

# Minimum Threshold for Readmitting an Expelled Member of the Party

**Problem:** The current method for readmitting a member of the party who was previously expelled requires a vote from the State Central Committee with “a two-thirds (2/3) majority to pass, with a minimum of 8 votes for the affirmative.” Pursuant to Article IV, Section 1, paragraph a., “Voting members of the State Central Committee shall be the officers of the Party elected by the preceding Regular Convention, or their successors, and the Chair of the Party in each Congressional District of the Commonwealth.” Under the most recent Congressional apportionment (based on the 2020 decennial census), the number of Virginia’s congressional districts (eleven) remained the same. Thus, the SCC is made up of no more than fifteen members (four officers plus eleven district chairs) and a minimum of eight votes to reinstate a party member would constitute at least a majority of the full membership of the SCC.

However, because the maximum membership of the SCC depends on the number of Congressional districts apportioned to Virginia after each census, the number of votes that would constitute a majority of the SCC as a whole could change. For example, if Virginia were to be apportioned one additional member in the United States House of Representatives in a subsequent apportionment, the full membership of the SCC would be sixteen members. In that situation, eight votes would no longer constitute the majority vote of the whole membership of the SCC, but rather only half.

**Solution:** Instead of a fixed number, specify that the two-thirds majority must also pass a minimum threshold of a simple majority of the entire membership of the SCC.

**Benefits:** This change will ensure that readmitting a member of the party who was previously expelled will meet the same minimum vote requirements regardless of potential changes to Virginia’s Congressional apportionment.

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p>▪ VII. EXPULSION FROM THE PARTY</p> <p>...</p> <p>7. Subsequent to one year after a member has been expelled, s/he may apply for readmission to the Party. A motion for re-admission may be considered at an SCC meeting, and shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority to pass, with a minimum of 8 votes for the affirmative. A vote to re-admit a former member shall not guarantee membership, pending any dues</p>	<p>▪ VII. EXPULSION FROM THE PARTY</p> <p>...</p> <p>7. Subsequent to one year after a member has been expelled, s/he may apply for readmission to the Party. A motion for re-admission may be considered at an SCC meeting, and shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority to pass, <del>with a minimum of 8 votes for the affirmative</del> <u>provided that the number of votes in the affirmative is equal to or greater than a majority of the entire membership of the SCC.</u></p>	<p>▪ VII. EXPULSION FROM THE PARTY</p> <p>...</p> <p>7. Subsequent to one year after a member has been expelled, s/he may apply for readmission to the Party. A motion for re-admission may be considered at an SCC meeting, and shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority to pass, provided that the number of votes in the affirmative is at least equal to a majority of the entire membership of the SCC. A vote to re-admit a former member shall not guarantee</p>

requirement, or other membership requirement set forth in ARTICLE II.	A vote to re-admit a former member shall not guarantee membership, pending any dues requirement, or other membership requirement set forth in ARTICLE II.	membership, pending any dues requirement, or other membership requirement set forth in ARTICLE II.
<b>Proviso:</b> <i>If applicable</i>		

**SPONSORS:** Joseph Knowles

**MARK-UP LEGEND**

- In replacements, deletions precede additions.
- Deletions are in ~~**red bold italic strikethrough**~~.
- Additions are in **blue bold underline**.
- Per LPVA Constitution, Article IX, Section 1, amending the constitution requires a 2/3 vote to pass.
  - Exceptions defined in Section 2 of the same article require 4/5 vote to pass and 90 days notice.
    - Article I, Section 2
    - Article VIII, Section 2
    - Article IX
    - Article X
- 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