

**DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAI‘I  
2020 STATE CONVENTION STANDING RULES**

Introduction: Due to COVID 19 and the national and Hawai‘i proclamations of emergency, the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i will hold its 2020 State Convention by electronic means.

On April 25, 2020, the State Central Committee added an Impossibility Provision to the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i Bylaws Article IX, Section 9, page 34, as follows: “Impossibility Provision: In the event of an emergency, such provisions of these Bylaws as deemed necessary, may be suspended by the State Central Committee at a regular or special meeting. Any suspension under this provision must describe a compelling interest for the suspension and include specific dates when the suspense begins and ends.”

These standing rules are consistent with the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i Constitution and Bylaws as amended and the suspension of rules adopted by the SCC at its meeting on April 25, 2020 and May 16, 2020.

**RULE 1. RELATING TO DEFINITIONS**

1.1. “delegate(s)”; “delegate(s) to the State Convention” are all delegates who comprise the State Convention as enumerated under Article VI, Section 2 of the Constitution, Article VI, Section 2 of the Bylaws, and precinct elected delegates and alternates who are seated by the Credentials Committee under Rule 4.

1.2. “Constitution” means the Constitution of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, May 27, 2018.

1.3. “Bylaws” means the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, May 27, 2018, and as subsequently amended by the State Central Committee.

1.4. “Party member” means a registered member of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i as defined under Article I of the Constitution and Article I of the Bylaws.

1.5. “Party” means the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i.

1.6. “State Convention” means the State Convention of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i.

1.7. “State Central Committee” means the State Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i.

1.8. “eForm” means the electronic version of any hard copy form provided by the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i.

1.9. “eSignature” means the electronic equivalent of a written signature.

## RULE 2. RELATING TO PURPOSE

2.1. The State Central Committee suspended the Party Bylaws, Article VI, Section 3, Purposes, page 26, lines 10-46, and page 27, lines 1-6 for the period of April 25, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

2.2. The Purpose of the 2020 State Convention is to conduct the elections of the National Committeewoman, National Committeeman, four (4) Presidential Electors, State Chairperson, and Senatorial District State Central Committee Members.

## RULE 3. RELATING TO NOMINATION PROCESS

3.1. The State Central Committee, upon the advisement of the Special Ad Hoc eSignature Committee, approved the use of eSignatures for all delegate, voting, and nomination paperwork to assure health and safety advisement and shelter-in-place order adherence.

3.2. The State Central Committee suspended the Party Bylaws, Article V State Central Committee, Section 2, Nomination and Filing, page 17, Section 2B, requiring nomination papers for Party Chairperson, National Committeeman and National Committeewoman be signed by not less than ten (10) certified members of the Party from at least two County Organizations; Section 2C requiring that the nomination paper of a candidate for Youth Representative shall be signed by not less than ten (10) certified members of the Party, all of whom are members of the Party who are thirty-five (35) years of age or younger; Section 2D requiring that the nomination paper of a candidate for a State Central Committee member shall be signed by not less than five (5) certified members of the Party from the nominee's Senatorial District or Caucuses, for the period of April 25, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

3.3. The State Central Committee suspended the Party Bylaws, Article VI State Convention, Section 4, Candidate's Filing Fee, page 27, lines 43-44, requiring the signature of not less than ten (10) members of the Party for candidates for statewide office and by not less than five (5) members of the Party for all other offices, for the period of April 25, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

3.4. Nomination forms will be accepted either in hard copy paper form or by eForm, and are available by mail or on the Party website: <https://hawaiidemocrats.org/2020-forms/>

3.5. Deadline for nomination forms, by hard copy or eForm, for National Committeewoman, National Committeeman, Presidential Elector, State Chairperson, and Senatorial District State Central Committee Members to be received by the Secretary of the Party, is 11:59pm HST on June 21, 2020.

## RULE 4. RELATING TO CREDENTIALS

4.1. District Chairs or the District Secretary must report the names of all delegates elected at the March 4 precinct meeting, or alternate delegates appointed to fill vacancies, to the Party, by not later than July 1, 2020. After this deadline, no other delegates may be appointed to vacancies. Vacancies created by delegates whom do not attended the convention shall not be filled after July 1, 2020. This applies even if the delegate fails to register by July 1, 2020.

4.2. All delegates who comprise the State Convention as enumerated under Article VI, Section 2 of the Constitution, Article VI, Section 2 of the Bylaws, and precinct-elected delegates must register with the Credentials Committee by submitting their hard copy or eForm registration form and payment/waiver request by not later than July 1, 2020.

4.3. The Credentials Committee shall report the number of delegates with the proper credentials to the State Convention by July 6, 2020. There shall be no changes to delegates after July 1, 2020 except if the credentialing process requires it. Accordingly, all delegates registered by July 1, 2020, shall be deemed present for the convention.

4.4. The Credentials Report will be distributed and available on the Party website at least five (5) calendar days prior to the start of convention.

4.5. The Credentials Report will be approved as circulated.

#### RULE 5. RELATING TO CONVENTION BUSINESS

5.1. The State Convention will be held from July 11-13 and July 24-26, 2020 for the express purpose of electing the State Chairperson, the National Committeeman, the National Committeewoman, the four (4) Presidential Electors, and the Senatorial District representatives to the State Central Committee.

5.2. The State Convention Standing Rules which includes the agenda, as adopted by the State Central Committee, will be available on the Party website 48 hours after approval, and circulated to all delegates at least five (5) calendar days prior to the start of the convention.

#### RULE 6. RELATING TO THE AGENDA

6.1. The State Convention will be called to order via email transmission from the presiding Interim State Chairperson at 12:00 am HST on July 11, 2020.

6.2. The election for the National Committeeman, National Committeewoman, and four (4) Presidential Electors will commence from 12:00 am HST on July 11, 2020 until 11:59 pm HST on July 12, 2020.

6.3. The results of the election for the National Committeeman, National Committeewoman, and four (4) Presidential Electors will be announced via email, and by blog post to the Party website,

by 5:00 pm HST on July 13, 2020. Upon the announcement of the results the presiding Interim State Chairperson will call for a recess of the State Convention.

6.4. The State Convention will be called back to order via email transmission from the presiding Interim State Chairperson at 12:00 am HST on July 24, 2020.

6.5. The election for the State Chairperson and the Senatorial District representatives to the State Central Committee will commence from 12:00 am HST on July 24, 2020 until 11:59 pm HST on July 25, 2020.

6.6. The results of the election for the State Chairperson and the Senatorial District representatives to the State Central Committee will be announced via email, and by blog post to the Party website, by 5:00 pm HST on July 26, 2020. Upon the announcement of the results, the presiding Interim State Chairperson will adjourn the State Convention.

6.7. Paper copies of the results will be available by mail if a mail request is submitted to the Party headquarters. Email requests will not be accepted. Mail requests should be sent to PO Box 2041, Honolulu, HI 96805, and must be received by July 31, 2020.

#### RULE 7. RELATING TO ELECTIONS

7.1. Voting for elections will be accomplished electronically using the Merriman River Group online voting platform.

7.2. Instructions for casting votes electronically will be provided to delegates at least five (5) calendar days before the State Convention. Eligible voters will be as provided for in the Party Bylaws.

7.3. The State Central Committee amended the Party Bylaws, Article VI, Section 3D(4), Purposes, page 27, line 11, to read, "Election of the Party Chairperson shall include weighted votes, unless an in-person convention cannot be held due to an emergency, and a mail or electronic ballot has been authorized by the SCC." As such, there will be no weighted voting for the election of the State Chairperson.

7.4. In the event that a winner cannot be determined in an election due to a tie, a Credentials Committee Co-Chair or designated representative, will break the tie with a coin toss.

7.5. All elections will be certified by the State Convention Elections Officer prior to results being announced.

7.6. The results of the election for the National Committeeman, National Committeewoman, and four (4) Presidential Electors will be announced via email, and by blog post to the Party website, by 5:00 pm HST on July 13, 2020. [also rule 6.3]

7.7. The results of the election for the State Chairperson and the Senatorial District representatives to the State Central Committee will be announced via email, and by blog post to the Party website, by 5:00 pm HST on July 26, 2020. [also rule 6.6]

7.8. Paper copies of the results will be available by mail if a mail request is submitted to the Party headquarters. Email requests will not be accepted. Mail requests should be sent to PO Box 2041, Honolulu, HI 96805, and must be received by July 31, 2020. [also rule 6.7]

7.9. Phone support will be available for voters.

7.10. Challenges to any election must be made within 30 days of the election.

7.11. Candidates may review voting records within 30 days of the election. Voting records shall be maintained by the Party for 90 days, after which they may be destroyed.

#### RULE 8. RELATING TO CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

8.1. Candidates may provide a candidate statement and photo, beginning June 22, 2020. Candidate statements should be sent to [2020convention@hawaiidemocrats.org](mailto:2020convention@hawaiidemocrats.org). Deadline is July 22, 2020.

8.2. Candidate statements will be posted to the Party website within 48 hours of receipt, beginning June 22, 2020 through July 22, 2020.

#### RULE 9. RELATING TO STATE CONVENTION RECORD

9.1. The record of the proceedings of the State Convention will be posted to the Party website by the Party Secretary not later than 60 days after the close of the State Convention. The State Central Committee is authorized to approve the minutes of the 2020 electronic State Convention.

9.2. Voting records shall be maintained by the Party for 90 days, after which they may be destroyed. [also rule 7.11]