



Democratic National Committee

CALL

For the 2012 Democratic National
Convention

Issued by the Democratic Party of the United States

Governor Tim Kaine
Chairman

As Adopted by the Democratic National Committee, August 20, 2010.

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CALL

For the 2012 Democratic National Convention

To Whom It May Concern:

By authority of the Democratic National Committee, the National Convention of the Democratic Party is hereby scheduled to convene on September 3, 2012, in Location TBA, at an hour to be announced, to select nominees for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States of America, to adopt and promulgate a platform and to take such other actions with respect to such other matters as the Convention may deem advisable.

I. Distribution of Delegate Votes

The distribution of votes, delegates and alternates to the 2012 Democratic National Convention shall be in accordance with the following:

- A. The number of Convention votes for delegates to the Convention shall be as set forth in the compilation included in this resolution and determined as provided in paragraphs B, C, D, E, F, G, and H¹.
- B. A base of 3,700 delegate votes is distributed among the 50 states and the District of Columbia according to a formula giving equal weight to the sum of the vote for the Democratic candidates in the three (3) most recent presidential elections and to population by electoral vote. The formula is expressed mathematically as follows:

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{SDV\ 2000 + SDV\ 2004 + SDV\ 2008}{TDV\ 2000 + TDV\ 2004 + TDV\ 2008} + \frac{SEV}{538} \right)$$

A = Allocation Factor
SDV = State Democratic Vote
SEV = State Electoral Vote
TDV = Total Democratic Vote

To determine the base delegation for each state and the District of Columbia, the allocation factors as determined by the

above formula are multiplied by 3,700. Fractions of .5 and above are rounded up to the next highest integer.

- C. 1. For purposes of this paragraph C, the period of time in which the first determining stage of the presidential nomination process takes place during 2012 shall be divided into Stages as follows:

Stage I: The earliest date specified in Rule 11 of the Delegate Selection Rules through March 31, 2012, inclusive.

Stage II: April 1 through April 30, 2012, inclusive.

Stage III: May 1 through June 10, 2012, inclusive.

- 2. A percentage of the base delegate votes determined pursuant to paragraphs B and E shall be added to the number of base pledged delegates otherwise determined pursuant to those paragraphs, for the purpose of increasing the size of the base pledged delegation, as follows:

- a. for any state in which the meeting, caucus, convention or primary which constitutes the first determining stage in the presidential nomination process in that state occurs in 2012 on a date in Stage II, the percentage shall be 10 percent; and in which the meeting, caucus, convention or primary

¹ See **Appendix B** for the allocation of delegates and alternates.

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which constitutes the first determining stage in the presidential nomination process in that state occurs in 2012 on a date in Stage III, the percentage shall be 20 percent.

- b. for any state in which the meeting, caucus, convention or primary which constitutes the first determining stage in the presidential nomination process in that state is held in a regional cluster, that percentage shall be an additional 15 percent added onto the base delegate vote without accounting for any adjustments made pursuant to Article I.C.2.a. States deemed to qualify as a regional cluster shall have contests that are:

- i. held in conjunction with at least two other neighboring states holding similar contests; and
- ii. on or after the third Tuesday in March.

- D. Fifteen percent (15%) of the base delegate votes determined pursuant to paragraphs B and E shall be added to the number of votes allocated for the purpose of representing pledged Party and Elected Official delegates. For purposes of this paragraph, the number of base delegate votes determined pursuant to paragraph B shall be the number determined thereunder after rounding. Fractions of .5 and above resulting from the multiplication required by this paragraph are rounded up to the next highest integer.

- E. American Samoa, Guam and the Virgin Islands will each receive six (6) at-large delegate votes. Democrats Abroad will receive twelve (12) at-large and one (1) pledged Party and Elected Official delegate

votes. Puerto Rico will receive forty-four (44) base delegate votes.

- F. Unpledged votes shall be allocated to each delegation to accommodate the members of the Democratic National Committee from that state or territory in which they legally reside. The size of such a member's vote (i.e., whole or fractional) shall be the same size as that which he or she is allowed to cast at meetings of the Democratic National Committee. Additional unpledged delegates shall be allocated for other officers serving in three (3) positions created by the Democratic National Committee in accordance with Article 3, Section 1.e. of the Charter of the Democratic Party of the United States.

- G. Unpledged votes shall be allocated to provide for the Democratic President, the Democratic Vice President, and all former Democratic Presidents, all former Democratic Vice Presidents, all former Democratic Leaders of the United States Senate, all former Democratic Speakers of the United States House of Representatives and Democratic Minority Leaders, as applicable, and all former Chairpersons of the Democratic National Committee.² Such delegates shall be seated with the state delegations from the state in which they have their voting residences.

- H. Additional unpledged votes shall be added if needed to provide for the Democratic Governor³ (if any) from that state or territory and for the Democratic Members of the United States House of Representatives and Democratic United States Senators from that state or territory (if any).⁴

² Former Chairpersons of the Democratic National Committee shall include National Chairs and General Chairs.

³ The Mayor of the District of Columbia, if a Democrat, shall be treated as a Democratic Governor.

⁴ The District of Columbia's Statehood Senators, if Democrats, shall be treated as Democratic United States Senators.

I. Each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico may select a number of alternates equivalent to one (1) alternate for every twelve (12) Convention votes received by it pursuant to paragraphs B, C, D, and E, provided, however, that each such delegation shall have at least two (2) alternates. American Samoa, Democrats Abroad, Guam and the Virgin Islands shall each have one (1) alternate. Fractions of .5 and above are rounded up to the next highest integer. It is further provided that each state shall have the number of additional at-large alternates necessary to provide at least one alternate for each presidential candidate who is entitled to delegates from that state, if the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee determines that the number of alternates allocated to the state is not sufficient for each presidential candidate to have at least one alternate.

J. Members of the Democratic National Committee and delegates selected pursuant to paragraphs G, and H will be ineligible to serve as delegates under any other category and may hold no more than one (1) vote. Democratic Governors, Democratic Members of the United States House of Representatives and Democratic United States Senators who are members of the Democratic National Committee shall serve as delegates by virtue of their membership on the National Committee.

II. Qualifications of State Delegations

A. Notice is hereby given that delegates, alternates and standing committee members to the Democratic National Convention shall be elected in accordance with the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States, the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2012 Democratic National Convention, the Call for the 2012 Democratic National Convention, and the Regulations of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee. The DNC Rules and Bylaws

Committee shall have the final authority to regulate the delegate selection process, subject to the authority of the Convention Credentials Committee and the Democratic National Convention. It shall be the duty of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee to administer the delegate selection process and ensure compliance with the rules, including equal division, and report to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee those states which are in non-compliance. Only delegates and alternates selected under a delegate selection procedure approved by the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee and in accordance with the rules shall be placed on the Temporary Roll of the 2012 Democratic National Convention. Only standing committee members and convention pages chosen pursuant to a state delegate selection plan found in compliance with the rules by the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee shall be qualified to serve in their respective capacities.

B. It is understood that a State Democratic Party, in electing and certifying delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention, thereby undertakes to assure all Democratic voters in the state full, timely and equal opportunity to participate in the delegate selection process and in all Party affairs and to implement affirmative action plans and inclusion programs toward that end, and that the delegates and alternates to the Convention shall be selected in accordance with the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2012 Democratic National Convention adopted by the Democratic National Committee on August 20, 2010. Furthermore, voters in the state will have the opportunity to cast their election ballots for the Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees selected by said Convention, and for electors pledged formally and in good conscience to the election of these Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees, under the label and designation of the Democratic Party of the United States, and that the delegates it certified will not

publicly support or campaign for any candidate for President or Vice President other than the nominees of the Democratic National Convention.

- C. It is presumed that the delegates to the Democratic National Convention, when certified pursuant to the Call, are bona fide Democrats who are faithful to the interests, welfare and success of the Democratic Party of the United States, who subscribe to the substance, intent and principles of the Charter and the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States, and who will participate in the Convention in good faith. Therefore, no additional assurances shall be required of delegates to the Democratic National Convention in the absence of a credentials contest or challenge.

III. Delegate Selection Deadline

All state parties are required to take all steps necessary and appropriate to complete the process of selecting delegates to the 2012 Democratic National Convention no later than June 23, 2012.

IV. Certification Requirements

- A. Pledged Delegates and Alternates: Each state's Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the election of his or her state's delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention ten (10) days after their election. For the purposes of this Call, the Chair of a committee constituted pursuant to Rule 20.C. of the Delegate Selection Rules, shall be recognized to act in place of the state's Democratic Chair.
- B. Unpledged Delegates:
1. Pursuant to Rule 9.A. of the Delegate Selection Rules, official confirmation by the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee to each State Democratic

Chair shall constitute verification of the following unpledged delegates: members of the Democratic National Committee; the Democratic President, Vice President and Democratic Governor, if applicable; all Democratic members of the United States House of Representatives and all Democratic members of the United States Senate; and all former Democratic Presidents, Vice Presidents, Democratic Leaders of the United States Senate, Speakers and Democratic Minority Leaders of the United States House of Representatives, and Chairs of the Democratic National Committee.

- C. Presidential Preference:

Ten (10) days after the completion of the state's delegate selection process, each state's Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the presidential preference (including uncommitted) of the state's delegates.

- D. Replacements:

1. Pledged Delegates and Alternates:

Replacement of a delegate (due to resignation or death) by an alternate and replacement of a vacant alternate position shall be certified in writing by the State's Democratic Chair to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee (pursuant to Rule 18 of the Delegate Selection Rules) within three (3) days after the replacement is selected. Certification of replacements will be accepted by the Secretary up to 48 hours before the first official session of the Convention is scheduled to convene.

2. Unpledged Delegates:

- a. Members of Congress and Democratic Governors shall not be

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entitled to name a replacement. In the event of any changes or vacancies in a state's Democratic congressional delegation following the official confirmation and prior to the commencement of the National Convention, the Secretary shall recognize only such changes as have been officially recognized by the Democratic Caucus of the United States House of Representatives or the Democratic Conference of the United States Senate. In the event of a change or vacancy in a state's office of Governor following the official confirmation and prior to the commencement of the National Convention, the Secretary shall recognize only such changes as have been officially recognized by the Democratic Governors' Association.

- b. Members of the Democratic National Committee shall not be entitled to a replacement, nor shall the state be entitled to a replacement, except in the case of death of such delegates. In cases where a state's DNC membership changes following the Secretary's official confirmation, but prior to the commencement of the 2012 Democratic National Convention, acknowledgment by the Secretary of the certification of the new DNC member shall constitute verification of the corresponding change of unpledged delegates.
- c. Delegates allocated pursuant to Articles I.F., I.G. and I.H. of this Call shall not be entitled to name a replacement, nor shall the state be entitled to a replacement.

E. Delegation Chair: Each delegation shall select one (1) person to serve as Delegation Chair. The State Chair shall certify the Delegation Chair. Such certification shall be in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic

National Committee within three (3) days after the position is filled, which shall be no later than the date by which the state certifies its standing committee members.

F. Convention Pages:

1. A base of 150 Convention Pages shall be allocated among the 56 delegations as follows:⁵
 - a. Each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico shall have a minimum of two (2) pages.
 - b. One (1) additional page will be allocated to a state for every fifty (50) additional delegate votes. Fractions of .5 and above are rounded up to the next highest integer.
 - c. American Samoa, Democrats Abroad, Guam and the Virgin Islands shall each be allocated one (1) page.
2. The National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee may select not more than twenty-five (25) pages to assist him/her and the Democratic National Convention Committee in carrying out the work of the Convention.
3. The State Chair shall certify the person(s) to serve as the Delegation's Convention Page(s), as allocated to the delegation by this section. Such certification shall be in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee and shall be made no later than the time the state certifies its standing committee members pursuant to Article VIII.B.3. of this Call. The National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee shall certify the person(s) to serve as the Chair's Convention Page(s), as allocated to the National Chairperson by this section.

⁵ See **Appendix C** for the allocation of Convention Pages.

Such certification shall be in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee and shall be made within three (3) days after these positions are filled, but in any event, no later than June 23, 2012.

- G. Certification Requirements: Each certification required herein will include full name, address and other information as required by the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee.

V. The 2012 Democratic National Convention Committee, Inc.

- A. The Democratic National Committee, acting under its authority to plan, arrange, manage and conduct the Democratic National Convention, hereby ratifies the establishment and organization of the 2012 Democratic National Convention Committee, Inc. (the "DNCC") for the 2012 Democratic National Convention.
- B. The DNCC shall exercise the authority of the Democratic National Committee and the Democratic National Convention in entering into contracts relating to all business and financial matters connected with the conduct of the 2012 Democratic National Convention.
- C. The DNCC shall make every effort to exercise its authority in accordance with the following guidelines, subject to Rule 20.C. of the Delegate Selection Rules:
1. Contractors: The DNCC shall as a policy seek to engage the services of unionized firms, including those owned by minorities, women and people with disabilities.
 2. Housing: The DNCC shall design and implement a fair and equitable system by which hotel facilities shall be allocated to eligible state delegations

and to presidential candidates.

3. Delegate and Alternate Seating in Convention Hall: The DNCC shall design and implement a fair and equitable system by which the location of each eligible state delegation's seating in the Convention Hall shall be determined. Alternates shall be afforded preferential seating, as close to delegate seating as arrangements will permit. Members of Democratic National Convention Standing Committees who are not already delegates or alternates shall be afforded guest seating for each session of the Convention proceedings.
4. Delegates' and Alternates' Credentials: The state's delegate and alternate credentials shall be distributed to the Chair of the state delegation from the DNCC's credentials office.
5. Floor Access: Floor access shall be given to delegates, alternates replacing delegates, the highest ranking Democratic official in each state that does not have a Democratic Governor, each State Democratic Party's Executive Director, such number of representatives of the presidential candidates as may be deemed necessary by the DNCC, and such press personnel and other personnel as may be determined by the DNCC to be necessary for the proper functioning of the Convention and which does not compromise security and safety requirements.
6. Visitor's Seating: Seats for members-elect of the Democratic National Committee as certified by the state's Democratic Chair, guests and other observers shall be allocated for and shall be fairly apportioned to the states according to each state's relative delegate strength. The Delegation Chair and the State Democratic Chair shall

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each be given one half of the credentials for guest seats apportioned to the state pursuant to this paragraph. Presidential preference shall be taken into account in the distribution of guest credentials.

7. Communications:

- a. Microphones: Each state shall be provided one (1) floor microphone which shall be located at the position of the Chair of the state delegation. Each delegate shall have access to the microphone.
- b. Telephones: Adequate provisions shall be made for communication between the floor and the Chair of the Convention so as to advise the Chair of the identity of any delegate seeking recognition to speak and the purpose for which recognition is sought. One (1) such telephone shall be provided for each state delegation.
- c. General: No communication equipment other than that authorized by these guidelines or by the DNCC shall be permitted on the floor of the Convention.

8. Facilities for Presidential Candidates: The National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer of the DNCC and representatives of the presidential candidates, shall design and implement a fair and equitable system whereby facilities in the Convention Hall and its immediate environs shall be fairly apportioned to presidential campaigns so as not to afford an undue advantage to any presidential candidate. The cost of such facilities shall be paid by the presidential campaigns.

9. Facilities for News Media and Press Seating: There shall be made available

adequate facilities, as close to the Convention floor as conditions permit, for the pencil press, radio, internet, and television, including a limited number of camera positions commanding a full view of the proceedings. The cost of such facilities shall not be borne by the DNCC.

10. Security: Coordination for security within the Convention Hall, premises and surrounding area shall be under the authority of the DNCC.
11. Financial Reports: The DNCC shall file with the Federal Election Commission ("FEC") all financial reports required by the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, and applicable FEC regulations.

VI. Presidential Candidates

The term "presidential candidate" herein shall mean any person who, as determined by the National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee, has accrued delegates in the nominating process and plans to seek the nomination, has established substantial support for his or her nomination as the Democratic candidate for the Office of the President of the United States, is a bona fide Democrat whose record of public service, accomplishment, public writings and/or public statements affirmatively demonstrates that he or she is faithful to the interests, welfare and success of the Democratic Party of the United States, and will participate in the Convention in good faith.

VII. Standing Committees on Platform, Rules, and Credentials of the 2012 Democratic National Convention

The Democratic National Committee, acting under its authority to issue the Call and establish the standing committees of the

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National Convention, hereby creates and organizes the Standing Committees on Platform, Rules, and Credentials of the 2012 Democratic National Convention. The jurisdiction and rules of procedure of each standing committee are set forth in this Call to the 2012 Democratic National Convention. Each standing committee may, by a majority of the members voting, adopt additional rules of procedure for the conduct of its business not inconsistent with this Call. The Democratic National Committee shall publish and make available all relevant requirements and deadlines for submitting proposals for consideration by the standing committees. Such information shall be distributed to the standing committee members and made available to the public as early as practicable before the committees meet.

A. Membership: Subject to Rule 20.C. of the Delegate Selection Rules, each standing committee shall be composed of:

1. Base: A base of 161 members, casting 158 votes, allocated to the states and territories in accordance with the same distribution formula used to allocate delegates to the Democratic National Convention.⁶
2. PLEOs: 25 members, each casting one (1) vote who shall be Party Leaders and Elected Officials.
3. Delegate Status: Members of the standing committees need not be delegates or alternates to the Democratic National Convention.
4. Quorum: A majority of the total votes allocated to a standing committee shall constitute a quorum thereof for the purpose of transacting business. Such votes shall be present and represented by the standing committee members. Upon a point of order of no quorum, the Chair shall ascertain the presence or

absence of a quorum by visual estimation and shall not proceed until a quorum is present, provided, however, that a roll call shall be had to determine whether a quorum exists if the Chair is in doubt or upon demand of any member of the standing committee supported by:

- a. twenty percent (20%) of the members of the committee as evidenced by a petition submitted to the Chair indicating support of the demand by not less than twenty percent (20%) of the members present, or
 - b. by the rising in support of the demand by not less than twenty percent (20%) of the members present, except that a motion to adjourn or to recess may be offered and voted upon without a quorum present.
5. Proxies: As the standing committees are deliberative bodies of the National Convention, proxy voting by standing committee members shall not be permitted.
 6. Subcommittees: Any subcommittee of the standing committees of the National Convention shall be composed only of members of standing committees, except that these subcommittees may be chaired by persons other than members of the committee.

B. Election:

1. The members of the standing committees allocated to the states and territories shall be elected by each state's National Convention delegates present at a meeting of which adequate notice of time and place shall be given and at which a quorum of the state's delegates shall be present. Such meeting shall be held in accordance with procedures

⁶ See **Appendix D** for the allocation of standing committee members.

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approved by the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee and consistent with this Call. Such meeting shall take place within 14 days after the final selection of a state's delegation, but no such meeting shall be held after June 23, 2012.

2. The members of the standing committees allocated as Party Leaders and Elected Officials shall be elected by the Executive Committee of the Democratic National Committee during the calendar year of the National Convention upon nomination received from the National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee, after consultation with the State Chairs from those states from which members are contemplated to be nominated. Said members must be elected at a meeting of the Executive Committee or by mail ballot no later than 30 days prior to the date of the standing committee meeting.
3. Each state's Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee his or her state's standing committee members within three (3) days after their selection. The National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the Party Leader and Elected Official standing committee members within three (3) days after their election. Certification of each person will include full name, address and other information as required by the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee.
4. No substitutions will be permitted in the case of standing committee members, except in the case of resignation or death. Substitutions must be made in accordance with the election procedures specified in Article VII.B., C., D. and E., and must be certified in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee, in accordance with

procedures specified in Article VII.B.3. Substitutions of standing committee members are encouraged to be made up to forty-eight (48) hours prior to the time the standing committee meets, except in the case of death.

5. Any challenge to the credentials of a standing committee member shall be considered and resolved by the affected standing committee in accordance with Appendix A of this Call. The DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee shall have jurisdiction over challenges brought before the 56th day preceding the date of commencement of the Democratic National Convention.

C. Presidential Preference:

1. The members of the standing committees allocated to the states and territories shall proportionately represent the presidential preference of all candidates (including uncommitted status) receiving the threshold percentage used in that state's delegation to calculate the at-large apportionment pursuant to Rule 13.E. of the Delegate Selection Rules, provided, however, that members of the standing committees from primary states shall be allocated to presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) based on the statewide popular vote.
2. The presidential preference percentage of each candidate receiving the applicable percentage or more within the delegation shall be multiplied by the total number of standing committee positions allocated to that state or territorial delegation. If the result of such multiplication does not equal 0.455 or above, the presidential preference in question is not entitled to representation on the standing committee. If the result of such multiplication is 0.455 but less than 1.455, the presidential preference in question is entitled to one (1) position.

Those preferences securing more than 1.455 but less than 2.455 are entitled to two (2) positions, etc.

3. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation exceeding the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is farthest from its eventual rounded-off total shall be denied that one (1) additional position. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation falling short of the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is closest to the next rounding level shall be allotted an additional committee position.
4. Standing committee positions allocated to a presidential candidate shall be proportionately allocated, to the extent practicable, to each of the three standing committees. When such allocation results in an unequal distribution of standing committee positions by candidate preference, a drawing shall be conducted to distribute the additional positions.

D. Presidential Candidate Right of Approval:

1. Each presidential candidate or that candidate's representative authorized pursuant to Rule 12.D.1. of the 2012 Delegate Selection Rules shall be given adequate notice of the meeting of the state's delegation authorized to select standing committee members.
2. The delegation shall select the standing committee members submitted by the presidential candidates (including uncommitted status), and presidential candidates shall not be required to submit the name of more than one person for each slot awarded to such candidate for members of standing committees. Provided further, that

presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) shall use their best efforts to ensure that the name or names of standing committee members submitted help achieve the affirmative action goals established by the state's Delegate Selection Plan.

E. Division Between Men and Women:

1. The membership of each of the standing committees from a state or territory shall be as equally divided among men and women as possible under the state allocation; if the number is even, the membership shall be equally divided between men and women; if the number is odd, the variance between men and women may not exceed one (1), and the advantaged gender must not remain constant for the three standing committees. The DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee shall have continuing jurisdiction to ensure compliance with this equal division requirement. No standing committee members from a state shall be officially recognized unless the Rules and Bylaws Committee has certified to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee that such state's standing committee delegation complies with this equal division rule. It is the duty of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee to determine such compliance as soon as practicable following the certification of the state's standing committee members.
2. The Party Leader and Elected Official membership of the standing committees elected by the Executive Committee of the Democratic National Committee shall be divided among men and women so that the variance between men and women does not exceed one (1), and the advantaged gender must not remain constant for the three standing committees.

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F. Chairs of Standing Committees:

1. The Chair(s) of each Standing Committee shall be elected by the Executive Committee of the Democratic National Committee upon nomination of the National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee. Co-Chairs and Vice Chairs may also be elected in this manner.
2. Individuals who are not otherwise members of the standing committees who are elected Chair(s), Co-Chair(s) or Vice Chair(s) thereof shall not have any voting privileges on the standing committees, except that the Chair(s), may vote in the case of a tie.
3. The Chair(s) of each standing committee shall call and preside over each committee meeting, prepare an agenda to provide for orderly conduct of the committee's business, and supervise preparation of such research studies and briefing materials as are required to accomplish the committee's work.

G. Platform Committee:

1. The Platform Committee shall be responsible for drafting and recommending the Platform of the Democratic Party to the Democratic National Convention.
2. The Chair(s) of the Platform Committee, in consultation with the National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee, shall determine the number, place and time for conducting hearing(s) and/or forum(s) and name the presiding panel, who need not be members of the Platform Committee, for each hearing and/or forum. Any person may submit a written statement concerning the Platform to the Platform Committee at any time prior to the Platform Committee meeting, and may request permission to testify at a public hearing and/or forum.

3. No later than thirty (30) days before the first meeting of the Platform Committee, written notice of the date, time, place, and the tentative agenda of such meeting shall be sent to all members of the Platform Committee. A special or emergency meeting of the Platform Committee may be held upon call of the Chair(s) of the Platform Committee with reasonable notice to the members.
4. Prior to the first meeting of the Platform Committee, the National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee shall distribute to the members of the Platform Committee a document outlining the issues to be considered by the committee.
5. The National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee, in consultation with the Chair(s) of the Platform Committee, shall appoint fifteen (15) persons to serve on a Platform Drafting Subcommittee and the National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee shall appoint the Chair(s) thereof. In addition, one (1) non-voting member may be appointed by each presidential candidate to serve on the Drafting Subcommittee. The Platform Drafting Subcommittee is considered a subcommittee of the Platform Committee as defined in Article I.A.6 provided, however, that members of the Platform Drafting Subcommittee need not be members of the Platform Committee. The Drafting Subcommittee shall be responsible for the drafting of the report of the Platform Committee under the direction and with the approval of the full Platform Committee.
6. Upon the request of members representing twenty-five percent (25%) of the total votes of the Platform Committee, a minority report shall be prepared for distribution to the

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Convention delegates and alternates as part of the committee's report. The committee staff shall assist in the preparation of such report.

7. The report of the Platform Committee and any minority reports shall be distributed to all delegates and alternates, and to the public as soon as practicable after their adoption.

H. Rules Committee:

1. The Rules Committee shall issue a report to the Democratic National Convention recommending the Permanent Rules of the Convention, the Convention agenda, the permanent officers of the Democratic National Convention, amendments to the Charter of the Democratic Party of the United States, and resolutions providing for the consideration of any other matter not provided for in the Permanent Rules of the Convention and not contained in the reports of other standing committees. The foregoing notwithstanding, no amendment to the Charter of the Democratic Party shall be effective unless and until it is subsequently ratified by a vote of the majority of the entire membership of the Democratic National Committee.
2. No later than thirty (30) days before the first meeting of the Rules Committee, written notice of the date, time, place, and the tentative agenda of such meeting shall be sent to all members of the Rules Committee. A special or emergency meeting of the Rules Committee may be held upon call of the Chair(s) of the Rules Committee with reasonable notice to the members.
3. Upon the request of members representing twenty-five percent (25%) of the total votes of the Rules Committee, a minority report shall be prepared for distribution to the

Convention delegates and alternates as part of the committee's report. The committee staff shall assist in the preparation of such report.

4. The report of the Rules Committee and any minority reports shall be distributed to all delegates, alternates, and to the public as soon as practicable after their adoption.

I. Credentials Committee and Procedures for Challenging Delegates or State Delegations:

1. The Credentials Committee shall determine and resolve questions concerning the seating of delegates and alternates to the Convention pursuant to the resolution entitled the "Relationship Between the 2012 Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee and the 2012 Delegate Selection Rules," which includes the "Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2012 Democratic National Convention" hereby approved and adopted by the Democratic National Committee, and set forth in full in the Appendix to this Call. The committee shall report to the Convention for final determination and resolution of all such questions. This committee does not have authority over the allocation and distribution of convention credentials, including passes for delegates, alternates, guests or press.
2. Challenges to the seating of any delegate or alternate shall be in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee. Any challenge to the seating of a delegate or alternate that is not made in conformity with these rules shall be deemed waived.
3. Upon the request of members representing twenty-five percent (25%) of the total votes of the Credentials Committee, a minority report shall be prepared for distribution to the

Convention delegates and alternates as part of the committee's report; provided, however, that no member elected to the committee by a state delegation may join in such request as to a proposed minority report relating to a credentials challenge to any delegate or alternate from his or her state. The committee staff shall assist in the preparation of such report.

4. The report of the Credentials Committee and any minority reports shall be distributed to all delegates, alternates, and the public as soon as practicable after their adoption.

VIII. Procedural Rules of the 2012 Democratic National Convention

The following Procedural Rules shall serve as the Temporary Rules of Procedure for the 2012 Democratic National Convention and are recommended to the Rules Committee and to the Convention as the Permanent Rules of Procedure for the conduct of the 2012 Democratic National Convention.

A. Temporary Chair:

1. The National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee shall call the Convention to order and shall preside until the Permanent Chair of the Convention shall be chosen in accordance with these rules.
2. The National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee shall appoint a Temporary Secretary and such other temporary officers as may be required to assist in the conduct of the business of the Convention. These officers shall be composed equally of men and women.

B. Temporary Roll:

1. The Secretary of the Democratic National Committee shall determine a Temporary Roll of delegates to the Convention which shall consist only of those persons selected and certified as delegates in accordance with the Rules and pursuant to this Call, unless a credentials contest shall have arisen with respect to any such person(s), in which case the Secretary shall include on the Temporary Roll the name of the credentials contestant recommended for inclusion by the Credentials Committee in its report.
2. Persons whose names are included on the Temporary Roll of delegates shall be permitted to vote on all matters before the Convention until after the adoption of the report of the Credentials Committee; provided that no person shall be permitted to vote on his or her credentials contest.

C. Order of Business: The order of business for the Democratic National Convention shall be as provided in these rules and in any special order of business adopted under Section D. of these rules. The Chair of the Convention may, at appropriate times, interrupt the order of business provided for in these rules for introductions, announcements, addresses, presentations, resolutions of tribute and appreciation, or remarks appropriate to the business of the Convention.

1. Report of the Committee on Credentials: The Report of the Credentials Committee shall be acted upon before the consideration of other business.
 - a. The Temporary Chair shall recognize the Chair(s) of the Credentials Committee for up to thirty (30) minutes to present the committee's report unless a longer period of time shall be provided in a special order of business agreed

- upon by the Convention. The Chair(s) of the committee may present committee amendments, yield part of his or her time to others and may yield for the presentation and disposition of minority reports without losing the right to the floor.
- b. The Temporary Chair shall arrange for the orderly presentation of amendments and of minority reports offered at the direction of the committee. Twenty (20) minutes shall be allowed for the presentation of each committee amendment or minority report unless a longer period for any committee amendment or minority report is provided in special orders of business agreed to by the Convention. Time shall be allotted equally to proponents and opponents of each committee amendment or minority report. The questions shall be put on each committee amendment or minority report immediately following its presentation without intervening motion.
 - c. Upon conclusion of the consideration and disposition of committee amendments and minority reports, the Temporary Chair shall put the question on the adoption of the report of the Credentials Committee with amendments previously adopted, if any, without intervening motion. A favorable majority vote of the Convention delegates eligible to vote shall constitute adoption of the report.
 - d. In the event that the committee's report shall not be adopted when the question is put, the committee shall immediately reconvene to reconsider its report and shall present a new report to the Convention as soon as possible.
2. Report of Rules Committee: The Temporary Chair(s) may then recognize the Chair(s) of the Rules Committee to present the committee's report for the Rules of the Convention and minority reports, if any, in the same manner as that provided for the presentation of the Report of the Credentials Committee. However, the Temporary Chair may, in the interest of conducting an orderly proceeding, opt to place before the Convention the election of the Permanent Chair, the Co-Chairs and the Secretary, prior to the presentation of the Rules Committee report.
 3. Convention Chair: The Convention shall proceed to elect the Permanent Convention Chair in the following manner:
 - a. In accordance with the requirements of the 1984 Democratic National Convention Resolution which calls for alternating the Convention Chair by gender, the Permanent Chair of the 2012 Democratic National Convention shall be a male.
 - b. The Chair(s) of the Rules Committee shall be recognized to offer a nomination for Convention Chair as recommended by the Committee on Rules. Nominations from the floor shall then be received.
 - c. When there are no further nominations or upon adoption of a motion to close nominations, the Temporary Chair of the Convention shall conduct a vote for Permanent Convention Chair.
 - d. A majority vote of the delegates present and voting shall be required to elect the Convention Chair. Balloting shall continue until a Chair is elected. The Permanent Chair shall then take the gavel.

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4. Convention Co-Chairs: The Convention shall proceed to elect Co-Chairs and a Secretary in the same manner in which it elected the Chair. The Co-Chairs shall be divided equally between men and women.
5. Committee on Platform: The Permanent Chair shall recognize the Chair(s) of the Platform Committee to present the committee's report and minority reports, if any, in the same manner as that provided for the presentations of the reports of the Credentials and Rules Committees.
6. Nomination of the Democratic Candidate for President: The Permanent Chair shall receive nominations from the floor for the Democratic candidate for the Office of President of the United States in the following manner:
 - a. Requests to nominate a presidential candidate shall be in writing and shall have affixed thereto the written approval of the proposed nominee and the name of the individuals who shall be recognized to make the nominating and seconding speeches on behalf of a presidential candidate and shall be delivered to the Convention Secretary at a location as specified by the Secretary no later than 6:00 p.m. of the day preceding the day designated for the commencement of presidential nominations.
 - b. Each such request must be accompanied by a petition indicating support for the proposed nominee signed by delegates representing not less than 300 or more than 600 delegate votes, not more than 50 of which may come from one (1) delegation. A delegate may not sign more than one (1) nominating petition for president and for vice president.
 - c. The order for nominating presidential candidates shall be determined by the National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee, the Permanent Chair of the Convention and each presidential candidate, or his or her authorized representative, who qualifies to be nominated pursuant to this section.
 - d. Each presidential candidate shall be allowed a total of twenty (20) minutes for the presentation of his or her name in nomination by nominating and seconding speeches, the time to run without interruption from the recognition of the nominator.
 - e. Delegates and alternates shall maintain order during and following nominations for the Office of President and demonstrations shall not be permitted.
7. Roll Call for Presidential Candidate:
 - a. After nominations for presidential candidates have closed, the Convention shall proceed to a roll call vote by states on the selection of the presidential candidate. The roll call voting shall follow the alphabetical order of the states with the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico and the territories treated as states for the purpose of the alphabetical roll call.
 - b. A majority vote of the Convention's delegates shall be required to nominate the presidential candidate.
 - c. Delegates may vote for the candidate of their choice whether or not the name of such candidate was placed in nomination. Any vote cast other than a vote for a presidential candidate meeting the requirements

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- of Article VI of this Call and Rule 12.K. of the 2012 Delegate Selection Rules shall be considered a vote for "Present."
- d. Balloting will continue until a nominee is selected. Upon selection, balloting may be temporarily suspended, provided that the balloting shall continue at a time certain determined by the Convention Chair, until all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the territories shall publically deliver their vote prior to the nominee's acceptance speech. The nominee shall become the candidate of the Democratic Party of the United States for the Office of President upon the conclusion of his or her acceptance speech.
8. Acceptance Speech by Presidential Candidate: Immediately after the selection of the Democratic nominee for President, the Permanent Chair shall invite the nominee to deliver an acceptance speech to the Convention.
 9. Nomination for the Democratic Candidate for Vice President: The selection of a nominee for the Office of Vice President of the United States shall be conducted in the same manner as that heretofore provided for the selection of the nominee for President of the United States except that a request to nominate must be delivered to the Convention Secretary at a location as specified by the Secretary not later than 9:00 a.m. of the day designated for the commencement of Vice Presidential nominations.
 10. Roll Call Ballot for Vice Presidential Candidate:
 - a. After nominations for Vice Presidential candidates have closed, the Convention shall proceed to a roll call vote by states on the selection of the Vice Presidential candidate. The roll call voting procedure shall be conducted in the same manner as that heretofore provided for the selection of the nominee for President of the United States.
 - b. A majority vote of the Convention's delegates shall be required to select the Vice Presidential candidate. Delegates may vote for the candidate of their choice whether or not the name of such candidate was placed in nomination. Balloting will continue until after a nominee is selected.
 11. Acceptance Speech by Vice Presidential Candidate: Immediately after the selection of the Democratic nominee for Vice President, the Permanent Chair shall invite the nominee to deliver an acceptance speech to the Convention. The nominee shall become the candidate of the Democratic Party of the United States for the office of Vice President upon completion of his or her acceptance speech to the Convention.
- D. Special Orders of Business: It shall be in order at any time for the Rules Committee at the request of the Chair of the Convention, or pursuant to its rules, to report a resolution providing a special order of business for debate of any resolution, motion, committee report or minority report or for the consideration of any matter.
 - E. Powers and Duties of the Chair:
 1. It shall be the responsibility of the Chair to conduct and expedite the business of the Convention and to preserve order and decorum in its proceedings.
 2. The Chair is authorized to appoint such Convention officers as may be required to assist in the conduct of the business

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of the Convention, such officers to be composed equally of men and women; to appoint any delegate temporarily to perform the duties of the Chair; and to take such lawful action as may be necessary and appropriate to preserve order throughout the Convention Hall; and to take any other actions consistent with the Charter and the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States and this Call.

F. Voting:

1. Secret Ballot: No secret ballots shall be permitted at any stage of the Convention or its committee proceedings.
2. Proxy Voting: Neither delegate nor alternate delegate votes may be cast by proxy.
3. Roll Call Votes:
 - a. Voting shall be by voice vote or, when prescribed by these rules, by roll call vote. The roll call voting shall follow the order as specified in Article VIII.C.7.a. A roll call vote shall also be had if the Chair is in doubt or upon demand of any delegate supported by twenty percent (20%) of the Convention's delegates as evidenced by one of the following methods:
 - (1) A petition submitted to the Chair indicating support of the demand by delegations which comprise not less than twenty percent (20%) of the Convention's delegates. In the case of the petition in support of a demand for a roll call vote, a delegation shall be taken to support the demand if a majority of its delegates have signed a petition to do so.

- (2) By the rising in support of the demand by not less than twenty percent (20%) of the delegates present.

- b. When a roll call vote is ordered, the roll call shall be called by states, and the Chair of each delegation or his or her designee shall report the vote of his or her delegation and shall send to the Convention Secretary a tally showing the vote of each member of his or her delegation indicating whether such vote was cast in person or by an alternate. Such roll call votes may be conducted by having the Chair for each delegation report by telephone, or electronic voting mechanism, the vote of his or her delegation to the rostrum, provided that the telephone poll shall not be used in the balloting for the Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees. Business shall be permitted to proceed during the telephone roll call and votes may be conducted by electronic mechanism. After each official vote, the Delegation Chair shall record and tally votes of the delegation on official roll call tally sheets provided by the Convention Secretary. All official roll call tally sheets shall be turned in to the Convention Secretary at a specified location not more than thirty (30) minutes after the close of each voting period.
- c. All delegates to the National Convention pledged to a presidential candidate shall in all good conscience reflect the sentiments of those who elected them.
- d. In the case where a pledged delegate is not on the floor of the Convention Hall at the time a vote is taken, an alternate may be designated

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- according to the rules to cast the vote. In no case may an alternate cast a vote for a delegate allocated under I.F., I.G., I.H. or I.I. of this Call.
- e. On a roll call vote by states, the vote cast on behalf of a delegation may be challenged by communication to the Convention Secretary by telephone or other means by any voting member of that state's delegation within ten (10) minutes after the Convention Secretary's announcement of the state's vote. The votes of that delegation shall then be recorded as polled without regard to any state law, party rule, resolution or instruction binding the delegation or any member thereof to vote for or against any candidate or proposition. The Convention Chair may send a parliamentarian to the delegation to conduct the poll. At the discretion of the Convention Chair, the roll call may continue instead of waiting for the result of the polling.
 - f. On a roll call vote conducted by telephone or other electronic voting mechanism, the vote of a delegation as shown on the video projection system may be challenged by communication to the Convention Secretary by telephone or other means by any voting member of the delegation within ten (10) minutes after the delegation's vote is shown on the screen.
 - g. A demand to poll a delegation may be withdrawn at any time before the actual polling has begun.
4. Interruption of Vote: When the question has been put, the vote thereon may not be interrupted for any purpose other than a demand for a roll call vote or a point of order directed to the conduct of the vote.
 5. Determination of Question: Except as otherwise provided in these rules, all questions, including the question of nominations of candidates for President and Vice President of the United States, shall be determined by a majority vote of the delegates to the Convention.
 - G. Filling a Vacancy on the National Ticket: In the event of death, resignation or disability of a nominee of the Party for President or Vice President after the adjournment of the National Convention, the National Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee shall confer with the Democratic leadership of the United States Congress and the Democratic Governors Association and shall report to the Democratic National Committee, which is authorized to fill the vacancy or vacancies.
 - H. Interpretation of the Rules: In interpreting the rules, the Chair may have recourse to the ruling of Chairs of previous Democratic Conventions, to the precedents of the United States House of Representatives and to general parliamentary law.
 - I. Appeals:
 1. The Chair shall decide all questions of order subject to an appeal by any delegate which may be debated for not more than ten (10) minutes, the time to be equally divided between the delegate appealing the ruling and a delegate in favor of sustaining the ruling of the Chair; provided that an appeal shall not be in order while another appeal is pending or from decisions on recognition or from decisions on dilatoriness of motions or during a roll call vote or on a question on which an appeal has just been decided or, when in the opinion of the Chair, such appeal is clearly dilatory.
 2. Before the question is put on any appeal, the Chair shall be entitled to state briefly the reasons for the ruling being appealed.

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- J. Motion to Suspend the Rules: The Chair shall entertain a motion to suspend the rules, which shall be decided without debate and which shall require a vote of two thirds (2/3) of the delegates voting, a quorum being present.
- K. Motion:
1. No question of privilege or any motion other than those provided under these rules shall be entertained, except the motion to recess (to a time certain or at the call of the Chair), which shall be privileged, and the motion to adjourn, which shall be the highest privilege.
 2. Motions to adjourn or to recess shall be in order at any time except when the question has been put or a vote is in progress and shall be decided without debate. The Chair shall not entertain a motion to adjourn or recess when such motion closely follows another such motion if in the opinion of the Chair such motion is dilatory.
- L. Amendments: No amendments to resolutions or motions before the Convention shall be permitted, except amendments to standing committee reports or resolutions offered at the direction of the standing committee or in a minority report of that standing committee; provided that no motion or proposition on a subject different from that under consideration shall be admitted in the form of such an amendment.
- M. Minority Reports: Minority reports of committees shall not be considered unless adopted in writing by members representing at least twenty percent (20%) of the total votes of a committee. A minority report may be withdrawn at any time prior to or during the Convention. A minority report shall be deemed to be withdrawn when support for the report falls below the number of members representing twenty percent (20%) of the total votes of the standing committee as evidenced by the written withdrawal of support by proponents of the report. A committee member may withdraw his or her support for a minority report by written notice to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee.
- N. Responsibility: By participating in the Democratic National Convention, each delegate assumes the responsibility for doing all within his or her power to assure that voters of his or her state will have the opportunity to cast their election ballots for the Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees selected by the Convention or, should a vacancy arise, pursuant to Article VIII.G. of these rules, and expressly agrees that he or she will not publicly support or campaign for any candidate for President or Vice President other than the nominees of the Democratic National Convention, or, should a vacancy arise, the nominee(s) selected pursuant to Article VIII.G.
- O. Debate: Unless otherwise provided in these rules or in a resolution providing for a special order of business, debate on any question shall be limited to a total of twenty (20) minutes and shall be equally divided between proponents and opponents unless they and the Chair agree upon an additional or lesser amount of time.
- P. Quorum: A majority of the delegates to the Convention shall constitute a quorum thereof for the purpose of transacting business. Upon a point of order of no quorum being made, the Chair shall ascertain the presence or absence of a quorum by visual estimation and shall not proceed until a quorum is present; provided that a motion to adjourn may be offered and voted upon without a quorum present.
- Q. References to the "Chair": All references to the authority and responsibilities of the "Chair" shall pertain to the Temporary Chair, the Permanent Chair, the Co-Chairs and any other person assuming the duties of

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the Chair as appropriate during the Convention.

- R. Equal Division: The Charter of the Democratic Party of the United States provides that the National Convention shall be composed of delegates and alternates equally divided between men and women. This Call, in compliance with the Charter, and pursuant to Rule 6.C. of the 2012 Delegate Selection Rules, mandates that delegates and alternates from each state and jurisdiction shall be equally divided between men and women with a variance of no more than one (1).
- S. Non-Discrimination: Discrimination on the basis of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, economic status or physical disability in the conduct of Democratic

Party affairs is prohibited.

- T. Territories: The term “territories” shall refer to American Samoa, Democrats Abroad, Guam and the Virgin Islands in this Call.
- U. Journal of Proceedings:
1. A record of all actions taken each day by the Convention shall be printed and made available to all delegates and alternates the following day by the Convention Secretary.
 2. The Secretary of the Democratic National Committee will provide a journal of the full proceedings of the Convention, which shall be printed within the year following the Convention.

Appendix A

1 **Relationship Between the 2012**
2 **Rules of Procedure of the**
3 **Credentials Committee and the**
4 **2012 Delegate Selection Rules**

5
6 Under Rule 20.B. of the 2012 Delegate Selection
7 Rules, the Rules and Bylaws Committee has
8 jurisdiction over challenges pertaining to the
9 submission, non-implementation and violation
10 of state Delegate Selection Plans, Affirmative
11 Action Plans, and Inclusion Programs. The
12 following “Rules of Procedure of the Credentials
13 Committee of the 2012 Democratic National
14 Convention” describes the procedure for
15 considering challenges once the Credentials
16 Committee assumes responsibility for the
17 challenge process as otherwise described in Rule
18 20.B.

19
20 All delegates and alternates to the 2012
21 Democratic National Convention shall be
22 selected in accordance with the 2012 Delegate
23 Selection Rules and the 2012 Call. Only
24 delegates and alternates selected under a
25 delegate selection system approved by the DNC
26 Rules and Bylaws Committee pursuant to the
27 2012 Delegate Selection Rules shall be placed on
28 the Temporary Roll of the 2012 Democratic
29 National Convention.

30
31 All challenges to the credentials of delegates and
32 alternates to the 2012 Democratic National
33 Convention shall be processed in accordance
34 with the “Rules of Procedure of the Credentials
35 Committee of the 2012 Democratic National
36 Convention.”

37 **Rules of Procedure of the**
38 **Credentials Committee of the**
39 **2012 Democratic National**
40 **Convention**

41
42 1. Jurisdiction of the Credentials Committee
43
44 The Credentials Committee shall have
45 jurisdiction to hear and decide:

46
47 A. Any challenge brought before the DNC
48 Rules and Bylaws Committee and not
49 resolved before the 56th calendar day
50 preceding the date of commencement of
51 the Democratic National Convention;
52 and,

53
54 B. Any challenge alleging:

- 55
56 1. Failure to implement a final order of
57 the DNC Rules and Bylaws
58 Committee; or
59
60 2. Failure to implement a plan
61 approved by the DNC Rules and
62 Bylaws Committee, if such challenge
63 is initiated on or after the 56th day
64 preceding the date of commencement
65 of the Democratic National
66 Convention, except with regard to
67 Rule 19.E. of the Delegate Selection
68 Rules.

69
70 2. Parties

71
72 A. Challenging Parties: A challenge to the
73 credentials of any delegate or alternate to
74 the 2012 Democratic National
75 Convention shall be brought by at least
76 fifteen (15) Democrats who are residents
77 of the state and level at which delegates
78 to the National Convention are elected in
79 which the challenge arises, and who
80 fulfill (1), or if there is no Democratic
81 Party enrollment or registration in the
82 state, then either (2) or (3) below:

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- 1 1. Registration or enrollment as 51 delegates or alternates or the entire
2 Democrats in those states which 52 delegation from that level.
3 employ such procedures. Persons 53
4 not registered to vote or persons 54 2. Where delegates or alternates to the
5 registered as unaffiliated voters or 55 Convention have not yet been
6 enrolled as members of other parties 56 selected from the level at which
7 or as independents shall not have 57 delegates to the National Convention
8 standing to bring a challenge. 58 are elected in which the challenge
9 59 arises, the challenged party shall be
10 2. Participation in Democratic Party 60 the Democratic Party organization
11 affairs. Persons who have 61 responsible for that level; provided
12 participated in the affairs of another 62 that where any state law or state
13 political party during the preceding 63 party rule, regulation, decision or
14 12-month period shall not have 64 other state party action or omission is
15 standing to bring a challenge. 65 challenged, the State Democratic
16 Participation in a party's affairs shall 66 Party shall also be named as a
17 include, but not be limited to, voting 67 challenged party. If during the
18 in the immediately preceding 68 tendency of the challenge, any
19 primary of that political party. 69 delegate(s) or alternate(s) to the
20 70 Convention are selected from the
21 3. Any person who lacks standing 71 level involved, such delegate(s) or
22 under paragraphs (1) and (2) and 72 alternate(s) shall be joined as
23 who demonstrates that he or she 73 challenged parties if any relief with
24 attempted to participate in the affairs 74 respect to their credentials at the
25 of the Democratic Party in good faith 75 Convention is sought.
26 shall have standing to challenge. 76
27 77 3. The State Democratic Party shall be
28 4. Each challenge shall include a 78 joined as a challenged party if a
29 statement indicating that each 79 challenged party so requests.
30 challenger subscribes to the 80
31 substance, intent and principles of 81 C. Intervening Parties:
32 the Charter and Bylaws of the 82
33 Democratic Party of the United 83
34 States. Each challenger must have 84
35 been personally injured with respect 85
36 to his or her participation in the 86
37 delegate selection process by any 87
38 violation complained of or shall be so 88
39 situated that he or she clearly will be 89
40 personally injured by such violation. 90
41 91
42 B. Challenged Parties: 92
43 93
44 1. Where delegates or alternates to the 94
45 Convention have been selected from 95
46 the level at which delegates to the 96
47 National Convention are elected in 97
48 which the challenge arises, the 98
49 challenged party or parties shall be a 99
50 delegate or alternate or a group of 100

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1	by leave of the Chair of the	49	C. Time:
2	Credentials Committee or the	50	
3	Hearing Officer.	51	1. In computing any period of time
4		52	prescribed by these rules, the day of
5	3. Filing, Service of Documents and	53	the act or event from which the
6	Computation of Time	54	designated period of time begins to
7		55	run shall not be included. Weekends
8	A. Filing: Any challenge, answer and	56	and holidays shall be included.
9	accompanying documents to be	57	
10	considered in the processing of any	58	2. The Chair(s) of the Credentials
11	challenge shall be filed by hand delivery	59	Committee shall have authority for
12	(receipt to be retained), certified mail	60	good cause, on application or sua
13	(return receipt requested), or by an	61	sponte, to enlarge or shorten any
14	overnight delivery service (signature	62	period of time prescribed by these
15	required) to: Chair, 2012 Convention	63	rules. An extension of time shall be
16	Credentials Committee, c/o Democratic	64	granted only when compelling need
17	National Committee, 430 South Capitol	65	is shown.
18	Street, S.E., Washington, DC 20003 with a	66	
19	copy to the Chair of the Democratic Party	67	4. Challenges
20	of the state in which the challenge arises.	68	
21	The original and a copy of each	69	A. A credentials challenge shall be
22	document shall be filed. Filing shall be	70	commenced by the filing of a written
23	deemed complete upon receipt, or in the	71	challenge not later than:
24	case of hand delivery, upon delivery.	72	
25		73	1. Fifteen (15) calendar days after the
26	B. Service: Any document filed in any	74	violation occurred, or
27	proceeding pursuant to these rules shall	75	
28	be served at the same time by the filing	76	2. Fifteen (15) calendar days after the
29	party upon all other parties to the	77	selection of any delegate or alternate
30	proceeding, with a copy to the Chair of	78	whose credentials to the Democratic
31	the Democratic Party of the state in	79	National Convention are to be put in
32	which the challenge arises. Service shall	80	issue, whichever occurs first. The
33	be made by hand delivery (receipt to be	81	challenging parties shall, within the
34	obtained), certified mail (return receipt	82	period provided by the State
35	requested), or an overnight delivery	83	Democratic Party in its Delegate
36	service (signature required) to each party	84	Selection Plan, invoke, and shall
37	or his or her attorney, if any. Any	85	thereafter exhaust, the remedies
38	document filed pursuant to these rules	86	provided by State Democratic Party
39	shall be accompanied by a certificate of	87	procedures for the violations alleged.
40	service signed by the filing party or by	88	
41	his or her attorney, if any. Service shall	89	B. The challenge shall be verified by the
42	be deemed complete, in the case of hand-	90	notarized signature of each challenging
43	delivery, on the date of receipt by the	91	party, and shall include the following:
44	served party or, in the case of service by	92	
45	certified mail or an overnight delivery	93	1. The name, address and telephone
46	service, on the first business day on	94	number of each challenging party
47	which delivery is attempted.	95	and allegations of fact fulfilling the
48		96	requirements of Section 2.A.; and the
		97	name, address and telephone number
		98	of each challenging party's attorney

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- 1 or other representative authorized to 51 seated in the state’s delegation, the
2 receive documents on behalf of the 52 challenge shall include a plain,
3 challenger. 53 concise and specific statement of the
4 54 reasons why that party has a right to
5 2. The name, address and telephone 55 be seated, superior to that of the
6 number of each delegate or alternate 56 delegate or alternate whose seat he or
7 whose credentials are challenged, or 57 she seeks; and a plain, concise and
8 a statement that such information is 58 specific statement of how the
9 unavailable to the challenging 59 challenging party has complied with
10 parties; or, where delegates or 60 all applicable laws, rules and
11 alternates have not yet been selected, 61 regulations and has participated in
12 the name, address and telephone 62 the delegate selection process.
13 number of each challenged party. 63
14 64
15 3. An identification of the state and 65
16 level at which delegates to the 66
17 National Convention are elected in 67
18 which the challenge arises. 68
19 69
20 4. A plain, concise and specific 70
21 statement of each violation of a state 71
22 delegate selection plan approved by 72
23 the DNC Rules and Bylaws 73
24 Committee, or of a final order of the 74
25 DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee; 75
26 or a statement that the state does not 76
27 have an approved delegate selection 77
28 plan. 78
29 79
30 5. A plain, concise and specific 80
31 statement of how each challenging 81
32 party has been injured with respect 82
33 to his or her participation in the 83
34 delegate selection process by each 84
35 alleged violation. 85
36 86
37 6. A plain, concise and specific 87
38 statement of the remedies each 88
39 challenging party has invoked with 89
40 respect to each alleged violation 90
41 before filing a credentials challenge 91
42 with the Credentials Committee, and 92
43 a statement of the expected length of 93
44 time for exhaustion of the state party 94
45 procedures. 95
46 96
47 7. A plain, concise and specific 97
48 statement of the relief requested and 98
49 the reason therefore. If a challenging 99
50 party proposes that he or she be
- C. The challenge shall be accompanied by the following documents:
1. A plain, concise and specific statement that contains, by separately numbered paragraphs, each violation alleged and each form of relief sought.
 2. A list of the name, address and telephone number of each witness who is likely to be called to testify in support of the challenge.
 3. A list of the documents likely to be offered in support of the challenge, together with copies of those documents.
5. Answer
- A. Within ten (10) calendar days after service of a challenge, each challenged party shall file a written answer, verified by the notarized signature of each challenged party, including the following:
1. The name, address and telephone number of each challenged party and the name, address and telephone number of his or her attorney or other representative authorized to receive documents on behalf of the challenged party.

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1	2. A statement as to whether the	51	C. Challenged parties may consolidate their
2	standing under Section 2.A. of the	52	answers.
3	challenging parties is in dispute.	53	
4		54	6. Dismissal and Decision on the Pleadings
5	3. A response to the challenge,	55	
6	separately admitting or denying each	56	A. Dismissal:
7	statement therein, or stating that the	57	
8	challenged party is without sufficient	58	1. The Chair of the Credentials
9	information to admit or deny. A	59	Committee shall dismiss any
10	response to a statement shall fairly	60	challenge, or part of a challenge,
11	meet its substance, admitting those	61	which does not fall within the
12	parts that are true and denying those	62	jurisdiction of the Credentials
13	parts that are false.	63	Committee.
14		64	
15	4. A plain, concise and specific	65	2. If a state party has adopted and
16	statement of each and every	66	implemented an approved
17	affirmative defense to the alleged	67	affirmative action program, the Chair
18	violations.	68	shall dismiss any challenge, or part of
19		69	a challenge, which is based solely on
20	5. A plain, concise and specific	70	composition of the Convention
21	statement of any other reasons why	71	delegation, except in the case of a
22	the challenged party should prevail.	72	challenge based upon the failure to
23		73	achieve equal division.
24	B. The answer shall be accompanied by the	74	
25	following documents:	75	3. The Chair shall have authority to
26		76	dismiss any challenge which is
27	1. A plain, concise and specific	77	brought by persons lacking standing
28	statement that contains, by reference	78	under Section 2.A., or which
29	to each numbered paragraph of the	79	otherwise fails to comply
30	challenging statement required by	80	substantially with these rules, or
31	Section 4.C.1., a response to each	81	which is otherwise manifestly
32	alleged violation or request for relief.	82	insufficient.
33	A response to a proposition shall	83	
34	fairly meet its substance, admitting	84	4. Any dismissal shall be accompanied
35	those parts that are true and denying	85	by a written opinion by the Chair.
36	those parts that are false. Wherever a	86	
37	proposition is denied in whole or in	87	B. Decision on the Pleadings: The Chair of
38	part, the proposition supported by	88	the Credentials Committee shall have
39	the challenged party on that point	89	authority to make a decision on the
40	shall be stated.	90	pleadings where it is plain from the
41		91	challenge and the answer, together with
42	2. A list of the name, address and	92	the documents accompanying those
43	telephone number of each witness	93	pleadings, that there is no genuine issue
44	who is likely to be called in	94	of material fact between the parties. Any
45	opposition to the challenge.	95	decision on the pleadings shall be
46		96	accompanied by a written opinion by the
47	3. A list of the documents likely to be	97	Chair.
48	offered in opposition to the	98	
49	challenge, together with copies of	99	C. Review of Dismissal or Decision on the
50	those documents.	100	Pleadings: Within five (5) calendar days

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1	after service of a notice of the entry of a	51	challenge or other related matter, and
2	dismissal under Section 6.A. or under	52	other papers relating to the state party
3	Section 1.B., an aggrieved party may file	53	proceedings, shall be admissible in
4	a Petition for Review by the Credentials	54	Credentials Committee proceedings on
5	Committee stating the objections to the	55	the challenge.
6	Chair’s action, and may file a brief.	56	
7	Within five (5) calendar days after service	57	8. Hearing
8	of the petition, any other party may file a	58	
9	brief. Consideration of the challenge by	59	A. With respect to any challenge or part of a
10	the Credentials Committee shall proceed	60	challenge not dismissed or decided on
11	as in other cases, except that the	61	the pleadings under Section 6., an open
12	challenge shall be given precedence on	62	and public hearing shall be held on the
13	the committee’s docket.	63	specific factual and legal matters in
14		64	dispute. An electronic or stenographic
15	7. Decision of State Party Body	65	recording or clerical notes shall be made
16		66	of the proceedings at any such hearing.
17	A. The Chair(s) of the Credentials	67	
18	Committee may defer, for such period as	68	B. The hearing shall be held in Washington,
19	is appropriate, proceedings on a	69	D.C. unless the Chair(s) of the
20	challenge in order to give time for the	70	Credentials Committee determines that
21	consideration of any challenge or other	71	in the interest of justice it should be held
22	related matter under State Democratic	72	elsewhere.
23	Party procedures. The deferral period	73	
24	shall not be so long as to interfere with	74	C. The hearing shall be conducted by a
25	the processing and consideration of the	75	Hearing Officer appointed by the
26	challenge by the Credentials Committee	76	Chair(s) of the Credentials Committee.
27	if that should prove necessary.	77	The Hearing Officer shall be a Democrat,
28		78	neutral in the context of the challenge,
29	B. The State Democratic Party body may	79	experienced in the law, known by
30	take such action with respect to the	80	reputation to be fair and shall not be
31	challenge or other related matter as it is	81	involved in or identified with any
32	authorized to take under state law and	82	presidential campaign or any group
33	state party rules.	83	promoting or opposing credentials
34		84	challenges. The Chair(s) shall make a
35	C. After a decision by a state party body on	85	reasonable effort to secure the agreement
36	a challenge or other related matter, any	86	of the parties to the Hearing Officer.
37	party to the challenge pending before the	87	
38	Credentials Committee may request the	88	D. The Hearing Officer shall have all power
39	Committee to process the challenge and	89	necessary to conduct the hearing in such
40	the Committee shall do so. The party	90	manner, consistent with these rules, as to
41	making the request shall file any written	91	secure the just, speedy and inexpensive
42	decision or order made with respect to	92	determination of the challenge, including
43	the challenge by the state party body.	93	the right to require the parties to
44	The decision of the state party body shall	94	participate in a pre-hearing conference.
45	be given such weight as the Credentials	95	
46	Committee finds warranted in the	96	E. Prior to the commencement of the
47	circumstances.	97	hearing, the Hearing Officer shall
48		98	announce a ruling identifying, on the
49	D. Records of proceedings conducted by the	99	basis of the papers filed in the challenge
50	state party body with respect to the	100	and any pre-hearing conference, the

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1	specific issues in dispute. The Hearing	51	which the evidence would have been
2	Officer shall have power to rule that on	52	material.
3	certain issues only documentary	53	
4	evidence shall be received. Any party	54	J. Subject to any ruling under Section 8.E.,
5	objecting to a ruling under this	55	each party shall have the right to present
6	paragraph may make a proffer of the	56	competent oral and documentary
7	evidence that would have been presented	57	evidence relevant to the specific matters
8	but for the ruling.	58	in issue and to conduct cross-
9		59	examination.
10	F. The Hearing Officer shall hear the	60	
11	evidence, dispose of procedural requests	61	K. The Hearing Officer may require parties
12	and similar matters and, to the extent	62	to consolidate their challenges or
13	possible, obtain stipulations of the parties	63	defenses for purposes of the hearing.
14	as to the facts of the challenge.	64	
15		65	L. The Hearing Officer shall make and file a
16	G. A challenging party shall have the	66	written report to the Credentials
17	burden of proof by clear and convincing	67	Committee, which shall include findings
18	evidence on all factual issues necessary	68	of fact, conclusions of law and a
19	to the challenge, except that the burden	69	recommendation for disposition of the
20	of proof shall rest with the challenged	70	challenge. The reports shall be served on
21	party in the case of:	71	all parties to the challenge.
22		72	
23	1. any unresolved challenges to a state's	73	M. Any transcript or other papers in the
24	affirmative action program filed	74	record from any proceedings before the
25	thirty (30) days or more prior to the	75	DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee shall
26	initiation of the state's delegate	76	be part of the record.
27	selection process other than a	77	
28	challenge made on the basis of non-	78	9. Consideration by the Credentials Committee
29	implementation of a specific	79	
30	requirement of a state plan; and,	80	A. The Credentials Committee shall begin
31		81	meeting at the call of the Chair(s) in
32	2. any challenge for failure to submit	82	Washington, D.C., or elsewhere at the
33	and implement an approved	83	call of the Chair(s), to hear challenges.
34	affirmative action program by the	84	No later than thirty (30) days before the
35	deadline specified in the Delegate	85	first meeting of the Credentials
36	Selection Rules.	86	Committee, written notice of the date,
37		87	time, place, and the tentative agenda of
38	H. The Hearing Officer shall have authority	88	such meeting shall be sent to all members
39	to receive all competent evidence	89	of the Credentials Committee. A special
40	relevant to the specific matters in issue	90	or emergency meeting of the Credentials
41	and to assign to it appropriate weight.	91	Committee may be held upon call of the
42		92	Chair(s) of the Credentials Committee
43	I. The Hearing Officer shall have authority	93	with reasonable notice to the members.
44	to order for good cause, on application or	94	
45	sua sponte, that a party produce at the	95	B. All meetings of the Credentials
46	hearing designated evidence in the	96	Committee shall be open to the public;
47	interest of justice. Where a party fails to	97	provided that the Chair(s) of the
48	produce such evidence, the Hearing	98	Committee shall exclude from the
49	Officer may make findings of fact	99	specific area where the committee is
50	adverse to the party on all issues to	100	conducting its business all persons

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1	whose presence in that area is not	49	F. Resolutions:
2	required for the proper conduct of the	50	
3	business.	51	
4		52	
5	C. Request for hearing by Full Committee:	53	1. All proposed resolutions relating to
6	Within two (2) days after service of the	54	the disposition of a credentials
7	Hearing Officer's report, an aggrieved	55	challenge shall be in writing and
8	party may file a written Petition for	56	signed by the proponent and at least
9	Review by the Credentials Committee.	57	one (1) second. Proposed resolutions
10	The petition shall contain a plain, concise	58	relating to the seating or unseating of
11	and specific statement of the reasons for	59	delegates or alternates shall be
12	appeal and the procedural and/or	60	seconded in writing by at least seven
13	substantive errors claimed by the	61	(7) members, no more than two (2) of
14	petitioner.	62	whom may be members elected by
15		63	the delegation from the same state as
16	D. Briefs:	64	the proponent of the resolution.
17		65	
18	1. Within three (3) calendar days after	66	2. All proposed resolutions relating to
19	filing the Petition for Review, the	67	the disposition of a credentials
20	petitioner for review may file a brief.	68	challenge shall be framed so as to be
21		69	dispositive of the entire challenge
22	2. Within three (3) calendar days after	70	and, to that end, shall be specific in
23	service of the petitioner's brief, a	71	stating the action recommended to be
24	respondent may file a brief.	72	taken by the Convention.
25		73	
26	3. Any party filing a brief shall file as	74	3. Following the submission of all
27	many copies as there are members of	75	proposed resolutions to the Chair(s),
28	the committee, plus ten (10) copies	76	the resolution having the largest
29	for the Chair(s) and staff of the	77	number of signed seconds shall
30	committee.	78	become the pending order of
31		79	business. Twenty (20) minutes of
32	E. Argument:	80	debate shall be allotted to each
33		81	proposed resolution, equally divided
34	1. Each side of a challenge shall be	82	between the proponents and the
35	entitled to present oral argument	83	opponents. At the conclusion of the
36	before the Committee for a period	84	debate, the resolution shall be put to
37	determined by the Chair(s) of the	85	a vote. In the event the resolution is
38	committee, generally not to exceed	86	not adopted, the proposed resolution
39	fifteen (15) minutes.	87	having the next largest number of
40		88	signed seconds shall become the
41	2. The Chair(s) of the committee may	89	pending order of business, and so on
42	require parties to consolidate or	90	until the challenge is disposed.
43	separate their challenges or defense	91	
44	for purposes of oral argument.	92	4. No amendment to any proposed
45	3. The Chair(s) of the committee shall	93	resolution shall be permitted, except
46	notify the parties of the time and	94	with the consent of the proponent,
47	place of oral argument.	95	and no resolution or propositions on
48		96	a subject different from that under
		97	consideration shall be admitted in the
			form of such an amendment.

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1	G. Presidential Preference of Delegation:	50	12. Record
2	Except where the issue is the expressed	51	
3	presidential preference of the level at	52	A. The official record of any proceedings
4	which delegates to the National	53	under these rules shall be maintained in
5	Convention are elected represented by	54	the office at the Democratic National
6	the challenged delegates, any remedy for	55	Committee in Washington, D.C. and
7	a violation shall fairly reflect the	56	shall be open and available for public
8	expressed presidential preference of that	57	inspection and duplication at reasonable
9	level.	58	times.
10		59	
11	H. Voting: A member of the Credentials	60	B. All meetings of the full Credentials
12	Committee elected by a state delegation	61	Committee shall be transcribed.
13	shall not vote on a challenge arising in	62	
14	that state. All matters shall be	63	13. Interpretation and Waiver of Rules and
15	determined by a majority vote of those	64	Provision for Special Rules
16	present and voting, a quorum of the full	65	
17	Committee being present. A quorum	66	A. These rules shall be interpreted and
18	shall consist of members present in	67	applied in the interests of justice and
19	person representing a majority of the	68	fairness to all parties, speed and
20	total number of committee votes entitled	69	economy. To serve these interests, and
21	to be counted in the matter.	70	for good cause, on application or sua
22		71	sponte, the Chair(s) of the committee
23	I. Proxies: Proxy voting shall be prohibited.	72	shall have the authority to waive any
24		73	provision of these rules other than
25	10. Committee Report	74	Sections 1.B. and Section 5.
26		75	
27	The Report of the Credentials Committee	76	B. In the case of any challenge filed on or
28	shall be distributed to all delegates,	77	after the 56th calendar day before the
29	alternates and the public as soon as	78	convention begins, the Chair(s) may
30	practicable after its adoption.	79	shorten the time periods specified in
31		80	these rules for processing the challenge,
32	11. Minority Reports	81	including the time to file documents and
33		82	conduct hearings, as the interests of
34	Upon the request of members representing at	83	justice and the orderly disposition of
35	least twenty percent (20%) of the total votes	84	challenges dictate; provided, however,
36	of the Credentials Committee, a minority	85	that in any event:
37	report shall be prepared for distribution to all	86	
38	Convention delegates, alternates and the	87	1. The challenge and accompanying
39	public as part of the Committee's report.	88	papers shall be filed not later than
40	This minority report shall be distributed at	89	three (3) days after the occurrence of
41	the same time the Credentials Committee	90	the violation alleged.
42	Report is distributed. No member elected to	91	
43	the committee by a state delegation may join	92	2. The answer and accompanying
44	in such request as to a proposed minority	93	papers shall be filed not later than
45	report relating to a credentials challenge to	94	three (3) days after service of the
46	any delegate from his or her state. The	95	challenge.
47	committee staff shall assist in the preparation		
48	of such report.		
49			