



## Libertarian Party of Arkansas

### Amendments to the LPAR Bylaws Proposed for Consideration by the 2021 Convention

In a special meeting held on February 13, 2021, the Executive Committee adopted four proposed amendments to the Party Bylaws for consideration by the State Convention scheduled for May 15, 2021. The proposed amendments are presented below.

(~~strike through~~ designates language to be struck, *italics* designates new wording)

**Proposal #1** - Section VII.1.a.), regarding the nomination of candidates for public office, is amended as follows:

- a) Candidates for public office established by the Laws or Constitution of the State of Arkansas may not run for such as the Libertarian Party candidate, ~~who must be~~ *unless* approved for such in accordance with these Bylaws and the rules and procedures established by the State Executive Committee.

**Proposal #2** – Section III.2.(b), regarding the conduct of County Committees, is amended as follows:

- b) County Executive Committee Organization
  - (i) Each County Executive Committee as created by the State Executive Committee by the appointment of a Temporary County Chair shall be composed of a County Chair and other such Party officials of that county as the Members of that county may designate.
  - (ii) A Member of the Party shall be deemed a Member of the County Committee of the county of his or her residence. However, if the county of the Member's residence does not have a County Committee, the Member may join the County Committee in another county if the county's bylaws do not prohibit it.
  - (iii) Any Party officials to serve on a County Executive Committee (except for the County Chair) must be appointed or elected according to a set of bylaws, to be drafted and ratified by the Members of that county, and subject to rejection by the State Executive Committee.
  - (iv) Such members shall further designate the procedure to be followed in filling vacancies on the County Executive Committee.
  - (v) Each County Committee shall have, at the very least, a Chair, selected by the Members of the County Committee, who shall act in accordance with all applicable laws.
  - (vi) County Chairs are required to provide a copy of the county bylaws to the State Secretary upon any adoption or alteration of said county bylaws. In the

absence of county bylaws being on file, the State Executive Committee has the authority to recognize a qualified individual as County Chair in the event of a dispute.

- (vii) Only members of the Party shall be a member or officer of any County Executive Committee.
- ~~(viii) County Executive Committees shall meet no less than one (1) time per quarter to conduct such business as may be required.~~
- ~~(ix) All official business of a County Executive Committee shall be conducted in open meetings and upon the majority vote of those present and voting.~~
- ~~(x) No business shall be conducted by a County Executive Committee unless a quorum of the total membership of the County Executive Committee shall be present.~~
- ~~(xi) County Executive Committees may create sub-committees, by majority vote of those present and voting, with members appointed by the County Chair.~~
- (viii) *The State Executive Committee shall establish and maintain a policy manual with recommendations for the governance and operation of County Committees.*
- ~~(xii) Each County Committee shall conduct a County Convention in accordance with applicable law, including Ark. Code Ann. 7-3-101 ~ 108, as amended.~~
- ~~(xiii) The County Convention shall convene on the first Monday following the date of the general primary election, as required by Ark. Code Ann. 7-7-203 (f), as amended.~~
- (ix) *At times when the Party has status as a "political party," as defined in Ark. Code Ann. 7-1-101, each County Committee shall conduct its business in accordance with applicable law.*

**Proposal #3** – Section IV.1, regarding the time and location of the State Convention, is amended as follows:

1) Time and Location

Each year prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>, at a time and place determined by the State Executive Committee, the Party shall conduct a State Convention. *In even-numbered years, the State Convention shall be held within 60 miles of the city limits of Little Rock, Arkansas.*

**Proposal #4** – Provisions in the Bylaws concerning minimum age requirements for membership and participation are amended in three parts.

**Part 1:** Section II.1, regarding membership eligibility is amended as follows:

1) Membership Eligibility

A person is eligible to become a Member of the Party if the person:

- a) Is a resident of the state of Arkansas;
- b) Is ~~eighteen (18)~~ *sixteen (16)* years of age or older;
- c) Fills out the membership form either online or through hardcopy;
- d) Pays the membership dues required as set by the State Executive Committee (Dues and forms cannot be altered less than sixty (60) days prior to the State Convention.);

**Part 2:** Section II.5, regarding nondiscrimination in membership, is amended as follows:

5) Nondiscrimination

No person may be denied membership in the Party based upon race, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, perceived disability, past political affiliation, sexual orientation, or any other protected status under state or federal law, including age, provided ~~he or she is~~ *they are* ~~eighteen (18)~~ *sixteen (16)* years of age or older.

**Part 3** Section III.1.c), regarding the required qualifications of State Executive Committee Members, is amended as follows:

c) Qualifications of State Executive Committee Members

- (i) No person who is not a Member in good standing of the Party for one (1) full year prior to election, may serve as any officer above named, unless the position is being filled by the State Executive Committee to fill a vacant position on the State Executive Committee and is approved by a two-third (2/3) vote of the State Executive Committee.
- (ii) All District Representatives must reside in the district they are elected to represent, and the changing of the residence by a District Representative out of the district shall mean an automatic vacancy of his or her office.
- (iii) No member shall hold more than one office on the State Executive Committee concurrently.
- (iv) *Notwithstanding other requirements contained in these Bylaws, no member shall be elected to the positions of Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary, or Treasurer who is less than eighteen (18) years old.*

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael Pakko, Chair  
Libertarian Party of Arkansas