



**Approved by the Green-Rainbow Party State Committee on _____
with revisions approved by the Administrative Committee on _____**

Submitted by:

Co-Chair: _____ **Date**

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Green-Rainbow Party Presidential Nominating Convention Delegate Selection Plan

1. Introduction

The Green-Rainbow Party is the state affiliate of the Green Party of the United States and is recognized as a political party in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Under Massachusetts election laws, the Green-Rainbow Party (GRP) is allowed to conduct a statewide Presidential primary in the spring of 2016. This primary will determine the composition of the delegation sent to the Green Party nominating convention in July of 2016.

In order to participate fully in the primary, the Party must comply with the requirements of state election law. Insofar as there is no conflict, it must also comply with requirements of the Green Party Accreditations Committee and with conditions imposed by the Green-Rainbow Party.

This plan for delegate selection describes the process by which the results of the primary will be used to select delegates to the national nominating convention. Under the 2016 convention rules, the GRP will select 11 delegates and up to 4 alternates. If the rules of the convention are altered in a way that changes the number of delegates the GRP is permitted to send to the convention, we will file a modified plan with the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Specific deadline dates for the 2016 presidential election are noted in this document based on information available at the current time. If no revised plan is approved

by State Committee for elections beyond 2016, this plan shall be employed then and the GRP's Candidate Development and Legal Committee (CDLC) shall be authorized to update all dates as appropriate.

Should changes in state election law lead to the decision by the Party to elect delegates through a caucus or convention rather than a primary, the CDLC shall issue modifications to this plan as required, and submit them to the GRP Administrative Committee for approval, after which they shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

1.1 What is in this Document

This document describes:

- The legal and party requirements for delegate and alternate delegate selection;
- The method of selecting the number of delegates and alternate delegates that each choice receives based on the presidential primary ballot results;
- The method of selecting delegates and alternate delegates for a candidate;
- The method of selecting uncommitted delegates and alternate delegates;
- The method of filling delegate vacancies;
- The key dates for delegate and alternate delegate selection.
- Guidelines for managing the delegation to ensure that the actions taken at the nominating convention conform to the intent of the Delegate Selection Plan.

All other plans and provisions regarding the Presidential primary and Presidential election will be placed in other Party documents, with the primary such document being the GRP Presidential Election Plan.

1.2 Definitions

Administrative Committee (AdCom) - the executive committee of the Green-Rainbow party, consisting of the two Co-Chairs, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Party, chapter representatives, and elected diversity representatives.

Alternate - A person who is designated to take the place of a delegate should the delegate be unable to fulfill their responsibilities. Alternates do not vote unless they become a delegate.

At-large Delegate - A delegate that is not identified as a District Delegate.

Candidate Priority List - A list of up to 4 persons that the candidate submits naming persons that he/she most wishes to be seated as their delegates should they awarded delegates as a result of the primary vote.

Candidate Development and Legal Committee (CDLC) - A permanent working committee of the Green-Rainbow Party, established by the State Committee and authorized to conduct business for the Party

Delegate - A person assigned to a seat in the GRP delegation.

District Delegate - A type of delegate, namely one residing within a specific Congressional District who is assigned a seat to satisfy the requirement of Chapter 53 of Massachusetts General Laws.

Delegate ID - A unique number assigned by CDLC to each volunteer who submits a Delegate Application Form.

Delegate Pool - The set of all persons certified by CDLC as being willing and able to serve as delegates, whether actually appointed or not.

Option - One of the choices on the primary ballot, either a designated candidate on the ballot, a write-in candidate or "No Preference".

Presidential Campaign Working Group (PCWG) - A temporary working group, created by State Committee, that performs certain functions related to the Presidential campaign.

Proxy vote - A vote by an absent delegate that is cast at the convention by a delegate in attendance. This vote is in addition to that delegate's own vote. GPUS convention rules are expected to permit each delegate to cast at most one proxy vote.

Seat - A single delegate position in the GRP delegation. The number of seats in the delegation is determined by the GPUS.

Seating Score - A score computed for each delegate that is used to determine the order in which they will be selected to fill unfilled seats.

Unassigned pool - The set of delegate volunteers who, at any point in time, have not been assigned to a seat in the delegation.

1.3 Scope and Intent of this Document

This document describes the procedures to be followed by the working committees of the Green-Rainbow Party. When a process in this document is defined by an algebraic or mathematical formula, the formula itself shall be the fundamental definition of the process. No text describing the process shall be deemed to modify or negate the formula. Text describing laws, rules, and requirements promulgated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Green Party, or the Massachusetts Green-Rainbow Party are for explanation only and should not be interpreted as changing or modifying those laws, rules, or regulations.

Unless otherwise specified, the calculations and tasks described in this document shall be performed by the Presidential Campaign Working Group (PCWG), which is a working group formed by the GRP State Committee. The PCWG reports to the CDLC. Should CDLC determine that the PCWG is failing to exercise any of its required duties, CDLC may step in to take charge of items previously delegated to the PCWG. The CDLC/PCWG assignments in this document are suggestions only and may be revised by CDLC as they see fit.

The Delegate Selection Plan is intended to achieve several objectives as follows:

- Comply with all applicable Massachusetts election laws.
- Satisfy requirements of the national Green Party for selection and accreditation of convention delegates.
- Protect the democratic rights of Green-Rainbow voters to see their primary votes properly reflected in the selected Massachusetts delegation.
- Be fair to all candidates, ensuring that the Green Party Presidential campaign exemplifies a healthy democracy in action.
- Reflect the goals of the Green-Rainbow Party with regard to openness, encouraging participation in elections, and promoting of diversity within the Party.
- Define processes that can be implemented by volunteers with limited time and financial resources

Several of these objectives are likely to be imperfectly achieved and in some cases a trade-off must be made to balance conflicting objectives. The goal of the DSP is to define specific processes that achieve an optimized, properly balanced outcome.

1.4 Relevant Provisions of State Election Law

State law (M.G.L. Chapter 53) [101] defines a minimum set of rules for the selection of delegates to a presidential nomination convention. The key provisions are:

- The State Committee must notify the Secretary of the Commonwealth of the number of delegates and alternate delegates we will send to the national nominating convention on or before the first Tuesday in January of the presidential election year (for 2016 presidential election, the deadline is January 3xxx).
- The distribution of delegates shall reflect the preference expressed by the voters on the presidential preference portion of the ballot at the presidential primary;
- There must be at least one delegate and one alternate delegate from each congressional district;
- There can be at-large delegates and alternate delegates;
- The Party must submit their Delegate Selection Plan to the Secretary of the Commonwealth for inspection.

The number of seats in the Massachusetts delegation will be communicated to the Party by the Green Party of the United States (GPUS) Accreditations Committee. For the 2016 nominating convention the number of delegates from Massachusetts will be 11xxx.

The following sections describe the process for delegate selection.

1.5 Overview of the Process

The following overview of the delegate selection process is provided to assist the reader. This process attempts to produce a fair and democratic outcome even if there are not enough delegates to fill all the seats in the delegation. The actual processes involved are described in detail later in this document and this overview does not alter or change the more detailed description of the process.

The process for awarding seats to delegates is inherently complicated because of the legal requirements and the multiple considerations involved. The goal of this

document is to define a clear process that minimizes ambiguities and judgment calls, which is fully defined once the input data (primary election results and list of delegates) is available. A computer program or computer spreadsheet will be created to compute the seat assignments. The results of this program shall be verified manually as the final step in the process.

- The process begins with the recruitment of a delegate pool consisting of all persons who have indicated an interest in being a delegate by completing a Delegate Application Form. The Party will work to ensure that an adequate delegate pool is recruited.
- The PCWG will, on the basis of the Delegate Application Forms, give each delegate a numeric seating score that can be used to determine the order in which delegates will be selected to fill seats. This score reflects various things such as commitment to attend the convention, diversity characteristics, gender, involvement in Party activities, etc. Scores will be adjusted with the goal of having at least one delegate from each Congressional District.
- After the primary is held, the PCWG determines the number of seats won by each option (where the "no preference" option is treated the same as a named candidate). The number of seats awarded is directly proportional to the votes won in the primary.
- Seats are then filled by applicants selected from the delegate pool.
- Each candidate is allowed to submit a list of up to 4 persons that they most wish to be in their delegation. Any such persons will given priority in filling seats won by the candidate. This allows candidates to ensure that their key supporters and campaign leaders are part of their delegation and are thus available to represent their campaign on the floor of the convention.
- Applicants are assigned to seats in the delegation by taking them in decreasing order of their seating priority points and assigning them the candidate who has the lowest fraction of filled seats. This tends to bring all candidates with unfilled delegations up to a similar percentage value of filled seats. This process continues until either all seats or filled or the pool of unassigned delegates is exhausted.
- The assignment of delegates to candidates will then be adjusted to get a better fit between preferences expressed by the delegates. (A perfect fit many not be possible, so some delegates may be assigned to candidates other than the one they most prefer. As part of the application process, applicants have agreed to accept such assignments.)

- If there are unassigned applicants at this point, then they will be appointed as alternates, by appointing them in seating priority order until the required number of delegates is appointed or until the pool of unassigned delegates is exhausted.
- AdCom reviews the assignments and then forwards them to State Committee. State Committee approves the assignments. At this point, applicants are notified of their appointments and AdCom prepares a credentialing package for the convention's credentialing committee.

2. Establishing the Delegate Pool

Having an adequate delegate pool is important to ensuring that all votes assigned to the GRP are cast at the convention. An adequate delegate pool also helps in achieving other goals such as diversity and geographic distribution. The PCWG shall work with others in the Party to recruit volunteers to serve as delegates. Beginning no later than October 1 of the year before the Presidential Primary, a call for delegate volunteers shall be published by email on the principal GRP email lists and on the Party website. A call for volunteers should appear in any Party newsletter published after the email appeal is first released.

We are a party that encourages diversity and this should be reflected in the delegates we send to the national nominating convention. Diversity in the delegate pool is necessary to achieve diversity in the delegation. This DSP describes how delegates are selected from that pool in order to achieve diversity. Included here are provisions for achieving gender balance in the delegation.

As explained later, we will attempt to seat at least one delegate from each of the nine Congressional Districts in Massachusetts. To achieve this goal, there must be geographic diversity in the delegate pool.

PCWG shall assign a unique Delegate ID to each person entered into the delegate pool. This ID shall be an integer assigned in the order in which the application of the delegate was received. Should a delegate withdraw, their ID will be retired rather than reassigned to another delegate.

2.1 Requirements Placed Upon Delegates

All persons to be considered for seating as a delegate or an alternate must first be placed in the delegate pool by the PCWG. In placing an applicant in the pool, the PCWG will impose the following requirements:

a) They must have completed, signed, and returned the Delegate Application form as specified by the PCWG. A member of PCWG is permitted to sign the form for the delegate after verbally verifying the required information and receiving permission from the delegate to sign the form. PCWG shall accept all Delegate Application Forms submitted by a date three weeks after the Presidential primary. However PCWG may, at its discretion, accept later submissions if necessary to ensure an adequate delegate pool.

b) Applicants must be registered as a member of the Green-Rainbow Party. If records available to the PCWG do not confirm their proper registration, delegates must provide PCWG a confirmation from a registrar of voters that they are registered in the Green-Rainbow Party.

c) Applicants must agree to accept whatever candidate assignment is given to them by the delegate selection process. This flexibility simplifies the seat assignment process and helps ensure that the seats can be filled in a way that is compliant with state election law.

d) Applicants must agree that if they are assigned to a particular candidate they will vote for that candidate on the first ballot, and will vote for that candidate or for another candidate that their assigned candidate has designated, on ballots two and three, unless the candidate, to whom the delegate or alternate delegate is committed, has communicated their desire to free their delegates. If the candidate to whom a vote would be committed by the above rules is no longer eligible for a vote according to the rules of the convention (e.g. they have been eliminated by the convention process or were not nominated from the floor), then the delegate is free to vote for whomever they wish on the second and following ballots.

The Delegate Application form shall require the applicant to indicate acceptance of all the requirements stated above.

Should a vote at the national nominating convention use instant runoff voting for the selection a nominee, the delegate or alternate must cast their first place vote in accordance with the above restrictions, but is free to vote for any candidate she desires as her 2nd , 3rd, etc. choice.

An example of a Delegate Application Form is provided in Appendix B. The PCWG may modify this form as they see fit to ensure that it serves the purposes of the Delegate Selection Plan.

2.2 Candidate Priority Lists

Each candidate shall be invited to submit a set of names, in priority order, of persons that they wish to be seated as their delegates should they win seats. This provision is intended to allow candidates to have some assurance that their key volunteers and campaign leaders will be seated as part of the delegation if they win seats. PCWG shall inspect the submitted candidate delegate lists and remove any person who has not submitted a completed Delegate Application Form or who has been determined to be ineligible to be seated by reason of party registration or failure to agree to required commitments on the application form. The ordering submitted by the candidate will otherwise be preserved. (Note: As provided for later, seating priority will be given to only the top 4 names on the candidate priority list, so providing more than 4 names has no benefit unless one of the top 4 individuals drops out or fails to qualify as a delegate.) The limitation of this list to 4 names is intended to preserve the ability to meet other delegation objectives (e.g. diversity) by assigning seats to qualified persons not named by the candidate.

3. Determining the Number of Seats Won by Each Option

As soon as possible after the primary, the CDLC shall release a preliminary estimate of the number of seats in the delegation that have been won by each candidate. This is a courtesy to the candidate and it informs them regarding whether it is worthwhile for them to submit a list of preferred delegates under 2.2 above.

Should the Commonwealth provide a tally by name of write-in votes, those votes shall be processed as legitimate ballot options. However, PCWG may declare any write-in candidate that receives less than one-half of one percent of the total vote to have failed to qualify for the award of seats, and the votes for that candidate shall then be placed in the "no preference" category. This is to simplify the processing required of the PCWG in the case of a large number of write-in names and to preclude possible improper manipulation of the write-in process (such as a campaign to get everyone to write in themselves, resulting in hundreds of names to be processed). In the past, the Commonwealth has provided the Party only with the total number of write-in votes without breaking them down by candidate name. If such votes without names are again provided, those votes shall be added to the "No Preference" category for purposes of delegate selection.

Ballots that are reported as "blank" shall be counted as "No Preference" votes for purposes of determining the seats won.

In the event that several options are tied with an identical number of votes, a tiebreaking procedure would be required. To resolve such ties, PCWG will, for purposes of the computation, order the tied options in the order of their appearance on the ballot and will give one vote to the topmost tied option, two votes to the

second tied option, etc. This adjustment is to be used only for computational purposes only and will not alter the actual primary totals used elsewhere by the Party.

The number of seats won by option i shall be

$$n_i = \text{INT}(v_i * N / V + q)$$

where INT is the standard spreadsheet function that rounds a quantity down to an integer value, v_i is the vote total for option i , V is the total vote (sum for all options), N is the total number of seats in the delegation, and q is a number between 0 and 1 that is selected by PCWG to make the sum of all assigned seats equal to N . This formula, to the extent possible given the need to round off awards to whole numbers of delegates, awards seats directly in proportion to the primary vote, thus satisfying state law and respecting democratic principles. The exact value selected for the parameter q is not significant as long as it is chosen to award exactly N seats.

The PCWG will present the results of their determination of seats won by each option to the Administrative Committee no later than 10 days after PCWG is provided with the primary vote totals. The PCWG report to AdCom will include adequate documentation on the steps followed in making its determination.

The Administrative Committee must approve or reject the seat allocations within seven (7) days of receiving them. Grounds for rejection shall be limited to the determination that the allocation differs significantly from that which would be produced by diligent application of the process specified by the Delegate Selection Plan. Failure to approve or reject the results will automatically approve them. If AdCom rejects the results, AdCom must state their reasons for rejection and must either issue corrected numbers or must ask PCWG to make a corrected allocation. CDLC shall respond promptly, insofar as they are able, to requests by AdCom to support recomputation of the results. Within two weeks of AdCom first receiving the results, AdCom shall present to the co-chairs an approved allocation. If this is not done, the original PCWG allocation is automatically approved. The approved allocation shall thereafter be the basis for all further work.

Within three days of the approval of the seat allocations, the Administrative Committee shall notify each candidate via email and by phone of the number of delegate seats they won. This communication shall include final instructions on submission of the candidate priority list. When this step is completed, the number

of seats awarded to each candidate is known, but the names of the delegates to be assigned to those seats has not yet been determined.

4. Establishing the Seating Order

If the number of applicants in the delegate pool is less than or equal to the seats in the delegation, then all applicants shall be awarded a seat. This was the case in 2008 because the GPUS gave Massachusetts a large number of seats relative to the size of the delegate applicant pool that was recruited. However, in the eventuality that there are more applicants than seats, the process described in this section shall be used to decide which delegates to seat, which candidate they will represent, and who will be a delegate and an alternate. One of the mechanisms for making these decisions is a seating score that creates an order for seating applicants.

4.1 Basic Seating Order

PCWG shall create a seating score that shall be used to draw delegates from the delegate pool after the delegates on the candidate priority lists are seated. This will be done by computing a numeric score for each delegate based on information contained on the Delegate Application Forms, and modified as described below. The seating score shall be computed by adding points for each delegate according to the criteria listed in Table 2.1 below.

Table 2.1 Basic Seating Order Scoring

Points Added	Characteristic
30	Applicant is in position 1 through Q on the preferred list of a candidate where Q is either 4 or the number of seats awarded to the candidate, whichever is less. The magnitude of this point award ensures that such applicants will be awarded a seat.
7	Based on the awards of all other points, applicant is one of the M highest ranking delegates from their Congressional district where M=1 if the delegation size is less than 18 and M=2 otherwise.
6	Applicant indicated commitment to attend the convention by checking the highest likelihood category on the application form). Once-half this number of

	points shall be awarded if the candidate indicates uncertain intention to attend. No points are awarded if the candidate does not think they will attend.
5	Applicant falls into a diversity category identified on the application form.
4	In the past 5 years, including current year, the applicant has appeared as a candidate on a ballot at either the municipal, state, or national level.
4	Applicant is an officer of the GRP, a director, a member of State Committee, a co-chair of a working committee, or an appointed member of a national Green Party Committee.
2.5	Applicant is female.

The number of delegates desired from each Congressional district is set to M where M=2 if N is greater than or equal to 18 and M=1 otherwise. For 2016, N=11 and hence the value of M will be 1.

State law calls for two persons to be appointed from each Congressional district as either delegates or alternates. However, this is not possible when the Green Party convention allocates fewer than 18 delegates to Massachusetts. In such cases, we will instead seek at least one representative from each district. The ability to find such delegates depends upon the geographic diversity within the applicant pool.

Using the above point system, the applicants are awarded points on all criteria other than Congressional district. Then the highest ranking M names in the pool for each congressional district are awarded an additional 7 priority points. This tends to promote applicants whose selection would help achieve the targeted M delegates from their congressional district.

4.2 Tiebreaking Provisions

Special tiebreaking procedures would be necessary if two or more delegates with identical seating scores were vying for the same seats in the delegation. Rather than detecting ties and invoking special procedures to address the situation, the PCWG will adjust the seating scores to make sure that every delegate has a distinct score. This will make ties impossible. Note that the one-half point added to the female award in Table 3.1 means that females cannot be tied with males. The

intent is to give preference to female delegates when the score would otherwise be tied. If despite this, identical scores are noted for any delegates, the applicants in contention shall be ordered by increasing Delegate ID. An additional 0.01 points will be given to the bottommost applicant in contention, 0.02 points to the candidate second from the bottom, etc. In this way there will be small but definite differences in the seating scores, and ties will be precluded.

4.3 Selection of Delegates and Alternates from the Applicant Pool

After the above seating priority calculations are completed, the applicants with the N highest scores shall be selected as delegates. If unassigned applicants still exist, alternates shall be selected by selecting the remaining applicants in seating priority order. This selection shall continue until either the unassigned applicant pool is exhausted or until a total of $\text{INT}(N/3+0.5)$ alternates are selected. For 2016, the maximum number of alternates to be selected shall be 4.

5. Assignment of Delegates to Candidates (Options)

At this point, the names of all the delegates and alternates are known. The next step is to assign the delegates to particular candidates (options) so that the vote of the delegation at the convention properly reflects the seat awards. This assignment is performed as follows:

If the number of available delegates, D , is less than the number of seats, N , then empty seats are inevitable and it is impossible to award each candidate the full number of delegates allocated to them. In such a case the number of seats to be awarded, n_i , shall be adjusted as follows

$$n_i = \text{INT}(v_i * D / V + r)$$

where INT is the standard spreadsheet function that rounds a quantity down to an integer value, v_i is the vote total for option i , V is the total vote (sum for all options), D is the total number of applicants for seats in the delegation, and r is a number between 0 and 1 that is selected by CDLC to make the sum of all assigned seats equal to D . This formula tends to ensure that each candidate receives a similar fraction of the seats won. Note that the seats actually filled with delegates may be less than the number of seats won in the primary.

- 1) Delegates that appeared on the priority list of a candidate i are assigned in seating priority order to that candidate, with the provision that no more than n_i such assignments shall be made and no more than 4 such assignments can be made.
- 2) As-yet-unassigned delegates that requested to be assigned to a candidate are assigned to that candidate in seating priority order until either such delegates are exhausted or all seats awarded to the candidate are filled.
- 3) As-yet-unassigned delegates that made no statement of preference are assigned in seating priority order to empty seats of candidates.
- 4) As-yet-unassigned delegates that requested to be *uncommitted* are assigned to the no preference option in seating priority order until either such applicants are exhausted or all seats awarded to the uncommitted option are filled.

At any time prior to the start of the convention, any two delegates may petition AdCom for a swap in their candidate assignments. A swap shall be permitted only if there is mutual acceptance of the swap by both delegates involved. Notification of the swap shall be sent immediately to the candidates involved and to the other members of the delegation.

Since alternates may fill in for any seated delegate that drops out, they are not associated with any particular candidate when first selected. If they are promoted to delegate status, they must comply with any voting requirements associated with the delegate that they replaced (e.g. if they are seated in place of a delegate for Jones, they must cast their first ballot vote for Jones and follow Jones's instructions for the subsequent two ballots).

PCWG may employ a computer program or computer spreadsheet for performing any stepwise assignment, but the results should be verified by manual inspection.

If for any reason the Secretary of the Commonwealth imposes a requirement upon the Green-Rainbow Party that cannot be fulfilled with the delegate applicant pool currently available, the PCWG is authorized to recruit additional delegates to make it possible to meet the requirement.

6. Final Approval of Delegate Assignments

PCWG shall publish a delegate selection report no later than 10 days prior to the spring State Committee meeting in the year of the election. This report shall be sent to CDLC, AdCom, and State Committee. This report shall identify the specific

persons assigned to particular seats in the delegation. This report shall contain adequate information to allow validation and verification that the Delegate Selection Plan was properly followed in generating the assignments. Copies of any software used in the process shall be provided with the report.

The State Committee must meet prior to the 3rd Friday in April (for the 2016 presidential election prior to April 20th, 2016) to approve the assignments of delegates and alternates. The relevant StateCom meeting for 2016 is currently scheduled for April 15. At this meeting, CDLC and AdCom shall report on whether they feel that the defined Delegate Selection Plan has been properly executed. State Committee may make revisions to the assignments if they determine that such revisions are necessary to comply with the Delegate Selection Plan or to meet legal requirements.

PCWG will notify delegates and alternate delegates of their assignments within one week of approval of the delegation by State Committee. PCWG may require that delegates confirm their acceptance at this time. Delegates that do not confirm within one week of notification may be replaced by alternates.

The delegates shall meet prior to the start of the convention and shall elect a chair to carry out certain responsibilities related to management of the delegation.

7. Filling Delegate Vacancies

AdCom may declare a seat vacant if the delegate assigned to the seat announces that they can no longer perform the required delegate functions or if they cease to communicate with the chair of the delegation. Should a seat in the delegation become vacant after the final approval of the seat assignments by StateCom, the Administrative Committee, may fill the seat by designating an alternate as a permanent replacement for the delegate in question. Delegate seats that were left vacant at the time the assignments were approved by StateCom shall not be filled by later appointments (This precludes the possibility that AdCom could exercise undue influence on the delegation by filling a number of empty delegate seats by appointment.)

If a vacancy occurs in the pool of alternates, whether due to resignation, reassignment as a delegate, or insufficient number of applicants, the Administrative Committee may appoint a new alternate to fill the vacancy. The new appointee must be a Green-Rainbow Party member and must submit a Delegate Application Form.

The chair of the delegation will maintain the official list of assignment of proxies to delegates present at the convention. If, after the start of the convention, it is clear that any delegate is not present to cast votes, and has not arranged for a vote by proxy, the co-chair may designate an alternate to cast that delegate's vote until such time as the delegate appears on the floor.

8. Credentialing of the Delegation to the Green Party National Convention

The Administrative Committee, with the assistance of CDLC, will prepare and submit an application for the credentialing of our delegation to the Accreditation Committee of the GPUS. The provisions of this section are subject to revision to accommodate instructions from the GPUS. The credentialing application must be sent by mail and email. This application must include the following items or statements:

- It shall bear the witness of the officers of the state party that delegates named in the application were duly elected as delegates to the Convention as provided for in the rules of the state party;
- It states that the state party is an affiliate of the Green Party of the United States;
- It states that it is the policy of the state party that neither its Presidential Nominating Convention delegates nor its Presidential electors will work in active opposition to the Presidential Slate nominated by the Green Party Presidential Nominating Convention;
- It includes a certified copy of the minutes of the state convention or other body of the state party authorized to elect the delegation, which minutes document the delegate election;
- It includes copies of all portions of state election law which are relevant to the selection of delegates to a national convention, whether by primary, caucus, or petitions for national candidates;
- It identifies by name, date of birth, residential address, phone and fax numbers, email address and the party by which they are registered to vote (where possible) each delegate and alternate delegate elected by the party;
- It attaches documentation of any primary results or convention results that were employed as the basis of the delegate's eligibility for credentials;
- And it describes for each congressional district in the state, the nature and time frame of any relevant Green-Rainbow activity in the district.

The Candidate Development and Legal Committee will work with the Administrative Committee to ensure that our application is complete and mailed to the Accreditation Committee of the GPUS prior to the date required.

9. Response to Non-compliance or New Legal Requirements

The Administration Committee, working in conjunction with PCWG, will define responses as required to correct any typographical and grammatical errors found in this document, to specify remedies to provisions that cannot be implemented or were not implemented as specified (e.g. missed deadlines, mistakes, etc.), and to ensure compliance with new or unanticipated legal requirements. The AdCom may revise all deadlines in this plan to adjust to unanticipated delays or to coordinate with actual State Committee meeting dates. The AdCom will determine if and when the Delegate Selection Plan should be revised and resubmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

If, for whatever reason, including changes in state election law, the GRP does not participate in the Massachusetts presidential primary, delegates will be selected by a Party convention. In that event, the Administrative Committee shall adapt this plan to the new situation, and submit the revised plan to State Committee for approval and for transmission to the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

This plan will be applied as appropriate to the presidential elections following the 2016 presidential election unless a new plan is approved by the State Committee of the Green-Rainbow Party. The Administrative Committee, in consultation with the Candidate Development and Legal Committee, shall be responsible for making sure that all legal requirements of state election laws are observed.

References

1 Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 53, Section 70B.
<www.state.ma.us/legis/laws/mgl/gl-53-toc.htm >

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APPENDIX A

Relevant Sections of Massachusetts State Law

Note: Paragraph breaks and bold fonts have been added to the legal text below in order to improve readability. Text of all laws is available from www.massachusettsgenerallaws.com/outline.htm .

MGL Chapter 53, Section 8 Certificates of nomination and nomination papers; contents; party designation

All certificates of nomination and nomination papers shall, in addition to the names of candidates, specify as to each,

- 1) his residence, with street and number, if any,
- 2) the office for which she is nominated, and
- 3) except as otherwise provided in this section and except for elections which are not preceded by primaries or political party caucuses, the political designation, if any, which she represents, expressed in not more than three words.

This information, in addition to the district name or number, if any, shall be specified on the nomination paper before any signature of a purported registered voter is obtained and the circulation of nomination papers without such information is prohibited. Certificates of nomination made by convention or caucus shall also state what provision, if any, was made for filling vacancies caused by the death, withdrawal or ineligibility of candidates.

The state committees of the respective political parties at a meeting called for the purpose shall **nominate the presidential electors**. The surnames of the candidates for president and vice president of the United States shall be added to the party or political designation of the candidates for presidential electors. Such surnames and a list of the persons nominated for presidential electors, together with an acceptance in writing signed by each candidate for presidential elector on a form to be provided by the state secretary, shall be filed by the state chairmen of the respective political parties not later than the second Tuesday of September. Said acceptance form shall include a pledge by the presidential elector to vote for the candidate named in the filing.

To the name of each candidate for alderman at large shall be added the number of the ward in which she resides. To the name of a candidate for a town office who is an elected incumbent thereof there may be added the words ""Candidate for Re-election".

Part 1, Title 8, Chapter 53, Section 70A

Section 70A. Sections seventy B to seventy H, inclusive, shall apply to presidential primaries.

Part 1, Title 8, Chapter 53, Section 70B

Section 70B. In any year in which candidates for presidential electors are to be elected, the selection of delegates and alternate delegates to national conventions of political parties shall be by that system adopted by the **state committee**, provided such system shall not include the placing of the names of delegates on the presidential primary ballot; and provided, further, that the distribution of delegates under any such system **shall reflect the preference expressed by the voters** on the presidential preference portion of the ballot at the presidential primary. The system adopted by the state committee shall be set forth in **written rules and procedures** covering all aspects of the delegate selection process and a copy of such rules and procedures shall be filed with the state secretary on or

before **October first** of the year preceding the year in which presidential electors are to be elected. The number of **district delegates and alternate district delegates**, not less than two from each congressional district, and the number of delegates and alternate delegates at large shall be fixed by the state committee, who shall give notice thereof to the state secretary on or before the first Tuesday in January. At such primaries, members of the state, ward and town committees shall also be chosen as provided in chapter fifty-two.

MGL Chapter 53, Section 70E Order of names on ballots; statement of preference; preferential vote count

The state secretary shall cause to be placed on the official ballot for use at presidential primaries:

- 1) The names of those candidates or potential candidates for the office of president of the United States whom she shall have determined to be generally advocated or recognized in national news media throughout the United States,
- 2) The names of any other candidates or potential candidates for nomination for president whose names are proposed therefore by nomination papers prepared and furnished by the state secretary, signed in the aggregate by at least twenty-five hundred voters,
- 3) And the names of those candidates or potential candidates for nomination for president whose names appear on written lists signed by the chairman of the state committees of the political parties, arranged in such order as may be determined by lot under the direction of the state secretary, a blank space in which the voter may, if she does not vote for any of the candidates for president whose names are printed on the ballot insert the name of any person of his choice as a candidate for president and a blank space in which a voter may vote no preference.

A vote both for no preference and for a candidate whose name has been inserted by the voter shall be counted as a vote for that candidate.

The chairman of the state committee of a political party and the state secretary shall submit lists or prepare lists of candidates for president, as aforesaid, no later than the first Friday in January and shall notify each such candidate forthwith, by registered mail, of the presence of his name on said lists. No name shall be removed from said lists, nor from the ballot, unless such candidate shall file with the state secretary an affidavit stating that she does not desire his name printed upon said ballot at the forthcoming presidential primary. Such affidavit shall be filed with the state secretary no later than five o'clock post meridian on the second Friday in January.

The names of candidates for state committee shall next be placed upon the ballot in the manner provided in section thirty-four. The names of candidates for ward or town committee appearing in nomination papers containing three or more nominations shall next be placed upon said ballot, arranged in groups and in the same order as in the nomination papers. The order in which the groups shall appear shall be determined by lot in the manner provided in section

thirty-four. The names of candidates appearing in nomination papers containing one or two nominations shall follow, alphabetically arranged.

There shall also be printed on the ballot appropriate instructions to aid the voter with respect to expressing his preference for a candidate for nomination as president. Election officers in the presidential primaries, in counting and tabulating the votes showing the voters' preference for president, shall disregard the omission or inaccuracy of initials, the omission, inaccuracy or misspelling of Christian names, and the misspelling of surnames, if the intent of the voter to express a preference for any particular individual can be ascertained. Such statements of voters of presidential preference shall be counted, tabulated and entered in the records of election officers of votes cast.

Part 1, Title 8, Chapter 53, Section 70I

Section 70I. If there is a **roll call vote** for president at the national convention of a political party, all delegates and alternate delegates whose selection is subject by party rule to the approval of a presidential candidate shall vote on the first such roll call for that presidential candidate unless released by such candidate.

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Appendix B - Delegate Application Form

FOR PCWG USE ONLY

ID:	Seating Score:
	District:
Status: Accepted / Incomplete / Disqualified / Other	Assignment:

**DELEGATE APPLICATION
FOR THE GREEN PARTY PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATING CONVENTION**

This application must be submitted by March 10, 2016 in order to guarantee that you will be considered as part of our delegate pool.

Date Submitted:

YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name:

If there are more delegate volunteers than seats in the delegation, the following questions can influence the order in which volunteers will be assigned to seats.

What is the likelihood that if selected as a delegate, you will actually go to the convention? In answering, realize that the convention is about three days duration and GRP delegates are usually expected to pay their own expenses (transportation, hotel, and meals). If you do not attend the convention, you may be able to have an attendee cast a vote for you by proxy.

- I am very likely to go. (>80% probability)
- I am uncertain (30-80% probability)
- I do not plan to go, but will cast a proxy vote.

Do you wish to be recorded as having a recognized characteristic that adds diversity to our delegation? If so, check one or more of the following:

Non-white Hispanic LGBT OTHER:

In the past five years, including this year's elections, has your name appeared on an election ballot for municipal, state, or national office in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts?

YES / NO

Are you currently an elected officer of the GRP, a member of State Committee, or chair of a GRP working committee, or an appointed member of a national (Green Party) committee? YES / NO

My gender is MALE/FEMALE

The GRP may be able to offer some limited financial assistance to defray expenses for attendees who would otherwise find it a financial hardship to attend the convention. Do you wish to apply for any such assistance? YES / NO

Signature of Applicant (or CDLC member attesting to accuracy of the submission):

Please forward by email to cdlc@green-rainbow.org or mail to David Spanagel, P.O. Box 70, Lancaster, MA 01523.

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End of Delegate Selection Plan