

2019 Platform Committee Report

Platform Committee

Elected by the county affiliates per LPC Bylaws.

LPC Coordinator: Chuck Hamm

Chair: John Ward (Santa Clara)

Members: Ken DeLong (Alameda), Randy Marsh (Contra Costa), Jillian Olsen (Kings), Jay Jones (Los Angeles), Brandon Kelsey (Monterey), Brandon Riser (Orange), Vincent Puccio (Riverside), Allen Sherzer (San Francisco), Jason Quintero (Solano), Richard DeWalt (Tulare).

Alternates: Kevin Moore (Contra Costa), Vincent Li (Los Angeles), David Naranjo (Orange), Salvador Robles (Santa Clara)

Committee Purpose

Bylaw 15: Committees

Section 3: Platform Committee

The Platform Committee shall consist of a coordinator and one delegate from each County Central Committee. A coordinator shall be appointed by the Executive Committee at least thirty days before each convention. The county delegates shall be selected at least thirty days prior to the convention in such a manner as each County Central Committee shall provide.

Executive Overview

The committee recommends replacing the CA state platform as amended 2018 with the national platform as amended 2018.

Research Conducted Prior

Between 1/7/2019 and 2/11/2019, prior to the first meeting of the platform committee, the executive committee conducted a Survey Monkey poll comparing the phrasing of similar planks in their national and state versions. This data was turned, available online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-SZ8Q633QV/>, was turned over to the platform committee upon its formation. To

summarize, the 232 respondents preferred the national platform's phrasing by an average of nearly four to one.

- On professional licensing, the national platform's version was preferred by 84.91% to 15.09%
- On immigration, the national platform's version was preferred by 75% to 25%
- On taxation, the national platform's version was preferred by 76.72% to 23.28%

Meeting History

The platform committee met by online teleconferencing software on January 31st, followed by February 6th, February 20th, March 6th, March 27th, and in person on April 5th on site of the state convention.

Recommendations

The members of the platform committee, after a period of consultation with the members of their respective counties, have agreed to significantly shorten and standardize the 2018 California platform. In the interests of avoiding unnecessary controversy, the method we favor is replacing the text of the current Libertarian Party of California platform in its entirety with the current version of the national platform, deferring any fine-tuning to latter years.

This can be accomplished in two stages:

- 1) A vote, by simple majority, to remove the text of the current (2018) platform. It must be understood that this vote is warranted only in anticipation of the next stage.
- 2) A vote, by supermajority, to fill the newly empty platform with the text of the national platform.

It may also be possible to do this in a single vote by setting aside the rules.

For the sake of saving space, this report will not include the text of the national platform, which is available online at <https://www.lp.org/platform/>. The national platform is one-third the size of the state platform but is a clear and concise statement of our core principles.

Conclusion

I urge the delegates to adopt the national platform according to the procedure outlined above.