

## **BYLAW I: PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

These bylaws shall govern the association known as the “Libertarian Party of Mississippi,” hereinafter referred to as the “Party.”

## **BYLAW II: MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section 1: Definition of Member.**

- A. To be a member of the Party, you must be a resident of the State of Mississippi.
- B. Certify that you do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.
- C. Pay an annual Membership fee of \$25 to the Party.
- D. Lifetime members of the National Party as of midnight April 9, 2017 shall be considered members of the State Party.

**Section 2.** The amount of yearly dues required may not be changed except as an act of the yearly state convention of the Party.

**Section 3.** Membership may be indefinitely revoked for cause by a 2/3rds vote of the Judicial Committee.

- a. Request for membership revocation must be submitted in writing to each member of the Judicial Committee, and to the member whose membership is being questioned.

**Section 4.** The Secretary shall provide a copy of the membership list to each party officer. With the approval of the Executive Committee, the membership list may be provided to other groups, such as the National Libertarian Party, a Libertarian Party candidate, or a campaign committee.

**Section 5.** Only Members who are both State Party Members and National Party Members shall be elected as delegates to the National Convention.

### **BYLAW III: PARTY OFFICERS**

**Section 1.** State party officers are; Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, one District Representative for each of the congressional districts, and two Party Delegates At Large. Officers shall serve until the next annual state convention. The Party Officers constitute the Executive Committee hereafter referred to as the Execomm.

- (a) A simple majority is sufficient authority for the Execomm to act in all matters.
- (b) The Execomm may conduct business by telecommunications, mail, meetings, or by other electronic means.
- (c) Execomm meetings may be called by any member of the Execomm.
- (d) Reasonable notice of Execomm meetings shall be given to all party officers.
- (e) Scheduled Execomm meetings are open to all members of the Party, and all scheduled meetings shall be posted on the Party website 10 days in advance.
- (f) Minutes of Execomm meetings and any votes taken by mail or telecommunications must be published on the Party website, at least in summary form.
- (g) The Execomm may, at its sole discretion, refuse to accept any applications for candidacy of any state or local office. Decisions under this section may be appealed to the Judicial Committee.
- (h) All Party Officers shall be a member of the Party as defined in **Bylaw II**.

**Section 2.** All actions of the State, County and Campus party officers must support the Party Platform and Bylaws of the Party, and also uphold the pledge of non-initiation of force. No party officer shall endorse a non-Libertarian candidate for public office who is opposed by a Libertarian candidate.

**Section 3.** If the office of Chairman becomes vacant, or if the Chairman is unable to fulfill the duties of the office, then the order of succession as acting Chairman is: Vice-Chairman,

Secretary, Treasurer, District One Representative, followed by the remaining District Representatives in numerical order.

#### **BYLAW IV: FINANCES**

**Section 1.** Any Party money spent must be authorized by a majority vote of the Execomm.

**Section 2.** The Treasurer shall keep, in an auditable fashion, a record of all Party money spent or received by the Party and make available a monthly financial report to all party members.

**Section 3.** The Execomm shall appoint a 3-person Audit Committee no later than 90 days prior to the annual convention. The Audit Committee shall audit the financial records of the Party beginning with the ending date of the previous Audit, and submit the findings of the audit to the ExeComm at the annual Convention.

- a. The Treasurer of the Party shall provide all financial records to the Audit Committee.

#### **BYLAW V: COMMITTEES**

**Section 1: Ad-hoc Committees.** The Execomm may authorize and establish Ad-hoc Committees as situations warrant. An Ad-hoc Committee is a temporary committee established by the Execomm to address a certain issue or topic.

- A. The Execomm shall determine the scope, purview, and tenure of an Ad-hoc Committee. The Execomm may request regular status reports from the Ad-hoc Committee.
- B. The Execomm has sole authority to establish, terminate, or permanently adjourn an Ad-hoc Committee.
- C. The Execomm shall appoint the Chairman of an Ad-hoc Committee.
- D. The Execomm shall appoint the members of an Ad-hoc Committee.
- E. All members of an Ad-hoc Committee shall be members of the State Party.

**Section 2: Standing Committees.** Standing Committees are established by these Bylaws and continue in perpetuity. Members of a Standing Committee are elected at the annual State Convention. Only members of the State Party shall be eligible to sit on a Standing Committee.

### **Section 3: Judicial Committee.**

- A.** The Judicial Committee shall consist of 7 members of the State Party elected at the annual State convention.
- B.** No member of the Execomm shall also be a member of the Judicial Committee.
- C.** The Chairman of the Judicial Committee shall be elected by the elected members of the Judicial Committee. In the event the Judicial Committee fails to elect a Chairman, the Execomm shall appoint one of the members of the Judicial Committee to act as Chairman.
- D.** The Judicial Committee shall sit in silence until called upon to convene.
  - 1.** A simple majority vote of the Execomm may convene the Judicial Committee.
  - 2.** The membership may convene the Judicial Committee by submitting a written statement to the Execomm signed by 20% of State Party members. The statement shall state the specific purpose for convening the Judicial Committee. Upon receiving a written statement to convene the Judicial Committee, the Execomm shall verify membership status of all signees. If all signees are State Party members, the Execomm shall convene the Judicial Committee for the purposes listed on the statement.
  - 3.** The scope or limitations of a specific inquiry shall be established by the Judicial Committee.
  - 4.** The Judicial Committee may request written statements or testimony from witnesses or concerned parties.
  - 5.** The Execomm shall make all records available to the Judicial Committee. These records include, but are not limited to, membership reports, minutes of Execomm meetings, financial records, and committee reports.
  - 6.** Upon completion of specific inquiries by the Judicial Committee, the Judicial Committee shall submit a written report to the Execomm stating its findings.
  - 7.** The decisions of the Judicial Committee are limited to revoking membership of Party members or removing Party Officers from an elected position within the Party.
  - 8.** Decisions of the Judicial Committee may be appealed to the membership at the next Annual Convention. A 2/3rds majority shall be required at the State Convention to overturn the decisions of the Judicial Committee.

#### **Section 4. Bylaws Committee.**

- A.** The Bylaws Committee shall be the custodian of the Bylaws.
- B.** The Execomm shall request a minimum of 3 volunteers to sit as the Bylaws Committee. Volunteers to sit on the Bylaws committee shall be members of the State Party.
- C.** Members of the Bylaws Committee shall be designated in writing.
  - 1. The Secretary shall enter the names of the members of the Bylaws Committee into the minutes of the Annual Convention.
- D.** Changes to the Bylaws may be requested by the Execomm, by any member of the State Party, or by members of the Bylaws Committee.
- E.** All changes to these Bylaws must be approved by a 2/3rds vote of the voting delegates at the annual State Convention.

#### **BYLAW VI: AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS**

**Section 1.** The Execomm shall promote and authorize county and campus Libertarian Organizations to be affiliated with the party.

**Section 2.** Affiliate organization Executive Committees may be appointed by the Party Execomm until the affiliate organization has five party members, after which the affiliate should elect its officers.

**Section 3.** The Execomm may revoke affiliate status for cause.

**Section 4.** No person, group or organization may use the name “Libertarian Party of Mississippi” or any confusingly similar designation except as authorized by the Party.

#### **BYLAW VII: ANNUAL PARTY CONVENTION RULES**

**Section 1: Official Notice.** The Execomm shall set the time, place and schedule of events for the annual state convention. At least 30 days advanced notice must be provided to the Party members concerning these arrangements. In addition, public notice must be given as required by the state election code. All Party conventions are open to the public.

**Section 2: Convention Officers.** The current Chairman of the Party shall preside over the annual state convention.

**Section 3: Convention Delegates.** All delegates shall be duly registered as Voting Delegates except as provided in Section 4. Each Voting Delegate shall have one vote and be present on the floor when the vote is taken, except that written and signed proxies are allowed when voting on amendments to the Party Bylaws.

**Section 4: Seniority Rules.**

- A. Only Members are eligible to be Voting Delegates at the annual Convention.
- B. No member shall be a Voting Delegate to any Party convention until 60 days have elapsed after their date of membership.
- C. No Party member shall be nominated as a member of the Executive Committee, or Voting Delegate to the National Convention or candidate for public office until 60 days have elapsed after their date of membership.
  - (i) Candidates may petition the Judicial Committee for a waiver of this requirement.
- D. The application of Bylaw VII, Section 4, Sub-Section b, may be suspended at any Party convention provided that the suspension is submitted as the first order of business and is favored by 3/5 of the Voting Delegates. If this section is suspended, then those Party members affected must be duly registered as Voting Delegates as the second order of business.

**Section 5: Quorum.** A simple majority of all Voting Delegates registered at the convention shall be a quorum for all matters.

**Section 6: Voting Procedure.** On all matters not requiring a greater number, a simple majority of Voting Delegates present and voting shall be required for the passage of any matter.

**Section 7: Speeches and Debate.** Each Voting Delegate shall be limited to five minutes on any issue unless otherwise specified by the Chairman or determined by majority vote.

**Section 8: Order of Business.** The order of business shall be:

Call to Order – promptly at the time given by advanced notice.

- A.** Delegate Registration- A motion to suspend the seniority rules in accordance with Bylaw VII, Section 4, Sub-section d, may be submitted. Afterwards the registration of Voting Delegates will be closed.
- B.** Chairman’s Report (required)
- C.** Treasurer’s Report (required)
- D.** Reports by other Party officers (as recognized by the convention Chairman)
- E.** Other reports (as recognized by the convention Chairman)
- F.** Nomination and election of all Party officers (required)- The newly elected Party officers take office effective with the adjournment of the convention.
- G.** Nomination and election of delegates to the National Libertarian Party Convention (if so moved).
- H.** Other business (as recognized by the convention Chairman)
- I.** Adjourn

*Approved by vote of the Voting Delegates at the State Convention on 8 April 2017*