



## ***Articles of Association*** **of the Libertarian Party of Delaware**

**Declaration of Rights** -- We, the members of the Libertarian Party of Delaware, proclaim that (1) all human beings are endowed by nature with inalienable Rights to life, liberty, and the products of their labor, that (2) these Rights are the basis of justice and the only source of moral legitimacy for Laws among the People, and that (3) any and all Systems of Government, therefore, should be strictly limited to the preservation of these Rights.

As specific examples of the Rights espoused in this Declaration, the Libertarian Party of Delaware calls for:

- (1) The immediate abolition of any and all forms of involuntary taxation;
- (2) The repeal of all civil and criminal laws penalizing voluntary, peaceful activities between consenting adults;
- (3) An end to governmental interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain; and
- (4) Dramatic reductions in the size and scope of government at all levels, from municipal to Federal.

**Article I** — The purpose of the Libertarian Party of Delaware, hereinafter referred to as the "Party," is to implement and give voice to the ideas expressed in the aforementioned Declaration of Rights by (1) entering into public-information activities, (2) building the membership of the Party, and (3) slating Party members to run for political office.

**Article II** — The membership of the Party shall comprise those persons who (1) are registered as Libertarian voters with the State of Delaware or are dues-paid National Libertarian Party Members that are residents of the State of Delaware and (2) affiliate themselves as "Libertarian" and agree to operate as Party members under the provisions of this charter.

**Article III** — The State Board shall secure the assets of the Libertarian Party of Delaware, as well as conduct the business of the Party, and shall be fully accountable and subordinate to the general membership. This board shall include four officers, namely, Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be elected in odd years by the membership at large for two-year terms, and shall collectively constitute the Executive Committee; and also shall include six Representatives, two elected from, by, and for each of the three Counties of the State of Delaware. Each member of the State Board shall be possessed of the right and power to appoint a proxy to attend meetings of the State Board in his or her stead. In order to uphold the interests of the membership, the appointing officer's proxy shall come from the membership represented by that officer (i.e., the proxy vote for the county representatives shall come from that county's membership, while the proxy for an Executive Committee member shall come from the statewide membership). The proxy shall possess all powers, rights, duties, and responsibilities held by the appointing member of the State Board. The proxy and all powers, rights, duties, and responsibilities inherent therein shall expire at the termination of the State Board meeting for which the proxy was appointed. No officer or representative shall possess more than one vote.

**Article IV** — An Annual Convention will be held at a time and place as determined by the Executive Committee for the purpose of (1) electing members of the Executive Committee, (2) nominating candidates for public office, (3) adopting, by two-thirds vote of attending members, amendments to the Articles of Association, and (4) electing members as National Convention delegates, the number as determined by the National Libertarian Bylaws, for the National Convention. Every Party member shall be provided thirty days in advance with copies of any and all proposed amendments and shall be considered and notified to be a delegate of such a convention.

**Article V** — Election of party officers and nominations of candidates for public office shall require a majority of those voting. "None of the Above" shall always be a candidate. If there is not a majority, the candidate (including None of the Above) with the least number of votes shall be dropped and a new vote shall be taken. If there is a tie vote for the last two candidates, there shall be a ten-minute recess and the vote shall be repeated. This procedure shall continue until the tie is broken. If "None of the Above" wins, the party office shall be vacated for the next year or no one shall be nominated for public office.

**Article VI** — Each county's membership shall designate a county representative to the State Board, a County Chair and a County Secretary. Separate individuals must be Chair and Secretary. It is permissible, but not required, for either the Chair or the Secretary to concurrently serve as the county representative to the State Board, provided such individual does not concurrently hold office as Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer or Secretary of the Libertarian Party of Delaware. Election may be by vote at an announced county membership meeting, with at least 30 days' notice; by vote at a county caucus at the annual state convention, with at least 30 days' notice; or by mail ballot, with a ballot to be sent to all members as described in Article II whose residence address is in the county concerned, with at least 30 days to return ballots. Designation of the officeholder may be by consensus if no one wishes to contest an election when only one person volunteers to assume the office.

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