# GENERAL RULES FOR ALL CONVENTIONS AND MEETINGS

## Rule No. 1 – Adoption and Amendment of Rules; Clarification

These Rules, having been filed with the Secretary of State of Texas, together with the statutes, rules, and bylaws adopted by reference shall constitute the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas ("Rules").

a. Amendments – Amendments to Rules may be proposed by:
    1. Majority vote of the State Republican Executive Committee ("SREC"), at any meeting properly called and constituted, provided at least seven (7) days prior written notice of the full text proposed has been given in writing to each member thereof; or
    2. The Permanent Rules Committee of any State Convention.

b. Adoption – These Rules, with the exception of Permanent State Executive Committee Rules required or authorized by state law, may be changed only by action of a State Convention, such action reflecting a majority of votes cast by delegates present and voting. When any change is made a certified copy of the changes shall be filed with the Secretary of State not later than thirty (30) days following their adoption.

c. Temporary and Emergency Changes – The SREC in its best judgment, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting, provided prior written notice of the full text proposed has been given to each member thereof, may prescribe such temporary and emergency changes of these Rules so as to permit the orderly conduct of the affairs of the Republican Party of Texas in accordance with the intent and purpose of these Rules. Such temporary and emergency changes may be made when the conduct, operation, or implementation of these Rules will become frustrated or impracticable, or contrary to their intent and purpose, if by reason of:
    1. valid laws enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas;
    2. any administrative or judicial action of any officer, or agency of the State of Texas or any county or political subdivision thereof, or of the Federal Government;
    3. any interpretation of these Rules as they relate to The Rules of the Republican Party (national) by any duly authorized official of the Republican National Committee; or
    4. technical inconsistencies or defects.

    Any such changes shall be valid only until such time, if any, as they are ratified or amended by the next subsequent State Convention, or until the adjournment of such State Convention, whichever shall occur first.

d. Permanent State Executive Committee Rules – The SREC, as authorized by Section 163.004(a)(2)(B), Texas Election Code ("TEC"), by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting, provided at least seven (7) days prior written notice of the full text proposed has been given to each member thereof, may prescribe Permanent State Executive Committee Rules that are not subject to amendment by action of a State Convention.
    1. These Permanent State Executive Committee Rules may be amended by the SREC by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting at any meeting properly called and constituted, provided at least seven (7) days prior written notice of the full text proposed has been given in writing to each member thereof.

Any Permanent State Executive Committee Rule shall be identified in these Rules by the notation "(Permanent State Executive Committee Rule)."

2. At the first meeting of each term the SREC may, by a vote of a majority of those present and voting, delegate temporary authority to amend a Permanent State Executive Committee Rule to a State Rules Committee of the subsequent State Convention, except for Rule No. 1, as the State Rules Committee determines and reports to the State Convention for consideration. Said temporary authority shall expire with the adjournment of the State Convention. Any Permanent State Executive Committee Rule delegated to the State Convention shall be identified in these Rules by the notation "(Permanent State Executive Committee Rule delegated to the State Convention)."

e. Pursuant to Section 163.006, TEC, any amendments made to these Rules and contained herein which govern or affect the Republican Party of Texas' general or runoff primary elections, conventions, or nominees, are effective January 1 on the odd-numbered year following adoption.

f. Clarification – Any member of the Republican Party of Texas who discovers an ambiguity in these Rules may request in writing a clarification from the County Chairman or the State Chairman. Clarification from the State Chairman shall be binding on all members of the Republican Party of Texas until final clarification is made by majority vote of the SREC. Any clarification made shall be to maintain the intent and purpose of these Rules as originally adopted.

g. Definitions – Pursuant to the incorporation of Section 311.014 of the Texas Government Code under Rule No. 4 of these Rules, when computing any period of days referred to in these Rules, the first (1st) day is excluded and the last day is included. Also, if the last day of any period of days is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, then the period is extended to include the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

**Rule No. 2 – Publication and Distribution of Rules**

In order to publicize these Rules throughout the state, prior to the Precinct Conventions, copies thereof and of those pertinent portions of the TEC dealing with Party conventions at all levels shall be mailed to each County Chairman and each Senatorial District Convention Chairman with instructions to supply a copy to each Precinct Chairman and to each County or District Convention Committee Chairman. Upon request, a copy shall be provided to any delegate or alternate to the State Convention and to any other interested person who shall request the same; and an adequate supply thereof shall be maintained at the Republican Party of Texas Headquarters to fill requests. A charge, which shall be no greater than the unit cost of printing and postage, may be made for requested copies of these Rules.

**Rule No. 3 – Discrimination Prohibited**

Participation in any Republican convention or meeting including, but not limited to, any primary caucus, any meeting or convention held for the purposes of selecting delegates to a County, District, State, or National Convention shall in no way be abridged for reason of sex, age, race, religion, color, or national origin.

**Rule No. 4 – Adoption by Reference: Constitution of the United States, Constitution of the State of Texas and Statutes**

The Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Texas, and the statutes of the United States and the State of Texas, insofar as they may be applicable, are hereby adopted by reference and shall govern the conduct of all conventions and meetings of the Republican Party of Texas from the precinct level through the state level. Nothing in these rules shall be deemed to waive any rights of the Republican Party of Texas, including, but not limited to, those described in the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Texas.

**Rule No. 5 – Parliamentary Authority**

Unless otherwise provided for by the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Texas, the statutes of the United States or the State of Texas, or these Rules, the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, which is hereby adopted by reference, shall be the parliamentary authority governing all conventions and meetings of the Republican Party of Texas from the precinct level through the state level, inclusive.

**Rule No. 6 – Proxies Prohibited**

The use of proxies or proxy voting is hereby prohibited in all Republican Party of Texas proceedings, from the precinct level through the state level, inclusive, except the SREC.

**Rule No. 7 – Casting Votes**

a. At all conventions, executive committee meetings, and any other Party meetings, votes shall be cast and counted in the manner prescribed by the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*; and except as provided in this rule, the vote of each member shall have equal weight. A county executive committee may authorize voting to fill precinct chair vacancies via mail or email. In any convention, except a Precinct Convention or a State Convention when organized in Congressional District Caucuses, any delegation present, upon request, shall be permitted to cast the number of votes equal to the number of delegates to which it is entitled on any item of business.
b. A roll call vote shall be taken:
    1. when ordered by majority vote of the delegates at any convention, caucus, or meeting, or
    2. when demanded by one-fifth (1/5) of the participants at a Precinct Convention, or
    3. when demanded in writing by at least one-fifth (1/5) of the delegations from the precincts represented at a County or Senatorial District Convention, or
    4. when demanded in writing by at least one-fifth (1/5) of the delegations from the districts represented at a State Convention, or
    5. when demanded in writing by one-fifth (1/5) of the members in the case of a committee meeting, Party caucus, or
    6. when ordered by a Convention Chairman, or
    7. for final adoption of any SREC bylaw~~s~~ or standing rule, any amendment to an RPT rule, any item in the report of the resolutions committee, or other motion presented in the form of a resolution in a meeting of the SREC, except that this requirement may be waived for any individual motion by unanimous consent. The SREC secretary shall make the roll call vote available on the public portion

of the RPT website within ten (10) business days of the adjournment of the SREC meeting.

In the event of a roll call vote at a convention other than a precinct convention, each Delegation Chairman shall poll the delegation and shall announce the result when the delegation is reached. If any delegate doubts the correctness of the announcement, the Secretary of the meeting shall poll such delegation and announce the result.

**Rule No. 8 – Supplementary Executive Committee Rules – Meetings**

a. Compliance Required – The SREC, each county executive committee, each district executive committee, and any committee or sub-committee created by any Bylaws or Rules adopted by same, shall comply with and be established in accordance with these Rules.
b. Supplemental Rules Permitted – The SREC elected at the biennial State Convention or a county executive committee elected in biennial primary election or a district executive committee created pursuant to the TEC or the bylaws of any political subdivision within the Party, may adopt supplemental rules or bylaws, provided however that such rules or bylaws do not conflict with any rules or bylaws of a higher authority including, but not limited to, these Rules. All such rules and bylaws shall be filed with the SREC and with the Secretary of State and are hereby adopted by reference.
c. Organizational Meeting of the State Republican Executive Committee – The SREC shall hold its organizational meeting after the adjournment of the biennial State Convention. The agenda of the organizational meeting shall include, but not be limited to the adoption of Bylaws and/or Rules for the biennium. SREC Bylaws or Rules shall always be amendable by a majority of the entire membership, subject only to adopted notice requirements.
d. Organizational Meeting of a County Executive Committee – A County Executive Committee shall hold its organizational meeting within forty-five (45) days after the term of office begins for the County Chairman and the Precinct Chairmen. (The term of office begins twenty (20) days after the Primary Runoff Election according to Subsection 171.022 (c) of the TEC.) The County Chairman shall be responsible for calling the meeting however, if the County Chairman does not call the meeting, then one-fourth (1/4) or 50 of the Precinct Chairmen whichever is fewer, may, by written demand, call an organizational meeting. Notice of the organizational meeting shall be mailed by USPS to the last known address of the members of the executive committee at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting and such notice shall state the time, date, and location of the meeting and the names(s) of the person(s) issuing the call. The agenda of the organizational meeting shall include, but not be limited to, the swearing in of the newly elected executive committee members and the adoption of Bylaws and/or Rules for the biennium. The proposed Bylaws and/or Rules shall be sent out with the meeting call via USPS at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting.
e. Limitations on County Executive Committee Meetings – No county executive committee meeting shall be held during the week of the biennial State Convention or the quadrennial National Convention.
f. Open Meetings and Right to Testify – All meetings of any State or County Executive Committee or its committees, subcommittees, or ad hoc committees shall be open to any member of that executive committee, and they shall have the right to appear before any

such committee, subcommittee, or ad hoc committee and make recommendations for the committee's consideration or testify concerning any item under purview of the committee and to record the proceedings of any meeting not held in executive session with electronic devices. The committee may adopt reasonable rules including time limits for such presentations and may establish a reasonable limit of time for these presentations. This Rule does not preclude the committee from going into executive session; however, such executive session(s) shall be open to any member of the executive committee including ex-officio members.

g. The County Chairman shall maintain a current list of the name, mailing address, phone number, email address (if available), and precinct number of every Republican Precinct Chair who was elected in the Primary, the Primary Runoff, or was appointed by the County Executive Committee to fill a Precinct Chair vacancy. The list shall be updated within seven (7) business days of an election changing the status of the list and shall be made available at reproduction costs or by email to any Republican Precinct Chair, Republican Party Official, Republican Elected Office Holder, or Republican Candidate for Elective Office of the county requesting such.

h. Filling Vacancies on a County Executive Committee (Permanent State Executive Committee Rule) – A county executive committee shall, by majority vote at its organizational meeting, adopt a bylaw and/or rule for filling vacancies on the County Executive Committee.

i. County Chairman Abandonment of Office -- A County Chairman may be deemed to have abandoned the office by failing to perform statutory duties, failing to attend four (4) consecutive County Executive Committee Meetings, embezzling County Executive Committee funds, being convicted of election fraud, or other behavior designed to disgrace the Republican Party. A written demand signed by at least a majority of the Precinct Chairmen of a County Executive Committee shall be forwarded to the Officials Committee of the State Republican Executive Committee. If the Officials Committee finds that the complaint has merit, the Officials Committee shall conduct a hearing on the conduct of the County Chairman and shall forward a recommendation to the State Chairman for consideration under Texas Election Code section 171.029(c).

Rule No. 9 – Executive Committee Quorum

a. Non-Statutory Business and Filling Vacancies – At County or District Executive Committee meetings, one-fourth (1/4) of the membership, excluding vacancies, shall constitute a quorum for conduct of non-statutory business. As provided by Section 171.024(c), TEC, the SREC has designated one-fourth (1/4) of the membership, excluding vacancies, or such greater percentage, not to exceed a majority of the membership, as may be specified in County Executive Committee Bylaws and/or Rules as the quorum for filling vacancies on County Executive Committees (Permanent State Executive Committee Rule). At SREC meetings, the quorum for conduct of non-statutory business shall be in accordance with the SREC Bylaws. If the quorum provided above is not present at any executive committee meeting, then only statutory business (called for by the TEC) may be transacted at a meeting.

b. Statutory Business – At SREC, County or District Executive Committee meetings, a quorum for conduct of statutory business (called for by the TEC) shall consist of those members present.

## GENERAL RULES FOR ALL CONVENTIONS

**Rule No. 10 – Supplementary Convention Rules**

a. Any convention may adopt temporary or permanent rules which supplement these Rules, as long as such supplemental rules do not conflict herewith.
b. Any convention committee may adopt supplemental rules related to its proceedings provided that such rules do not conflict with these rules or any supplemental rules adopted by the convention.

**Rule No. 11 – Convention Officials Listed – Challenge**

a. Convention Officials – The officers of any convention, whether it be in temporary or permanent organization, shall consist of a Chairman, a Secretary, a Sergeant-at-Arms, and such other officers as the Chairman may deem necessary. The Secretary and the Sergeant-at-Arms shall have the power to appoint assistants. The permanent officers, except parliamentarian, shall be elected or appointed from among the convention delegates.
b. Challenge – Any officer or committee chairman of any convention, whether it be in temporary or permanent organization, who intentionally violates the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas or the directives of the TEC, shall be subject to a challenge filed under the provisions of Rule No. 27; and if such challenge is upheld by the Convention which hears the challenge, that officer or committee chairman shall be removed from serving as a delegate to any convention of the Party at any level throughout the year.

**Rule No. 12 – Resolutions Authorized – No Unit Rule**

Any convention may express its sense on an issue by adopting a resolution on that issue; however, the use of the unit rule (whereby the entire delegation votes as a unit not recognizing the minority votes within the delegation) or the practice of giving binding instructions to the delegates shall not be permitted at any level of the convention process.

**Rule No. 13 – Convention Quorum – Adjournment**

a. Precinct Convention – There shall be no quorum to convene or continue a Precinct Convention.
b. County or Senatorial District Convention – A quorum to convene a County or Senatorial District Convention shall consist of a majority of the delegates registered as attending. Thereafter, a quorum shall be considered present as long as:
    1. The number of votes represented by delegates in attendance comprises more than fifty percent (50%) of the total voting strength of the Convention;
    2. A majority of the seated precincts are present; and
    3. One-third (1/3) of the seated delegates are present.
c. State Convention – A quorum to convene the State Convention shall consist of a majority of the delegates registered as attending. Thereafter, a quorum shall be considered present as long as:
    1. The number of votes represented by delegates in attendance comprises more than fifty percent (50%) of the total voting strength of the Convention;
    2. A majority of the seated districts are present; and

3. One-third (1/3) of the seated delegates are present.

d. Adjournment – In order to adjourn a convention for lack of a quorum, the Chair shall verify the absence of a quorum, using the aforementioned criteria, and such verification shall be made part of the convention minutes.

e. No quorum shall be required for consideration of the report of a nominations committee or for the election of delegates and alternates.

f. A convention by majority vote may adopt rules to utilize an electronic system for determining which delegates and alternates are present.

**Rule No. 14 – Open Meeting and Right to Testify**

a. All meetings of any committee or subcommittee of any convention, whether it be in temporary or permanent organization, shall be open to any delegate or alternate to that convention, any State or County Republican Party Officer, any elected Republican Public Officeholder, or any Republican Candidate. These same people shall have the right to appear before any convention committee or subcommittee and make recommendations for the committee's consideration or testify concerning any item under purview of the committee and to record the proceedings with electronic devices. The committee may adopt reasonable rules including time limits for such presentations and may establish a reasonable limit of time for these presentations. This privilege shall include delegates and alternates under challenge at any convention pursuant to Rule No. 35. Nothing in this Rule shall be construed as to prohibit individual committee members, whether they be in temporary or permanent organization, from communicating with one another about business to come before their committee, in any manner they choose, prior to the convening of their first committee meeting or at any other time outside of their official committee meeting or meetings. Notice of any meetings of any temporary committee or subcommittee of any County or Senatorial District Convention shall be posted on the website of the county party, if any, one (1) day prior to the date of the meeting. If the notice is not posted as prescribed, the committee can only convene on the day of the convention.

b. An official video recording may be made of all general sessions and any meetings of any committee of the State Convention, whether it be in temporary or permanent organization.

**Rule No. 15 – Identification Required**

Any person present at any convention must identify himself when requested to do so by any Sergeant-at-Arms or any other officer of the convention.

**Rule No. 15A – Distribution of Literature**

Literature may be freely distributed in the delegate and alternate seating areas of any State or County/Senatorial District Convention or Caucus, provided that the items being distributed display the name of the person and/or organization represented. Any such literature distributed without the name of the person and/or organization represented shall be removed.

**Rule No. 16 – Previous Question**

a. Previous Question – At any convention, when the previous question has been moved and seconded and is sustained by a majority vote, the question shall be deemed to have been called and a vote shall occur upon the pending question, except as provided in Section b of this Rule.
b. Exception – At any convention, a motion to move the previous question or to close nomination concerning any election, including the election of delegates and alternates, shall not be in order until there has been reasonable opportunity for additional nominations, debate and/or amendment.
c. State Convention Committees -- Any State Convention committee or subcommittee may by a two-thirds (2/3) vote adopt a rule allowing the motion for the previous question.

**Rule No. 17 – Debate**

a. Main Motions – No delegate shall speak more than five (5) minutes on a main motion without the general consent of the Convention, nor shall a delegate speak more than once on the same motion without general consent.
b. Amendments and Secondary Motions – No delegate shall speak more than three (3) minutes on any amendment or debatable motion subsequently made while a main motion is pending without the general consent of the Convention; nor shall a delegate speak more than once on the same motion without general consent.
c. Committee Reports – The delegate making the committee report and the delegate making the minority report of any convention committee may speak on such report for up to ten (10) minutes, and may then answer legitimate questions asked by any delegate relating to such report.
d. Limiting Debate – Any Convention, by majority vote, may limit or extend equally the time and the number of speakers for each side of a debatable motion.

**Rule No. 18 – Voting Strength – Number of Delegates**

The Convention will continue to enjoy its full strength in the cases of preceding Conventions not electing all delegates to which it is entitled. No Convention shall elect fractional delegates; i.e. no Convention shall elect more delegates or alternates than the number to which it is entitled.

**Rule No. 18A – No Amendments after Adjournment**

The minutes of any precinct, county, or senatorial district convention may not be amended to add any delegate or alternate, or strike any elected delegate or alternate after adjournment of that convention.

## GENERAL RULES FOR PRECINCT CONVENTIONS

**Rule No. 19 – Date, Time and Place for Precinct Conventions (Permanent State Executive Committee Rule)**

On or after the day of the General Primary Election for each even numbered year, Precinct Conventions shall be held for each precinct at the date, time and place designated by the County Executive Committee or, in its failure to act, the County Chairman; provided that the place of such convention shall be large enough to accommodate the expected number of participants and must meet the same requirements for access by the elderly and persons with physical disabilities as a polling place.

**Rule No. 20 – Qualifications for Participation**

The only qualifications for participation in a Precinct Convention, being an officer of such convention or being elected a delegate to the County, Senatorial District, or State Conventions shall be that the person must be a registered voter of that precinct or a resident of that precinct who is eligible to vote a limited ballot and shall have established Party affiliation. Party affiliation may be established by voting in the Republican General Primary or by other means as prescribed by law, provided the person has not been disqualified under this Rule or Rule No. 11. A person who wishes to serve as a delegate or alternate must have fulfilled the requirement of Party affiliation at the time of election. For the purposes of participation in a convention, a person's residence as indicated by their current voter registration certificate or electronic records provided by their county voter registrar, is determinative. A person's residence for the purpose of conventions in a particular year is fixed as of the date of the General Primary Election, even if the person subsequently moves to a different precinct or district. A Precinct Chairman, or person acting in the absence of the Precinct Chairman, who convenes the Precinct Convention earlier than the hour determined by the county executive committee shall be subject to challenge by any Republican General Primary voter in the precinct through the method outlined in Rule No. 27; and if the challenge is upheld by the County or Senatorial District Convention, such person shall be removed from serving as a delegate or alternate to any convention at any level throughout the remainder of the year. Children whose parents or guardians are participants in a Precinct Convention may attend the convention if space permits, but may not participate or disrupt.

**Rule No. 21 – Agenda for Precinct Conventions**

The agenda for each Precinct Convention shall include the following order of business:

a. Call to order at the appointed hour by the Precinct Chairman or other participant if the Precinct Chairman is not present.
b. Preparation of a list of and announcement of number of qualified participants present.
c. Announcement of agenda and basic rules of procedure.
d. Election of the permanent officers of the convention by majority vote.
e. Announcement of County or District Convention and of temporary committee meetings, if known.
f. Election of delegates and alternates to County or Senatorial District Convention, as the case may be, by majority vote, and certification of eligibility of each delegate and alternate by the Precinct Convention Secretary, where the primary voters list is available.
g. Resolutions.

h. Other business.
i. Adjourn.

**Rule No. 22 – Chairman's Responsibilities**

a. Written or Electronic Records – The Permanent Chairman of the Precinct Convention shall be responsible for seeing that an accurate written or electronic record is prepared of all convention proceedings, including:
    1. The minutes of the Precinct Convention.
    2. The list of participants and their residence addresses and towns.
    3. The list of delegates and alternates elected to the County or Senatorial District Convention with residence addresses and towns.
    4. All resolutions, adopted or not adopted.
b. Inspection of Records – The written record shall be signed by the Permanent Chairman of the Precinct Convention and made available for inspection and additional copying by any participant in the convention for a period of thirty (30) minutes immediately following adjournment of the convention. Upon request, the Permanent Chairman shall certify any correct copy with his or her signature.
c. Transmittal of Records – The Permanent Chairman of the Precinct Convention shall safely transmit to the County Chairman the written or electronic record of all convention proceedings, and one (1) copy of the same. Transmittal may be:
    1. Electronic, delivered to the County Chairman's electronic mail address or other website designated by the County Chairman for this purpose, not later than the third (3rd) day after the date of the Precinct Convention if not held on the same day or day immediately preceding the County or Senatorial District Convention. If the Precinct Convention is held on the same day or the day immediately preceding the County or Senatorial District Convention, the Permanent Chairman shall deliver the record within thirty (30) minutes of adjournment of the Precinct Convention.
    2. By mail, deposited in the mail not later than the second (2nd) day after the date of the Precinct Convention if not held on the same day or day immediately preceding the County or Senatorial District Convention, or
    3. In person, delivered not later than the third (3rd) day after the date of the Precinct Convention if not held on the same day or day immediately preceding the County or Senatorial District Convention. If the Precinct Convention is held on the same day or the day immediately preceding the County or Senatorial District Convention, the Permanent Chairman shall deliver the record within thirty (30) minutes of adjournment of the Precinct Convention.

    In counties that do not hold Precinct Conventions on the same day of, or the day immediately preceding, the County or Senatorial District Convention, and contain multiple Senatorial Districts, the County Chairman shall deliver the original records of each Precinct Convention to the Temporary Chairmen of the Senatorial District Conventions not later than the sixth (6th) day after the date of the Precinct Convention. The County Chairman shall deliver any records subsequently received from a Precinct Convention within two (2) business days after receipt.

d. Preservation of Records – The Permanent Chairman of the Precinct Convention shall preserve a copy of the written or electronic record, which is not a public record, until the end of the voting year.

The County Chairman shall preserve a paper or electronic copy of the written records of each Precinct Convention until the end of the voting year. The copies are a public record, and shall be available for inspection. The County Chairman shall schedule a reasonable time and place for review of the records to occur within seven (7) days of receipt of a written request.

## GENERAL RULES FOR COUNTY, SENATORIAL, DISTRICT AND STATE CONVENTIONS

**Rule No. 23 – Convention Resolutions**

At any convention other than a Precinct Convention, all resolutions including those offered by delegates for consideration by the Convention shall be filed with the Secretary of the Convention not later than thirty (30) minutes after the Permanent Committee on Platform and Resolutions is appointed and shall automatically and without debate be referred by the Secretary of the Convention to the Committee on Platform and Resolutions or other committee appropriate to the subject for consideration and report. The Secretary of the Convention shall remain available in a publicly announced location easily accessible from the convention floor during the period in which such resolutions can be filed. All resolutions adopted by the next lower level convention shall be considered by the Temporary Platform and Resolutions Committee of the next higher level convention. A Temporary or Permanent Resolutions Committee may originate resolutions.

**Rule No. 23A – Delegate Allocations and Entitlements**

a. The delegate and alternate entitlements to the County or Senatorial District and State Conventions shall be based on the number of votes cast for the Party's gubernatorial candidate in the most recent gubernatorial general election.
    1. Each Precinct Convention shall be entitled to elect one delegate and one alternate to the County or Senatorial District Convention based on a ratio of one (1) for each twenty-five (25) votes and major fraction thereof within the boundaries of the voting precinct and further shown in more detail on the following table, provided that any Precinct Convention shall be entitled to elect at least one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate:

| Votes | Delegates | Alternates |
|---|---|---|
| 0-37 | 1 | 1 |
| 38-62 | 2 | 2 |
| 63-87 | 3 | 3 |
| 88-112 | 4 | 4 |
| 113-137 | 5 | 5 |
| etc. | etc. | etc. |

    2. Each County or Senatorial District Convention shall be entitled to elect one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate to the State Convention based on a ratio of one (1) for each 300 votes and major fraction thereof within the boundaries of the County or Senatorial District and further shown in more detail on the following table, provided that any County or Senatorial District Convention shall be entitled to elect at least two (2) delegates and two (2) alternates:

| Votes | Delegates | Alternates |
|---|---|---|
| 0-750 | 2 | 2 |
| 751-1050 | 3 | 3 |
| 1051-1350 | 4 | 4 |
| 1351-1650 | 5 | 5 |
| etc. | etc. | etc. |

3. Each Precinct and County or Senatorial District Convention delegate and alternate delegate entitlement to the State Convention shall be increased or decreased proportionately among all delegations to achieve a State Convention potential delegate and alternate delegate roll of no less than 7,500 delegates and 7,500 alternate delegates and no more than 9,000 delegates and 9,000 alternate delegates to the State Convention.

b. At the option of the local County Executive Committee (in counties containing only one senatorial district), Senatorial District Executive Committee (in a district comprising only a part of a single county), or the precinct chairs of the precincts residing in a particular senatorial district (for a county that is only partly situated in a senatorial district) by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of said committee, held no later than the date specified in the TEC for the required drawing for a place on the general primary ballot, the delegate entitlement may be changed to a ratio of one (1) to forty (40) and major fraction thereof, or any ratio in between one (1) to twenty-five (25) and one (1) to forty (40), for that year only if said committee can justify among their peers that it is impractical due to size or availability of space to use the formula permitting the maximum number.

c. The delegate and alternate entitlement in a presidential election year for a County or Senatorial District Convention which includes more than one (1) Congressional District shall be apportioned among the Congressional Districts in the same manner they are apportioned to the County or Senatorial Districts, provided that the total delegate and alternate entitlement from the County or Senatorial District does not exceed that provided for in this Rule. If the calculation of delegate and alternate entitlements by Congressional District are different from the calculation of delegate and alternate entitlements by County or Senatorial District, the following guidelines shall be used in adjusting the total delegate/alternate entitlements:

1. The delegate and alternate totals shall not be greater than the delegate/alternate calculation for the County or Senatorial District except that any Congressional District shall be entitled to elect at least one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate which may cause the delegate/alternate entitlement for a County or Senatorial District to exceed the total entitlement for the County or Senatorial District by the number of delegates and alternates from one (1) or more Congressional Districts with less than enough votes to get an entitlement of greater than one (1) pursuant to Section a of this Rule, in a presidential election year;
2. Except as provided in Subsection 1 above, if the calculation for delegates and alternates by Congressional District should exceed the number of delegates and alternates by Senatorial District, then the delegate and alternate entitlement to the Congressional District shall be reduced beginning with the smallest fraction, then continuing to the next higher fraction until the calculations are equal;
3. If the calculation for delegates and alternates by Senatorial District should exceed the number of delegates and alternates by Congressional District, then the delegate and alternate entitlement to the Congressional District shall be increased beginning with the highest fraction, then continuing to the next lower fraction until the calculations are equal;
4. In a presidential election year, each delegate and each alternate shall have credentials for both the Senatorial District and the Congressional District

Caucuses and if a delegate or alternate is not credentialed for both, the delegate or alternate shall not be credentialed for either.

d. In the event of boundary changes among precincts or districts, or the creation or deletion of precincts or districts since the most recent gubernatorial election, the following rules shall govern the allocation of gubernatorial votes to the changed or newly created precincts or districts.
    1. The apportionment of gubernatorial votes to the newly created or changed precincts or districts shall be made using any fair and equitable method for making such determination.
    2. The County Executive Committee shall apportion to each precinct the number of votes to be used in allocating the number of delegates and alternates which may be elected by such precincts using any fair and equitable method for making the determination.
    3. When the boundaries of a Senatorial District or Congressional District have changed or a new district formed causing a boundary change in an election precinct, the apportionment of gubernatorial votes to each precinct shall be used in allocating the number of delegates to be elected in each affected district.
    4. If the County Executive Committee fails to act before the first (1st) day of candidate filing for a place on the General Primary ballot for public office, the SREC shall make such apportionment of the gubernatorial vote to precincts.

**Rule No. 24 – Minority Reports of Committees**

At any convention other than a Precinct Convention, a minority report of a committee, shall be presented to the Convention, if a committee member has notified the committee chairman of the intent to file a minority report before the committee adjourns, and if it has been reduced to writing and signed by not less than two (2) or twenty percent (20%) of the members of such committee, whichever is greater, and presented to the chairman of the committee or the convention secretary no longer than thirty (30) minutes after the committee adjourns. The committee member who presents the minority report to the Convention shall be permitted to move the implementing motion.

**Rule No. 25 – Persons Admitted and Who May Address**

a. Admittance – At any convention other than a Precinct Convention, there shall be admitted to the convention floor only delegates whose names are listed on the temporary roll during the temporary organization or on the permanent roll when adopted by the Convention, past State Chairmen and Vice Chairmen, the present members of the SREC, its officers and employees, the National Committeeman and Committeewoman, past National Committeemen and Committeewomen, properly accredited members of the media, babies of nursing mothers who are delegates, Republican public officeholders, Republican candidates for public office, and persons assisting delegates that have physical disabilities.
b. Badges – The Secretary of the Convention is instructed to issue identification badges in accordance with the above, and the Sergeants-at-Arms shall admit only authorized persons to the convention floor. Seating shall be provided for alternates in the section(s) designated for guests.

c. Addressing Convention – At any convention other than a Precinct Convention, no person other than a Republican Party of Texas official, member of the SREC, or delegate shall address the Convention or Caucus of the convention without the permission of the Chairman or the general consent of the Convention or Caucus of the convention.
d. At any convention, registration and credentialing shall continue through adjournment.

**Rule No. 26 – Seating of Alternates at Any Convention Other Than a Precinct Convention**

a. Order of Seating Alternates – Alternates shall be seated for absent delegates in the order listed in the minutes of the convention electing them; however, if instructions are provided by the Convention electing such alternates, said instructions shall be followed in the seating of alternates.
b. Voting in Caucuses – Alternates shall be admitted to all district or precinct caucuses; however, they shall not vote or be provided any privileges of a delegate unless seated for an absent delegate.
c. Limitations on Using Alternates – Alternates shall replace delegates absent from the voting floor only from the same convention electing such alternates.
d. Timing of Seating – Alternates may be seated to replace absent delegates at any time in a convention by the chairman of a delegation and seated alternates shall relinquish their seat upon the return to the floor by the delegate except that:
    1. Alternates shall be seated to replace delegates absent from the voting floor prior to the beginning of any vote and shall not be seated or unseated during any vote.
    2. In caucuses, alternates shall be seated to replace delegates absent from the voting floor prior to roll call of the caucus or delegation of the caucus and shall not be seated or unseated during the roll call of the caucus or delegation of the caucus.
    3. Alternates under challenge pursuant to Rule No. 27 shall not be seated until the challenge is resolved.

**Rule No. 27 – Challenges to Credentials of Delegates**

a. County or Senatorial District Conventions – The credentials of any delegate or alternate to a County or Senatorial District Convention may be challenged by any person who voted in the Republican General Primary and who resides in the same precinct as the challenged delegate by mailing to the County or District Convention Chairman a written challenge specifying the grounds for the challenge and detailing the specific Rule or Rules alleged to have been violated. The challenge shall be sent via certified or registered mail at least three (3) days before the date of the convention. A copy of this challenge shall be sent by certified or registered mail by the person initiating the challenge to the challenged delegate(s) or alternate(s). The County or District Convention Chairman shall send all challenges to the chairman of the Temporary Committee on Credentials of the convention in question.
b. State Convention
    1. Filing of Challenge – The credentials of any delegate or alternate to the State Convention may be challenged by any person who voted in the Republican General Primary and who resides in the same County and Senatorial District as the challenged delegate or alternate by sending to the State Chairman and to each challenged delegate or alternate a written challenge specifying the grounds for the challenge and detailing the specific Rule or Rules alleged to have been violated.

A challenge must include the number of the rule alleged to have been violated and the specific facts supporting the challenge based on a violation of that rule. A challenge must also identify any allegations of fact and identify those alleged facts not personally known to the complainant. A challenge should use simple, concise, and direct statements. The challenge shall be sent via certified return receipt or registered mail no later than thirty (30) days following the date of the county or Senatorial District Convention. The State Chairman shall deliver all such challenges to the Officials Committee of the SREC (as constituted in the bylaws of the SREC, Article VII, Section 8). The names of the members of the SREC Officials Committee shall be posted on the website of the Republican Party of Texas.

2. Officials Committee – Without attempting to assess merit or lack of merit, the Officials Committee shall in open session without taking testimony conduct a preliminary review of each challenge in order to establish whether the basis for the challenge is valid under the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas. Both the person filing a challenge and the delegate or alternate challenged shall be notified of the date and time of the Officials Committee meeting in which the challenge is heard. The Officials Committee shall forward to the Temporary Committee on Credentials all challenges meeting the requirements of Party Rules with regard to form, content, and procedure. Any challenge not meeting these requirements shall not be forwarded to the Temporary Committee on Credentials, and the principal(s) who brought such challenge and the principal(s) against whom the challenge was brought shall be promptly notified by certified return receipt or registered mail. The Credentials Committee shall not hear a late challenge of a delegate or alternate.

3. Appeal – A decision of the Officials Committee may be appealed by either party to the Temporary Committee on Credentials by mailing notice of appeal via certified return receipt or registered mail to the Credentials Committee Chairman and to the principal(s) named in the challenge no later than ten (10) days prior to the date that the State Convention holds its first (1st) general session.

c. Status of Challenged Delegate – No delegate whose credentials are challenged shall lose the eligibility to serve on a temporary committee, although the challenged delegate may not vote in the Credentials Committee on his or her own challenge.

d. Committee on Credentials Procedure – At any convention other than a Precinct Convention, the Temporary Committee on Credentials, when it convenes, shall hear both sides of the challenge and shall report to the Convention the name of each delegate or alternate it believes to be entitled to participate in the convention. The Convention shall vote on the report of the Committee on Credentials on each challenge that is made. Challenged delegates shall be listed on the Temporary Roll, but may not vote on their own challenge. Furthermore, delegates from delegations that are being challenged may not be seated until the challenge is resolved.

**Rule No. 27A – Date, Time and Place for County and Senatorial District Conventions (Permanent State Executive Committee Rule)**

County and Senatorial District Conventions shall be held on the third Saturday after general primary election day. However, if that date occurs during Passover or on the day following

Good Friday, the conventions shall be held on the next Saturday that does not occur during Passover or is not the day following Good Friday. The County Executive Committee in each county shall set the hour and place for convening County and Senatorial District Conventions in that county.

**Rule No. 28 – Conventions in County with Multiple Senatorial Districts**

If a county is situated in more than one state Senatorial District, instead of a County Convention, a Senatorial District Convention shall be held in each part of the county that is situated in a different Senatorial District, provided, however, that shared facilities may be utilized for separate Senatorial District Conventions that may be held outside the geographical boundaries of the Senatorial District, if party interests and public accessibility will be served as determined by a caucus of precinct chairmen in each affected Senatorial District within the county no later than the date on which drawing for a position on the primary ballot is conducted. A meeting for this purpose shall have been called by written notice to each precinct chairman in each respective Senatorial District within the county from the County Chairman no later than ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

**Rule No. 29 – County or Senatorial District Convention Committees**

a. Prior to each County or Senatorial District Convention, the Temporary Chairman shall appoint the following committees and name the chairmen thereof, provided that all members shall be delegates, and if the convention has more than fifty (50) delegates each such committee shall be composed of at least five (5) and not more than fifteen (15) delegates. The committees and their duties shall be as follows:
    1. Credentials: This committee shall hear any contest concerning delegates and shall recommend the Permanent Roll of the Convention.
    2. Rules: This committee shall recommend the Supplemental Rules for the Convention.
    3. Permanent Organization: This committee shall recommend permanent officers of the convention from among the delegates present.
    4. Resolutions: This committee shall conduct preliminary deliberations for the purpose of making recommendations to the Permanent Resolutions Committee.
    5. Nominations: This committee shall conduct preliminary deliberations for the purpose of making recommendations to the Permanent Nominations Committee.
b. The Temporary Convention Chairman shall make available at the Chairman's podium, at the start of the convention, no fewer than five (5) copies of the Temporary Rules Committee report and no fewer than five (5) copies of the Temporary Resolutions Committee report, and announce they may be inspected by any delegate or alternate to the convention.
c. Immediately upon the election of the Permanent Chairman, the Permanent Chairman shall appoint the following Permanent Committees from among the delegates, whose duties shall be as stated below, and the chairmen thereof, provided that if the convention has more than twenty-five (25) delegates, each such committee shall be composed of at least five (5) and not more than fifteen (15) delegates. The committees and their duties shall be as follows:
    1. Nominations: This committee shall present nominations for delegates and

alternates to the State Convention, after considering the recommendations of the Temporary Nominations Committee.

2. Resolutions: This committee shall recommend resolutions to the Convention, after considering the recommendations of the Temporary Resolutions Committee.

**Rule No. 30 – County or Senatorial District Convention Agenda**

The agenda for each County or Senatorial District Convention shall include the following order of business.

a. Call to order by the Temporary Chairman.
b. Roll call of temporary roll of delegates. (Roll call may be taken by name or by Precinct Delegation count. The delegate registration list may be used at the start of the convention to establish the temporary roll and a quorum for the convention, when approved by a majority voice vote of the delegates present. Delegates must provide proper identification upon registration to obtain their credentials, if this method is to be used.) At the conclusion of roll call the Secretary shall announce:
    1. the number of delegations present;
    2. the combined voting strength of those delegations; and
    3. the number of attending delegates at the start of convention.
c. Report of the Credentials Committee (this report shall be acted on prior to any further business).
d. Report of the Rules Committee; adoption of supplemental rules.
e. Report of the Permanent Organization Committee; election of permanent officers from among the delegates.
f. Appointment of Permanent Nominations and Permanent Resolutions Committees.
g. Precinct Caucuses, if applicable.
h. Report of the Resolutions Committee; adoption of the report.
i. Report of the Nominations Committee; adoption of the report.
j. Other business.
k. Adjourn.

Provided, however, that such order of business, following item (c) may be changed by affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates present and voting.

**Rule No. 31 – Report of Nominations Committee**

At a County or Senatorial District Convention, the Committee on Nominations shall present a report including a list of delegates and alternates for election to the State Convention and the Nominations Committee shall designate the manner in which alternates shall replace absent delegates. That report may be amended by the Convention by the process of adding, or by striking and inserting, or by substitution. The Convention shall then elect the delegates and alternates to the State Convention by adopting the report, or the report as amended, of the Nominations Committee. The Convention may provide in its supplemental rules a method for nominating some or all delegates and alternates in precinct caucuses of the Convention. Delegates and alternates nominated by precinct caucuses shall be reported to the Committee on Nominations to include in their report, and unless provided otherwise in the Convention supplemental rules, these nominations shall not be subject to amendment by the Committee, except to move an alternate to a delegate. In the absence of provisions for nomination of some or all delegates or alternates in precinct caucuses in the supplemental rules, all delegates and

alternates will be elected at large.

**Rule No. 32 – Certified List of Delegates**

Delegates and alternates to the Republican State Convention shall be made aware, at the time they submit their names, that any contact information provided may be disclosed in accordance with the following:

a. The Permanent Chairman of a County or Senatorial District Convention shall be responsible for making a certified list of the delegates and alternates chosen, with residence addresses including towns shown thereon, phone number (if available), and email address (if available), together with a copy of all resolutions adopted by the Convention, and shall sign the same, the Permanent Secretary of such convention attesting the signature of the Permanent Chairman; and within five (5) days after the convention shall forward such certified lists and resolutions to the State Chairman at the Republican Party of Texas State Headquarters. The lists, resolutions and other records of the convention, only to the extent required by law, shall be made available by the Permanent Chairman for inspection and copying during office hours, at a charge not to exceed $1.00 per page, or by electronic means when such method is available at a charge not to exceed $10.00.

b. All Republican Party of Texas party officeholders, candidates for party office, State Convention Caucus Chairs, Committee Chairs, and State Convention temporary caucus chairs shall be given a list of delegates and alternates, who have positively affirmed that they wish to share information with the Republican Party of Texas with all contact information for their political subdivision from the Republican Party of Texas as soon as they are available.

## GENERAL RULES FOR STATE CONVENTIONS

**Rule No. 33 – Temporary Organization**

a. Date, Time, Place and Call. The SREC shall select the date, time and place of the State Convention, and the State Chairman shall include this information along with the date and place of temporary committee meetings in the call to the convention, which shall be posted on the website of the Republican Party of Texas (http://www.texasgop.org) at least thirty (30) days prior to the Convention. The State Chairman shall send the call via electronic mail twenty-five (25) days prior to the convention to each delegate and alternate on the temporary roll who has a valid email address on file with the Republican Party of Texas. All delegates and alternates who do not have a valid email address on file shall be mailed a copy of the call not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the convention. The State Chairman shall recommend the temporary convention agenda and order of business to the SREC.

b. Temporary Committees. Within twenty (20) days following the County/Senatorial District Conventions, the two (2) SREC members representing each Senatorial District, either separately or jointly, shall recommend to the State Chairman one (1) representative from among their district's delegates to each of the State Convention temporary committees. The State Chairman shall appoint one (1) delegate from each Senatorial District to each of these committees from among these recommendations timely submitted, or of the State Chairman's own choosing if no names were submitted, or none were eligible or willing to serve.

   In addition to these members, the State Chairman shall appoint the Chairman for each temporary committee. These lists of members and Chairmen, including contact information, shall be posted on the Republican Party of Texas' website within thirty (30) days following the County or Senatorial District Conventions. The lists will be updated as new or corrected information is obtained. The temporary committees are:

   1. Credentials: This committee shall hear any contests concerning delegates and alternates which were not filed as challenges and shall recommend the resolution of such contests, plus the temporary roll about which there is no contest, to the SREC. Additionally, this committee shall hear all challenges forwarded to it by the State Officials Committee, plus any challenge under appeal, and shall recommend the resolution thereof to the State Convention. Upon resolution by the State Convention of any challenges under this appeal process, this committee shall recommend the permanent roll to the State Convention.
   2. Organization: This committee shall recommend the temporary organization of the convention to the SREC. The State Chairman shall be the Temporary Chairman of the biennial State Convention. The officers of each State Convention shall include a registered parliamentarian appointed by the State Chairman. This committee shall also recommend the permanent organization to the State Convention after the State Convention's adoption of the permanent roll. The election of a permanent convention chairman shall not be in order until a majority of those delegates elected at County or Senatorial District Conventions have registered in attendance at the State Convention. For the purposes of this section, alternates seated as delegates shall be counted as delegates.

3. Rules: This committee shall recommend the Supplementary Rules for the Convention to the SREC and may recommend changes in these General Rules to the Permanent Committee on Rules.
4. Legislative Priorities: This committee shall conduct the preliminary deliberations for the purpose of making recommendations to the Permanent Committee on Legislative Priorities.
5. Platform and Resolutions: This committee shall conduct the preliminary deliberations for the purpose of making recommendations to the Permanent Committee on the Platform and Resolutions. The Platform and Resolutions Committee shall begin deliberations preparing the platform of the state convention by starting with the most recent state convention platform.

6. SREC Pre-convention Meeting. Prior to the convention, the SREC shall approve the following:
    1. The Temporary Roll of the Convention, excluding those challenges, if any, to be resolved by the Convention as provided in Rule No. 27.
    2. The temporary Supplemental Rules of the Convention, which together with these General Rules shall be the Temporary Rules of the Convention.
    3. The temporary agenda and order of business of the convention.
    4. The temporary organization of the convention.
7. Temporary Caucus Chairmen. Prior to each State Convention in Presidential election years the State Chairman shall appoint the Temporary Chairman of each Congressional District Caucus. Prior to each State Convention, the two (2) members from each Senatorial District of the SREC shall appoint one (1) representative from among their Senatorial District's delegates to be the Temporary Chairman in each Senatorial District Caucus; provided, however, that if requested in writing by Senatorial District Convention resolution, the State Chairman shall appoint the Permanent Chairman of the last Senatorial District Convention for those Senatorial Districts which lie solely within one (1) county, unless the Permanent Chairman is unable or unwilling to serve. If the two (2) SREC members cannot agree on a selection, then each shall submit a name to the State Chairman, who will select one (1) of the names submitted. If any appointed delegate is unable to serve, the State Chairman may appoint a replacement.

**Rule No. 34 – Permanent Committees and Composition**

At each biennial State Convention, the membership of each permanent committee listed below shall be composed of one (1) delegate from each Senatorial District, to be elected by caucus of the delegates in each such district, plus the Chairman thereof, to be appointed by the State Chairman. If there is a temporary committee specified in these Rules corresponding to a permanent committee in this Rule, the scope of the permanent committee is not limited to what was considered by, voted upon, or recommended by the temporary committee counterpart. Such permanent committees shall be as follows:

A. Credentials: This committee shall continue to add registered delegates and alternates to the permanent roll throughout the convention.
B. Rules and Order of Business: This committee shall recommend to the Convention the Supplementary Rules of the Convention, any amendments to these General Rules, and the Order of Business.

C. Legislative Priorities: This committee shall recommend to the Convention proposed legislative priorities and related resolutions.
The Legislative Priorities Committee of the biennial State Convention shall prepare a list of no more than five (5) resolutions defining legislative priorities for the Republican Party of Texas for the session of the Texas Legislature following the Convention. The SREC may adopt up to an additional three (3) legislative priorities. Legislative priorities shall be for specific changes, additions to or deletions from the law that directly support the Platform and the core values of the Republican Party of Texas. The SREC shall expend reasonable Party resources to promote passage of legislation crafted in support of these priorities.

D. Platform and Resolutions: This committee shall recommend to the Convention the platform and resolutions.

E. State Nominations: This committee shall report to the Convention nominations for the state positions to be filled by the Convention.

**Rule No. 34A – National Nominations Committee**

At the biennial State Convention in presidential election years, there shall also be a permanent National Nominations Committee composed of one (1) delegate from each Congressional District, to be elected by caucus of the delegates in each such district, plus the chairman thereof, to be appointed by the State Chairman. The Chairman of the permanent National Nominations Committee shall convene the meeting of the committee two (2) hours after the start of the Congressional Caucus with a quorum being present. This committee shall report to the Convention nominations for National Delegates and Alternates, Presidential Electors, and National Committeeman and National Committeewoman, which nominations have previously been made in accordance with Rule Nos. 39 and 40, and Sections 6 and 7 of Rule No. 38.

**Rule No. 35 – Temporary Committee on Credentials – Contest**

At a State Convention, any delegate or alternate who has filed a challenge or who has been challenged including delegates and alternates whose names are not listed on the Temporary Roll of the Convention, but are listed on County or Senatorial District Convention Minutes and Returns filed with the State Chairman shall be allowed admittance to the room in which the Temporary Committee on Credentials holds its meetings for the purpose of presenting a contest and may speak to the merits of their case within the time limits established by the committee. The contestants from only one (1) County or Senatorial District shall be admitted at one (1) time. Any contest will be reported by the Credentials Committee to the SREC, with a recommendation as to its resolution, and the decision of the SREC will be final in determining its effect on the Temporary Roll of the Convention. If the contest is filed as a challenge, in accordance with provisions of Rule No. 27, the issue will be presented by the Credentials Committee with a recommendation for its resolution, to the full Convention for final determination.

**Rule No. 36 – Seating and Voting**

Seating and voting at the biennial State Convention shall be by Congressional District or Senatorial District as appropriate.

**Rule No. 37** – Is intentionally blank.

**Rule No. 38 – National Convention Delegates and Alternates**

*Section 1. Presidential Primary, Application of Rule*

a. Presidential Primary: A Presidential Primary election shall be conducted by the Republican Party in the year 1980 and every fourth year thereafter in conjunction with the Party's General Primary Election for the purpose of permitting the qualified voters of Texas to express their respective preferences as to the nominee of the Republican Party to the office of President of the United States.

b. Application of Rule: Such Presidential Primary shall be held, and the delegates and alternates to the National Convention for that year shall be selected and elected, in the manner and at the times set forth in this Rule.

*Section 2. Method of Qualifying as Presidential Candidate*

a. Filing: Any person eligible to hold the office of President of the United States may qualify to participate as a Presidential candidate in the presidential primary by filing with the State Chairman, not later than the date and time specified for the General Primary Election ballot filing deadline in Section 172.023(a), TEC , a signed and acknowledged application for his or her name to be placed on the Presidential Primary ballot, accompanied by a supporting petition signed by a minimum of 300 registered voters of the state from each of a minimum of fifteen (15) Congressional Districts, or the payment of a filing fee of $5,000.

b. Signing Petition: A voter may sign only one (1) petition supporting one (1) candidate for President and may sign that petition only one (1) time. The name of any voter violating this provision shall be stricken from all petitions signed by that voter and shall not be counted for any purpose.

c. Form of Petition: The SREC shall prescribe the form of all applications and petitions which are to be filed pursuant to this section and may by resolution provide for a method of verification of the petitions required here.

d. Withdrawal or Death of Candidate: A Presidential candidate may withdraw from participation in the Presidential Primary at any time by filing with the Secretary of the SREC a signed and acknowledged request to that effect. If a Presidential candidate dies or withdraws before the seventy-ninth ($79^{th}$) day prior to Election Day, the name of the candidate shall not appear on the ballot. If a candidate dies or withdraws during the seventy-nine (79) days before Primary Election Day, the votes cast for that candidate shall be counted and the delegate and alternates, if any, allocable to that candidate under this Rule shall be elected by the appropriate Congressional District Caucus from any qualified persons and they shall be uncommitted delegates and alternates.

e. Replacement of Delegates of Withdrawn or Deceased Candidate: If a Presidential candidate withdraws or dies during the time between Primary Election Day and the convening of the State Convention, then any delegates and alternates to which such Presidential candidate would otherwise be entitled under this Rule shall lapse and the appropriate Congressional District Caucuses at the State Convention shall elect qualified delegates and alternates as uncommitted delegates and alternates in replacement of the delegates and alternates of such withdrawn or deceased candidate. For the purpose of this section, withdrawal shall be accomplished only by the candidate filing a signed and acknowledged request to that effect with the Secretary of the SREC.

Challenge to Petition: In the event of a challenge to a petition, the State Chairman shall follow

the procedure for verification of signatures by means of statistical sampling as provided in Section 141.069 of the TEC. *Section 3. The Presidential Primary Ballot*

a. Listing on Ballot: The names of the qualifying Presidential candidates shall be printed on the ballot as a separate race (and as the first race if not prohibited by law) on the Party's Official Ballot for the General Primary. The names of the candidates shall be listed in a vertical column under the heading "Preference for Presidential Nominee." The order of appearance on the ballot in each county shall be determined by lot in each county at a meeting of the County Executive Committee in accordance with Section 172.082, TEC.
b. Uncommitted: In addition to the ballot listing of the names of the qualifying Presidential candidates, there shall appear at the bottom of such listing of candidates on said ballot a place designated "Uncommitted" in accordance with Section 4 of this Rule.
c. Adjustment of Ballot for Various Methods of Voting: Appropriate changes shall be made in ballots for voting machines and electronic voting systems; consistent with the method of voting used.
d. Style of Names: The type for all names of qualifying Presidential candidates shall be uniform and of the same size and the SREC shall prescribe a sample ballot and the State Chairman shall furnish a copy of the sample ballot to each County Chairman at the time prescribed by the TEC for certifying the names to appear on the ballot.
e. Write-in Prohibited: Write-in voting for presidential candidates shall not be permitted, and any write-in votes shall not be counted for any purpose.

*Section 4. Uncommitted Delegates and Alternates*

In addition to the foregoing, uncommitted delegates and alternates may be elected as follows:

a. District Delegates: In those Congressional Districts entitled to uncommitted delegates and alternates under this Rule, the Congressional District Caucus convened at the State Convention shall elect and submit to the Convention for confirmation, in like manner with other delegates and alternates, the name(s) and appropriate number of qualified voters who reside in the district and who voted in the Republican Presidential Primary and who sign a pledge declaring themselves uncommitted at the time of their election as uncommitted district delegates and alternates to the National Convention, and such persons shall be confirmed by the Convention as uncommitted district delegates and alternates.
b. Delegate Entitlement: For the purpose of determining entitlements under Sections 8 and 9 of this Rule, votes cast for "Uncommitted" on the ballot shall be considered as having been voted for a separate candidate.

*Section 5. Canvass of Returns*

For the purpose of selecting district delegates and alternates, the returns of votes cast for Presidential candidates in the Republican Presidential Primary shall be canvassed by the SREC at the same time as the returns for other offices and shall be canvassed and recorded by Congressional District. For the purpose of selecting at-large delegates and alternates, the returns shall be canvassed and counted on a statewide basis.

*Section 6. Election of District Delegates and Alternates at State Convention*

a. Number of District Delegates and Alternates: Three (3) district delegates from each Congressional District and three (3) alternates shall be elected at the State Convention

required by Section 174.092, TEC, in accordance with this section and the entitlements set forth in Sections 8 and 9 hereof.

b. At the State Convention, each Congressional District shall meet and shall elect those district delegates and alternates to which a candidate is entitled under Section 8. Elections for a candidate's committed delegates and alternates shall be from person nominated from the floor at the said meeting, provided however, that said nominee agree to adhere to the pledge to the candidate required under Section 10 hereof. Nominations for uncommitted delegates, if there is such an entitlement, shall be provided under Section 4. Elections shall be by majority vote, one at a time, with all delegates being elected first and then all alternates. Those delegates and alternates elected by the Congressional District shall be submitted to the Convention, which shall confirm, and not amend, those district delegates and alternates who shall be the district delegates and alternates from Texas to the National Convention of the Republican Party, and shall be so certified in accordance with The Rules of the Republican Party.

*Section 7. Election of At-Large Delegates and Alternates at State Convention*

a. As provided for in Rule No. 34A, each Congressional District Caucus shall meet at the State Convention, and elect one (1) person to serve as a member of the National Nominations Committee from persons nominated from the floor at the said meeting. Election to this committee shall be by majority vote. In the same manner, each Congressional District Caucus may recommend the name of one (1) member for consideration by the National Nominations Committee as a National Convention delegate or alternate, but the National Nominations Committee is not required to accept such recommendation, in accordance with The Rules of the Republican Party.

b. At the State Convention, the National Nominations Committee shall meet to select nominees for all at-large delegates and alternate delegates, and consider the recommended names of members of the Congressional District Caucuses for possible selection as National Convention Delegates and Alternates. Those elected federal office holders who have access to the floor of the National Convention by virtue of their office shall be prohibited for selection as an at-large national delegate or alternate, by the National Nominations Committee.

c. Those at-large delegate and alternate nominees selected by the National Nominations committee shall be reported to the State Convention. This report shall not be amendable by the State Convention, but shall either be confirmed or rejected by the State Convention. If the report is rejected, it shall be immediately returned to the Committee for revision and then resubmitted to the State Convention, until the report is confirmed by the Convention. The at-large delegates and alternates shall also be bound by the pledge provisions of Section 10 of this Rule. At-large delegates and alternates nominated and elected from Texas in accordance with this Rule shall be certified as the delegates and alternates from Texas in accordance with The Rules of the Republican Party for the National Convention.

*Section 8. District Delegate and Alternate Entitlements*

For the purpose of determining the entitlement to district delegates and alternates by candidates, the provisions of this section shall apply as follows:

a. More than Fifty Percent (50%) of Vote Received by Candidate: A candidate receiving

more than fifty percent (50%) of the votes in any Congressional District shall be entitled to three (3) delegates and alternates from that Congressional District.

b. No Candidate Receives Majority of Vote: If no candidate receives a majority of the votes in any Congressional District the plurality winner is entitled to two (2) delegates and alternates from that district and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes receives one (1) delegate and alternate; provided, however, that if no candidate receives a majority vote in a Congressional District, and only one (1) candidate receives more than 20% of the Congressional District vote, such candidate shall be entitled to two (2) delegates and alternates. The remaining Congressional District delegate and alternate shall be awarded to the second (2nd) place candidate.

c. No Candidate Receives Twenty Percent (20%) of Vote: If no candidate receives more than twenty percent (20%), each of the three (3) candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall receive one (1) delegate and alternate.

*Section 9. At-Large Delegate and Alternate Entitlements*

For the purpose of determining the entitlement to at-large delegates and alternates by candidates, the provisions of this section shall apply, as follows:

a. At-Large Delegates and Alternates Allocated by State Convention Caucus: The delegates elected to participate in the State Convention shall caucus by secret ballot and select a presidential candidate by plurality vote to receive the entitlement of a number of at-large delegates and alternates that will represent twenty-five percent (25%) (rounded down) of the total number of Texas delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention. The State Republican Executive Committee shall prescribe the process for each state convention delegate to cast their vote for their presidential preference by electronic or paper ballot. The National Nominations Committee shall canvass the vote and allocate the State Convention Caucus selection from among the at-large delegates prior to allocating the remaining at-large delegates as follows:

b. At-Large Delegates and Alternates Allocated by Presidential Primary:

1. More than Fifty Percent (50%) of Vote Received by Candidate: A candidate receiving more than fifty percent (50%) of the votes cast in the Presidential Primary canvassed on a statewide basis shall be entitled to all remaining at-large delegates and alternates allocated to Texas under The Rules of the Republican Party.
2. No Candidate Receives Majority of Vote: If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast statewide in the Presidential Primary, then the remaining at-large delegates and alternates shall be apportioned among the candidates receiving more than twenty percent (20%) of the statewide vote in the ratio which the number of votes received by each such candidate who received more than twenty percent (20%) of the statewide vote, bears to the total of all such candidates receiving more than twenty percent (20%) of the statewide vote, rounding fractional delegates and alternates upward to the next whole number beginning with the candidate receiving the largest number of votes. However, if no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast statewide in the Presidential Primary and only one candidate receives twenty percent (20%) or more of the statewide vote, then the remaining at-large delegates and alternates shall be apportioned between the candidate receiving more than twenty percent (20%) of

the statewide vote and the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes, in the ratio which the number of votes received by each such candidate bears to the total votes for both such candidates, rounding fractional delegates and alternates upward to the next whole number beginning with the candidate receiving the largest number of votes.

3. No Candidate Receives Twenty Percent (20%) of Vote: If no candidate receives more than twenty percent (20%) of the votes cast statewide in the Presidential Primary, the remaining at-large delegates and alternates shall be apportioned among all candidates, beginning with the candidate receiving the highest number of votes and rounding fractional delegates and alternates upward to the next whole number, and then awarding delegates and alternates to the second highest candidate in the same manner, and so forth until the remaining at-large delegates and alternates to be apportioned have been fully awarded.

c. If, pursuant to *Rules of the Republican Party* Rule 17, either the chairman of the Republican National Committee or the Republican National Committee Standing Committee on Rules, determines that subsection (a) of this Section is in violation of the *Rules of the Republican Party*, all At-Large Delegates and Alternates will be allocated in accordance with subsection (b) of this Section.

*Section 10. Pledge of Delegates and Alternates.*

a. Commitment to Candidate: By assenting to nomination on a Presidential candidate's slate, each delegate and alternate representing a Presidential candidate becomes pledged to the Presidential candidate on whose slate the delegate and alternate is nominated in accordance with Subsection b of this section.

b. Length of Commitment: A person who is elected as a delegate or alternate to the National Convention on the slate of a Presidential candidate by the State Convention to represent that particular Presidential candidate at the National Convention and who does not resign from the position is pledged to support that Presidential candidate at the National Convention until the candidate is nominated or until the delegate or alternate is released from the pledges as follows:

1. First Nomination Convention Ballot: A delegate or alternate shall be released from the pledge only in the event of death, withdrawal, or by decision of the candidate. For the first ballot taken at the National Convention to determine the nominee of the Republican Party for the office of President of the United States, the totals of the votes of the members of the Texas delegation shall be announced as assigned in accordance with these Rules. No poll of the members of the delegation, except those delegates who are uncommitted, shall be taken for the announcement of the vote.

2. Second Nominating Convention Ballot: A delegate or alternate shall be released from the pledge if the candidate has failed to receive twenty percent (20%) or more of the total vote cast on the preceding ballot; or by the decision of the candidate;

3. Third and Subsequent Nominating Convention Ballots: All delegates and alternates are released from any pledge.

c. Uncommitted Delegates: Uncommitted delegates and alternates may vote as they choose on all questions and candidates presented at the National Convention.

*Section 11. Delegate/Alternate Resignation*

a. Written Notice: Any delegate or alternate may resign by giving written notice to the Delegation Chairman and the State Chairman at any time before the date of the National Convention.
b. Filling Vacancy: Should a vacancy occur in the at-large delegation after the date of the State Convention but prior to the convening of the National Convention, the Chairman of the National Nomination Committee of the State Convention shall fill such vacancy by appointing, in writing, any at-large alternate to fill any at-large delegate position. To fill the vacancy of an at-large alternate, the said Chairman may select any person eligible under this Rule to hold said position, inasmuch as possible under The Rules of the Republican Party. In the case of a vacancy in a district delegate position, the paired alternate shall be moved over, and the presidential candidate or his/her designated representative shall appoint a new alternate, with the condition that the person so appointed shall reside in the same Congressional District at the time of appointment as the Congressional District in which the vacancy occurred. In the case of a vacancy in a district alternate position, the presidential candidate or his/her designated representative shall appoint a new alternate, with the condition that the person so appointed shall reside in the same Congressional District at the time of appointment as the Congressional District in which the vacancy occurred. All appointments shall be made from those nominated at the convention, if possible. If no potential nominee exists, then the presidential candidate or his/her designated representative shall appoint as a new alternate anyone eligible under this Rule to hold said position, provided that said nominee(s) agree to adhere to pledge to the candidate required under Section 10 hereof.

*Section 12. Delegate/Alternate Qualifications*

Each nominee for delegate and alternate must have voted in the Republican Presidential Primary, and must be qualified to be a delegate or alternate under The Rules of the Republican Party.

**Rule No. 39 – Presidential Electors**

At the Biennial State Convention in presidential election years, the delegates from each Congressional District shall nominate one (1) Presidential Elector and such nomination shall be presented to the National Nominations Committee; additionally, the National Nominations Committee shall select additional nominees to bring to total number of nominees to the number allowed by law. Each such nominee for Presidential Elector, prior to the report of the National Nominations Committee, shall file with the Chairman of the National Nominations Committee an affidavit in writing as to the nominee's commitment to vote for the Republican Party's nominees for President and Vice President. The report of the National Nominations Committee shall include only nominees who have so filed such affidavit. The report of the National Nominations Committee must include the nominees from the Congressional District who have so filed affidavits. The Convention shall then elect the Presidential Electors. Any vacancy among the Presidential Electors shall be filled by majority vote of the SREC, with the conditions that (1) the person elected to fill the vacancy shall have already filed with the State Chairman an affidavit in writing as to his or her commitment to vote for the Republican Party's nominees for President and Vice President and (2) if the vacancy occurs for a person who had been nominated by his or

her Congressional District Caucus at the biennial State Convention then the SREC shall elect a person who has filed such an affidavit, has made an affiliation with the Republican Party of Texas under Chapter 162 of the TEC, and resides in that same congressional district at the time he or she is elected by the SREC to be a replacement Presidential Elector.

**Rule No. 40 – National Committeeman and Committeewoman**

At the biennial State Convention held in presidential election years, each Congressional District shall caucus and recommend a man for Republican National Committeeman from Texas and a woman for Republican National Committeewoman from Texas. These recommendations shall be forwarded to the National Nominations Committee by the district's member to the committee, who shall support them on at least the first (1st) round of voting. The National Nominations Committee shall select one (1) man and one (1) woman from these recommendations to be submitted to the Convention as nominees for these positions. Nominations from the floor shall be allowed only for candidates recommended by at least three (3) districts, or by petition signed by delegates equal in number to at least twenty percent (20%) of the convention voting strength. In the event of a vacancy in the office of National Committeeman or Committeewoman the vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of the State Republican Executive Committee.

**Rule No. 41 – State Party Chairman and Vice Chairman**

At the biennial State Convention, each Senatorial District shall caucus and recommend a man and woman for State Chairman and Vice Chairman. These recommendations shall be forwarded to the State Nominations Committee by the district's member to the committee, who shall support them on at least the first (1st) round of voting. The State Nominations Committee shall select one (1) man and one (1) woman from these recommendations to be submitted to the Convention as nominees for these positions. Nominations from the floor shall be allowed only for candidates recommended by at least three (3) districts, or by petition signed by delegates equal in number to at least twenty percent (20%) of the convention voting strength. No person shall be eligible to be elected Chairman or Vice Chairman for more than four (4) consecutive two-year terms to the same office.

**Rule No. 42 – State Republican Executive Committee (SREC)**

At the biennial State Convention, each Senatorial District shall caucus and recommend two (2) nominees to represent that Senatorial District on the SREC as Committeeman and Committeewoman. The results shall be forwarded to the State Nominations Committee by the district's member to the committee, and the committee shall include the results in its report to the Convention. Those members selected to represent a particular Senatorial District must be those recommended by the convention delegates representing that Senatorial District. For the purposes of election to, and service on, the SREC a person must be a resident of the district he or she represents as indicated by his or her current voter registration. No person shall be eligible to be elected State Republican Executive Committee man or woman for more than four (4) consecutive two-year terms. SREC Committeeman and Committeewoman are ex-officio members of their SD Counties Executive Committees, without the right to make motions or vote. No member of the SREC may hold any elective federal, state or county office. The SREC shall be authorized to approve the minutes of the State Convention.

## GENERAL RULES FOR CANDIDATES

**Rule No. 43 – Candidate Platform Review**

Each candidate running as a Republican for any public office on any ballot in the State of Texas shall be provided a copy of the Platform of the Republican Party of Texas. The Republican Party of Texas shall make an electronic copy of the Platform available to each candidate upon request. The County or State Chairman shall distribute a copy of the Platform to each candidate along with all other candidate application papers. Each candidate, except a candidate for judicial office, may indicate for each bullet point item of the Party Principles included in the Preamble of the Platform, whether the candidate agrees, disagrees, or is undecided, as to each item, with comments if desired. The County or State Chairman shall also request that each non-judicial candidate read the entire Platform and choose at least ten (10) line items from the Platform that the candidate strongly supports. The SREC shall also have the newest Platform available to the candidates within two (2) months after its adoption by the State Convention. All candidates for non-judicial offices should file the completed Platform Review containing the candidate's responses at the time of filing for office. Candidates' responses shall be collected and recorded by the Republican Party of Texas and published on the Party's website prior to the primary. A copy of the candidates' responses filed with a County Chairman shall be forwarded to the State Chairman within ten (10) days of receipt. At the discretion of the Officials Committee of the SREC, a candidate's response may be excluded from or edited prior to posting to the website of the Republican Party of Texas.

**Rule No. 43A**

The Platform Committee of the biennial State Convention shall prepare a list of no less than ten (10) and no more than twenty (20) principles included in the Preamble of the Platform of the Republican Party of Texas which clearly defines the Party's values, with the knowledge and purpose that they be used to identify candidate values as stated in Rule No. 43. A candidate must return the candidate's completed Platform Review and the completed Candidate Resource Committee (CRC) funding application to be eligible to receive funds from the CRC of the SREC.

**Rule No. 44 - Censure Process and Penalties**

A County or Senatorial District Convention or a County or District Executive Committee may by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting adopt a resolution censuring a Republican public or party office holder representing all or a portion of that County or District for three (3) or more actions taken during the current biennium in opposition to the core principles of the Republican Party of Texas defined in the Preamble of the Party Platform as described in Rule No. 43A.

Such a resolution may include a request to the State Convention or SREC that the named office holder be penalized. If such a request is included, the delegates of the State Convention by majority vote, or the State Republican Executive Committee by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full membership, may vote to concur with the resolution of censure and declare that no Rule or Bylaw enacted by any division of the Party at any level that demands the Party be neutral in intraparty contests shall be observed with respect to the named candidate, and no financial or

other support shall be provided to their campaign by the Party except that which is required by law.

Any such penalty shall expire at the beginning of the State Convention following its adoption.

**Republican Party of Texas 211 E 7th Street, Suite 915 Austin, Texas 78701 512-477-9821 (Telephone) 512-480-0709 (Fax)** Adopted by the Republican Executive Committee meeting in Austin, Texas on March 13, 1972; amended by the State Convention meeting in Dallas, Texas on September 19, 1972; amended by the State Convention meeting in Houston, Texas on September 17, 1974; amended by the State Convention meeting in Fort Worth, Texas on June 19, 1976; amended by the State Convention meeting in Austin, Texas on September 11, 1976; amended by the State Convention meeting in Dallas, Texas on September 9, 1978; amended by the State Convention meeting in Houston, Texas on June 21, 1980; amended by the State Convention meeting in San Antonio, Texas on September 6, 1980; amended by the State Convention meeting in Austin, Texas on September 11, 1982; amended by the State Convention in Corpus Christi, Texas on September 22, 1984; amended by the State Executive Committee meeting in Austin, Texas on November 23, 1985; amended by the State Convention in Dallas, Texas on June 28, 1986; amended at the State Executive Committee meeting in Austin, Texas on May 30, 1987; amended at the State Executive Committee meeting in Copperas Cove, Texas on November 21, 1987; amended by the State Convention meeting in Houston, Texas on June 10, 1988; amended by the State Convention meeting in Fort Worth, Texas on June 30, 1990; amended by the State Convention meeting in Dallas, Texas on June 20, 1992; amended by the State Convention meeting in Fort Worth, Texas on June 11, 1994; amended by the State Convention meeting in Fort Worth, Texas on June 13, 1998; amended by the State Convention meeting in Houston, Texas on June 16, 2000; amended by the State Convention meeting in Dallas, Texas on June 8, 2002; amended by the State Convention meeting in San Antonio, Texas on June 4, 2004; amended by the State Convention meeting in San Antonio, Texas on June 3, 2006; amended by the State Convention meeting in Houston, Texas on June 13, 2008; amended by the State Convention meeting in Dallas, Texas on June 12, 2010; amended by the State Executive Committee meeting in Austin, Texas on October 1, 2011; amended by the State Executive Committee meeting in Austin, Texas on February 29, 2012; amended by the State Convention meeting in Fort Worth, Texas on June 8, 2012; amended by the State Executive Committee meeting in Austin, Texas on December 7, 2013; amended by the State Convention meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, on June 6, 2014; amended by the State Executive Committee meeting in Austin, Texas on March 7, 2015; amended by the State Executive Committee meeting in Austin, Texas on September 12, 2015; amended by the State Convention meeting in Dallas, Texas, on May 13, 2016. Pursuant to Section 163.006, TEC, any amendments made to these rules and contained herein which govern or affect the Republican Party of Texas' general or runoff primary elections, conventions or nominees, are effective January 1, 2013.