**Libertarian Party of Georgia**

**Executive Committee Meeting – August 14, 2023**

**Present:** Chair Gerred Bell, Vice Chair Zach Varnell, Secretary Zane Placie, Treasurer Alex Moldenhawer, Jack Aiken, Brian Allen, Scott Boykin, Warren Cunningham, Amber Howell, Mitch Johnson, Colin McKinney, Mark Mosley, Victoria Salvia, Sabrina Sawyer, Jim Sheehan

**Absent:** David Barker, Seth Benton, Doug Craig, Danny Dolan, Jake Green, Steven Hilton, Halima Monds, Jeffery Shull

The regular monthly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of Georgia was held virtually over 8x8 on Monday, August 14, 2023, at 7:00 PM.

The agenda was adopted without objection.

Zane Placie moved to adopt various grammatical and style revisions to the Bylaws (see Appendix A). The motion was adopted.

Martin Cowen gave an update on the activities of the Libertarian National Committee.

Nick Ciesielski spoke about the Bitcoin Caucus.

Mark Mosley gave an update on ballot access issues.

Zane Placie moved to adopt a revision to Section 3.2 of the Policy Manual (see Appendix B). The motion was adopted.

Brian Allen moved to appoint William Richards as the voting member of the Public Policy Committee from District 4. The motion was adopted.

Gerred Bell gave an update on LPGa social media activity.

Reports were given by Chairman Gerred Bell, Vice Chairman Zach Varnell, Executive Director Elizabeth Melton, Secretary Zane Placie, and Treasurer Alex Moldenhawer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

**Appendix A**

**Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Georgia**

As revised and approved in Convention May 14, 2023 in Perry, GA

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# ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Libertarian Party of Georgia, Inc., hereinafter abbreviated as "LPGa".

# ARTICLE II - PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

The Libertarian Party of Georgia, Inc. is a political organization that has as its primary objective the extension of individual human freedom. To that end the Party affirms the following principles:

1. That each individual possesses the inalienable right to life, liberty, and to justly acquired property.
2. That no person or institution, public or private, has the right to use physical force against another except in the defense of life, liberty, or justly acquired property.
3. That all individuals are entitled to choose their own lifestyles as long as they do not forcibly impose their values on others.
4. That the only moral basis of politics is the preservation and protection of human rights.
5. That the voluntary exchange of goods and services is fundamental to any socioeconomic system which provides for the harmonious integration of divergent value systems. In recognition of the fact that the initiation of force by government has been the chief instrument for the expropriation of individual rights and freedom, the Libertarian Party enters the political arena for the avowed purpose of eliminating the intervention of government in moral, social, and economic affairs.

# ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

## A. Requirements

Membership in the Libertarian Party of Georgia, Inc. (LPGa) shall not be denied to any individual who shall:

1. certify in writing that they oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals and
2. submit such signed application form as may be required by the Executive Committee and
3. pay such dues as may be required by the Executive Committee.

## B. Membership Classes and Dues

The Executive Committee may, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those present and voting, establish classes of membership and assess such dues as it deems necessary to carry on the business of the Party, provided that:

1. No class of membership shall be construed as conferring on a natural person any rights and privileges not enjoyed by all LPGa members who are natural persons.
2. No additional dues may be required of any member previously granted a lifetime membership.
3. All classes of membership with voting privileges shall only be granted to natural persons.
4. Joint, family, or business memberships may be established but shall not be allowed any voting privileges nor positions within the Party, including, but not limited to, Executive Committee positions, Delegates or Candidates.

## C. Expiration of Membership

Membership in the LPGa is automatically terminated on the first day of the first month following the month containing the anniversary of that member joining the LPGa, unless that member pays his dues in full.

## D. Suspension and Expulsion

The Executive Committee may, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote and upon 30 days written notice, suspend the membership of any member who publicly uses the LPGa name in support of any policy, position or objective which, in the opinion of the Executive Committee is contrary to the position of the LPGa.

1. Written notice shall set forth in detail the exact nature of the statement made as well as those who are making the accusation.
2. The accused shall have the right to confront his accusers before the Executive Committee at the meeting during which the vote on his suspension is taken and to present any evidence, witnesses, or arguments relevant to his case.
3. Upon suspension the member has sixty (60) days to appeal to an arbitration panel selected under the provisions of ARTICLE IX. If the suspended member fails to appeal or if the arbitration panel upholds the suspension, the suspension becomes an expulsion.
4. During the period of suspension, the suspended member continues to enjoy the rights and privileges of the membership except that he may not publicly use the LPGa name in support of any policy, position, or cause.

# ARTICLE IV - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## A. Members and Duties

1. The Executive Committee of the LPGa shall be composed of the following:
2. The elected officers of the LPGa;
3. Members-at-large elected by the delegates at an Annual Convention;
4. One committee member from each State District containing at least one LPGa member; and additional committee members from each State District for every eight (8) percent of the LPGa's members as of January 1st living in that district.
5. General Duties
6. The Executive Committee shall serve as the Board of Directors and “State Committee” as provided under the election laws of the State of Georgia.
7. Members of the Executive Committee shall attend all general meetings of the Executive Committee and of the LPGa.
8. If any member of the Executive Committee is absent from 2 consecutive meetings without authorization, said member's position shall be declared vacant. A majority vote of the Executive Committee may suspend this rule in a specific instance.
9. Member-at-large

The delegates to the Annual Convention will elect Members-at-large to serve on the Executive Committee who shall perform duties as assigned by the Executive Committee. There will be four at-large members. The at-large members of the Executive Committee shall begin their tenure at the close of the convention at which they are elected and serve until the close of the next Annual Convention.

1. State District Representative

Each State District shall elect representative(s) at a district-wide caucus prior to the close of the Annual Convention. The representatives shall begin their tenures at the close of the convention at which they are elected and serve until the close of the next Annual Convention. The representative shall work to form new affiliate county parties within the district. The representative will serve as a voice for LPGa members and affiliate county parties to the State Executive Committee. The representative or any district member will organize the district caucus prior to or during the Annual Convention. The representative will perform all other duties as assigned by the Executive Committee.

#### Appointed Officials

A member may be appointed as a non-voting official of the Executive Committee with specific responsibilities, provided that they are nominated by an Executive Committee member and are confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the entire Executive Committee. An appointed official may be removed by a majority vote of the entire Executive Committee upon thirty days prior notice.

## B. State District Definition

The districts of the LPGa shall correspond to the Georgia Public Service Commission Districts as defined for the corresponding election immediately following the Annual Convention. In cases of discrepancy due to redistricting, the Executive Committee is authorized to resolve representative issues with a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Committee. The Executive Committee is authorized with a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Committee to place a county divided into two or more Public Service Commission districts into a single Public Service Commission district for the purpose of electing Executive Committee representatives.

## C. Organizational and Political Responsibilities

The Executive Committee shall have the sole responsibility for chartering State District Organizations and County Parties, appointing state officials, approving applications for membership in the LPGa, resolution of issues pertaining to vacancy and/or succession of officers, suspension of LPGa members or a State District Organization or County Party, selection of convention sites and dates of all arrangements pertaining thereto including the preparation and distribution of programs and agendas. The Executive Committee shall select the electors to be listed on the ballot for presidential elections from a pool of candidates consisting of former Chairmen, political office candidates, officers, state district representatives of the party and other LPGa members.

## D. Operational Responsibilities

The Executive Committee shall have the responsibility, subject to direction by the Annual Convention, for the development and implementation of Party policy and the operation of the State Party and the expenditure of LPGa funds.

## E. Sunshine Meetings

All meetings of the Executive Committee shall be open to observation by members of the LPGa, limited only by the need for orderly meetings or the need of an Executive Session as allowed in the Bylaws of the LPGa. At the Chairman's discretion, attendance of meetings via teleconference may be allowed.

## F. Executive Session

It is acknowledged that there are times when issues of a very sensitive nature may arise. It may have to do with things such as personnel or legal issues. For these purposes an Executive Session must be defined. During an Executive Session everything said or done is confidential. No action decision or vote may occur during an Executive Session.

1. The Executive Committee shall have the power to enter Executive Session with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Committee members present at a regular or special called meeting. No prior notice is required to enter Executive Session during a regular meeting.
2. If the need for an Executive Session is required between regular meetings, a special meeting shall be called by a simple majority of all the Executive Committee members according to the rules of decisions between Meetings as defined in the LPGa Bylaws.
3. The Executive Session will exclude all persons that are not members of the Executive Committee unless otherwise stated in the motion for Executive Session or upon the completion of discussions within the Executive Session.
4. The reason(s) for the Executive Session must be stated as part of the motion voted on by the Executive Committee and must be limited to any or all the following:
   1. Legal matters involving potential liability of the LPGa.
   2. Any matter involving the LPGa that has been referred to government authorities.
   3. Matters involving disciplining a member or employee of the LPGa.
   4. Any reason that is advised by legal counsel for the LPGa.
5. While in Executive Session the Committee may only discuss the cause of the reason(s) for calling the Executive Session, potential action because of that reason and the readiness to end the Executive Session.
6. No vote on an action may be made during the Executive Session other than to end that Executive Session. All votes by the Executive Committee must be made according to the open meeting provision.
7. To exit the Executive Session, a vote of the majority of the Executive Committee members present must be made. This is the only decision or vote allowed in the Executive Session.

## G. Voting

Each member of the Executive Committee shall have one vote, except that the Chairman shall vote only whenever his vote will affect the result. No voting by proxy shall be permitted.

## H. Electronic Ballots

Should a decision need to be made between meetings of the Executive Committee, a motion may be made in the system designated by the Executive Committee for electronic ballots. Upon the motion being seconded according to the policies of the Executive Committee, an electronic ballot shall be created in the designated system. The ballot will remain open for one week or until 24 hours after the threshold for passage or failure is reached, whichever occurs first. Votes may be changed until the ballot has closed but may not be withdrawn. The Chairman shall make at least one reasonable attempt to contact each member who has not voted at least 24 hours prior to ballot expiration. The result of any such vote must be announced and entered into the minutes by the Secretary at the next meeting.

## I. Party Membership

Each member of the Executive Committee of the LPGa shall have been a member of the LPGa at least 90 days prior to election to the Executive Committee and shall be a member of the LPGa at the time of election to the Executive Committee. Each officer of the Executive Committee of the LPGa shall have been a member of the LPGa for at least 367 days prior to election to the Executive Committee. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the voting delegates can suspend this rule, at convention, on an individual candidate basis.

## J. Removal of Officers or Executive Committee Members

As the Party of Principle, the LPGa expects each member of the Executive Committee to maintain the highest ethical standards. They may be suspended for cause when either of the following occurs:

1. Any officer or ten percent of the members of the LPGa have brought petition of suspension before the Executive Committee and two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the entire Committee has voted for suspension.
2. With no petition for suspension if three-fourths (3/4) of the entire membership has voted for suspension.

## K. Qualifications to Serve

To serve on the Executive Committee, one must first have been a delegate for at least one convention held no more recently than six months prior to such service on the Executive Committee. Special exemptions to the eligibility requirements to the Executive Committee could be made with three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the Executive Committee.

## L. Appointments

The Executive Committee may appoint such other officials as it deems necessary and may grant them whatever powers and responsibilities it deems necessary provided that the powers granted to any appointed official shall not exceed the power granted any elected official under these Bylaws.

## M. Election of the Executive Committee

1. All officers of the Executive Committee shall serve for a rotating two-year term.
2. The Chairman and the Treasurer shall each be elected to a two-year term beginning at Annual Conventions of odd-numbered years (2011, 2013, etc.).
3. The Vice Chairman and the Secretary shall each be elected to a two-year term at Annual Conventions of even-numbered years (2010, 2012, etc.).
4. Elections of the officers shall always be done in order of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Officer elections not due at the Annual Convention shall be omitted from the order but will not change the order.
5. All officers shall serve until the call to order of the 1st Executive Committee meeting after the last day of business of the legislative session for the state of Georgia
6. Each member-at-large post on the Executive Committee will be for a one-year term. Each post will be independently elected by the delegates of each Annual Convention.
7. Procedures for electing any position on the Executive Committee are the same as those for nomination of candidates for public office, except in the election of the Executive Committee positions, a simple majority of those present and voting will be sufficient to elect.
8. None of the Above (NOTA) shall automatically be a candidate for each officer and member-at-large post and shall be announced by the Chairman as such. Should NOTA win on any ballot, the Chairman shall immediately call for new nominations for the position that would have been filled.
9. Should NOTA receive a majority on the second ballot, that position shall remain vacant.

## N. Separation of Duties

It is important to maintain separation of duties and oversight on the Executive Committee, therefore no voting member of the Executive Committee may be employed or in contract with the Libertarian Party of Georgia.

# ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

## A. Titles

The elected officers of the LPGa shall be one each of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

## B. Duties

#### 1. Chairman

The Chairman shall:

1. Preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and during the business sessions of the Annual Convention. He shall perform such duties as usually pertain to the office of Chairman of an organization like the LPGa and shall perform such other duties as are assigned to the Chairman by the Executive Committee.
2. Have the ultimate responsibility for implementation of all policies and programs authorized by the Executive Committee.
3. Directly oversee the activities of the other officers of the Executive Committee.

#### 2. Vice Chairman

The Vice Chairman shall:

1. Act as the Chairman and shall perform the duties of the Chairman in the Chairman's absence.
2. Be responsible for the operation of the LPGa office and shall hire, fire, and direct the efforts of any paid staff or volunteer help, subject to the direction of the Executive Committee.
3. Be responsible for implementation of the budget as approved by the Executive Committee.
4. Make recommendations concerning the hiring of paid staff and concerning their terms of employment, but new paid staff openings shall only be created by the full Executive Committee.
5. Direct the efforts of the Executive Director, if an Executive Director has been appointed by the LPGa, and delegate all other staff and director management responsibilities to the Executive Director.
6. Be responsible for enforcing the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) of the LPGa office operations and updating the SOP as directed by the Executive Committee.

#### 3. Secretary

The Secretary shall be responsible for:

1. Keeping an accurate and complete record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Executive Committee and shall keep these records up to date in the office files of the LPGa.
2. Publication of the minutes of each meeting of the Executive Committee of the LPGa to the LPGa website within two weeks following the meeting.
3. Presenting the minutes of the previous meeting for approval.
4. Maintaining and publishing the current Bylaws and party platform.
5. Calling the roll of the registered delegates in all elections and roll call votes at the Annual Convention and shall keep an accurate tally of such votes.
6. Appointing an Election Board in the case of contested elections. The appointments shall be with the consent of a majority of the members of the Executive Committee present and voting. The Election Board shall include one representative of each contestant in question plus one additional member, if needed, so that the Board shall consist of an odd number of persons.
7. File with the Secretary of State of Georgia the LPGa Bylaws and any other documents required by state election law.

#### 4. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be responsible for:

1. Receiving and giving receipts for all monies paid to the LPGa and for depositing same in such bank or banks as shall have been designated by the Executive Committee.
2. Preparing the annual budget at the direction of the Chairman and for the approval of the Executive Committee.
3. Presenting a written financial report & update on the annual budget at each meeting of the Executive Committee or at any other time when so requested by the Executive Committee.
4. Presenting the financial records of the LPGa for audit by such auditor(s) as the Executive Committee shall specify.
5. Expenditure of funds which shall be made only in accordance with regulations established by the Executive Committee.
6. Ensuring that not later than 30 days prior to the anniversary of each member's joining of the LPGa such member shall be sent a notice of any dues required to renew membership.

## C. Vacancy and Succession

1. In the event of the temporary inability of the Chairman to perform the Chairman's duties, said duties shall devolve upon the Vice Chairman.
2. In the event of the vacancy in the office of Chairman, the Chairman shall be assumed by the Vice Chairman.
3. In the event of a vacancy for any other member of the Executive Committee, the vacant position will be filled by a simple majority vote of the entire Executive Committee.
4. All Executive Committee members elected to the Committee to fill vacancies shall serve only until the following Annual Convention at which time a new election for that office shall be held to fill out the remaining term of office.

## D. No Officer May Represent Another Party

If an officer of the LPGa publicly announces to run as a candidate, officer or representative of any political party or political body other than the Libertarian Party, the LPGa office shall become vacant and may be filled in accordance with the procedures in Article IV, Section C.

## E. Interaction with Campaigns

It is the responsibility of the officers to conduct the affairs of the party without the appearance of bias. Therefore, no officer shall manage or be actively involved in the campaign of any nominated candidate of the LPGa. This rule may be waived by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee.

# ARTICLE VI – COUNTY AND AFFILIATE PARTIES

## A. Initiation

The Executive Committee shall, upon petition of at least three members of the LPGa who reside within a given county or defined area, charter a County or Affiliate Party to operate within that county or defined area, provided that said County or Affiliate Party has adopted a set of Bylaws and submitted same to the Executive Committee, such Bylaws to contain:

* 1. membership requirements, which shall include, at a minimum, a provision for calling at least one business meeting per year;
  2. procedures for amending the Bylaws;
  3. procedures for voting on County or Affiliate Party issues and electing officers;
  4. procedures and causes for expulsion of County or Affiliate Party members;
  5. a statement of County or Affiliate Party Principles and Objectives if they differ from those of the LPGa;
  6. for each recognized County Party, rules and regulations governing conduct of their conventions.

Each recognized county shall file a copy of the Bylaws, certified by the Chairman, with the superintendent of the county within 30 days of being recognized.

## B. Membership Requirements

County or Affiliate Parties may determine for themselves any membership requirements except that no County or Affiliate Party shall deny membership or the privileges thereof to anyone based on race, color, sex, national origin, religion, creed, age or sexual preference.

## C. Continued Charter Viability

The Charter of any County or Affiliate Party whose membership falls below three members of the LPGa is automatically void. The Executive Committee may, by a simple majority vote of those present and voting, require a County Party to submit proof of membership at the Committee’s next regularly scheduled meeting. Failure to submit such proof provides justifiable cause to void the County or Affiliate Party’s Charter.

## D. Suspension and Revocation

A County or Affiliate Party’s Charter may be suspended or revoked if, subsequent to the granting of the original Charter, that Party’s Bylaws are amended so as to conflict with the requirements of ARTICLE III.A. or ARTICLE III.B. Members and officers of County or Affiliate Parties with revoked or void Charters shall retain all other rights and privileges of membership in the LPGa unless they are suspended or expelled in separate proceedings. Suspension or revocation requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the entire Executive Committee.

# ARTICLE VII – CONVENTIONS AND CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

## A. Annual Convention

An Annual Convention shall be held on or before the latest date allowed by state law.

## B. Delegates

Until such time as the LPGa’s activities are such to qualify the LPGa as a “Political Party” as defined by the laws of the State of Georgia, any member seeking to be a delegate to the state convention must have been a LPGa member in good standing for at least 367 days prior to the convention date and must have a current membership. The convention delegates who fulfill the 367-day membership requirement may vote by a two-thirds margin to suspend this requirement for the duration of the convention then in session. Convention delegates will be apportioned by State Districts and each district’s apportionment shall be certified by the Credentials Committee of the LPGa. No district shall be allocated fewer than five (5) delegates.”

## C. District Caucuses

Each state district shall have an annual caucus for the purpose of selecting delegates to the Annual Convention and for electing (a) State District Representative(s). The district caucus shall take place after the opening of convention business and before the final adjournment of the convention. The State Executive Committee may set additional rules pertaining to the caucus.

## D. Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee may be appointed separately by the Executive Committee; otherwise, it will be comprised of the Convention Committee, with the stipulation that the Party Secretary shall, in any case, be a member of the Credentials Committee.

## E. Convention Government

The Chairman of the LPGa shall preside at all Conventions. After the Call to Order, the first order of business will be the report of the Credentials Committee and adoption of the voting delegates roster. The next order of business will be adoption of the agenda, which will be initially presented as the order of business as shown in Appendix B, Rule 1. The proposed agenda must include time limits for each order of business.

## F. Nomination of Candidates for Public Office

* 1. All candidates for public office placed in nomination at the Annual Convention shall be a member of the LPGa. This requirement may be suspended for well qualified candidates by three- fourths (3/4) majority vote of the voting delegates.
  2. The LPGa's candidates for public office in the general election shall be chosen by a majority vote of the delegates at an Annual Convention at the time of the balloting. If after two votes no nominee has attained a majority vote, all nominees who shall have received less than ten percent of the total vote shall be struck from subsequent ballots. If after four ballots no nominee has attained a majority vote, the nominee with the least votes shall be struck from subsequent ballots. This procedure is to be repeated after each ballot in which no nominee has received a majority vote until one nominee attains a majority. This process will be repeated until all candidates have been chosen.
  3. The LPGa's candidates for public office shall meet all state law requirements.
  4. None of the Above (NOTA) shall automatically be a candidate for nomination for all public offices and shall be announced by the Chairman as such. Should NOTA receive a majority on any ballot, the Chairman shall immediately call for new nominations for that office and a second ballot shall be held. Should NOTA receive a majority on the second ballot, then no candidate shall be nominated for that office.
  5. After the Annual Convention, only during reapportionment/general election years, the Executive Committee shall have the power to nominate and select candidates for non-statewide, non-countywide public offices, the constituencies of which were not geographically defined as of the date of the Annual Convention. (a) To be selected, any such candidate must receive an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Executive Committee. (b) Any such Executive Committee selection must be made not later than one month after final approval of the reapportionment plan submitted by the State of Georgia or any other inferior governmental unit.
  6. After the Annual Convention, any vacancy occurring in a nomination by means of death, withdrawal, or disqualification of a candidate may be filled by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Executive Committee.
  7. If, after the Annual Convention, the Petitioning requirements for a public office is changed, a candidate may be nominated by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Executive Committee, provided that no Libertarian candidate currently exists.
  8. All rebates of candidate filing fees are to be deposited in the account of the LPGa for purposes determined by the Executive Committee.

## G. Endorsements

Endorsements of candidates in nonpartisan and special elections by the LPGa shall be by two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast at an Annual Convention or by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee of the LPGa.

The two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee shall be calculated by the number of Executive Committee members present at the meeting.

## H. Information Gathering Prior to the Annual Convention

All candidates for public office shall submit to such written or oral questioning as may be required by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee prior to such candidate's notice of candidacy to the Annual Convention for nomination for public office. Such questions shall be strictly limited to determining such candidate's understanding of and agreement with the principles of Libertarianism and to determine such candidate's ability to comply with the State of Georgia's qualifications of candidates for public office. No candidate is required to answer such questioning and under no circumstances shall such questioning be used to disqualify a candidate from presenting his notice of candidacy to the Annual Convention. However, the results of such questioning may be made known to those attending the Annual Convention.

## I. Platform

1. The Platform shall include, but not be limited to, a Statement of Principles and the implementation of the principles contained in the Statement in the form of Planks.
2. The Statement of Principles of the Platform affirms that philosophy upon which the LPGa is founded. The enduring importance of the Statement of Principles requires that it shall not be amended by a vote of less than seven-eighths (7/8) of the delegates at an Annual Convention.
3. Beginning with the first Annual Convention and at each Annual Convention thereafter, the Platform, other than the Statement of Principles, may be amended by deletion, substitution, or addition of any Plank. A Plank may be deleted by a simple majority vote of the delegates. The substitution of a new Plank for an old Plank or the addition of a new Plank, shall require approval by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates at an Annual Convention.

## J. National Convention Delegates

1. National Convention delegates shall be chosen from members of the LPGa.
2. Any member in attendance at the State Convention may be nominated. Any interested member will be nominated by signing up to be a nominee.
3. At least 14 days prior to a convention that will nominate delegates, a call for delegates shall be sent to members. Any member, regardless of whether they will be attending the convention or not, may sign up to be nominated. The signups shall be closed at least 5 days before the convention and the full list sent out to all members at least 4 days before the convention. This does not affect members who wish to sign up while physically present at the convention.
4. Elections shall be held in accordance with Appendix B- Convention Special Rules of Order, Rule 11.
5. The Chairman of the LPGa is automatically a delegate and shall serve as delegation Chairman at the National Convention. The delegates at the National Convention may choose another member of the delegation to serve as delegation Chairman by a majority vote of the Georgia delegates in attendance at the National Convention. The delegates at the National Convention may also choose to elect a delegation Vice Chairman and Secretary.
6. The remaining National Convention delegate slots allocated to the LPGa will be filled by a vote of the delegates. Elections shall be held in accordance with Appendix B- Convention Special Rules of Order, Rule 11. All elected national delegates must receive a total number of votes equal to half of the voting state delegates plus one. If all allocated slots are not filled on the first ballot, subsequent ballots will be held until all slots are filled or NOTA receives the highest number of votes on a ballot. If more candidates than slots allowed have achieved the vote threshold, the slots will be filled from the highest vote receiving candidates. If the last delegate slot is tied between multiple candidates, and nobody is willing to be the top ranked alternates, the dispute will be decided per Appendix B, Rule 11.
7. All candidates for National Convention delegate not elected as a delegate will automatically become a ranked alternate, with ranking determined by the number of votes received. There is no vote threshold required to be elected as an alternate.
8. All delegates of the LPGa who did not run for a seat on the delegation shall be considered an unranked alternate, with slots filled on a first come, first serve basis. To fill a slot, a member must only request the Chairman add that member to the unranked alternate list. Unranked alternates will be substituted at the discretion of the delegation Chairman, unless the seated Georgia Delegates decide to rank them. Any ranking will be behind ranked alternates elected at the state convention.

## K. Voting

Voting on Convention Rules, Amendments to the Bylaws, Platform Planks and Resolutions shall be by voice vote. A roll call will be held on the question if it is so requested by not less than five delegates or ten percent of the delegates present and voting, whichever is least. Voting on Party nominations, endorsements, Party officers, Executive Committee members and delegates to the National Convention shall be by written vote unless the office or position is not contested.

## L. Notice of Annual Convention

No less than ten days nor more than 30 days prior to an Annual State Convention at which candidates shall be nominated for public office, the Secretary of the Executive Committee or in the event of the vacancy of that office the Vice Chairman, shall have the following Notice of Convention published in a newspaper of general circulation in the State of Georgia: Notice of Convention The Libertarian Party of Georgia shall, on [date of convention] hold its Annual Convention at [location] for the purposes of nominating candidates for public office and conducting general business of the party.

## M. Special Conventions

1. If there is an urgent situation in which items of business normally reserved for the annual convention must be done in between annual conventions, a special convention may be called. A special convention will be limited to only those items of business specified in the call for special convention and any motions, Bylaws amendments, or platform amendments must be listed in the call for convention.
2. A special convention may be called by:
   1. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Executive Committee, or;
   2. A petition of at least 35% of the active membership of the LPGa or 500 active members, whatever is less. Memberships must be active at the time the petition is delivered. The membership petition must be officially delivered to the Executive Committee during a regularly scheduled Executive Committee meeting.
3. The special convention must take place at least 30 days after the Executive Committee meeting where it was called, or the membership petition was delivered. The special convention may not take place more than 60 days after the Executive Committee meeting where it was called, or the membership petition was delivered. The special convention must be announced at least 15 days in advance to all members. A special convention may not take place within 30 days of an Annual Convention. The convention must be held within the State of Georgia on a Saturday during business hours. The convention must be held within the State of Georgia on a Saturday during business hours. A Notice of Convention must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the State of Georgia no less than 10 days before the special convention nor more than 30 days prior to the special convention. The notice of convention: Notice of Convention the Libertarian Party of Georgia shall, on [date of convention] hold a Special Convention at [location] for the purposes of [insert summary of call for special convention].
4. A special convention may be called to: keep the party in compliance with state or federal law, amend Bylaws to fix an unworkable situation, nullify an action of the Executive Committee that violates the Bylaws, recall members of the Executive Committee, or nominate a candidate for public office.
5. Any changes to the Bylaws made at a special convention must be ratified by the next Annual Convention, using the same voting threshold required to change the document as provided for in these Bylaws, or else they will be rendered null and void.
6. All active members who meet the conditions to be a delegate at an Annual Convention are eligible to vote at a special convention. Any waiving of seasoning requirements shall be done in accordance with the rules required for an Annual Convention.
7. If at least twenty-five (25) active members submit a written request to the LPGa Chairman requesting to petition for a special convention, the LPGa shall inform all active members of the request and the contact information for the requesters. This shall be done within 7 days of the valid request being submitted.

# ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENT PROCEDURES

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the delegates present and voting at the Annual Convention excepting ARTICLE II - Principles and Objectives, which shall require a seven-eighths (7/8) majority vote of the delegates present and voting at the Annual Convention. Bylaws may be provisionally amended, but only for the purpose of complying with state or federal law by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the entire Executive Committee at any other time and shall take effect upon adoption. However, provisional amendments shall automatically be placed on the agenda of the next Annual Convention and are nullified if they fail to receive a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the delegates present and voting. The Secretary may fix numbering, spelling, grammar, style, or other syntax errors. These changes shall not change any meaning or potential interpretation to the understanding of the Bylaws. These changes shall be submitted to the Executive Committee to certify, by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote, that nothing substantive has changed in the edits. Any by-law changes proposed by the Executive Committee, at a time other than at the Annual Convention, other than those for the purpose of meeting state or federal law, shall be approved at a special convention of the general membership. Each member in good standing shall be notified by email or first-class mail, U.S. postmarked not less than twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to said convention.

# ARTICLE IX - ARBITRATION

Any Executive Committee member suspended from his office, any member whose membership has been suspended, any State District Organization or County Party whose charter has been suspended, any person denied membership, or any State District Organization or County Party denied a charter may appeal the decision to an arbitration panel. The arbitration panel shall consist of three members in good standing of the LPGa, one of whom is selected by a majority vote of the Executive Committee, one by the appellant and one by mutual agreement. The arbitration panel shall be appointed no later than thirty (30) days following the receipt by the Executive Committee of the appellant's notice of intent to appeal. Should the appellant and the Executive Committee fail to agree on a third member, the two members selected shall choose the third member of the panel. The arbitration panel shall adopt for itself any rules of procedure that it believes will ensure a fair and speedy disposition of the case provided that all procedural rules are accepted by the unanimous consent of the panel. The final disposition of the case shall be decided by a simple majority vote of the panel, with the decision of the panel to be binding on all parties. Any officer or Executive Committee member whose suspension is proposed has the same rights of notification, defense and appeal as previously outlined, except that a suspended officer or Executive Committee member shall not vote on matters coming before the Executive Committee during the suspension period. If the suspended officer or Executive Committee member fails to appeal, his suspension within sixty (60) days or if the arbitration panel votes to uphold the suspension, the seat in question becomes vacant and may be filled in accordance with procedures outlined elsewhere in the Bylaws. The above rules on appeal also apply to the State District Representatives as appointed by the Executive Committee or elected by caucus of the district.

# ARTICLE X - QUORUM

## A. Conventions

At all conventions of the LPGa, a quorum shall consist of forty (40) percent of those delegates present at the convention.

## B. Executive Committee

In Executive Committee meetings a quorum shall consist of forty (40) percent of the full existing Committee.

# ARTICLE XI - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

## A. Governing Document of Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the LPGa in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the society may adopt.

## B. Definition of Terms

When used in these Bylaws, the following terms have the following meanings:

1. Majority Vote: When used without qualification means more than half of the votes cast by persons legally entitled to vote, ignoring blanks (abstentions), at a meeting where a quorum is present. Note that when qualified with “of the members” or “of the entire” it will require more than half of all the members of the body entitled to vote regardless of presence or of the number of votes cast.
2. Two-Thirds Vote: When used without qualification means at least two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast, ignoring blanks (abstentions), at a meeting where a quorum is present. Note that when qualified with “of the members” or “of the entire” requires at least two-thirds (2/3) of all the members of the body entitled to vote regardless of presence or of the number of votes cast.
3. Three-Quarters Vote: When used without qualification means at least three-quarters (3/4) of the votes cast, ignoring blanks (abstentions), at a meeting where a quorum is present. Note that when qualified with “of the members” or “of the entire” requires at least three-quarters (3/4) of all the members of the body entitled to vote regardless of presence or of the number of votes cast.

# ARTICLE XII - SEVERABILITY

In the event any one or more of the provisions of these Bylaws shall for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall be unimpaired.

# ARTICLE XIII - HEADINGS

The headings in these Bylaws are for purposes of reference only and shall not in any way limit or affect the meaning or interpretation of any of the terms hereof.

# APPENDIX A – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY (“GEORGIA RULES”)

## Rule I. Scope of the Rules and Parliamentary Authority

1. These rules apply to all committees of Libertarian Party of Georgia (LPGa), as well as to all floor sessions of its Conventions. Any reference to “Member” shall be deemed to mean “Delegate” in the case of a Convention.
2. Procedures not covered by these rules may be decided in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised. However, in case of conflict, LPGa rules take precedence.
3. The Chairman is the final arbiter on questions of procedure and may, in the interests of debate and order, amend these rules at his or her discretion.
4. A session shall mean in the case of the convention the entire course of business of the duly called convention and may include multiple meetings. In the case of a committee, it shall mean the entire term of existence of the committee which may include multiple meetings. A meeting shall mean the business conducted during an actual day.

## Rule II. Officers

1. The presiding officer at the start of business shall present an agenda for adoption by the body. The agenda shall not require a second prior to adoption. The agenda shall be subject to amendment by the body. The Chairman may rule an amendment as “well taken” or “not well taken.” If an amendment is ruled well-taken it shall immediately be incorporated in the agenda. If the amendment is ruled not well-taken it shall not be adopted, unless appealed and sustained by a majority vote of the body.
2. If for any reason the Secretary is absent and has official duties to perform the Chairman shall appoint another member as a replacement Secretary. The replacement Secretary will perform the duties of Secretary until the return of the Secretary, who will resume his or her position with the associated powers and duties.

## Rule III. Motions and Resolutions

1. Members may introduce motions and resolutions for the body on which they serve.
2. A motion is an enactment which takes action on a matter. A majority vote is required to pass a motion unless the Bylaws require a greater quantity. A motion which amends a previously enacted motion from the current session shall require a 2/3 vote of the members present.
3. A resolution is a measure which merely affects the internal workings of the body or articulates a position on current matters.

## Rule IV. Quorum

Once a quorum has been established at a meeting, a quorum shall be assumed to be present unless challenged by three members.

## Rule V. Debate

1. No member may make any statement in debate without first being recognized by the Chairman. Any member recognized for debate is entitled to the floor for the time specified below.
2. Members must confine their remarks in debate to the pending questions. Personal remarks must not enter debate. All remarks must be addressed to the Chairman. Any member violating these rules may, at the discretion of the Chairman, lose the floor.
3. Debate on a motion or resolution will begin with structured debate, which consists of two alternating speeches for and against the motion. Debate in this time is restricted to the particular viewpoint. Speeches in structured debate are limited to 3 minutes each. The Chairman shall offer the floor to the member that brought the matter before the body before recognizing any other member for the speech for the motion.
4. General debate will then follow, considering the main motion. Speeches in general debate are limited to 2 minutes each and are not restricted to any particular viewpoint. They may be used for the introduction of amendments.
5. A primary amendment is a change or addition to the main motion under discussion. A secondary amendment is a change or addition to a primary amendment. Consideration of a primary amendment is limited to 10 minutes, while consideration of a secondary amendment is limited to 5 minutes.
6. Structured debate on an amendment consists of two speeches, one given by its author, and one given by a member opposing the amendment. Speeches will be limited to 3 minutes for a primary amendment, and to 2 minutes for a secondary amendment. In both cases, general debate on amendments consists of 2-minute speeches. Secondary amendments are in order only during general debate on a primary amendment.
7. A member may yield his or her time to either questions or the Chairman. No yielding of time to other members is permitted. If time is yielded to questions, the member may, at any time, stop answering questions and yield his or her time to the Chairman. Follow-up questions are not permitted.
8. At the conclusion of debate on a motion or amendment, the author or sponsor of the main motion is entitled to a sponsor summation speech of 2 minutes.
9. A speech interrupted for a Point of Order or Point of Privilege will be charged against the speaker only if the interruption was caused by the speaker's misconduct or violation of the rules.
10. The total time for consideration of a motion or resolution is 45 minutes. After this time has elapsed, the Chairman will put the main motion, together with any other motions which may be pending, to a vote.
11. Debate may be closed, extended, or limited by a 2/3 majority vote. Debate may be extended for no more than 15 minutes at a time.

## Rule VI. Voting

1. All voting will be by voice vote. The Chairman or any three members may seek confirmation of the vote by calling for a division (show of placards or a rising vote that will be counted). The Chairman will recognize a call for division at his or her discretion. No ballot votes will be in order except as otherwise provided. A roll call vote may only be used on a teleconference except as otherwise provided.
2. No debate is in order during a vote, and no motions may be made except for Points of Order or Privilege related directly to the conduct of voting.

## Rule VII. Motions

1. Only those motions listed below will be recognized. Unless otherwise indicated, all motions:
   * 1. may not be debated or amended,
     2. cannot be made when another speaker has the floor,
     3. require a second,
     4. require a majority vote to be adopted.
2. A motion that has failed may not be reconsidered.
3. The order of precedence of the motions is as shown, in ascending order. When a motion is pending, only motions with a higher number, as shown below, are in order. The Chairman must recognize members before they may state the point or motion to which they rise. Moreover, the Chairman may amend the order of precedence in the interests of debate and order or rule Points and Motions "dilatory" when they are seen to be interfering with debate.
   1. MAIN MOTION: This is a motion or resolution, as specified in Rule III. It may be debated or amended. A majority of votes is required unless otherwise specified.

The order in which the motions are called is determined by the agenda.

* 1. ACCLAMATION: A main motion may be passed without debate if there is no objection. Acclamation may be called for immediately on the main motion. No second is required. If there is unanimous consent, the motion or resolution is passed without general debate or a vote on the main motion.
  2. OBJECTION TO CONSIDERATION: A main motion may be denied consideration by passage of this motion. The motion must be made immediately after the main motion or resolution is moved. No second is required. Grounds for the objections must be specified- for example, the motion is unconstitutional, clearly frivolous, or outside the jurisdiction of the committee in which proposed. If the Chairman permits, the objector and the sponsor of the motion may briefly (for one-minute) state their positions. A 2/3 vote is required to sustain the objection.
  3. AMEND: The text of a motion or resolution may be altered by passage of this motion. An amendment may also be altered by a secondary amendment (amendments beyond the secondary level are not permitted). This motion may be introduced only when one has the floor during General Debate. If an amendment is acceptable to the sponsor of the main motion (or primary amendment), it is deemed an acceptable amendment and is incorporated into the motion without debate or vote. If deemed an unacceptable amendment, debate may be held. It requires a second and a simple majority vote to be carried. If this motion carries, the amendment is considered and voted upon before resuming consideration of the main motion or primary amendment. The amendment must be germane (i.e., clearly relevant) to the previous motion. An amendment may not change a motion or resolution so that an affirmative vote on the amendment would have the same effect as a negative vote on the main motion.
  4. POSTPONE DEBATE: If this motion is adopted, debate on the pending main motion is postponed. A time for the resumption of debate must be specified, and the motion must be seconded.
  5. LAY UPON THE TABLE: If this motion is adopted, debate on the pending motion is suspended. Debate may be resumed if a motion to TAKE FROM THE TABLE is adopted by majority vote at a time when no other motion or resolution is pending.
  6. DIVISION OF THE QUESTION: This motion may be made if a member wishes to vote upon separately, various provisions in a motion. A member making such a motion must specify how the motion will be divided and must specify his or her reasoning. If Division of the Question is passed, the individual portions specified are voted upon separately. Those sections which are adopted become the new motion, which is then voted upon as a whole.
  7. APPEAL THE DECISION OF THE CHAIR: A member may appeal a ruling or decision made by the Chairman which is perceived as unwarranted. If the motion receives the required second, the person making the appeal and the Chairman may briefly state his or her position, after which the appeal is put to a ⅔ vote.
  8. SUSPEND THE RULES: This motion, if passed by 2/3 vote, suspends the rules of procedure. Any member rising to this motion must specify the purpose of suspending the rules. The suspension expires automatically when its purpose is completed. If necessary, the Chairman may suspend the rules for the purpose of allowing a presentation to the body.
  9. EXTEND THE LIMITS OF DEBATE: If adopted by a 2/3 vote, this motion changes the time limits of debate on a motion, resolution, or amendment. Debate may only be extended in 15-minute increments.
  10. CLOSE DEBATE (MOVE THE PREVIOUS QUESTION): If adopted by a 2/3 vote, this motion immediately closes debate on the pending motion, resolution, or amendment. If more than one motion is pending, it may be specified whether debate is to be closed on all motions or on only the one immediately pending. A motion to close debate may be informally requested by a verbal call of Question" when no other member has the floor. It requires a second, and if there is a single call of "Objection," the motion fails and must be formally moved by a member who has been recognized by the Chairman.
  11. RECESS: If adopted, a motion to Recess suspends the meeting of the committee or convention. A time for resumption of the meeting must be specified.
  12. ADJOURN: This motion concludes the meeting (or session if moved “Adjourn sine die”) of a committee or body. The Chairman may move to adjourn if it appears that a quorum cannot be obtained.

## Rule VIII. Points

1. Only those points listed below will be recognized.
2. Points are not debatable, they do not require a second, and the Chairman's decision is final (barring any motion to appeal).
3. The order of precedence of the points is shown, in ascending order. When a point is pending, only points with a higher number, as shown below, are in order.
4. Points do not automatically take precedence over motions. The Chairman will recognize members rising to points, at his or her discretion.
   1. POINT OF INFORMATION: A member’s rising to this Point may ask a factual question related to the substance of the matter under discussion. This Point may be raised only when no one else has the floor. The Chairman may refer this question to a member if necessary.
   2. PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY: This is a question concerning the Rules of Procedure. A question may be posed at any time but should only interrupt a member who has the floor if the question is directly relevant to a proposal being made at that time.
   3. POINT OF ORDER: A member may rise to this Point if it is felt that a violation of the Rules of Procedure has occurred. If the Chairman finds this Point is well-taken, the situation will be quickly resolved. A Point of Order may be raised at any time. If the Chairman finds this Point not well-taken, the situation shall continue unless the decision of the Chairman is appealed as provided in Rule VII.3.h.
   4. POINT OF PRIVILEGE: A Point of Privilege may be made when the rights and privileges of a member of LPGa have been violated. If the Point is appropriate, the Chairman will undertake corrective measures.

# APPENDIX B – CONVENTION SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER

## Rule 1: Order of Business

The standing order of business for a Regular Convention shall be as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Credentials Committee report
3. Adoption of agenda
4. Bylaws Committee- Special Rules Report
5. Chairman’s report
6. Treasurer's report
7. Bylaws and Rules Committee report
8. Platform Committee report
9. Nomination of Party candidates
10. Election of Party Officers and at-large members of the Executive Committee
11. Election of Delegates to the National Convention
12. Resolutions
13. Other business

## Rule 2: Voting Eligibility

1. The Secretary, acting on behalf of the Credentials Committee, shall report the number of delegates registered in attendance and eligible to vote directly after the opening of the first business session, and at the beginning of each succeeding session.
2. All delegates shall be eligible to vote on all matters. To vote on a given matter, a delegate must be present on the floor at the time the vote is taken. Each delegate present shall have one vote. Use of the unit rule or unit voting is prohibited.
3. Pursuant to Article VII, Section B, a voting delegate may move to expand the number of voting delegates to include all members present with current memberships, provided two-thirds of the delegates vote to do so.
4. All delegates must wear identification badges issues upon registration to be admitted to the floor.

## Rule 3: Voting Procedure and Motions

1. On all matters, except the retention of platform planks, the election of Party Officers and members of the Executive Committee and the nomination of candidates for public office, voting will be by voice vote. If five or more delegates object to the Chairman's ruling on the outcome of a voice vote, a counted vote will be held.
2. The Chairman shall require any substantial motion offered from the Convention floor to be in writing, signed by the mover and submitted to the Secretary.

## Rule 4: Polling Procedure

1. In cases where a roll call vote is required, the Secretary will ask for the vote from each delegate in alphabetical order.
2. In cases where paper ballots are used, each delegate must submit it to the Secretary; ballots shall be submitted within five minutes of the vote being called. The Secretary shall verify that the number of votes cast does not exceed the number delegates. During the period allotted for such votes, the business of the convention shall continue without interruption. When the time for voting has expired the Secretary shall present the vote totals to the Chairman who shall then announce the result.

## Rule 5: Committee Procedures

1. A majority vote of those Committee members present is necessary for a "do pass" recommendation, and in the case of the Platform Committee, a majority must approve each specific plank separately.
2. Four or more members of the Platform Committee may join to issue a minority report regarding any plank reported to the floor of the Convention. Two or more members of the Bylaws and Rules Committee or of the Credentials Committee may join to issue a minority report regarding their business.
3. A member must be present in Committee to vote.
4. More than 1/2 of the membership of each committee shall constitute a quorum.

## Rule 6: Debating and Voting – Bylaws and Rules

The Chairman of the Bylaws and Rules Committee shall report each recommendation of the Committee to the Convention separately and shall have two minutes to explain the intent or purpose of the proposed amendment(s). The Convention Chairman shall open each recommendation to discussion without amendment from the floor. Each recommendation shall be considered and adopted separately, with a maximum of eight minutes’ discussion on any recommendation. After the discussion, the Convention Chairman shall bring the recommendation to a vote. If the recommendation fails, the Convention Chairman shall open the recommendation to amendment for an additional 10 minutes.

## Rule 7: Debating and Voting -- Platform

1. The current Platform shall serve as the basis of all future platforms. At Regular Conventions, the existing Platform may be amended. Additional planks, or additions to planks, must be approved by 2/3 vote. However, an amendment to the Statement of Principles shall only be amended by a 7/8 vote of the delegates.
2. The Platform Committee shall meet before each Regular Convention and prepare a report containing its recommendations. At the convention, the Platform Committee's recommendations shall be reported to the floor and debated and voted upon separately. The Platform Committee shall set forth the order in which each recommendation shall be considered.
3. Recommendations for which there is no minority report shall be debated and voted upon in the following manner:
   1. The Platform Committee Chairman, or some other person designated by him or her, shall read the proposed recommendation and shall have up to two minutes to explain the recommendation.
   2. The Convention Chairman shall then open the recommendation to debate without amendment for a period of up to 15 minutes before bringing the matter to a vote. If the recommendation fails, the Convention Chairman shall inquire if any amendments are proposed from the floor. If there are such proposals, the Convention Chairman shall request a vote on whether to consider amendments, and with majority approval may consider amendments for a period of up to 10 minutes.
4. Recommendations for which there is a minority report shall be debated and voted upon in the following manner:
   1. Spokespersons for both the majority and minority positions shall each have two minutes to present their views.
   2. The Chairman shall then open consideration of both positions for five minutes, during which time any delegates may express their views without offering amendments. After five minutes, there will be a vote on which of the two reports shall be considered for purposes of adopting a recommendation. The report receiving the greater number of votes shall then be discussed and voted upon in the manner described in Section 4b.
5. After all Committee recommendations have received initial consideration, any delegate may propose amendments to the Platform. The delegate may take up to two minutes to state and explain the proposal, with debating and voting to proceed as described in Section 4b.
6. Finally, if time permits, proposals which were considered by the Platform Committee but which received an unfavorable vote from a majority of the Committee, may be considered, with a spokesperson for the minority position giving the reasons in favor and the Platform Committee Chairman or other representative of the majority position giving the reasons why it was voted down, before the proposal is taken to the floor for debate.

## Rule 8: Resolutions

1. Resolutions must be approved by a 2/3 vote.
2. Resolutions must not conflict with the Statement of Principles. Challenges of such adopted Resolutions believed by 10% of the delegates to conflict with the Statement of Principles shall be referred in writing, during the Convention, to the Executive Committee by the delegates. The challenge shall specify in what manner the Resolution is believed to be in conflict. The Executive Committee shall consider the challenge, decide whether the Statement of Principles is conformed to, and report their findings and reasons to the Convention. If the Resolution is vetoed by the Executive Committee, it will be declared null and void but can be reinstated by a 7/8 vote of the Convention.

## Rule 9: Nomination of Candidates for Public Office

1. No person shall be nominated to be a Candidate for Public Office unless at least 3 registered delegates join in the nomination in writing submitted to the Chairman. No delegate may join in nominating more than one candidate for each office. The nominee must accept the nomination from the floor by acclamation.
2. The Party's nominee for Public Office shall be chosen by 2/3 vote. If no candidate has attained a majority after two votes, the candidates with less than 10% shall be struck from subsequent ballots. If no candidate has attained a majority after four votes, the candidate with the least votes shall be struck from subsequent ballots. This procedure shall be repeated after every ballot in which no candidate has received a 2/3 vote, until one candidate attains a 2/3 vote.
3. Nominating and seconding speeches shall be limited in duration as follows:
   1. Governor: Total of 15 minutes.
   2. Lt. Governor: Total of 10 minutes.
   3. United States Senator: Total of 10 minutes.
   4. United States Representative: Total of 7 minutes
   5. Other State-Wide Offices: Total of 7 minutes.
   6. All other Offices: Total of 5 minutes

## Rule 10: Election of Officers and At-Large Executive Committee Members

1. No person shall be nominated to be an officer or to be a member of the Executive Committee unless at least 3 registered delegates join in the nomination in writing submitted to the Chairman. No delegate may join in nominating more than one candidate for each office. The nominee must accept the nomination from the floor by acclamation.
2. The officers and at-large members of the Executive Committee shall be chosen by majority vote. If no candidate has attained a majority after two votes, the candidates with less than 10% shall be struck from subsequent ballots. If no candidate has attained a majority after four votes, the candidate with the least votes shall be struck from subsequent ballots. This procedure shall be repeated after every ballot in which no candidate has received a majority vote, until one candidate attains a majority vote.
3. Nominating and seconding speeches shall be limited in duration as follows:
   1. Chairman: Total of 5 minutes;
   2. All other Offices: Total of 3 minutes.

## Rule 11: Elections of Delegates to the National Convention

1. The Chairman shall announce the number of delegates the LPGa is entitled to send to the National Convention exclusive of the Chairman. The Secretary shall then produce a list of individuals eligible to be named as delegates to the National Convention.
2. The delegates shall caucus as a body for 10 minutes to let other delegates know their desire to be a delegate.
3. Voting for national delegates shall be done by Approval Voting. Each delegate may vote for all candidates that they approve of. If a delegate approves of none of the candidates, a NOTA vote shall be submitted.
4. If the number of candidates is equal to or less than the number of available slots, the delegates may, by a 2/3 vote, choose to elect the entire slate by a majority vote. If there are a few candidates willing to volunteer as alternates, they may be included as the top ranked alternates. These alternates must agree on their rankings, or the rankings determined by the convention body.
5. If the last delegate spot is tied, and none of the candidates are willing to take the top alternate spots, the tie shall be decided by a coin flip. If only two candidates are tied, the Chairman will ask the person who has been a party member longer to choose heads or tails and will flip the coin. The winner of the flip gets the final slot. If more than 2 are tied, the Chairman will provide a coin to each of the candidates. All candidates will flip their coins at the same time and the odd side out will take the highest slot. This will be repeated until only 2 candidates, at which point the above procedure for 2 candidates will finish the tie breaker.
6. After voting is closed the Chairman shall announce the selected delegates.

## Rule 12: None of the Above

Votes cast for "None of the Above" in voting on the Party's nominees for candidates for public office the Officers, and at-large members of the Executive Committee, shall be considered valid. Should a majority of the votes be cast for "None of the Above" in the Candidate balloting, no candidate shall be nominated for that office. Should "None of the Above" be selected for any Party office, that position shall be declared vacant and none of the losing candidates for that position may be selected to fill the vacancy for that term of office.

**Appendix B**

**3.2 Committee Descriptions**

3.2.1 Affiliate Support Committee

The Affiliate Support Committee (ASC) shall identify the needs and interests of the various local affiliates. In addition, the ASC shall identify those affiliates that need assistance that the Executive Committee can provide.

The ASC shall deliver a report to the Executive Committee at each meeting, identifying and prioritizing those needs and interests of the various affiliates. This ranked list shall be taken into consideration when drawing up the following year’s budget, and throughout the year as needed.

The ASC shall also, as and when needed, recommend to the Executive Committee measures that will address the particular affiliates that need assistance from the Executive Committee.

The ASC shall also establish a process for tracking the progress in meeting those needs.

The ASC shall also assist in the recruiting and founding of new affiliates.

The ASC shall create and maintain a new affiliate packet for information related to creating affiliates for interested volunteers.

3.2.1.1 Goals

The ASC shall create a number of new affiliates in a given year as determined by the LPGa Chair.

The ASC shall provide a number of trainings on affiliates in a given year as determined by the LPGa Chair.

3.2.1.2 Field Development Director

The duties of the Field Development Director shall be to:

* Oversee Affiliate Support program developing overall strategies for affiliate support and growth
* Provide information and guidance to assist individuals in establishing new affiliations
* Review paperwork to verify completeness and accuracy
* Help new affiliations in establishing a Libertarian Party presence in their communities
* Introduce techniques for managing day-to-day operations of affiliate
* Conduct new affiliate meetings and trainings
* Act as a liaison between affiliates and state party, encouraging affiliate involvement in state-level activities
* Host regular meetings among affiliate leadership featuring relevant topics to enhance effectiveness and growth
* Conduct and/or organize in-person and virtual trainings and assist with access to training in learning management system
* Work with communications team to develop affiliate support materials and facilitate publication of affiliate events
* Assist Affiliate Director and Consultants with needed tasks.
* Help affiliates with phone banking activities
* Organize volunteers and assign tasks

3.2.1.3 New Affiliates

The Committee has a major responsibility to help build the LPGa through the creation of new affiliates. The Committee will need to be intimately involved with walking members through the creation of a new affiliate. All voting members shall attempt to meet all new affiliate leadership and speak with them about their vision and goals in creating a new affiliate. This may happen at a regularly scheduled monthly business meeting.

Upon an initial affiliation meeting, election of affiliate Officers, and adoption of bylaws, the Committee shall meet and review the request for affiliation. The new Officers of the affiliate shall be invited to this meeting and encouraged to attend.

The Committee shall vote whether to recommend the affiliation to the Executive Committee. Regardless of the outcome of the vote, the request for affiliation, along with the committee recommendation, shall be presented at the next Executive Committee meeting.

3.2.2 Ballot Access Committee

The Ballot Access Committee (BAC) shall create and implement a plan to ensure the maximum number of candidates are able to be named on the ballot in any given election year.

The BAC shall come up with a budget proposal for each yearly budget to be submitted to the Executive Committee Chair a month prior to the February budget meeting. Ongoing budget changes may be made in accordance with current budget amendment rules.

Each year, within 30 days following the qualifying period as set by the state of Georgia, the BAC shall report to the Executive Committee the following in regard to the current election cycle:

* Initial estimated expenses
* Expenses incurred
* Ballot Access results
* Significant problems identified
* Significant unexpected successes
* Regulatory issues encountered
* Evaluation of any third parties contracted with

3.2.2.1 Ballot Access Director

The duties of the Ballot Access Director shall be to:

* Develop and execute strategies to reduce and eliminate ballot access requirements, including oversight of legal action on ballot access issues
* Educate candidates, potential candidates, and the public on ballot access struggles and the likelihood of success in petitioning
* Research and identify races with low signature requirements and provide to candidate support for recruitment efforts
* Acquire and organize paid petitioners, collaborating with candidate support in fundraising efforts for this purpose
* Assist candidates in district races with signature collection requirements
* Schedule signature collection drives and events including the mobilization of volunteers
* Work with communications team to publicize events and volunteer recruiting efforts

### 3.2.3 Bylaws Committee

The Bylaws Committee is responsible for compiling a list of bylaws changes required for the Convention each year. During the Convention, the Bylaws Committee Chair is responsible for presenting proposed bylaws changes.

3.2.3.1 Bylaws Director

The duties of the Bylaws Director shall be to:

* Collaborate with team to craft changes to LPGa Bylaws with the intention of improving the achievement of LPGa goals
* Schedule and conduct meetings and coordinate volunteers
* Present new bylaws proposals at annual Convention
* Responsibly administer and account for any funds allocated to Ballot Access Committee budget.

3.2.4 Candidate Support Committee

The Candidate Support Committee is responsible for supporting Libertarian candidates and their campaigns. Duties include reaching out to those interested in being candidates to help them with next steps, candidate recruitment, campaign assistance, and interfacing between the state party and individual campaigns.

The Candidate Support Committee shall use CiviCRM to track all contact with potential and current candidates to ensure a record is kept for future election years.

3.2.4.1 Goals

The Candidate Support Committee shall assist a number of candidates in a given year as determined by the LPGa Chair.

3.2.4.2 Political Director

The duties of the Political Director shall be to:

* Offer assistance to candidates running for office on both the state and local level to include navigation of processes with the Secretary of State and formation of campaign teams
* Address candidate questions and help resolve issues
* Conduct and/or organize in-person and virtual training and assist with access to training in learning management system
* Assist with debate preparation
* Manage and assign tasks to Candidate Support volunteers
* Seek, organize, and share opportunities for candidate publicity
* Recruit candidates ensuring that the number of statewide races needed for continued ballot access have qualified candidates
* Make suggestions to Executive Committee in regard to management of leveling fund
* Communicate state party support offerings to prospective candidates
* Help candidates develop effective messaging based upon their vision and values
* Work with ballot access director on signature collection strategies and events

3.2.5 Communications Committee

The Communications Committee oversees our general communications strategy and ensures communications guidelines for all external communications.

The Communication Committee is responsible for publishing a quarterly newsletter. The newsletter contains information like upcoming events, press releases, resolutions passed, and any media (photos, podcasts, videos).

Refer to the Communications Policy for more information about the Communications Committee.

3.2.5.1 Goals

The Communications Committee shall publish a number of blog posts as determined by the LPGa Chair.

The Communications Committee shall publish a number of press releases as determined by the LPGa Chair.

The Communications Committee shall publish a number of episodes of the podcast as determined by the LPGa Chair.

3.2.5.2 Communications Director

The duties of the Communications Director shall be to:

* Ensure plentiful and professional communications through various channels including blog posts, emails, calls-to-action, marketing materials, website, and social media
* Create strategies to determine messaging and document needs based upon current political situations and organizational needs
* Recruit writers and developers to create content and marketing collateral
* Work with writers and editors to ensure quality content
* Collaborate with podcast moderator to brainstorm topics and ensure coverage of relevant party activities

3.2.5.3 Social Media Subcommittee

The duties of the Social Media Director shall be to:

* Manage the promotion of LPGa on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, TikTok, and other social media platforms
* Collaborate with Communications Director to ensure coverage of targeted messaging and current issues
* Set engagement goals with communications team and employ analytics reports to measure success
* Coordinate volunteers and assign tasks

3.2.6 Convention Committee

The Convention Committee oversees the planning and running of the LPGa yearly Convention. This includes but is not limited to finding a location, booking space, finding catering, finding speakers, finding sponsors, setting the agenda, and advertising.

The Convention Committee shall make recommendations for Convention sites to the Executive Committee, but the Executive Committee shall choose the site. On other matters concerning the Party’s Conventions, the Committee shall act on behalf of the Executive Committee, including:

* Conveying requirements to Convention planners.
* Ensuring the Convention meets the Party’s needs.
* Establishing a proposed budget to be presented and approved by the Executive Committee.
* Reviewing and approving major elements, such as contracts and the Convention program in a timely manner.

The Committee shall book event space within four months of the proposed Convention date.

The Committee may begin its work as soon as its Chair is appointed.

During the 90 days following a Convention, the Committee shall make a final report to the Executive Committee of actual versus expected Convention performance.

3.2.6.1 Goals

The Convention Committee shall book a date and venue for the annual Convention no later than a date determined by the LPGa Chair.

The Convention Committee shall have a revenue goal of at least the cost of the Convention and any extra as determined by the LPGa Chair.

3.2.6.2 Convention Committee Director

The duties of the Convention Committee Director shall be to:

* Research potential locations for annual Convention
* Choose location and present to Executive Committee
* Administer budget
* Recruit, coordinate, and assign tasks to volunteers
* Develop Convention program, collaborating with party leadership to set agenda of business meeting portion
* Secure sponsors and determine various levels of fees and benefits
* Oversee logistics of events such as procurement of technology, refreshments, set up of venue, etc.
* Plan and organize auxiliary social gatherings and events outside of the main Convention

3.2.7 Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee is responsible for creating and executing fundraising plans. This includes, but is not limited to, planning events, phone banks, and other ideas to raise money for the LPGa.

3.2.7.1 Goals

The Fundraising Committee shall have a revenue goal for a given year as determined by the LPGa Chair.

The Fundraising Committee shall hold a number of fundraising events in a given year as determined by the LPGa Chair.

3.2.7.2 Finance Director

The duties of the Finance Director shall be to:

* Drive revenue for LPGa through development of fundraising strategy
* Plan and execute fundraising events, phone banks, mailing campaigns, and other outreach to donors
* Collaborate with Executive Committee to determine revenue goals
* Coordinate and assign tasks to volunteers

3.2.8 Information Technology (IT) Committee

The IT Committee is responsible for implementing and maintaining IT Infrastructure. This includes and is not limited to CRM, website, email, and other IT solutions.

3.2.8.1 IT Director

The duties of the IT Director shall be to:

* Oversee the technology needs of the LPGa
* Work with national party to make requests and solve issues with CiviCRM platform
* Update website, submitting tickets to national for updates that fall outside of current permissions
* Serve as admin for multiple technologies including project management software and learning management system
* Conduct technology trainings for affiliates and volunteers
* Research technologies to determine which products best meet the needs of the LPGa and make recommendations
* Manage IT team and assign tasks to volunteers

3.2.9 Membership Committee

The Membership Committee shall provide resources and create programs to retain members and grow membership.

The Membership Committee shall provide resources and create programs for training affiliate leaders on recruiting, growing, and maintaining membership and keeping members active in the affiliate.

The Membership Committee, along with any additional appointed members, shall serve as the Credentials Committee, with the Chair of the Membership Committee serving as the Chair of the Credentialing Committee. The Chair or their designee shall present the Credentials Reports required throughout Convention business.

Each affiliate Membership Director, or another authorized representative of the affiliate, shall be a non-voting member of the Membership Committee.

3.2.9.1 Goals

The Membership Committee shall have a goal of signing up a certain number of memberships each year as determined by the LPGa Chair.

3.2.9.2 Membership Director

The duties of the Membership Director shall be to:

* Maintain membership records, verifying that they are accurate and up-to-date
* Assist prospects with membership, addressing any issues with the sign-up process
* Develop strategies for retention of current members, ensuring that members receive both automated and personal renewal requests
* Work with party leadership to create and execute membership incentive programs

3.2.10 Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee is responsible for finding, planning, and executing outreach events on behalf of the state party. They also assist local affiliates with the same.

The Outreach Committee is also responsible for interfacing with libertarian minded groups on campuses on behalf of the state party. Duties include maintaining lists of groups, which campus they are on, point person, and contact information, as well as reaching out to these groups when necessary on behalf of the party.

The Outreach Committee shall inform the Communications Committee of all planned events in a timely manner.

3.2.10.1 Goals

The Outreach Committee shall sign up a certain number of potential contacts at outreach events each year as determined by the LPGa Chair.

3.2.10.2 Outreach Director

The duties of the Outreach Director shall be to:

* Coordinate events and campaigns to increase membership and awareness of the LPGa
* Recruit and organize volunteers for tabling, events, phone banks, and other outreach activities
* Provide training, assistance, and support to assist affiliates in the development of outreach programs
* Connect with businesses, organizations, and other community members to expand Libertarian presence

### 3.2.11 Platform Committee

The Platform Committee is responsible for compiling a list of proposed platform changes for the Convention each year. During the Convention, the Platform Committee Chair is responsible for presenting proposed platform changes.

3.2.11.1 Platform Director

The duties of the Platform Director shall be to:

* Suggest changes to party platform, affirming that those suggestions align with libertarian values and the non-aggression principle
* Review existing platform to ensure that it addresses current issues in the political landscape
* Develop the language of platform amendments in collaboration with other Committee members
* Organize Committee volunteers and conduct meetings
* Present suggestions to membership at annual Convention

3.2.12 Public Policy Committee

The Public Policy Committee is responsible for tracking legislation in various legislatures across Georgia, helping to guide local affiliate activists in affecting their own local changes, determining legislative priorities for the party, and organizing activism for prioritized public policy changes.

For all lobbying efforts, the Public Policy Committee shall collaborate with the Communications Committee to ensure all messaging is uniform and effective.

3.2.12.1 Goals

The Public Policy Committee shall complete a certain number of trainings on how to affect public policy per year as determined by the LPGa Chair.

The Public Policy Committee shall complete a certain number of calls to action per year as determined by the LPGa Chair.

The Public Policy Committee shall provide monthly updates to the Executive Committee on legislation making its way through the General Assembly during session.

3.2.12.2 Policy Director

The duties of the Policy Director shall be to:

* Follow activities of Georgia legislative session to discover items of interest to the LPGa
* Employ LegiScan to track bills on relevant topics
* Research and summarize proposed legislation along with other policy Committee volunteers
* Pinpoint proposed legislation to support or oppose through Liberty Watch call-to-action network
* Organize activism, lobbying, educational activities, and events to address hot-button issues
* Collaborate with Communications Committee in the authoring and editing of call-to-action emails and other policy-related communications
* Manage volunteers and assign tasks

3.2.12.3 Liberty Watch

The Public Policy Committee shall review proposed legislation and propose calls to action as the bills move through the process. The Committee shall vote to approve support or opposition and a call to action for bills. Upon approval, the committee shall submit the recommendation and the call to action to the communications team who will distribute as far and as wide to all lists as possible.

3.2.12.4 Coalitions

The Public Policy Committee may make coalitions with other organizations for the purpose of education and lobbying for legislation consistent with the LPGa Platform.

The Committee may create separate organizations to handle this partnership. The Committee must ensure that the party retains at least joint ownership in any data collected by that separate organization.

The Executive Committee shall approve any coalition agreements to finalize the process and direct the Committee to execute the agreement.

3.2.13 Youth Engagement Committee

The Youth Engagement Committee is responsible for assisting the LPGa engage with youth across the state.

The Youth Engagement Committee is responsible for finding, planning, and executing youth outreach events on behalf of theLPGa and in conjunction with the outreach Committee. They also assist local affiliates with the same.

The Youth Engagement Committee is responsible for maintaining a social media presence which the LPGa has ownership over.

The Youth Engagement Committee is responsible for creating and engaging Libertarian Party youth groups including college organizations.

The Youth Engagement Committee will release quarterly reports about the interests of the youth including which topics had the most engagement.

3.2.13.1 Goals

The Youth Engagement Committee shall have a goal to acquire a certain number of contacts at youth outreach events in a given year as determined by the LPGa Chair.

The Youth Engagement Committee shall have a goal to sign up a specified number of memberships in a given year as determined by the LPGa Chair.

The Youth Engagement Committee shall have a goal to hold a specified number of calls to action as determined by the LPGa Chair

The Youth Engagement Committee shall have a goal to establish a specified number of youth affiliates as determined by the LPGa Chair.

The Youth Engagement Committee shall have a goal to reach a specified level of engagement in social media as determined by the LPGa Chair.

3.2.13.2 Youth Engagement Director

The duties of the Youth Engagement Director shall be to:

* Create strategies to drive youth involvement in the LPGa
* Initiate development of new campus affiliations and attract new members
* Plan and execute campus events to expand Libertarian presence
* Recruit and coordinate volunteers
* Manage Internship Program
* Forge relationships and coalitions with other liberty-oriented youth organizations