

State Republican Party Rule Change PROPOSAL -- 2020 State Convention: (Addition to the State Rules.)

The enumerated statements below are to appear as a new paragraph #1 immediately following the preamble, remain together, unedited, in the order presented here and bear a paragraph heading: "Origin of Authority within the Oklahoma Republican Party." All other Rule paragraphs to be numbered sequentially following this rule.

1. (a) The Oklahoma Republican Party, in perpetuity for as long as it enjoys official political party recognition in the State of Oklahoma, shall function as a "Bottom Up" system for representing and advancing the moral values, and political legislative desires of individuals legally recognized as Republican, by the State of Oklahoma. This shall be respected.

1. (b) The authority and power to influence through legitimate means, the definition, mission, direction and operation of the Oklahoma Republican Party, is the sole purview of the Republican citizens of the State's political Precincts. This shall not be usurped.

1. (c) The Chairman of the Oklahoma Republican Party is the supreme manager of the State Party. This shall not be diminished.

1. (d) Republican Elected/Appointed Governmental office holders enjoy no unique privilege of office to manipulate, control or influence Party definition, direction, operation or management beyond that opportunity afforded them as Republican citizens of an Oklahoma political precinct. This shall be enforced.

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Author's commentary/rationale for proposed State Party Rule change:

This proposal is spawned by a contentious, long lived debate about control and motive. The passion of this debate crescendoed and faded when a contrary proposal was drafted for the 2019 State GOP Convention but failed to reach the convention floor as a result of a procedural discrepancy. A popular perception at that time was, extra-judicial factions were attempting to redefine Party mission, and the origin of decision making authority. This issue was not put to rest in 2019.

The debate continued throughout 2019, under the euphemistic banner of "Professionalizing" the State Party organizational structure. The issue remains a contest for control and influence of the decision making process and entails a surreptitious redefinition of the origin of authority to justify that shift in managerial influence. One faction is unhappy their fiscal contributions are not purchasing an expected result. Another faction is threatened by a perceived usurpation of influence. This is a debate about control and motive.

"Professionalizing" the Party organizational structure can be accomplished without sacrificing the origin of authority that justifies Oklahoma Republican Party existence.

The voice of authority within the Oklahoma Republican Party resonates upward from the Republican citizens of the State's political precincts.

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