

ARTICLE V -STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Section 1. Membership.

1A. There shall be a State Central Committee consisting of elected and ex-officio members apportioned as follows:

- (1) Elected members-at-large:
 - (a) Party Chairperson;
 - (b) National Committeeman;
 - (c) National Committeewoman;
 - (d) Youth Representatives, two (2) representatives of different genders, between the ages of 18 and through age 35, inclusive; and
 - (e) Caucus Representatives, two (2) representatives of different genders for each caucus certified by the State Central Committee.
- (2) Elected members, two (2) representatives of different genders, from each Senatorial District, with the exception of the Senatorial District(s) which cover more than one County, but only in compliance with Section 1A(5) of this Article and elected Democratic Party of Hawai'i Caucus members, two (2) representatives of different genders, as provided in Section 7 of this Article;
- (3) Elected County Representatives from each County, two (2) representatives of different genders;
- (4) Ex-officio members:
 - (a) Immediate Past Party Chairperson, and
 - (b) County Chairpersons.
- (5) Two (2) representatives of different genders elected from each County of a Senatorial District which covers more than one County.
- (6) One (1) Senator appointed by the Democratic Leader of the Senate and one (1) Representative appointed by the Democratic Leader of the House (alternating gender to maintain gender balance).

1B. Each elected, appointed, and ex-officio member of the State Central Committee or that member's successor shall be entitled to one (1) vote.

Section 2. Elections.

2A. The members of the State Central Committee, except County, Caucus and Youth Representatives on the State Central Committee, shall be elected at the Democratic State Convention by the delegates as designated pursuant to the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i. The County Representatives on the State Central Committee shall be elected by the Convention delegates from their respective County at the County Convention. The Caucus and Youth Representatives on the State Central Committee shall be democratically elected by their respective members as determined by their bylaws.

County committees may choose to elect all their representatives to the State Central Committee at their County Conventions held in even-numbered years, provided that:

- (1) The number of signatures required for nomination would be consistent with the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i;
- (2) There would be a single deadline for the filing of nomination papers for all County State Central Committee positions and it would be 10 days before the County Convention at which the elections would be held;
- (3) The persons eligible to vote would be limited to those members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i living in the Senate District or County that candidates are seeking to represent; and
- (4) The County Committee has amended its bylaws to reflect its choice.

Caucuses and Youth Representatives may choose to elect all their representatives to the State Central Committee via a democratic process held in even-numbered years, provided that:

- (1) The number of signatures required for nomination would be consistent with the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i;
- (2) The filing of nomination papers for all Caucuses and Youth Representatives will be thirty (30) days before the meeting at which the elections will be held;
- (3) The persons eligible to vote would be limited to those members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i that are also members of the organization that they are seeking to represent; and
- (4) The organization has amended its bylaws to reflect its choice.

2B. In addition to the Party Chairperson, who shall also be the Chairperson of the State Central Committee, the elected officers of the State Central Committee shall be a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer and an Assistant Treasurer. The foregoing officers, excepting the Chairperson, shall be elected by the members of the State Central Committee from its membership. No candidate for public office or other person who serves as the Chairperson, Treasurer, or Deputy Treasurer on a campaign committee shall be an officer of the State Central Committee. They shall serve until their successors have been elected, provided, however, that any officer may be removed for cause by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members of the State Central Committee, at a meeting called for that purpose.

2C. The Chairperson of the State Central Committee may appoint other Vice-Chairpersons from the membership of the State Central Committee, as the Chairperson may deem necessary or proper with the consent of the State Central Committee.

Section 3. Vacancies.

When the Party Chairperson files to run for or is appointed to elective public office, with the exception of the State Constitutional Convention delegate, the Party office shall automatically be deemed vacant. Vacancies in the membership of the State Central Committee shall be filled as provided in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

Section 4. Tenure-Interim.

The tenure of the interim Party Chairperson shall be until a successor is elected at the next succeeding State Convention.

Section 5. Power and Duties.

The State Central Committee shall:

- (5) Have general supervision over the affairs of the Party.
- (6) Call all State Conventions and make the necessary arrangements therefore.
- (7) Call all State Conventions and make the necessary arrangements therefore. It shall adopt standing rules for the State Convention prior to the precinct meetings, subject to confirmation by a majority of the votes cast by Convention delegates.
- (8) Allocate and extend such monies as are properly under the control of the Committee. Such funds shall be deposited at a commercial bank in the name of the Party by the Treasurer. The Committee shall require the Treasurer to be bonded in such amounts to the Committee may appear proper (premium therefore to be paid by the Party), to submit a written report to the State Convention, and to submit such other reports written or otherwise, as the Committee will require.
- (9) Adopt written policies and procedures based upon generally accepted accounting and fiscal practices and principles.
- (10) Ensure that all fund raising projects undertaken in the name of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i be conducted according to the accounting policies and practices adopted by the State Central Committee.
- (11) Prepare legislation and take such other action as may be necessary to cause the principles set forth in the Party Platform to be enacted into law.
- (12) Take all necessary steps to ensure a full slate of Democratic Party candidates for all

elective offices within the State of Hawai'i.

- (13) Have authority to charter statewide subsidiary organizations within the Democratic Party of Hawai'i to further the goals of the Party. Each chartered organization shall submit proposed bylaws or rules and amendments to the State Central Committee within ninety (90) days of adoption and may from time to time be required to submit a progress report listing its accomplishments for the preceding year. Upon determination that the proposed bylaws, rules or rule changes are consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, such bylaws, rules or rule changes shall become effective. The Committee shall reserve the authority to withdraw the charter of any group which shall in the opinion of the Committee, fail to abide by the principles of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and as further provided for in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.
- (14) Allocate and remit funds from the Party treasury to the Democratic National Committee.
- (15) Have power to make rules and regulations not inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i for the governance of itself, its committees and the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.
- (16) Implement the Party's Affirmative Action Plan.
- (17) Have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be reasonably implied from the Constitution and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i or incidental to the carrying out of its functions.
- (18) Exercise power from Convention to Convention to make interim changes to the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and the bylaws, rules and regulations of the County Committees, when mandated by the Democratic National Committee for compliance to Rules, Party structure, Delegate selection and Party Charter.
- (19) Remove a member of the State Central Committee who has accrued three absences from regular State Central Committee meetings. For National Committeeman and National Committeewoman, removal would occur when six absences accrue.
- (20) Candidate Statement Forms are to be kept and distributed in accordance with the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, including the formation of a special committee for implementation.

Section 6. Meetings.

6A. Immediately after the adjournment of the State Convention, which shall have elected State Central Committee persons, the members of the new State Central Committee (including its ex-officio members) shall meet for the purpose of organizing and electing its officers.

6B. The State Central Committee shall meet at least once every three (3) months.

6C. The State Central Committee shall determine its own quorum rules except that it shall not be less than forty (40) percent of its members.

6D. At least one (1) meeting of the State Central Committee shall be held in each county every biennium.

6E. The Party Chairperson shall have the authority to call a special meeting. A special meeting shall also be held upon written request of at least a majority of the Executive Committee and a majority of the State Central Committee. Special meetings shall require not less than five (5) days prior notice to the members of the State Central Committee.

Section 7. Caucuses.

7A. Establishment. The State Central Committee may certify autonomous caucuses that represent historically disempowered or under-represented constituencies due to current or past inequality under law, discrimination, social prejudices, or economic injustice, provided the minimal criteria are met.

7B. Criteria. Party members, formally organized based upon a historically disempowered, legitimate constituency as described in Section 7A of this Article, may apply for certification as a Democratic Party of Hawai'i Caucus. Certification of a caucus by the State Central Committee shall be based on minimal criteria described in Section 7A and in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

7C. Membership. Only active and associate Democratic Party of Hawai'i members may participate in a Democratic Party of Hawai'i Caucus.

7D. Nomination and Filing. Each Caucus and Youth Democrats shall certify eligible nominees of different genders to elect two (2) representatives of different genders to the State Central Committee.

Procedures and qualifications for the candidate and the election process shall be specified in the bylaws of each caucus and Youth Democrats. If a Caucus' Bylaws does not specify nomination procedures or qualifications by 2018, then a caucus member nominated by five (5) other members of the Caucus before the deadline for State Central Committee nominations shall be certified an eligible nominee. In the event a Caucus fails to certify an eligible nominee as specified in the Caucus Bylaw, appeal may be made to the Convention Credentials Committee. If the State Convention accepts a Credentials Committee report that rules the nominee should have been certified as eligible in accord with the Caucus' Bylaws, the nominee shall stand as a Caucus candidate for State Central Committee at the State Convention.

Section 8. Committees.

The State Central Committee shall appoint standing committees on Finance, Platform, Legislation, Rules, Affirmative Action, Membership, Fundraising, Communications, Community Relations, Convention, Campaign, and Compliance Review.

Section 9. Executive Committee.

9A. The elected and appointed officers as designated herein, the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and the National Committeeman and the National Committeewoman and each County Chairperson shall constitute the Executive Committee of the State Central Committee.

9B. The Executive Committee shall meet once each quarter at the call of its Chairperson or upon written request of not less than five (5) members of the Executive Committee filed with the Secretary of the Executive Committee. Notice of each meeting shall be given by the Secretary at least three (3) days before the date of the meeting.

9C. A majority of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the Executive Committee. No proxies may be used by any member of this Executive Committee.

9D. The Executive Committee shall have full charge of matters within the authority of the State Central Committee between meetings of the State Central Committee.

Section 10. Financial Reports.

10A. All officers, and members of the State Central Committee, who in the name of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, engage in fund raising activities or have the responsibility of making disbursements and receiving assessments, contributions or gifts, shall be responsible for a strict accounting of all funds received or disbursed. A full and complete report in writing shall be submitted to the Executive Committee within a reasonable time after the completion of a project or term or at the request of the Party Chairperson or the Treasurer or the Executive Committee. This section shall apply to any other

person appointed by this body. In addition, the treasury books and accounts of the State Central Committee shall be audited between March 1st and May 1st of the year in which the State Central Committee is elected. The auditor's report shall be available at the State Convention, and at the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Headquarters for inspection by any member of the Party.

10B. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the County Committees shall keep their own financial records and shall be exempted from the audit described herein.