

Bylaws of the Los Angeles Local of the Democratic Socialists of America

ARTICLE I. Name

The name of the Local shall be DSA-LA (Democratic Socialists of America - Los Angeles).

ARTICLE II. Mission

As a national organization, the Democratic Socialists of America is poised to be a significant mass organization in the resurgence of a popular socialist movement in the United States. As one of the largest Locals in the organization, DSA-LA has the responsibility to clearly define our own mission statement and priorities, and articulate how those support the advancement of a democratic socialist political agenda at the local, state, national, and international level.

We are committed to envisioning and working towards a transformative politics that shifts power from capital to people. In all of our work, we aim to strike an intentional balance between challenging and resisting the systemic oppression of capitalism, sexism, racism, heteropatriarchy and xenophobia, and imagining radical alternatives for a new social, economic, and political reality. We will organize with ambitious and emancipatory ends in mind, such as raising the collective consciousness of all people's struggles and normalizing guaranteed rights that have been denatured under capitalism, while seeking concrete material wins and outcomes at every opportunity. We are an organization of the people, fighting without compromise for equality of outcome over equality of opportunity.

Within our ranks, we aim to exist along organizational lines developed and led by members, not an order imposed on members from above. DSA-LA should always be deeply participatory organization whose processes and protocols reflects its values - democratic, transparent, and engaged in ongoing struggle against oppressive and unequal power structures.

- Our approach to organizing reflects our understanding of capitalism, which is a complex artificially-imposed system that evolves dynamically in response to challenges.
- Our work needs to accommodate a variety of viewpoints, avoid exclusivity around tactics, and prioritize productive debate over the pursuit of unanimous consensus.
- Our identity as a multi-tendency organization is an asset and something that we embrace to its full advantage, and we are committed to intentionally incorporating minority viewpoints and diverse political perspectives into all of our work rather than striving to mandate agreement among all our members.

We recognize that the Left in the United States has been historically weakened and fractured, and the Left in Los Angeles is no exception. Indeed, Los Angeles has been developed by capitalist structures along deep regional, racial, and class stratifications that offer significant unique challenges to building strong Left unity, and it must be our goal to challenge and transcend these divisions. Rebuilding and manifesting a strong socialist presence and power in Los Angeles and beyond will require looking at the Left as a complex ecosystem, and defining our role within it accordingly. DSA-LA aims to be an influential participant of that ecosystem by acting as a true resource and defining our power in service, not in governance or authority over other organizations in the Left in Los Angeles. Our goals encompass our participation in rebuilding a strong Left for everyone, not just members of our organization, and we do not wish to become a totalizing force or offer a singular solution to organizing on the Left. Instead, we aspire to build strength through solidarity, and offer a challenging alternative to capitalism for everyone.

This approach also applies within our own organization. We are conscious that our role as a large Local within a growing organization is not to enforce our political vision onto the rest of DSA, but to coordinate efforts in a productive and comradely way. We believe that our Local has a great deal to offer DSA National and other DSA Locals, and similarly that they have much to offer us. We further recognize that our mission statement and priorities must be reevaluated in response to changing political realities.

ARTICLE III. Membership

Section 1. Membership

Members of the Los Angeles Local, DSA-LA will be those individuals whose dues to national DSA are paid in full, who reside and/or work in parts of the Los Angeles County area allocated to the Los Angeles Local by the DSA National organization. At the local level, it will be the responsibility of members to approve policies and guidelines for the operation of the Local, vote on matters requiring input from the full membership, contribute to Local Subgroups, and participate in elections for the Steering Committee, and Local Subgroups of which they are members. Member responsibilities to National are electing delegates to the national convention, voting on matters related to national policy, and making recommendations on issues and other matters to the National Political Committee of DSA. Non-members may participate in Local work and attend Local meetings, but may not vote in Local elections, Local Subgroup elections, or the Annual Convention.

Members of Local Subgroups will be those individuals whose dues to the national DSA are paid in full and are active participants in the Local Subgroup.

Section 2. Removal of Members

If a member is found to be in significant violation of the Local's misconduct policy, the Investigative Commission responsible for fact-finding and harm assessment may recommend expulsion for certain offenses (see Misconduct Policy Section E). Expulsion must be ratified by a two-thirds supermajority vote of the Steering Committee. Such a vote may also be called if a member is found to be in substantial disagreement with the principles or policies of the organization, if they engage in entryist behavior, or if they are acting under the discipline of any self-defined democratic-centralist organization. An expelled member may make an appeal at the National level to the appropriate officer.

Section 3. Dues

The Local may establish a Local pledge system of voluntary donations for its members.

ARTICLE IV. Local Meetings

Section 1. Annual Convention

The Local will hold an Annual Convention each year. The Annual Convention is the highest legislative body of the Local. The Annual Convention votes on proposed bylaws amendments, as well as modifications to the Local Mission Statement and Organizational Priorities. The quorum for votes taken at the Annual Convention shall be 20% of the Local membership. Remote votes and proxy votes shall be facilitated and counted as possible. A financial report will also be presented to the membership at the Annual Convention.

Section 2. Local Meetings

The Local will hold Meetings at least six times annually, ideally every other month, unless Local business requires additional meeting times. The time and place of which shall be set in a schedule published and distributed by the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee will set the agenda for Local Meetings. The Local Meeting is the body where policies, decisions, and important Local matters are discussed among members.

Section 3. Emergency Meetings

The Steering Committee may call an Emergency Meeting of the Local on five days notice when an urgent and important matter requires deliberation.

ARTICLE V. Organizational Structure

Section 1. Local Subgroups

The Local shall be comprised of multiple forms of subsidiary groups, referred to collectively in this document as Local Subgroups: Internal Resource Committees, Issue-based Committees, Campaign-based Working Groups, and Caucuses.

Section 2. Internal Resource Committees

Internal Resource Committees shall be Local Subgroups organized around a particular expertise, trade, set of Local goals, or area of knowledge or study and shall exist to provide resources in their areas of expertise to the Local at large. The primary activities of an Internal Resource Committee shall be internally focused: providing resources, tools, and training materials to the members of the local as well

as assistance and expertise to campaigns, projects, and events initiated by or in conjunction with Issue-based Committees and Campaign-Based Working Groups.

All Internal Resource Committees are required to have a platform and mission statement, developed by the committee in accordance with Local policy and ratified by a Local-wide vote (see Article V, Section 6), and at least two officers elected by the committee (see Article V, Section 7). At least one of those officers must be designated as Chair, whose primary responsibilities will be ensuring that the Committee is fulfilling its required tasks and duties aligned with the platform, and another must be designated as Coordinator, whose primary responsibilities will be coordinating and communicating with other Committee and Working Group Coordinators as well as the Steering Committee about the progress of Committee work.

To maintain active Local Subgroup designation, Internal Resource Committees must:

- Have at least one member responsible for onboarding and screening new members, engaging in member retention efforts, and coordinating with the Membership Committee
- Have at least one member working with the Communications Coordinator to ensure that Local communications accurately reflect and amplify Committee work
- Hold meetings a minimum of once per month, open to all members of the Local
- Maintain and make available to Local leadership records of key debates and decisions

Section 3. Issue-based Committees

Issue-based Committees will be established to maintain ongoing Local engagement and education around a core political issue by organizing discrete campaigns, events, and projects related to that issue. Issue-based Committees, as well as Campaign Working Groups, are the primary political units of the Local and they are to set specific political stances for the Local by undertaking initiatives in accordance with their platforms and mission statements.

All Issue-based Committees are required to have a platform and mission statement, developed by the committee in accordance with Local policy and ratified by a Local-wide vote (see Article V, Section 6), and at least two officers elected by the committee (see Article V, Section 7). At least one of those officers must be designated as Chair, whose primary responsibilities will be ensuring that the Committee is fulfilling its required tasks and duties aligned with its platform, and another must be designated as Coordinator, whose primary responsibilities will be coordinating and communicating with other Committee and Working Group Coordinators as well as the Steering Committee. To maintain active Local Subgroup designation, Issue-based Committees must:

- Have at least one member responsible for onboarding and screening new members, engaging in member retention efforts, and coordinating with the Membership Committee
- Have at least one member working with the Communications Coordinator to ensure that Local communications accurately reflect and amplify Committee work.
- Hold meetings a minimum of once per month, open to all members of the Local
- Maintain and make available to Local leadership records of key debates and decisions

Section 4. Campaign-based Working Groups

Campaign-based Working Groups will be established to organize around a single campaign and/or goal, with a defined strategy, purpose, and endpoint, and whose work does not fall squarely under the purview of any single Issue-based Committee. Such Working Groups will build external partnerships and

emphasize coordination and engagement with Issue-based and Internal Resource Committees, as appropriate.

All Campaign-based Working Groups are required to have a platform and mission statement, developed by the committee in accordance with Local policy and ratified by a Local-wide vote (see Article V, Section 6), and at least two officers elected by the committee (see Article V, Section 7). At least one of those officers must be designated as Chair, whose primary responsibilities will be ensuring that the Committee is fulfilling its required tasks and duties aligned with its platform, and another must be designated as Coordinator, whose primary responsibilities will be coordinating and communicating with other Committee and Working Group Coordinators as well as the Steering Committee about the progress of Committee work.

To maintain active Local Subgroup designation, Issue-based Committees must:

- Have at least one member responsible for onboarding and screening new members, engaging in member retention efforts, and coordinating with the Membership Committee
- Have at least one member working with the Communications Coordinator to ensure that Local communications accurately reflect and amplify Committee work.
- Hold meetings a minimum of once per month, open to all members of the Local
- Have a clear campaign goal and defined strategy, and regularly organize events and projects accordingly
- Maintain and make available to Local leadership records of key debates and decisions, including coalition partnerships

Section 5. Caucuses

Caucuses will be established to organize independently around shared interests and identities. Their activities can be far more varied than Committees and Working Groups, and may take on a number of different projects or functions in relation to Local, committee, and working group goals, including but not limited to promoting certain policies or actions, planning independent events, and challenging existing Local policies.

Caucuses are required to identify a point person for the rest of the Local, who will serve as the main contact for other Groups and the Steering Committee.

Caucuses are not eligible to receive Local resources, including funding or ongoing access to posting on Local public-facing communications channels. They also cannot propose a Local-wide endorsement as a group, and would instead need to partner with a Resource Committee, Issue-Based Committee, or Working Group or submit the proposal as individual members (as outlined in Article VI, Section 3).

Section 6. Group Platforms

Platforms should be comprised of a mission statement, outlining the group's overall purpose and key stances, and a set of concrete goals and priorities. The mission statement should articulate a 'big picture' vision of what success would look like for the group, and should represent the group's values and broad purpose. They should also include mention of the populations with whom the group will be working in solidarity with. Goals and priorities should be concrete and actionable, e.g., undertaking specific campaigns or projects, achieving a specific outcome, or developing a specific short-term process that helps achieve other longer-term goals.

Platforms ultimately guide the direction and political will of the group. They must be developed democratically and ratified within the group before being put up for an up-or-down Local-wide vote, requiring a simple majority to pass initially and a two-thirds supermajority to pass on subsequent votes (refer to Article VI, Section 2). Once they are ratified by the Local, platforms serve as a key reference point and tool in the decision-making process (refer to Article VI, Section 3).

Section 7. Local Subgroup Officer Elections

All Local Subgroup Officers shall be elected by the membership of the Local Subgroup and serve for a term of one year. The quorum for a Local Subgroup election shall be 25 Group Members. Voting periods must be at least one (1) week, and no longer than three (3) weeks.

In the event of a vacancy, whether due to recall or resignation, the empty seat shall be filled by the following procedure:

- (a) If the vacancy occurs within the first six (6) months of the term, the seat will be filled by a member in good standing according to the results of the previous election, with votes for the recalled officer being transferred according to the regular voting process.
- (b) If the vacancy occurs after the first six (6) months of the term, or if there are no eligible candidates that ran during the previous election for the vacant seat, the Local Steering Committee will appoint a replacement member in good standing for the remainder of the term.

Section 8. Local Subgroup Officer Recalls

Any Local Subgroup Officer may be recalled by the Group the Officer represents. A recall vote may be triggered by petition signed by a number of members equal to or greater than 80% of the total number of votes cast during the previous election. Once triggered, the Steering Committee shall facilitate a forum on the recall, followed by a vote by the members of the Local Subgroup, where a supermajority of two-thirds of voters shall be required to recall the officer.

Additionally, any Local Subgroup Officer may be recalled according to the process outlined in Article VII, Section 3.

Additionally, in the case of malfeasance or nonfeasance (as defined in Article VII, Section 3), the Steering Committee may call a vote to remove a Local Subgroup Officer, with a two-thirds majority vote of the Steering Committee required to execute the removal. The rationale and result of any such vote called must be published to the membership.

Section 9. Dissolution of Local Subgroups

Any Local Subgroup shall have the right to dissolve itself, for any reason, with a two-thirds majority vote of Local Subgroup members. Quorum for such a vote shall be 25 Group Members.

In the case that a Local Subgroup is deliberately and grossly acting in contradiction to the collectively determined Local Mission and Organizational Priorities or their own ratified platform, or consistently fails to perform basic Local Subgroup duties, the Steering Committee may vote to dissolve a Local Subgroup,

with a two-thirds majority vote of the Steering Committee required to execute the dissolution. The rationale and result of any such vote called must be published to the membership.

ARTICLE VI. Local Decision-Making

Section 1. Local Mission and Organizational Priorities

Decision-making at the membership, Local Subgroup, and Steering Committee levels shall be guided by a democratically determined Local Mission and an accompanying set of Organizational Priorities. These documents will be available to members at all times.

The Local Mission and Organizational Priorities should be revisited at the Annual Convention, and can be amended by submitting a formal proposal, endorsed by at least 25 members, to the Steering Committee at least two (2) months in advance of the Annual Convention. The Steering Committee will make these proposals available for members to review at least one (1) months in advance of the Annual Convention and provide time on the Annual Convention agenda to discuss and vote on proposed updates to the Local Mission and Priorities. If any proposal to update the Local Mission or Priorities receives a two-thirds supermajority of votes at the Annual Convention, the Steering Committee will update the document accordingly.

All proposals and decisions made by the Steering Committee shall be guided by the Local's Mission and Organizational Priorities.

Section 2. Roles and Responsibilities of the Committees, Working Groups, Resource Committees, and the Steering Committee

The decision-making process outlined in this section and in the Appendix applies to both internal and external initiatives undertaken by the Local, including Local Subgroup formation, Local policy revisions, and Local Subgroup platform amendments. It is guided by both the platforms and the Local Mission and Organizational Priorities and it prioritizes transparency and coordinated autonomy at the Local Subgroup level—where the Local's work is primarily undertaken. The Steering Committee is empowered to undertake initiatives and actions that clearly align with the Local's Mission and Organizational Priorities, as well as duties explicitly outlined in this document.

It is not necessary to submit proposals for all routine Local Subgroup work, but all major projects or endorsements proposed by Local Subgroups which require Local resources, represent the Local publicly, or have political goals should be submitted to the Steering Committee. After each proposal is submitted, within 1 week, the Steering Committee is responsible for assessing 1) whether or not the proposal is aligned with the relevant Local Subgroup's existing platform(s), and 2) whether or not the proposal uses a relatively low level of Local resources outside of the Local Subgroup (including funds, time, political capital, and people power). By a simple majority vote, if the Steering Committee determines that the proposal is aligned with relevant, existing platform(s) and uses a low level of resources, no further Local-wide vote is required, and the proposal is approved. Approved proposals will be published and communicated to the membership on an ongoing basis—this requirement extends to initiatives and actions undertaken by the Steering Committee. If a proposal falls under the purview of multiple Local

Subgroups, all relevant groups will move the initiative forward in coordination, and the initiative will not be launched until all involved groups approve.

If the Steering Committee determines that the proposal is not aligned with an existing platform, or that it requires a significant amount of Local resources, the Steering Committee will require that members submit a detailed analysis that explains why and how the proposal aligns with the Local Mission and Organizational Priorities. This analysis should adhere to the guidelines laid out in the Local's [Framework for Endorsement Proposal and Analysis](#), and have been approved by the group's members.

After submission of the analysis, the Steering Committee will assess the analysis to determine whether or not the proposal is aligned with the Local Mission and Organizational Priorities within 2 weeks. If they determine that it is (by a simple majority), the proposal will be put to a Local-wide vote, and further guided through the decision-making process—which may include addition to Local platforms or Local Subgroup formation as appropriate—as outlined in the Appendix. If the Steering Committee decides that the proposal does not align with the Local Mission and Organizational Priorities, they shall decline to put it to a Local-wide vote in its current form. The Steering Committee may also recommend revisions, and then put the revised, re-submitted proposal and analysis to a Local-wide vote. During such a votes, a simple majority with a quorum of ten percent of Local members is required. Any such Steering Committee decisions may be overridden as in Article VI, Section 3.

Section 3. Roles and Responsibilities of the Membership

Although the decision-making process features an emphasis on the Local Subgroups, members may organize proposals, and support for said proposals outside of the realm of Local Subgroups.

The Steering Committee will accept and consider proposals endorsed by 25 members and guide the proposals through the same decision-making process outlined above, and in the Appendix.

Additionally, if the Steering Committee determines that a proposal and analysis submitted by a group of 25 members or a Local Subgroup does not align with the Local Mission and Organizational Priorities and declines to put it to a Local-wide vote, members that support the proposal can gather a total of 50 members in support of the original initiative, and bring the analysis to a Local-wide vote with the Steering Committee's support. A quorum of ten-percent of Local members is required for such a vote, with a simple majority required to approve the initiative.

ARTICLE VII. Local Officer Elections

Section 1. Nominations Committee

A three-person Nominations Committee shall be established at least one month prior to every Local Officer election by vote of a Regular Meeting. It shall solicit and receive nominations for the positions to be elected.

Section 2. Elections

Election for Local Officers shall be held with voting closing at least two weeks prior to the end of the previous Officers' terms. Elections shall be run by secret ballot. If a position is uncontested, the nominee will be declared elected by acclamation.

The term of office for any Local Officer shall be one year.

Section 3. Recalls

As officers of the Local exist to serve the Local, any elected officer may also be recalled by the Local. A recall vote may be triggered by petition signed by a number of members equal to or greater than two-thirds of the total number of votes cast during the previous election, or by fifty percent of Local membership, whichever number is lower. Once triggered, a Nominations Committee shall be established in accordance with Section 1 to hold a forum on the recall, followed by a Local-wide election, where a supermajority of two-thirds of voters shall be required to recall the officer.

Additionally, in the case of malfeasance or nonfeasance, the Steering Committee may call a vote to remove an officer, with a two-thirds majority vote of the Steering Committee required to execute the removal. Local Officers may not vote in the matter of their own recall. The rationale and result of any such vote called must be published to the membership.

Malfeasance shall be defined as intentional misuse of Local resources, abuse of Local Officer powers, or deliberate misrepresentation of the positions of the Local. Additionally, if a Local Officer is found to be in significant violation of the Local's misconduct policy, the Investigative Commission responsible for fact-finding and harm assessment may recommend removal from Local office and such violations shall be considered malfeasance. Nonfeasance shall be defined as an ongoing or repeated failure to execute Officer duties and maintain regular contact with other Local Officers, without making arrangements to be replaced or voluntarily stepping down from the position.

Section 4. Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy, whether due to recall or resignation, the empty seat shall be filled by the following procedure:

- (c) If the vacancy occurs within the first six (6) months of the term, the seat will be filled by a member in good standing according to the results of the previous election, with votes for the recalled officer being transferred according to the regular voting process.
- (d) If the vacancy occurs after the first six (6) months of the term, or if there are no candidates that ran during the previous election for the vacant seat, the Local Steering Committee will appoint a replacement member in good standing for the remainder of the term.

ARTICLE VIII: Local Officers

Section 1. Officers, Elections, and Terms

The Local shall annually elect a Recording Secretary, Communications Director, Treasurer, YDSA Coordinator, and six (6) at-large members of the Steering Committee.

Section 2. Recording Secretary

The Recording Secretary will be responsible for:

- a) the taking of minutes of all Steering Committee meetings, and shall have custody of these minutes, and resolutions, reports and other official records of the Local.
- b) ensuring that key decisions and meeting minutes are available to members of the Local.
- c) maintaining detailed and accurate membership records in coordination with the Membership Committee, as well as Local bylaws and official Local organizational policies.
- d) coordinating with Local Subgroups to receive records of key debates and decisions
- e) transferring all records to their successor at the end of each their term.

Section 3. Communications Director

The Communications Director will be responsible for

- (a) Coordinating public-facing statements from the Local, including but not limited to the DSA-LA website, social media, and blog.
- (b) Coordinating regular internal email newsletters and announcements.
- (c) Coordinating a Communications Committee that includes representatives from each Local Subgroup in the Local, to ensure that both external and internal communications accurately represent work done across all of the Local's groups.

Section 4. Treasurer

The Treasurer will be responsible for the funds and financial records of the Local. All funds collected by the Local will be turned over to the Treasurer, who shall deposit them in a bank account under the name of the Local. In cooperation with the Communications Secretary, the Treasurer will be responsible for ensuring that membership dues are paid up-to-date. The Treasurer will prepare the annual Local budget, and deliver the Local financial report to the General Meeting of the Local, as well as periodic progress reports as requested by the Executive Committee of the Local.

Section 5. At-Large Officers

At-large officers of the Local serve as members of the Steering Committee and are responsible for ensuring all Steering Committee work is executed in accordance with the Local's Mission and Organizational Priorities.

Section 6. YDSA Coordinator

The YDSA Coordinator shall be responsible for maintaining a network of coordinators and representatives from YDSA Locals across Los Angeles, as well as extending that network to include nearby regional DSA and YDSA Locals. They shall be responsible for ensuring that YDSA Locals have abundant avenues to work in solidarity with the Local's work, as well as to request resources and support from the Local for YDSA Local-led campaigns and initiatives.

Section 7. Additional Duties

The Local Steering Committee may assign additional temporary duties to an officer or member in good standing of the Local, so long as such assignments do not conflict with the designation of responsibilities outlined in these Bylaws.

ARTICLE IX. Steering Committee

Section 1. Composition and Purpose

The Steering Committee shall be comprised of the Communication Director, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary, and the six elected at-large Officers of the Local. The Steering Committee is to be the primary Administrative Body of the Local and is charged with ensuring that the Local's work is done in alignment with the Local Mission and Organizational Priorities, and the Local Bylaws. Although the Steering Committee may occasionally make political decisions regarding the Local, the Local membership body shall be the supreme political body of the Local, with political decisions expressed via Local-wide votes, through Local Subgroup initiatives and platforms, and votes taken during Annual Conventions.

Section 2. Duties

The Steering Committee's duties shall include:

- (a) Facilitating and planning meetings of the Local at least six times annually, including the Annual Convention
- (b) Accepting proposals and facilitating votes for updates to the Local Mission Statement, Organizational Priorities, and Bylaws.
- (c) Ensuring that the Communications Coordinator, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer have sufficient resources and help to perform their duties.
- (d) Evaluating proposals and analyses in accordance with Article VI.
- (e) Overseeing Local communication and coordination with other DSA Locals and responsibilities to DSA National
- (f) Facilitating coordination between Local Subgroups and ensuring that all projects are executed in keeping with the Local-wide Mission Statement and Organizational Priorities.
- (g) Drafting and executing Local administrative policy in accordance with the Local Organizational Priorities to ensure the smooth working of the Local
- (h) Requesting and receiving regular reports from all Local Subgroup Coordinators
- (i) Empowering and overseeing a fundraising committee
- (j) Having a cute group Signal thread

(k) Smashing capitalism

Section 3. Meetings & Decisions

The Steering Committee shall meet at least twice per month. A quorum of at least six members shall be required to make decisions. In all Steering Committee votes, a majority or supermajority, as appropriate, shall be of the voting-eligible Steering body and not counted of voting members.

ARTICLE X. Grievances, Misconduct, and Policy Enforcement

The Local shall abide by the DSA-LA Misconduct Policy when responding to allegations of member misconduct. As appropriate, policies and resources from the National organization will be implemented as they become available, in accordance with the DSA-LA Misconduct Policy.

ARTICLE XII. Delegates to National, Regional, and State Bodies

Delegates and alternates representing the Local to the National Convention and any other meeting of DSA bodies in which decisions binding on the local are to be made will be elected by the full members of the Local.

Delegates shall seek input and guidance, facilitated by the Steering Committee as necessary, from the Local membership body regarding the topics of debate at the convention.

ARTICLE XIII. Prohibited Activity

The Los Angeles Local shall not engage in activity prohibited by IRS guidelines or similar rules established by the State of California. Nor shall the Local engage in any activity prohibited by resolutions adopted by DSA's National Convention or DSA's National Political Committee.

ARTICLE XIV. Amendments

Proposed amendments to these Bylaws must be made by written resolution, endorsed by 25 members of Local members, and submitted to the Steering Committee at least two (2) months in advance of the Annual Convention. The Steering Committee will make these resolutions available for members to review at least one (1) months in advance of the Annual Convention and provide time on the General Meeting agenda to discuss and vote on them. If any resolution receives a two-thirds supermajority of votes at the Annual Convention, the Steering Committee will update the bylaws accordingly.

A written resolution endorsed by 25% of Local members may be brought in advance of the Annual Convention. If such a resolution is produced, a Special Convention may be called to debate and vote on that Resolution, with a two-thirds supermajority required to pass. No other resolutions will be considered at a Special Convention.

ARTICLE XVI. Rules of the Local

Section 1. Rules.

Meetings shall be conducted in such a manner as to encourage member participation and deliberation. Contributions and perspectives from members of historically marginalized groups shall be represented and actively encouraged throughout.

The Rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Simplified shall be used for meetings where amendments to these Bylaws are to be considered.

Section 2. Action Out of Order

Any action taken by an officer or member of the Local in contravention of these Bylaws is null and void.

APPENDIX. Local Decision-Making

