

# **GENERAL RULES FOR ALL CONVENTIONS AND MEETINGS**

## **Rule No. 1 - Adoption and Amendment of Rules; Clarification**

These Rules, having been filed with the Secretary of State of Texas, together with the statutes, rules and bylaws adopted by reference shall constitute the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas (“Rules”).

- a. Amendments – Amendments to Rules may be proposed by:
  1. Majority vote of the State Republican Executive Committee (“SREC”), at any meeting properly called and constituted, provided at least thirty (30) days notice has been given in writing to each member thereof; or
  2. A Temporary or Permanent Rules Committee of any State Convention.
- b. Adoption – These Rules may be changed only by action of a State Convention, such action reflecting a majority of votes cast by delegates present and voting. When any change is made, a certified copy of the changes shall be filed with the Secretary of State not later than thirty (30) days following their adoption.
- c. Temporary and Emergency Changes – The SREC in its best judgment, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting may prescribe such temporary and emergency changes of these Rules so as to permit the orderly conduct of the affairs of the Republican Party of Texas in accordance with the intent and purpose of these Rules. Such temporary and emergency changes may be made when the conduct, operation, or implementation of these Rules will become frustrated or impracticable, or contrary to their intent and purpose, if by reason of:
  1. valid laws enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas;
  2. any administrative or judicial action of any officer, or agency of the State of Texas or any county or political subdivision thereof, or of the Federal Government;
  3. any interpretation of these Rules as they relate to The Rules of the Republican Party by any duly authorized official of the Republican National Committee; or
  4. technical inconsistencies or defects.Any such changes shall be valid only until such time, if any, as they are ratified or amended by the next subsequent State Convention, or until the adjournment of such State Convention, whichever shall occur first.
- d. Clarification – Any member of the Republican Party of Texas who discovers an ambiguity in these Rules may request in writing a clarification from the County Chairman or the State Chairman. Clarification from the State Chairman shall be binding on all members of the Republican Party of Texas until final clarification is made by majority vote of the SREC. Any clarification made shall be to maintain the intent and purpose of these Rules as originally adopted.
- e. Definitions – Pursuant to the incorporation of Section 311.014 of the Texas Government Code under Rule 4 of these Rules, when computing any period of days referred to in these Rules, the first (1st) day is excluded and the last day is included. Also, if the last day of any period of days is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, then the period is extended to include the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

## **Rule No. 2 - Publication and Distribution of Rules**

In order to publicize these Rules throughout the state, prior to the Precinct Conventions, copies thereof and of those pertinent portions of the Election Code dealing with Party conventions at all levels shall be mailed to each County Chairman and each Senatorial District Convention Chairman with instructions to

supply a copy to each Precinct Chairman and to each County or District Convention Committee Chairman. Upon request, a copy shall be provided to any delegate or alternate to the State Convention and to any other interested person who shall request the same; and an adequate supply thereof shall be maintained at the Republican Party of Texas Headquarters to fill requests. A charge, which shall be no greater than the unit cost of printing and postage, may be made for requested copies of these Rules.

### **Rule No. 3 - Discrimination Prohibited**

Participation in any Republican convention or meeting including, but not limited to, any primary caucus, any meeting or convention held for the purposes of selecting delegates to a County, District, State or National Convention shall in no way be abridged for reason of sex, age, race, religion, color, or national origin.

### **Rule No. 4 - Adoption of Reference – U.S. Constitution, Texas Constitution and Statutes**

The Constitution of the United States, The Constitution of the State of Texas, and the statutes of the State of Texas, insofar as they may be applicable, are hereby adopted by reference and shall govern the conduct of all conventions and meetings of the Republican Party of Texas from the precinct level through the state level.

### **Rule No. 5 - Parliamentary Authority**

Unless otherwise provided for by the United States Constitution, Texas Constitution, United States and Texas statutes, or these Rules, the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, which is hereby adopted by reference, shall be the parliamentary authority governing all conventions and meetings of the Republican Party of Texas from the precinct level through the state level, inclusive.

### **Rule No. 6 - Proxies Prohibited**

The use of proxies or proxy voting is hereby prohibited in all Republican Party of Texas proceedings, from the precinct level through the state level, inclusive except the SREC.

### **Rule No. 7 - Casting Votes - Roll Call**

At all conventions, executive committee meetings and any other Party meetings, votes shall be cast and counted in the manner prescribed by the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised; and except as provided in this rule, the vote of each member shall have equal weight. A county executive committee may authorize mailed ballot voting to fill precinct chair vacancies. In any convention except a Precinct Convention, any delegation present, upon request, shall be permitted to cast the number of votes equal to the number of delegates to which it is entitled on any item of business. A roll call vote shall be taken:

- a. when ordered by majority vote of the delegates at any convention, caucus, or meeting, or
- b. when demanded by one-fifth (1/5) of the participants at a Precinct Convention, or
- c. when demanded in writing by at least one-fifth (1/5) of the delegations from the precincts represented at a County or Senatorial District Convention, or
- d. when demanded in writing by at least one-fifth (1/5) of the delegations from the districts represented at a State Convention, or
- e. when demanded in writing by one-fifth (1/5) of the members in the case of a committee meeting, Party caucus, or
- f. when by decision of a Convention Chairman.

In the event of a roll call vote, each Delegation Chairman shall poll his delegation and shall announce the result when his delegation is reached. If any delegate doubts the correctness of the announcement, the Secretary of the meeting shall poll such delegation and announce the result.

**Rule No. 8 - Supplementary Executive Committee Rules – Meetings**

- a. Compliance Required – The SREC, each county executive committee, each district executive committee and any committee or sub-committee created by any Bylaws or Rules adopted by same, shall comply with and be established in accordance with these Rules.
- b. Supplemental Rules Permitted – A State Republican Executive Committee elected at the Biennial State Convention or a County Executive Committee elected in biennial Primary Election or a District Executive Committee created pursuant to the Texas Election Code or the Bylaws of any political subdivision within the Party, may adopt Supplemental Rules or Bylaws, provided however that such Rules or Bylaws do not conflict with any Rules or Bylaws of a higher authority including, but not limited to these Rules. All such Rules and Bylaws shall be filed with the SREC and with the Secretary of State and are hereby adopted by reference.
- c. Organizational Meeting of the State Republican Executive Committee – The SREC shall hold its organizational meeting after the adjournment of the Biennial State Convention.
- d. Organizational Meeting of a County Executive Committee – A County shall hold its organizational meeting within forty-five (45) days after the term of office begins for the County Chairman and the Precinct Chairmen. (This is twenty (20) days after the Primary Run-off Election according to Subsection 171.022 (c) of the TEC.) The County Chairman shall be responsible for calling the meeting however, if the County Chairman does not call the meeting, then one-fourth (1/4) of the Precinct Chairmen may, by written demand, call an organizational meeting. Notice of the organizational meeting shall be mailed by USPS to the last known address of the members of the executive committee at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting and such notice shall state the time, date and location of the meeting and the names(s) of the person(s) issuing the call. The agenda of the organizational meeting shall include, but not be limited to, the swearing in of the newly elected executive committee members and the adoption of Bylaws and/or Rules for the biennium. The proposed Bylaws and/or Rules shall be sent out with the meeting call via USPS at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting.
- e. Open Meetings and Right to Testify – All meetings of any committee, sub-committee or ad hoc committee of any State or County Executive Committee shall be open to any member of that executive committee, and they shall have the right to appear before any such committee, subcommittee or ad hoc committee and make recommendations for the committee's consideration or testify concerning any item under purview of the committee. The committee may adopt reasonable rules including time limits for such presentations and may establish a reasonable limit of time for these presentations. This Rule does not preclude the committee from going into executive session; however, such executive session(s) shall be open to any member of the executive committee including ex-officio members.
- f. The County Chairman shall maintain a current list of the name, mailing address, phone number, email address (if available), and precinct number of every Republican Precinct Chair who was elected in the Primary, the Primary Runoff, or was appointed by a majority of the County Executive Committee participating in the election to make said appointment to fill a Precinct Chair vacancy. The list shall be updated within seven (7) business days of an election changing

the status of the list and shall be made available at reproduction costs or by email to any Republican Precinct Chair, Republican Party Official, Republican Elected Office Holder, or Republican Candidate for Elective Office of the county requesting such.

- g. Pursuant to Section 171.022, Texas Election Code, precinct chairs shall be elected by plurality vote.

#### **Rule No. 9 – Executive Committee Quorum**

- a. Non-Statutory Business – At County or District Executive Committee meetings, one-fourth (1/4) of the membership, excluding vacancies, shall constitute a quorum for conduct of non-statutory business. At SREC meetings, the quorum for conduct of non-statutory business shall be in accordance with the SREC bylaws. If the quorum provided above is not present at any executive committee meeting, then only statutory business (called for by the Texas Election Code) may be transacted at a meeting.
- b. Statutory Business – At SREC, County, or District Executive Committee meetings, a quorum for conduct of statutory business (called for by the Texas Election Code) shall consist of those members present.

# GENERAL RULES FOR ALL CONVENTIONS

## **Rule No. 10 - Supplementary Convention Rules**

- a. Any convention may adopt temporary or permanent rules which supplement these Rules, as long as such supplementary rules do not conflict herewith.
- b. Any convention committee may adopt supplemental rules related to its proceedings provided that such rules do not conflict with these rules or any supplemental rules adopted by the convention.

## **Rule No. 11 - Convention Officials Listed – Challenge**

- a. Convention Officials – The officers of any convention, whether it be in temporary or permanent organization, shall consist of a Chairman, a Secretary, a Sergeant-at-Arms, and such other officers as the Chairman may deem necessary. The Secretary and the Sergeant-at-Arms shall have the power to appoint assistants. The permanent officers, except parliamentarian, shall be elected or appointed from among the convention delegates.
- b. Challenge – Any officer or committee chairman of any convention, whether it be in temporary or permanent organization, who intentionally violates the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas or the directives of the Texas Election Code, shall be subject to a challenge filed under the provisions of Rule No. 27; and if such challenge is upheld by the Convention which hears the challenge, that officer or committee chairman shall be removed from serving as a delegate to any convention of the Party at any level throughout the year.

## **Rule No. 12 - Resolutions Authorized - No Unit Rule**

Any convention may express its sense on an issue by adopting a resolution on that issue; however, the use of the unit rule (whereby the entire delegation votes as a unit not recognizing the minority votes within the delegation) or the practice of giving binding instructions to the delegates shall not be permitted at any level of the convention process.

## **Rule No. 13 – Convention Quorum – Adjournment**

- a. County or Senatorial District Convention – There shall be no quorum to convene a County or Senatorial District Convention. Thereafter, a quorum shall be considered present as long as:
  1. The number of votes represented by the persons in attendance comprises more than fifty percent (50%) of the total voting strength of the Convention; and
  2. A majority of the seated precincts are present.
- b. State Convention – A quorum to convene the State Convention shall consist of a majority of the delegates registered as attending. Thereafter, a quorum shall be considered present as long as:
  1. The number of votes represented by delegates in attendance comprises more than fifty percent (50%) of the total voting strength of the Convention;
  2. A majority of the seated districts are present; and
  3. One-third (1/3) of the seated delegates are present.
- c. Adjournment – In order to adjourn a convention for lack of a quorum, the Chair shall verify the absence of a quorum, using the aforementioned criteria, and such verification shall be made part of the convention minutes; provided however, that no quorum shall be required for consideration of the report of a nominations committee or for the election of delegates and alternates.

**Rule No. 14 - Open Meeting and Right to Testify**

All meetings of any committee or sub-committee of any convention, whether it be in temporary or permanent organization, shall be open to any delegate or alternate to that convention, any State or County Republican Party Officer, any elected Republican Public Officeholder or any Republican Candidate.

These same people shall have the right to appear before any convention committee or sub-committee and make recommendations for the committee's consideration or testify concerning any item under purview of the committee. The committee may adopt reasonable rules including time limits for such presentations and may establish a reasonable limit of time for these presentations. This privilege shall include delegates and alternates under challenge at any convention pursuant to Rule No. 35.

**Rule No. 15 - Identification Required**

Any person present at any convention must identify himself when requested to do so by the Sergeant-at-Arms, his assistants, or any other officer of the convention.

**Rule No. 15A - Distribution of Literature**

Literature may be freely distributed in the delegate and alternate seating areas of any State or County/Senatorial District Convention or Caucus, provided that the items being distributed display the name and address of the person and/or organization represented.

**Rule No. 16 - Previous Question**

- a. Previous Question – At any convention, when the previous question has been moved and seconded and is sustained by a majority vote, the question shall be deemed to have been called and a vote shall occur upon the pending question, except as provided in subsection b of this Rule.
- b. Exception – At any convention, a motion to move the previous question or to close nomination concerning any election, including the election of delegates and alternates shall not be in order until there has been reasonable opportunity for additional nominations, debate and/or amendment.

**Rule No. 17 - Debate**

- a. Main Motions – No delegate shall speak for more than five (5) minutes on a main motion without the general consent of the Convention; nor shall he speak more than once on the same motion without general consent.
- b. Amendments and Secondary Motions – No delegate shall speak more than three (3) minutes on any amendment or debatable motion subsequently made while a main motion is pending without the general consent of the Convention; nor shall he speak more than once on the same motion without general consent.
- c. Committee Reports – The delegate making the committee report and the delegate making the minority report of any convention committee may speak on such report for up to ten (10) minutes, and may then answer legitimate questions asked by any delegate relating to such report.
- d. Limiting Debate – Any Convention, by majority vote, may limit or extend equally the time and the number of speakers for each side of a debatable motion.

**Rule No. 18 - Voting Strength - Number of Delegates**

The Convention will continue to enjoy its full strength in the cases of preceding Conventions not electing

all delegates to which it is entitled. No Convention shall elect fractional delegates; i.e. no Convention shall elect more delegates or alternates than the number to which it is entitled.

# **GENERAL RULES FOR PRECINCT CONVENTIONS**

## **Rule No. 19 – Removed by SREC Vote – February 29. 2012**

### **Rule No. 19A – Local Option Precinct Convention**

A county executive committee, by a majority vote of those present and voting, at a meeting called in accordance with these rules and local bylaws, not later than fourteen (14) days prior to the date scheduled for county and senatorial district conventions, may elect to hold precinct conventions preceding the county or senatorial district convention, at a location or locations to be designated by the county executive committee that meet the same requirements for access by the elderly and persons with physical disabilities as a polling place under Section 43.034, Texas Election Code. The county executive committee shall be responsible for publicizing this local option precinct convention among all Republican voters in its county, by at a minimum posting the date, time, and location(s) of such convention(s) on the bulletin board used for posting notice of meetings of the commissioners court; posting the same on the county party's website, if any; sending the same to each address contained in the county party's electronic mail list, if any; and providing a copy of the same to the State Chairman, who shall cause it to be posted on the website of the Republican Party of Texas no later than seven (7) days prior to the date and time set for convening the local option precinct convention. If the county party maintains neither a website nor an electronic mail list, a notice containing this information shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county no later than the deadline for distributing notice above. In the event the foregoing notice provision is not complied with by the county executive committee, no local option precinct conventions shall be held in that county. In the event that a local option precinct convention is held in accordance with this Rule, the following rules, as they existed on October 2, 2011, apply to the conduct of precinct and county or senatorial district conventions to the extent of a conflict with these Rules: RPT Rules 13; 20; 21; 22, with the exception of section (c) of that rule; 23; sections (a)(1), (b), and (d)(2) of Rule 23A; 24; 25; 26; 29; and 30.

## **Rule No. 20 - Removed by SREC Vote – February 29. 2012**

## **Rule No. 21 - Removed by SREC Vote – February 29. 2012**

## **Rule No. 22 - Removed by SREC Vote – February 29. 2012**

# GENERAL RULES FOR COUNTY, SENATORIAL, DISTRICT AND STATE CONVENTIONS

## **Rule No. 23 - Convention Resolutions**

All resolutions including those offered by delegates for consideration by the Convention shall be filed with the Secretary of the Convention not later than thirty (30) minutes after the Permanent Committee on Platform and Resolutions is appointed and shall automatically and without debate be referred by the Secretary of the Convention to the Committee on Platform and Resolutions or other committee appropriate to the subject for consideration and report. The Secretary of the Convention shall remain available in a publicly announced location easily accessible from the convention floor during the period in which such resolutions can be filed. All resolutions adopted by the next lower level convention shall be considered by the Temporary Platform and Resolutions committee of the next higher level convention. A temporary or permanent resolutions committee may originate resolutions.

## **Rule No. 23A - Delegate Allocations and Entitlements**

- a. Each County and Senatorial District convention shall use the county election precincts in place for the 2010 General Election for State and County Officers for all purposes related to the conduct of each County or Senatorial District Convention. In the event a Senate District splits a 2010 General Election precinct, the State Chairman shall provide a map of each such split precinct to the County Chairman for use in determining delegate allocation and participation in Senatorial District Conventions.
- b. In the event the last day of candidate filing for a place on the General Primary ballot for public office has not occurred at least one week prior to the date for the County or Senatorial District Conventions, all counties shall meet in a County Convention to select delegates to the State Convention. The delegate and alternate entitlements set forth below for County Conventions shall apply regardless of the fact that a county might contain multiple senate districts, provided however that the geographic distribution of all delegates and alternates elected to the State Convention from the county, whether elected at-large or allocated to precincts or both, be roughly proportional to the geographic distribution of votes cast for the Party's gubernatorial candidates in the most recent gubernatorial general election. In this event, delegates will be assigned to senate and congressional districts by the State Chairman no later than the first General Session of the State Convention for the purposes of conducting business at the State Convention. The delegate and alternate entitlements to the State Conventions shall be based on the number of votes cast for the Party's gubernatorial candidate in the most recent gubernatorial general election.
  1. Each precinct at a County or Senatorial District convention shall be entitled to one vote in all matters at that convention for each twenty-five (25) votes cast for the Party's gubernatorial candidate in the most recent gubernatorial general election and major fraction thereof within the boundaries of the voting precinct and further shown in more detail on the following table, provided that any Precinct shall be entitled to at least one (1) vote:

Gubernatorial Votes  
0-37

Convention Votes  
1

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| 38-62       | 2           |
| 63-87       | 3           |
| 88-112      | 4           |
| 113-137     | 5           |
| <i>etc.</i> | <i>etc.</i> |

2. Each County or Senatorial District Convention shall be entitled to elect one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate to the State Convention based on a ratio of one (1) for each 300 votes and major fraction thereof within the boundaries of the County or Senatorial District and further shown in more detail on the following table provided that any County or Senatorial District Convention shall be entitled to elect at least two (2) delegates and two (2) alternates:

| <u>Votes</u> | <u>Delegates</u> | <u>Alternates</u> |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 0-750        | 2                | 2                 |
| 751-1050     | 3                | 3                 |
| 1051-1350    | 4                | 4                 |
| 1351-1650    | 5                | 5                 |
| <i>etc.</i>  | <i>etc.</i>      | <i>etc.</i>       |

3. Each County/Senatorial District Convention delegate and alternate delegate entitlement to the State Convention shall be increased proportionately among all delegations to achieve a State Convention potential delegate and alternate delegate roll of no less than 7,500 delegates and 7,500 alternate delegates and no more than 9,000 delegates and 9,000 alternate delegates to the State Convention. The cap of 9,000 delegates and 9,000 alternate delegates shall not apply in the event that all counties meet in County Conventions for the purposes of selecting delegates and alternate delegates to the State Convention.
- c. Delegates and alternates to the State Convention. In the event all counties meet in County Conventions, all delegates and alternates to the state convention in a presidential year will be assigned by the State Chairman to Congressional Districts no later than the convening of the First General Session. Otherwise, the delegate and alternate entitlement in a presidential election year for a County or Senatorial District Convention which includes more than one (1) Congressional District shall be apportioned among the Congressional Districts in the same manner they are apportioned to the County or Senatorial Districts, provided that the total delegate and alternate entitlement from the County or Senatorial District does not exceed that provided for in this Rule. If the calculation of delegate and alternate entitlements by Congressional District are different from the calculation of delegate and alternate entitlements by County or Senatorial District, the following guidelines shall be used in adjusting the total delegate/alternate entitlements:
1. The delegate and alternate totals shall not be greater than the delegate/alternate calculation for the County or Senatorial District except that any Congressional District shall be entitled to elect at least one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate which may cause the delegate/alternate entitlement for a County or Senatorial District to exceed the total entitlement for the County or Senatorial District by the number of delegates and

- alternates from one (1) or more Congressional Districts with less than enough votes to get an entitlement of greater than one (1) pursuant to section a of this Rule, in a presidential election year;
2. Except as provided in subsection 1 above, if the calculation for delegates and alternates by Congressional District should exceed the number of delegates and alternates by Senatorial District, then the delegate and alternate entitlement to the Congressional District shall be reduced beginning with the smallest fraction, then continuing to the next higher fraction until the calculations are equal;
  3. If the calculation for delegates and alternates by Senatorial District should exceed the number of delegates and alternates by Congressional District, then the delegate and alternate entitlement to the Congressional District shall be increased beginning with the highest fraction, then continuing to the next lower fraction until the calculations are equal;
  4. In a presidential election year, each delegate and each alternate shall have credentials for both the Senatorial District and the Congressional District Caucuses and if a delegate or alternate is not credentialed for both, the delegate or alternate shall not be credentialed for either.
- d. In the event of boundary changes among precincts or districts, or the creation or deletion of precincts or districts since the most recent gubernatorial election, the following rules shall govern the allocation of gubernatorial votes to the changed or newly created precincts or districts.
1. The apportionment of gubernatorial votes to the newly created or changed precincts or districts shall be made using any fair and equitable method for making such determination.
  2. The County Executive Committee shall apportion to each precinct the number of votes to be used in conducting business at the County or Senatorial District Convention using any fair and equitable method for making the determination.
  3. When the boundaries of a Senatorial District or Congressional District have changed or a new district formed causing a boundary change in an election precinct, the apportionment of gubernatorial votes to each precinct shall be used in allocating the number of delegates to be elected in each affected district.
  4. If the County Executive Committee fails to act before the last day of candidate filing for a place on the General Primary ballot for public office, the State Chairman shall make such apportionment of the gubernatorial vote to precincts and districts. The State Chairman shall provide the State Convention delegate allocation totals for each whole county and split district to each county chairman no later than one week following the last day of candidate filing for a place on the General Primary ballot for public office.

#### **Rule No. 24 - Minority Reports of Committees**

At any convention, a minority report of a committee, shall be presented to the Convention, if it has been reduced to writing signed by not less than two (2) or twenty percent (20%) of the members of such committee, whichever is greater, and presented to the chairman of the committee before the committee adjourns. The committee member who presents the minority report to the Convention shall be permitted to move the implementing motion.

#### **Rule No. 25 - Qualifications for Participation, Persons Admitted and Who May Address**

- a. **Qualifications for Participation** – The only qualification for participation in a Convention shall be that a registered voter in the territory covered by the Convention, or a resident of that territory who is eligible to vote a limited ballot, shall have established Party affiliation. Persons whose Texas voter registration is not effective as of the date of a Convention may not participate in a Convention unless that person is also a resident of the territory covered by the Convention and eligible to vote a limited ballot in that territory. Party affiliation may be established by voting in the Republican General Primary or by executing an oath of affiliation in the following form, “I swear that I have not voted in a primary election or participated in a convention of another party during this voting year. I hereby affiliate myself with the Republican Party.” The oath may be executed in writing or orally, provided however that a written record of all persons executing the oath, including their signature, full name, permanent address, and voter unique identification number (VUID) be included in the minutes of the Convention. The written record shall be certified by the Permanent Chairman, attested to by the Permanent Secretary, and in addition to the copy included in the minutes of the Convention, three certified copies shall be prepared and provided to the County Chairman, State Chairman, and the chief elections officer of the county in which the Convention is held, each of whom shall file and maintain a copy thereof for the remainder of the voting year. The copy provided to the State Chairman must be accompanied by a list of VUIDs of persons taking the oath in an electronic form prescribed by the State Chairman. The party officer administering the oath or the written form of oath shall include the following statement with the oath, “Section 162.014, Texas Election Code, provides that a person commits a Class C Misdemeanor offense if the person knowingly votes or attempts to vote in a primary election or participates or attempts to participate in a convention of a party after having voted in a primary election or participated in a convention of another party during the same voting year. A vote in a primary election is void if the voter previously voted in a primary election of another party or participated in a convention of another party during the same voting year.” A person who participates in a convention or primary election of a party other than the Republican Party during the same voting year is disqualified from participation as a delegate, alternate, party officer, or nominee of the Republican Party at any level during the voting year.
- b. **Admittance** – At the State Convention, there shall be admitted to the convention floor only delegates whose names are listed on the temporary roll during the temporary organization or on the permanent roll when adopted by the Convention, past State Chairmen and Vice Chairmen, the present members of the SREC, its officers and employees, the National Committeeman and Committeewoman, past National Committeemen and Committeewomen, properly accredited members of the media, babies of nursing mothers who are delegates, Republican public officeholders, Republican candidates for public office, and persons assisting delegates that have physical disabilities.
- c. **Badges** – The Secretary of the State Convention is instructed to issue identification badges in accordance with the above, and the Sergeant-at-Arms and his assistants shall admit only authorized persons to the convention floor. Seating shall be provided for alternates in the section(s) designated for guests.
- d. **Addressing Convention** – At any convention, no person other than a Republican Party of Texas official, member of the SREC, or delegate shall address the Convention or Caucus of the convention without the permission of the Chairman or the general consent of the Convention or Caucus of the convention.

- e. At any convention, registration and credentialing shall continue through adjournment.
- f. Notice of County or Senatorial District Convention - The county executive committee shall be responsible for publicizing the County or Senatorial District Convention among all Republican voters in its county, by at a minimum posting the date, time, and location(s) of such convention(s) on the bulletin board used for posting notice of meetings of the commissioners court; posting the same on the county party's website, if any; sending the same to each address contained in the county party's electronic mail list, if any; and providing a copy of the same to the State Chairman, who shall cause it to be posted on the website of the Republican Party of Texas no later than ten (10) days prior to the date and time set for convening the County or Senatorial Convention. If the county party maintains neither a website or an electronic mail list, a notice containing this information shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county no later than the deadline for distributing notice above.

### **Rule No. 26 - Seating of Alternates**

At the State Convention:

- a. Order of Seating Alternates – Alternates shall be seated for absent delegates in the order listed in the minutes of the convention electing them; however, if instructions are provided by the Convention electing such alternates, said instructions shall be followed in the seating of alternates.
- b. Voting in Caucuses – Alternates shall be admitted to all district or precinct caucuses; however, they shall not vote or be provided any privileges of a delegate unless seated for an absent delegate.
- c. Limitations on Using Alternates – Alternates shall replace delegates absent from the voting floor only from the same convention electing such alternates.
- d. Timing of Seating – Alternates may be seated to replace absent delegates at any time in a convention by the chairman of a delegation and seated alternates shall relinquish their seat upon the return to the floor by the delegate except that:
  - 1. Alternates shall be seated to replace delegates absent from the voting floor prior to the beginning of any vote and shall not be seated or unseated during any vote.
  - 2. In caucuses, alternates shall be seated to replace delegates absent from the voting floor prior to roll call of the caucus or delegation of the caucus and shall not be seated or unseated during the roll call of the caucus or delegation of the caucus.
  - 3. Alternates under challenge pursuant to Rule No. 27 shall not be seated until the challenge is resolved.

### **Rule No. 27 - Challenges to Credentials of Delegates**

- a. State Convention.
  - 1. Filing of Challenge. The credentials of any delegate or alternate to the State Convention may be challenged by any person who participated in the same County or Senatorial District Convention as the delegate or alternate he wishes to challenge by sending to the State Chairman and to the delegate(s) or alternate(s) to whom such challenge relates a written challenge specifying the grounds for the challenge and detailing the specific Rule or Rules alleged to have been violated. The challenge shall be sent via certified return

- receipt or registered mail no later than seven (7) days following the date of the county or Senatorial District Convention. The State Chairman shall deliver all such challenges to the Republican State Officials Committee (as constituted in the bylaws of the SREC).
2. State Officials Committee. Without attempting to assess merit or lack of merit, the Officials Committee shall in open session without taking testimony conduct a preliminary review of each challenge in order to establish whether the basis for the challenge is valid under the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas. The Officials Committee shall forward to the Temporary Committee on Credentials all challenges alleging violations of Party Rules at a county or senatorial district convention unless the Officials Committee determines the basis of the challenge to be frivolous, i.e. irrelevant or lacking in substance. Any challenge deemed frivolous shall not be forwarded to the Temporary Committee on Credentials, and the principal(s) who brought such challenge and the principal(s) against whom the challenge was brought shall be promptly notified by certified with return receipt or registered mail. The Credentials Committee shall not hear a late challenge of a delegate or alternate.
  3. Appeal. A decision of the Officials Committee may be appealed by either party to the Temporary Committee on Credentials by mailing of appeal via certified with return receipt or registered mail notice to the Credentials Committee Chairman and to the principal(s) named in the challenge no later than ten (10) days prior to the date that the State Convention holds its first (1st) general session.
- b. Status of Challenged Delegate. No delegate whose credentials are challenged shall lose his eligibility to serve on a temporary committee, although he may not vote in the Credentials Committee on his own challenge.
  - c. Committee on Credentials Procedure. At the State convention, the Temporary Committee on Credentials, when it convenes, shall hear both sides of the challenge and shall report to the Convention the names of the delegates or alternates whom it believes are entitled to participate in the convention. The Convention shall vote on the report of the Committee on Credentials on each challenge that is made. Challenged delegates shall be listed on the Temporary Roll, but may not vote on their own challenge. Furthermore, delegates from delegations that are being challenged may not be seated until the challenge is resolved.

#### **Rule No. 28 - Conventions in County with Multiple Senatorial Districts**

- a. If a county is situated in more than one state Senatorial District, instead of a County Convention, a Senatorial District Convention shall be held in each part of the county that is situated in a different Senatorial District, provided, however, that shared facilities may be utilized for separate Senatorial District Conventions and may be held outside the geographical boundaries of the Senatorial District, if party interests and public accessibility will be served as determined by the affected Senatorial District Executive Committees no later than the date on which drawing for a position on the primary ballot is conducted. A meeting for this purpose shall have been called by written notice to each member of the respective Senatorial District Executive Committees from the County Chairman, post-marked no later than three (3) days prior to the meeting. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the last day of candidate filing for a place on the General Primary ballot for public office has not occurred at least one week prior to the date for

the County or Senatorial District Conventions, all counties shall meet in a County Convention to select delegates to the State Convention.

- b. A County Chair is the temporary chair of a County Convention. The chair of the district executive committee within each county is the temporary chair of the respective Senatorial District Convention if one is held.

#### **Rule No. 29 - County/Senatorial Convention Committees**

- a. Prior to each County or Senatorial District Convention, the Temporary Chairman shall appoint the following committees, and name the chairmen thereof, provided that all members shall have affiliated by oath with the Republican Party as specified in Rule 25. Each such committee shall be composed of at least five (5) and not more than fifteen (15) members. The cap of fifteen (15) members per committee shall not apply in the event all counties meet in County Conventions. The committees and their duties shall be as follows:
  - 1. Credentials: This committee shall coordinate registration of convention attendees, classification of those attendees into precincts, and shall recommend the Permanent Roll of the Convention.
  - 2. Rules: This committee shall recommend the Supplementary Rules for the Convention.
  - 3. Permanent Organization: This committee shall recommend permanent officers of the convention .
  - 4. Resolutions: This committee shall conduct preliminary deliberations for the purpose of making recommendations to the Permanent Resolutions Committee.
  - 5. Nominations: This committee shall conduct preliminary deliberations for the purpose of making recommendations to the Permanent Nominations Committee.
- b. The Temporary Convention Chairman shall make available at the Chairman's podium at the start of the convention, no fewer than five (5) copies of the Temporary Rules Committee report and no fewer than five (5) copies of the Temporary Resolutions Committee report, and announce they may be inspected by any delegate or alternate to the convention.
- c. Immediately upon the election of the Permanent Chairman, the Permanent Chairman shall appoint the following Permanent Committees from among the delegates, whose duties shall be as stated below, and the chairmen thereof, provided that if the convention has more than twenty-five (25) delegates, each such committee shall be composed of at least five (5) and not more than fifteen (15) delegates. The cap of fifteen (15) delegates per committee shall not apply in the event all counties meet in county conventions. The committees and their duties shall be as follows:
  - 1. Nominations: This committee shall present nominations for delegates and alternates to the State Convention, after considering the recommendations of the Temporary Nominations Committee.
  - 2. Resolutions: This committee shall recommend resolutions to the Convention, after considering the recommendations of the Temporary Resolutions Committee.

#### **Rule No. 30 - County/Senatorial Convention Agenda**

The agenda for each County or Senatorial District Convention shall include the following order of business.

- a. Call to order by the Temporary Chairman and administration of Oath of Affiliation.

- b. Roll call of precinct delegations present. (The registration list may be used at the start of the convention to establish the temporary roll and a quorum for the convention, when approved by a majority voice vote of those present. Attendees must provide proper identification upon registration to obtain their credentials, if this method is to be used.) At conclusion of roll call the Secretary shall announce:
  - 1. the number of delegations present;
  - 2. the separate and combined voting strength of those delegations; and
  - 3. the number of those attending at start of convention.
- c. Report of the Rules Committee; adoption of supplemental rules.
- d. Report of the Permanent Organization Committee; election of permanent officers.
- e. Appointment of Permanent Nominations and Permanent Resolutions Committees.
- f. Precinct Caucuses, if applicable.
- g. Report of the Nominations Committee; adoption of nominations.
- h. Report of the Resolutions Committee; adoption of resolutions.
- i. Other business.
- j. Adjourn.

Provided, however, that such order of business may be changed by affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates present and voting.

#### **Rule No. 31 - Report of Nominations Committee**

At a County or Senatorial District Convention, the Committee on Nominations shall present a report including a list of delegates and alternates for election to the State Convention and the Nominations Committee shall designate the manner in which alternates shall replace absent delegates. That report may be amended by the Convention by the process of adding, or by striking and inserting, or by substitution. The Convention shall then elect the delegates and alternates to the State Convention by adopting the report, or the report as amended, of the Nominations Committee. All delegates and alternates may be elected at-large, or some or all may be allocated to precincts, at the discretion of the Convention.

#### **Rule No. 32 - Certified List of Delegates**

Delegates and alternates to the Republican State Convention shall be made aware, at the time they submit their names, that any contact information provided may be disclosed in accordance with the following:

- a. The Permanent Chairman of a County or Senatorial District Convention shall be responsible for making a certified list of the delegates and alternates chosen, with residence addresses including towns shown thereon, Voter Unique Identification Number (VUID), phone number (if available), and email address (if available), together with a copy of all resolutions adopted by the Convention, and shall sign or electronically certify the same, the Permanent Secretary of such convention attesting his signature or electronically certifying the same; and within three (3) days after the convention shall electronically submit such certified lists, and resolutions to the State Chairman at using an online system prescribed by the Republican Party of Texas. The lists, resolutions, and other records of the convention only to the extent required by law shall be made available by the Permanent Chairman for inspection and copying during office hours, at a charge not to exceed \$1.00 per page.

- b. Any compilation of delegate and alternate information prepared by the Republican Party of Texas shall not be treated as a public record. However, subject to appropriate proprietary agreements, said compilation shall be made available to any then current delegate or alternate of the Republican State Convention or any Republican officeholder or candidate for Party or public office or Party County Chairman at a charge not to exceed \$25.00 per 1,000 delegates and alternates provided. Said information and its updates shall be made available at the earliest practical date and initially no later than five (5) weeks from the date of the last County or Senatorial District Convention. Said information, once available, shall be provided to a qualified requestor within no more than seven (7) business days of the receipt by the Republican Party of Texas State Headquarters of the order form and payment.

# GENERAL RULES FOR STATE CONVENTIONS

## Rule No. 33 - Temporary Organization

- a. Time, Place and Call. Time, Place and Call. The SREC shall select the time and place of the State Convention, and the State Chairman shall include this information along with the date and place of temporary committee meetings in the call to the convention, which shall be electronically or postal mailed at least ten (10) days prior to the Convention to each delegate and alternate on the temporary roll. The State Chairman shall recommend the temporary convention agenda and order of business to the SREC.
- b. Temporary Committees. Within ten (10) days following the County/Senatorial District Conventions, the two (2) SREC members representing each Senatorial District, either separately or jointly, shall recommend to the State Chairman one (1) representative from among their district's delegates to each of the State Convention temporary committees. The State Chairman shall appoint one (1) delegate from each Senatorial District to each of these committees from among these recommendations timely submitted, or of his own choosing if no names were submitted, or none were eligible or willing to serve.

In addition to these members, the State Chairman shall appoint the Chairman for each temporary committee. These lists of members and Chairmen, including contact information, shall be posted to the Republican Party of Texas' website within thirty (30) days following the County/Senatorial District Conventions. Said list(s) will be dated and updated as new/corrected information is obtained.

The temporary committees are:

1. Credentials: This committee shall hear any contests concerning delegates and alternates which were not filed as challenges and shall recommend the resolution of such contests, plus the temporary roll about which there is no contest, to the SREC. Additionally, this committee shall hear all challenges forwarded to it by the State Officials Committee, plus any challenge under appeal, and shall recommend the resolution thereof to the State Convention.
  2. Temporary Organization: This committee shall recommend the temporary organization of the convention to the SREC. The State Chairman shall be the Temporary Chairman of the Biennial State Convention. The officers of each State Convention shall include a registered parliamentarian, appointed by the State Chairman.
  3. Rules: This committee shall recommend the Supplementary Rules for the Convention to the SREC and may recommend changes in these General Rules to the Permanent Committee on Rules.
  4. Platform and Resolutions: This committee shall conduct the preliminary deliberations for the purpose of making recommendations to the Permanent Committee on Platform and Resolutions.
- c. SREC Pre-convention Meeting. Prior to the convention, the SREC shall approve the following:
    1. The Temporary Roll of the Convention, excluding those challenges, if any, to be resolved by the Convention as provided in Rule No. 27.

2. The temporary Supplementary Rules of the Convention, which together with these General Rules shall be the Temporary Rules of the Convention.
  3. The temporary agenda and order of business of the convention.
  4. The temporary organization of the convention.
- d. Temporary Caucus Chairman. Prior to each State Convention in Presidential election years the State Chairman shall appoint the Temporary Chairman of each Congressional District Caucus. Prior to each State Convention, the two (2) members from each Senatorial District of the SREC shall appoint one (1) representative from among their Senatorial District's delegates to be the Temporary Chairman in Senatorial District Caucus; provided, however, that if requested in writing by Senatorial District Convention resolution, the State Chairman shall appoint the Permanent Chairman of the last Senatorial District Convention for those Senatorial Districts which lie solely within one (1) county, unless the Permanent Chairman is unable or unwilling to serve. If the two (2) SREC members cannot agree on a selection, then each shall submit a name to the State Chairman, who will select one (1) of the names submitted. If any appointed delegate is unable to serve, the State Chairman may appoint a replacement.

#### **Rule No. 34 - Permanent Committees and Composition**

At each Biennial State Convention, the membership of each permanent committee listed below shall be composed of one (1) delegate from each Senatorial District, to be elected by caucus of the delegates in each such district, plus the Chairman thereof, to be appointed by the State Chairman.

Such permanent committees shall be as follows:

- a. Credentials: This committee shall recommend to the Convention the Permanent Roll of the Convention.
- b. Organization: This committee shall recommend to the Convention the permanent organization.
- c. Rules and Order of Business: This committee shall recommend to the Convention the Supplementary Rules of the Convention, any amendments to these General Rules, and the Order of Business.
- d. Platform and Resolutions: This committee shall recommend to the Convention the platform (if applicable) and the resolutions.
- e. State Nominations: This committee shall report to the Convention nominations for the state positions to be filled by the Convention.

#### **Rule No. 34A - National Nominations Committee**

At the Biennial State Convention in presidential election years, there shall also be a permanent National Nominations Committee composed of one (1) delegate from each Congressional District, to be elected by caucus of the delegates in each such district, plus the chairman thereof, to be appointed by the State Chairman. The Chairman of the permanent National Nominations Committee shall convene the meeting of the committee two (2) hours after the start of the Congressional Caucus with a quorum being present. This committee shall report to the Convention nominations for National Delegates and Alternates, Presidential Electors, and National Committeeman and National Committeewoman, which nominations have previously been made in accordance with Rule Nos. 39 and 40, and sections 6 and 7 of Rule No. 38.

**Rule No. 35 - Temporary Committee on Credentials – Contest**

At a State Convention, any delegate or alternate who has filed a challenge or who has been challenged including delegates and alternates whose names are not listed on the Temporary Roll of the Convention, but are listed on County or Senatorial District Convention Minutes and Returns filed with the State Chairman shall be allowed admittance to the room in which the Temporary Committee on Credentials holds its meetings for the purpose of presenting a contest and may speak to the merits of their case within the time limits established by the committee. The contestants from only one (1) County or Senatorial District shall be admitted at one (1) time. Any contest will be reported by the Credentials Committee to the SREC, with a recommendation as to its resolution, and the decision of the SREC will be final in determining its effect on the Temporary Roll of the Convention. If the contest is filed as a challenge, in accordance with provisions of Rule No. 27, the issue will be presented by the Credentials Committee with a recommendation for its resolution, to the full Convention for final determination.

**Rule No. 36 - Seating and Voting/State Conventions**

Seating and voting at the Biennial State Convention shall be by Congressional District or Senatorial District as appropriate.

**Rule No. 37 - Is intentionally blank.**

## **Rule No. 38 - National Convention Delegates and Alternates - Amended February 29, 2012**

### **Section 1. Presidential Primary, Application of Rule**

- a. Presidential Primary: A Presidential Primary election shall be conducted by the Republican Party in the year 1980 and every fourth year thereafter in conjunction with the Party's General Primary Election for the purpose of permitting the qualified voters of Texas to express their respective preferences as to the nominee of the Republican Party to the office of President of the United States.
- b. Application of Rule: Such Presidential Primary shall be held, and the delegates and alternates to the National Convention for that year shall be selected and elected, in the manner and at the times set forth in this Rule.

### **Section 2. Method of Qualifying as Presidential Candidate**

- a. Filing: Any person eligible to hold the office of President of the United States may qualify to participate as a Presidential candidate in the presidential primary by filing with the State Chairman, not later than 6:00 p.m. the second Monday in December of an odd-numbered year preceding the presidential primary, a signed and acknowledged application for his or her name to be placed on the Presidential Primary ballot, accompanied by a supporting petition signed by a minimum of 300 registered voters of the state from each of a minimum of fifteen (15) Congressional Districts, or the payment of a filing fee of \$5,000.
- b. Signing Petition: A voter may sign only one (1) petition supporting one (1) candidate for President and may sign that petition only one (1) time. The name of any voter violating this provision shall be stricken from all petitions signed by that voter and shall not be counted for any purpose.
- c. Form of Petition: The SREC shall prescribe the form of all applications and petitions which are to be filed pursuant to this section and may by resolution provide for a method of verification of the petitions required here.
- d. Withdrawal or Death of Candidate: A Presidential candidate may withdraw from participation in the Presidential Primary at any time by filing with the Secretary of the SREC a signed and acknowledged request to that effect. If a Presidential candidate dies or withdraws before the seventy-ninth (79th) day prior to Election Day, the name of the candidate shall not appear on the ballot. If a candidate dies or withdraws during the seventy-nine (79) days before Primary Election Day, the votes cast for that candidate shall be deemed votes for uncommitted delegates and alternates. For the purpose of this section, withdrawal shall be accomplished only by the candidate filing a signed and acknowledged request to that effect with the Secretary of the SREC.
- e. Challenge to Petition: In the event of a challenge to a petition, the State Chairman shall follow the procedure for verification of signatures by means of statistical sampling as provided in Chapter 141, Sub-Chapter C, Section 141.069 of the Texas Election Code.
- f. Extended Deadlines Due to Court Order: In the event a state or federal court orders a modification to the deadlines for filing an application for a place on the ballot in the general primary election, the deadlines specified in that order shall supersede this Section to the extent of any conflict.

### **Section 3. The Presidential Primary Ballot**

- a. Listing on Ballot: The names of the qualifying Presidential candidates shall be printed on the ballot as a separate race (and as the first race if not prohibited by law) on the Party's Official Ballot for the General Primary. The names of the candidates shall be listed in a vertical column under the heading "Preference for Presidential Nominee." The order of appearance on the Ballot in each County shall be determined by lot in each County at a meeting of the County Executive Committee in accordance with Section 172.082, Texas Election Code.
- b. Uncommitted: In addition to the ballot listing of the names of the qualifying Presidential candidates, there shall appear at the bottom of such listing of candidates on said ballot a place designated "Uncommitted" in accordance with Section 4 of this Rule.
- c. Adjustment of Ballot for Various Methods of Voting: Appropriate changes shall be made in ballots for voting machines and electronic voting systems; consistent with the method of voting used.
- d. Style of Names: The type for all names of qualifying Presidential candidates shall be uniform and of the same size and the SREC shall prescribe a sample ballot and the State Chairman shall furnish a copy of the sample ballot to each County Chairman at the time prescribed by the Election Code for certifying the names to appear on the ballot.
- e. Write-in Prohibited: Write-in voting for presidential candidates shall not be permitted, and any write-in votes shall not be counted for any purpose.

#### **Section 4. Reserved.**

#### **Section 5. Canvass of Returns**

The returns of votes cast for Presidential candidates in the Republican Presidential Primary shall be canvassed by the SREC at the same time as the returns for other offices and shall be canvassed and recorded, in accordance with the results of the presidential primary vote.

#### **Section 6. Election of District Delegates and Alternates at State Convention**

- a. Number of District Delegates and Alternates: Three (3) district delegates from each Congressional District and three (3) alternates shall be elected at the State Convention required by Section 174.092, Texas Election Code, in accordance with this section.
- b. Each Congressional District shall meet and shall elect three delegates and three alternates. Elections of delegates and alternates shall be from persons nominated from the floor at the said meeting, provided however, that said nominee agrees to adhere to the pledge in the candidate commitment requirements under Section 10 hereof. Elections shall be by majority vote, one at a time, with all delegates being elected first and then all alternates. Those delegates and alternates elected by the Congressional District shall be submitted to the Convention, which shall confirm, and not amend, those district delegates and alternates who shall be the district delegates and alternates from Texas to the National Convention of the Republican Party, and shall be so certified in accordance with The Rules of the Republican Party.

#### **Section 7. Election of At-Large Delegates and Alternates at State Convention**

- a. As provided for in Rule No. 34A, each Congressional District Caucus shall meet at the State Convention, and elect one (1) person to serve as a member of the National Nominations

Committee from persons nominated from the floor at the said meeting. Election to this committee shall be by majority vote. In the same manner, each Congressional District Caucus may recommend the name of one (1) member for consideration by the National Nominations Committee as a National Convention delegate or alternate, but the National Nominations Committee is not required to accept such recommendation, in accordance with The Rules of the Republican Party.

- b. At the State Convention, the National Nominations Committee shall meet to select nominees for all at-large delegates and alternate delegates, and consider the recommended names of members of the Congressional District Caucuses for possible selection as National Convention Delegates and Alternates. Those individuals who have access to the floor of the National Convention by virtue of their office shall be prohibited for selection as an at-large national delegate, by the National Nominations Committee.
- c. Those at-large delegate and alternate nominees selected by the National Nominations committee shall be reported to the State Convention. This report shall not be amendable by the State Convention, but shall either be confirmed or rejected by the State Convention. If the report is rejected, it shall be immediately returned to the Committee for revision and then resubmitted to the State Convention, until the report is confirmed by the Convention. The at-large delegates and alternates shall also be bound by the pledge provisions of section 10 of this Rule. At-large delegates and alternates nominated and elected from Texas in accordance with this Rule shall be certified as the delegates and alternates from Texas in accordance with The Rules of the Republican Party for the National Convention.

**Section 8. Reserved.**

**Section 9. Reserved.**

**Section 10. Pledge of Delegates and Alternates.**

- a. Commitment to Candidate: In the event a presidential primary is held prior to the State Convention, the SREC will conduct a canvass of the presidential primary no later than Noon the Saturday of the State Convention. Following the canvass of the presidential primary by the SREC, the National Nominations Committee shall, in a manner directly proportional to the statewide presidential vote, as well as the presidential vote by congressional district, if possible, assign each delegate to represent a Presidential candidate (or uncommitted), and upon that assignment each delegate and alternate representing a Presidential candidate becomes pledged to the Presidential candidate on whose slate the delegate and alternate is nominated in accordance with subsection b of this section. The State Chairman, National Committeeman, and National Committeewoman, who are national delegates under Rule of The Republican Party 13(a)(2) by the virtue of their office shall not become pledged to a candidate and remain uncommitted as specified below, nor shall they be counted as uncommitted for the purposes of proportional assignment made in this section. In the event the presidential primary is not held prior to the State Convention, immediately following the canvass of the presidential primary by the SREC, the SREC shall, in a manner directly proportional to the statewide presidential vote, as well as the presidential vote by congressional district, if possible, assign each delegate to represent a Presidential candidate (or uncommitted).

- b. Length of Commitment: A person who is elected as a delegate or alternate to the National Convention and who is assigned to a Presidential candidate to represent that particular Presidential candidate at the National Convention and who does not resign from the position is pledged to support that Presidential candidate at the National Convention until the candidate is nominated or until the delegate or alternate is released from the pledges as follows:
  - 1. First (1st) nomination convention ballot: delegate or alternate shall be released from the pledge only in the event of death, withdrawal, or by decision of the candidate. For the first ballot taken at the National Convention to determine the nominee of the Republican Party for the office of President of the United States, the totals of the votes of the members of the Texas delegation shall be announced as they would have been if the individual delegates had been awarded to or designated for the respective candidates for such office on the Texas General Primary ballot in accordance with the statewide result of the voting for such candidates. No poll of the members of the delegation, except as provided below, shall be taken for the announcement of the vote. Uncommitted delegates, including the delegates who are members of the Republican National Committee, shall be polled by the chairman of the delegation prior to the announcement of the vote and the vote announced shall include the votes of those delegates.
  - 2. Second (2nd) and subsequent nominating convention ballots: delegates and alternates are released from any pledge and may vote as they choose on all questions and candidates presented at the National Convention.
- c. Uncommitted Delegates: Uncommitted delegates and alternates may vote as they choose on all questions and candidates presented at the National Convention.

#### **Section 11. Delegate/Alternate Resignation**

- a. Written Notice: Any delegate or alternate may resign by giving written notice to the Delegation Chairman and the State Chairman at any time before the date of the National Convention.
- b. Filling Vacancy: Should a vacancy occur in the at-large delegation after the date of the State Convention but prior to the convening of the National Convention, the Chairman of the National Nomination Committee of the State Convention shall fill such vacancy by appointing, in writing, any at-large alternate to fill any at-large delegate position. To fill the vacancy of an at-large alternate, the said Chairman may select any person eligible under this Rule to hold said position. In the case of a vacancy in a district delegate position, the paired alternate shall be designated a delegate, and the Chairman of the National Nomination Committee of the State Convention shall appoint a new alternate, with the condition that the person so appointed shall reside in the same Congressional District at the time of appointment as the Congressional District in which the vacancy occurred. In the case of a vacancy in a district alternate position, the Chairman of the National Nomination Committee of the State Convention shall appoint a new alternate, with the condition that the person so appointed shall reside in the same Congressional District at the time of appointment as the Congressional District in which the vacancy occurred. All appointments shall be made from those nominated at the convention, if possible. If no potential nominee exists, then the Chairman of the National Nomination Committee of the State Convention shall appoint as a new alternate anyone eligible under this Rule to hold said position, provided that said nominee(s) agree to adhere to pledge to the candidate required under section 10 hereof.

## **Section 12. Delegate and Alternate Qualifications**

Each nominee for delegate and alternate must have either voted in the Republican Presidential Primary or affiliated with the Republican Party by oath pursuant to Rule 25, and must be otherwise qualified to be a delegate or alternate under The Rules of the Republican Party.

### **Rule No. 39 - Presidential Electors**

At the Biennial State Convention in presidential election years, the delegates from each Congressional District shall nominate one (1) Presidential Elector and such nomination shall be presented to the National Nominations Committee; additionally, the National Nominations Committee shall select additional nominees to bring to total number of nominees to the number allowed by law. Each such nominee for Presidential Elector, prior to the report of the National Nominations Committee, shall file with the Chairman of the National Nominations Committee an affidavit in writing as to his commitment to vote for the Republican Party's nominees for President and Vice President. The report of the National Nominations Committee shall include only nominees who have so filed such affidavit. The report of the National Nominations Committee must include the nominees from the Congressional District who have so filed affidavits. The Convention shall then elect the Presidential Electors. Any vacancy among the Presidential Electors shall be filled by majority vote of the SREC, with the conditions that (1) the person elected to fill the vacancy shall have already filed with the State Chairman an affidavit in writing as to his commitment to vote for the Republican Party's nominees for President and Vice President and (2) if the vacancy occurs for a person who had been nominated by his Congressional District Caucus at the Biennial State Convention then the SREC shall elect a person who has filed such an affidavit, has made an affiliation with the Republican Party of Texas under Chapter 162 of the Texas Election Code, and resides in that same congressional district at the time he is elected by the SREC to be a replacement Presidential Elector.

### **Rule No. 40 - National Committeeman and Woman**

At the Biennial State Convention held in presidential election years, each Congressional District shall caucus and recommend a man for Republican National Committeeman from Texas and a woman for Republican National Committeewoman from Texas. These recommendations shall be forwarded to the National Nominations Committee by the district's member to the committee, who shall support them on at least the first (1st) round of voting. The National Nominations Committee shall select one (1) man and one (1) woman from these recommendations to be submitted to the Convention as nominees for these positions. Nominations from the floor shall be allowed only for candidates recommended by at least three (3) districts, or by petition signed by delegates equal in number to at least twenty percent (20%) of the convention voting strength. No person shall be eligible to be elected National Committeeman or National Committeewoman from Texas for more than two (2) consecutive four-year terms.

### **Rule No. 41 - State Party Chairman and Vice Chairman**

At the Biennial State Convention, each Senatorial District shall caucus and recommend a man and woman for State Chairman and Vice Chairman. These recommendations shall be forwarded to the State Nominations Committee by the district's member to the committee, who shall support them on at least the first (1st) round of voting. The State Nominations Committee shall select one (1) man and one (1) woman from these recommendations to be submitted to the Convention as nominees for these positions. Nominations from the floor shall be allowed only for candidates recommended by at least three (3)

districts, or by petition signed by delegates equal in number to at least twenty percent (20%) of the convention voting strength. No person shall be eligible to be elected Chairman or Vice Chairman for more than four (4) consecutive two-year terms to the same office.

**Rule No. 42 - State Republican Executive Committee (SREC)**

At the Biennial State Convention, each Senatorial District shall caucus and recommend two (2) nominees to represent that Senatorial District on the SREC as Committeeman and Committeewoman. The results shall be forwarded to the State Nominations Committee by the district's member to the committee, and the committee shall include the results in its report to the Convention. Those members selected to represent a particular Senatorial District must be those recommended by the convention delegates representing that Senatorial District. No person shall be eligible to be elected State Republican Executive Committee man or woman for more than four (4) consecutive two-year terms. The SREC shall be authorized to approve the minutes of the State Convention.

## **GENERAL RULES FOR CANDIDATES**

### **Rule No. 43 - Candidate Platform Review**

Any candidate running as a Republican for any public office on any ballot in the State of Texas shall be provided a copy of the Texas Republican Party Platform by the Republican Party of Texas. The Republican Party of Texas shall make an electronic copy of the platform available to each candidate upon request. The County or State Chairman shall distribute a copy of the Texas Republican Party Platform to each candidate along with all other candidate application papers. The candidate may indicate for each bullet item of the Party Principles included in the Preamble of the Texas Republican Party Platform, whether the candidate agrees, disagrees, or is undecided, as to each item, with comments if desired. The County or State Chairman shall also request that each candidate read the entire Texas Republican Party Platform and choose at least ten (10) line items from the Texas Republican Party Platform that the candidate strongly supports. The SREC shall also have the newest platform available to the candidates within two (2) months after the adoption of the Texas Republican Party Platform by the Republican Party of Texas Convention Delegates. Candidates for federal or state at-large office should file the completed platform containing the candidate's responses at the time of filing for office with the Republican Party of Texas. District and local candidates should file the completed platform containing the candidate's responses at the time of filing with their SREC member(s) or County Chairmen of the districts, or counties, respectively, in which they are running. The candidate's completed platform response shall be made available by the appropriate party official for one (1) year from the date of filing at reproduction costs to any person requesting such.

### **Rule No. 43A**

The Platform Committee of the Biennial State Convention shall prepare a list of no less than ten (10) and no more than twenty (20) principles included in the Preamble of the Texas Republican Party Platform which clearly defines the Republican Party of Texas' values, with the knowledge and purpose that they be used to identify candidate values as stated in Rule No. 43. If a candidate does not return the candidate's completed platform response, or fails to complete and return the Candidate Resource Committee (CRC) funding application platform questions, the candidate shall not be eligible to receive funds from the Candidate Resource Committee (CRC) of the SREC.

-----  
-----

## **Republican Party of Texas**

1108 Lavaca Street, Suite 500

Austin, Texas 78701

512-477-9821 (Telephone) 512-480-0709 (Fax)

[www.TexasGOP.org](http://www.TexasGOP.org)

Revised – February 29, 2012

Adopted by the Republican Executive Committee meeting in Austin, Texas on March 13, 1972; amended by the State Convention meeting in Dallas, Texas on September 19, 1972; amended by the State Convention meeting in Houston, Texas, on September 17, 1974; amended by the State Convention meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, on June 19, 1976; amended by the State Convention meeting in Austin, Texas, on September 11, 1976; amended by the State Convention meeting in Dallas, Texas on September 9, 1978; amended by the State Convention meeting in Houston, Texas on June 21, 1980; amended by the State Convention meeting in San Antonio, Texas, on September 6, 1980; amended by the State Convention meeting in Austin, Texas on September 11, 1982; amended by the State Convention in Corpus Christi, Texas on September 22, 1984; amended by the State Executive Committee meeting in Austin, Texas on November 23, 1985; amended by the State Convention in Dallas, Texas, on June 28, 1986; amended at the State Executive Committee meeting in Austin, Texas on May 30, 1987; amended at the State Executive Committee meeting in Copperas Cove, Texas on November 21, 1987; amended by the State Convention meeting in Houston, Texas on June 10, 1988; amended by the State Convention meeting in Fort Worth, Texas on June 30, 1990; amended by the State Convention meeting in Dallas, Texas on June 20, 1992; amended by the State Convention meeting in Fort Worth, Texas on June 11, 1994; amended by the State Convention meeting in Fort Worth, Texas on June 13, 1998; amended by the State Convention meeting in Houston, Texas on June 16, 2000; amended by the State Convention meeting in Dallas, Texas on June 8, 2002; amended by the State Convention meeting in San Antonio, Texas on June 4, 2004; amended by the State Convention meeting in San Antonio, Texas, on June 3, 2006; amended by the State Convention meeting in Houston, Texas, on June 13, 2008; amended by the State Convention meeting in Dallas, Texas on June 12, 2010; amended at the State Executive Committee meeting in Austin, Texas on October 1, 2011; amended at the State Executive Committee meeting on February 29, 2012. Pursuant to Section 163.006, Texas Election Code, any amendments made to these rules and contained herein which govern or affect the Republican Party of Texas' general or runoff primary elections, conventions or nominees, are effective January 1, 2011.