

**Proposal TBD**

**Date Heard:**

**Vote:**

**Amendment to Bylaws Article 7.2, Rule 8.2 & Rule 8.4**

**Problem:** I see multiple problems with the existing Regional Rep/Alt system:

- The existing Regional system treats state affiliates as a monolith, assuming that one single vote by a Representative or Alternate can represent all the members within a state party or group of state parties. As has become apparent, different factions within the party have different visions for how the party should operate and what strategic goals the party should pursue. These factions do not cut neatly across state lines. This means that one faction or another is going to control the entire voting power of any region, leaving members within that region who lost the fight for voting power effectively unrepresented.
- The existing Regional system puts undue power in the hands of either state chairs or state executive committees when forming regions. The delegates who are voting for their representative have no direct say in what region their state will be joining (unless state party bylaws require their input).
- The existing Regional system encourages backroom dealing by state chairs or executive committees to seek an advantage for their preferred faction.

**Solution:** The replacement system expands the At-Large Representative position and alters to voting procedure to the *cumulative voting* procedure described in *RONR 46:43* to select them to provide better proportional representation on the LNC, regardless of what state party delegations members of any faction may be a part of.

**Benefits:** The benefits for this proposal include:

- Setting the size of the LNC at a consistent 11 members (4 officers + 7 at-large members).
- Better approximate proportional representation of delegate preferences on the LNC.
- Limit the number of votes permitted by a delegate to the number of elected positions. This will prevent excessive write-ins.
- Delays the implementation of the new procedure until the 2026 convention, which eliminates uncertainty for candidates which would otherwise exist if the procedure were to go into effect immediately.

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p><b>ARTICLE 7: NATIONAL COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>[...]</p> <p>2. The National Committee shall be composed of the following members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the officers of the Party;</li> <li>five members elected at large by the delegates at a regular convention; and</li> <li>any additional members as specified below: Any affiliate party with 10% or more of the total national party sustaining membership within affiliate parties (as determined for delegate allocation) shall be entitled to one National Committee representative and one alternate for each 10% of national sustaining membership. Affiliate parties may, by mutual consent, band together to form "representative regions," and each such "region" with an aggregate national party sustaining membership of 10% or more shall be entitled to one National Committee representative and one alternate for each 10% of national party sustaining membership. "Representative regions" may be formed or dissolved once every two years during a period beginning 90 days before the beginning of and ending on the second day of the national convention, and notice of new formations or dissolutions must be given in writing to the national Secretary prior to the close of the convention at which they take place.</li> </ol> <p>[...]</p> <p>8. A National Committee Regional Representative or Alternate may be removed and replaced only by the act of the affiliate parties that constitute the subject region. The voting procedure for the removal and replacement of regional representatives or alternates shall be determined by the regions. In the absence of any such procedures, a majority vote of the state chairs comprising the region shall prevail.</p> <p><b>RULE 8: ELECTION OF OFFICER AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>[...]</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 7: NATIONAL COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>[...]</p> <p>2. The National Committee shall be composed of the following members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the officers of the Party;</li> <li><del>five</del>seven members elected at large by the delegates at a regular convention, <del>and</del></li> <li><del>any additional members as specified below: Any affiliate party with 10% or more of the total national party sustaining membership within affiliate parties (as determined for delegate allocation) shall be entitled to one National Committee representative and one alternate for each 10% of national sustaining membership. Affiliate parties may, by mutual consent, band together to form "representative regions," and each such "region" with an aggregate national party sustaining membership of 10% or more shall be entitled to one National Committee representative and one alternate for each 10% of national party sustaining membership. 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The National Committee shall be composed of the following members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the officers of the Party;</li> <li>seven members elected at large by the delegates at a regular convention.</li> </ol> <p>[...]</p> <p><b>RULE 8: ELECTION OF OFFICER AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>[...]</p> <p>2. Nominations for the at-large members of the National Committee shall be from the floor. The election shall be conducted in the following manner:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The election shall take place using cumulative voting, which means that each delegate may cast a ballot with a vote for either none-of-the-above or one vote per elected position. Every ballot with a vote for none-of-the-above or one or more candidates is counted as one ballot cast. A vote for none-of-the-above shall be ignored if the ballot also includes a vote for any other candidate.</li> <li>Each delegation shall tabulate its total vote, and the delegation chair shall deliver a written total to the Secretary, along with the ballots cast.</li> <li>When all delegations have submitted their votes, the Chair shall declare the voting closed. The candidates receiving the largest vote total, provided that vote total is greater than or equal to the majority of ballots cast, shall be elected. Tie votes affecting the outcome shall be decided by lot.</li> </ol> <p>[...]</p>

<p>2. Nominations for the at-large members of the National Committee shall be from the floor. The election shall be conducted in the following manner:</p> <p>a. Each delegate may cast a ballot with a vote for either none-of-the-above or one vote per candidate for any number of candidates. Every ballot with a vote for none-of-the-above or one or more candidates is counted as one ballot cast. A vote for none-of-the-above shall be ignored if the ballot also includes a vote for any other candidate.</p> <p>b. Each delegation shall tabulate its total vote, and the delegation chair shall deliver a written total to the Secretary, along with the ballots cast.</p> <p>c. When all delegations have submitted their votes, the Chair shall declare the voting closed. The top five candidates receiving a majority vote of the ballots cast shall be elected. Tie votes affecting the outcome shall be decided by lot.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>4. In the event a region has not otherwise provided for the election of its National Committee representation then the delegates from the region shall elect its regional representative and alternate, provided there are at least five delegates present. Each Region's delegates may elect their representative and alternate in whatever manner they choose, provided all delegates present from that region are given equal voice in the selection.</p>	<p>2. Nominations for the at-large members of the National Committee shall be from the floor. The election shall be conducted in the following manner:</p> <p>a. <u>The election shall take place using cumulative voting, which means that</u> <del>e</del>Each delegate may cast a ballot with a vote for either none-of-the-above or one vote per <u>elected</u> <del>position</del><u>candidate for any number of candidates</u>. Every ballot with a vote for none-of-the-above or one or more candidates is counted as one ballot cast. A vote for none-of-the-above shall be ignored if the ballot also includes a vote for any other candidate.</p> <p>b. Each delegation shall tabulate its total vote, and the delegation chair shall deliver a written total to the Secretary, along with the ballots cast.</p> <p>c. When all delegations have submitted their votes, the Chair shall declare the voting closed. <u>The candidates receiving the largest vote total, provided that vote total is greater than or equal to the majority of ballots cast, shall be elected. The top five candidates receiving a majority vote of the ballots cast shall be elected.</u> Tie votes affecting the outcome shall be decided by lot.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p><del>4. In the event a region has not otherwise provided for the election of its National Committee representation then the delegates from the region shall elect its regional representative and alternate, provided there are at least five delegates present. Each Region's delegates may elect their representative and alternate in whatever manner they choose, provided all delegates present from that region are given equal voice in the selection.</del></p>	
<p><i>Proviso: The regional representatives and alternates, elected by the final adjournment of the 2024 National Convention, or their replacements according to their regional agreements, will serve until the adjournment sine die of the 2026 convention under the rules of the national bylaws as they existed when the original representatives and alternates were elected. No regions will be formed for 2026.</i></p>		

**SPONSORS: Bracco**

**MARK-UP LEGEND**

- In replacements, deletions precede additions.
- Deletions are in ~~red bold italic strikethrough~~.
- Additions are in blue bold underline.
- Per LPUS Bylaws, Article XVII, Section 1, the bylaws require a 2/3 vote to pass.

- Per RONR t8 #13, the convention special rules of order require a 2/3 vote with notice or a majority of the entire convention membership