

# Libertarian Party of Virginia



## 2024 Constitution Committee Report

**Committee Members:** Paul Bracco (Chair), Joseph Knowles, William Ogle (Secretary), Stevan Porter, Maria RePass

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# Proposal 1 - Party Reference & Formatting Cleanup

**Problem:** In Article 1 Section 1 of the Constitution it states that the Libertarian Party of Virginia will be referred to as the “Party”, but there are many sections of the Constitution which reference “Libertarian Party of Virginia” or “LPVA”. The national Libertarian Party is also frequently referred to as “National Libertarian Party” and the “constitution and bylaws” of this organization are referenced, despite there being no constitution of the national Libertarian Party.

**Solution:** Update all references throughout the document to use the “Party” when referring to the Libertarian Party of Virginia. Change the references to the national Libertarian Party so that the N of national is not capitalized (the name is “Libertarian Party” not “National Libertarian Party”). Removes references to the Constitution of the national Libertarian Party.

**Benefits:** The language of the Constitution will now be internally consistent as well as consistent with the name of the national Libertarian Party and the current state of that organization’s governing documents.

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p><b>ARTICLE I NAME OF THE PARTY AND AFFILIATION</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 The name of this organization shall be “The Libertarian Party of Virginia” (hereinafter referred to as “the Party”)</p> <p><b>ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTY</b></p> <p>Except as provided for in ARTICLE VII, any person who is currently and has been a member of the National Libertarian Party for at least thirty (30) days, who resides and is domiciled in Virginia (as defined by Virginia law) and who has donated at least \$25 (Targeted or Project Donations excepted) (or at least \$5 for current students) to the Libertarian Party of Virginia within the preceding twelve month period, is a member of the Libertarian Party of Virginia.</p> <p>The LPVA may offer a "Unified Membership" option that shall consist</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE I NAME OF THE PARTY AND AFFILIATION</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 The name of this organization shall be <u>the</u> “<del>The</del> Libertarian Party of Virginia” (hereinafter referred to as <u>the</u> “<del>the</del> Party”).</p> <p><b>ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTY</b></p> <p>Except as provided for in ARTICLE VII, any person who is currently and has been a member of the <del>N</del><u>n</u>ational Libertarian Party for at least thirty (30) days, who resides and is domiciled in Virginia (as defined by Virginia law) and who has donated at least \$25 (Targeted or Project Donations excepted) (or at least \$5 for current students) to the <del>Libertarian Party of Virginia</del> <u>Party</u> within the preceding twelve month period, is a member of the <del>Libertarian Party of Virginia</del> <u>Party</u>.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE I NAME OF THE PARTY AND AFFILIATION</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 The name of this organization shall be the “Libertarian Party of Virginia” (hereinafter referred to as the “Party”).</p> <p><b>ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTY</b></p> <p>Except as provided for in ARTICLE VII, any person who is currently and has been a member of the national Libertarian Party for at least thirty (30) days, who resides and is domiciled in Virginia (as defined by Virginia law) and who has donated at least \$25 (Targeted or Project Donations excepted) (or at least \$5 for current students) to the Party within the preceding twelve month period, is a member of the Party.</p> <p>The Party may offer a "Unified Membership" option that shall consist of \$25 for the Party, \$25 for the</p>

## MARK-UP LEGEND

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<p>of \$25 for LPVA, \$25 for national, and \$10 for local. Local affiliates that do not wish to recognize \$10 as their dues amount shall be ineligible for the unified membership program, and the amounts they forego will be directed towards the Local Affiliate Parties Committee.</p> <p>U.S. citizens who, due to military service, do not reside in Virginia but are registered Virginia voters, or U.S. citizens temporarily living overseas who can prove Virginia citizenship, shall also be eligible to become members of the LPVA under the same terms as above.</p> <p>Any resident of Virginia who is a Life member of the National LP shall be considered a member of the Libertarian Party of Virginia.</p>	<p>The <del>LPVA Party</del> may offer a "Unified Membership" option that shall consist of \$25 for <del>LPVA the Party</del>, \$25 for <del>national the national Libertarian Party</del>, and \$10 for local. Local affiliates that do not wish to recognize \$10 as their dues amount shall be ineligible for the unified membership program, and the amounts they forego will be directed towards the Local Affiliate Parties Committee.</p> <p>U.S. citizens who, due to military service, do not reside in Virginia but are registered Virginia voters, or U.S. citizens temporarily living overseas who can prove Virginia citizenship, shall also be eligible to become members of the <del>LPVA Party</del> under the same terms as above.</p> <p>Any resident of Virginia who is a Life member of the <del>National LP</del> <u>Libertarian Party</u> shall be considered a member of the <del>Libertarian Party of Virginia Party</del>.</p>	<p>national Libertarian Party, and \$10 for local. Local affiliates that do not wish to recognize \$10 as their dues amount shall be ineligible for the unified membership program, and the amounts they forego will be directed towards the Local Affiliate Parties Committee.</p> <p>U.S. citizens who, due to military service, do not reside in Virginia but are registered Virginia voters, or U.S. citizens temporarily living overseas who can prove Virginia citizenship, shall also be eligible to become members of the Party under the same terms as above.</p> <p>Any resident of Virginia who is a Life member of the national Libertarian Party shall be considered a member of the Party.</p>
<p><b>ARTICLE III OFFICERS; ELECTIONS; DUTIES; VACANCIES</b></p> <p>SECTION 2 The officers of the Party shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates to the Regular State Convention; or, in the case of a vacancy in any office, as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. The officers shall serve from the closing of the Convention at which they are elected until the closing of the following Regular State Convention, except as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. Officers of the party shall be paid members in good standing; and no person who is currently serving as an officer of another political party may serve as an officer of the LPVA.</p> <p>SECTION 5 The Secretary shall take and distribute minutes of all State Central Committee meetings and of all</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE III OFFICERS; ELECTIONS; DUTIES; VACANCIES</b></p> <p>SECTION 2 The officers of the Party shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates to the Regular State Convention; or, in the case of a vacancy in any office, as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. The officers shall serve from the closing of the Convention at which they are elected until the closing of the following Regular State Convention, except as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. Officers of the Party shall be paid members in good standing; and no person who is currently serving as an officer of another political party may serve as an officer of the <del>LPVA Party</del>.</p> <p>SECTION 5 The Secretary shall take and distribute minutes of all State Central Committee meetings and of all</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE III OFFICERS; ELECTIONS; DUTIES; VACANCIES</b></p> <p>SECTION 2 The officers of the Party shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates to the Regular State Convention; or, in the case of a vacancy in any office, as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. The officers shall serve from the closing of the Convention at which they are elected until the closing of the following Regular State Convention, except as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. Officers of the Party shall be paid members in good standing; and no person who is currently serving as an officer of another political party may serve as an officer of the Party.</p> <p>SECTION 5 The Secretary shall take and distribute minutes of all State Central Committee meetings and of all</p>

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<p>Party conventions. In addition, the Secretary shall be responsible for official Party correspondence as required and for insuring the accuracy and completeness of all Party membership and mailing lists. The Secretary shall also carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the State Central Committee. The Secretary's nonvoting responsibilities shall continue beyond the Convention at which his replacement is elected for such duration as determined by the SCC solely in order to complete and present the Minutes of the Convention, the revised Constitution and Bylaws, and the revised Platform of the Libertarian Party of Virginia.</p>	<p>Party conventions. In addition, the Secretary shall be responsible for official Party correspondence as required and for insuring the accuracy and completeness of all Party membership and mailing lists. The Secretary shall also carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the State Central Committee. The Secretary's nonvoting responsibilities shall continue beyond the Convention at which his replacement is elected for such duration as determined by the SCC solely in order to complete and present the Minutes of the Convention, the revised Constitution and Bylaws, and the revised Platform of the <del>Libertarian Party of Virginia</del> <u>Party</u>.</p>	<p>Party conventions. In addition, the Secretary shall be responsible for official Party correspondence as required and for insuring the accuracy and completeness of all Party membership and mailing lists. The Secretary shall also carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the State Central Committee. The Secretary's nonvoting responsibilities shall continue beyond the Convention at which his replacement is elected for such duration as determined by the SCC solely in order to complete and present the Minutes of the Convention, the revised Constitution and Bylaws, and the revised Platform of the Party.</p>
<p><b>ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 The policy making and administrative authority of the Party shall be vested in a State Central Committee:</p> <p>e) Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to suggest that Members of the LPVA are prohibited from recording the proceedings of any LPVA meetings, including those of the SCC or any subcommittees, in any format they wish, without restriction, except when the SCC has convened into an Executive Session (if allowed). In an Executive Session, the SCC is permitted to ban any recording of the proceedings of that Session alone</p> <p>SECTION 7 There shall be a Party District Committee in and for each Congressional District of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The District Committee shall be responsible for the</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 The policy making and administrative authority of the Party shall be vested in a State Central Committee:</p> <p>e) Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to suggest that Members of the <del>LPVA</del> <u>Party</u> are prohibited from recording the proceedings of any <del>LPVA</del> <u>Party</u> meetings, including those of the SCC or any subcommittees, in any format they wish, without restriction, except when the SCC has convened into an Executive Session (if allowed). In an Executive Session, the SCC is permitted to ban any recording of the proceedings of that Session alone.</p> <p>SECTION 2 There shall be a Party District Committee in and for each Congressional District of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The District Committee shall be</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 The policy making and administrative authority of the Party shall be vested in a State Central Committee:</p> <p>e) Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to suggest that Members of the Party are prohibited from recording the proceedings of any Party meetings, including those of the SCC or any subcommittees, in any format they wish, without restriction, except when the SCC has convened into an Executive Session (if allowed). In an Executive Session, the SCC is permitted to ban any recording of the proceedings of that Session alone.</p> <p>SECTION 2 There shall be a Party District Committee in and for each Congressional District of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The District Committee shall be responsible for the</p>

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<p>selection and support of a Candidate for the US House of Representatives.</p> <p>b) All Congressional District officers must be current members of the LPVA.</p> <p>d) Any portion of District Committee Bylaws in conflict with the LPVA Constitution shall be invalid.</p>	<p>responsible for the selection and support of a Candidate for the US House of Representatives.</p> <p>b) All Congressional District officers must be current members of the <del>LPVA</del> <u>Party</u>.</p> <p>d) Any portion of District Committee Bylaws in conflict with <del>the LPVA</del> <u>this</u> Constitution shall be invalid.</p>	<p>selection and support of a Candidate for the US House of Representatives.</p> <p>b) All Congressional District officers must be current members of the Party.</p> <p>d) Any portion of District Committee Bylaws in conflict with this Constitution shall be invalid.</p>
<p><b>ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 2 Only those persons who are currently members of the Libertarian Party of Virginia, and who have been members of the Party for at least thirty days within the previous twelve months, shall be granted the right to vote at conventions.</p> <p>SECTION 3 National Convention Delegates elected at a state Convention must be and remain (1) “Sustaining” (or above) members of the National Libertarian Party, as well as (2) current dues paid members of the Libertarian Party of Virginia, from the time of the end gavel of the state convention, through at least the closing gavel of the immediate following national convention.</p> <p>SECTION 5 Regular State Conventions shall be held at least forty five (45) days, but not more than six (6) months, prior to the biennial Convention of the National Libertarian Party. They shall be called by the State Central Committee in accordance with the Laws of Virginia and the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Libertarian Party. At least thirty days prior to the date of such convention, the Party Secretary shall mail to all members, a notice of such convention. Business for a Regular State</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 2 Only those persons who are currently members of the <del>Libertarian Party of Virginia</del> <u>Party</u>, and who have been members of the Party for at least thirty days within the previous twelve months, shall be granted the right to vote at conventions.</p> <p>SECTION 3 National Convention Delegates elected at a state Convention must be and remain (1) “Sustaining” (or above) members of the <del>N</del><u>n</u>ational Libertarian Party, as well as (2) current dues paid members of the <del>Libertarian Party of Virginia</del> <u>Party</u>, from the time of the end gavel of the state convention, through at least the closing gavel of the immediate following national convention.</p> <p>SECTION 5 Regular State Conventions shall be held at least forty five (45) days, but not more than six (6) months, prior to the biennial Convention of the <del>N</del><u>n</u>ational Libertarian Party. They shall be called by the State Central Committee in accordance with the Laws of Virginia and the <del>Constitution and</del> Bylaws of the <del>N</del><u>n</u>ational Libertarian Party. At least thirty days prior to the date of such convention, the Party Secretary shall mail to all members, a notice of</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 2 Only those persons who are currently members of the Party, and who have been members of the Party for at least thirty days within the previous twelve months, shall be granted the right to vote at conventions.</p> <p>SECTION 4 National Convention Delegates elected at a state Convention must be and remain (1) “Sustaining” (or above) members of the National Libertarian Party, as well as (2) current dues paid members of the Party, from the time of the end gavel of the state convention, through at least the closing gavel of the immediate following national convention.</p> <p>SECTION 5 Regular State Conventions shall be held at least forty five (45) days, but not more than six (6) months, prior to the biennial Convention of the national Libertarian Party. They shall be called by the State Central Committee in accordance with the Laws of Virginia and the Bylaws of the national Libertarian Party. At least thirty days prior to the date of such convention, the Party Secretary shall mail to all members, a notice of such convention. Business for a Regular State Convention shall include the election of Party officers, and may</p>

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<p>Convention shall include the election of Party officers, and may include changes in the Party Constitution, election of delegates to regional or national Libertarian Party conventions, passage of resolutions, adoption of a Party platform, and nomination of, or endorsement of, candidates for statewide offices.</p> <p>SECTION 6 Special State Conventions may be called by the State Central Committee at any time in accordance with the Laws of Virginia and the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Libertarian Party. At least twenty one days prior to the date of such Special State Convention, the Party (Secretary) shall mail to all members, a notice of such convention. Business for a Special State Convention may include the election of Party officers where vacancies have occurred, changes to the Party Constitution, or such special matter or matters as defined by the State Central Committee in its call and publication of an agenda for said Special State Convention.</p>	<p>such convention. Business for a Regular State Convention shall include the election of Party officers, and may include changes in the Party Constitution, election of delegates to regional or national Libertarian Party conventions, passage of resolutions, adoption of a Party platform, and nomination of, or endorsement of, candidates for statewide offices.</p> <p>SECTION 6 Special State Conventions may be called by the State Central Committee at any time in accordance with the Laws of Virginia and the <del>Constitution and</del> Bylaws of the <u>N</u>ational Libertarian Party. At least twenty one days prior to the date of such Special State Convention, the Party (Secretary) shall mail to all members, a notice of such convention. Business for a Special State Convention may include the election of Party officers where vacancies have occurred, changes to the Party Constitution, or such special matter or matters as defined by the State Central Committee in its call and publication of an agenda for said Special State Convention.</p>	<p>include changes in the Party Constitution, election of delegates to regional or national Libertarian Party conventions, passage of resolutions, adoption of a Party platform, and nomination of, or endorsement of, candidates for statewide offices.</p> <p>SECTION 6 Special State Conventions may be called by the State Central Committee at any time in accordance with the Laws of Virginia and the Bylaws of the national Libertarian Party. At least twenty one days prior to the date of such Special State Convention, the Party (Secretary) shall mail to all members, a notice of such convention. Business for a Special State Convention may include the election of Party officers where vacancies have occurred, changes to the Party Constitution, or such special matter or matters as defined by the State Central Committee in its call and publication of an agenda for said Special State Convention.</p>
<p><b>ARTICLE VII EXPULSION FROM THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 Any member of the Party may be expelled from the Party for cause. Any SCC member may introduce a motion to expel and LPVA member for cause.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE VII EXPULSION FROM THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 Any member of the Party may be expelled from the Party for cause. Any SCC member may introduce a motion to expel <del>and LPVA</del> <u>Party</u> member for cause.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE VII EXPULSION FROM THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 Any member of the Party may be expelled from the Party for cause. Any SCC member may introduce a motion to expel a Party member for cause.</p>

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# Proposal 2 - Amendment Language Cleanup

**Problem:** The existing language in Section 1 doesn't mention the restriction on Special & General conventions stated in Section 3. The language of Section 3 reflects that it is granting an ability to amend rather than restricting it, this change clarifies that language.

**Solution:** This amendment will create more internally consistent language.

**Benefits:** Removes a possible contradiction in the language of Section 1 as compared to Section 3.

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p><b>ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 Except as provided in Section 2 of this Article, this Constitution may be amended at any State Convention of the Party by two-thirds (2/3) of all votes cast.</p> <p>SECTION 2 ARTICLE I, Section 2; ARTICLE VIII, Section 2; ARTICLE IX and ARTICLE X may be amended only at a Regular Convention of this Party by four-fifths (4/5) of all votes cast, provided that at least ninety (90) days written notice of the text of the amendment has been sent to all Party members.</p> <p>SECTION 3 This Constitution may be amended at any Special or General State Convention of the Party by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, provided that at least 1/15 of the state Party membership have registered at the Convention.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 Except as provided in Section 2 <u>or 3</u> of this Article, this Constitution may be amended at any State Convention of the Party by two-thirds (2/3) of all votes cast.</p> <p>SECTION 2 ARTICLE I, Section 2; ARTICLE VIII, Section 2; ARTICLE IX and ARTICLE X may be amended only at a Regular Convention of this Party by four-fifths (4/5) of all votes cast, provided that at least ninety (90) days written notice of the text of the amendment has been sent to all Party members.</p> <p>SECTION 3 <del>This Constitution may be amended at any Special or General State Convention of the Party by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, provided that</del> <u>In addition to the requirements in Section 1 of this Article, no amendments to this Constitution may be made at any Special or General State Convention unless</u> at least 1/15 of the state Party membership have registered at the Convention.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 Except as provided in Section 2 or 3 of this Article, this Constitution may be amended at any State Convention of the Party by two-thirds (2/3) of all votes cast.</p> <p>SECTION 2 ARTICLE I, Section 2; ARTICLE VIII, Section 2; ARTICLE IX and ARTICLE X may be amended only at a Regular Convention of this Party by four-fifths (4/5) of all votes cast, provided that at least ninety (90) days written notice of the text of the amendment has been sent to all Party members.</p> <p>SECTION 3 In addition to the requirements in Section 1 of this Article, no amendments to this Constitution may be made at any Special or General State Convention unless at least 1/15 of the state Party membership have registered at the Convention.</p>
<p><b>Note:</b> This proposal will require a 4/5 vote to pass.</p>		

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# Proposal 3 - Set Vote Threshold for Party Platform

## (Dependent on Amendment Language Cleanup aka Proposal 2)

**Problem:** The LPVA Constitution provides authorization to adopt a platform (Article V Section 5) but no vote threshold for adopting it. Without a threshold, this vote defaults to a majority vote to adopt a platform and a majority vote with notice (2/3 without notice) to amend the platform once adopted.

**Solution:** This amendment will create a vote threshold of 2/3 for adopting, amending, or rescinding a platform.

**Benefits:** Aligns the threshold for adopting, amending, or rescinding a platform to the same threshold for amending the constitution.

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p><b>ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 Except as provided in Section 2 or 3 of this Article, this Constitution may be amended at any State Convention of the Party by two-thirds (2/3) of all votes cast.</p> <p>SECTION 2 ARTICLE I, Section 2; ARTICLE VIII, Section 2; ARTICLE IX and ARTICLE X may be amended only at a Regular Convention of this Party by four-fifths (4/5) of all votes cast, provided that at least ninety (90) days written notice of the text of the amendment has been sent to all Party members.</p> <p>SECTION 3 No amendments to this Constitution may be made at any Special or General State Convention unless at least 1/15 of the state Party membership have registered at the Convention.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS <del>TO THE CONSTITUTION</del></b></p> <p>SECTION 1 Except as provided in Section <del>2 or 3</del> <b>3 or 4</b> of this Article, this Constitution may be amended at any State Convention of the Party by two-thirds (2/3) of all votes cast. <b><u>SECTION 2 A Platform of the Party may be adopted, amended, or rescinded at any State Convention of the Party by two-thirds (2/3) of all votes cast.</u></b></p> <p>SECTION 3 ARTICLE I, Section 2; ARTICLE VIII, Section 2; ARTICLE IX and ARTICLE X may be amended only at a Regular Convention of this Party by four-fifths (4/5) of all votes cast, provided that at least ninety (90) days written notice of the text of the amendment has been sent to all Party members.</p> <p>SECTION 4 No amendments to this Constitution <b><u>or to the Party Platform</u></b> may be made at any Special or General State Convention unless at least 1/15 of the state Party membership have registered at the Convention.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 Except as provided in Section 3 or 4 of this Article, this Constitution may be amended at any State Convention of the Party by two-thirds (2/3) of all votes cast.</p> <p>SECTION 2 A Platform of the Party may be adopted, amended, or rescinded at any State Convention of the Party by two-thirds (2/3) of all votes cast.</p> <p>SECTION 3 ARTICLE I, Section 2; ARTICLE VIII, Section 2; ARTICLE IX and ARTICLE X may be amended only at a Regular Convention of this Party by four-fifths (4/5) of all votes cast, provided that at least ninety (90) days written notice of the text of the amendment has been sent to all Party members.</p> <p>SECTION 4 No amendments to this Constitution or to the Party Platform may be made at any Special or General State Convention unless at least 1/15 of the state Party membership have registered at the Convention.</p>

**Note:** This proposal will require a 4/5 vote to pass.

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# Proposal 4 - Regular Convention Agenda and Delegate & Alternate Selection Process

**Problem:** The existing document specifies items to be included in the business of a regular state convention, but does not include the order in which the business items are to be heard. Per RONR 2:20-21, 25:2 footnote 5, and 25:7, the business of the regular state convention is in the nature of a rule of order and it would be in order to suspend it. Additionally, the delegate selection process is currently housed within the Party bylaws, where it can be amended by the SCC without member consent.

**Solution:** Create a convention rules section which specifies both the order of the agenda of a regular state convention in a section separate from the constitution (as suggested by RONR 2:20) and contains the process by which delegates to the national LP convention are selected.

**Benefits:** Provides more structure to regular state conventions in a similar way that this structure is set up within the national LP bylaws. Gives the members at convention the final say over what procedure they will use to elect their delegates to the national LP convention.

Current Language	Amendment Changes	Proposed Language
<p><b><u>ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY</u></b></p> <p>SECTION 5 Regular State Conventions shall be held at least forty five (45) days, but not more than six (6) months, prior to the biennial Convention of the national Libertarian Party. They shall be called by the State Central Committee in accordance with the Laws of Virginia and the Constitution and Bylaws of the national Libertarian Party. At least thirty days prior to the date of such convention, the Party Secretary shall mail to all members, a notice of such convention. Business for a Regular State Convention shall include the election of Party officers, and may include changes in the Party Constitution, election of delegates to regional or national Libertarian Party conventions, passage of resolutions, adoption of a Party platform, and nomination of, or endorsement of, candidates for statewide offices.</p>	<p><b><u>ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY</u></b></p> <p>SECTION 5 Regular State Conventions shall be held at least forty five (45) days, but not more than six (6) months, prior to the biennial Convention of the national Libertarian Party. They shall be called by the State Central Committee in accordance with the Laws of Virginia and the Constitution and Bylaws of the national Libertarian Party. At least thirty days prior to the date of such convention, the Party Secretary shall mail to all members, a notice of such convention. <b><u>Business for a Regular State Convention shall include the election of Party officers, and may include changes in the Party Constitution, election of delegates to regional or national Libertarian Party conventions, passage of resolutions, adoption of a Party platform, and nomination of, or</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY</u></b></p> <p>SECTION 5 Regular State Conventions shall be held at least forty five (45) days, but not more than six (6) months, prior to the biennial Convention of the national Libertarian Party. They shall be called by the State Central Committee in accordance with the Laws of Virginia and the Constitution and Bylaws of the national Libertarian Party. At least thirty days prior to the date of such convention, the Party Secretary shall mail to all members, a notice of such convention.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p><b><u>ARTICLE XI ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION</u></b></p> <p>This Constitution shall take effect upon adoption by a two-thirds (2/3)</p>

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<p>[...]</p> <p><b><u>ARTICLE XI ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION</u></b></p> <p>This Constitution shall take effect upon adoption by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at the Convention of the Party on December 15th, 1974.</p>	<p><del>endorsement of, candidates for statewide offices.</del></p> <p>[...]</p> <p><b><u>ARTICLE XI ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION</u></b></p> <p>This Constitution shall take effect upon adoption by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at the Convention of the Party on December 15th, 1974.</p> <p><b><u>CONVENTION SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER OF THE PARTY</u></b></p> <p><b><u>RULE 1: ORDER OF BUSINESS – REGULAR CONVENTIONS</u></b></p> <p><b><u>The standing order of business for a regular convention shall be as follows:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><u>1) Call to order</u></b></li> <li><b><u>2) Credentials Committee report</u></b></li> <li><b><u>3) Adoption of the agenda</u></b></li> <li><b><u>4) Consideration of proposed amendments to the Party Constitution</u></b></li> <li><b><u>5) Consideration of any changes to the Party Platform, should one exist</u></b></li> <li><b><u>6) Nomination and endorsement of candidates for statewide offices</u></b></li> <li><b><u>7) The election of Party officers</u></b></li> <li><b><u>8) The election of delegates to the national Libertarian Party convention</u></b></li> <li><b><u>9) Resolutions</u></b></li> <li><b><u>10) Other Business</u></b></li> </ol> <p><b><u>RULE 2: ELECTION OF NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES</u></b></p> <p><b><u>The Party shall elect delegates to the national Libertarian Party convention using the following procedure:</u></b></p>	<p>vote at the Convention of the Party on December 15th, 1974.</p> <p><b><u>CONVENTION SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER OF THE PARTY</u></b></p> <p><b><u>RULE 1: ORDER OF BUSINESS – REGULAR CONVENTIONS</u></b></p> <p>The standing order of business for a regular convention shall be as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Call to order</li> <li>2) Credentials Committee report</li> <li>3) Adoption of the agenda</li> <li>4) Consideration of proposed amendments to the Party Constitution</li> <li>5) Consideration of any changes to the Party Platform, should one exist</li> <li>6) Nomination and endorsement of candidates for statewide offices</li> <li>7) The election of Party officers</li> <li>8) The election of delegates to the national Libertarian Party convention</li> <li>9) Resolutions</li> <li>10) Other Business</li> </ol> <p><b><u>RULE 2: ELECTION OF NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES</u></b></p> <p>The Party shall elect delegates to the national Libertarian Party convention using the following procedure:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Delegates shall be selected using approval voting with the following constraints: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Members may cast no more votes than is equal to one-fourth (1/4) of the delegate positions allocated to the Party, rounding up any decimals; and</li> <li>ii. Members may not allocate more than one (1) of their votes to a single individual.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
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**MARK-UP LEGEND**

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	<p><b><u>1) Delegates shall be selected using approval voting with the following constraints:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>i. Members may cast no more votes than is equal to one-fourth (1/4) of the delegate positions allocated to the Party, rounding up any decimals; and</u></b></p> <p><b><u>ii. Members may not allocate more than one (1) of their votes to a single individual.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>2) The Party members seeking to be a delegate shall be rank ordered by most votes to least votes. The Party member with the most votes shall be named a delegate, followed by the members in rank order until all delegate positions allocated to the Party have been filled.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>3) Party members seeking to be a delegate who are not named a delegate shall be named an alternate, until the number of alternates allocated to the Party has been filled or there are no members remaining who wish to be alternates.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>i. Alternates shall be assigned in rank order according to their position in the rank order set previously, beginning with the highest ranked member not named a delegate.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>ii. In the event any delegate is unable to take part in any vote of the delegates of the Party, the alternate of the highest rank who is present for the vote and not already participating in the vote may</u></b></p>	<p>2) The Party members seeking to be a delegate shall be rank ordered by most votes to least votes. The Party member with the most votes shall be named a delegate, followed by the members in rank order until all delegate positions allocated to the Party have been filled.</p> <p>3) Party members seeking to be a delegate who are not named a delegate shall be named an alternate, until the number of alternates allocated to the Party has been filled or there are no members remaining who wish to be alternates.</p> <p>i. Alternates shall be assigned in rank order according to their position in the rank order set previously, beginning with the highest ranked member not named a delegate.</p> <p>ii. In the event any delegate is unable to take part in any vote of the delegates of the Party, the alternate of the highest rank who is present for the vote and not already participating in the vote may cast a vote in place of the absent delegate.</p> <p>4) If there exists a tie in the number of votes received and either the number of tied members seeking to be delegates exceeds the remaining delegate allocation or the tied members are being assigned alternate positions, the convention chair or her designee shall draw the names of the tied members at random. The first member drawn shall be assigned the highest unoccupied seat, either delegate or next ranked alternate,</p>
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	<p><u>cast a vote in place of the absent delegate.</u></p> <p>4) <u>If there exists a tie in the number of votes received and either the number of tied members seeking to be delegates exceeds the remaining delegate allocation or the tied members are being assigned alternate positions, the convention chair or his or her designee shall draw the names of the tied members at random. The first member drawn shall be assigned the highest unoccupied seat, either delegate or next ranked alternate, in the delegation until either all tied members have been assigned seats in the delegation or the entire delegation has been filled.</u></p> <p>5) <u>After the close of the regular state convention at which delegates are elected, and if any alternate positions remain unfilled, then further alternates, along with their respective alternate rank, may be assigned with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the elected delegates. No person may be selected as an alternate who does not meet the criteria to become a Party delegate. Votes held to add alternates may use electronic voting. Any alternate selected in this manner must be assigned a rank below all alternates selected at a regular state convention.</u></p> <p>6) <u>The voting results, as well as the results of any breaking of ties, shall be recorded in the convention minutes.</u></p>	<p>in the delegation until either all tied members have been assigned seats in the delegation or the entire delegation has been filled.</p> <p>5) After the close of the regular state convention at which delegates are elected, and if any alternate positions remain unfilled, then further alternates, along with their respective alternate rank, may be assigned with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the elected delegates. No person may be selected as an alternate who does not meet the criteria to become a Party delegate. Votes held to add alternates may use electronic voting. Any alternate selected in this manner must be assigned a rank below all alternates selected at a regular state convention.</p> <p>6) The voting results, as well as the results of any breaking of ties, shall be recorded in the convention minutes.</p>
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*Proviso: This amendment shall take effect upon the adjournment sine die of the convention at which it is adopted.*

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# Proposal 5 - Allow CD Bylaws to Prescribe a Proxy

**Problem:** The current system both allows the CD chair to unilaterally select their proxy and requires the CD chair to actively designate a proxy, otherwise the district is unable to cast a vote at an SCC meeting.

**Solution:** Authorize the district bylaws to prescribe the proxy succession and automatically designate the proxy.

**Benefits:** Gives members in the district the opportunity to influence what the proxying process will be for their district. Creates a higher probability that a district will be represented in an SCC meeting.

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p><b>ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 The policy making and administrative authority of the Party shall be vested in a State Central Committee:</p> <p>a) <i>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. Any member of the State Central Committee may proxy his or her vote to any member of the Party, provided that such proxy is in writing, dated, and signed. No person may cast more than one vote. Persons holding more than one voting State Central Committee position shall be entitled to one vote only.</i></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 The policy making and administrative authority of the Party shall be vested in a State Central Committee:</p> <p>a) <i>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. Any member of the State Central Committee may proxy his or her vote to any member of the Party, provided that such proxy is in writing, dated, and signed, <u>except in cases when such a proxy is prescribed or restricted in the bylaws of the Congressional District. The Party Secretary shall treat any prescribed proxy within Congressional District bylaws</u></i></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 1 The policy making and administrative authority of the Party shall be vested in a State Central Committee:</p> <p>a) <i>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. Any member of the State Central Committee may proxy his or her vote to any member of the Party, provided that such proxy is in writing, dated, and signed, except in cases when such a proxy is prescribed or restricted in the bylaws of the Congressional District. The Party Secretary shall treat any prescribed proxy within Congressional District bylaws as</i></p>

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	<p><i><u>as a valid proxy for that district at any meeting, in the event the Congressional District Chair is not in attendance.</u></i> No person may cast more than one vote. Persons holding more than one voting State Central Committee position shall be entitled to one vote only.</p>	<p><i>a valid proxy for that district at any meeting, in the event the Congressional District Chair is not in attendance. No person may cast more than one vote. Persons holding more than one voting State Central Committee position shall be entitled to one vote only.</i></p>
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# Proposal 6 - Officer Removal Notice sent to the Party

**Problem:** The existing language only requires that SCC members are notified of a vote to remove an officer.

**Solution:** Require all Party members to be notified of an officer removal vote.

**Benefits:** Members will be informed of the action and will be able to voice their opinions during the public comment periods of the SCC meeting at which the vote is scheduled to be held.

<b>Current Wording</b>	<b>Proposed Amendment</b>	<b>If Adopted, Will Read</b>
<p><b><u>ARTICLE III OFFICERS; ELECTIONS; DUTIES; VACANCIES</u></b></p> <p>SECTION 7 The election of any officer of the Party may be rescinded either by:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>a) A vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the entire membership of the State Central Committee, provided that all members of the State Central Committee be sent written notice at least seven (7) days in advance of a vote on the motion to rescind the election; or,</i></p>	<p><b><u>ARTICLE III OFFICERS; ELECTIONS; DUTIES; VACANCIES</u></b></p> <p>SECTION 7 The election of any officer of the Party may be rescinded either by:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>a) A vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the entire membership of the State Central Committee, provided that all members of the <del>State Central</del> <u>Committee Party</u> be sent written notice at least seven (7) days in advance of a vote on the motion to rescind the election; or,</i></p>	<p><b><u>ARTICLE III OFFICERS; ELECTIONS; DUTIES; VACANCIES</u></b></p> <p>SECTION 7 The election of any officer of the Party may be rescinded either by:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>a) A vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the entire membership of the State Central Committee, provided that all members of the Party be sent written notice at least seven (7) days in advance of a vote on the motion to rescind the election; or,</i></p>

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# Proposal 7 - Fix Eligibility Language Inconsistency

**Problem:** The phrase “dues paid” and “paid” adds unnecessary confusion when determining who is and is not eligible to be a delegate to the national convention.

**Solution:** Strike the phrase “dues paid” and “paid” as eligibility qualifiers.

**Benefits:** Clarifies the two requirements to be Sustaining member of the national Libertarian Party and member of the Libertarian Party of Virginia. Both of these terms are already well defined in each respective organization’s governing documents.

<b>Current Wording</b>	<b>Proposed Amendment</b>	<b>If Adopted, Will Read</b>
<p><b>ARTICLE III OFFICERS; ELECTIONS; DUTIES; VACANCIES</b></p> <p>SECTION 2 The officers of the Party shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates to the Regular State Convention; or, in the case of a vacancy in any office, as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. The officers shall serve from the closing of the Convention at which they are elected until the closing of the following Regular State Convention, except as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. Officers of the party shall be paid members in good standing; and no person who is currently serving as an officer of another political party may serve as an officer of the Party.</p> <p><b>ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 3 National Convention Delegates elected at a state Convention must be and remain (1) “Sustaining” (or above) members of the National Libertarian Party, as well as (2) current dues paid members of the Party, from the time of the end gavel of the state convention, through at least the closing gavel of the immediate following national convention.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE III OFFICERS; ELECTIONS; DUTIES; VACANCIES</b></p> <p>SECTION 2 The officers of the Party shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates to the Regular State Convention; or, in the case of a vacancy in any office, as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. The officers shall serve from the closing of the Convention at which they are elected until the closing of the following Regular State Convention, except as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. Officers of the party shall be <del>paid</del> members in good standing; and no person who is currently serving as an officer of another political party may serve as an officer of the Party.</p> <p><b>ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 3 National Convention Delegates elected at a state Convention must be and remain (1) “Sustaining” (or above) members of the National Libertarian Party, as well as (2) current <del>dues paid</del> members of the Party, from the time of the end gavel of the state convention, through at least the closing gavel of the immediate following national convention.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE III OFFICERS; ELECTIONS; DUTIES; VACANCIES</b></p> <p>SECTION 2 The officers of the Party shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates to the Regular State Convention; or, in the case of a vacancy in any office, as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. The officers shall serve from the closing of the Convention at which they are elected until the closing of the following Regular State Convention, except as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. Officers of the party shall be members in good standing; and no person who is currently serving as an officer of another political party may serve as an officer of the Party.</p> <p><b>ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 3 National Convention Delegates elected at a state Convention must be and remain (1) “Sustaining” (or above) members of the National Libertarian Party, as well as (2) current members of the Party, from the time of the end gavel of the state convention, through at least the closing gavel of the immediate following national convention.</p>

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# Proposal 8 - Remove Unified Membership

**Problem:** The “Unified Membership” creates logistical problems as it requires moving dues between the Party and the national Libertarian Party. Due to this problem and the overhead it creates, the Party does not actively offer this option any longer.

**Solution:** Remove authorization for the “Unified Membership” from the Constitution.

**Benefits:** This will ensure that no membership dues are misplaced and that all members of the national Libertarian Party are promptly registered within the national LP’s systems as soon as they join.

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p><b>ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTY</b></p> <p>[Existing Language]</p> <p>The Party may offer a "Unified Membership" option that shall consist of \$25 for the Party, \$25 for national, and \$10 for local. Local affiliates that do not wish to recognize \$10 as their dues amount shall be ineligible for the unified membership program, and the amounts they forego will be directed towards the Local Affiliate Parties Committee.</p> <p>[Existing Language]</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTY</b></p> <p>[Existing Language]</p> <p><del>The Party may offer a "Unified Membership" option that shall consist of \$25 for the Party, \$25 for national, and \$10 for local. Local affiliates that do not wish to recognize \$10 as their dues amount shall be ineligible for the unified membership program, and the amounts they forego will be directed towards the Local Affiliate Parties Committee.</del></p> <p>[Existing Language]</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTY</b></p> <p>[Existing Language]</p>

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# Proposal 9 - Require District Officer Elections

**Problem:** Article V, Section 8 requires District Conventions to be held at least once every two years. It further provides that “The business of such District Conventions may include . . . the election of District officers.” This stands in contrast to Section 5 of the same Article which requires State Party officers to be elected at each Regular State Convention. Without requiring the election of officers at the required District Conventions, the potential exists for the Chair (or other officers) of the Congressional District Committee to remain in office indefinitely.

**Solution:** Change the language of Article V, section 8, to mirror the corresponding language of Article V, section 5, i.e., replace “may” with “shall.”

**Benefits:** The change will establish a timetable for the election of District officers. This will eliminate the potential for District officers to remain in office indefinitely due to the lack of a requirement for the District Convention to hold elections and will align their elections with what is already required at the State Party level.

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p><b>ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 8 District Conventions shall be held at least once every two years and at least thirty days prior to the Regular State Convention. The business of such District Conventions may include, but is not limited to, the election of District officers, election of other District Committee officials as may be necessary, nomination or endorsement of candidates for the United States House of Representatives, adoption of a District platform, and the conduct of any other business as may properly come before such conventions. Requirements for the conduct of District Conventions may be further defined in the Bylaws of the Party.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 8 District Conventions shall be held at least once every two years and at least thirty days prior to the Regular State Convention. <u><b>During these two years, at least one District Convention where District officer elections take place must be held.</b></u> The business of such District Conventions may include, but is not limited to, the election of District officers, election of other District Committee officials as may be necessary, nomination or endorsement of candidates for the United States House of Representatives, adoption of a District platform, and the conduct of any other business as may properly come before such conventions. Requirements for the conduct of District Conventions may be further defined in the Bylaws of the Party.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 8 District Conventions shall be held at least once every two years and at least thirty days prior to the Regular State Convention. During these two years, at least one District Convention where District officer elections take place must be held. The business of such District Conventions may include, but is not limited to, the election of District officers, election of other District Committee officials as may be necessary, nomination or endorsement of candidates for the United States House of Representatives, adoption of a District platform, and the conduct of any other business as may properly come before such conventions. Requirements for the conduct of District Conventions may be further defined in the Bylaws of the Party.</p>

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# Proposal 10 - Minimum Threshold for Readmitting an Expelled Member of the Party

**Problem:** As 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><b>ARTICLE VII EXPULSION FROM THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 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 requirement, or other membership requirement set forth in ARTICLE II.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE VII EXPULSION FROM THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 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> 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.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE VII EXPULSION FROM THE PARTY</b></p> <p>SECTION 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 membership, pending any dues requirement, or other membership requirement set forth in ARTICLE II.</p>

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# Proposal 11 - Align Endorsement Rules to National Bylaws

**Problem:** The existing language allows for the endorsement of the candidates of other political parties, which is explicitly forbidden by the national Libertarian Party bylaws.

**Solution:** Restrict endorsements to independent or candidates in non-partisan elections, which are the only candidates apart from Libertarian Party candidates which may be endorsed by the Party and its subordinate organizations.

**Benefits:** The Party Constitution no longer appears to allow something that is expressly forbidden by the national LP bylaws.

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p><b>ARTICLE VI ENDORSEMENTS BY THE PARTY</b></p> <p>The Party, its District and Local Committees, shall be empowered to nominate, support, endorse, contribute to, or otherwise assist candidates for public office. Such powers may be applied to candidates of other parties or independent candidates provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>They certify in writing that they do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals and</i></li> <li>b) <i>That the National, State, District, or Local Libertarian Party organization does not have a candidate for such public office.</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>ARTICLE VI ENDORSEMENTS BY THE PARTY</b></p> <p>The Party, its District and Local Committees, shall be empowered to nominate, support, endorse, contribute to, or otherwise assist <u>Libertarian</u> candidates for public office. Such powers may <u>also</u> be applied to <del>candidates of other parties</del> <u>candidates for non-partisan offices</u> or independent candidates provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>They certify in writing that they do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals and</i></li> <li>b) <i>That the National, State, District, or Local Libertarian Party organization does not have a candidate for such public office.</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>ARTICLE VI ENDORSEMENTS BY THE PARTY</b></p> <p>The Party, its District and Local Committees, shall be empowered to nominate, support, endorse, contribute to, or otherwise assist Libertarian candidates for public office. Such powers may also be applied to candidates for non-partisan offices or independent candidates provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>They certify in writing that they do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals and</i></li> <li>b) <i>That the National, State, District, or Local Libertarian Party organization does not have a candidate for such public office.</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>National LP Bylaws Reference:</b></p> <p>ARTICLE 5: AFFILIATE PARTIES</p> <p>4. No affiliate party shall endorse any candidate who is a member of another party for public office in any partisan election. No affiliate party shall take any action inconsistent with the Statement of Principles or these bylaws.</p>		

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# Proposal 12 - LPVA Life Membership

**Problem:** The existing provision allows for life members of the national Libertarian Party to be members of the Party, despite the national Libertarian Party being a separate (though certainly related) organization.

**Solution:** Remove this provision within the Constitution and replace it with a provision to allow lifetime membership in the Party. To compensate existing national Libertarian Party lifetime members, they will continue to be considered Party members until a year after the state convention.

**Benefits:** Aligns life membership in the Party to payments received by the Party. Ensures that all Party members have helped fund the organization in which they wish to participate.

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If Adopted, Will Read
<p><b>ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTY</b></p> <p>Any resident of Virginia who is a Life member of the National LP shall be considered a member of the Party.</p>	<p><b>ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTY</b></p> <p><del>Any resident of Virginia who is a Life member of the National LP shall be considered a member of the Party.</del></p> <p><u>The State Central Committee may offer life memberships to the Party. All life members who reside and are domiciled in Virginia (as defined by Virginia law), or U.S. citizens who, due to military service, do not reside in Virginia but are registered Virginia voters, or U.S. citizens temporarily living overseas who can prove Virginia domiciliary residence are members of the Party.</u></p> <p><u>Once an individual qualifies as a life member the State Central Committee shall not rescind their life membership for any reason, except in the case of member expulsion. Any former life member expelled from the Party and subsequently readmitted shall have their life membership reinstated.</u></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTY</b></p> <p>The State Central Committee may offer life memberships to the Party. All life members who reside and are domiciled in Virginia (as defined by Virginia law), or U.S. citizens who, due to military service, do not reside in Virginia but are registered Virginia voters, or U.S. citizens temporarily living overseas who can prove Virginia domiciliary residence are members of the Party.</p> <p>Once an individual qualifies as a life member the State Central Committee shall not rescind their life membership for any reason, except in the case of member removal. Any former life member removed from the Party and subsequently reinstated shall have their life membership reinstated.</p>
<p><b>Proviso 1:</b> This amendment shall take effect upon the adjournment sine die of the convention at which it is adopted.</p>		
<p><b>Proviso 2:</b> All life members of the national Libertarian Party residing in Virginia as of the final adjournment of the meeting at which this amendment is adopted shall be considered members of the Party until 366 days after the final adjournment of that meeting.</p>		

## MARK-UP LEGEND

- In replacements, deletions precede additions.
- Deletions are in ~~red bold italic strikethrough~~.
- Additions are in blue bold underline.