

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE MODEL DELEGATE SELECTION PLAN FOR THE 2008 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

This **Model Delegate Selection Plan** is furnished to State Democratic Parties (including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and Democrats Abroad) to assist with the preparation of their respective Plans for the 2008 delegate selection process. In preparing their Plans, State Parties are welcome, but not required, to follow this “model” format.

Provisions applicable for both typical primary or caucus states are included in this Model Plan. A State Party can adapt this document to the requirements of its own unique primary or caucus system. State or date references appear in parentheses (e.g., (*state*) or (*date*); state/system-specific choices or notations are indicated in brackets (e.g., [*indicate system: primary or caucus*]). All of these variables appear as ***bold and italicized*** text.

State Plans must be submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee by May 1, 2007. Before submitting the Plan, it must be approved by the State Party following a 30-day public comment period.

The Model Plan is available to State Parties electronically from the Office of Party Affairs and Delegate Selection at the Democratic National Committee.

For more information, please contact the Office of Party Affairs and Delegate Selection at 202/863-8046.

DIRECTIONS:

Please double click on the shaded area and enter or select the appropriate response. You will still need to fill in more detailed responses in certain portions of the document however this form will automatically populate the most frequent responses throughout the entire document.

Enter name of state: Puerto Rico

Enter total number of Delegates: 63

Enter total number of Alternates: 9

Select type of System: Presidential Primary

Enter number of District-Level Delegates: 36

Date of selection of District-Level Delegates:
6/01/08

Enter number of District-Level Alternates: 6

Date of selection of District-Level Alternates:
6/01/08

Enter number of Un-Pledged Add-On Delegates: 1

Date of Selection of Un-Pledged Add-On Delegate:
6/21/08

Enter number of Pledged PLEO Delegates: 7

Date of Selection of Pledged PLEO Delegates:
6/21/08

Enter number of At-Large Delegates: 12

Date of Selection of At-Large Delegates: 6/21/08

Enter number of At-Large Alternates: 3

Date of Selection of At-Large Alternates: 6/21/08

Enter number of Standing Committee Members: 2

Enter number of Convention Pages: 2

PUERTO RICO AMENDED DELEGATE SELECTION PLAN

COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO
AMENDED DELEGATE SELECTION PLAN
FOR THE 2008 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

ISSUED BY THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY
Of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico
MARCH 6, 2008



THE PUERTO RICO DELEGATE SELECTION PLAN
FOR THE 2008 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

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SECTION I

INTRODUCTION & DESCRIPTION OF DELEGATE SELECTION PROCESS

A. INTRODUCTION

1. Puerto Rico has a total of **63** delegates and **9** alternates. (Call, I. & Appendix B.)
2. The delegate selection process is governed by the *Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States*, the *Delegate Selection Rules for the 2008 Democratic National Convention* (“Rules”), the *Call for the 2008 Democratic National Convention* (“Call”), the *Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee for the 2008 Democratic National Convention* (“Regs.”), the rules of the Democratic Party of Puerto Rico, the Puerto Rico Electoral Law, and this Delegate Selection Plan. (Call, II.A.)
3. Following the adoption of this Delegate Selection Plan by the State Party Committee, it shall be submitted for review and approval by the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee (“RBC”). The State Party Chair shall be empowered to make any technical revisions to this document as required by the RBC to correct any omissions and/or deficiencies as found by the RBC to ensure its full compliance with Party Rules. Such corrections shall be made by the State Party Chair and the Plan resubmitted to the RBC within 30 days of receipt of notice of the RBC’s findings. (Regs. 2.5, 2.6 & 2.7)
4. Once this Plan has been found in Compliance by the RBC, any amendment to the Plan by the State Party will be submitted to and approved by the RBC before it becomes effective. (Reg. 2.9)

B. DESCRIPTION OF DELEGATE SELECTION PROCESS

1. Puerto Rico will use a proportional representation system based on the results of the primary for apportioning delegates to the 2008 Democratic National Convention.
2. The “first determining step” of Puerto Rico’s delegate selection process will occur on June 1, 2008 with a “Presidential Primary.”
3. Voter Participation in Presidential Primary:
 - a. Every person qualified to vote in the general election in Puerto Rico pursuant to the Electoral Act of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall be entitled to vote in the presidential primary. Pursuant to the Electoral Act any citizen of the United States of America and of Puerto Rico, domiciled in the Island, who has attained the age of eighteen (18) years on the date of the presidential election, is duly qualified prior to the same, and is not legally barred from voting, shall be an elector in Puerto Rico. (PR ST T. 16 § 3053). Every elector who wishes to exercise his or her electoral right in the Democratic primary shall do so in the congressional district and precinct in which he or she is registered. (PR ST T. 16 § 1325). No registration of any potential elector shall be authorized within thirty (30) days prior to the primary. (PR ST T. 16 § 3066) All electors shall certify under oath that he or she has not participated, nor shall participate in any electoral process regarding the selection of presidential candidates or delegates to national nominating conventions for the same presidential election of a national party other than the Democratic Party. This oath shall be taken by a polling-place official duly certified by an electoral representative. (PR ST T. 16 § 1333).
 - b. At no stage of Puerto Rico’s delegate selection process shall any person be required, directly or indirectly, to pay a cost or fee as a condition for participating.

- c. No persons shall participate or vote in the nominating process for the Democratic presidential candidate who also participates in the nominating process of any other party for the corresponding elections. (Rule 2.E.)
 - d. No person shall vote in more than one meeting which is the first meeting in the delegate selection process. (Rule 3.E. & Reg. 4.6.)
4. The Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico:
- a. Promotes the acquisition of accessible precinct based optical scan systems, wherever possible. Puerto Rico is participating in a state government run presidential primary that will use government-run voting systems. Puerto Rico's government-run elections only use hand counted ballots.
 - b. Publicly endorse legislative initiatives by the Puerto Rico Legislative Assembly that will ensure that both optical scan and direct recording electronic systems include recognized security measures and direct recording electronic systems, including a voter verified paper trail. These measures include automatic routine manual audits comparing paper records to electronic records following every election and prior to certification or results where possible; parallel testing on election day; physical and electronic security for equipment; banning use of wireless components and connections; public disclosure of software design; use of transparent and random selection for all auditing procedures; and effective procedures for addressing evidence of fraud or error.

SECTION II

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

A. BALLOT ACCESS

1. No later than April 2, 2008, the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall determine and prepare a list of the names of the candidates who aspire to nomination for President of the United States for the Democratic Party that shall appear on the ballot of the Presidential Primary and each of these shall be notified of their inclusion in said list by certified mail, with return of receipt requested. (PR ST T. 16 § 1330.)
2. The name of each candidate included in the list prepared by the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth shall appear on the ballot as presidential candidate, unless said person certifies, no later than April 7, 2008, to the Secretary of State, that he or she will not have, nor has the intention to be a presidential candidate. (PR ST T. 16 § 1330.)
3. No later than April 9, 2008 the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth shall notify the names of persons that will appear on the ballot as presidential candidates to the Chairman of the DNC, the Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and to the Chair of the Commonwealth Election Commission. (PR ST T. 16 § 1330.)
4. Only those candidates that are officially notified by the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth as presidential candidates of the Democratic Party will appear on the ballot. Write-Ins are not permitted and the "uncommitted" will not appear on the ballot.

- B. Each presidential candidate shall certify in writing to the State Democratic Chair, the name(s) of his or her authorized representative(s) by April 1, 2008. (Rule 12.D.(1))
- C. Each presidential candidate shall use his or her best efforts to ensure that his or her respective delegation within the state delegation achieves the affirmative action goals established by this Plan and is equally divided between men and women. (Rule 6.I.)

SECTION III

SELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

A. DISTRICT-LEVEL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

1. Puerto Rico is allocated **36** district-level delegates and **6** district-level alternates. (Rule 8.C., Call, I.B. & I.I.)
2. District-level delegates and alternates shall be selected on the presidential primary to be held on June 1, 2008. The ballots shall be designed in such a way that they provide the opportunity to vote for groups of delegates, or for individual candidates as delegates or alternates. (PR ST T. 16 § 1340.)
3. Apportionment of District-Level Delegates and Alternates

- a. The district-level delegates and alternates are apportioned among the districts based on the island's population alone due to the fact that there is no presidential vote in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and gubernatorial vote is not conducted by affiliation with the United States national political parties.

Puerto Rico is electorally divided into eight (8) Senatorial Districts based on population and, consequently, the apportionment of the thirty three (36) district-level delegates and six (6) district-level alternates will be made among those eight (8) Senatorial Districts.

- b. The state's total number of district-level delegates will be equally divided between men and women.
- c. The district-level delegates and alternates are apportioned to districts as indicated in the following chart:

District	Delegates			Alternates		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
#1 San Juan	3	3	6	0	0	0
#2 Bayamón	2	3	5	1	0	1
#3 Arecibo	2	2	4	0	1	1
#4	2	2	4	1	0	1

District	Delegates			Alternates		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Mayaguez						
#5 Ponce	2	2	4	0	1	1
#6 Guayama	2	2	4	1	0	1
#7 Humacao	2	2	4	0	1	1
#8 Carolina	3	2	5	0	0	0
Total	18	18	36	3	3	6

4. District-Level Delegate and Alternate Filing Requirements

- a. A district-level delegate and alternate candidate may run for election only within the district in which he or she is registered to vote. (Rule 12.H.)

(1) An individual can qualify as a candidate for district-level delegate or alternate to the 2008 Democratic National Convention by filing a statement of candidacy before the Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, with a copy to the Chairman of the Commonwealth Election Commission, in which he or she state his or her name, address, electoral precinct, and senatorial district, and designate his or her presidential preference; together with a signed a pledge of support for the presidential candidate. (PR ST T. 16 § 1332.) The opening day an individual is eligible to file as a district level delegate is March 31, 2008. The closing date for filing as a district level delegate is April 7, 2008. The submission of nominating petitions is not required. (Rules 12.B. & 14.F.)

(2) The signed pledge support for the presidential candidate must be filed by mail with the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico at PO Box 19328, San Juan, PR 00910-1328 and with the Commonwealth's Elections Commission at PO Box 195552, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00919-5552 no later than April 7, 2008. Statements of candidacy postmarked after April 7, 2008 will not be accepted.

- b. All candidates considered for district-level alternate positions must meet the same requirements as candidates for district-level delegate positions. (Rule 12.C.)

5. Presidential Candidate Right of Review for District-Level Delegates and Alternates

- a. The Chair of the Commonwealth Election Commission shall remit to the corresponding presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), by certified mail and acknowledgment of receipt, the names and addresses of the individuals who have

filed for delegate or alternate pledged to that presidential candidate, no later than April 9, 2008. (PR ST T. 16 § 1332.) (Rules 12.D. & 12.F.)

- b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must then remit by certified mail and acknowledgment of receipt to the Chair of the Commonwealth Election Commission no later than April 11, 2008, a list of all such candidates he or she has approved, provided that approval be given to a number of delegate candidates or alternate candidates equal to or greater than the number of delegates or alternates allocated to the district. (Rule 12.E.(1), Reg. 4.23.)
- c. Failure to respond will be deemed approved of all delegate and alternate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate, or the authorized representative(s), signifies otherwise in writing to the Chair of the Commonwealth Election Commission no later than 12:00 p.m., April 11, 2008.
- d. National convention delegate and alternate candidates removed from the list of bona fide supporters by a presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), may not be elected as a delegate or alternate at that level pledged to that presidential candidate (including uncommitted status). (Rule 12.E. & Reg. 4.23.)
- e. The Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective district-level delegate candidates and district-level alternate candidates meet the affirmative action and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved district-level delegate candidates and district-level alternate candidates as indicated in section III.A.5.b of this Plan.

6. Fair Reflection of Presidential Preference

- a. Presidential Primary - Convention Proportional Representation Plan (Rules 13.A., 13.B. & 13.D.)

Puerto Rico uses a Presidential Primary to determine the allocation of delegates and alternates among Presidential preferences. Accordingly, delegate and alternate positions shall be allocated so as to fairly reflect the expressed presidential preference or (uncommitted) of the primary voters in each district. The National Convention delegates selected at the district level shall be allocated in proportion to the percentage of the primary vote won in that district by each preference, except that preferences falling below a 15% threshold shall not be awarded any delegates or alternates. (Rule 13.B.)

- b. Within a district, if no presidential preference reaches a 15% threshold, the threshold shall be the percentage of the vote received in that district by the front-runner minus 10%. (Rule 13.F.)
- c. If a presidential candidate qualifies to receive delegates and/or alternates in a congressional district but fails to slate a sufficient number of delegates and or alternate candidates after June 1, 2008, the following procedure shall be used to fill these positions: persons seeking to fill these district-level vacancies will file their declarations of candidacy and pledges of support no later than June 9, 2008 with the State Party Chair. The State Party Chair shall then convey, no later than June 11, 2008 a complete list of

such delegate candidates to the appropriate presidential candidates or their authorized representatives. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must file with the State Democratic Chair, no later than June 13, 2008, a list of all such candidates he or she has approved. Presidential candidates, or their authorized representatives, may not remove any candidate for a district level delegate or alternate vacancy from the list of bona fide supporters unless, at a minimum, three (3) names remain for every such position to which a presidential candidate is entitled. Selection of these delegates and/or alternates occurs on June 21, 2008 at the Assembly of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. This is after the election of district delegates and alternates and before the election of unpledged add-on delegates. All such candidates for vacancies shall be residents of the same congressional district from which they are to be elected. (Rule 13.C.)

7. Equal Division of District-Level Delegates and Alternates
 - a. In districts with an odd number of delegates, the first delegate selected for the winning presidential candidate must be of the same sex as the advantaged gender in that district. Following that determination, the allocation would continue alternating by gender for the winning presidential candidate and any subsequent presidential candidates. In districts with an even number of delegates, the highest-vote getting delegate candidate for the district's winning presidential candidate will be the first delegate assigned. Following that determination, the state will then designate the remaining positions for that presidential candidate and any subsequent presidential candidates alternating by gender, as mathematically possible. (Rule 6.C.(1) & Reg. 4.8)
 - b. After the delegates are selected, the alternates will be awarded, using the same process described above.
8. The Chair of the Commonwealth Elections Commission shall notify the Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth, the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth and the National Chairman of the DNC, and all the candidates who have appeared on the ballot of the outcome of the primary and shall certify the persons who have been selected as district delegates and alternates, no later than June 16, 2008. The Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) the election of the Commonwealth's district-level delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention no later than June 19, 2008. (PR ST T. 16 § 1344.) (Rule 8.C. & Call, IV.A.) (Regs. 5.3.B. & C.)

B. UNPLEDGED DELEGATES

1. Unpledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials

- a. The following categories (if applicable) shall constitute the Unpledged Party Leaders and Elected Official delegate positions:

(1) Members of the Democratic National Committee who legally reside in Puerto Rico; (Rule 9.A.(1), Call, I.F., J., K., & Reg. 4.13.)

(2) The Democratic Governor; (Rule 9.A.(4), Call I.G. & K.)

- b. The certification process for the Unpledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates is as follows:

(1) No later than March 1, 2008, the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee shall officially confirm to the Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico the names of the unpledged delegates who legally reside in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. (Rule 9.A.)

(2) Official confirmation by the Secretary shall constitute verification of the unpledged delegates from the categories indicated above. (Call, IV.B.1.)

2. Unpledged Add-On Delegates

- a. Puerto Rico will select 1 Unpledged add-on delegate. (Rule 9.B., Call, I.I. & Reg. 5.1.)
- b. The procedures to be used in selecting the 1 Unpledged add-on delegate will be as follows:

(1) Selection of the unpledged add-on delegate will occur at the Assembly of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico on June 21, 2008 in San Juan, which is after the election of district delegates and alternates and prior to the selection of the pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates. (Rule 9.B.(1))

(2) This delegate will be selected by the Assembly of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, which is the same selecting body used to select the pledged Party Leader and Elected Official and At-Large delegates and alternates. (Rule 9.B.(1))

(3) The equal division and affirmative action provisions of Rule 10.A. apply to the selection of the unpledged add-on delegate. (Rule 9.B.(2))

(4) Individuals are nominated for these positions by the Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico by June 19, 2008. (Reg. 4.14.)

(5) The list from which the selecting body chooses one (1) unpledged add-on delegate shall contain at least one (1) name. (Rule 9.B.(3))

(6) Unpledged add-on delegate candidates may be selected whether or not they previously filed a statement of candidacy for a delegate position or submitted a pledge of support for a presidential candidate. (Rule 9.B.(5) & Reg. 4.14.)

- c. The unpledged add-on delegate, selected pursuant to Rule 9.B., shall be certified in writing by the State Democratic Chair to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the selection. (Call, IV.B.2.)

C. PLEDGED PARTY LEADER AND ELECTED OFFICIAL (PLEO) DELEGATES

1. Puerto Rico is allotted 7 pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) delegates. (Call, I.D. & E.)

2. Pledged PLEO Delegate Filing Requirements

- a. Individuals shall be eligible for the pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegate positions according to the following priority: big city mayors and state-wide elected officials (to be given equal consideration); state legislative leaders, state legislators, and other state, county and local elected officials and party leaders. (Rule 9.C.(1) & Reg. 4.15.)

- b. An individual can qualify as a candidate for a position as a pledged PLEO delegate by filing a statement of candidacy no later than June 9, 2008 with the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, PO Box 19328, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00910-1328. The statement of candidacies will be available on June 2, 2008. (Rules 9.C.(3), & 14.G., Reg. 4.16.)
- c. Pledged PLEO delegate candidates must identify a presidential preference or uncommitted status. (Rule 9.C.(3) & Reg. 4.16.)

3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review

- a. The Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), no later than June 11, 2008, a list of all persons who have filed for a party and elected official delegate pledged to that presidential candidate. (Rules 9.C.(3) & 12.D.)
- b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must file with the Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, by June 13, 2008, a list of all such candidates he or she has approved, as long as approval is given to at least one (1) name for every position to which the presidential candidate is entitled. (Rule 12.E.(2) & Reg. 4.23.)
- c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate or the authorized representative(s) signifies otherwise in writing to the State Democratic Chair no later than June 13, 2008 at 12:00 p.m.
- d. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective pledged PLEO delegate candidates meet the affirmative action and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved pledged PLEO candidates as indicated in section III.C.3.b of this Plan.

4. Selection of Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates

- a. The pledged PLEO slots shall be allocated among presidential preferences on the same basis as the at-large delegates. (Rule 9.C.(2), 10.C., 13.E. & F.)
- b. Selection of the pledged PLEO delegates will occur on June 21, 2008 in San Juan, which is after the election of delegates and alternates and the unpledged add-on delegates and prior to the selection of at-large delegates and alternates.
- c. These delegates will be selected by:
 - (1) The Assembly of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico on June 21, 2008. No secret ballot will be used in the selection of the pledge PLEO delegates. (Rule 9.D.(1))

(2) Alternates are not selected at the pledged PLEO level. These alternates are combined with the at-large alternates and selected as one unit. (Reg. 4.30.)

1. The Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the election of the state's pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates to the Democratic National Convention within three (3) days after their election. (Rule 8.D. & Call, IV.A.)

D. AT-LARGE DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

1. The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is allotted **12** at-large delegates and **3** at-large alternates. (Rule 8.C., Call, I.B. & I.)

2. At-Large Delegate and Alternate Filing Requirements

- a. Persons desiring to seek at-large delegate or alternate positions may file a statement of candidacy designating their presidential or uncommitted preference and a signed pledge of support for the presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) with the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico between June 2 and June 9, 2008. (Rules 12.B. & 14.G.; Regs. 4.22. & 4.27.)
- b. The statement of candidacy for at-large delegates and for at-large alternates will be the same. After the at-large delegates are selected by Public Assembly of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico on June 21, at 12:00 p.m., those persons not chosen will then be considered candidates for at-large alternate positions unless they specify otherwise when filing. (Rule 18.A.)

3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review

- a. The State Democratic Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), no later than June 11, 2008 at 5:00 p.m., a list of all persons who have filed for at large delegate or at large alternate delegate to that presidential candidate. (Rule 12.D.) (Reg. 4.22. & 4.27.)
- b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must then file with the State Democratic Chair, by June 21, 2008, a list of all such candidates he or she has approved, provided that, at a minimum, **one (1) name** remains for every national convention delegate or alternate position to which the presidential candidate is entitled. (Rule 12.E.(2) & Reg. 4.23.)
- c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate or the authorized representative(s) signifies otherwise in writing to the State Democratic Chair no later than June 21, 2008.
- d. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective at-large delegate candidates and at-large alternate candidates meet the affirmative action and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved at-large delegate candidates and at-large alternate candidates as indicated in section III.D.3.b of this Plan.

4. Fair Reflection of Presidential Preference

- a. At-large delegate and alternate positions shall be allocated among presidential preferences according to primary vote.
- b. Preferences which have not attained a 15% threshold on a state-wide basis shall not be entitled to any at-large delegates. (Rule 13.E.)
- c. If no presidential preference reaches a 15% threshold, the threshold shall be the percentage of the statewide vote received by the front-runner, minus 10%. (Rule 13.F.)
- d. If a presidential candidate is no longer a candidate at the time of selection of the at-large delegates, then those at-large slots that would have been allocated to the candidate will be proportionally divided among the remaining preferences entitled to an allocation. (Rule 10.C.)
- e. If a given presidential preference is entitled to one or more delegate positions but would not otherwise be entitled to an alternate position, that preference shall be allotted one at-large alternate position. (Rule 18.B., Call, I.J. & Reg. 4.30.& 4.33.)

5. Selection of At-Large Delegates and Alternates

- a. The selection of the at-large delegates and alternates will occur on June 21, 2008 in San Juan, after all Unpledged delegates and pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates have been selected. (Rule 8.D. & Call, III.)
- b. These delegates and alternates will be selected by the Assembly of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico on June 21, 2008 after the election of the district-level delegates. (Rules 10.B. & 8.D.)
- c. Priority of Consideration

(1) In the selection of the at-large delegation priority of consideration shall be given to African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian/Pacific Americans and women. (Rule 6.A.)

(2) In order to continue the Democratic Party's ongoing efforts to include groups historically under-represented in the Democratic Party's affairs and to assist in the achievement of full participation by these groups, priority of consideration shall be given other groups by virtue of race/ethnicity, age, sexual orientation or disability. (Rules 5.C., 6.A.(3), & Reg. 4.7.)

(3) The election of at-large delegates and alternates shall be used, if necessary, to achieve the equal division of positions between men and women, and may be used to achieve the representation goals established in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan. (Rule 6.A.)

(4) Delegates and alternates are to be considered separate groups for this purpose. (Rules 6.A.(3), 10.A. & Regs. 4.8 & 4.19.)

6. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the election of the state's at-large delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention within three (3) days after their election. (Rule 8.C. & Call, IV.A.)

E. REPLACEMENT OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

1. A pledged delegate or alternate may be replaced according to the following guidelines:

- a. Permanent Replacement of a Delegate: (Rule 18.D.(2))

- (1) A permanent replacement occurs when a delegate resigns or dies prior to or during the national convention and the alternate replaces the delegate for the remainder of the National Convention.
 - (2) Any alternate permanently replacing a delegate shall be of the same presidential preference (including uncommitted status) and sex of the delegate he/she replaces, and to the extent possible shall be from the same political subdivision within the state as the delegate.
 - (a) In the case where the presidential candidate has only one alternate, that alternate shall become the certified delegate.
 - (b) If a presidential candidate has only one alternate, and that alternate permanently replaces a delegate of the opposite sex, thereby causing the delegation to no longer be equally divided, the delegation shall not be considered in violation of Rule 6.C. In such a case, notwithstanding Rule 18.D.(2), the State Party Committee shall, at the time of a subsequent permanent replacement, replace a delegate with a person of the opposite sex, in order to return the delegation to equal division of men and women. (Reg. 4.32.)
- b. Temporary Replacement of a Delegate: (Rule 18.D.(3))
- (1) A temporary replacement occurs when a delegate is to be absent for a limited period of time during the convention and an alternate temporarily acts in the delegate's place.
 - (2) Any alternate who temporarily replaces a delegate must be of the same presidential preference (including uncommitted status) as the delegate he/she replaces, and to the extent possible shall be of the same sex and from the same political subdivision within the state as the delegate.
 - c. The following system will be used to select permanent and temporary replacements of delegates: The delegation chooses the alternate. (Rule 18.D.(1))
 - d. Certification of Replacements
 - (1) Any alternate who permanently replaces a delegate shall be certified in writing to the Secretary of the DNC by the Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. (Rule 18.D.2.)
 - (2) Permanent replacement of a delegate (as specified above) by an alternate and replacement of a vacant alternate position shall be certified in writing by the Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the replacement is selected. (Call, IV.C.1.)
 - (3) Certification of permanent replacements will be accepted by the Secretary up to 48 hours before the first official session of the Convention is scheduled to convene. (Call, IV.C.1. & Reg. 4.32.)
 - (4) In the case where a pledged delegate is permanently replaced after 48 hours before the time the first session is scheduled to convene or, in the case where a pledged delegate is not on the floor of the Convention Hall at the time a roll call vote is taken, an alternate may be designated (as specified above) to cast the delegate's vote. In such case, the Delegation Chair shall indicate the name of the alternate casting the respective delegate's vote on the delegation tally sheet (Call, VIII.F.3.d., VIII.F.3.b. & Reg. 5.4.)
- e. A vacant alternate position shall be filled by the delegation. The replacement shall be of the same presidential preference (or uncommitted status), of the same sex and, to the extent possible, from the same political subdivision as the alternate being replaced. (Rule 18.F.)

2. Unpledged delegates shall not be entitled to a replacement, nor shall the state be entitled to a replacement, except under the following circumstances: (Rule 18.E. & Reg. 4.33.)
 - a. The Democratic Governor shall not be entitled to name a replacement. In the event of a change or vacancy in the state's office of Governor, the DNC shall recognize only such changes as have been officially recognized by the Democratic Governors' Association. (Call, IV.C.2.a.)
 - b. Members of the Democratic National Committee and unpledged add-on delegates shall not be entitled to a replacement, nor shall the state be entitled to a replacement, except in the case of death of such delegates. In the case where the state's DNC membership changes following the DNC Secretary's official confirmation, but prior to the commencement of the 2008 Democratic National Convention, acknowledgment by the Secretary of the new DNC member certification shall constitute verification of the corresponding change of unpledged delegates. (Call, IV.C.2.b.)
 - c. In no case may an alternate cast a vote for an unpledged delegate. (Call, VIII.F.3.d.)

SECTION IV

CONVENTION STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

A. INTRODUCTION

1. Puerto Rico has been allocated two (2) member(s) on each of the three standing committees for the 2008 Democratic National Convention (Credentials, Platform and Rules), for a total of six (6) members. (Call, VII.A. & Appendix D.)
2. Members of the Convention Standing Committees need not be delegates or alternates to the 2008 Democratic National Convention. (Call, VII.A.3.)
3. These members will be selected in accordance with the procedures indicated below. (Rule 1.G.)

B. TEMPORARY STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Temporary members for the Convention Standing Committees will be selected by a meeting of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to be held a January 23, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in San Juan. The meeting shall be open to the public and well publicized in accordance with the Affirmative Action program in this Plan. Members of the delegation shall receive timely notice of the meeting, in accordance with State Party rules. (Call VII.G.(2) and Reg. 5.8.)
2. Any Democrat may apply for a position as a temporary member of the standing committees. Persons wishing to be considered must submit an application with the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, including the committee or committees for which they wish to be considered, no later than January 16, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.
3. A separate election shall be conducted for membership on each of the standing committees. The membership of the standing committees shall be as equally divided as possible under the state allocation; if the number is even, the membership shall be equally divided between men and women; if the number is odd, the variance between men and women may not exceed one (1), and the advantaged gender must not remain constant for the three standing committees (Call VII.E.(1))

4. Temporary members serve only in the event that the respective standing committee is called to meet prior to completion of the state's delegate selection process (and subsequent selection of permanent standing committee members), and no temporary member may continue to serve after the selection of the permanent standing committee members unless he or she is elected as a permanent member. (Call VII.G.(3))

5. The State Chair shall certify the temporary standing committee members in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after their election. Substitutions in a state's list of temporary members may only be made up to ten (10) days prior to the time the standing committee meets. Substitute temporary standing committee members will be selected at a meeting of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in accordance with the provisions outlined above. (Call VII.B.(3) and G.(3))

C. PERMANENT STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Selection Meeting

- a. The members of the standing committees shall be elected by a quorum of Puerto Rico's National Convention delegates, at a meeting to be held on June 21, 2008. (Call, VII.B.1.)
- b. All members of the delegation shall receive adequate notice of the time, date and place of the meeting to select the standing committee members. (Call, VII.B.1.)

2. Allocation of Members

- a. The members of the standing committees allocated to Puerto Rico shall proportionately represent the presidential preference of all candidates (including uncommitted status) receiving the threshold percentage used in the state's delegation to calculate the at-large apportionment pursuant to Rule 13.E. of the Delegate Selection Rules. (Call, VII.C.1. & Reg. 5.7.)
- b. The presidential preference of each candidate receiving the applicable percentage or more within the delegation shall be multiplied by the total number of standing committee positions allocated to Puerto Rico. If the result of such multiplication does not equal 0.455 or above, the presidential preference in question is not entitled to representation on the standing committee. If the result of such multiplication is 0.455 but less than 1.455, the presidential preference is entitled to one (1) position. Those preferences securing more than 1.455 but less than 2.455 are entitled to two (2) positions, etc. (Call, VII.C.2.)
- c. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation exceeding the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is farthest from its eventual rounded-off total shall be denied that one (1) additional position. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation falling short of the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is closest to the next rounding level shall be allotted an additional committee position. (Call, VII.C.3.)
- d. Standing committee positions allocated to a presidential candidate shall be proportionately allocated, to the extent practicable, to each of the three standing committees. When such allocation results in an unequal distribution of standing committee positions by candidate preference, a drawing shall be conducted to distribute the additional positions. (Call, VII.C.4.)

3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review

- a. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), shall be given adequate notice of the date, time and location of the meeting of the state's delegation authorized to elect standing committee members. (Call, VII.D.1.)
- b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must submit to the State Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, by June 18, 2008, a minimum of one (1) name for each slot awarded to that candidate for members of each committee. The delegation shall select the standing committee members submitted by the presidential candidates (including uncommitted status). Presidential candidates shall not be required to submit the name of more than one person for each slot awarded to such candidate for members of standing committees. (Call, VII.D.2.)

4. Selection Procedure to Achieve Equal Division

- a. Presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) shall use their best efforts to ensure that their respective delegation of standing committee members shall achieve Puerto Rico's affirmative action goals and that their respective members are equally divided between men and women. (Rule 6.I. & Reg. 4.9.)

Each position on each standing committee shall be assigned by gender. For example, the first position on the Credentials Committee of the presidential candidate with the most standing committee positions shall be designated for a *[male]*, the second position for a *[female]*, and the remaining positions shall be designated in like fashion, alternating between males and females. Positions for presidential candidates on each committee shall be ranked according to the total number of standing positions allocated to each such candidate. After positions on the Credentials Committee are designated by sex, the designation shall continue with the Platform Committee, then the Rules Committee.

- (1) A separate election shall be conducted for membership on each standing committee.
- (2) The membership of the standing committees shall be as equally divided as possible under the state allocation; if the number is even, the membership shall be equally divided between men and women; if the number is odd, the variance between men and women may not exceed one (1), and the advantaged gender must not remain constant for the three standing committees. (Call, VII.E.1.)
- (3) The positions allocated to each presidential candidate on each committee shall be voted on separately, and the winners shall be the highest vote-getter(s) of the appropriate sex.

5. Certification and Substitution

- a. The State Democratic Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall certify the standing committee members in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after their selection. (Call, VII.B.3.)
- b. No substitutions will be permitted in the case of standing committee members, except in the case of resignation or death. Substitutions must be made in accordance with the rules and the election procedures specified in this section, and must be certified in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the substitute member is selected. (Call, VII.B.4.)

SECTION V

THE DELEGATION

- A. PUERTO RICO will select one (1) person to serve as Delegation Chair and 2 to serve as Convention Pages. (Call, IV.D., E.1. & Appendix C.)
- B. DELEGATION CHAIR
1. Selection Meeting
 - a. The Delegation Chair shall be selected by a quorum of the Commonwealth's National Convention Delegates, at a meeting to be held on June 21, 2008. (Call, IV.D.)
 - b. All members of the delegation shall receive timely notice of the time, date and place of the meeting to select the Delegation Chair. (Rule 3.C.)
 2. The Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall certify the Delegation Chair in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after his or her selection. (Call, IV.D.)
- C. CONVENTION PAGES
1. 2 individuals will be selected to serve as Puerto Rico's Convention Pages by the State Democratic Chair in consultation with the members of the Democratic National Committee from the state. This selection will take place in San Juan, Puerto Rico at the Assembly of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to be held on June 21, 2008. (Call, IV.E.3. & Reg. 5.5.)
 2. The Convention Pages shall be as evenly divided between men and women as possible under the state allocation and shall reflect as much as possible, the Affirmative Action guidelines in the Affirmative Action Plan. (Reg. 5.5.A.)
 3. The State Democratic Chair shall certify the individuals to serve as Puerto Rico's Convention Pages in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the selection. (Call, IV.E.3. & Reg. 5.5.B.)

SECTION VI

GENERAL PROVISIONS AND PROCEDURAL GUARANTEES

- A. The Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico reaffirms its commitment to an open party by incorporating the 'six basic elements' as listed below. These provisions demonstrate the intention of the Democratic Party to ensure a full opportunity for all minority group members to participate in the delegate selection process. (Rules 4.A. & C.)
1. All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party in Puerto Rico should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual

orientation, economic status, political status, or physical disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as “status”). (Rule 4.B.(1))

2. No test for membership in, nor any oaths of loyalty to the Democratic Party in Puerto Rico should be required or used which has the effect of requiring prospective or current members of the Democratic Party to acquiesce in, condone or support discrimination based on “status.” (Rule 4.B.(2))

3. The time and place for all public meetings of the Democratic Party in Puerto Rico on all levels should be publicized fully and in such manner as to assure timely notice to all interested persons. Such meetings must be held in places accessible to all Party members and large enough to accommodate all interested persons. (Rule 4.B.(3))

4. The Democratic Party in Puerto Rico, on all levels, should support the broadest possible registration without discrimination based on “status.” (Rule 4.B.(4))

5. The Democratic Party in Puerto Rico should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the legal and practical procedures for selection of Democratic Party officers and representatives on all levels. Publication of these procedures should be done in such fashion that all prospective and current members of each State Democratic Party will be fully and adequately informed of the pertinent procedures in time to participate in each selection procedure at all levels of the Democratic Party organization. (Rule 4.B.(5))

6. The Democratic Party in Puerto Rico should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties, a complete description of the legal and practical qualifications of all positions as officers and representatives of the State Democratic Party. Such publication should be done in timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected or appointed position within each State Democratic Party will have full and adequate opportunity to compete for office. (Rule 4.B.(6))

B. Discrimination on the basis of ‘status’ in the conduct of Democratic Party affairs is prohibited. (Rule 5.B.)

C. PUERTO RICO’s delegation shall be equally divided between delegate men and delegate women, and alternate men and alternate women. Such goal applies to the entire delegation, which includes all pledged delegates and alternates and all Unpledged delegates. Delegates and alternates shall be considered separate groups for purposes of achieving equal division. (Rule 6.C.)

D. All delegate and alternate candidates must be identified as to presidential preference or uncommitted status at all levels which determine presidential preference. (Rule 12.A.)

E. 40% of the members of any Party body above the first level of the delegate selection process shall constitute a quorum for any business pertaining to the selection of National Convention delegates, alternates, standing committee members, and other official Convention participants.

E. No delegate at any level of the delegate selection process shall be mandated by law or Party rules to vote contrary to that person’s presidential choice as expressed at the time the delegate is elected. (Rule 12.I.)

F. Delegates elected to the national convention pledged to a presidential candidate shall in all good conscience reflect the sentiments of those who elected them. (Rule 12.J.)

G. All delegates, alternates and standing committee members must be bona fide Democrats who have the interests, welfare and success of the Democratic Party of the United States at heart, who subscribe to the substance, intent and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States, and who will participate in the Convention in good faith. (Rule 12.H. & Reg. 4.23.)

- H. Proxy voting is strictly prohibited at all meetings to elect delegates or standing committee members. Quorum at the Assembly will be no less than two thirds (2/3) of its members and the majority required for elections should be no less than two thirds (2/3) of those present.
- I. The unit rule, or any rule or practice whereby all members of a Party unit or delegation may be required to cast their votes in accordance with the will of a majority of the body, shall not be used at any stage of the delegate selection process. (Rule 17.A.)
- J. Any individual or group of Democrats may sponsor or endorse a slate of candidates for convention delegates. But no slate may, by virtue of such endorsement, receive a preferential place on a delegate selection ballot or be publicly identified on the ballot as the official Democratic Party organization slate, and all slates must meet identical qualifying requirements for appearing on a ballot at all levels of the delegate selection process. (Rule 17.B.)
- K. All steps in the delegate selection process, including the filing of presidential candidates, must take place within the calendar year of the Democratic National Convention, except with respect to the implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan. (Rules 1.F. & 11.B.)
- L. In electing and certifying delegates and alternates to the 2008 Democratic National Convention, PUERTO RICO thereby undertakes to assure all Democratic voters in the state full, timely and equal opportunity to participate in the delegate selection process and in all Party affairs and to implement affirmative action programs toward that end, and that the delegates and alternates to the Convention shall be selected in accordance with the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2008 Democratic National Convention, and that the voters in the state will have the opportunity to cast their election ballots for the Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees selected by said Convention, and for electors pledged formally and in good conscience to the election of these Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees, under the label and designation of the Democratic Party of the United States, and that the delegates certified will not publicly support or campaign for any candidate for President or Vice President other than the nominees for the Democratic National Convention. (Call, II.B.)

SECTION VII

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, OUTREACH AND INCLUSION PLAN

A. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

1. Purpose and Objectives

- a. In order that the Democratic Party at all levels be an open Party which includes rather than excludes people from participation, a program of effective affirmative action is hereby adopted by the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. (Rule 5.A.)
- b. Discrimination on the basis of “status” in the conduct of Democratic Party affairs is prohibited. (Rule 5.B.)
- c. All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party in Puerto Rico should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, economic status or physical disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as “status”). (Rule 4.B.(1))
- d. Consistent with the Democratic Party’s commitment to including historically under-represented in the Democratic Party’s affairs, by virtue of race/ethnicity, age, sexual

orientation, or disability, Puerto Rico has developed Party outreach programs. Such programs include recruitment, education and training, in order to achieve full participation by such groups and diversity in the delegate selection process and at all levels of Party affairs for 2008. (Rule 5.C & Reg. 4.7.)

- e. In order to encourage full participation by all Democrats in the delegate selection process and in all Party affairs, the Puerto Rico Democratic Party has adopted and will implement programs with specific goals and timetables for African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian/Pacific Americans and women. (Rule 6.A.)

(1) The goal of the programs shall be to encourage participation in the delegate selection process and in Party organizations at all levels by the aforementioned groups as indicated by their presence in the Democratic electorate. (Rule 6.A.(1))

(2) This goal shall not be accomplished either directly or indirectly by the Party's imposition of mandatory quotas at any level of the delegate selection process or in any other Party affairs. (Rule 6.A.(2))

- f. In order to achieve full participation of other groups that may be under-represented in Party affairs, people with disabilities, the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth has adopted and will implement Inclusion Programs. The State Party has taken reasonable steps to determine the composition of people with disabilities in the state's Democratic electorate. In securing this level of full participation, the State Party will conduct the education and publicity outreach efforts outlined in Sections B and C of this Section respectively. The State Party will commit to conduct a minimum of three (3) in-person delegate recruitment and education trainings at community centers or other events focused towards people with disabilities. The State Party will identify and designate a State Party staff person to seek out leaders within people with disabilities. The State Party will seek to diversify its internal Party committees, commissions, and other bodies by giving priority of consideration to appointing people with disabilities. The State Party will make accommodations to facilitate greater participation by people with disabilities, including choosing sites/venues that are accessible. A sign language interpreter will be present at site, if needed, at any point during the delegate selection process or meetings.
- g. The delegation from Puerto Rico will have no less than three (3) delegates representing youth, six (6) representing the LGBT community, and four (4) representing the workers and the unions. (Rule 7)

2. Organizational Structure

- a. An Affirmative Action Chair and a Committee shall be appointed by the State Democratic Chair no later than March 1, 2007. (Rule 6.F.)
- b. The Committee shall consist of members from each delegate district representing the Democratic constituency groups set forth in the Introduction to the Affirmative Action Plan.
- c. The Affirmative Action Committee shall be responsible for:

(1) Reviewing the proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans and making recommendations to the State Democratic Chair.

(2) Reviewing the proposed Inclusion Programs and making recommendations to the State Democratic Chair.

- (3) Directing the implementation of all requirements of the Affirmative Action section of this Plan.
 - (4) Implementing a financial assistance program for delegates and alternates. (Rule 6.G.)
 - (5) Ensuring, on behalf of the State Party Committee, that district lines used in the delegate selection process are not gerrymandered to discriminate against African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian/Pacific Americans and women. (Rule 6.E.)
 - d. Financial and staff support for the Affirmative Action Committee shall be provided by the State Party Committee to the greatest extent feasible, including, but not limited to, making available on a priority basis, the State Party staff and volunteers and covering all reasonable costs incurred in carrying out this Plan.
3. Implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan shall begin on September 1, 2007, with the distribution of the press kits, and will continue through the end of the delegate selection process. (Rule 1.F.)

B. EFFORTS TO EDUCATE ON THE DELEGATE SELECTION PROCESS

1. Well publicized educational workshops will be conducted in each of the delegate districts beginning in September 2007. These workshops will be designed to encourage participation in the delegate selection process, including apprising potential delegate candidates of the availability of financial assistance. These workshops will be held in places which are easily accessible to persons with physical disabilities. The times, dates, places and rules for the conduct of all education workshops, meetings and other events involved in the delegate selection process shall be effectively publicized by the party organization and include mailings to various organizations representative of the Democratic voting populace. (Rules 3.A. & 3.C.)
2. A speaker's bureau of volunteers from the Affirmative Action Committee comprised of individuals, who are fully familiar with the process, will be organized to appear before groups as needed, to provide information concerning the process.
3. The State Party's education efforts will include outreach to community leaders within the Democratic Party's constituencies and making sure that information about the delegate selection process is available to Democratic clubs and primary voters representing specific constituencies.
4. The State Party will publish and make available at no cost: a clear and concise explanation of how Democratic voters can participate in the delegate selection process; an explanation of how, where and when persons can register to vote; and delegate district maps. As well, the State Party shall also make available copies of the State Party Rules, the Delegate Selection Plan (and its attachments), the Affirmative Action Plan, and relevant state statutes at no cost. Copies of documents related to the state's delegate selection process will be prepared and the Affirmative Action Committee will distribute them in the various delegate districts no later than May 2, 2008. (Rule 1.H.)
5. The State Party shall take all feasible steps to encourage persons to register and to vote as Democrats and will seek to ensure simple and easy registration procedures. (Rule 2.C.)

C. EFFORTS TO PUBLICIZE THE DELEGATE SELECTION PROCESS

1. Special attention shall be directed at publicizing the delegate selection process in the Commonwealth. Such publicity shall include information on eligibility to vote and how to become a candidate for delegate, the time and location of each stage of the delegate selection process and where to get additional information. The foregoing information will also be published in the State Party newspaper. The Party organization, official, candidate, or member calling a meeting or scheduling an event, shall effectively publicize the role that such

meeting or event plays in the selection of delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention. (Rules 3.C. and 3.D.)

2. Newspapers, radio and television will be utilized to inform the general public how, when and where to participate in the delegate selection process. Specifically, this information should provide details as to how to qualify to run as a delegate candidate. Special effort shall be directed to the major daily newspapers, radio and television stations by the State Democratic Chair, Affirmative Action Committee members and staff. Regular releases during the delegate selection process to all other media sources, weekly newspapers, and wire services should complete timely coverage. (Rules 4.B.(3) & 6.D.)

3. A priority effort shall be directed at publicity among the Democratic Party's constituencies.

- a. Information about the delegate selection process will be provided to minority newspapers and radio stations, ethnic press, Native American, Asian/Pacific American, Spanish-speaking and other non-English press, radio stations and publications, and women's organizations, student newspapers, gay and lesbian press, disability press, and any other specialty media in the state that is likely to reach the Democratic constituency groups set forth in the Introduction of this Affirmative Action Plan.
- b. The State Party shall be responsible for the implementation of this publicity effort. For purposes of providing adequate notice of the delegate selection process, the times, dates, places and rules for the conduct of shall be effectively publicized, bilingually where necessary, to encourage the participation of minority groups. (Rule 6.D.)

4. No later than May 1, 2008 a press kit shall be made and provided to each daily and weekly newspaper as well as to the electronic media. The press kit will include:

- a. a summary of all pertinent rules related to the state's delegate selection process;
- b. a map of delegate districts and how many delegates will be elected within each district;
- c. a summary explaining the operation and importance of the 2008 Convention; and
- d. materials designed to encourage participation by prospective delegate candidates.

D. REPRESENTATION GOALS

1. The State Party has determined the demographic composition of African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and Asian/Pacific Americans in the state's Democratic electorate. These constituency percentages shall be established as goals for representation in the state's convention delegation. (Rule 6.A.)

2. Since in the General Elections held in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States political parties do not participate, it is impossible to determine a percentage of Democratic electorate. Note that local candidates participate under one of the following political parties:

- a. Popular Democratic Party
- b. New Progressive Party

c. Puerto Rico Independence Party

Note also that Puerto Rico elections do not include Presidential elections. As it respect to ethnic or minority representation, there is no distinguishable group of Asian/Pacific Americans and there are no Native Americans. Regarding African Americans, in Puerto Rico this distinction is irrelevant since Puerto Rican racial essence include African characteristics. Puerto Rico's delegation to the National Convention will be one hundred percent (100%) Hispanic.

3. When selecting the at-large portion of the delegation, the demographic composition of the other delegates (district-level, pledged PLEO, and unpledged) shall be compared with the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico's goals in order to achieve an at-large selection process which helps to bring about a representative balance.

4. Use of the at-large delegation to achieve the affirmative action goals established by this Plan does not obviate the need for the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to conduct outreach activities such as recruitment, education and training. (Rule 6.A.(3))

E. OBLIGATIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES TO MAXIMIZE PARTICIPATION

1. Presidential candidates shall assist the Puerto Rico Democratic Party in meeting the demographic representation goals reflected in the Affirmative Action Plan. (Rule 6.H.)

2. Each presidential candidate must submit a written statement to the State Democratic Chair by September 28, 2007 which indicates the specific steps he or she will take to encourage full participation in Puerto Rico's delegate selection process, including, but not limited to, procedures by which persons may file as candidates for delegate or alternate. (Rule 6.H.(1))

3. Each presidential candidate must submit demographic information with respect to all candidates for delegate and alternate pledged to them. Such information shall be submitted in conjunction with the list of names approved for consideration as delegate and alternate candidates pledged to the presidential candidate. (Rule 6.H.(2))

4. Presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) shall use their best effort to ensure that their respective delegations within the state's delegate, alternate and standing committee delegations shall achieve the affirmative action goals reflected in the Affirmative Action Plan and that the respective delegations of each presidential candidate shall be equally divided between men and women. Furthermore, presidential candidates shall use their best efforts at the district level to approve delegate and alternate candidates who meet applicable equal division and affirmative action considerations in order to achieve the affirmative action goals and equal division for their respective delegations. (Rule 6.I. & Reg. 4.9.)

SECTION VIII

CHALLENGES

A. JURISDICTION & STANDING

1. Challenges related to the delegate selection process are governed by the *Regulations of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee for the 2008 Democratic National Convention* (Regs., Sec. 3.), and the "Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2008 Democratic National Convention." (Call, Appendix A.)

2. Under Rule 20.B. of the *2008 Delegate Selection Rules*, the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee has jurisdiction over challenges pertaining to the submission, non-implementation and violation of state Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans. (Rule 20.B.)
3. The Rules and Bylaws Committee has jurisdiction to hear and decide any challenge provided it is initiated before the 56th day preceding the date of the commencement of the 2008 Democratic National Convention. (Call, Appendix A. & Reg., 3.1.)
4. Challenges to the credentials of delegates and alternates to the 2008 Democratic National Convention initiated on or after the 56th day preceding the date of commencement of the Democratic National Convention shall be processed in accordance with the “Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2008 Democratic National Convention.” (Call, Appendix A)
5. Any challenge to the credentials of a standing committee member shall be considered and resolved by the affected standing committee in accordance with Appendix A of the *Call for the 2008 Democratic National Convention*. The Rules and Bylaws Committee shall have jurisdiction over challenges brought before the 56th day preceding the date of the commencement of the Democratic National Convention. (Call, VII.B.5.)
6. Copies of the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee and/or the Call for the 2008 Democratic National Convention, including the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee (Appendix A), shall be made available by the State Party upon reasonable request.
7. Any group of fifteen Democrats with standing to challenge as defined in Reg. 3.2 or the Call (Appendix A, Sec. 2.A.), may bring a challenge to this Plan or to the implementation of this Plan, including its Affirmative Action provisions.

B. CHALLENGES TO THE STATUS OF THE STATE PARTY AND CHALLENGES TO THE PLAN

1. A challenge to the status of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as the body entitled to sponsor a delegation from that state shall be filed with the Rules and Bylaws Committee no later than thirty (30) calendar days prior to the initiation of the state’s delegate selection process. (Rule 20.A. & Reg. 3.4.A.)
2. A challenge to the state’s Delegate Selection Plan shall be filed with the Chair of the Puerto Rico Democratic Party and the Co-Chairs of the Rules and Bylaws Committee within fifteen (15) calendar days after the adoption of the Plan by the State Party. (Reg. 3.4.B.)
3. A challenge to a Plan must be brought in conformity with the Rules and the Regs., which should be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

C. CHALLENGES TO IMPLEMENTATION

1. A challenge may be brought alleging that a specific requirement of an approved Plan has not been properly implemented. Jurisdiction over all challenges initiated in a timely fashion shall reside with either the Rules and Bylaws Committee or the Credentials Committee of the National Convention (See Section VII.A. above). However, the Rules and Bylaws Committee may provide advice, assistance or interpretations of the Delegate Selection Rules at any stage of the delegate selection process. (Reg. 3.1.C.)
2. An implementation challenge brought before the Rules and Bylaws Committee is initiated by filing a written challenge with the State Party Committee and with the Rules and Bylaws Committee no later than fifteen (15) days after the alleged violation occurred. The State Party has twenty-one (21) days to render a decision. Within ten (10) days of the decision, any party to the challenge may appeal it to the Rules and Bylaws Committee. If in fact, the State Party renders no decision, any party to the challenge may request the Rules and

Bylaws Committee to process it. The request must be made within ten (10) days after expiration of the above twenty-one (21) day period. (Regs. 3.4.C., E., & H.)

3. Performance under an approved Affirmative Action Plan and composition of the convention delegation shall be considered relevant evidence in the challenge to any state delegation. If a State Party has adopted and implemented an approved affirmative action program, the State Party shall not be subject to challenge based solely on delegation composition or presidential primary results. (*Rule 6.B.*) The procedures are the same for challenges alleging failure to properly implement the Affirmative Action section of a Plan, except that such challenges must be filed no later than thirty (30) days prior to the initiation of the state's delegate selection process. (Reg. 3.4.C.)

4. Depending on the appropriate jurisdiction (see Section VIII.A. above), implementation challenges must be brought in conformity with the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee or the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee, which should be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

SECTION IX

SUMMARY OF PLAN

A. SELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Puerto Rico will use a proportional representation system based on the results of the **Presidential Primary** apportioning its delegates to the 2008 Democratic National Convention.

The “first determining step” of Puerto Rico’s delegate selection process will occur on June 1, 2008, with a **Presidential Primary**.

Delegates and alternates will be selected as summarized on the following chart:

Type	Delegates	Alternates	Date of Selection	Selecting Body
				Filing Requirements and Deadlines
District-Level Delegates District-Level Alternates	36	6	6/01/08 6/01/08	<i>Primary</i> <i>File Petition before Chair Commonwealth Democratic Party and Chair of the Elections Commission on or before April 7, 2008.</i>
Unpledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates*	7	0	n/a	Automatic by virtue of respective public or Party office as provided in Rule 8.A. of the 2008 Delegate Selection Rules.
Unpledged Add-on Delegates**	1	0	6/21/08	<i>Assembly of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico</i> <i>Individuals are nominated for these positions by the Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico by June 19, 2008.</i>
Pledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials (PLEOs)	7	0	6/21/08	<i>Assembly of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico</i> <i>June 2nd statements of candidacies will be available and must be submitted by June 9th.</i>
At-Large Delegates				<i>Assembly of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of</i>

Type	Delegates	Alternates	Date of Selection	Selecting Body
				Filing Requirements and Deadlines
At-Large Alternates	12	3	6/21/08	<i>Puerto Rico (same as for pledged PLEOs see above)</i>
			6/21/08	<i>June 2nd statements of candidacies will be available and must be submitted by June 9th.</i>
TOTAL Delegates and Alternates	63	9		

* Unpledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) delegates includes the following categories, if applicable, who legally reside in the state: the Democratic National Committee Members, the Democratic President, the Democratic Vice President, all Democratic Members of Congress, the Democratic Governor, and any other Distinguished Party Leader as specified in Rule 9.A. of the 2008 Delegate Selection Rules. The exact number of Unpledged PLEO Delegates is subject to change due to possible deaths, resignations, elections or special elections.

** Unpledged Add-on delegates refers to those delegates chosen according to Rule 9.B. of the 2008 Delegate Selection Rules.

*** Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) alternates are selected with the At-Large alternates. [Applicable to most states.]

B. SELECTION OF STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS (FOR THE CREDENTIALS, PLATFORM AND RULES COMMITTEES)

Standing committee members will be selected by the state’s National Convention delegates as summarized below:

Members Per Committee	Total Members	Selection Date	Filing Requirements and Deadlines
2	6	<i>June 21st</i>	Selected by the Assembly of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico on June 21, 2008. Each presidential candidate must file a list of standing committee members by June 18, 2008.

C. SELECTION OF DELEGATION CHAIR AND CONVENTION PAGES

The Delegation Chair will be selected by the National Convention Delegates on June 21, 2008.

2 Convention Pages will be selected by the State Democratic Chair on June 21, 2008.

D. PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE FILING DEADLINE

(Rule 10.B.)

1. No later than April 2, 2008, the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall determine and prepare a list of the names of the candidates who aspire to nomination for President of the United States for the Democratic Party that shall appear on the ballot of the Presidential Primary and each of these shall be notified of their inclusion in said list by certified mail, with return of receipt requested. (PR ST T. 16 § 1330.)
2. The name of each candidate included in the list prepared by the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth shall appear on the ballot as presidential candidate, unless said person certifies, no later than May 2, 2008, to the Secretary of State, that he or she will not have, nor has the intention to be a presidential candidate. (PR ST T. 16 § 1330.)
3. No later than May 4, 2008 the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth shall notify the names of persons that will appear on the ballot as presidential candidates to the Chairman of the DNC, the Chair of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and to the Chair of the Commonwealth Election Commission. (PR ST T. 16 § 1330.)
4. Only those candidates that are officially notified by the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth as presidential candidates of the Democratic Party will appear on the ballot. Write-Ins are not permitted and the “uncommitted” will not appear on the ballot.

E. TIMETABLE

Date	Activity
2007	
March 1 st	Delegate Selection Affirmative Action Committee Chair is appointed by the State Chair.
March 1-April 15 th	Affirmative Action Committee meets to draft proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans.
April 26 th	Proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans are tentatively approved for public comment by State Party Committee.
April 27 th	Public comments are solicited on the proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans. Press releases are mailed announcing the public comment period.
May 27 th	Period for public comment on state Plan is concluded. Responses are compiled for review by the State Party Committee.
May 28 th	State Party Committee reviews public comments and adopts revised Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans for submission to DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee. Press releases are mailed announcing the approval of the Plan.
May 30 th	Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans are forwarded to the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee.
September 1 st	State Party begins implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan. Press kits, as described in the Affirmative Action Plan, are sent to all state media. <i>[Note: This is the deadline by which implementation of the affirmative action program must begin.]</i>
September 28 th	Deadline for each announced presidential candidate to submit a statement specifying steps the candidate will take to encourage full participation in the delegate selection process. (Individuals who announce their candidacy after this date must provide this full participation statement to the State Party no later than 30 days after their announcement.)
2008	
	Delegate and alternate candidates may obtain the statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms and filing

Date	Activity
March 31 st	instructions from State Party Committee Headquarters, in person, by mail, or from State Party's web site at [www.democrats.org].
April 1 st	Presidential candidate deadline for certifying the name(s) of their authorized representative(s) to the State Party.
No later than April 2 nd	Secretary of State of the Commonwealth prepares list of the names of presidential candidates.
April 7 th	District-level delegate and alternate deadline for filing the statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms with State Party.
April 9 th	Chair of the Commonwealth Elections Commission provides list of district-level delegate and alternate candidates to the respective Presidential candidates.
April 11 th	Presidential candidates provide list of approved district-level delegate and alternate candidates to Chair of the Commonwealth Elections Commission.
June 1 st	Presidential Primaries.
June 9 th	Deadline to submit statements of candidacies and pledge support for unslated district delegates and alternates (<i>see</i> Section 6.c), Pledged PLEOs, At-Large Delegates and At-Large Alternates.
June 11 th	Chair of the Commonwealth's Democratic Party shall convey to the presidential candidates, or their authorized representatives, a list of all persons who have filed for unslated district delegates and alternates (<i>see</i> Section 6.c), Pledged PLEO, At-Large Delegates and At-Large Alternates.
June 13 th	Deadline for Presidential Candidates, or authorized representatives, for remitting to Chair of the Commonwealth's Democratic Party a list of all such unslated district delegates and alternates (<i>see</i> Section 6.c), and Pledged PLEOs he or she has approved.
June 16 th	Deadline for Chair of Commonwealth Elections Commission to notify to Chair of Commonwealth Democratic Party, Commonwealth Secretary of State, DNC Chair the outcome of the June 1, 2008 primary and to certify the persons who have been elected delegates and alternate delegates.
June 18 th	Presidential candidates must file the list of standing committee members with the Chair of Commonwealth Democratic Party.
June 19 th	Nomination by Chair for Unpledged add-on delegate. Chair of Commonwealth Democratic Party certifies to the DNC the results of the primary held in June 1, 2008.
June 21 st	Assembly of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico convenes. Assembly selects unslated district delegates and alternates (<i>see</i> Section 6.c), unpledged add-on and pledged PLEO delegates. Following the selection of pledged PLEO delegates, presidential candidates provide approved list of At-Large Delegates and Alternates. National Convention delegation meeting. Delegates select National Convention Standing Committee Members and Delegation Chair. Party Chair names 2 Convention Pages. Deadline for Presidential Candidates, or authorized representatives, for remitting to Chair of the Commonwealth's Democratic Party a list of all such At-Large Delegates and At-Large Alternates he or she has approved.
June 24 th	Party certifies all elected delegates and alternates to the Secretary of the DNC, along with standing committee members, delegation chair and convention pages.

EXHIBITS TO THE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN**A. MEMBERS OF THE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE**

[List each member of the Affirmative Action Committee and indicate relevant demographic data about each member (i.e. African American, Hispanic, Native American, Asian/Pacific American or White, Female or Male, and any other applicable Democratic constituency group as set forth in the Introduction to the Affirmative Action Plan).]

B. MEDIA OUTLETS TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE DELEGATE SELECTION PROCESS**1. Major Daily Newspapers, Radio and Television Stations**

[List the other non-minority media sources, weekly newspapers, and wire services that will receive regular releases during the delegate selection process as part of the State Party's outreach efforts.]

2. Other "Non-Minority" Media Outlets

[List the other non-minority media sources, weekly newspapers, and wire services that will receive regular releases during the delegate selection process as part of the State Party's outreach efforts.]

3. Constituency and Specialty Media Outlets and Targeted Groups

[List minority newspapers and radio stations, ethnic press, Native American, Asian/Pacific American, Spanish-speaking and other non-English press, radio stations and publications, women's organizations, student newspapers, gay and lesbian press, disability press, and any other speciality media and community organizations in the state that is likely to reach the Democratic constituencies set forth in the Introduction to the Affirmative Action Plan. This list should also specify the constituencies these media outlets will target as a priority effort to effectively publicize (bilingually where necessary) information about the delegate selection process.]

ATTACHMENTS TO THE DELEGATE SELECTION PLAN

[As specified in Reg. 2.2, the following documentation must accompany the state's Delegate Selection Plan at the time it is formally submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee.]

1. **A summary** of the process for selecting delegates, alternates, standing committee members, the delegation chair and convention pages, along with related deadlines. *[It is recommended that this information be incorporated as part of the state's Delegate Selection Plan - see Section IX. of the Plan.]* (Reg. 2.2.A.)
2. **A timetable** reflecting all significant dates in the state's delegate selection process. *[It is recommended that this information be incorporated as part of the state's Delegate Selection Plan - see Section I. of the Plan.]* (Reg. 2.2.B.)
3. **A statement from the State Democratic Chair certifying the Plan** as submitted to the RBC was approved by the State Party Committee. (Reg. 2.2.C.)
4. **A copy of the press release** distributed by the State Party Committee announcing its adoption of the Plan and summarizing the major components of the Plan. (Reg. 2.2.D.)
5. **A statement from the State Democratic Chair certifying compliance with Rule 1.C.** which requires a 30 day public comment period prior to the adoption of the Plan by the State Party. (Reg. 2.2.E.)
6. **Copies of all written public comments on the Plan** *[Include information identifying each person and/or organization making the comment and where appropriate, a description of the person or group so represented, if such information has been provided or is available to the State Party.]* (Reg. 2.2.F.)
7. **A blank copy of forms to be filed with the state or the State Party by delegate candidates.** (Reg. 2.2.G.)
8. **A statement from the Chair of the Affirmative Action Committee certifying compliance with Rule 6.F.,** which requires that the Affirmative Action Committee has reviewed the proposed Affirmative Action outreach plan (Reg. 2.2.H.)
9. **Copies of all state statutes reasonably related to the Delegate Selection Process** *[For example, include any and all state statutory requirements related to: filing requirements for delegate and alternate candidates; timing of the presidential primary, and/or the state convention; participation in the presidential primary, including Party registration or enrollment provisions; and any other stipulations made by the state regarding the selection process or the role of National Convention delegates.]* (Reg. 2.2.I.)
10. **A copy of all qualifying forms to be filed with the state or the State Party by presidential candidates.** (Reg. 2.2.J.)