

**Proposal #SS**

**Date Heard:**

**Vote:**

**RULE 8: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

**Problem:** Approval voting with a majority threshold increases the likelihood of distorted representation of delegates in elections for National Committee members at-large and the Judicial Committee. Although proportional representation ranked choice voting would facilitate a closer fit between delegate preferences and electoral outcomes, our Party’s rules and infrastructure don’t currently accommodate that method.

**Solution:** Replace approval voting with a majority threshold with a semi-proportional electoral method outlined in our parliamentary authority called “cumulative voting.” Our parliamentary authority states that “[i]n this form of voting, each member is entitled to cast one vote for each position, so that if, for example, three directors are to be elected, each member may cast three votes. These votes may all be cast for one, two, or three candidates, as the voter chooses. A minority group, by coordinating its effort in voting for only one candidate who is a member of the group, may be able to secure the election of that candidate as a minority member of the board.” RONR 46:43.

**Benefits:** Implements a more representative electoral method to populate our Party’s elected committees.

<b>Current Wording</b>	<b>Proposed Amendment</b>	<b>If Adopted, Will Read</b>
<b>ARTICLE 15: ALTERNATIVE VOTING PROCEDURES</b> 1. The convention special rules of order may authorize specified forms of preferential voting.  [...]	<b>ARTICLE 15: ALTERNATIVE VOTING PROCEDURES</b> 1. The convention special rules of order may authorize specified forms of preferential voting <u>or cumulative voting</u> .  [...]	<b>ARTICLE 15: ALTERNATIVE VOTING PROCEDURES</b> 1. The convention special rules of order may authorize specified forms of preferential voting or cumulative voting.  [...]
<b>RULE 8: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE</b>  [...]	<b>RULE 8: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE</b>  [...]	<b>RULE 8: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE</b>  [...]
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: a. Each delegate may cast a ballot with a vote	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: a. <u>The election shall take place using cumulative</u>	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: a. The election shall take place using cumulative voting, which means that

<p>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><u>voting, which means that E</u>  each delegate may cast a ballot with a vote for either none-of-the-above or one vote per <del>candidate for any number of candidates</del> <u>elected position</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. <del>The top five candidates receiving a majority vote of the ballots cast shall be elected.</del> <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.</u> Tie votes affecting the outcome shall be decided by lot.</p>	<p>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.</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 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.</p>
<p><i>Proviso: This amendment shall take effect upon the final adjournment of the convention at which it is adopted.</i></p>		

**SPONSOR: LATHAM**

**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