, as well as via an opt-in push notification system on members' devices: Fifteen (15) days

ARTICLE 10: NATIONAL JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

1. The Judicial Committee shall be composed of seven active Party members elected at each regular non-presidential nominating convention.
 - a. The Judicial Committee shall take office immediately upon the close of the regular non-presidential nominating convention at which elected and shall serve until the final adjournment of the next regular non-presidential convention.
 - b. All Judicial Committee members shall have been Party members for at least four consecutive years at the time of their selection.
 - c. No member of the National Committee may be a member of the Judicial Committee.
 - d. The members of the Judicial Committee shall select the Chair of the Judicial Committee.
 - e. Any five members of the Judicial Committee shall constitute a quorum.
 - f. Judicial Committee vacancies shall be filled, within 30 days of opening, by election of vote-eligible members. Should all Judicial Committee positions be vacant, an intervening convention may fill such vacancies.
2. The subject matter jurisdiction of the Judicial Committee is limited to consideration of only those matters expressly identified as follows:
 - a. Disaffiliation and/or revocation of official status of Affiliate Chapters and Party Caucuses;
 - b. Suspension and/or removal of National Committee officers;
 - c. Voiding of National Committee decisions;
 - d. Challenges to platform planks;
 - e. Challenges to resolutions; and
 - f. Suspension and/or removal of Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates.

In line with the revisions to previous articles, paragraph 3 of this article introduces a process by which active members can vote to overturn Judicial Committee decisions.

3. Virtual ballots to overturn Judicial Committee decisions shall open automatically as of 11:59 PM Pacific Time on the day the Judicial Committee's decision is issued, except for Judicial Committee decisions regarding the removal of National Committee officers, which shall be final. A summary of the decision, with access to the full text, shall be printed on the ballot.

This article also includes an amendment proposed by the National Bylaws Committee that clarifies the Judicial Committee's ability to amend or suspend its own rules, granting the Judicial Committee the authority to adjust its rules as needed, with the restriction that it cannot change its own rules in the middle of an appeal.

4. The Judicial Committee may establish new, propose amendments to existing, or suspend rules of appellate procedure to govern its consideration of matters within the scope of its jurisdiction throughout its term.
 - a. An appeal shall be considered under the rules of appellate procedure in effect at the time the appeal is made.
 - b. A copy of the current rules of appellate procedure shall be maintained by the Secretary and stored on a permanent archive section of the Party's website and the business forum.

ARTICLE 11: NATIONAL SUBCOMMITTEES

The National Party does too much for its size—but too little for its scope, and for the substance of the change the Party seeks. It is at once too strong (in what it is allowed to accomplish absent member voice) and too weak (in what it is capable of accomplishing absent member presence). While the National Committee possesses the authority to create subcommittees, some of which are codified in the current bylaws, most do not have expressly codified functions and procedures; so that every time a subcommittee is newly staffed or its policy manual amended, there is a risk of that subcommittee dramatically altering, neglecting, or being blinded to its purposes and scope.

A larger National Committee as established in Article 7 can easily overburden itself—and unduly restrict itself from the aid of talented volunteers—unless many of its functions are delegated to smaller subcommittees, staffed with decentrally-elected Party members from across the country whose comparative advantage in and passion for particular sets of skills and initiatives can be deployed toward the Party's ends.

The problem of an inefficient National Committee was initially meant to be addressed by the creation of an even smaller, more nimble Executive Committee, but this institution had the opposite effect: By constraining the personnel and therefore talent pool available to make decisions on, and dedicate their time to, a host of vital Party functions—each requiring daily attention—the efficacy of the National Party floundered; and members were further excluded from the daily processes (communications, ballot access, fundraising, et cetera) meant to be responsive to their and the Party's needs.

In this article, the functions of the Executive Committee are more definitively and discretely distributed across distinct subcommittees, elected by and from the membership, that empower more individuals to lead in specific areas tailored to their talents, increasing member buy-in, attentiveness, dedication, transparency, and accountability.

The following paragraphs, which establish a core set of National subcommittees and outline a basic framework for individual committees' policy manuals to build upon, also distribute representative power such that the National Chair is neither the sole representative nor the only "face" of the Party. Nor is the Executive Committee the lone or ultimate decision-maker. Instead, diverse actors and leaders have the opportunity to serve as public voices on areas of their expertise, creating at the national level a more substantive "farm team" and broader array of issue and skill experts with opportunities for national visibility and exposure.

With this article, the LNC can do less as the Party does more.

1. All individuals on National subcommittees shall be active Party members unless otherwise specified by the bylaws.
2. All National subcommittees shall elect their own rules of order for meetings and other official business.
3. Unless otherwise specified within these bylaws, members of the National Committee may serve on the subcommittees discussed within this article.
4. **Individuals may serve on multiple subcommittees.**
5. Unless otherwise specified within these bylaws, all National subcommittee members shall be elected within forty-five (45) days following each regular National convention as follows:
 - a. Each Affiliate Chapter may select one nominee to serve on each subcommittee. All nominations must be received within thirty (30) days following the National convention. Nominees shall be members of the Party, but do not need to be members of the nominating Affiliate Chapter.
 - b. **Officers and Affiliate Chapter delegates on the National Committee may also nominate subcommittee members.**
 - c. Once the 30-day period for receiving nominations has expired, an electronic voting period shall commence lasting 15 days, during which **all vote-eligible Party members** shall be eligible to vote.
 - d. At the end of the electronic voting period, the nominees with the highest vote totals shall be appointed to their respective subcommittees.
6. Unless otherwise specified within these bylaws, any member of any National subcommittee listed within this article shall be able to be removed by:
 - a. A 2/3 vote of the National Committee;
 - b. A 3/4 vote of the relevant subcommittee's membership;
 - c. A 2/3 vote of all members who voted in the subcommittee member's election and who are active members at the time of the vote; or
 - d. A 2/3 vote of the member's nominating state's Executive Committee.
7. Unless otherwise specified within these bylaws, any removed member of any National subcommittee listed within this article shall be able to be reinstated by:
 - a. A 2/3 vote of all members who voted in the relevant subcommittee member's election; or
 - b. A 40% vote of those vote-eligible members voting on a ballot for which a minimum quorum of 10% of vote-eligible members has been reached.
8. All National subcommittees are responsible for communicating with one another to coordinate joint initiatives, activities, meetings, events, and strategies.
9. Unless otherwise noted, all National subcommittee meetings shall be recorded, and their recordings and unofficial minutes posted to the Party's business forum, within seven (7) days of the meeting.
10. Each National subcommittee shall be responsible for delivering a report of current and upcoming activities, initiatives, and calls to action on the Party business forum and during monthly National Committee meetings; and for engaging members, prospective members, and coalition partners in their work as appropriate.
11. When making donations via the Party website, donors shall have the opportunity to earmark funds for each subcommittee discussed below, excepting the Audit, Credentials, Judicial, Bylaws, and Platform Committees.
12. Policy Committee
 - a. The Policy Committee shall be a standing committee comprised of:
 - i. Five individuals elected according to the method enumerated in paragraph 3 of this article;

- ii. One individual from each of the four most populous Party caucuses affiliated as a Party Group, elected by the membership of their respective caucus according to a method determined by that caucus; and
 - iii. At least two members of the National Committee.
- b. The Committee shall be constituted as an open committee with a public business forum available to active Party members. Certain business items may be declared confidential and discussed through private channels, and meetings may be closed, at the Committee's discretion or at the instruction of the National Committee.
- c. The Committee may organize and oversee working groups comprising further members in addition to those listed above, provided such members are active Party members.
- d. The Policy Committee shall be responsible for:
 - i. Coordinating policy agendas for elected Libertarians, in concert with the elected Libertarian and their state or local party where applicable, and providing policy support and guidance throughout the elected Libertarian's term.
 - ii. Developing Party statements and/or theses meant to represent the libertarian position on germane policy questions and political issues, and which propose material policy answers as to how to realize the goals articulated in the Party's Statement of Principles and platform.
 - iii. Competing policy statements from separate members or coalitions on the Policy Committee are encouraged; and all policy statements with at least two members' support shall be published to the membership.
 - iv. Liaising with the National, Praxis, ACPR, Candidate Support, International Solidarity, and Legislative Affairs Committees for purposes of:
 - 1. Collaborating with other organizations and coalitions in the process of developing, debating, and disseminating policy statements and initiatives;
 - 2. Publishing statements through official Party channels, events, and via the Party's Speakers Bureau;
 - 3. Organizing and promoting debates where competing policy statements and measures are heard;
 - 4. Coordinating with international libertarian partners on developing and promoting policy solutions for transnational challenges to the liberty movement, when desired;
 - 5. Distributing policy toolkits and providing policy coaching to Libertarian candidates and Party activists; and
 - 6. Other projects as appropriate.
 - v. Developing a Speakers Bureau of subject-matter experts, who shall be Party members and may or may not be members of the Committee, to promote libertarian policies and principles to diverse interest groups;
 - vi. Organizing and/or participating in events relevant to the Committee's function; and
 - vii. Other duties as appropriate.
- e. Any Policy Committee statement published to the membership shall be adopted as an official Party policy statement under the following conditions:
 - i. The statement, and any competing statements with at least three Policy Committee members' exclusive support, are debated either orally or in writing on a platform open to the membership and uploaded to the business forum, in either an Oxford format or other debate format agreed upon by all presenting parties;
 - ii. Members of the National Committee engage in an open question-and-answer period with presenters, either coterminously or subsequently;

- iii. The statement, eligible competing statements, and a “None of the Above” (NOTA) option are put to a seven-day ballot, with the winner decided by a majority vote of all those vote-eligible members, including the National Committee, who are in virtual or in-person attendance during the balloting period.
 - f. Policy Committee statements do not need to be adopted as official Party policy statements in order to be promoted through official Party or other channels.
- 13. Praxis Committee
 - a. The Praxis Committee shall be a standing committee comprised of:
 - i. Five individuals elected according to the method enumerated in paragraph 3 of this article;
 - ii. At least two members of the National Committee; and
 - iii. At least one additional member from each of the following subcommittees:
 - 1. Advertising, Communications, & Publication Review
 - 2. Candidate Support
 - 3. International Solidarity
 - 4. Legislative Affairs
 - b. The Committee shall be constituted as an open committee with a public business list available to active Party members. Certain business items may be declared confidential and discussed through private channels, and meetings may be closed, at the Committee’s discretion or at the instruction of the National Committee.
 - c. The Committee may organize and oversee working groups comprising further members in addition to those listed above, provided such members are active Party members.
 - d. The Praxis Committee shall be responsible for:
 - i. Developing, in close concert with the National Committee and other subcommittees as appropriate, initiatives related to grassroots organization, public demonstrations, and other forms of activism in furtherance of libertarian causes, Party visibility, and/or candidate support;
 - ii. Coordinating between states and affiliates on activism and training initiatives, developed either by the Committee or by Affiliate Chapters (when such coordination is solicited), in order to provide support, resources, strategic guidance, funding, and publicity without infringing on the autonomy of the Affiliate Chapter in question;
 - iii. Advising Affiliate Chapters and Party caucuses on potential opportunities for activism and cause-work germane to their communities, notwithstanding Affiliate Chapters’ and Party caucuses’ ability to reject such advice in whole or in part;
 - iv. Linking members to information about and resources regarding initiatives on causes important to them, so as to facilitate member engagement and leadership;
 - v. Working directly with members, when such support is solicited and available, to develop initiatives in support of libertarian causes, especially when Affiliate Chapter support is lacking;
 - vi. Identifying opportunities for external coalition-building and single-issue activism with other liberty-minded organizations, individuals, or political communities regardless of partisan affiliation, so long as such activism remains faithful to libertarian principles;
 - vii. Maintaining a Community Action Board;
 - viii. Accurately and transparently tabulating delegate awards for Affiliate Chapter initiatives; and determining, in concert with the National Committee, which Affiliate Chapter initiatives merit an Extraordinary Movement Leadership delegate award (discussed in Appendix A);
 - ix. Organizing and/or participating in events relevant to the Committee’s function;
 - x. Coordinating Party member involvement in Committee activity; and

- xi. Other duties as appropriate.
 - e. Affiliate Chapters shall retain the full autonomy to refuse to collaborate on any initiative developed by the Praxis Committee, and to refuse any portion of the Committee's support therewith.
 - f. The Committee shall retain the full autonomy to refuse to collaborate on any initiative developed by an Affiliate Chapter or other community that it deems not to be in the best interests of the Party, its principles, or its mission.
 - g. Affiliate Chapters shall retain the full autonomy to develop and execute initiatives absent the support or permission of the Committee.
 - h. Alongside the oversight of the National Committee and interested parties, the Committee is expected to work closely with:
 - i. The Advertising, Communications, & Publication Review Committee as appropriate and in order to publicize initiatives;
 - ii. Finance- and fundraising-related committees and teams as appropriate and in order to calculate and secure funding for initiatives;
 - iii. The Candidate Support Committee as appropriate and in order to coordinate events and initiatives in support of national and local candidates for office;
 - iv. The International Solidarity Committee as appropriate and in order to develop and organize initiatives in support of internationally germane causes or in solidarity with libertarian parties and counterparts worldwide;
 - v. The Legislative Affairs Committee as appropriate and in order to develop and organize initiatives in support of national and local libertarian policy objectives;
 - vi. Other committees, individuals, organizations, and/or groups as appropriate.
 - i. While the National Committee may refuse to support an initiative financially and may censure the Committee or members thereof for activities it deems harmful to the Party or its principles, the National Committee shall not have the authority to bar the Committee from executing any of its duties as enumerated under Article 9.1(b).
14. Advertising, Communications, & Publication Review (ACPR) Committee
- a. The Committee shall be a standing committee comprised of:
 - i. The Party's Communications Director;
 - ii. At least two members of the National Committee; and
 - iii. Seven active Party members, elected according to the method enumerated in paragraph 3 of this article.
 - b. The Committee shall be constituted as an open committee with a public business list available to active Party members. Certain business items may be declared confidential and discussed through private channels. Meetings shall be open to active Party members, with the option to conduct certain business in closed sessions at the Committee's discretion. The National Committee shall not instruct the Committee to hold closed sessions.
 - c. The Committee may organize and oversee working groups comprising further members in addition to those listed above, provided such members are active Party members.
 - d. The Committee shall be responsible for:
 - i. Advertising and communicating, through media channels, the ideology, actions, policies, positions, principles, platform, and opinions of the Party and its membership to the public at large. This responsibility includes maintaining the content of the Party website, establishing and maintaining the Party social media presence, developing and managing relationships with all media and press, and communicating with Party members;
 - ii. Encouraging member engagement and activism through media channels;

- iii. Booking frequent media appearances, inside and outside of typical libertarian platforms, with extensive reach;
- iv. Managing the regular production and distribution of the official Party newsletter and other Party publications;
- v. Cultivating, maintaining, and promoting the intellectual arm of the Party through frequent publications, curation of ideologically diverse content nevertheless faithful to the Party's principles, and serving as a media liaison for an array of intra-Party spokespersons meant to represent Party ideology and policy positions;
- vi. Creating and maintaining multiple media products designed to communicate Party activities, events, policies, and ideas to Party members and general audiences;
- vii. Maintaining a thorough and accurate database of key media outlets in states as well as key national media outlets;
- viii. Developing and assisting in the development of vision/concepts, marketing projects, and initiatives and branding for the Party;
- ix. Providing creative leadership in the development of compelling creative concepts that meet the strategic objectives and goals of the Party;
- x. Organizing and/or participating in events relevant to the Committee's function;
- xi. Coordinating Party member involvement in Committee activity; and
- xii. Other duties as appropriate.

15. Audit Committee (discussed in Article 10)

16. Ballot Access Committee

- a. The Committee shall be a standing committee comprised of:
 - i. At least two members of the National Committee; and
 - ii. Nine active Party members, elected according to the method enumerated in paragraph 3 of this article.
- b. Members of the National Committee may serve on the Ballot Access Committee.
- c. The Committee may conduct business and meetings through private channels at its discretion, or at the instruction of the National Committee.
- d. The Committee may organize and oversee working groups comprising further members in addition to those listed above, provided such members are active Party members.
- e. The Committee shall be responsible for:
 - i. Proposing strategies, advising on funding allocations, and recommending initiatives related to petitioning, litigation, lobbying, and other techniques for improving ballot access;
 - ii. Preparing detailed reports on ballot access progress;
 - iii. Organizing and/or participating in events relevant to the Committee's function;
 - iv. Coordinating Party member involvement in Committee activity; and
 - v. Other duties as appropriate.
- f. Members of the Ballot Access Committee who publicly endorse a non-Libertarian candidate in a partisan election in which a different National- or Affiliate Chapter-endorsed candidate is seeking office shall be automatically removed from the Ballot Access Committee.

17. Bylaws and Rules Committee (discussed in Article 14)

18. Candidate Support Committee

- a. The Committee shall be a standing committee comprised of:
 - i. At least two members of the National Committee; and
 - ii. Nine active Party members, elected according to the method enumerated in paragraph 3 of this article.

- b. The Committee may conduct business and meetings through private channels at its discretion, or at the instruction of the National Committee.
 - c. The Committee may organize and oversee working groups comprising further members in addition to those listed above, provided such members are active Party members.
 - d. The Committee shall be responsible for:
 - i. Identifying, recruiting, training, lobbying for, and supporting Party candidates for elected office and government appointments;
 - ii. Providing educational resources and workshops to potential Party candidates for elected office and government appointments;
 - iii. Organizing and/or participating in events relevant to the Committee's function;
 - iv. Coordinating Party member involvement in Committee activity; and
 - v. Other duties as appropriate.
 - e. The Committee shall not exercise its duties in support of any non-Party candidate or potential candidate. The Committee may, however, attempt to recruit non-Party members to the Party in order to serve as a Party candidate.
 - f. Members of the Candidate Support Committee who publicly endorse a non-Libertarian candidate in a partisan election in which a different National- or Affiliate Chapter-endorsed candidate is seeking office shall be automatically removed from the Candidate Support Committee.
19. Credentials Committee (discussed in Article 14)
20. Fundraising Committee
- a. The Committee shall be a standing committee comprised of:
 - i. At least two members of the National Committee; and
 - ii. Nine active Party members, according to the method enumerated in paragraph 3 of this article.
 - b. Members of the National Committee may serve on the Committee.
 - c. The Committee shall be constituted as an open committee with a public business list available to active Party members. Certain business items may be declared confidential and discussed through private channels. Meetings shall be open to active Party members, with the option to conduct certain business in closed sessions at the Committee's discretion, or at the instruction of the National Committee.
 - d. The Committee may organize and oversee working groups comprising further members in addition to those listed above, provided such members are active Party members.
 - e. The Committee shall be responsible for:
 - i. Developing products, programs, and initiatives designed to increase Party, candidate, and/or campaign revenue without otherwise contravening Party bylaws or principles;
 - ii. Recruiting and maintaining relationships with large- and small-dollar donors;
 - iii. Organizing and/or participating in events relevant to the Committee's function; and
 - iv. Other duties as appropriate.
21. Information Services (IS) Committee
- a. The Committee shall be a standing committee comprised of:
 - i. The Party's Information Services Engineer, to be hired by the National Committee;
 - ii. The Party's Secretary; and
 - iii. Eight active Party members belonging to Affiliate Chapters' information technology teams, elected according to the method enumerated in paragraph 3 of this article.
 - b. The Committee shall be constituted as an open committee with a public business list available to active Party members. Certain business items may be declared confidential and discussed through private channels. Meetings shall be open to active Party members, with

the option to conduct certain business in closed sessions at the Committee's discretion, or at the instruction of the National Committee.

- c. The Committee may organize and oversee working groups comprising further members in addition to those listed above, provided such members are active Party members.
 - d. The Committee shall be responsible for:
 - i. Building and maintaining a cohesive, standardized digital infrastructure for the Party's assets, including Affiliate Chapter and candidate webpages, confidential member data, and public information;
 - ii. Maintaining open and accessible online discussion fora for National Committee business, including digital debate on noticed National Committee meeting items;
 - iii. Making itself available to answer relevant questions and serve as an information technology helpline to Affiliate Chapters;
 - iv. Providing Internet technology infrastructure, tooling, and assistance across the Party;
 - v. Defining Party technology strategies, with National Committee and Party oversight;
 - vi. Managing vendor contracts after approval, creating evaluation and selection criteria for any outside vendor or contractor required by the Party, and maintaining competitive procurement and contract terms;
 - vii. Suggesting solutions to technological problems;
 - viii. Making sure the Party maintains proper access and data retention policies;
 - ix. Seeing that Affiliate Chapters have the resources necessary to be part of the National Party network, and providing guidance on best practices and methods for using the tooling most effectively;
 - x. Developing and maintaining member-facing applications, such as member and volunteer portals, digital voting platform, phone software applications, and other tools in conjunction with other relevant committees;
 - xi. Safeguarding confidential member and Party data; and
 - xii. Other duties as appropriate.
 - e. The Committee shall provide quarterly security reports that shall include potential vulnerabilities, policy violations, and remediation strategies and times.
 - f. In the event of an emergency, the Information Services Engineer and Chair may authorize emergency technology changes without full Committee approval. The Information Services Engineer may take action to bring a service offline or revoke access in response to an active security incident.
 - i. In such instances as the latter, the Information Services Engineer shall make a full incident report explaining why such actions were taken.
 - ii. All emergency actions shall require a report to be delivered at the next committee meeting, with notice sent to the National Committee.
 - iii. Emergency actions shall be reported, and the incident report (with redactions as necessary) shall be circulated to the membership, upon resolution of the emergency.
 - g. Any Committee member, working group member, liaison, or immediate family member of any of these parties, who possesses a financial interest in a vendor or contractor under consideration, must disclose that conflict prior to evaluation of the candidate and recuse themselves from all decision-making processes relevant to evaluation.
 - h. Contracts shall not be awarded to entities owned by or employing Committee members, or their immediate family, without full disclosure to the membership and 2/3 approval of the National Committee.
22. International Solidarity Committee
- a. The Committee shall be a standing committee comprised of:

- i. Any active Party members currently serving in elected or committee positions on the International Alliance of Libertarian Parties (IALP), otherwise referred to as the Libertarian International;
 - ii. At least one member of the National Committee;
 - iii. At least one member of the ACPR Committee; and
 - iv. Four active Party members, elected according to the method enumerated in paragraph 3 of this article.
 - b. The Committee shall be constituted as an open committee with a public business list available to active Party members. Certain business items may be declared confidential and discussed through private channels, and meetings may be closed, at the Committee's discretion or at the instruction of the National Committee.
 - c. The Committee shall be responsible for:
 - i. Liaising with libertarian counterparts and organizations worldwide as appropriate, providing policy, media, and advisory support;
 - ii. Promoting relevant international libertarian causes domestically, and working with international partners to strengthen and advance the global libertarian movement;
 - iii. Serving as an intermediary between the Party and IALP, and promoting joint interests, throughout the duration of the Party's membership within the IALP;
 - iv. Recommending, with the National Chair's approval and in consultation with the National Chair as appropriate, nominees and appointees to serve in international bodies of which the Party is a part;
 - 1. The Committee may overturn the National Chair's veto of any such nominee or appointee with a 3/4 vote.
 - v. Organizing and/or participating in events relevant to the Committee's function;
 - vi. Coordinating Party member involvement in Committee activity; and
 - vii. Other duties as appropriate.
23. Judicial Committee (discussed in Article 8)
24. Legislative Affairs Committee
- a. The Committee shall be a standing committee comprised of:
 - i. At least two members of the National Committee; and
 - ii. Nine active Party members, according to the method enumerated in paragraph 3 of this article.
 - b. The Committee shall be constituted as an open committee with a public business list available to active Party members. Certain business items may be declared confidential and discussed through private channels. Meetings shall be open to active Party members, with the option to conduct certain business in closed sessions at the Committee's discretion, or at the instruction of the National Committee.
 - c. The Committee may organize and oversee working groups comprising further members in addition to those listed above, provided such members are active Party members.
 - d. The Committee shall be responsible for:
 - i. Promoting coordinated libertarian policy initiatives at the state and national levels;
 - ii. Identifying high-value legislative issues and organizing campaigns to maximize libertarian visibility and messaging around them;
 - iii. Working in tandem with Affiliate Chapters and the Policy Committee to equip Party activists with talking point, framing, and outreach training on key policy issues;
 - iv. Organizing or participating in, in collaboration with Affiliate Chapters as appropriate, lobbying days, petitioning drives, and public comment campaigns at the state and national levels;
 - v. Organizing and/or participating in events relevant to the Committee's function;

- vi. Coordinating Party member involvement in Committee activity; and
- vii. Other duties as appropriate.

25. Member Recruitment Committee

- a. The Committee shall be a standing committee comprised of:
 - i. At least two members of the National Committee; and
 - ii. Nine active Party members, according to the method enumerated in paragraph 3 of this article.
- b. The Committee shall be constituted as an open committee with a public business list available to active Party members. Certain business items may be declared confidential and discussed through private channels. Meetings shall be open to active Party members, with the option to conduct certain business in closed sessions at the Committee's discretion, or at the instruction of the National Committee.
- c. The Committee may organize and oversee working groups comprising further members in addition to those listed above, provided such members are active Party members.
- d. The Committee shall be responsible for:
 - i. Coordinating, with other committees as appropriate and especially the Information Services, Praxis, Fundraising, and ACPR Committees, outreach to prospective members and interest groups with lucrative member potential;
 - ii. Developing communications and campaigns for targeted prospective member groups;
 - iii. Utilizing data-based targeting strategies to identify and contact prospective members;
 - iv. Organizing and/or participating in events relevant to the Committee's function;
 - v. Coordinating Party member involvement in Committee activity; and
 - vi. Other duties as appropriate.

26. Platform Committee (discussed in Article 14)

27. Other ad hoc or standing committees may be formed at the discretion of the National Committee.

ARTICLE 12: FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING

This article is amended to include greater transparency and member-fidelity measures, including the directive that the National Committee publish a line-item budget; and provisions to protect the faithful expenditure of earmarked donations.

1. The fiscal term of the Party shall begin on January 1 of each year.
2. From January 1 until the National Committee has approved a budget, the Treasurer may authorize expenditures for any item incorporated in the previous year's budget as long as the level of expenditure is consistent with that budget.
3. The National Committee shall cause an efficient double-entry system of accounts to be installed and maintained.
4. The National Committee shall see that expenditures are reported to the membership in the form of a line-item budget, to be updated monthly.
5. 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.
 - a. The Affiliate Chapter delegates on the National Committee shall appoint a standing Audit Committee of three active members with power to select the independent auditor.
 - b. One member shall be an Affiliate Chapter delegate on the National Committee and the other two shall not be members or alternates of the National Committee.

- c. The Audit Committee shall present its findings to each regular convention and clarify for the National Committee any recommendations made by the auditor.
6. No disbursements exceeding \$100 may be made with cash.
7. The National Committee shall have the power to designate the depository of all funds of the Party, barring the exception delineated in item 7a, and shall appoint such officers and employees as in its judgment may seem advisable to deposit and withdraw funds. Such appointments shall be disclosed to all active Party members.
 - a. Funds that donors have earmarked for specific assets shall not, at any time, be converted into funds for other assets.
 - b. Funds earmarked for a particular asset that is then liquidated shall be returned, in full, to their respective donors.
8. The Party shall not borrow in excess of \$2,000 total without prior approval by 2/3 vote of the National Committee. This shall not include current operating debt for trade payables.
9. The National Committee shall designate an Assistant Treasurer to temporarily serve in the event the Treasurer is incapacitated, is unavailable, or vacates the position.
 - a. The Assistant Treasurer shall not serve on the Audit Committee.

ARTICLE 13: CONVENTIONS

Currently Presidential nominating conventions coincide with electoral conventions for the National and Judicial Committees and deliberation on bylaws and platform. This “agenda bloat” unduly lengthens nominating conventions and frequently results in unfinished Party business (such as the hearing of bylaw and platform proposals), negating the hard work of members who have spent the past year or more crafting proposals for the body’s approval. Oftentimes these unfairly slighted members return to insist on shoehorning prior proposals into the subsequent Bylaw and Platform Committee reports, crowding out newer ideas and promoting what may now be regressive reforms for the sake of compensating previously unacknowledged work.

These members are not to be blamed—their reaction is human, and not all proposals expire in value after two years. That does not, however, excuse the system that creates this perpetual sidelining of member voices—first from proposal authors unlucky enough to have crafted their proposals for a nominating convention; and then from proposal authors unlucky enough to have crafted their proposals to compete with the previous ones whose authors are still seeking a deserved hearing at the convention subsequent.

At the same time, many of the delegates who attend nominating conventions tend to have different interests to those who attend electoral conventions. They might care less about internal Party processes and more about public races, and as a result might be less informed about the structural, functional, and personnel issues that could dramatically influence the efficacy of one or another candidate’s election or bylaw or platform change. They are eager to get to the business that interests them, and might compel a majority to rush through more administrative business, to the detriment of the Party (including its electoral capabilities).

Finally, National Committee officers are elected to execute a vision. Reducing officers’ terms to two years requires that officers seeking reelection further fracture their already scarce time semi-annually in order to campaign, slowing output just before a Presidential election season. This is unwise and unnecessary, especially given the enhanced member-based officer recall provisions articulated in Article 7.

The amendments to this article alternate bi-annual convention business so that more time can be spent on the items that more members came prepared to consider in depth. They also introduce an auto-decrediting clause (Paragraph 3) that forbids illegally-elected delegates from being seated, helping to prevent situations where individuals or groups have exploited National Committee inaction against improperly-noticed conventions, intentionally flouting bylaws or state law in order to engineer an optimized slate of delegates. They also include clauses whereby a Convention that elects “None of the Above” for any Party office shall put the election to the Party’s vote-eligible membership at large, allowing alternative member voices to prevail in the event that the Convention cannot choose a suitable candidate for National Committee office.

1. Regular Conventions:

The Party shall hold a regular convention every two years, at a time and place selected via virtual ballot by eligible voting membership.

 - a. Those eligible to vote for the time and place of the regular convention shall be active Party members whose membership has been active for the prior one or more years; and whose membership has not lapsed for longer than thirty (30) days within the prior year.
2. Regular Conventions shall be held some time during the period of July of an odd-numbered year through March of an even-numbered year.
 - a. All business required to be conducted at regular conventions shall be conducted at regular conventions only.
 - b. Conventions at which (1) bylaw and platform amendments are heard and National officers are elected; and conventions at which (2) the Party’s Presidential and Vice-Presidential nominees are selected shall be held on an alternating schedule.
3. Delegates:
 - a. National Convention delegates shall be active members of the Party whose membership has been active for the prior one or more years, and whose membership has not lapsed for longer than thirty (30) days within the prior year.
 - b. Delegates to the National Convention shall be at least 16 years of age at the time of the opening of the National Convention for which they have been appointed to serve as a delegate.
 - c. Notwithstanding any federal or state law to the contrary, Affiliate Chapter delegates to a regular convention shall be elected by eligible voting membership within that Affiliate Chapter, at an Affiliate Chapter convention properly noticed and conducted according to relevant state law and Affiliate Chapter bylaws.
 - d. Delegates who do not meet the conditions specified in paragraphs (3a) and (3b) of this article shall not be credentialed to vote at the National convention.
 - e. At all regular conventions, delegates shall be those so accredited who have registered at the convention.

An amendment to paragraph 4 introduces a new method for allocating Affiliate Chapter delegates. The Party’s current delegate allocation method, which calculates delegate awards solely according to membership share and Libertarian presidential vote share, unfairly disenfranchises states with smaller populations (if 10 percent of the state of Wyoming suddenly joins the Libertarian Party and 5 percent of the state of California does the same, California’s Affiliate Chapter reaps the greater dividend even though Wyoming’s Affiliate Chapter may well have worked far harder) as well as states, such as New York, with ballot access requirements more disadvantageous to minor parties. In response, the new method rewards Affiliate Chapters that are active in addition to those that are populous or that benefit from fairer electoral laws, while also acknowledging the clear effort required to recruit members and voters already celebrated in the current method.

4. Affiliate Chapter Delegate Entitlements:

Each Affiliate Chapter shall be entitled to send delegates to each regular convention, as tabulated according to the delegate tabulation method enumerated in Appendix A.

An amendment to Paragraph 5 modifies the time by which Affiliate Chapters shall have sent complete delegation lists to the Credentials Committee, in a manner identical to the amendment proposed in the official Bylaws Committee report.

5. Delegate Allocation:

- a. In order to count toward delegate allocation, an Affiliate Chapter's active membership totals must be sent to the National Committee by either the individual member or the Affiliate Chapter and received no later than the last day of the third month prior to the regular convention.
- b. The Secretary shall make a count of the active members who qualify toward each Affiliate Chapter's allocation under the requirements set forth in these bylaws, and shall compute the delegate allocations for each Affiliate Chapter. Notification of the active membership totals and allocation totals shall be sent by the Secretary to the chair of each Affiliate Chapter no later than the last day of the second month prior to a regular convention.
- c. A list of the names and addresses of all delegates and alternates chosen by each Affiliate Chapter shall be sent to the Credentials Committee no later than one month prior to the start of the first general session of the regular convention. Amendments to such lists may be made by the Affiliate Chapters and submitted to the Credentials Committee until not later than fourteen (14) days before the first Business Session of the National Convention. The number of alternates' names submitted shall not exceed the number of delegates allocated.
- d. Failure to submit a listing of delegate and alternate names and addresses, as prescribed within these bylaws, shall cause no delegation to be registered from that Affiliate Chapter.

6. Delegate List:

- a. Any Party member shall be provided, upon request, a list of the names and addresses of all delegates selected to attend and those who actually attended the most recent two conventions, with those who attended clearly identified, and all delegates and alternates selected to the upcoming convention, if such selections have been made at the time of request.

7. Voting Eligibility:

- a. Use of the unit rule or unit voting is prohibited at national conventions.
- b. Duly selected alternates may be freely substituted for any members of their delegation who are temporarily or permanently absent from the floor, provided:
 - i. The procedure for doing so has been clearly specified by the delegation's Affiliate Chapter in advance of the convention; and
 - ii. The Credentials Committee has been provided with lists of the Affiliate Chapter's delegates and alternates, as well as a copy of the Affiliate Chapter's rules governing substitutions.
- c. An Affiliate Chapter alternate, upon certification by the Credentials Committee, may function as a delegate whenever a delegate of the same Affiliate Chapter has not been registered in attendance. This status shall continue until the absent delegate registers in attendance. If the Affiliate Chapter has made no provision for filling delegate vacancies, the alternate substitute shall be decided by drawing lots.
- d. If their Affiliate Chapter has made no other provision, an alternate may temporarily vote in place of a delegate from the same state while he or she has the written consent of that delegate; however, no delegate may cast more than one vote on a question.

- e. All convention members must wear the identification badge issued upon registration in order to be admitted to the convention hall.
8. All active Party members whose membership has been active for the past one or more years and whose membership has not lapsed for more than thirty (30) days within the past year shall have the opportunity to elect the Party's nominees for President and Vice President via virtual ballot, to be opened at convention when Presidential and Vice Presidential nomination elections have been moved to the floor.
 9. Votes cast for "None of the Above" in voting on the Party's nominees for President and Vice President, the Party officers, and other Party candidates shall be considered valid.
 - a. Should "None of the Above" be selected in the Presidential or Vice Presidential balloting, nominations shall be reopened, and balloting shall continue until a candidate is selected; or until a majority of the convention body votes to end balloting.
 - i. Should "None of the Above" be selected by the majority of eligible members who vote according to the method described above, eligible members shall vote, by virtual ballot, as to whether to direct the National Committee to select a nominee for the as-yet vacant office. If the majority of eligible voting members vote against directing the National Committee to select a nominee, that office shall remain vacant and the Libertarian Party shall not run a candidate for that office for the given term.
 - b. Should "None of the Above" be selected for any Party office, nominations shall be reopened, and none of the losing candidates for that position may be re-nominated from the floor, though they may opt to appear on the virtual ballot in case balloting is put to the membership as described below.
 - i. If a majority of the convention body votes to end balloting without electing a candidate for the office in question, balloting shall be opened to the entirety of active Party members whose membership has been active for the past one or more years and whose membership has not lapsed for more than thirty (30) days within the prior year.
 1. In such cases as balloting is opened to the active membership according to the method described above, eligible members shall have fourteen (14) days to vote by virtual ballot.
 2. Should "None of the Above" be selected by the majority of eligible members who vote according to the method described above, that office shall remain vacant and nominations may be re-opened after a period of thirty (30) days.
 - a. In such cases, nominations and balloting shall again be opened to all eligible members as described in paragraph 9.a.i of this article. Voting shall take place according to virtual ballot and shall remain open for seven (7) days.
 10. Quorum:
A quorum shall consist of 60% of the total number of delegates registered in attendance at the Convention.
 11. The Convention Secretary shall produce draft convention minutes within 60 days of the adjournment of the convention and present them to the National Committee. Draft convention minutes shall be posted on the Party's website at least 14 days prior to being submitted to the National Committee for approval by a 2/3 vote.
 12. Convention Rules:
The Party's convention special rules of order may be amended only by a regular convention.

ARTICLE 14: CONVENTION COMMITTEES

The Party's current Platform and Bylaws Committees are elected by the National Committee, without formal voice from the membership. They tend to consist of the same persons year over year, who, though they are valuable Party members with a wealth of experience and expertise, limit (through no fault of their own) the capacity for new ideas to come to the fore.

Tenured members should not be prevented from serving on Convention Committees, nor from sharing their expertise, whether on a Committee or off of one. For this reason, the Platform and Bylaws Committee Reports should be open to competition and debate from a greater store of member reports, with parameters that impose report sponsorship requirements and member preference thresholds in order to be heard at convention.

As such, Articles 14 and 15 redefine the role of the Platform and Bylaws Committees, reconcile their schedules, and reconstruct a streamlined process for voting on and amending Platform and Bylaws proposals ahead of Convention, opening these member-defining documents to a member-determined marketplace of ideas while placing common-sense limits that could otherwise elongate or complicate process.

1. There shall be a Platform Committee, a Bylaws and Rules Committee, and a Credentials Committee for each regular convention. The Credentials Committee may conduct business confidentially. The National Committee shall appoint a temporary chair of each committee to serve until each committee selects its own chair.
2. The Bylaws and Rules Committee (BRC) shall consist of 10 active Party members.
 - a. BRC members shall be selected thus:
 - i. Each Affiliate Chapter may select one nominee to serve on the BRC. All nominations must be received no later than twelve (12) months prior to a regular convention. Nominees do not need to be members of the nominating Affiliate Chapter.
 - ii. Twelve (12) months prior to the next regular convention, an electronic voting period shall commence lasting 15 days, during which all active Party members whose membership has remained active for at least the most recent two (2) consecutive years and whose membership has lapsed for no longer than thirty (30) days during the last two consecutive years, shall be eligible to vote.
 - iii. At the end of the electronic voting period, the nominees with the highest vote totals shall be appointed to the BRC.
3. The Platform Committee shall consist of at least 10 active Party members.
 - a. Platform Committee members shall be selected thus:
 - i. Each Affiliate Chapter may select one nominee to serve on the Platform Committee. All nominations must be received no later than twelve (12) months prior to a regular convention. Nominees do not need to be members of the nominating Affiliate Chapter.
 - ii. Twelve (12) months prior to the next regular convention, an electronic voting period shall commence lasting 15 days, during which all active Party members whose membership has remained active for at least the most recent two (2) consecutive years and whose membership has lapsed for no longer than thirty (30) days during the last two consecutive years, shall be eligible to vote.
 - iii. At the end of the electronic voting period, the nominees with the highest vote totals shall be appointed to the Platform Committee.
4. The Credentials Committee shall consist of 10 active Party members.
 - a. Credentials Committee members shall be selected thus:
 - i. Five members chosen shall be chosen by the National Committee no later than six months before a regular convention.

- ii. One member shall be chosen by each of the five Affiliate Chapters having the most active Party members, as determined for convention delegate allocations at the most recent regular convention. These shall be selected by each of the Affiliate Chapters no later than three months prior to the regular convention.
- 5. Committee Procedures:
 - a. A majority vote of those Committee members present shall be necessary in order for a proposal or plank to be incorporated into its report.
 - b. Four or more members of the Platform Committee may join together to issue a minority report regarding any plank(s) reported to the membership. 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.

ARTICLE 15: BYLAW AND PLATFORM AMENDMENTS

1. The BRC shall be responsible for developing the BRC Report, which shall be published to the membership and accessible via the Party's website no later than thirty (30) days prior to the next regular convention.
2. Alongside the BRC Report, any bylaws report (of proposed bylaw amendments) co-sponsored by twenty (20) or more active Party members, whose membership has remained active for the past two or more years and has not lapsed for more than thirty (30) days within the past two years, may be submitted to the BRC Secretary no later than thirty (30) days prior to the next regular convention. One active Party member may co-sponsor multiple reports.
 - a. Once submitted, the BRC Secretary shall publish each report to the Party's website and notice its publication to the membership. The BRC Secretary may only reject submitted reports in cases of illegibility or extreme profanity.
 - b. Each report shall be clearly titled with its co-sponsors' names clearly listed. Reports shall be organized in the order in which they were received.
 - c. All active Party members whose membership has remained active for the past one or more years and has not lapsed for more than thirty (30) days within the past year shall have the opportunity to vote, by virtual ballot, on each amendment within each report, unless the submitting party specifies that the entire report must be voted on without division. In these cases, an "Aye" vote on the report constitutes an "Aye" vote on each of its proposals; and a "No" vote on the report constitutes a "No" vote on each of its proposals. Members may vote either "Aye" or "No" on as many proposals as they wish.
 - d. Voting on bylaw proposals shall remain open until two weeks prior to the opening of the next regular convention. Those proposals that receive the greatest total of "Aye" votes relative to "No" votes shall be heard on the floor of the convention.
3. The Platform Committee shall be responsible for developing the Platform Committee Report, which shall be published to the membership and accessible via the Party's website no later than thirty (30) days prior to the next regular convention.
4. Alongside the Platform Committee Report, any platform report (of proposed bylaw amendments) co-sponsored by twenty (20) or more active Party members, whose membership has remained active for the past one or more years and has not lapsed for more than thirty (30) days within the past year, may be submitted to the Platform Committee Secretary no later than thirty (30) days prior to the next regular convention. One active Party member may co-sponsor multiple reports.
 - a. Once submitted, the Platform Committee Secretary shall publish each report to the Party's website and notice its publication to the membership. The Platform Committee Secretary may only reject submitted reports in cases of illegibility or extreme profanity.

- b. Each report shall be clearly titled with its co-sponsors' names clearly listed. Reports shall be organized in the order in which they were received.
- c. All active Party members whose membership has remained active for the past one or more years and has not lapsed for more than thirty (30) days within the past year shall have the opportunity to vote, by virtual ballot, on each amendment within each report, unless the submitting party specifies that the entire report must be voted on without division. In these cases, an "Aye" vote on the report constitutes an "Aye" vote on each of its proposals; and a "No" vote on the report constitutes a "No" vote on each of its proposals. Members may vote either "Aye" or "No" on as many proposals as they wish.
- d. Voting on platform proposals shall remain open until two weeks prior to the opening of the next regular convention. Those proposals that receive the greatest total of "Aye" votes relative to "No" votes shall be heard on the floor of the convention.

ARTICLE 16: PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGNS

Previous Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees have received substandard support from the National Committee and from states, whose duty is, in significant part, to support fully the candidacies of duly-selected Party nominees. Oftentimes this negligence has owed to National or state committee members' personal dislike or factional umbrage toward Convention delegates' choices. When state and National officers place personal preference ahead of Party principles, our work suffers; our candidates struggle; and our progress stalls.

The amendments to this article place explicit requirements and restrictions on Party leadership when it comes to supporting and funding duly-nominated Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates. They **enjoin the creation of joint fundraising committees** with non-Libertarian campaigns or PACs; and they guarantee that, except in cases where a nominee's campaign is formally suspended by the Party, **nominees appear on all possible ballots in every possible state.**

1. Nominations of candidates for President and Vice President of the United States may be made only at the regular convention immediately preceding a Presidential election.
2. No candidate may be nominated for President or Vice President who is ineligible under the United States Constitution, who has not expressed a willingness to accept the nomination of the Party, or who is not an active member of the Party.
3. In the event of the death, resignation, disqualification, or suspension of the nomination of the Party's nominee for President, the Vice Presidential nominee shall become the Presidential nominee.
4. The National Committee shall respect the vote of the delegates at nominating conventions and provide full support for the Party's nominee for President and nominee for Vice President as long as their campaigns are conducted in accordance with the platform of the Party.
 - a. The Presidential campaign shall receive a complete set of certificates of nomination that have been dated, signed, and notarized.
 - b. Neither the National Committee, nor any Affiliate Chapters, nor any designees vested with such authority, shall enter into a joint fundraising agreement with any individual or entity apart from duly-nominated Libertarian candidates for office, who are active Party members.
 - c. The Party's Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees shall be guaranteed the ability to send emails and postal mail to any part, including all, of the Party's database at campaign expense, subject to reasonable limits on number and timing.

- d. The National Committee and Affiliate Chapters shall provide the presidential ticket with all administrative necessary to file for the presidential ballot in every state.
5. No member of any national Party Committee or Affiliate Chapter Executive Committee shall endorse any candidates for office other than those nominated by the Party in elections where a Party nominee is a candidate, as long as those nominees' campaigns are conducted in accordance with the platform of the Party.
6. Affiliate Chapters with ballot access for a given Presidential race shall respect the vote of the delegates at the nominating convention and register the Party's nominees for President and Vice President as the Libertarian candidates in their respective roles on their state's ballot. Failure to do so, or registration or attempted registration of any candidates apart from the Party's nominees for President and Vice President as Libertarian President and Vice Presidential candidates, shall result in the Affiliate Chapter's automatic disaffiliation from the Party.
7. A candidate's nomination may be revoked by a 3/4 vote of the entire membership of the National Committee at a meeting; or by a 50% virtual ballot vote of all active Party members whose membership has remained active for the past one or more years and has not lapsed for more than thirty (30) days within the past year.
 - a. In order to open a virtual ballot against a candidate, a petition signed by no less than 20% of the active Party membership must be submitted to the Secretary of the National Committee. For purposes of verification, the petition shall include the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the signees, which shall be kept confidential. The Secretary shall notice and publish the petition, with all identifying information redacted, to the membership; and balloting shall remain open for fourteen (14) days.
 - b. In such cases as a candidate's nomination is revoked, the candidate's nomination shall then be declared null and void; and balloting shall be re-opened to the entirety of active Party members whose membership has been active for the past one or more years and whose membership has not lapsed for more than thirty (30) days within the past year. Eligible members shall have fourteen (14) days to elect a new nominee by virtual ballot. Write-in candidates and "None of the Above" shall both be considered valid.

ARTICLE 17: ALTERNATIVE VOTING PROCEDURES

1. The convention special rules of order may authorize specified forms of preferential voting.
2. The convention special rules of order may provide a mechanism under which, when no candidate initially receives a majority, the candidate receiving the fewest votes is removed from consideration.

ARTICLE 18: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

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.

ARTICLE 19: AMENDMENT

1. These bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the delegates at any regular convention.
2. Article 3, Section 1, or this Section, shall not be amended by a vote of less than 7/8 of all registered delegates at a regular convention.

ARTICLE 20: PROMULGATION OF BYLAWS

The National Committee shall promulgate the bylaws in accordance with appropriate law. A copy of these bylaws and convention rules shall be provided to each member of the National Committee, each member of the Judicial Committee and each Chair of an affiliate party within 90 days of adoption.

Convention Special Rules of Order of the Libertarian Party

RULE 1: ORDER OF BUSINESS

The standing order of business for a regular convention shall be as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Credentials Committee report
3. Adoption of agenda
4. Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary's addresses
5. Treasurer's address and report
6. Audit Committee report
7. Committee reports
8. Party Group addresses
9. Bylaws and Rules (*in appropriate years*)
10. Platform (*in appropriate years*)
11. Election of Judicial Committee (*in appropriate years*)
12. Election of Party officers (*in appropriate years*)
13. Nomination of Party candidates for President and Vice-President (*in appropriate years*)
14. Resolutions
15. Other business

During the adoption of the agenda, the above standing order of business shall be subject to amendment, and other items shall be open to addition to the agenda, with a majority vote. Standing items shall only be deleted with a 2/3 vote of the convention body.

RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURE AND MOTIONS

1. Delegates may arrange to attend the convention, make motions, address the body when in order, and vote remotely using the process enumerated herein.
2. The State Chair shall serve as chair of his or her delegation, unless that delegation selects another of its members to serve as its chair and so notifies the Secretary.
3. On all matters, voting shall take place via the Party's Vox virtual voting system enumerated in Article 9.
4. Delegates in virtual attendance may vote on all matters; however, only delegates in physical attendance may raise points and make motions. Delegates in physical attendance may raise points and make motions on virtual delegates' behalf.
5. The Chair may require any motion offered from the convention floor to be in writing, signed by the mover and submitted to the Secretary.

6. All main motions and adhering subsidiary motions, as well as all motions to suspend the rules and adopt a certain proposition or take a particular action, originating from the floor require 20 delegates to second.

RULE 3: DEBATING AND VOTING—BYLAWS AND RULES

1. Voting on bylaw proposals shall remain open until two weeks prior to the opening of the next regular convention. Those proposals that receive the greatest total of “aye” votes relative to “no” votes shall be heard on the floor of the convention.
 - a. The Bylaws Committee shall be responsible for compiling a report of such proposals, determining which among the selected proposals are in conflict, communicating with relevant parties no less than one week prior to the convention so as to facilitate reconciliation, and, in the event reconciliation cannot be reached, advising the convention body that the proposals are incompatible and must be put to a vote.
 - b. If any proposals are found to be in conflict with one another and cannot be amended so as to be reconciled (which determination shall rest with the Bylaws Committee), a spokesperson for each of the conflicting proposals shall have five minutes to present their views, after which the convention body shall, by simple majority vote, decide which proposal to hear. In such cases, “None of the Above” (“NOTA”) shall remain an option.
2. Consideration of bylaw proposals shall proceed thus:
 - a. Following resolution as to the question of all irreconcilable proposals, a spokesperson selected by the delegation responsible for each of the eligible proposals (as described in item 1 of this rule) shall report separately the proposed amendment(s) that they have been selected to report; and shall have two minutes to explain the intent or purpose of the proposed amendment(s).
 - b. The Convention Chair shall then open each proposal to ten (10) minutes of discussion, including question-and-answer, between the spokesperson and the Bylaws Committee; and then to ten (10) minutes of discussion and/or debate from the Convention body.
 - c. After the discussion, the Convention Chair shall bring the proposal to a vote. If the proposal fails, the Convention Chair shall open the proposal to amendment for an additional ten (10) minutes.
3. Should changes to the bylaws result in a grammatical error in accordance with the latest edition of the Chicago Manual of Style, the National Committee presiding at the time of that discovery is authorized to make those grammatical corrections provided it does not change the meaning or intent of the item edited.

RULE 4: DEBATING AND VOTING—PLATFORM

1. Voting on platform proposals shall remain open until two weeks prior to the opening of the next regular convention. Those proposals that receive the greatest total of “aye” votes relative to “no” votes shall be heard on the floor of the convention.
 - a. The Platform Committee shall be responsible for compiling a report of such proposals, determining which among the selected proposals are in conflict, communicating with relevant parties no less than one week prior to the convention so as to facilitate reconciliation, and, in the event reconciliation cannot be reached, advising the convention body that the proposals are incompatible and must be put to a vote.
 - b. If any proposals are found to be in conflict with one another and cannot be amended so as to be reconciled (which determination shall rest with the Platform Committee), a spokesperson for each of the conflicting proposals shall have five minutes to present their

views, after which the convention body shall, by simple majority vote, decide which proposal to hear. In such cases, "None of the Above" ("NOTA") shall remain an option.

2. Consideration of platform proposals shall proceed thus:

a. Following resolution as to the question of all irreconcilable proposals, a spokesperson selected by the delegation responsible for each of the eligible proposals (as described in item 1 of this rule) shall report separately the proposal(s) that they have been selected to report; and shall have two minutes to explain the intent or purpose of the proposal(s).

b. The Convention Chair shall then open each proposal to ten (10) minutes of discussion, including question-and-answer, between the spokesperson and the Platform Committee; and then to fifteen (15) minutes of discussion and/or debate from the Convention body.

c. After the discussion, the Convention Chair shall bring the proposal to a vote. If the proposal fails, the Convention Chair shall open the proposal to amendment for an additional ten (10) minutes.

3. Challenges to adopted Party planks believed by at least 10% of the delegates to be in conflict with the Statement of Principles shall be referred in writing, during the convention, to the Judicial Committee by the delegates requesting action for consideration. The challenge shall specify in what manner the plank is believed to be in conflict. The Judicial Committee shall consider the challenge, decide whether the Statement of Principles is conformed to, and report their findings and reasons to the convention. If the plank is vetoed by the Judicial Committee, it will be declared null and void but can be reinstated by a 3/4 vote of the convention.

4. Should changes to the platform result in a grammatical error in accordance with the latest edition of the Chicago Manual of Style, the National Committee presiding at the time of that discovery is authorized to make those grammatical corrections provided it does not change the meaning or intent of the item edited.

RULE 5: RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolutions shall be approved by a 2/3 vote unless otherwise specified.

2. All vote-eligible members, and not merely Convention delegates, shall have the right to vote on resolutions introduced at Convention.

3. Resolutions shall not be in conflict with the Statement of Principles. Challenges of such adopted resolutions believed by 10% of the delegates to be in conflict with the Statement of Principles shall be referred in writing, during the convention, to the Judicial Committee by the delegates requesting action for consideration. The challenge shall specify in what manner the resolution is believed to be in conflict. The Judicial Committee shall consider the challenge, decide whether the Statement of Principles is conformed to, and report their findings and reasons to the convention. If the resolution is vetoed by the Judicial Committee, it shall be declared null and void but can be reinstated by a 3/4 vote of the convention.

RULE 6: NOMINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

1. No person shall be nominated for President or Vice President unless at least 50 active members join in the nomination in writing submitted to the Secretary, and the nominee has submitted to the Secretary evidence of sustaining membership and a statement of willingness to accept the nomination.

2. No member shall join in nominating more than one candidate for each office.

3. Nominating and seconding speeches for each candidate shall be limited in duration as follows:

a President: Total of sixteen (16) minutes;

b Vice President: Total of eleven (11) minutes.

4. Following the Presidential candidates' nominations, a delegate elected by the plurality of those vote-eligible members present and voting on a ballot circulated no less than two (2) weeks prior to Convention may speak for up to five (5) minutes in favor of voting None of the Above.
5. Following all Presidential nominations, all eligible candidates for nomination shall have the privilege of addressing the Convention for ten (10) minutes prior to voting; and then of engaging in ten (10) minutes of question-and-answer discussion with the Convention.
6. The Party's nominee for President shall be chosen by majority vote of all vote-eligible members present and voting either physically or remotely. All vote eligible members, and not only delegates, may vote for the Party's Presidential nominee.
7. If, after one ballot, no candidate has attained a majority, the candidate with the fewest votes and any candidates polling less than 5% shall be struck from subsequent ballots.
8. In electing the Party's nominees for President and Vice President, voting shall be conducted as described in paragraph 9.a.i.1.
9. Nominations for Vice President shall close after the election of the Presidential nominee.
10. Following the Vice Presidential candidates' nominations, a delegate elected by the plurality of those vote-eligible members present and voting on a ballot circulated no less than two (2) weeks prior to Convention may speak for up to five (5) minutes in favor of voting None of the Above. The delegate elected to speak in favor of voting None of the Above on the Vice Presidential ballot may be the same as or different to the delegate elected to speak in favor of voting None of the Above on the Presidential ballot.
11. Following all Vice Presidential nominations, all eligible candidates for nomination shall have the privilege of addressing the Convention for ten (10) minutes prior to voting; and then of engaging in ten (10) minutes of question-and-answer discussion with the Convention.
12. The Party's nominee for Vice President shall be chosen by the same procedure as for the Presidential nominee, except that the Presidential nominee shall have the privilege of addressing the Convention for five (5) minutes, after nominations have been made but before voting has begun, for the purpose of endorsing or objecting to any of the Vice Presidential nominees.
13. Votes cast for "None of the Above" in voting on the Party's nominees for President and Vice President, the Party officers, and other Party candidates shall be considered valid.
14. Should "None of the Above" be selected in the Presidential or Vice Presidential balloting, nominations shall be reopened, and balloting shall continue until a candidate is selected; or until a majority of the Convention body votes to end balloting.
15. Should the Convention body elect to end balloting with "None of the Above" having been selected by the majority of vote-eligible members present and voting in-person or virtually, a ballot shall be opened to all vote-eligible members as to whether to direct the National Committee to select a nominee for the as-yet vacant office. If the majority of eligible voting members vote against directing the National Committee to select a nominee, that office shall remain vacant and the Libertarian Party shall not run a candidate for that office for the given term.

RULE 7: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE

1. Nominations for Party officers (Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer) shall be made from the floor. The election shall be conducted in the following manner:
 - a. For each office, a majority vote shall be necessary for election.
 - b. In cases where no candidate receives a majority, runoff votes shall be held, dropping the candidate with the fewest votes after each ballot.

2. No person shall be nominated unless at least fifteen (15) registered delegates join in the nomination submitted to the Secretary; and the nominee has submitted to the Secretary evidence that they are an active Party member along with a statement of willingness to accept the nomination.
3. No delegate may join in nominating more than one candidate per seat.
4. Nominating speeches shall be limited in duration as follows:
 - a. Chair: Total of 10 minutes;
 - b. All others: Total of 5 minutes.
5. Following each nomination, the candidate nominated shall have the privilege of addressing the Convention for five (5) minutes prior to voting; and then of engaging in ten (10) minutes of question-and-answer discussion with the Convention.
6. Should "None of the Above" be selected for any Party office, nominations shall be reopened, and none of the losing candidates for that position may be re-nominated from the floor, though they may opt to appear on the virtual ballot in case balloting is put to the membership as described below.
 - a. If a majority of the convention body votes to end balloting without electing a candidate for the office in question, balloting shall be opened to the entirety of active Party members whose membership has been active for the past one or more years and whose membership has not lapsed for more than thirty (30) days within the prior year.
 - i In such cases as balloting is opened to the active membership according to the method described above, eligible members shall have fourteen (14) days to vote by virtual ballot.
 - ii Should "None of the Above" be selected by the majority of eligible members who vote according to the method described above, that office shall remain vacant and nominations may be re-opened after a period of thirty (30) days.
 - 1 In such cases, nominations and balloting shall again be opened to all eligible members as described in paragraph 9.a.i of this article. Voting shall take place according to virtual ballot and shall remain open for seven (7) days.

RULE 8: ELECTION OF JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

Nominations and elections for members of the Judicial Committee shall be conducted in the same manner as specified for Party officers. Nominees for the Judicial Committee shall have up to 5 minutes to speak on their candidacy.

Appendix A: Delegate Allocation Formula

$$S = \log_5(F) + 5 \cdot \sqrt{\sum(T \cdot I)} + 80 \cdot \frac{M_{chapter}}{M_{Party}} + 80 \cdot \frac{V_{Chapter}}{V_{Total}} + B$$

The delegation allocation formula for National has always demanded a balancing act between members' understanding of the equation, fairness, and difficulty of calculation. Difficulty is something that has largely been solved with modern computing.

The pre-2026 equation provided exactly two variables for allocating state delegates to the National Convention:

1. Percentage of membership of membership in the National Party
2. Proportion of the votes for presidential candidate every 4 years

This method has always been contentious. New York, for example, has the 5th largest number of National Party members. It boasts only the 11th largest delegation to National, however, punished for the state government's oppressive ballot access laws.

Removing the presidential votes, however, punishes states like Missouri, who are only the 20th largest in National membership, but 6th in percentage of the Libertarian presidential votes.

So how do we fix this?

We expand the equation to the above.

We keep percentage of membership and presidential votes as part of the equation, but we add two new sections:

1. Fundraising
2. Activities

Fundraising

Fundraising plays a significant role in the success with which we elect candidates to office (by maintaining ballot access) and raise awareness and educate voters about the Libertarian Party. The biggest argument against awarding delegates based on fundraising efforts has always been that doing so could allow someone to "buy the Party" if they have enough money. The Libertarian Party historically brings in about \$3 million per year. An influx from a Jeff Bezos or an Elon Musk could hugely outpace the membership's ability to fundraise.

The solution is simple: a logarithmic scale.

This means that an Affiliate Chapter raising just \$25 brings in enough money to guarantee two delegates to the National Convention. On the other hand, bringing in a billion dollars only scores that same Affiliate Chapter 12 additional delegates. This means that a typical Affiliate Chapter, bringing in between \$16,000 and \$75,000 per year, gets six delegates.

That sounds confusing, mathematically, but is easy for you to calculate on your own. Take the amount of money fundraised by an Affiliate Chapter and begin dividing by 5. Each time you can divide by 5 and the final number in your calculator is more than 1 correlates to one delegate.

Let's take the \$1 billion example:

1,000,000,000 → divide by 5 → 200,000,000 → divide by 5 → 40,000,000 → divide by 5 → 8,000,000 → divide by 5 → 1,600,000 → divide by 5 → 320,000 → divide by 5 → 64,000 → divide by 5 → 12,800 → divide by 5 → 2,560 → divide by 5 → 512 → divide by 5 → 102.4 → divide by 5 → 20.48 → divide by 5 → 4.096 → divide by 5 → less than \$1, so now we stop

In total, we have divided by five 12 times before getting a result less than 1.

It's as simple as putting the number into your calculator and counting as you divide by five, stopping when you reach less than \$1.

Activities

The Party is only as good as the work that we do. That means that our work for candidates, education, lobbying, ballot access work, outreach, membership drives, fundraising, and many other activities, along with their outcomes, determines how successful we are.

The Party has never attempted to measure that, however, as it's always seen as too difficult. The trick is to ensure that it is difficult to game.

The equation suggested is below. It, again, looks complicated. That's only due to the notation.

$$5 \cdot \sqrt{\sum(T \cdot I)}$$

Let's break it down in a way that's easy to follow by stepping through it

Terms:

5: a weighting multiplier, the same as the "80" for the presidential vote or membership percentage. That number was chosen from tens of thousands of simulations to give activities weighting that is strong in the equation without destroying the other terms.

T: is a turnout score equal to $\frac{\# \text{ of attendees}}{\sqrt{\text{membership of the chapter}}}$. This may seem complicated, but again, it's simple to do with a calculator: Take your State Chapter's membership total and take the square root. An example of the entire section will be done below. (DO NOT PANIC.)

I: the Involvement Factor. The involvement factor I scales each event by its scope:

- I = 1.0 — A purely intra-affiliate event (e.g., state convention, in-state rally, local town hall).
- I = 1.25 — An event coordinated with at least one other Affiliate Chapter.
- I = 1.5 — An event coordinated across four or more Affiliate Chapters.
- I = 2.0 — A national initiative (e.g., An LNC-led campaign, national ballot drive, presidential campaign event).

NOTE: Events must be open to the public. Candidate events, rallies, demonstrations, town halls, ballot access drives, voter registration drives, public-interest meetings, and coordination with other minor parties are examples of events that count as activities. Events that DO NOT COUNT include, but are not limited to, internal business meetings, pizza parties, intra-party socials. Activities are outward facing.

Functional notes:

A Σ denotes the summation of things. So, if you have 5 activities? You calculate the T*I for each, and add them together. Again, there will be an example below.

The outer square root is to ensure that gamification of activities is difficult. Doubling your number of activities only makes your score 40% higher. Larger states that are equally active naturally have more activities, which also mitigates the risk of this term from being either an award just for having more members or a way to keep large states from having their voice. If everyone's equally active, relatively, this term diminishes in importance. If an Affiliate Chapter is inactive, even with many members? It doesn't get to be the leading voice of the Party. If a small Affiliate Chapter is hitting above their weight class, it gets more of a say in the National Party.

EXAMPLE:

LPGeorgia has 317 members as of May, 2026 That means the denominator of the T fraction is 17.8
LPGeorgia holds 5 events one year and took part in 1 LNC venture:

State:

1. The Great Create, with 50 attendees, put on only by LPGeorgia.
2. A ballot access drive across the state, with LP Alabama, South Carolina LP, and LP Florida, assisting. 30 LPGeorgia members contribute, as well as more than 50 from the other 3 states.
3. A "get out the vote" drive, with 100 members showing out across the state.
4. A "Meet the LP Georgia" event put on by LP Fulton County to bring in new members from the many colleges in midtown at a local bar, Flip Flops where 5 members attend.
5. A lobbying on the steps of the Georgia State Capitol for gold to be treated as an equivalent currency with 20 LPGeorgia members showing up. In addition, a member from LP California, passionate about the topic, happens to be in Atlanta and participates. LP Tennessee also sent 4 members.

LNC:

1. A national membership drive, with all states making calls for 6 hours on a particular Saturday that national has been publicly advertising.

For each, we calculate T*I:

1. Only LPGeorgia is involved, so the involvement factor is 1.0. T is $\frac{50}{17.8}$, so we have that

$$T \cdot I = \frac{50}{17.8} \cdot 1.0 \approx 2.8$$

2. Four states are involved, so the involvement factor is 1.5. $T = \frac{30}{17.8}$. So $T \cdot I = \frac{30}{17.8} \cdot 1.5 \approx 2.53$. Note here that the members from the other states don't count for LPGeorgia's activity, they count for their *own* activity score. Your members going to another state for an assist makes them count for extra for your chapter.
3. Only LPGeorgia, again, so the involvement factor is 1.0. $T = \frac{100}{17.8}$. So $T \cdot I = \frac{100}{17.8} \cdot 1.0 \approx 5.6$
4. Only LPGeorgia, so an involvement factor of 1.0. $T \cdot I = \frac{5}{17.8} \cdot 1.0 \approx 0.28$.
5. Three states took part, so the involvement factor is 1.25. $T \cdot I = \frac{20}{17.8} \cdot 1.25 \approx 1.40$
1. The LNC initiative gets 2.0 for the involvement score. Georgia had 18 members who volunteered time and were on the phones. $T \cdot I = \frac{18}{17.8} \cdot 2.0 \approx 2.02$

So, we add our 6 terms up: $2.8 + 2.53 + 5.6 + 0.28 + 1.40 + 2.02 \approx 14.63$

We take the square root: $\sqrt{14.63} \approx 3.82$.

Normalization

If the National Party has more members potentially attending the National Convention than spots as chosen by the Convention Oversight Committee, the in-person delegates will be scaled as follows:

$$D_{Chapter} = \left\lceil \frac{S_{Chapter}}{S_{Total}} * D_{Total} \right\rceil$$

Where $\lceil \quad \rceil$ is the ceiling function, which just means round up.

Where $S_{Chapter}$ is the score as calculated above

Where S_{Total} is the sum of all chapters' scores

Where $D_{Chapter}$ is the number of delegates given to a particular chapter

Where D_{Total} is the intended number of delegates for a convention, minus potential room for the oversizing listed above.

Minimums

An Affiliate Chapter that has three members, but does nothing else, can still qualify for two delegates to the National Convention. This is, approximately, where we are currently. This makes the effective minimum for any chapter two delegates.

Hard Cap: 10% +1

No single affiliate can hold more than 10%+1 delegates out of the base target of 1000. This protects from single-state dominance. The only exception is the Beyond the Call Award.

Beyond the Call Award

This award is granted to an Affiliate Chapter that engages in an act of extraordinary liberty movement leadership, such as a protest that leads to the removal of an illegal government force from one of their cities or their state. Granting a Beyond the Call Award requires a vote of at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of the LNC and grants the awardee an automatic 3 additional delegates, regardless of other terms.

Appendix B: Why Vox?

Vox is a system that's been built from the ground up to be for the types of votes the Libertarian Party needs and uses. All the voting methodologies, with the flexibility to easily apply your own bylaws' quirks and features, are included. Whether you want RCV, STV, STAR, Cumulative, or any of the other methods for voting, Vox includes them or is easily extensible to include them.

Every Libertarian knows that's not what the issue with digital voting is, however. The problem is trust. Vox is designed specifically for trust.

In the first place, Vox requires the usage of a hardware key. The current standard, for the geeks in the audience, is FIDO2. For the non-geeks, this is a USB key that can be plugged into your phone (iPhone or Android) or computer (anything that has USB ports and a web browser) to identify that you are you. The USB keys, to be issued by the Party, are cheap (under \$25) and virtually impossible to hack due to each physical key being unique.

So, what stops someone from stealing your key? You still use a password. Your key is useless without your password, and your password is useless without your key.

What if you lose your key or my password?

Vox uses free and open source enterprise tools, HashiCorp Vault and Vaultwarden, to securely store secrets for each vote server. What that means is that if you lose your key, an administrator for that server can trigger a reset for your password or key after you prove your identity. They still can't see your password, nor can they determine which key you have or have not used. The old key or password is deprecated programmatically, so no human ever sees it.

So, what happens if you lose BOTH?

The admin resets your user and adds a new password and key after checking your identity.

So how can they check your identity?

Vox integrates with the major CRMS. CiviCRM, Zoho, NationBuilder, and Catalyst all have native connectors currently. Other systems can be integrated within a single day. This means that your CRM knows who you are and Vox knows what to ask the CRM to know if you're allowed to vote in an election. Your bylaws say you have a seasoning period of six months? That's automatically in Vox from the initial setup, along with the ability to override that lockout if your members vote to waive seasoning.

Another thing that Libertarians want is the ability for anyone to quickly audit an election. That means two things:

1. We must be able to audit the ballots
2. We must be able to audit the *election*.

For auditing the ballots, the page where you vote allows you to pull back the entire set of ballots. Each of them is signed with a member's hardware key, so the only ballot you can check the name of the castor for is your own. You can, however, count the ballots yourself and ensure the totals are correct. If you believe there's been tampering, you can get other people together to count their vote, effectively allowing a drop to a paper ballot equivalent.

Now for auditing elections.

Vox uses much of the same underlying technology as blockchains. The change, for those who are too into crypto, is that Vox is running on Merkle logs for databasing speed instead of hash chains of Merkle trees. This makes Vox *very* fast for consensus, not requiring the consensus rounds, difficulty scaling, or block interval overhead.

For those not into crypto, each vote contains the history all the way back to the beginning of the ballot. If a vote disagrees? You immediately know that someone is trying to cheat. This is automatically flagged for everyone and an "anomaly block" is added. Every single person can see that someone or something has tampered with the vote, exactly when and where it happened, and how.

Vox also allows *anyone*, tech-savvy or not, to spin up an auditing system with one click. The auditor uses a "thumbprint" of the software on the server to guarantee that software is exactly the same version as expected. Since the software is open source, it can be checked by the more tech savvy to make sure there are no harmful payloads anywhere in the system.

Every auditing system also gets a full copy of the ballots. This means that any ballot that has somehow gotten past the two previously mentioned systems is also being checked to ensure that it is identical on all of the auditing nodes spun up.

Which leads us to the final section of auditing elections: federated auditing nodes.

Chapters can link their Vox node into part of a Populous, or group of nodes, which the master node for a particular ballot recognizes as official auditing nodes. That allows any of those nodes to immediately stop a vote if tampering is detected. Any member can raise a red flag, but any chapter's node can add an anomaly vote showing everyone that something has gone wrong and stopping a vote until that's overridden. The anomaly block will stay forever.

The anonymous voting can be disabled for votes of executive committees or other roll call votes, per ballot.

Lastly, Vox allows you to set up a ballot and save it for the future as a template. This means that you only have to set up a ballot based on changes in bylaws once to have that ballot started immediately in the future.

In summary, or the too long; didn't read: Vox is secure, auditable, flexible, and interconnected. You own your data and your votes.