

Bylaws Proposal

22nd Executive Committee
2nd Session

PROP 101

A PROPOSAL

To amend the Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Nevada for the purpose of changing the definition of Party Member and State Convention Rules.

Be it enacted by the 2016 Libertarian Party of Nevada State Convention assembled,

Section 1: Short Title.

This proposal may be cited as “Membership Amendment 2016”.

Section 2: Effect.

Current bylaws require members to be a registered Libertarian Party partisan voter in the State of Nevada for 30 days, donate at least \$25/year, and be a member of the national Libertarian Party (which requires a certification in writing that they recognize the “NAP pledge”, that they oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals) in order to be considered a member of the Libertarian Party of Nevada. Once an individual becomes a member, they are then allowed to participate in all party business.

The following amendments change this in the following way:

- Members will no longer have to donate money to the Libertarian Party of Nevada, nor will they have to be a Libertarian Party partisan voter for 30 days, nor will they have to sign the “NAP pledge”. Once a resident of Nevada registers to vote as a Libertarian Party partisan voter in Nevada, they will be considered a member of the Libertarian Party of Nevada.
- A secondary class of membership, called Dues-paying Membership, shall be created, which requires a \$60 contribution to the LPN, either monetary or in-kind.
- Members will be allowed to participate as delegates in all LPN conventions. However, at state conventions, their participation shall be limited to candidate selection. Dues-paying members, meanwhile, may participate in any further convention business, including amending these bylaws, choosing delegates to the National Convention, and filling vacancies in the Executive Committee.
- Only dues-paying members may be eligible to serve in the Executive Committee.
- Affiliate creation will require five dues-paying members to state in writing that they are interested in serving as officers for the newly created affiliate. Unlike the LPN, however, general members may participate in all aspects of the organizing convention, (i.e. serve as officers or precinct captains) unless the affiliate adopts different criteria in its bylaws.

Additionally, Article VI, Section 2 has been edited to remove a reference to a non-existent bylaw passage and the proviso following Article VI has been stricken since it is obsolete.

Section 3: Purpose.

Currently there is no benefit to registering to vote as a Libertarian in Nevada, and several drawbacks - among them, Libertarian-registered voters in Nevada are ineligible for participating in Republican or Democratic caucuses or primaries. By allowing any Libertarian-registered voter to choose their candidates for partisan office, the Libertarian Party will finally achieve competitive parity with the major parties in Nevada. Additionally, by striking the 30 day voter registration requirement and the requirement to become a member of the national LP, this will



allow LPN candidates to bring excited supporters to our conventions, have them register (or update their registration) at the convention door, support their favorite candidate, and become a productive part of the nomination process. At the same time, though, the LPN still wants to encourage members to become further engaged in the LPN, either by donating labor or money to the Party. To that end, certain Party business can be restricted to dues-paying members - those who have paid their dues either in money or sweat equity. This business can include serving in a leadership capacity, choosing Party leadership, shaping the Party's governing documents, creating county affiliates, serving as representatives for the Party in the National Convention, and so forth.

Section 4: Amended Sections of Bylaws.

This section will show the amended sections of bylaws, in their entirety, for context. Red will show parts of the bylaws that have been redacted, and blue will show parts that have been added.

III. Membership

Section 1: General Membership; Any resident of Nevada shall be considered a member of the LPN provided they: A. Are ~~and have been a~~ registered Libertarian ~~Party partisan voter~~ in Nevada. ~~for a period of not less than 30 days, and B. Have donated at least twenty five dollars (\$25) to the LPN in the past 365 days, and C. Have certified in writing that they oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals, and D. Are members of the national Libertarian Party.~~

Section 2: Dues-paying Membership: Any resident of Nevada shall be considered a dues-paying member of the LPN provided they: A. Are a member of the LPN, and B. Have donated at least sixty dollars (\$60) in monetary or in-kind contributions to the LPN in the past 365 days.

IV. Convention

Section 4. All LPN members are qualified to be delegates to the Convention (hereafter referred to as "the Convention"). No fee may be required of any LPN member to participate in the business sessions of any Convention; however, fees may be required for participation in other convention events. A quorum of a Convention shall be a majority of the registered ~~dues-paying~~ delegates to the Convention. The Convention Secretary shall provide the Executive Committee with draft convention minutes no later than 10 days after the conclusion of the State Convention, and the Executive Committee is empowered to approve convention minutes. ~~LPN members shall be eligible to serve as delegates to choose candidates for public office. Dues-~~



paying LPN members shall additionally be eligible to serve as delegates to conduct whatever additional business shall be deemed necessary and proper, including but not limited to amending these bylaws, choosing delegates to the National Convention, and filling vacancies in the Executive Committee.

Section 5. The Executive Committee shall publish the time, date, and location for Conventions no later than 60 days before the State Convention. This publication will be sufficient if it is prominently placed on the LPN's official website. The Secretary of the LPN shall mail notice to all dues-paying members at least 30 days before the Convention.

V. Executive Committee

Section 5. The Executive Committee members must be dues-paying members of the LPN. No member shall hold more than one office at a time within the LPN. Members of the LPN Executive Committee shall not be restricted from serving in officer or representative positions within an Affiliate. The Executive Committee members shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the LPN. These duties shall include the following:

- A. The Chair shall preside at all LPN Executive Committee meetings and conventions.
- B. The Vice Chair shall assist the Chair in the performance of the Chair's duties. At meetings of the Executive Committee the Vice Chair shall preside in the absence of the Chair.
- C. The Secretary shall record and maintain minutes of party meetings and conventions, and all non- financial records of the LPN including but not limited to these bylaws and all committee reports. The Secretary shall send out membership notices of meetings and conventions.
- D. The Treasurer shall maintain the LPN's bank accounts, deposit all revenues, and pay all bills. A formal Treasurer's Report shall be presented annually, at the Convention. The Treasurer shall maintain the LPN's financial records in accordance with the law and generally accepted accounting principles.
- E. The Northern Regional Representative shall represent and reside in one of the Counties of Washoe, Carson City, Storey, and Douglas.
- F. The Southern Regional Representative shall represent and reside in the County of Clark.





G. The At-Large Representatives shall represent the entire state of Nevada.

VI. Affiliates

Section 1. Affiliate Organizing Conventions; Once five dues-paying members of the Libertarian Party LPN have signed a letter indicating their willingness to serve as officers in a county affiliate, it shall be the responsibility of the State Executive Committee to hold an organizing convention.

Section 2. Scheduling of an Affiliate Organizing Convention; The organizing convention required by Article VIII Section K shall be scheduled in the county to be organized no sooner than 30 days nor later than 60 days after the State Executive Committee is presented with a letter as described in the aforementioned section.

~~Proviso: Once this bylaw has been adopted by the state convention, those counties who have 5 members who have signed a letter and submitted to the state Executive Committee by December 1, 2013 indicating their willingness to serve as officers in a county affiliate those counties shall hold an organizing convention in January. At that organizing convention, county officers pro-tem shall be elected; bylaws shall be enacted; and local candidates shall be nominated. Additionally, to ensure adequate notice and participation an additional affiliate convention for each affiliate formed in this manner shall be held before June 1, 2014~~

