



## Rules Committee Final Report

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## Proposal A - Correlation of Amendments

Amend Article VII

Adopted by Committee 2/29/20 (12-0-0-0)

*Explanation: From time to time, multiple proposed amendments to the NDP Constitution & Bylaws will amend the same section of either the Constitution or Bylaws. In such cases, under Robert's Rules of Order, the last amendment adopted by the body is considered adopted, while any previous amendments adopted are effectively wiped out by the last amendment.*

*Proposal A would provide that the Rules Committee may correlate two or more proposed amendments which amend the same section of the Constitution or Bylaws adopted at State Convention if the amendments are not in conflict with each other.*

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## ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended only by a favorable vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the accredited delegates assembled in the State Convention, provided **such said** amendment has been presented in writing to the State Central Committee thirty (30) days prior to the State Convention. All amendments shall take effect upon adoption by the State Convention. **When one section of the Constitution or Bylaws is amended in two or more proposed amendments at the State Convention and the amendments are entirely reconcilable and not in conflict with each other, the Rules Committee shall be authorized to correlate them so as to reflect all such amendments.** The Rules Committee shall be authorized to periodically review the Constitution and Bylaws for grammar, spelling, punctuation, enumeration, technical and conforming changes and may make these types of changes that retain the meaning of the language of these documents.

## Proposal B (Part 1) - Gender Identity Inclusion

Amend Article IV, Section 1(C); Article IV, Section 5(A); Article IV, Section 5(B)(2); Article IV, Section 5(B)(3); Article IV, Section 5(B)(7); Article IV, Section 6(A); Article IV, Section 6(B); & Article V, Section 1(A);  
Adopted by Committee 2/29/20 (12-0-0-0)

*Explanation: At the 2018 NDP State Convention, the convention body passed a motion directing the Rules Committee to review the NDP Constitution & Bylaws for language which excluded individuals of non-binary gender and propose more inclusive amended language at the 2020 NDP State Convention. In addition, language in the DNC Charter regarding gender balance was amended in 2019 to provide that an individual's gender is determined by self-identification and that non-binary individuals do not count towards either binary gender for purposes of gender balance.*

*Part 1 of Proposal B would amend the NDP Constitution to replace language referring to sex or to binary genders with more inclusive language. Part 2 of Proposal B would similarly amend the NDP Bylaws to replace language referring to sex or to binary genders with more inclusive language.*

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## ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY

### Section 1. State Convention.

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C. Functions. The State General Election Convention shall adopt a party platform, elect the State Chair and the two Associate State Chairs to assume office at the State Central Committee meeting immediately following the General Election, elect the **two National Committeepersons** ~~National Committeeman and National Committeewoman~~ when necessary, elect State Central Committee representatives, and transact such other business as may be prescribed by law or may come before the convention.

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### Section 5. Officers of the Party.

A. Titles. The following are the officers of the Nebraska Democratic Party: State Chair, First Associate Chair, Second Associate Chair, **two National Committeepersons** ~~Committeeman, National Committeewoman~~, Congressional District Chairs and Associate Chairs (**of different gender identities of the opposite sex**) of the respective Congressional Districts, State Secretary, and State Treasurer. State Officers must be registered as Democrats and reside within the state. Congressional District Officers must be registered as Democrats and reside within the appropriate Congressional District.

B. Functions.

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2. Associate Chair. The Two Associate Chairs shall be elected by the accredited delegates assembled in the State Convention. The First Associate Chair shall be a **different gender identity** ~~of the sex opposite~~ from that of the State Chair and shall assume temporarily the duties of the State Chair in the event of a vacancy in that office. Both Associate Chairs shall assist the Chair in carrying out the functions and duties of the Chair's office.

3. National Committee Representatives. The National **Committeepersons (2) of different gender identities** ~~Committeeman and National Committeewoman~~ shall be elected by the accredited delegates assembled in the State Convention each presidential election year for a four-year term. The National Committee representatives shall reflect the State Party philosophy to the National Committee, shall act as liaisons between the State and National Parties, shall use their public visibility to the best advantage and aid of the State Party and in soliciting financial support for it, and shall perform all other duties as are prescribed by the Nebraska Democratic Party, and by the Bylaws and procedures of the Democratic National Committee.

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7. Congressional District Associate Chair. The Congressional District Associate Chair shall be of a **different gender identity as the sex opposite** the Congressional District Chair, and shall be elected by the accredited delegates assembled in the Congressional District Caucus at the State Convention. The Congressional District Associate Chair shall be the Associate Chair of the Congressional District Organization if a CDO is established in a Congressional District. The Congressional District Associate Chair shall assist the Congressional District Chair and assume temporarily the duties of the Congressional District Chair in the event of a vacancy in that office.

**Section 6. County Conventions.**

A. Single Legislative District Counties. Counties wholly within a single Legislative District shall hold a county convention in the manner prescribed by law, and may elect to have delegates to the County Convention register with the election commissioner or county clerk. The County Convention shall elect a County Chair, Associate Chair (of **different gender identities**~~the opposite sex~~), Secretary, Treasurer and any other officers deemed necessary by the County Chair; shall elect delegates and alternates to the State Convention, and may adopt a county platform and transact other such business as may come before it.

B. Multiple Legislative District Counties. Counties containing all or parts of multiple Legislative Districts shall hold a county convention in the manner prescribed by law, and may elect to have delegates to the County Convention register with the election commissioner or clerk. Each Legislative District shall caucus and elect delegates and alternates to the State Convention. The County Convention shall elect a County Chair, Associate Chair (of **different gender identities**~~the opposite sex~~), Secretary, Treasurer, and any other officers deemed necessary by the County Chair, and may adopt a County Platform and transact other such business as may come before it.

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## ARTICLE V - VACANCIES

### Section 1 When Vacancies Exist

A. A vacancy in any State Party office (including State Central Committee and State Executive Committee members), County Party office, Congressional District Organization office, Standing Committee of the Nebraska Democratic Party, or Special Committee of the Nebraska Democratic Party shall exist whenever an office holder or committee member shall have: (a) died; (b) resigned in writing to the State Secretary or Assistant Secretary; (c) moved from the geographical area or district **they were** ~~he or she was~~ elected to represent; (d) changed **their** ~~his or her~~ party affiliation; (e) ceased being an active party member; (f) ceased meeting the qualifications outlined in Article III of this constitution; (g) been removed from office; (h) forfeited office as provided under this section; or (i) as otherwise provided for in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party or in the constitution or bylaws of the respective organization as applicable.

## Proposal B (Part 2) – Gender Identity Inclusion

Amend Bylaw 1.1.13.1; Bylaw 1.2.1.3; Bylaw 1.4.4.1; Bylaw 1.4.5; Bylaw 1.4.8; Bylaw 1.5.1; Bylaw 1.5.4.1; Bylaw 1.5.4.2; Bylaw 1.5.4.3; Bylaw 3.1; Bylaw 3.2; Bylaw 3.3; Bylaw 3.4; Bylaw 4.1; Bylaw 4.5; Bylaw 5.1.2.13; Bylaw 5.2; Bylaw 5.3; Bylaw 5.4.1.1; Bylaw 5.10.1.1.1; Bylaw 5.10.1.2.1; Bylaw 5.10.1.3.1; Bylaw 5.10.1.4.1; Bylaw 5.10.1.4.2; Bylaw 5.10.1.7.2; Bylaw 5.10.1.8.1; Bylaw 5.12.3; Bylaw 6.1; Bylaw 6.2; Bylaw 7.3; & Bylaw 8.5

Adopted by Committee 2/29/20 (12-0-0)

*Explanation: At the 2018 NDP State Convention, the convention body passed a motion directing the Rules Committee to review the NDP Constitution & Bylaws for language which excluded individuals of non-binary gender and propose more inclusive amended language at the 2020 NDP State Convention. In addition, language in the DNC Charter regarding gender balance was amended in 2019 to provide that an individual's gender is determined by self-identification and that non-binary individuals do not count towards either binary gender for purposes of gender balance.*

*Part 1 of Proposal B would amend the NDP Constitution to replace language referring to sex or to binary genders with more inclusive language. Part 2 of Proposal B would similarly amend the NDP Bylaws to replace language referring to sex or to binary genders with more inclusive language.*

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**1.1.13.1 Vacancies Defined.** A vacancy in the office of delegate or alternate to a State Convention shall exist whenever a duly elected delegate or alternate from any Legislative District or County shall have: (a) died; (b) resigned in writing filed with the Secretary of the County Central Committee or with the State Secretary; (c) moved from the Legislative District or County which ~~they were he or she was~~ elected to represent; or (d) changed ~~their his or her~~ party affiliation. Further, vacancies shall exist when a County Convention fails to elect sufficient delegates and/or alternates to fill the number of delegate or alternate positions allocated to such county pursuant to Bylaw 1.1.2.

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**1.2.1.3 Ascertainment of Quorum:**

**By Chair.** The Chair of any State Convention or Congressional District Caucus at State Convention may ascertain by ~~their~~ ~~his/her~~ view whether or not a quorum is present.

**By Roll Call.** If the point of order is raised that no quorum is present, the ascertainment of a quorum shall be determined by roll call, but those who are outside of the convention hall may be counted in determining whether or not a quorum is present, and the Chair shall have the authority to appoint Sergeants-at-Arms to gather such persons into the convention hall before the count is completed.

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**1.4.4.1 From within Delegation.** On roll call by Counties and Districts within Counties, a delegation shall be polled on challenge by any member of the delegation. Demand for poll of delegation or challenge of accuracy of count must be made when vote is reported and comes too late after the next County, or District within a County, is called. Such demand may not be made by anyone not a member of the delegation and no delegate may request a poll of any other delegation than ~~their~~ ~~his/her~~ own. The only method by which a poll of a delegation may be had is by challenging the accuracy of the count or report, but such challenge is in order on any vote regardless of the character. The poll of a delegation must include the entire delegation. A demand for a poll of a delegation may be withdrawn any time before the poll starts. The Chair of the Convention may defer a poll until the conclusion of a roll call. When a delegation is polled, the delegates in responding to their names are restricted to the bare announcement of their vote and explanations or comments of any character are out of order.

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**1.4.5. Committee Reports.** When Committees are recognized to report, the Chair of the Committee may read the report ~~themselves~~ ~~himself~~ or have it read by the reading clerk of the Convention. At the conclusion of the reading of the report, the Chair has fifteen (15) minutes in which he may (1) speak to the report, (2) yield time to others to speak, or (3) move the previous question. When committee reports are submitted, the question of agreeing to the report is considered as pending. Minority reports from committees must be presented and read immediately following majority reports, and both are then open to debate and amendment, unless the previous question is ordered. When more than one minority report is submitted, all are presented before consideration on the majority report begins, and are taken up in the order presented. The question comes first on minority reports and then on majority report or minority report as amended.

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1.4.8. **Delegates.** A delegate announcing that **they** ~~he/she~~ will not abide by the decision of the Convention is not entitled to participate in its deliberations. Delegates failing to observe Rules of the Convention are subject to expulsion by two-thirds (2/3) vote.

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1.5.1. **Qualifications to Vote.** No person shall be permitted to vote in any State Convention unless **they have** ~~he/she has~~ been duly elected and certified as a delegate or unless **they have** ~~he/she has~~ been duly elected and certified as an alternate and ~~is~~ **are** acting in the absence of an elected delegate.

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1.5.4.1 **Roll Call: Announced by Delegation Chair.** On roll call of the Counties and Legislative Districts within Counties, the vote of the County or Legislative District shall be announced by the Chair of the County or Legislative District delegation, or in **their** ~~his/her~~ absence, by the Vice Chair. Delegations not prepared to announce their vote may be passed and called at the end of roll call.

1.5.4.2 **Place of Casting Vote.** In order to vote, a delegate must sit with **their** ~~his/her~~ delegation and may not vote from another part of the convention hall and may not deputize another to cast **their** ~~his/her~~ vote for **them** ~~him/her~~.

1.5.4.3 **Change of Vote or Abstention.** A delegate may decline to vote or may change **their** ~~his/her~~ vote at any time prior to the announcement of the final result. A delegate proposing to change **their** ~~his/her~~ vote must rise in **their** ~~his/her~~ place and personally request the change.

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3.1. **County Convention.** Each County shall hold a convention in the manner prescribed by Nebraska State law, and may elect to have delegates to the County Convention file for office with the election commissioner or county clerk. In the event that insufficient delegates to a County Convention have been elected in the Primary Election or by Caucus, it shall be the duty of the County Chair to exercise **their** ~~his or her~~ best efforts to provide for the election, appointment, or designation of delegates.

3.2. **Election of County Officers and Committee.** At the County Conventions, a County Chair, a County Vice-Chair, a Secretary of the County Committee and Treasurer of the County Committee should be elected. The County Executive Committee is composed of the elected officers of the County Committee. The County Committee shall be composed of the elected officers of the County Committee and



the ~~committeemen and women~~ **committeepersons** elected at the County Convention. Meetings of the County Committee may be called by the Chair or by a majority of the Executive Committee or by at least six (6) **committeepersons** ~~committeemen and women~~ at such time and place as may be designated in the call. The County Vice- Chair shall preside in the absence of the Chair. If the County Chair is removed from office, relocates ~~their his or her~~ residence from the County, dies, resigns or changes party affiliation, a vacancy shall exist. Vacancies in County Party offices shall be filled through election by the respective County Central Committee, or according to the Constitution or Bylaws of the County Party or according to the provisions of Section 3.3 of these Bylaws, if applicable.

In the event there is not a Vice-Chair to call a meeting, the County Committee Meeting may be called by at least six (6) **committeepersons** ~~committeemen and women~~ or by the State Chair for the purpose of electing a new County Chair.

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3.4. **Gender Representation Balance.** ~~If the Chair is a man, the Vice-Chair shall be a woman. If the Chair is a woman, the Vice-Chair shall be a man.~~ **The Chair and Vice Chair must be of different gender identities.**

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4.1. **Election of National Committeepersons ~~Committeeman and National Committeewoman~~.** During presidential election years, convention delegates shall elect two (2) members of the Democratic National Committee from Nebraska, ~~the a~~ National **Committeepersons of different gender identities** ~~Committeeman and a National Committeewoman~~, who shall serve for a term of four (4) years each and until their successors are elected and qualified. ~~Such Said~~ four-year term shall begin after the Democratic National Convention.

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4.5. **Certification of Elections.** Following any election of such a National ~~Committeepersons Committeeman or National Committeewoman~~ from Nebraska, or State Chair and First Associate Chair, the Chair and Secretary of the Democratic State Central Committee shall forthwith certify the election of such person or persons to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee.

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5.1.2.13 Remove by two-thirds (2/3) vote of those attending for good cause, and after two (2) weeks' notice and hearing, any duly elected or appointed party official, including any officer of the NDP, Congressional District Organization, County Party

officer, Central Committee Member, Affiliated Caucus Organization, standing or ad-hoc Committee Member, at any level of the Nebraska Democratic Party who has failed to attend the duties of ~~their his or her~~ office, who publicly opposes the election of a Party nominee for local, state or national office, who has violated any Code of Conduct adopted by the State Central Committee, who is abusive of their authority, or who engages in other misconduct that calls into question their fitness for office. Publicly opposing a candidate from whom State Party resources have been withheld under Bylaw 7.3 shall not constitute grounds for removal;

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## 5.2. **Composition.**

- a) The State Central Committee shall consist of: all State Executive Committee voting members; and **two delegates of different gender identities** ~~one male and one female delegate~~ elected by the legislative district caucuses at the State Convention. Each member shall have only one vote at any meeting of the State Central Committee.
- b) In addition, each legislative district caucus shall elect, at the State Convention, **two alternate committee members of different gender identities** ~~one male and one female to be alternate committee members~~ who shall only be empowered to vote in the absence of the elected State Central Committee member from their district.
- c) Delegates and alternate delegates will be replaced in accordance with the NDP Constitution and Bylaws.
- d) Legislative district delegates shall be registered Democrats and reside in their respective legislative districts.

5.3. **Officers.** Officers of the State Central Committee shall be the State Chair, two (2) Associate Chairs, **and the National Committeepersons** ~~Committeeman and the National Committeewoman~~. These officers shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee. Nominations may be made from the floor by any duly accredited delegate. A majority of the votes cast on such nominations shall be necessary to elect said officers.

Additional officers of the State Central Committee shall be the Congressional District Chairs and Associate Chairs who are elected in their respective Congressional District Caucuses, the State Treasurer and the State Secretary. The State Treasurer and State Secretary shall be appointed by the State Chair and approved by the State Central Committee.

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5.4.1.1 **Definition of “Active Member”.** An active member of the State Democratic Party shall be an individual who evidences ~~their~~ ~~his or her~~ commitment to the party by regular attendance at committee meetings, service on party committees, service in public office, volunteer work on electoral campaigns of party members, work on voter recruitment and registration, financial contributions to the state party and party candidates, or commitments of personal time and resources to the state party organization and its activities.

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5.10.1.1.1 **Composition.** Each Congressional District Caucus shall elect **eight members, with no one gender identity representing more than four members,** ~~four men and four women~~ to serve on the Platform and Resolutions Committee. Committee members, including the Committee Chair, are not automatic Convention delegates, but are encouraged to seek such election.

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5.10.1.2.1 **Composition.** Each Congressional District Caucus shall elect **four members, with no one gender identity representing more than two members,** ~~two men and two women~~ to serve on the Rules Committee. Committee members, including the Committee Chair, are not automatic convention delegates, but are encouraged to seek election.

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5.10.1.3.1 **Composition.** Each Congressional District Caucus shall elect **four members, with no one gender identity representing more than two members** ~~two men and two women~~ to serve on the State Convention Committee. The State Chair may appoint additional members to the Committee necessary to its function once a Convention site has been approved. Committee members, including the Committee Chair, are not automatic Convention delegates, but are encouraged to seek such election.

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5.10.1.4. **Nominating.** The Nominating Committee of the Nebraska Democratic Party shall solicit and encourage qualified people to serve in the offices of State Chair, First and Second Associate Chairs, **and National Committeepersons** ~~Committeeman and National Committeewoman~~ and conduct the nominating proceedings at the appropriate State Convention or State Central Committee meeting. Nominations for these offices may also be made from the floor by any duly accredited delegate.

5.10.1.4.1 **Composition.** Each Congressional District Caucus shall elect **four members, with no one gender identity representing more than two members,** ~~two men and two women~~ to serve on the Nominating Committee. Committee members, including the Committee Chair, are not automatic Convention delegates, but are encouraged to seek such election.

5.10.1.4.2 **Reports.** The Committee shall report the nomination of the State Chair, Associate Chairs and National **Committeepersons** ~~Committeeman and National Committeewoman~~ at the appropriate meeting of the State Central Committee or State Convention; and in the case of any vacancy in said offices, the next scheduled State Central Committee meeting or State Convention following notification of a vacancy.

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5.10.1.7.2 **Composition.** Each Congressional District Caucus shall elect **four members, with no one gender identity representing more than two members,** ~~two men and two women~~ to serve on the Technology Committee. Those elected shall be familiar with new technologies and technology issues or have the time and commitment to research relevant technology issues. The Committee Chair may appoint other non-voting members, including NDP staff, to further the goals of the committee.

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5.10.1.8.1 **Composition.** Each Congressional District Caucus shall elect **two members of different gender identities** ~~one man and one woman~~ to serve on the Audit & Review Committee. Those elected shall be familiar with general accounting practices and principles. The Committee Chair may appoint other non-voting members to further the goals of the Committee.

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5.12.3. **Governance.** The Coordinated Campaign shall have the authority to create its own structure with the State Party Chair and **their** ~~his/her~~ designate as Director, and to establish its own policies and procedures; however, the governing body of the Coordinated Campaign shall include the State Party Chair, National **Committeepersons** ~~Committeeman and Committeewoman~~ and other State Party Executive Committee members, appointed by the State Party Chair, necessary to provide representation from each Congressional District.

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6.1. It is contrary to the policy of the Nebraska Democratic Party for the name of any person to be placed upon the primary ballot of the Democratic Party as a candidate for nomination, election, or preferential vote in any state or county primary election if such a person is not affiliated with the Democratic Party. Further the name of no such person should be placed upon the primary ballot of the Democratic Party as a candidate for nomination, election or preferential vote in any state or county primary election if such person has announced ~~their his/her~~ intention of being a candidate for public office on the ticket of any other than the Democratic Party concurrently with being a candidate for public office on the ticket of the Democratic Party.

6.2. In the absence of any statute specifically denying the right of the Nebraska Democratic Party to determine the names of those who may be or may not be placed by the Secretary of the State or a proper County official on the Democratic primary ballot at any primary election held within the State of Nebraska (a) no person shall be permitted to file or be filed on a primary election ballot of the Democratic Party as a candidate for nomination, election, or preferential vote, in a state or county primary election who is not affiliated with the Democratic Party, and (b) no person shall be permitted to file or be filed on a primary ballot of the Democratic Party as a candidate for nomination, election, or preferential vote who has announced ~~their his/her~~ intention to be a candidate for public office on the ticket of any political party other than the Democratic Party concurrently with being a candidate for public office on the ticket of the Democratic Party.

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7.3. **Withholding Resources.** Under extraordinary circumstances State Party resources may be withheld from a candidate who is a registered Democrat or a recognized affiliated caucus organization. These circumstances may include, but shall not be limited to, misconduct injurious to the Nebraska Democratic Party or its members, a candidate whose opponent is an incumbent Democrat, a person who has not been an active Democrat, a candidate whose campaign organization is dominated by and supported by other political parties, a candidate who has failed to report ~~their his or her~~ financial status to the Federal Election Commission or the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission, and a recognized affiliated caucus organization that compromises the goals, strategy, policy, or integrity of the Nebraska Democratic Party.

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8.5. **Committee Reports.** When Committees are recognized to report, the Chair of the Committee may read the report ~~themselves himself~~ or have it read by the Secretary. When committee reports are submitted, the question of agreeing to the report is considered as pending. Minority reports from committees must be presented and read immediately following majority reports, and both are then open to debate and

amendment, unless the previous question is ordered. When more than one minority report is submitted, all are presented before consideration on the majority report begins, and are taken up in the order presented. The question comes first on minority reports and then on majority report or minority report as amended.

**PRC Proposal A (Part 1) - State Central Committee**  
Amend Article IV, Section 2(B) & Article V, Section 2  
Adopted by Rules Committee 2/29/20 (11-0-0-1)

*Explanation: The Party Reform Committee (PRC) was a special committee established in early 2019 to examine major issues related to the structure of the NDP and propose potential reforms. The PRC proposals were forwarded to the Rules Committee for their drafting and consideration in November 2019.*

*PRC Proposal A would add twenty (20) additional at-large voting members to the State Central Committee (SCC) as follows:*

- *Four (4) Tribal Members, representing each Sovereign Nation in Nebraska (Ponca, Santee, Omaha, Winnebago), selected by their Tribal Councils*
- *Five (5) County Chairs, representing counties not otherwise represented by the legislative district delegates on the SCC*
- *Five (5) Young Democrats (under the age of 36)*
- *Six (6) Diversity Members, representing diverse communities that are underrepresented on the SCC*

*The at-large SCC members would be appointed by the State Executive Committee (SEC) and approved by the State Central Committee (SCC). The at-large SCC members, collectively as a group, must be gender balanced.*

*Part 1 of PRC Proposal A would amend the NDP Constitution to authorize the nomination of at-large delegates to the SCC by the SEC and to provide for filling vacant at-large SCC delegate positions in the same manner. Part 2 of PRC Proposal A would add corresponding language to authorize at-large SCC members in the NDP Bylaws.*

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**ARTICLE IV - ORGNIZATION OF THE PARTY**

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**Section 2. State Central Committee**

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B. Membership. Membership shall include State ~~Party Officers~~ party officers, State Executive Committee voting members, ~~and~~ delegates and alternates ~~from~~ counties as apportioned by the State Central Committee according to the Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party, **and at-large delegates nominated by the State Executive Committee with confirmation by the State Central Committee, as apportioned according to the Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party.** Membership shall be limited to active Party members.

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## ARTICLE V - VACANCIES

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### Section 2 Filling Vacancies

When a vacancy occurs, it shall be filled following all vacancy notification procedures as established in the Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party and in the following manner:

- A. State Chair, Associate Chairs, or National Committee Representatives shall be filled through election by the State Central Committee as directed in the Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party.
- B. **Legislative District** State Central Committee delegates and alternates shall be filled through election by the appropriate Congressional District Caucus. **At-large State Central Committee delegates shall be filled through nomination by the State Executive Committee with confirmation by the State Central Committee.**
- C. State Executive Committee members who are appointed by the State Chair shall be filled through nomination by the State Chair with confirmation by the State Central Committee.
- D. Congressional District Chairs or Associate Chairs shall be filled through election by the appropriate Congressional District Caucus.
- E. Chairs of NDP Standing Committees shall be filled through nomination by the State Chair with confirmation by the State Central Committee.
- F. Members of NDP Standing Committees elected by Congressional District Caucuses shall be filled through election by the appropriate Congressional District Caucus.



G. County Party offices shall be filled pursuant to Nebraska Democratic Party Bylaw 3.

H. Affiliated Caucus Organization officers shall be filled as provided for in their governing documents.

**PRC Proposal A (Part 2) – State Central Committee**  
Amend Bylaw 5.2 & Bylaw 5.4.1  
Adopted by Rules Committee 2/29/20 (11-0-0-1)

*Explanation: The Party Reform Committee (PRC) was a special committee established in early 2019 to examine major issues related to the structure of the NDP and propose potential reforms. The PRC proposals were forwarded to the Rules Committee for their consideration in November 2019.*

*PRC Proposal A would add twenty (20) additional at-large voting members to the State Central Committee (SCC) as follows:*

- Four (4) Tribal Members, representing each Sovereign Nation in Nebraska (Ponca, Santee, Omaha, Winnebago), selected by their Tribal Councils*
- Five (5) County Chairs, representing counties not currently represented on the SCC*
- Five (5) Young Democrats (under the age of 36)*
- Six (6) Diversity Members, representing diverse communities that are underrepresented on the SCC*

*The at-large SCC members would be appointed by the State Executive Committee (SEC) and approved by the State Central Committee (SCC). The at-large SCC members, collectively as a group, must be gender balanced.*

*Part 1 of PRC Proposal A would amend the NDP Constitution to authorize the nomination of at-large delegates to the SCC by the SEC and to provide for filling vacant at-large SCC delegate positions in the same manner. Part 2 of PRC Proposal A would add corresponding language to authorize at-large SCC members in the NDP Bylaws.*

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**5.2. Composition.**

- a) The State Central Committee shall consist of: all State Executive Committee voting members; ~~and~~ one male and one female delegate elected by the legislative district caucuses at the State Convention; **and twenty at-large members appointed by the State Executive Committee with approval by the State Central Committee.** Each member shall have only one vote at any meeting of the State Central Committee.

- b) In addition, each legislative district caucus shall elect, at the State Convention, one male and one female to be alternate committee members who shall only be empowered to vote in the absence of the elected State Central Committee member from their district.
- c) **The at-large State Central Committee members shall consist of: four tribal members, with one representing each sovereign tribal nation in Nebraska, selected by their tribal councils; five county chairs, representing counties not otherwise represented by the legislative district delegates on the State Central Committee; five Young Democrats (under the age of 36); and six diversity members, representing communities that are underrepresented on the State Central Committee. The at-large State Central Committee members shall be, collectively, gender balanced as equally as possible (determined by gender self-identification). In the case of a non-binary gender member, they shall not be counted as either gender.**
- d) Delegates and alternate delegates will be replaced in accordance with the NDP Constitution and Bylaws.
- e) Legislative district delegates shall be registered Democrats and reside in their respective legislative districts.

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5.4.1. **Members.** Members elected to the State Central Committee shall continue in office until their successors are elected at the next succeeding General Election State Convention, except as otherwise provided in Article IV, Section 1(C) of the Constitution, ~~or~~ Bylaw 4.1, **or Bylaw 5.2(c). Members appointed by the State Executive Committee shall continue in office until their successors are duly appointed and approved.** Members appointed by the State Chair serve at the pleasure of the State Chair. Terms for Affiliated Caucus Organization representatives are determined by their respective Affiliated Caucus Organization. However, any member of the Committee ceasing to meet the qualifications of Article III of the Constitution or who shall cease to be an active member of the State Democratic Party shall cease to be a member of the Committee as of the time when such qualifications are not met.

**PRC Proposal B (Part 1) - State Officers**

Amend Article IV, Section 1(C); Article IV, Section 3(B); Article IV, Section 4(C);  
Article IV, Section 5; & Article V, Section 2  
Adopted by Rules Committee 2/29/20 (11-0-0-1)

Explanation: *The Party Reform Committee (PRC) was a special committee established in early 2019 to examine major issues related to the structure of the NDP and propose potential reforms. The PRC proposals were forwarded to the Rules Committee for their consideration in November 2019.*

*PRC Proposal B would make several changes to NDP State Officers as follows:*

- *The First Associate Chair would be renamed the Vice Chair*
- *The Second Associate Chair position would be merged with the “Chair of Chairs” position*
- *The “Chair of Chairs” would become the Vice Chair of County Parties, a State Officer position elected by the county chairs caucus*
- *Congressional District Associate Chairs would be renamed Congressional District Vice Chairs*
- *Beginning with officers elected in 2022, the State Chair, Vice Chair, and Vice Chair of County Parties will be elected to 4-year terms (instead of 2-year terms), with elections held in midterm election years*
- *Newly-elected officers will take office the day after the general election, instead of the first State Central Committee meeting after the election*

*Part 1 of PRC Proposal B would amend the NDP Constitution to make changes to NDP State Officers. Part 2 of PRC Proposal B would make corresponding changes in the NDP Bylaws.*

**PROVISO: The provisions of this proposal shall not go into effect until the 2022 NDP State Convention**

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**ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY**

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**Section 1. State Convention.**

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C. Functions. The State ~~General Election~~ Convention shall adopt a party platform, elect the State Chair and ~~the two Associate State Chairs~~ **Vice Chair when necessary** to assume office ~~at the State Central Committee meeting immediately following~~ **the day after** the General Election, elect the National Committeeman and National Committeewoman when necessary, elect State Central Committee representatives, and transact such other business as may be prescribed by law or may come before the convention.

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**Section 3. State Executive Committee.**

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B. Membership. The State Executive Committee shall consist of the following as voting members of the Committee:

1. All Officers of the Party as provided in Article IV, Section 5 of this Constitution and any other appointed or elected member to the Democratic National Committee from Nebraska;

2. A designated representative from each Democratic Party Affiliated Caucus Organization recognized as such by the State Central Committee as provided in the ~~Bylaws~~ **By-Laws**, and each representative shall be designated by the represented Caucus;

~~3. A representative of the County Chairs who is elected by a caucus of County Chairs;~~

~~34. If appointed, the Finance Chair and/or two At-Large members who shall be nominated by the State Chair and confirmed by the State Central Committee, such said members to serve at the pleasure of the State Chair.~~

~~45. The ~~Bylaws~~ **By-Laws** of the Party may provide for ex-officio, non-voting members of the State Executive Committee.~~

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#### Section 4 Congressional District Organization.

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C. Governance. The Chair of a CDO shall be the Congressional District Chair of the Congressional District which the CDO represents. The ~~Vice Associate~~ Chair of a CDO shall be the Congressional District ~~Vice Associate~~ Chair of the Congressional District which the CDO represents. The CDO may have additional officers as it provides. The CDO may adopt governing documents for the effective administration of the CDO providing that any governing documents adopted are consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the NDP and with the policies and decisions of the SCC. The CDO will coordinate with the NDP Rules Committee Chair when creating these documents. The governing documents must be submitted for approval by the SCC. Changes do not become effective unless approved by the SCC.

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#### Section 5. Officers of the Party.

A. Titles. The following are the officers of the Nebraska Democratic Party: State Chair, ~~Vice First Associate~~ Chair, ~~Second Associate~~ **Vice Chair of County Parties**, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman, Congressional District Chairs and ~~Vice Associate~~ Chairs (of the opposite sex) of the respective Congressional Districts, State Secretary, and State Treasurer. State Officers must be registered as Democrats and reside within the state. Congressional District Officers must be registered as Democrats and reside within the appropriate Congressional District.

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B. Functions.

1. State Chair. The State Chair is the Executive officer of the State Party, and shall be elected by accredited delegates assembled in the State Convention **each midterm election year for a four-year term**. The State Chair shall carry out all policies and programs of the State Party as determined by the State Convention, the State Central Committee, and/or the State Executive Committee. The State Chair shall also do everything to initiate, to organize and/or promote development of the state Party at every level throughout the State, and shall perform all other such duties as are prescribed elsewhere in this Constitution and/or in the Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party.

2. Vice Associate Chair. The ~~Vice Chair~~ ~~Two Associate Chairs~~ shall be elected by the accredited delegates assembled in the State Convention **each midterm election year for a four-year term**. The ~~Vice First Associate~~ Chair shall be of the sex opposite

from that of the State Chair and shall ~~assume~~ temporarily **assume** the duties of the State Chair in the event of a vacancy in that office. ~~Both Associate Chairs~~ **The Vice Chair** shall assist the Chair in carrying out the functions and duties of the Chair's office.

**3. Vice Chair of County Parties. The Vice Chair of County Parties shall be elected by a caucus of county chairs held at the State Convention each midterm election year for a four-year term. The Vice Chair of County Parties shall act as a liaison between the State and County Parties and shall temporarily assume the duties of the State Chair in the event of a vacancy in both the office of State Chair and Vice Chair.**

**43.——National Committee Representatives.** The National Committeeman and National Committeewoman shall be elected by the accredited delegates assembled in the State Convention each presidential election year for a four-year term. The National Committee representatives shall reflect the State Party philosophy to the National Committee, shall act as liaisons between the State and National Parties, shall use their public visibility to the best advantage and aid of the State Party and in soliciting financial support for it, and shall perform all other duties as are prescribed by the Nebraska Democratic Party, and by the Bylaws and procedures of the Democratic National Committee.

**54.——State Treasurer.** The State Treasurer shall be nominated by the State Chair and be confirmed by the State Central Committee. The State Treasurer shall act as custodian of all party monies and shall be responsible for all federal and state reporting procedures. In conjunction with the Finance Committee, the State Treasurer shall assist the State Chair, State Central Committee, and State Executive Committee in the preparation of an annual budget, in periodic budget revisions, and to insure the financial stability of the Democratic Party.

**65.——State Secretary.** The State Secretary shall be nominated by the State Chair and confirmed by the State Central Committee. The State Secretary shall be responsible for transcribing and disseminating the official record of all Party business, whether before the State Convention, the State Central Committee, or the State Executive Committee.

**76.——Congressional District Chair.** The Congressional District Chair shall be elected by the accredited delegates assembled in the Congressional District Caucus at the State Convention. The Congressional District Chair shall be the Chair of the Congressional District Organization if a CDO is established in a Congressional District. The Congressional District Chair shall carry out all policies and programs of the state Party as determined by the State Convention and the State Central Committee. The Congressional District Chair shall also do everything possible to initiate, to organize and to promote development of the Congressional District in cooperation with the State Chair, and shall perform all other such duties as are prescribed elsewhere in this Constitution and in the Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party.

87.—~~Congressional District Vice Associate Chair.~~ The Congressional District **Vice Associate** Chair shall be of the sex opposite the Congressional District Chair, and shall be elected by the accredited delegates assembled in the Congressional District Caucus at the State Convention. The Congressional District **Vice Associate** Chair shall be the **Vice Associate** Chair of the Congressional District Organization if a CDO is established in a Congressional District. The Congressional District **Vice Associate** Chair shall assist the Congressional District Chair and assume temporarily the duties of the Congressional District Chair in the event of a vacancy in that office.

## ARTICLE V - VACANCIES

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### Section 2 Filling Vacancies

When a vacancy occurs, it shall be filled following all vacancy notification procedures as established in the Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party and in the following manner:

A. State Chair, **Vice Chair** ~~Associate Chairs~~, or National Committee Representatives shall be filled through election by the State Central Committee as directed in the Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party.

**B. The Vice Chair of County Parties shall be filled through election by a caucus of county chairs held at a meeting of the State Central Committee.**

~~CB.~~—State Central Committee delegates and alternates shall be filled through election by the appropriate Congressional District Caucus.

~~DC.~~—State Executive Committee members who are appointed by the State Chair shall be filled through nomination by the State Chair with confirmation by the State Central Committee.

~~ED.~~—Congressional District Chairs or **Vice Associate** Chairs shall be filled through election by the appropriate Congressional District Caucus.

~~FE.~~—Chairs of NDP Standing Committees shall be filled through nomination by the State Chair with confirmation by the State Central Committee.

~~GF.~~—Members of NDP Standing Committees elected by Congressional District Caucuses shall be filled through election by the appropriate Congressional District Caucus.



**HG.**—County Party offices shall be filled pursuant to Nebraska Democratic Party Bylaw 3.

**HH.**—Affiliated Caucus Organization officers shall be filled as provided for in their governing documents.

**PROVISO: The provisions of this proposal shall not go into effect until the 2022 NDP State Convention**

## PRC Proposal B (Part 2) – State Officers

Amend Bylaw 1.3.2, Bylaw 4.2, Bylaw 4.3, Bylaw 4.5, Bylaw 5.3, Bylaw 5.8, Bylaw 5.8.1, Bylaw 5.8.2, Bylaw 5.10.3, Bylaw 5.11.2.2  
Adopted by Rules Committee 2/29/20 (11-0-0-1)

Explanation: *The Party Reform Committee (PRC) was a special committee established in early 2019 to examine major issues related to the structure of the NDP and propose potential reforms. The PRC proposals were forwarded to the Rules Committee for their consideration in November.*

*PRC Proposal B would make several changes to NDP State Officers as follows:*

- The First Associate Chair would be renamed the Vice Chair*
- The Second Associate Chair position would be merged with the “Chair of Chairs” position*
- The “Chair of Chairs” would become the Vice Chair of County Parties, a State Officer position elected by the county chairs caucus*
- Congressional District Associate Chairs would be renamed Congressional District Vice Chairs*
- Beginning with officers elected in 2022, the State Chair, Vice Chair, and Vice Chair of County Parties will be elected to 4-year terms (instead of 2-year terms), with elections held in midterm election years*
- Newly-elected officers will take office the day after the general election, instead of the first State Central Committee meeting after the election*

*Part 1 of PRC Proposal B would amend the NDP Constitution to make changes to NDP State Officers. Part 2 of PRC Proposal B would make corresponding changes in the NDP Bylaws.*

**PROVISO: The provisions of this proposal shall not go into effect until the 2022 NDP State Convention**

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**1.3.2. Selection of Convention Committees.** Prior to the convening of each State Convention, the Chair of each convention standing committee shall be selected by the State Executive Committee with the approval of the State Central Committee. At a time and place designated by the State Chair during a State Central Committee meeting scheduled at least sixty (60) days prior to the Convention, the members of the State

Central Committee shall hold caucuses by Congressional District to elect temporary members of the convention standing committees. In each such Congressional District Caucus, the members of the State Central Committee shall elect two (2) members to serve on the Committee on Credentials, and two (2) members to serve on the Committee to Recommend Nominations for Presidential and Vice Presidential Electors. The District Chair and ~~Vice Associate~~ Chair of each Congressional District caucus shall promptly certify to the State Secretary the temporary members elected to serve on the convention standing committees. In order to serve as a permanent member of a Convention Committee, a temporary member must attend the Convention as a delegate or alternate. Any temporary member not elected as a delegate or alternate to State Convention shall be replaced by their Congressional District Caucus at Convention.

...

4.2. **State Chair and First ~~Vice Associate~~ Chair.** In accordance with the Bylaws of the Democratic National Committee, the Chair and ~~Vice 1st Associate~~ Chair of the Nebraska Democratic Party shall serve as members of the Democratic National Committee for terms concurrent with their terms as State Party officers.

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4.3. **Other Elected or Appointed Members.** Additional elected members of the Democratic National committee are allocated on the basis of population and the Democratic vote for President as stipulated in the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States. Should an additional member be allocated to Nebraska, the ~~State 2nd Associate Vice Chair of County Parties~~ would fill that position. The Democratic National Committee has authority, as proscribed in its Charter and Bylaws, to appoint additional members to that body. Such appointed members serve terms as stipulated by the DNC when appointed, but not longer than beyond the day the next National Convention adjourns.

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4.5. **Certification of Elections.** Following any election of such a National Committeeman or National Committeewoman from Nebraska, or State Chair and ~~Vice First Associate~~ Chair, the Chair and Secretary of the Democratic State Central Committee shall forthwith certify the election of such person or persons to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee.

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5.3. **Officers.** Officers of the State Central Committee shall be the State Chair, ~~Vice Chair two (2) Associate Chairs~~, the National Committeeman, and the National Committeewoman. These officers shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee.

Nominations may be made from the floor by any duly accredited delegate. A majority of the votes cast on such nominations shall be necessary to elect said officers.

Additional officers of the State Central Committee shall be the **Vice Chair of County Parties**, Congressional District Chairs and **Vice Associate Chairs** ~~who are elected in their respective Congressional District Caucuses~~, the State Treasurer and the State Secretary. **The Vice Chair of County Parties shall be elected at a caucus of county chairs held at State Convention each midterm election year. The Congressional District Chairs and Vice Chairs shall be elected in their respective Congressional District Caucuses at each State Convention.** The State Treasurer and State Secretary shall be appointed by the State Chair and approved by the State Central Committee.

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5.8. **Officer Vacancies.** The State Central Committee shall fill vacancies in the offices of State Chair, ~~the State Associate Chairs~~ **Vice Chair**, and National Committee Members if such vacancies occur between Conventions. The methods to do so are:

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5.8.1. **State Chair.** ~~The First Associate~~ **Vice Chair or the Vice Chair of County Parties** will assume the duties of the State Chair on a temporary basis until a new Chair is elected. Election of a new Chair shall occur at the first regular ~~quarterly~~ State Central Committee meeting after the vacancy occurs. Procedure for such election shall be determined by the State Central Committee.

...

5.8.2. ~~Associate Chairs~~ **Vice Chair and National Committee Members.** Election of any of these officers shall occur at the first regular ~~quarterly~~ State Central Committee meeting after the vacancy occurs. Procedure for such election shall be determined by the State Central Committee.

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5.10.3. **Special Committees.** The State Chair, or when necessary, ~~the Vice Chair or one of the Associate Chairs or~~ National Committee Representatives, may establish any special committee as deemed necessary to carry out the functions of the party. Special committees must be approved by the State Central Committee; provided, however, that a Special Committee formed for the purpose of investigating alleged misconduct injurious to the NDP or its members may be authorized to conduct such investigation, and report its existence and/or recommendations at the next State Central Committee meeting. Special Committees should be of limited duration and exist for a specific

purpose or goal. Membership on a special committee should be relevant to the purpose of the committee and must include representation from all Congressional Districts.

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5.11.2.2 The Chair or **Vice Chair** ~~Associate Chairs~~ of the Party shall not approve the payment of any statement which is submitted contrary to the provisions of these Bylaws and unless in the opinion of the approving officer reasonably exercised such statement represents services, merchandise, supplies, donations, or loans properly obtained or used and applied or to be so used and applied for the promotion of the welfare of the Democratic Party in Nebraska or the nation.

**PRC Proposal C (Part 1) – Vacancies**  
Amend Article IV, Section 5(B)(2) & Article V, Section 2  
Adopted by Rules Committee 2/29/20 (11-0-0-1)

*Explanation: The Party Reform Committee (PRC) was a special committee established in early 2019 to examine major issues related to the structure of the NDP and propose potential reforms. The PRC proposals were forwarded to the Rules Committee for their consideration in November 2019.*

*PRC Proposal C would provide that if a vacancy in any State Party office occurs, the election to fill the vacancy must be no sooner than 30 days after the vacancy occurs. The proposal would also provide that in the event of a vacancy in the offices of both State Chair and First Associate Chair, the Second Associate Chair shall temporarily assume the duties of the State Chair.*

*Part 1 of PRC Proposal C would amend the NDP Constitution to provide that a vacancy election must be no sooner than 30 days after the vacancy occurs. Part 2 of PRC Proposal C would add corresponding language in the NDP Bylaws.*

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**ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY**

**Section 5. Officers of the Party.**

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**B. Functions.**

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2. Associate Chair. The Two Associate Chairs shall be elected by the accredited delegates assembled in the State Convention. The First Associate Chair shall be of the sex opposite from that of the State Chair and shall **temporarily** assume ~~temporarily~~ the duties of the State Chair in the event of a vacancy in that office. **The Second Associate Chair shall temporarily assume the duties of the State Chair in the event of a vacancy in**

**both the offices of State Chair and First Associate Chair.** Both Associate Chairs shall assist the Chair in carrying out the functions and duties of the Chair's office.

## ARTICLE V - VACANCIES

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### Section 2 Filling Vacancies

When a vacancy occurs, it shall be filled following all vacancy notification procedures as established in the Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party and in the following manner:

- A. State Chair, Associate Chairs, or National Committee Representatives shall be filled through election by the State Central Committee **no sooner than 30 days after the vacancy occurs** as directed in the Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party.
- B. State Central Committee delegates and alternates shall be filled through election by the appropriate Congressional District Caucus **no sooner than 30 days after the vacancy occurs.**
- C. State Executive Committee members who are appointed by the State Chair shall be filled through nomination by the State Chair with confirmation by the State Central Committee.
- D. Congressional District Chairs or Associate Chairs shall be filled through election by the appropriate Congressional District Caucus **no sooner than 30 days after the vacancy occurs.**
- E. Chairs of NDP Standing Committees shall be filled through nomination by the State Chair with confirmation by the State Central Committee.
- F. Members of NDP Standing Committees elected by Congressional District Caucuses shall be filled through election by the appropriate Congressional District Caucus **no sooner than 30 days after the vacancy occurs.**
- G. County Party offices shall be filled pursuant to Nebraska Democratic Party Bylaw 3.
- H. Affiliated Caucus Organization officers shall be filled as provided for in their governing documents.

**PRC Proposal C (Part 2) – State Central Committee**  
Amend Bylaw 5.8.1, Bylaw 5.8.2, & Bylaw 5.10.1.4.2  
Adopted by Rules Committee 2/29/20 (11-0-0-1)

*Explanation: The Party Reform Committee (PRC) was a special committee established in early 2019 to examine major issues related to the structure of the NDP and propose potential reforms. The PRC proposals were forwarded to the Rules Committee for their consideration in November.*

*PRC Proposal C would provide that if a vacancy in any State Party office occurs, the election to fill the vacancy must be no sooner than 30 days after the vacancy occurs. The proposal would also provide that in the event of a vacancy in the offices of both State Chair and First Associate Chair, the Second Associate Chair shall temporarily assume the duties of the State Chair.*

*Part 1 of PRC Proposal C would amend the NDP Constitution to provide that a vacancy election must be no sooner than 30 days after the vacancy occurs. Part 2 of PRC Proposal C would add corresponding language in the NDP Bylaws.*

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**5.8.1. State Chair.** The First Associate Chair will assume the duties of the State Chair on a temporary basis until a new Chair is elected. Election of a new Chair shall occur at the first regular **or special quarterly** State Central Committee meeting **no sooner than 30 days** after the vacancy occurs. Procedure for such election shall be determined by the State Central Committee.

...

**5.8.2. Associate Chairs and National Committee Members.** Election of any of these officers shall occur at the first regular **or special quarterly** State Central Committee meeting **no sooner than 30 days** after the vacancy occurs. Procedure for such election shall be determined by the State Central Committee.

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**5.10.1.4.2 Reports.** The Committee shall report the nomination of the State Chair, Associate Chairs and National Committeeman and National Committeewoman at the appropriate meeting of the State Central Committee or State Convention; and in the case of any vacancy in ~~said~~ **such** offices, the next scheduled State Central Committee



meeting **no sooner than 30 days after the vacancy occurs** ~~or State Convention following~~  
~~notification of a vacancy.~~

**PRC Revised Proposal D (Part 1) – Conflicts of Interest**  
Amend Article IV, Section 5(B) & Article V, Section 1  
Adopted by Rules Committee 3/18/20 (8-0-1-3)

*Explanation: The Party Reform Committee (PRC) was a special committee established in early 2019 to examine major issues related to the structure of the NDP and propose potential reforms. The PRC proposals were forwarded to the Rules Committee for their consideration in November 2019.*

*As originally proposed, Proposal D would have provided that state officers could not hold elected office other than a party office, run a political campaign for any office other than a party office, or run for any office other than a party office while serving their terms. Based off feedback after the proposal was announced, the Rules Committee limited the scope of the proposal to the State Chair, First Associate Chair, and Second Associate Chair.*

*Revised PRC Proposal D would provide that the State Chair, First Associate Chair, and Second Associate Chair cannot hold elected office other than a party office, run a political campaign for any office other than a party office, or run for any office other than a party office while serving their terms. The proposal would also provide that NDP staff cannot hold elected office other than a party office, run a political campaign as a paid staff member for any office, or run for any office other than a party office while employed by the NDP.*

*Part 1 of Revised PRC Proposal D would amend the NDP Constitution to provide that the State Chair, First Associate Chair, and Second Associate Chair cannot hold elected office, run campaigns, or run for office while serving their terms, and that doing so constitutes forfeiture of office. Part 2 of Revised PRC Proposal D would create a new Bylaw to provide that NDP staff cannot hold elected office, run campaigns as a paid staff member, or run for office while employed by the NDP.*

**PROVISO: *The provisions of this proposal shall not go into effect until January 1, 2021.***

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**ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY**

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## Section 5. Officers of the Party.

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### B. Functions.

1. State Chair. The State Chair is the Executive officer of the State Party, and shall be elected by accredited delegates assembled in the State Convention. The State Chair shall carry out all policies and programs of the State Party as determined by the State Convention, the State Central Committee, and/or the State Executive Committee. The State Chair shall also do everything to initiate, to organize and/or promote development of the state Party at every level throughout the State, and shall perform all other such duties as are prescribed elsewhere in this Constitution and/or in the Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party. **The State Chair cannot hold elected office other than a party office, run a political campaign for any office other than a party office, or run for office other than a party office during their term.**

2. Associate Chair. The Two Associate Chairs shall be elected by the accredited delegates assembled in the State Convention. The First Associate Chair shall be of the sex opposite from that of the State Chair and shall assume temporarily the duties of the State Chair in the event of a vacancy in that office. Both Associate Chairs shall assist the Chair in carrying out the functions and duties of the Chair's office, **and cannot hold elected office other than a party office, run a political campaign for any office other than a party office, or run for office other than a party office during their terms.**

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## ARTICLE V - VACANCIES

### Section 1 When Vacancies Exist

A. A vacancy in any State Party office (including State Central Committee and State Executive Committee members), County Party office, Congressional District Organization office, Standing Committee of the Nebraska Democratic Party, or Special Committee of the Nebraska Democratic Party shall exist whenever an office holder or committee member shall have: (a) died; (b) resigned in writing to the State Secretary or Assistant Secretary; (c) moved from the geographical area or district he or she was elected to represent; (d) changed his or her party affiliation; (e) ceased being an active party member; (f) ceased meeting the qualifications outlined in Article III of this constitution; (g) been removed from office; (h) forfeited office as provided under this section; or (i) as otherwise provided for in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party or in the constitution or bylaws of the respective organization as applicable.

B. Members of the State Central Committee, State Executive Committee, Standing Committees, and Special Committees accumulating two absences without notification during their term will constitute forfeiture of office.

C. **The State Chair, First Associate Chair, or Second Associate Chair holding elected office other than a party office, running a political campaign for any office other than a party office, or running for office other than a party office during their term will constitute forfeiture of office.** ~~A vacancy in any Standing Committee or Special Committee of the NDP shall also exist after two consecutive unexcused absences of a member from any meeting occurring at least two weeks apart.~~

**PRC Proposal D (Part 2) – Conflicts of Interest**  
Create New Bylaw 5.6.3  
Adopted by Rules Committee 3/18/20 (8-0-1-3)

*Explanation: The Party Reform Committee (PRC) was a special committee established in early 2019 to examine major issues related to the structure of the NDP and propose potential reforms. The PRC proposals were forwarded to the Rules Committee for their consideration in November 2019.*

*As originally proposed, Proposal D would have provided that state officers could not hold elected office other than a party office, run a political campaign for any office other than a party office, or run for any office other than a party office while serving their terms. Based off feedback after the proposal was announced, the Rules Committee limited the scope of the proposal to the State Chair, First Associate Chair, and Second Associate Chair.*

*Revised PRC Proposal D would provide that the State Chair, First Associate Chair, and Second Associate Chair cannot hold elected office other than a party office, run a political campaign for any office other than a party office, or run for any office other than a party office while serving their terms. The proposal would also provide that NDP staff cannot hold elected office other than a party office, run a political campaign as a paid staff member for any office, or run for any office other than a party office while employed by the NDP.*

*Part 1 of Revised PRC Proposal D would amend the NDP Constitution to provide that the State Chair, First Associate Chair, and Second Associate Chair cannot hold elected office, run campaigns, or run for office while serving their terms, and that doing so constitutes forfeiture of office. Part 2 of Revised PRC Proposal C would create a new Bylaw to provide that NDP staff cannot hold elected office, run campaigns as a paid staff member, or run for office while employed by the NDP.*

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**5.6.3 No NDP employee may hold elected office other than a party office, run a political campaign as a paid staff member for any office, or run for any office other than a party office while employed by the NDP.**

**PRC Proposal E (Part 1) – Caucuses & Councils**

Amend Article IV, Section 2(B); Article IV, Section 3(B); Article V, Section 2; and  
Article X, Section 1

Adopted by Rules Committee 2/29/20 (11-0-0-1)

*Explanation: The Party Reform Committee (PRC) was a special committee established in early 2019 to examine major issues related to the structure of the NDP and propose potential reforms. The PRC proposals were forwarded to the Rules Committee for their consideration in November.*

*PRC Proposal E would amend our current structure for Affiliated Caucus Organizations (ACOs) to mirror the process used at the DNC level. Under the proposal, only groups whose membership is based on immutable characteristics would be eligible to remain an ACO, with a designated representative of each ACO serving as a voting member of the State Executive Committee (SEC) and State Central Committee (SCC). Groups whose membership is not based on immutable characteristics would become Affiliated Policy Councils (APCs), with a designated representative of each APC serving as a voting member of the SCC only.*

*In addition, the proposal would require that each ACO and APC submit a biennial report to the SCC summarizing their accomplishments over the past two years and highlighting their plans for the upcoming biennial period. This requirement would be in addition to the biennial submission currently required of each existing ACO.*

*Any existing ACO no longer eligible to be an ACO under the proposal would automatically become an APC. Existing ACOs that would remain ACOs under the proposal include the Black Caucus, Democrats Experiencing Disabilities Caucus, Latinx Caucus, Native Caucus, Stonewall Democrats (LGBTQ), Women’s Caucus, and Young Democrats. Existing ACOs that would become APCs under the proposal include the Agricultural & Rural Caucus, Climate Caucus, Interfaith Caucus, Secular Democrats, Veterans & Military Families Caucus, and Working Families Caucus.*

*Part 1 of PRC Proposal E would amend the NDP Constitution to provide that a designated representative of each APC would serve as a voting member of the SCC. Part 2 of PRC Proposal E would amend the Bylaws to provide for the establishment of APCs and add requirements for the continued recognition of ACOs and APCs.*

## ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY

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### Section 2. State Central Committee

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B. Membership. Membership shall include State **Party Officers** ~~party officers~~, State Executive Committee voting members, **a designated representative of each Affiliated Policy Council recognized by the State Central Committee as provided in the Bylaws**, and delegates and alternates from counties as apportioned by the State Central Committee according to the Bylaws ~~of the Nebraska Democratic Party~~. Membership shall be limited to active Party members.

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### Section 3. State Executive Committee.

...

B. Membership. The State Executive Committee shall consist of the following as voting members of the Committee:

1. All Officers of the Party as provided in Article IV, Section 5 of this Constitution and any other appointed or elected member to the Democratic National Committee from Nebraska;
2. A designated representative from each ~~Democratic Party~~ Affiliated Caucus Organization recognized ~~as such~~ by the State Central Committee as provided in the **Bylaws** ~~By-Laws~~, and each representative shall be designated by the represented ~~Caucus~~;
3. A representative of the County Chairs who is elected by a caucus of County Chairs;
4. If appointed, the Finance Chair and/or two At-Large members who shall be nominated by the State Chair and confirmed by the State Central Committee, said members to serve at the pleasure of the State Chair.

5. The ~~Bylaws~~ **By-Laws** of the Party may provide for ex-officio, non-voting members of the State Executive Committee.

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## ARTICLE V - VACANCIES

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### Section 2 Filling Vacancies

When a vacancy occurs, it shall be filled following all vacancy notification procedures as established in the Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party and in the following manner:

- A. State Chair, Associate Chairs, or National Committee Representatives shall be filled through election by the State Central Committee as directed in the Bylaws of the Nebraska Democratic Party.
- B. State Central Committee delegates and alternates shall be filled through election by the appropriate Congressional District Caucus.
- C. State Executive Committee members who are appointed by the State Chair shall be filled through nomination by the State Chair with confirmation by the State Central Committee.
- D. Congressional District Chairs or Associate Chairs shall be filled through election by the appropriate Congressional District Caucus.
- E. Chairs of NDP Standing Committees shall be filled through nomination by the State Chair with confirmation by the State Central Committee.
- F. Members of NDP Standing Committees elected by Congressional District Caucuses shall be filled through election by the appropriate Congressional District Caucus.
- G. County Party offices shall be filled pursuant to Nebraska Democratic Party Bylaw 3.
- H. **Affiliated Caucus Organization and Affiliated Policy Council** officers shall be filled as provided for in their governing documents.

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## ARTICLE X - REMOVAL OF PARTY OFFICIALS

**Section 1. Removal or Suspension Arising from Special Committee Report.** Upon the report of a Special Committee formed pursuant to the NDP Bylaws for the purpose of investigating alleged misconduct injurious to the NDP or its members, any duly elected or appointed party official at any level of the Nebraska Democratic Party, including but not limited to any State or County Central Committee Member, any Standing or Special Committee Member, or any officer of the NDP, Congressional District Organization, County Party, ~~or~~ Affiliated Caucus Organization **or Affiliated Policy Council**, may be removed by a 2/3 (two-thirds) vote of the State Central Committee. Further, pending investigation by such Special Committee and in an emergency situation requiring immediate action to preserve the reputation and integrity of the NDP between State Central Committee meetings, any such party official may be temporarily suspended by a 2/3 (two-thirds) vote of the State Executive Committee until the next State Central Committee meeting.

## **PRC Proposal E (Part 2) – Caucuses & Councils**

Amend Bylaw 5.1.2.13; Bylaw 5.4.1; Bylaw 5.7; Bylaw 5.7.1; Bylaw 5.7.2; Bylaw 5.7.3;  
Bylaw 5.7.4; Bylaw 5.7.5; Bylaw 5.7.6; Bylaw 5.10.1.2; Bylaw 7.3  
Adopted by Rules Committee 2/29/20 (11-0-0-1)

*Explanation: The Party Reform Committee (PRC) was a special committee established in early 2019 to examine major issues related to the structure of the NDP and propose potential reforms. The PRC proposals were forwarded to the Rules Committee for their consideration in November.*

*PRC Proposal E would amend our current structure for Affiliated Caucus Organizations (ACOs) to mirror the process used at the DNC level. Under the proposal, only groups whose membership is based on immutable characteristics would be eligible to remain an ACO, with a designated representative of each ACO serving as a voting member of the State Executive Committee (SEC) and State Central Committee (SCC). Groups whose membership is not based on immutable characteristics would become Affiliated Policy Councils (APCs), with a designated representative of each APC serving as a voting member of the SCC only.*

*In addition, the proposal would require that each ACO and APC submit a biennial report to the SCC summarizing their accomplishments over the past two years and highlighting their plans for the upcoming biennial period. This requirement would be in addition to the biennial submission currently required of each existing ACO.*

*Any existing ACO no longer eligible to be an ACO under the proposal would automatically become an APC. Existing ACOs that would remain ACOs under the proposal include the Black Caucus, Democrats Experiencing Disabilities Caucus, Latinx Caucus, Native Caucus, Stonewall Democrats (LGBTQ), Women’s Caucus, and Young Democrats. Existing ACOs that would become APCs under the proposal include the Agricultural & Rural Caucus, Climate Caucus, Interfaith Caucus, Secular Democrats, Veterans & Military Families Caucus, and Working Families Caucus.*

*Part 1 of PRC Proposal E would amend the NDP Constitution to provide that a designated representative of each APC would serve as a voting member of the SCC. Part 2 of PRC Proposal E would amend the Bylaws to provide for the establishment of APCs and add requirements for the continued recognition of ACOs and APCs.*

5.1.2.13 Remove by two-thirds (2/3) vote of those attending for good cause, and after two (2) weeks' notice and hearing, any duly elected or appointed party official, including any officer of the NDP, Congressional District Organization, County Party, **Affiliated Caucus Organization, or Affiliated Policy Council** officer, Central Committee Member, ~~Affiliated Caucus Organization~~, standing or ad-hoc Committee Member, at any level of the Nebraska Democratic Party who has failed to attend the duties of his or her office, who publicly opposes the election of a Party nominee for local, state or national office, who has violated any Code of Conduct adopted by the State Central Committee, who is abusive of their authority, or who engages in other misconduct that calls into question their fitness for office. Publicly opposing a candidate from whom State Party resources have been withheld under Bylaw 7.3 shall not constitute grounds for removal;

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5.4.1. **Members.** Members elected to the State Central Committee shall continue in office until their successors are elected at the next succeeding General Election State Convention, except as otherwise provided in Article IV, Section 1(C) of the Constitution or Bylaw 4.1. Members appointed by the State Chair serve at the pleasure of the State Chair. Terms for ~~Affiliated Caucus Organization~~ **and Affiliated Policy Council** representatives are determined by their respective **organization or council** ~~Affiliated Caucus Organization~~. However, any member of the Committee ceasing to meet the qualifications of Article III of the Constitution or who shall cease to be an active member of the State Democratic Party shall cease to be a member of the Committee as of the time when such qualifications are not met.

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## 5.7. **Affiliated Caucus Organizations and Affiliated Policy Councils.**

5.7.1. **Recognition and Qualification.** Affiliated Caucus Organizations (ACOs) **and Affiliated Policy Councils** shall be recognized to aid and assist the Nebraska Democratic Party in organizing a specific constituency for the benefit of the party and its candidates for elected office. An ACO **or APC** must be an organized group of Nebraska Democrats with members from every Congressional District who support the NDP and its policies and objectives. **Membership of an ACO must be based off one or more immutable characteristics shared by its members.** Membership of an **ACO or APC shall** ~~will~~ include registered Democrats and may include persons who will register as Democrats upon becoming eligible to vote. Recognition of an ACO **or APC** by the State Central Committee shall be dependent upon the quality and integrity of the ~~ACO's~~ **ACO or APC's** governing documents, the ~~ACO's~~ **ACO or APC's** effectiveness and the ~~ACO's~~ **ACO or APC's** strategic importance to the long-term growth and success of the Nebraska Democratic Party.

5.7.2. **Recognition Procedures.** Initial application for Recognition from a prospective ACO or APC shall be referred to the Rules Committee to review. The Committee shall: review the prospect's governing documents and meet with its leadership; ensure that the prospect provides a functional, democratic process for amending its documents, electing its officers, **selecting its designated representative on the State Executive Committee and/or State Central Committee**, and achieving its purpose; and make a recommendation to the State Central Committee on whether to recognize the prospect as an ~~NDP~~ ACO or APC. Recognition must be approved by a majority vote of the State Central Committee. Recognition of an ACO or APC shall run concurrently with the biennial term of a State Central Committee.

5.7.3. **Responsibilities.** ACOs or APCs shall take no public position that is inconsistent with the NDP Platform and shall not publicly endorse a candidate who is not a registered Democrat in any election. Each ACO or APC shall abide by state and federal election laws regarding political committees. Each ACO or APC must agree to give its membership list (including names and contact information) to the State Party or contact its members on behalf of the State Party when requested. Each ACO or APC must provide the State Party with its officers' names and contact information. Each ACO or APC shall designate the State Chair or the State Chair's designee as an administrator for any websites or social media accounts maintained by the ACO or APC.

5.7.4. **Representation.** Upon selection of an ACO's or APC's ~~duly authorized~~ **designated representative on the State Executive Committee and/or State Central Committee** to the NDP, the ~~elected leader of the ACO~~ shall notify the State **Secretary Chair** of the name and contact information of ~~that~~ **such designated** representative. Two absences from meetings of the State Executive Committee or State Central Committee during a biennial term by the designated representative or ~~alternate~~ will result in suspension of the ACO or APC pending a Review by the State Rules Committee.

5.7.5. **Continued Recognition.** Recognition shall be automatically renewed for a new biennial term upon the ACO's or APC's submission of its current organizational documents to the State Rules Committee, ~~and~~ updated names and contact information of its officers to the State **Secretary**, **and a report to the State Central Committee summarizing their accomplishments over the last biennial period and plans for the upcoming biennial period** ~~Chair~~ by the first meeting of the State Central Committee. The organizational meeting of a new State Central Committee shall not be considered the "first meeting" for purposes of this rule. Failure to provide the appropriate data shall cause the ACO's or APC's **continued recognition** ~~Recognition~~ to be suspended pending a Review by the State Rules Committee. **Any previously existing ACO that is no longer eligible to be recognized as an ACO under Bylaw 5.7.1 shall be automatically recognized as an APC for a new biennial term, provided compliance with the submission requirements of this Bylaw.**

5.7.6. **Review.** Recognition of an ACO **or** APC may be reviewed by the State Rules Committee as provided in these Bylaws or at the request of the State Central Committee to determine whether an ACO **or** APC meets all requirements of these Bylaws while complying with the ACO's **or** APC's own organizational documents. The Rules Committee shall make a recommendation on **continuing recognition** ~~Continuing Recognition~~ of the ACO **or** APC to the State Central Committee. Revocation of **recognition** ~~Recognition~~ of an ACO **or** APC must be approved by a majority vote of the State Central Committee.

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5.10.1.2. **Rules.** The Rules Committee of the Nebraska Democratic Party shall prepare recommendations on: amendments to the Party Constitution; amendments to the Party Bylaws; the rules and order of business for the State Convention; and shall perform such other duties as assigned by the State Chair or State Central Committee. The Rules Committee shall make recommendations to the State Central Committee regarding Affiliated Caucus Organization **and Affiliated Policy Council** recognition following the Rules Committee's initial or requested review of ACOs **or** APCs.

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7.3. **Withholding Resources.** Under extraordinary circumstances, State Party resources may be withheld from a candidate who is a registered Democrat or a recognized **Affiliated Caucus Organization or Affiliated Policy Council** ~~affiliated caucus organization~~. These circumstances may include, but shall not be limited to, misconduct injurious to the Nebraska Democratic Party or its members, a candidate whose opponent is an incumbent Democrat, a person who has not been an active Democrat, a candidate whose campaign organization is dominated by and supported by other political parties, a candidate who has failed to report his or her financial status to the Federal Election Commission or the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission, and a recognized **Affiliated Caucus Organization or Affiliated Policy Council** ~~affiliated caucus organization~~ that compromises the goals, strategy, policy, or integrity of the Nebraska Democratic Party.