

**BYLAWS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAI‘I AS PROPOSED  
by the 2022 State Convention Standing Committee on Rules on May 02, 2022  
to the 2022 Democratic Party of Hawai‘i State Convention**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

8	<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS.....</b>	<b>i</b>
9	<b>ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP.....</b>	<b>1</b>
10	Section 1. Membership Eligibility.....	1
11	Section 2. Enrollment.....	1
12	Section 3. Official Enrollment Card.....	3
13	Section 4. Membership.....	3
14	<del>Section 5. Transfer.....</del>	<del>4</del>
15	Section <del>[6]</del> 5. Official Records.....	4
16	Section <del>[7]</del> 6. Termination.....	5
17	Section <del>[8]</del> 7. Expulsion, Suspension, Reprimand, or Censure.....	5
18	<b>ARTICLE II – PRECINCT CLUB.....</b>	<b>9</b>
19	<del>Section 1. Organization.....</del>	<del>9</del>
20	<del>Section 2. Biennial Election of Precinct Officers and Delegates to the State Convention... </del>	<del>10</del>
21	<del>Section 3. Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention.....</del>	<del>15</del>
22	<del>Section 4. Notice of Meeting.....</del>	<del>16</del>
23	<del>Section 5. Proxies.....</del>	<del>16</del>
24	<b>ARTICLE III – DISTRICT COUNCIL.....</b>	<b>16</b>
25	Section 1. Officers.....	16
26	Section 2. Meeting Notices, Attendance at Meetings.....	18
27	Section 3. Quorum.....	18
28	Section 4. Proxies.....	18
29	Section 5. Committees.....	18
30	Section 8. Notice of Meeting.....	23
31	<b>ARTICLE IV – COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS.....</b>	<b>23</b>
32	Section 1. Organization.....	23
33	Section 2. Rules for the adoption of Respective County Organization Bylaws and Rules...	23
34	Section 3. Meetings, Notices, Attendance at Meetings.....	24
35	<b>ARTICLE V – STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.....</b>	<b>24</b>
36	Section 1. Apportionment.....	24
37	Section 2. Nomination and Filing.....	24
38	Section 3. Officers.....	25
39	Section 4. Term of Office.....	27
40	Section 7. Proxies.....	28
41	Section 8. Caucuses.....	28
42	Section 9. Committees.....	29
43	<b>ARTICLE VI – STATE CONVENTION.....</b>	<b>32</b>
44	Section 1. Time, Place, Notice.....	32
45	Section 2. Composition.....	33

1	Section 3. Purposes.....	34
2	Section 4. Candidate’s Filing Fee.....	36
3	Section 5. Delegate Registration Fee.....	36
4	Section 6. Organization of the Convention.....	36
5	Section 7. Prohibition Against Unit Rule.....	38
6	Section 8. Report to the Convention.....	38
7	Section 9. Convention Reports to the Delegates. ....	38
8	Section 10. Candidate Speeches. ....	39
9	<b>ARTICLE VII – REVENUES.....</b>	<b>39</b>
10	Section 1. [ <del>Precinct Club and</del> ] District Council Fund Raising.....	39
11	Section 2. County Committee and State Central Committee Responsibility. ....	39
12	<b>ARTICLE VIII – DEMOCRATIC PARTY HEADQUARTERS.....</b>	<b>39</b>
13	Section 1. Establishment, Maintenance and Operation.....	39
14	Section 2. Executive Director and Staff. ....	39
15	Section 3. Duty to Support All Democratic Party Organizations.....	39
16	Section 4. Services to be Made Available to All Democrats.....	40
17	<b>ARTICLE IX – GENERAL PROVISIONS.....</b>	<b>40</b>
18	Section 1. Candidate Support of Platform, Resolutions, Constitution and Bylaws.....	40
19	Section 2. Party Sponsored Legislation.....	40
20	Section 3. Availability of the Constitution and Bylaws. ....	40
21	Section 4. Responsibility for Filling Vacancies in Election Process.....	41
22	Section 5. Process to Identify Candidates to Fill Midterm Vacancies. ....	41
23	Section 6. Smoking.....	42
24	Section 7. Prior Consent. ....	42
25	Section 8. Elections. ....	42
26		

1 **These Bylaws codify and ratify the rules of procedure and operation of the Democratic**  
2 **Party of Hawai‘i, consistent with the intent of the Constitution of the Democratic Party of**  
3 **Hawai‘i.**

4  
5 **ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP**  
6

7 **Section 1. Membership Eligibility.**

8 The following persons are eligible to become members of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i:

- 9
- 10 (1) Individuals who, at the time of application, are registered to vote in the State of
  - 11 Hawai‘i may become voting members of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i; or
  - 12 (2) Individuals who, at the time of application, are eligible but not registered to vote
  - 13 in the State of Hawai‘i may become nonvoting associate members of the
  - 14 Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, and upon registration to vote in the State of
  - 15 Hawai‘i, may apply to become voting members of the Democratic Party of
  - 16 Hawai‘i; or
  - 17 (3) Individuals who, at the time of application, are not eligible to register to vote in
  - 18 the State of Hawai‘i may become nonvoting associate members of the Democratic
  - 19 Party of Hawai‘i. If eligibility to register to vote in the State of Hawai‘i is later
  - 20 attained and the individual duly registers to vote, then the individual may apply to
  - 21 become a voting member of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i. Information
  - 22 provided by the applicant shall be recorded electronically and shall be available
  - 23 for appropriate Party uses.
  - 24

25 **Section 2. Enrollment.**

26 2A. The procedure for enrollment in the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i shall be as follows:

- 27
- 28 (1) The applicant shall fill out and submit a Democratic Party of Hawai‘i State
  - 29 Enrollment Card either on paper or online. The applicant may pay the annual
  - 30 voluntary [~~communications fee~~] membership donation dues of twenty-five dollars
  - 31 (\$25) and may submit an additional voluntary contribution.
  - 32 (2) The enrollment card and any annual voluntary membership contribution of an
  - 33 applicant shall be hand-delivered, delivered by mail, transmitted by fax, or
  - 34 scanned and sent by electronic mail to Democratic Party of Hawai‘i (“Party”)
  - 35 Headquarters. It shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer of the State Central
  - 36 Committee to issue a receipt for cash contributions. Except as provided in this
  - 37 Article relating to candidates for public office and office-holders changing Party
  - 38 affiliation, the Secretary of the State Central Committee verifies eligibility for
  - 39 membership per this Article I and, if eligible, issues a membership card along
  - 40 with information about the member’s [~~Precinct Club~~] District Council and its
  - 41 officers, within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the enrollment card. The
  - 42 contribution shall remain with the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i to take care of the
  - 43 administrative expenses of maintaining a centralized membership records system.
  - 44 Information provided by the applicant shall be recorded electronically and shall
  - 45 be available for appropriate Party uses.
  - 46

1 (3) Except as provided in Article I of the Constitution of the Democratic Party of  
2 Hawai‘i and these Bylaws, the effective date of membership shall be the date a  
3 valid enrollment card is received by the Party. The new member, as of the date of  
4 Party membership, becomes a member of the Democratic [~~Precinct Club~~] District  
5 in the precinct in which the member is registered to vote and resides except as  
6 provided for in Article II, Section 3 of the Hawai‘i State Constitution. The  
7 [~~Precinct Club and the~~] District Council [~~to which the Precinct Club belongs~~]  
8 shall be notified at appropriate intervals of all new members enrolled by the  
9 Secretary of the State Central Committee. The new member shall be entitled to  
10 all the rights, privileges and obligations in the Party, except that they shall not be  
11 considered a member until they have been a member in good standing, as defined  
12 by Article IX, Section 4A of these Bylaws, for a period of at least six (6) months  
13 for the purposes of:

14  
15 (a) Appointment to fill a legislative vacancy pursuant to Article VIII of the  
16 Constitution of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, or [~~until they have been a~~  
17 ~~member in good standing for a period of at least six (6) months.~~]

18 (b) Receiving Party support, defined by Party policy, as a candidate in a non-  
19 partisan race, and special elections held to fill a Congressional or County  
20 vacancy.

21 (4) If a member has resigned from the Party in the two (2) years prior to re-enrollment  
22 in the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, the re-enrolled member must be a member in  
23 good standing for at least two (2) years prior to serving on a County Committee,  
24 State Central Committee, or as National Committeeman or National  
25 Committeewoman or as State Party Chairperson.

26 (4) (5) An individual who has completed and submitted a Democratic Party of Hawai‘i  
27 Enrollment Card at the biennial [~~Precinct~~] election meeting, but whose name does  
28 not appear on the voter registration list in the County in which that person resides,  
29 shall submit proof of their updated voter registration or shall sign a voter  
30 registration form and handover to the designated Party official. The Secretary of  
31 the State Central Committee or their designee shall have the responsibility to  
32 verify that the Party member was eligible to register to vote in that [~~precinct~~]  
33 House District within 30 calendar days after the biennial [~~Precinct~~] election  
34 meeting. If the Party member was not eligible to become a voter in the State they  
35 will become an Associate Member and any office so obtained will be deemed  
36 vacant. If the individual seeking Party membership cannot submit proof of voter  
37 registration or refuses to submit a signed voter registration form then they will not  
38 be allowed to vote or run for Party office.

39  
40 2B. Current or Former Elected Officials’ of Either a Partisan or Non-Partisan Office Request to  
41 Switch from Another Party to the Democratic Party.

42  
43 (1) If a current or former elected public office-holder of either a partisan or non-  
44 partisan office applies for new Party membership as a change of Party affiliation,  
45 then the following procedure shall determine applicant’s eligibility for Party  
46 membership:

- 1 (a) Conveyance: The Secretary of the State Central Committee shall ensure  
2 the application is conveyed to the respective County Chair for public  
3 offices within the County or State Party Chair for State offices spanning  
4 two or more Counties and the offices of the United States Congress and  
5 Senate.  
6 (b) The applicant shall complete the Candidate Statement based on the  
7 Platform and Resolutions of the Party as provided in Article V of the  
8 Constitution of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, and submit it to the  
9 respective County or State Executive Committee.  
10 (c) The Committee may invite the applicant and other persons to interview as  
11 it deems useful. Decisions regarding membership shall be communicated  
12 immediately to the Secretary of the State Central Committee, who shall  
13 immediately convey them to the full membership of the State Central  
14 Committee.

15  
16 (2) Deadlines:

- 17 (a) No deadline applies to applications to change Party affiliation by a current  
18 or former public office-holder of either a partisan or non-partisan office,  
19 except if application is submitted within six (6) months of candidate filing  
20 for an election, then deadlines described in this section shall apply.  
21 (b) The date of Party membership shall be eleven (11) calendar days after the  
22 Executive Committee’s decision to accept the application, unless the  
23 decision is called for review by the State Central Committee. A review  
24 shall not be called except upon written request of at least ten (10) State  
25 Central Committee members. If reviewed, the decision of the State Central  
26 Committee shall be final. If the application is accepted, the new member  
27 shall enjoy all rights and responsibilities of Party membership. The new  
28 member is subject to Section 2B, which provides for eligibility after six  
29 months of continuous membership without censure to file as a candidate  
30 for elected public office as a Democrat.  
31 (c) If the application for membership is rejected, the applicant is ineligible to  
32 appear as a candidate on any ballot as a Democrat, to claim in any  
33 campaign to be a Democratic Party candidate, to caucus as a Democrat, or  
34 hold any public office or position reserved for a member of the  
35 Democratic Party, until such time as membership in “good standing” is  
36 attained in accord with this Constitution.

37  
38 **Section 3. Official Enrollment Card.**

39 The form of the official enrollment card and membership card shall be as prescribed by the State  
40 Central Committee and shall include an option to join certified Party caucuses, provide voluntary  
41 demographic information, and the ability for a person to complete an electronic enrollment form  
42 on the official Democratic Party of Hawai‘i website.

43  
44 **Section 4. Membership.**

45 4A. Any member once enrolled in the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i shall, at the member’s  
46 option, continue to be a member except as provided by Article I of the Constitution of the

1 Democratic Party of Hawai‘i. The Party shall request payment of the annual voluntary  
2 [~~communications fee~~] membership donation dues of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) and conduct  
3 fundraising appeals regularly.

4  
5 4B. Two dollars (\$2) of every ten dollars (\$10) collected in dues shall be remitted to the county  
6 from which the dues originated.

7  
8 4C. Annual voluntary [~~communications fee~~] membership donation dues shall be requested on or  
9 before February 28 of each year.

10  
11 4D. Where record of prior membership cannot be located and membership is claimed, the  
12 claimant shall obtain the signatures of five (5) members of the Party and proof of voter  
13 registration. Upon the filing and validation of the signatures on a form specified by the State  
14 Central Committee, the Secretary of the State Central Committee shall be authorized to issue a  
15 duplicate membership card. An enrollment card shall be filled pursuant to Section 2, above,  
16 except that the card will bear the word “duplicate.” The above form certified by the Secretary of  
17 the State Central Committee will serve as proof of membership.

18  
19 **~~[Section 5. Transfer.~~**

20 ~~Where a member’s place of voting changes to a different precinct, upon such change, the~~  
21 ~~member is automatically a member of such precinct’s Precinct Club. It shall be the duty of the~~  
22 ~~Secretary of the State Central Committee to notify the District Councils and Precinct Clubs of~~  
23 ~~the change.]~~

24  
25 **Section [6] 5. Official Records.**

26 [6] 5A. The State Central Committee shall establish the policy of who has access to the  
27 computer membership records and who may make changes thereto and the Secretary of the State  
28 Central Committee shall oversee the implementation of the State Central Committee policy  
29 regarding access to the membership database. It shall be the duty of the Democratic Party of  
30 Hawai‘i to maintain an electronic file as well as an archival plan of all membership data from the  
31 enrollment cards pursuant to Section 2, above, as well as record all changes and transfers of  
32 which notice is received. The Secretary of the State Central Committee shall notify the County  
33 Committee, and the District Council [~~, and the Precinct Club~~] of such changes.

34  
35 [6] 5B. It is the duty of each member to inform the Secretary of the State Central Committee of  
36 any changes in his or her mailing address. When a member is no longer registered to vote at the  
37 address on the official mailing list, the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i Headquarters is authorized  
38 to remove that name from the list. The Democratic Party of Hawai‘i Headquarters shall at  
39 regular intervals send a copy of all changes made to the official membership list to each County  
40 Secretary.

41  
42 [6] 5C. Where a member is removed from a [~~Precinct Club’s~~] District Council official  
43 membership list, it shall be filed in a permanent alphabetical suspense file until such time as the  
44 status of the member can be determined and placed in the correct [~~Precinct Club~~] District  
45 Council or officially deleted from membership in the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i.

1 **Section [7] 6. Termination.**

2 It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the State Central Committee to remove enrollment cards  
3 from the active file and notify the respective Secretaries of the County Committee, and the  
4 District Council [~~and Precinct Club~~] for any of the following reasons:

- 5  
6 (1) Death;  
7 (2) Assumption of a permanent residence outside of the State;  
8 (3) Disaffiliation from the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i; or  
9 (4) Loss of civil rights or U.S. Citizenship.

10  
11 **Section [8] 7. Expulsion, Suspension, Reprimand, or Censure.**

12 [8] 7A. Grounds for Expulsion, Suspension, or Reprimand [~~or Censure~~]:

- 13  
14 (1) Mandatory Expulsion. A member of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i shall be  
15 automatically expelled from the Party for the following reasons:  
16 (a) Membership with a political party other than the Democratic Party; or  
17 (b) Filing as a candidate of a political party other than the Democratic Party.  
18 (2) Permissive Expulsion, Suspension, or Reprimand [~~and Censure~~]. A member of the  
19 Democratic Party of Hawai‘i may be expelled, suspended, or reprimanded [~~or~~  
20 ~~eensured~~] for the following reasons:  
21 (a) Active support or promotion of a political party or any candidate(s) of a  
22 political party other than the Democratic Party, except in nonpartisan races  
23 in which there is no Democratic Party member as a candidate. Examples  
24 of active support include, but are not limited to, making monetary or in  
25 kind contributions, accepting a position in an opposition campaign, sign-  
26 waving, letter writing, appearance in campaign ads, resigning from the  
27 Democratic Party to support another political party and rejoining the  
28 Democratic Party.  
29 (b) Failure of a candidate for an elective office or an elected official to follow  
30 and abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of  
31 Hawai‘i, and regulations of the Party campaign committees as approved  
32 by the State Central Committee or respective County Committee.  
33 (c) Violation of the Constitution or Bylaws of the Democratic Party of  
34 Hawai‘i and/or platform of the Party.  
35 (d) Violation of governmental ethics codes as adjudicated or determined by  
36 the State Ethics Commission, the County Ethics Commission, the Office  
37 of Disciplinary Counsel, the State House, the State Senate, or the courts.  
38 (e) Conviction of criminal acts for which the member has been found  
39 guilty by a federal or state court of law.  
40 (f) Sexual Violation, Harassment, or Bullying

41  
42 [8] 7B. Procedure. The procedures for expulsion, suspension, or reprimand [~~or censure~~] are  
43 outlined below.

- 44 (1) Limitations. Any complaint charging a member with cause for expulsion,  
45 suspension, or reprimand [~~or censure~~] shall be made no later than one-hundred-  
46 eighty (180) calendar days after the discovery of the violation, except for

1 complaints based upon sexual violence, sexual harassment, or sexual assault,  
2 which have no time limitation.

3 (2) Complaint. Any member of the Party may file a complaint. The complaint shall  
4 be in writing. The complaint shall state the rule(s) which have been violated, the  
5 activities alleged to have been committed, the date(s) of these activities. Each  
6 allegation shall be numbered. Each allegation shall be accompanied by evidence  
7 of such activities. The complaint shall be signed by one (1) Party member and  
8 endorsed by at least four (4) other Party members. The complaint shall be  
9 submitted to the County Secretary~~[-]~~ if the issue falls within the jurisdiction of  
10 the County and/or is made against an individual; otherwise, the complaint shall be  
11 filed with the Party Secretary. It is the responsibility of the complainant to  
12 provide evidence to support the expulsion, suspension, or reprimand ~~[or censure]~~.  
13 Attached to the complaint shall be a list of any witnesses and the evidence to  
14 which they can attest. Each witness will prepare an affidavit attesting to the  
15 evidence. The State Central Committee or the County Executive Committee, as  
16 applicable, may dismiss with prejudice any complaint submitted without the  
17 required evidence.

18 (3) Sexual Violation, Harassment, or Bullying Complaint. The procedures for filing a  
19 complaint based on Sexual Violation, Harassment, or Bullying, shall be specified  
20 in the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Policy Against Sexual Harassment & Bullying  
21 approved by the State Central Committee.

22 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) Notice. ~~[The accused member]~~ Written notice must be ~~[notified in writing]~~ sent  
23 to the accused member by the County Secretary or Party Secretary, as applicable,  
24 within ten (10) calendar days of the receipt of a complaint.

25 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) Response. The accused member shall have thirty (30) calendar days from the  
26 date ~~[of notification]~~ notice was sent electronically to prepare a response. The  
27 accused member must respond to each allegation: admitted, denied, or denied in  
28 part. If an allegation is denied in part or in whole, the accused member shall  
29 provide any evidence supporting the denial. Attached to the response shall be a  
30 list of any witnesses and the evidence to which they can attest. Each witness shall  
31 prepare an affidavit attesting to the evidence.

32 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) Investigation. The County Chairperson shall refer each complaint to the County  
33 Rules Committee or a special committee to investigate the charges (the  
34 "Investigation Committee"). The State Party Secretary shall refer each complaint  
35 under the jurisdiction of the State Central Committee to the State Party Chair.  
36 Upon receipt of the complaint, the State Party Chair shall appoint an Investigation  
37 Committee. The referral of complaint shall be reported to the County Committee,  
38 or the State Central Committee, as applicable, at its next meeting and shall be  
39 recorded in the minutes. The Investigation Committee shall conduct a good faith  
40 investigation to determine if a violation of the rules has occurred. The  
41 Investigation Committee shall interview the accused member, the complainant,  
42 and any witnesses. The credibility of the complainant, the accused member or  
43 any witness may be challenged during the investigation. The Investigation  
44 Committee shall gather other facts as necessary for its finding, and shall, within  
45 thirty (30) calendar days, submit a report and recommendation(s) to the County  
46 Chairperson, or the State Central Committee, as applicable. The Report shall



1 include the Investigation Committee's findings for each allegation; including any  
2 adverse findings regarding credibility; in addition the Investigation Committee  
3 may recommend specific sanctions.

4 ~~[(6)]~~ (7) Investigation Committee's Report. A copy of the Committee Report shall be  
5 provided to the accused member and the complainant, and to the County  
6 Committee, or the State Central Committee, as applicable. The report shall  
7 include the grounds upon which the expulsion, suspension, reprimand, or censure  
8 is sought, and the committee's findings and recommendations, and a list of  
9 County Committee members who are eligible to vote to accept, amend, or reject  
10 the committee's findings and recommendations.

11 ~~[(7)]~~ (8) Hearing. The County Committee, or the Executive Committee of the State  
12 Central Committee, shall place the complaint on the agenda at its next meeting  
13 following receipt of the Investigation Committee Report or by agreement with the  
14 accused member at some other time. Notice of the meeting shall be given to the  
15 member, the complainant, and the County Committee, or the Executive  
16 Committee of the State Central Committee, as applicable, at least seven (7)  
17 calendar days prior to the hearing. Members of the County Committee, or the  
18 Executive Committee of the State Central Committee, as applicable, shall be  
19 provided with a copy of the report at this time for their consideration prior to the  
20 meeting. The Investigation Committee shall present its report in a meeting open  
21 to any interested Party member. The complainant, the accused member, and any  
22 Party member shall be allowed to make a statement relating to the facts of the  
23 case or the committee's recommendation. The County Committee, or the  
24 Executive Committee of the State Central Committee, as applicable, shall decide  
25 by majority vote whether to accept, amend, or reject the Committee Report and  
26 any sanctions. The County Committee, or the Executive Committee of the State  
27 Central Committee, as applicable, shall give notice in writing of its decision to the  
28 Secretary of the State Central Committee, with a copy to the member and  
29 complainant within seven (7) calendar days. A copy of the committee's report  
30 and the County Committee's, or the Executive Committee of the State Central  
31 Committee's, decision shall be filed with the County Secretary and the Secretary  
32 of the State Central Committee and shall be available for inspection by Party  
33 members.

34 ~~[(8)]~~ (9) Appeal of a County Committee Decision. A member expelled, suspended,  
35 reprimanded, or censured may appeal the decision of the County Committee to  
36 the State Central Committee by filing a written request with the Secretary of the  
37 State Central Committee within ten (10) calendar days of receiving the written  
38 decision of the County Committee. If no appeal is submitted within the ten (10)  
39 calendar days, the decision of the County Committee shall be final. If an appeal is  
40 submitted, a hearing shall be granted in open meeting of the entire State Central  
41 Committee within thirty (30) calendar days. The State Central Committee shall  
42 review the Committee Report and accept comments from the County Chair, the  
43 Investigation Committee, the accused member and members of the State Central  
44 Committee. The State Central Committee shall decide the appeal by majority  
45 vote and shall transmit to the member a written notice of its decision within ten  
46 (10) calendar days. The decision of the State Central Committee shall be final.

1           (10) Appeal of a State Central Committee Executive Committee Decision. A member  
2 expelled, suspended, reprimanded, or censured may appeal the decision of the  
3 Executive Committee of the State Central Committee to the full State Central  
4 Committee by filing a written request with the Secretary of the State Central  
5 Committee within ten (10) calendar days or receiving the written decision of the  
6 Executive Committee of the State Central Committee. If no appeal is submitted  
7 within the ten (10) calendar days, the decision of the Executive Committee of the  
8 State Central Committee shall be final. If an appeal is submitted, a hearing shall  
9 be granted in an open meeting of the entire State Central Committee within thirty  
10 (30) calendar days. The State Central Committee shall review the Investigation  
11 Committee Report, the accused member's comments, and the decision of the  
12 Executive Committee of the State Central Committee. The State Central  
13 Committee shall decide the appeal by majority vote and shall transmit to the  
14 member a written notice of its decision within ten (10) calendar days. The  
15 decision of the State Central Committee shall be final.

17 [8] 7C. Sanctions and Enforcement for Expulsion, Suspension, or Reprimand.

- 18
- 19           (1) Mandatory Expulsion. Expulsion shall be automatic and implemented by the  
20 Secretary of the State Central Committee. After expulsion, the expelled member  
21 is barred from enrolling for membership for five (5) years. The Party shall take all  
22 reasonable action to prevent such person from running for office as a Democrat,  
23 serving in public office, or holding an office in the Party during the five-year  
24 period.
- 25           (2) Permissive Expulsion. Expulsion shall be implemented by the Secretary of the  
26 State Central Committee. The Party shall take all reasonable action to prevent  
27 such person from participating in Party activities, running for public office as a  
28 Democrat, or serving in public office for the period provided in the decision of the  
29 County Committee or State Central Committee for at least three (3) years but not  
30 more than five (5) years.
- 31           (3) Suspension. Suspension shall be implemented by the Secretary of the State  
32 Central Committee. The individual shall be barred from participating in Party  
33 events or from serving in their elected or appointed capacity with the Party for the  
34 duration of the suspension. Any member who violates the terms of their  
35 suspension may face removal from their position or expulsion from the  
36 Democratic Party of Hawai'i.
- 37           ~~(3)~~ (4) Reprimand. The Party shall take all reasonable action to prevent such member  
38 from holding an office in the Party for up to three (3) years.
- 39           ~~(4)~~ (5) Censure. In the case of censure by a County, an official letter of censure shall be  
40 written by the County Chair. In the case of censure by the State Central  
41 Committee, an official letter of censure shall be written by the Party Chair. The  
42 letter shall be addressed to the accused member with a copy to the complainant  
43 and shall be available for inspection by Party members. No additional sanctions  
44 shall apply. No further action shall be taken on the complaint.
- 45           ~~(5)~~ (6) Voluntary Resignation. When a member has voluntarily resigned from the  
46 Democratic Party to engage in activities which are grounds for mandatory

1 expulsion, the member shall be barred from re-enrolling for Party membership for  
2 at least three (3) years from the date of Resignation.

3  
4 7D. Censure and/or Removal from a Meeting.

5 (1) Censure. A motion to censure the behavior and or remarks of a member of the  
6 Party, which allows any of its County Committees, the State Central Committee,  
7 or Caucuses to express consternation and disapproval, may be adopted by two-  
8 thirds vote of the membership so long as the Party member to be censured has  
9 been notified of the substance of the alleged offense in writing thirty (30)  
10 calendar days in advance of the meeting, has at least seven (7) calendar days  
11 notice of the date and time of the meeting, and shall have the opportunity at the  
12 meeting to submit a written response or speak in defense.

13 (2) Removal from a Meeting. Nothing in these Bylaws shall prevent or restrict a  
14 presiding officer of the State Central Committee, a County Committee, Caucus,  
15 District Council or Precinct Club from ejecting for the duration of that meeting or  
16 session anyone who has committed an egregious or repeated breach of decorum.

17  
18 **ARTICLE II – PRECINCT CLUB**

19  
20 Precinct Clubs are the purview of the County Committees per Democratic Party of Hawai'i  
21 Constitution.

22  
23 ~~[Section 1. Organization.—~~

24 ~~1A. At least one (1) eligible person residing within the precinct may proceed with the formation~~  
25 ~~of a Precinct Club.—~~

26  
27 ~~1B. An inactive Precinct Club is one from which the Precinct President has resigned or has~~  
28 ~~registered to vote outside of the precinct's boundaries and where the Precinct Club fails to have~~  
29 ~~at least one active member eligible for and willing to serve as Precinct President.~~

30  
31 ~~1C. Whenever a Precinct Club of record is declared inactive by the Executive Committee of the~~  
32 ~~District Council, the District Chairperson shall initiate reorganization of the Club by the~~  
33 ~~following procedure.~~

34  
35 (1) ~~— The District Chairperson shall call for a precinct reorganization meeting. All~~  
36 ~~Precinct Club members of record shall be notified pursuant to Article II of the~~  
37 ~~Constitution of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.~~

38 (2) ~~— The District Chairperson shall at such meeting see assembled at least one (1)~~  
39 ~~individual eligible to become a member of the Precinct Club and proceed as with~~  
40 ~~the initial organization of a new club.~~

41 (3) ~~— If the District Chairperson fails to reorganize the precinct within fifteen (15) days~~  
42 ~~of the declaration, the Chairperson of the County Committee shall accept the~~  
43 ~~responsibility for reorganizing the precinct as defined in this Article.~~

1 ~~Section 2. Biennial Election of Precinct Officers and Delegates to the State Convention.~~

2 2A. ~~The official notice designating the time, place, and purpose of such meeting shall be given~~  
3 ~~by the Secretary of the County Committee by publication at least once in one newspaper of~~  
4 ~~general circulation in each of the Counties and by other appropriate written communication to~~  
5 ~~each Democratic Party of Hawai'i member not less than twenty (20) days prior to the biennial~~  
6 ~~election meeting of such year, provided, however, that in the County of Hawai'i, notice shall be~~  
7 ~~published in both East and West Hawai'i, as follows:~~

- 8
- 9 (1) ~~By the first week of December of odd numbered years in order to facilitate the~~  
10 ~~compilation of said list of Precinct and District meeting places, each County~~  
11 ~~Chairperson shall be responsible to contact each Precinct President who shall be~~  
12 ~~responsible to secure a meeting place in order of preference: (a) polling place, (b)~~  
13 ~~community center, or (c) other.~~
- 14 (2) ~~Each Precinct President shall report their meeting place to the District~~  
15 ~~Chairperson by the 15th of December. It shall be the District Chairperson's~~  
16 ~~responsibility to report back to the County Chairperson with the meeting places~~  
17 ~~by December 21. The County Chairperson must submit to the Corresponding~~  
18 ~~Secretary a completed list of meeting places by January 5 of even numbered~~  
19 ~~years.~~
- 20 (3) ~~Locations will not be necessary if the State Central Committee decides that the~~  
21 ~~Precinct/District meetings are to be held entirely online. *[as amended by the State*~~  
22 ~~*Central Committee 9-4-2021]*~~

23

24 2B. ~~The Democratic Party of Hawai'i Headquarters shall issue a certified copy of the~~  
25 ~~membership list of each Precinct Club to the District Council Chairpersons and Precinct Club~~  
26 ~~Presidents not later than thirty (30) days before the regular elections for officers and delegates of~~  
27 ~~that Precinct Club, as follows:~~

- 28
- 29 (1) ~~The official list shall include only the names of those persons eligible to~~  
30 ~~participate in the Precinct Club elections. A copy of this list will be available to~~  
31 ~~any interested Democrat at the County Office and District Council in which the~~  
32 ~~precinct is located.~~
- 33 (2) ~~Members listed on the official membership list for that precinct shall be eligible to~~  
34 ~~vote in that precinct. Others who do not appear on said list and who support the~~  
35 ~~Democratic Party and wish to join it shall enroll in the Party as provided in the~~  
36 ~~Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and they will be eligible to vote in~~  
37 ~~precinct election.~~

38

39 2C. ~~Where a name has been omitted from the certified list and the member whose name was~~  
40 ~~omitted produces at the precinct election meeting a dated membership card signed by a Secretary~~  
41 ~~of a County Committee, County Chairperson, Secretary of the State Central Committee, or Party~~  
42 ~~Chairperson showing membership or the form provided in Article I of the Constitution of the~~  
43 ~~Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and proof of voter registration in that precinct, that name shall be~~  
44 ~~added to the list noting the date of membership. The respective Secretaries of District Council,~~  
45 ~~the County Committee and State Central Committee will be informed of the addition made to the~~  
46 ~~certified list.~~

1  
2 ~~2D. Within ten (10) days after issuance of this certified list, any member may challenge any~~  
3 ~~name appearing on the precinct list by submitting in writing reasons therefore to the Secretary of~~  
4 ~~the District Council. These challenges shall be heard promptly by the Executive Committee of~~  
5 ~~the District Council upon due notice to the parties of the time and place of the hearing and shall~~  
6 ~~be disposed of prior to the election of precinct officers and delegates. The decision of the~~  
7 ~~Executive Committee of the District Council shall be final and conclusive.~~  
8

9 ~~2E. Where no officers have been elected in the current biennium, any member of the precinct~~  
10 ~~may, by written petition to the respective District Council, request the initiation of precinct~~  
11 ~~reorganization, as follows:~~  
12

13 ~~(1) — The Secretary of the District Council shall be notified of the time, place, and~~  
14 ~~purpose of the prospective special meeting and notice will be given pursuant to~~  
15 ~~Article II of the Constitution of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i.~~

16 ~~(2) — Where no successful meeting is held in 45 days of the biennial election meeting,~~  
17 ~~the District Chairperson shall consider the precinct unorganized and initiate~~  
18 ~~reorganization as set forth in this Article. The District Council shall then have the~~  
19 ~~authority to organize precincts and appoint delegates to the State Convention. —~~  
20 ~~Upon the conclusion of the State Convention, the responsibility for the~~  
21 ~~organization of precincts in accordance with this Article shall revert to the~~  
22 ~~precincts. Should a Precinct Club be reorganized at least fifteen (15) days prior to~~  
23 ~~a County or State Convention, the Precinct Club shall have all rights and~~  
24 ~~privileges as a Precinct Club organized at the biennial election meeting. *[amended*~~  
25 ~~*12-11-2021 by the State Central Committee]*~~

26 ~~(3) — The District Council shall appoint delegates to the State Convention, with priority~~  
27 ~~for delegates going first to members of the original Precinct Club, then to those~~  
28 ~~elected as alternate delegates from other precincts in the District. When all~~  
29 ~~alternates wishing to become delegates have been appointed, the District Council~~  
30 ~~may appoint any member within the District to any vacant delegate position. —~~  
31 ~~Delegates so appointed shall have the same rights and privileges at a State~~  
32 ~~Convention as if they were elected at the biennial election meeting.~~  
33

34 ~~The District Council shall complete all appointments by no later than fifteen (15)~~  
35 ~~days prior to the State Convention. Documentation of the appointments may be~~  
36 ~~submitted in person, via facsimile, e-mail, or by mail, provided that mailed~~  
37 ~~documentation bears a postmark of no later than the fifteenth (15th) day prior to~~  
38 ~~the State Convention. All documentation must be received no later than ten (10)~~  
39 ~~days prior to the State Convention.~~  
40

41 ~~2F. In the event that a Precinct Club holds a successful election at the biennial election meeting~~  
42 ~~except that all positions are not filled, a Precinct Club has until 45 days from the biennial~~  
43 ~~election meeting to hold additional meetings to fill any vacancy subject to notifying members of~~  
44 ~~the Precinct of the date, time, place and purpose of the meeting by minimally posting the meeting~~  
45 ~~notification on the website of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i. *[amended 12-11-2021 by the*~~  
46 ~~*State Central Committee]*~~

1  
2 After 45 days from the biennial election meeting, the District Council may fill officer, delegate  
3 and alternate vacancies, by not later than 15 days prior to the state convention, as follows:-  
4 *[amended 12-11-2021 by the State Central Committee]*

- 5  
6 (1) — Appoint members within the precinct as officers;  
7 (2) — Fill delegate vacancies by alternates elected at the biennium precinct meeting,  
8 with priority to alternates within the precinct; and then from other precincts within  
9 the District;  
10 (3) — Fill alternate delegate vacancies by appointment of members who reside in the  
11 Precinct who express an interest after the biennium precinct meeting.  
12

13 The Precinct Club shall report any changes to fill a delegate or alternate vacancy as a result of  
14 additional meetings held until 45 days from the biennial election meeting to the District Chair  
15 and to the Democratic Party of Hawai'i office. A report will be made within five days of the  
16 meeting. The District Council shall report any changes to fill a delegate or alternate vacancy  
17 filled during the period from 45 days from the biennial election meetings until 15 days prior to  
18 the State Convention to the Democratic Party of Hawai'i office and to the affected precinct(s).  
19 *[amended 12-11-2021 by the State Central Committee]*

20  
21 Officers and delegates or alternates so elected shall have the same rights and privileges at a  
22 County or State Convention as if they were elected at the biennial election meeting, so long as  
23 they are elected at least fifteen (15) days prior to such convention.  
24

25 After the 15 days prior to the State Convention, delegate and alternate vacancies will be filled as  
26 provided by Article II, Section 3, Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention. In the event  
27 the precinct has no more alternates, the District chair may appoint an alternate from another  
28 precinct in the District to fill the delegate position. Vacancies must be filled by the deadline set  
29 in the Standing Rules adopted by the SCC. No vacancies may be filled after the deadline. *[as*  
30 *amended by the State Central Committee 9-4-2021]*

31  
32 2G. The results of the Precinct Club election shall be signed and certified by the President and  
33 the Secretary of the Precinct Club. The results shall be recorded upon a State Party generated  
34 election form. Results shall be copied or photographed and submitted expeditiously by electronic  
35 means upon completion of the election to the State Party Secretary, State Party Chair, respective  
36 County Secretary and County Chair. The results of the election may be reviewed, copied or  
37 photographed by any member present at the meeting. They shall be delivered or postmarked  
38 within forty-eight (48) hours of the election to the State Central Committee, the County  
39 Committee and the District Council. Official forms for such certification shall be provided by  
40 the County Committee and shall include the following:

- 41  
42 (4) — Time, place, and date of the meeting;  
43 (5) — Names and addresses of eligible club members present and voting;  
44 (6) — Names and addresses of the officers elected; and  
45 (7) — Names and addresses of the elected delegates and alternates elected.  
46

1 ~~2H. The certified Precinct Club election report forms shall be maintained on file at the District,~~  
2 ~~County, and State offices and shall be open to inspection by any registered member of the Party.~~

3  
4 ~~2I. Challenges concerning the election of Precinct Club officers shall be made to the District~~  
5 ~~Council at its first meeting on the Tuesday of the fourth week since the biennial election~~  
6 ~~meetings. The meeting place, time, and purpose shall be given by the Secretary of the District~~  
7 ~~Council pursuant to Article III of the Constitution of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and shall~~  
8 ~~be announced at the Precinct Club election. The District Council shall, not later than the~~  
9 ~~Tuesday of the fifth week since the biennial election meeting, rule on every challenge concerning~~  
10 ~~a Precinct officer or concerning the validity of a vote on or the eligibility of a person voting on~~  
11 ~~any question other than the election of State Convention delegates. An appeal from the decision~~  
12 ~~of the District Council must be made to the County Committee not later than 45 days from the~~  
13 ~~biennial election meeting, and can be made only after compliance with the procedures and~~  
14 ~~requirements of this paragraph. Further appeal may be taken to the County Convention.~~  
15 ~~*[amended 12-11-2021 by the State Central Committee]*~~

16  
17 ~~2J. Challenges concerning delegates to the State Convention shall be submitted to the District~~  
18 ~~Council at its meeting on the Tuesday of the fourth week since the biennial election meeting for~~  
19 ~~transmittal to the Convention Credentials Committee. In its transmittal to the Convention~~  
20 ~~Credentials Committee, the District Council shall make recommendations after investigating the~~  
21 ~~challenge and furnish all relevant information. The Convention Credentials Committee shall be~~  
22 ~~appointed by the Party Chairperson and shall include four subcommittees, one for each County,~~  
23 ~~to dispose of challenges within their respective Counties. The subcommittee for each County~~  
24 ~~shall be composed of at least five (5) members from that County. The Convention Credentials~~  
25 ~~Committee shall rule on each challenge at least two (2) weeks before the State Convention.~~  
26 ~~Further appeal may be taken to the State Convention. *[amended 12-11-2021 by the State Central*~~  
27 ~~*Committee]*~~

28  
29 ~~2K. Challenges concerning the election of Precinct Club officers and delegates to the State~~  
30 ~~Convention for preeincts which held elections subsequent to the biennial election meetings shall~~  
31 ~~be made no later than fifteen (15) days after the elections following the procedures in described~~  
32 ~~in this Section.~~

33  
34 ~~2L. Precinct Club officers shall not be required to relinquish their positions if elected or~~  
35 ~~appointed to the State Central Committee.~~

36  
37 ~~2M. The officers of the Precinct Clubs shall have those duties which usually pertain to the~~  
38 ~~offices concerned. In addition, each has the following special duties:~~

- 39  
40 (1) ~~The President shall recommend to the District Chair arrangements for the biennial~~  
41 ~~precinct election meeting by the 15th day of November preceding the election~~  
42 ~~year in accordance with Article II of the Constitution of the Democratic Party of~~  
43 ~~Hawai'i. The President shall call and preside at all meetings of the club. The~~  
44 ~~President shall issue notice of proposed meetings to the entire membership and~~  
45 ~~make arrangements for obtaining a meeting place. The President shall call a~~  
46 ~~meeting where requested to do so by any five (5) members of the Club, or by the~~

1           ~~District Chairperson. The President shall notify the Secretary of the County of~~  
2           ~~any corrections to the membership list for the precinct, which are made known to~~  
3           ~~the President. The President shall be a representative from the precinct to the~~  
4           ~~District Council. The President shall follow a set of guidelines/procedures as set~~  
5           ~~forth by the State Central Committee relating to the running and conduct of a~~  
6           ~~Precinct Club meeting.~~

7           ~~(2) — The First Vice President shall perform the duties and functions of the President in~~  
8           ~~the absence or sickness of the President or in the event the President fails or~~  
9           ~~neglects to perform such duties.~~

10          ~~(3) — The Secretary shall attend each meeting and keep a Minute book wherein shall be~~  
11          ~~recorded the happenings, resolutions, motions and rules of each meeting. The~~  
12          ~~Secretary shall also keep custody of such records and membership lists and upon~~  
13          ~~the expiration of the term of office shall surrender these records and lists to either~~  
14          ~~of the succeeding Secretary or to the District Chairperson.~~

15          ~~(4) — The Treasurer shall be responsible for the safekeeping of all money and revenues~~  
16          ~~of the club and shall submit a report in writing to the club at each regular meeting.~~  
17          ~~Upon the expiration of their term of office, the Treasurer shall turn over to the~~  
18          ~~succeeding Treasurer or District Chairperson all moneys, accounts, or bankbooks.~~  
19          ~~The Treasurer shall have the specific duty to see that all bills incurred by the club~~  
20          ~~are promptly paid and that all assessments levied by the Party are promptly~~  
21          ~~forwarded. The Treasurer shall submit reports upon request by the Treasurer of~~  
22          ~~the State Central Committee of all contributions and expenditures required to be~~  
23          ~~reported by the Democratic Party of Hawai'i to any Federal or State agency. The~~  
24          ~~Treasurer shall comply with all State and Federal laws relating to political~~  
25          ~~campaign contributions and expenditures.~~

26          ~~(5) — It shall be the specific duty of the District Councilperson to attend all meetings of~~  
27          ~~the District Council and the County Convention either in person or by proxy as~~  
28          ~~authorized by Article III of the Constitution of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i~~  
29          ~~and to report to the club matters discussed and decided therein.~~

30          ~~(6) — In the absence of any regularly elected officers at any duly called meeting of the~~  
31          ~~Precinct Club where a quorum of one (1) is present, a temporary officer may be~~  
32          ~~chosen by those in attendance to preside over the meeting, as well as a temporary~~  
33          ~~secretary designated to record the minutes of the meeting.~~

34  
35       ~~2N. Vacancies.~~

36  
37          ~~(1) — President. In the event that the Precinct President vacates the position or is~~  
38          ~~elected District Chairperson or officer of a County Committee or other position~~  
39          ~~requiring them to automatically vacate their precinct office, the Precinct First~~  
40          ~~Vice President shall automatically become Precinct President.~~

41          ~~(2) — District Councilperson. In the event the precinct District Councilperson vacates~~  
42          ~~the position or is elected District Chairperson or officer of a County Committee or~~  
43          ~~other position requiring them to automatically vacate their precinct office, the~~  
44          ~~alternate District Councilperson shall automatically become Precinct District~~  
45          ~~Councilperson. In the absence of an alternate District Councilperson, the Precinct~~  
46          ~~President will appoint a replacement. If the Precinct President does not replace~~



1 the officer within 45 days of the vacancy, the District Chairperson will replace  
2 that Officer.

- 3 (3) — ~~Other Officers (First Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer). Any other officer  
4 who has resigned or becomes unable to serve shall be replaced by the Precinct  
5 President. If the Precinct President does not replace the officer within 45 days of  
6 their vacancy, the District Chairperson will replace that officer.~~

7  
8 **Section 3. Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention.**—

9 ~~3A. To provide every Precinct Club representation at the State Convention, a Precinct Club will  
10 elect alternate delegates equal to the number of delegates allocated to the club, provided that the  
11 official Precinct Club membership roster, at the time of the biennial election meeting certified  
12 adequate membership for the Precinct Club to elect an equal number of alternates, as follows:~~

- 13  
14 (1) — ~~Any member of the Precinct Club may be elected to represent that club as a  
15 delegate or alternate at the State Convention. Alternates shall be elected in an  
16 order of succession to delegate status beginning with the number one (1). If a  
17 delegate is unable to attend the State Convention, the delegate may choose any  
18 alternate of that delegate's same gender elected in the Precinct Club to serve in  
19 that delegate's stead. If no elected alternate of the same gender is available, the  
20 delegate may designate an elected alternate of a different gender in the delegate's  
21 stead. However, no alternate shall act for more than one (1) delegate. In the  
22 event a delegate fails to choose an elected alternate the succession of alternates to  
23 a delegate status shall be in the order of succession as designated by the Precinct  
24 Club at its biennial election.~~

25  
26 ~~For in person conventions only, an alternate, in order of succession, may be  
27 seated as a delegate if a delegate has not registered no later than thirty (30)  
28 minutes prior to the published time of convening the Convention on the second  
29 day of the Convention. *[amended 9-4-2021 by the State Central Committee]*~~

30  
31 ~~The provision for reseating a delegate to the Convention shall be by the  
32 attendance and in the following order of priority:~~

- 33  
34 (a) — ~~Elected Delegate.~~  
35 (b) — ~~Elected Alternate of the same gender of the absent Delegate chosen by the  
36 absent Delegate.~~  
37 (c) — ~~Elected Alternate of the same gender in the order of succession.~~  
38 (d) — ~~Elected Alternate of a different gender of the absent Delegate chosen by  
39 the Absent Delegate.~~  
40 (e) — ~~Elected Alternate of a different gender in the order of succession.~~

41  
42 ~~3B. Precinct Presidential Poll During Presidential Election Years. The State Central Committee  
43 shall determine the date, time anner and place of the presidential preference poll in line with  
44 DNC Regulations. *[amended 5-25-2019 by the State Central Committee]*~~

1 **Section 4. Notice of Meeting.**~~—~~

2 No Biennial Precinct Club meeting shall be duly called unless the Secretary of the County  
3 Committee provides notice to the entire membership by posting the meeting notification on the  
4 Party website in accordance with the Affirmative Action Plan, at least five (5) days prior to the  
5 date of the meeting. Notice may also be provided to the membership by telephone, electronic  
6 mail or personal or written notice mailed to the last known address. However, the notification  
7 requirements of this section shall be waived when a second attempt is made to hold a Precinct  
8 Club meeting for the purpose of electing Precinct officers and delegates to the State Convention,  
9 provided that each member who attended the earlier attempted meeting is notified by telephone,  
10 electronic mail, or personal notice at least five (5) days in advance of any subsequent meeting.  
11

12 **Section 5. Proxies.**~~—~~

13 No proxies shall be voted at any Precinct Club meeting.]  
14  
15

16 **ARTICLE III – DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
17

18 **Section 1. Officers.**

19 1A. [~~A District Chairperson;~~] Nominations and elections for [~~the~~] District Officers  
20 [~~Chairperson~~] [~~is~~] are open to any member residing in the District and shall occur at the biennial  
21 election meetings [~~annual District Council meeting of precincts held in March of every even-~~  
22 numbered year]. Election shall be by [~~the~~] Party members within the district. [~~of the District~~  
23 Council. A District Chairperson upon election shall automatically vacate the office of Precinct  
24 President, Precinct Vice-President or District Councilperson.]  
25

26 1B. [~~For other officer positions, nominations and election of not more than three Vice-~~  
27 Chairpersons, not more than two Secretaries and a Treasurer shall occur at either the biennial  
28 District Council meeting of precincts held in March of every even-numbered year, or at another  
29 meeting held no later than two weeks after the biennial District Council meeting of precincts at  
30 the discretion of the newly elected Chairperson. Only members of the District Council as  
31 described in the Constitution of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, Article III, Section 1,  
32 Organization, shall be eligible for election to these officer positions.]  
33

34 Order of the District Officer elections shall be: District Chairperson, First District Vice-  
35 chairperson, District Secretary, District Treasurer, and eleven (11) at-large Director positions.

36 There needs to be a check after five (5) at-large Director positions are elected making sure every  
37 precinct has at least one (1) member elected. If that is not the case the remaining six (6) at-large  
38 Director positions nominations will be limited to members of the residents of the precincts that  
39 are not represented on the District Council, if there are members present and willing to run, until  
40 all precincts are represented, to the extent practicable.

41  
42 Only after the elections of the District Chairperson, First District Vice-chairperson, District  
43 Secretary, District Treasurer, and eleven (11) at-large Directors can nominations be taken for 2nd  
44 & 3rd Vice-chairpersons and 2nd Secretary.  
45

46 1C. The duties of the officers of the District Council shall be those usually pertaining to the

1 office concerned and specifically include the following:  
2

- 3 (1) The District Chairperson shall have the power and duty to appoint chairpersons  
4 and members of all special and standing committees with the advice and consent  
5 of the majority of the members of the District Council. The Chairperson shall be  
6 responsible for the calling of all regular and special meetings of the District  
7 Council and the giving of proper notice and the arranging for meeting places for  
8 both special and regular meetings. The Chairperson shall also be responsible to  
9 arrange the meeting places for the biennial [~~precinct~~] election meetings [~~in~~  
10 ~~consultation with precinct presidents~~]. The District Chairperson, with the  
11 assistance of the District Membership Director, shall be responsible for  
12 welcoming new members to their [~~Precinct~~] District and recruiting new  
13 Democrats within their District to the Democratic Party, and assisting in  
14 recruiting volunteers from their District to help with campaign activities for the  
15 General Election as well as helping find poll watchers for the General Election.
- 16 (2) The various Vice-Chairpersons of the District Council in the order of their  
17 respective designation shall have the power to perform the duties and functions of  
18 the District Chairperson in the absence or sickness of the District Chairperson or  
19 in the event the District Chairperson fails or neglects to perform such duties. The  
20 First Vice-Chairperson shall be responsible for assisting the State Secretary in  
21 gathering and updating the contact information for their District members.
- 22 (a) In the event the District Chairperson permanently vacates or is unable to  
23 perform the duties and functions of the Chairperson, the First Vice-  
24 Chairperson shall become District Chairperson.
- 25 (b) In the event the District Chairperson is temporarily unable to perform the  
26 duties and functions of the District Chairperson, the First Vice-  
27 Chairperson shall become District Chairperson for such time as the elected  
28 District Chairperson is incapacitated.
- 29 (3) The Secretary shall be charged with keeping accurate minutes of all meetings of  
30 the District Council. These minutes shall be properly typewritten and entered  
31 along with all written reports of officers and committees in a book or file  
32 maintained for that purpose and turned over intact to the succeeding Secretary.  
33 The Secretary shall keep all records relating to the District and maintain and keep  
34 the membership list of the members of the Party for the District on a current basis  
35 with addresses and precinct designations.
- 36 (4) The Treasurer shall be the District's representative on the State's Fundraising  
37 Committee. The Treasurer shall be primarily responsible for all fundraising  
38 activities within the District Council, [~~shall have custody of any moneys and~~  
39 ~~records of funds of the District which may be deposited in a commercial bank in~~  
40 ~~the name of the District Council or deposited in the account of the County~~  
41 ~~Committee to the credit of the District Council.~~] shall collect funds, issue receipts,  
42 collect contributor information using a standard form provided by the County  
43 Committee Treasurer and promptly forward said funds and information to the  
44 County Committee Treasurer. [~~The Treasurer shall be responsible for seeing that~~  
45 ~~all money collected in the name of the District Council is collected by duly~~  
46 ~~authorized and identified persons, that receipts are given to contributors, and that~~

1 a strict accounting is kept of all funds so collected. The Treasurer shall turn over  
2 all moneys and records of funds of the District Council to the successor in office.]

3  
4 The County Committee Treasurer will ensure compliance requirements are met  
5 and account for funds by designating line items for allocated funds set aside for  
6 the District Council(s).

7  
8 [~~The Treasurer shall submit a biennial financial report to the County Committee~~  
9 ~~Treasurer by the second Tuesday in April in every even-numbered year. The~~  
10 ~~Treasurer shall submit reports upon request by the Treasurer of the State Central~~  
11 ~~Committee of all contributions and expenditures required to be reported by the~~  
12 ~~Democratic Party of Hawai'i to any Federal or State agency. The Treasurer shall~~  
13 ~~comply with all State and Federal laws relating to political campaign~~  
14 ~~contributions and expenditures.]~~

15  
16 1D. Duties and Responsibilities of the Executive Committee: The Executive Committee is  
17 empowered to act for the District Council between its regular meetings; and shall have general  
18 supervision of the affairs of the District Council, fix the date, hours and place of meetings, make  
19 recommendations to the District Council, [~~assure that all financial reports are submitted in a~~  
20 ~~timely manner,]~~ and perform such other duties as may be necessary to support the Democratic  
21 Party of Hawai'i and/or County policies and activities. Meetings of the Executive Committee  
22 will be at the call of the District Chairperson or by the written request of any two members of the  
23 Executive Committee.

24  
25 **Section 2. Meeting Notices, Attendance at Meetings.**

26 District Council meetings may be held at any time by call of the Chairperson or upon a written  
27 request submitted to the Secretary or Chairperson by not less than twenty-five (25%) percent of  
28 the total membership of the District Council. Notice of the District Council meetings shall be  
29 given in person, by telephone, by facsimile, by electronic mail or by mailing such notice to the  
30 last known address of each member not less than five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting.

31  
32 **Section 3. Quorum.**

33 Each District Council quorum shall not be less than thirty-four (34%) percent of the members of  
34 the District Council.

35  
36 **Section 4. Proxies.**

37 [~~A Precinct President or District Councilperson and Precinct First Vice President, if applicable,~~  
38 ~~may give their proxies to any officer of their precinct but to no one else.]~~

39 No proxies are allowed for District Council meetings including the biennial election meeting.

40  
41 **Section 5. Committees.**

42 The membership of the committees shall be restricted to members within the District. The  
43 Chairperson of the committees shall be appointed from the members of the District Council.

44  
45 **Section 6. Biennial Election of District Council, Delegates, and Alternates to the State**  
46 **Convention.**

1 6A. The official notice designating the time, place, and purpose of such meeting shall be given  
2 by the Secretary of the County Committee by publication at least once in one newspaper of  
3 general circulation in each of the Counties and by other appropriate written communication to  
4 each Democratic Party of Hawai‘i member not less than twenty (20) calendar days prior to the  
5 biennial election meeting of such year, provided, however, that in the County of Hawai‘i, notice  
6 shall be published in both East and West Hawai‘i, as follows:

- 7
- 8 (1) By the first week of December of odd numbered years in order to facilitate the  
9 compilation of said list of biennial election meeting places, each County Chairperson  
10 shall be responsible to contact each District Chair who shall be responsible to secure a  
11 meeting place in order of preference: (a) polling place, (b) community center, or (c)  
12 other.
- 13 (2) The District Chairperson is responsible to report to the County Chairperson with the  
14 meeting places by December 21. The County Chairperson must submit to the State  
15 Party Secretary a completed list of meeting places by January 5 of even-numbered  
16 years.
- 17 (3) Locations will not be necessary if the State Central Committee decides that the  
18 biennial election meetings are to be held entirely online.

19

20 6B. The Democratic Party of Hawai‘i Headquarters shall issue a copy of the membership list of  
21 each District broken down by precinct to the District Council Chairpersons not later than thirty  
22 (30) calendar days before the regular elections for District officers, delegates and/or alternates  
23 by precinct, as follows:

- 24
- 25 (1) The official list shall include only the names of those persons eligible to participate in  
26 the biennial elections. A copy of this list will be available to any interested Democrat  
27 at the County Office and District Council.
- 28 (2) Members listed on the official membership list for that precinct and district shall be  
29 eligible to vote in that precinct for delegates and/or alternates and for the District  
30 officers. Others who do not appear on said list and who support the Democratic Party  
31 and wish to join it shall enroll in the Party as provided in the Bylaws of the  
32 Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, and they will be eligible to vote in the biennial election.

33

34 6C. Where a name has been omitted from the certified list and the member whose name was  
35 omitted produces at the precinct election meeting a dated membership card signed by a Secretary  
36 of a County Committee, County Chairperson, Secretary of the State Central Committee, or Party  
37 Chairperson showing membership or the form provided in Article I of the Constitution of the  
38 Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, and proof of voter registration in that precinct, that name shall be  
39 added to the list noting the date of membership. The respective Secretaries of District Council,  
40 the County Committee and State Central Committee will be informed of the addition made to the  
41 certified list.

42

43 6D. Within ten (10) calendar days after issuance of this certified list, any member may challenge  
44 any name appearing on the district list by submitting in writing reasons therefore to the Secretary  
45 of the District Council. These challenges shall be heard promptly by the Executive Committee  
46 of the District Council upon due notice to the parties of the time and place of the hearing and

1 shall be disposed of prior to the election of precinct officers and delegates. The decision of the  
2 Executive Committee of the District Council shall be final and conclusive.

3  
4 6E. Where no officers have been elected in the current biennium, any member of the precinct  
5 may, by written petition to the respective District Council, request the initiation of precinct  
6 reorganization, as follows:

7  
8 (1) The Secretary of the District Council shall be notified of the time, place, and purpose  
9 of the prospective special meeting and notice will be given pursuant to Article II of  
10 the Constitution of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

11  
12 (2) Where no successful meeting is held in forty-five 45 calendar days of the biennial  
13 election meeting, the District Chairperson shall consider the precinct unorganized and  
14 initiate reorganization as set forth in this Article. The District Council shall then have  
15 the authority to organize precincts and appoint delegates to the State Convention.  
16 Upon the conclusion of the State Convention, the responsibility for the organization  
17 of precincts in accordance with this Article shall revert to the precincts. Should a  
18 Precinct Club (if their formation is authorized by the County Committee), be  
19 reorganized at least fifteen (15) calendar days prior to a County or State Convention,  
20 the Precinct Club shall have all rights and privileges as a Precinct Club organized at  
21 the biennial election meeting.

22  
23 (3) The District Council shall appoint delegates to the State Convention, with priority for  
24 delegates going first to members of the original Precinct Club (if their formation is  
25 authorized by the County Committee), then to those elected as alternate delegates  
26 from other precincts in the District. When all alternates wishing to become delegates  
27 have been appointed, the District Council may appoint any member within the  
28 District to any vacant delegate position. Delegates so appointed shall have the same  
29 rights and privileges at a State Convention as if they were elected at the biennial  
30 election meeting.

31  
32 The District Council shall complete all appointments by no later than fifteen (15) calendar days  
33 prior to the State Convention. Documentation of the appointments may be submitted in person,  
34 via facsimile, e-mail, or by mail, provided that mailed documentation bears a postmark of no  
35 later than the fifteenth (15th) calendar day prior to the State Convention. All documentation  
36 must be received no later than ten (10) calendar days prior to the State Convention.

37  
38 6F. In the event that a Precinct Club (if their formation is authorized by the County Committee)  
39 holds a successful election at the biennial election meeting except that all positions are not filled,  
40 a Precinct Club has until forty-five (45) calendar days from the biennial election meeting to hold  
41 additional meetings to fill any vacancy subject to notifying members of the Precinct of the date,  
42 time, place and purpose of the meeting by minimally posting the meeting notification on the  
43 website of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

1 After forty-five (45) calendar days from the biennial election meeting, the District Council may  
2 fill officer, delegate, and alternate vacancies, by not later than fifteen (15) calendar days prior to  
3 the state convention, as follows:

4  
5 (1) Fill delegate vacancies by alternates elected at the biennial election meeting, with  
6 priority to alternates within the precinct; and then from other precincts within the  
7 District;

8  
9 (2) Fill alternate delegate vacancies by appointment of members who reside in the  
10 precinct who express an interest after the biennial election meeting.

11  
12 The District Council shall report any changes to fill a delegate or alternate vacancy within a  
13 precinct as a result of additional meetings held until forty-five (45) calendar days from the  
14 biennial election meeting to the to the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i office. A report will be made  
15 within five (5) calendar days of the meeting. The District Council shall report any changes to fill  
16 a delegate or alternate vacancy within the District filled during the period from forty-five (45)  
17 calendar days from the biennial election meetings until fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the  
18 State Convention to the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i office.

19  
20 Officers and delegates or alternates so elected shall have the same rights and privileges at a  
21 County or State Convention as if they were elected at the biennial election meeting, so long as  
22 they are elected at least fifteen (15) calendar days prior to such Convention.

23  
24 After the fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the State Convention, delegate and alternate  
25 vacancies will be filled as provided by Article II, Section 3, Delegates and Alternates to the State  
26 Convention. In the event the precinct has no more alternates, the District Chair may appoint an  
27 alternate from another precinct in the District to fill the delegate position. Vacancies must be  
28 filled by the deadline set in the Standing Rules adopted by the State Central Committee. No  
29 vacancies may be filled after the deadline.

30  
31 6G. The results of the District Council election shall be signed and certified by the District  
32 Chairperson and the Secretary of the District Council. The results shall be recorded upon a State  
33 Party-generated election form. Results shall be copied or photographed and submitted  
34 expeditiously by electronic means upon completion of the election to the State Party Secretary,  
35 State Party Chair, respective County Secretary and County Chair. The results of the election may  
36 be reviewed, copied or photographed by any member present at the meeting. They shall be  
37 delivered or postmarked within forty-eight (48) hours of the election to the State Central  
38 Committee, and the County Committee. Official forms for such certification shall be provided  
39 by the County Committee and shall include the following:

40  
41 (1) Time, place, and date of the meeting;

42 (2) Names and addresses of eligible District members present and voting;

43 (3) Names and addresses of the District officers elected; and

44 (4) Names and addresses of the elected delegates and alternates elected.

1 6H. The certified District Council election report forms shall be maintained on file at the  
2 County, and State offices and shall be open to inspection by any registered member of the Party.  
3

4 6I. Challenges concerning the election of District Council officers shall be made to the District  
5 Council at its first meeting on the Tuesday of the fourth week since the biennial election  
6 meetings. The meeting place, time, and purpose shall be given by the Secretary of the District  
7 Council pursuant to Article III of the Constitution of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and shall  
8 be announced at the Precinct Club election. The District Council shall, not later than the  
9 Tuesday of the fifth week since the biennial election meeting, rule on every challenge concerning  
10 a Precinct officer or concerning the validity of a vote on or the eligibility of a person voting on  
11 any question other than the election of State Convention delegates. An appeal from the decision  
12 of the District Council must be made to the County Committee not later than forty-five (45)  
13 calendar days from the biennial election meeting and can be made only after compliance with the  
14 procedures and requirements of this paragraph. Further appeal may be taken to the County  
15 Convention.  
16

17 6J. Challenges concerning delegates to the State Convention shall be submitted to the District  
18 Council at its meeting on the Tuesday of the fourth week since the biennial election meeting for  
19 transmittal to the Convention Credentials Committee. In its transmittal to the Convention  
20 Credentials Committee, the District Council shall make recommendations after investigating the  
21 challenge and furnish all relevant information. The Convention Credentials Committee shall be  
22 appointed by the Party Chairperson and shall include four subcommittees, one for each County,  
23 to dispose of challenges within their respective Counties. The subcommittee for each County  
24 shall be composed of at least five (5) members from that County. The Convention Credentials  
25 Committee shall rule on each challenge at least two (2) calendar weeks before the State  
26 Convention. Further appeal may be taken to the State Convention.  
27

28 6K. Challenges concerning the election of District Council and delegates to the State  
29 Convention for precincts which held elections subsequent to the biennial election meetings shall  
30 be made no later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the elections following the procedures in  
31 described in this Section.  
32

33 **Section 7. Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention.**

34 7A. To provide every precinct representation at the State Convention, a precinct will elect  
35 alternate delegates equal to the number of delegates allocated to the precinct, provided that the  
36 official membership roster for their precinct, at the time of the biennial election meeting certified  
37 adequate membership for the precinct to elect an equal number of alternates, as follows:  
38

- 39 (1) Any member of the precinct may be elected to represent that precinct as a delegate or  
40 alternate at the State Convention. Alternates shall be elected in an order of  
41 succession to delegate status beginning with the number one (1). If a delegate is  
42 unable to attend the State Convention, the delegate may choose any alternate of that  
43 delegate's same gender elected in the precinct to serve in that delegate's stead. If no  
44 elected alternate of the same gender is available, the delegate may designate an  
45 elected alternate of a different gender in the delegate's stead. However, no alternate  
46 shall act for more than one (1) delegate. In the event a delegate fails to choose an



1 elected alternate the succession of alternates to a delegate status shall be in the order  
2 of succession as designated by the precinct at its biennial election meeting.

3  
4 For in-person conventions only, an alternate, in order of succession, may be seated as  
5 a delegate if a delegate has not registered no later than thirty (30) minutes prior to the  
6 published time of convening the Convention on the second day of the Convention.

7  
8 The provision for reseating a delegate to the Convention shall be by the attendance  
9 and in the following order of priority:

10  
11 (a) Elected Delegate.

12 (b) Elected Alternate of the same gender of the absent Delegate chosen by the absent  
13 Delegate.

14 (c) Elected Alternate of the same gender in the order of succession.

15 (d) Elected Alternate of a different gender of the absent Delegate chosen by the  
16 Absent Delegate.

17 (e) Elected Alternate of a different gender in the order of succession.

18  
19 7B. Precinct Presidential Poll During Presidential Election Years. The State Central Committee  
20 shall determine the date, time manner and place of the presidential preference poll in line with  
21 Democratic National Committee Regulations.

22  
23 **Section 8. Notice of Meeting.**

24 No biennial election meeting shall be duly called unless the Secretary of the County Committee  
25 provides notice to the entire membership by posting the meeting notification on the Democratic  
26 Party of Hawai‘i website in accordance with the Affirmative Action Plan, at least five (5)  
27 calendar days prior to the date of the meeting. Notice may also be provided to the membership  
28 by telephone, electronic mail or personal or written notice mailed to the last known address.

29 However, the notification requirements of this section shall be waived when a second attempt is  
30 made to hold a Biennial Election meeting for the purpose of electing District officers, delegates  
31 and/or alternates to the State Convention, provided that each member who attended the earlier  
32 attempted meeting is notified by telephone, electronic mail, or personal notice at least five (5)  
33 calendar days in advance of any subsequent meeting.

34  
35  
36 **ARTICLE IV – COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS**

37  
38 **Section 1. Organization.**

39 Each County Committee shall make available to its respective delegates and alternates the final  
40 reports, including any and all recommendations and amendments proposed for adoption by the  
41 State Convention, submitted by all County appointed standing committees including those  
42 committees on Platform, Resolutions, Rules, Affirmative Action, at least twenty-four (24) hours  
43 prior to the convening of the County Convention.

44  
45 **Section 2. Rules for the adoption of Respective County Organization Bylaws and Rules.**

46 ~~[2A.]~~ The County Committee of each County Organization shall submit proposed bylaws to the

1 State Central Committee within ninety (90) calendar days of adoption. The State Central  
2 Committee shall, within one\_hundred\_twenty (120) calendar days of receipt of the Bylaws  
3 changes, notify the County and rule on their acceptability. Upon the determination by the State  
4 Central Committee that the proposed rules or rule changes are consistent with the Constitution  
5 and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i such County Committee rules or rule changes  
6 shall become effective.

7  
8 **Section 3. Meetings, Notices, Attendance at Meetings.**

9 3A. Regular meetings of the County Committee shall be held at least once every three (3)  
10 months at such time and place as the members may decide in accordance with their own rules.  
11 Notice of the County Committee meetings shall be given in person, by telephone, by facsimile,  
12 by electronic mail, or by mailing such notice to the last known address of each member not less  
13 than five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting.

14  
15 3B. Special meetings may be held at any time by call of the Chairperson or upon written request  
16 submitted to the Secretary or Chairperson by not less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the total  
17 membership. Notice of special meetings shall be given in person, by telephone, by electronic  
18 mail, by facsimile or by mailing such notice to the last known address of each member not less  
19 than five (5) calendar days prior to the meetings.

20  
21  
22 **ARTICLE V – STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE**  
23

24 **Section 1. Apportionment.**

25 The State Central Committee shall state the number of Committee persons for each Senatorial  
26 District in its proclamation calling for the State Convention, subject to Article VI of the  
27 Constitution of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i.

28  
29 **Section 2. Nomination and Filing.**

30 2A. Any citizen resident in the State of Hawai‘i, who is or will be a member of the Democratic  
31 Party of Hawai‘i for one (1) year before the next election shall be eligible to be a candidate for  
32 election to Party Chairperson. Any citizen residing in the State of Hawai‘i who wishes to  
33 become a candidate for election to Party Chairperson or for election to the State Central  
34 Committee shall file a nomination paper with the Secretary of said County or the State Central  
35 Committee at least twenty (20) calendar days prior to the State Convention, except that papers  
36 for the County Representative seats shall be filed at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the  
37 County Convention, and except that papers for the Caucus Representative seats shall be filed  
38 after certification by the Caucus, but at least twenty (20) calendar days prior to the State  
39 Convention. In the event that no papers have been filed by the filing deadline, the filing deadline  
40 shall be extended until ten (10) calendar days prior to the State Convention, but only if the voting  
41 is to be held in person at the Convention. However, no additional nomination papers shall be  
42 allowed for those positions for which papers had been filed by the filing deadline. If a member  
43 has resigned from the Party in the two (2) years prior to re-enrollment in the Democratic Party of  
44 Hawai‘i, the re-enrolled member must be a member in good standing for at least one (1) year  
45 before the next election prior to being elected Party Chairperson or for election to the State  
46 Central Committee.

1  
2 2B. The nomination paper of a candidate for Party Chairperson, National Committeeman and  
3 National Committeewoman shall be signed by not less than ten (10) certified members of the  
4 Democratic Party of Hawai‘i from at least two (2) County Organizations. Signatures may be  
5 electronic.  
6

7 2C. The nomination paper of a candidate for Youth Representative shall be signed by not less  
8 than ten (10) certified members of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, all of whom are members of  
9 the Party who are thirty-five (35) years of age or younger.  
10

11 2D. The nomination paper of a candidate for a State Central Committee member shall be signed  
12 by not less than five (5) certified members of the Party from the nominee’s Senatorial District or  
13 Caucuses.  
14

15 2E. The nomination paper for a State Central Committee member filing as a County  
16 Representative shall be signed by not less than five (5) certified members of the Party from the  
17 nominee’s County.  
18

19 2F. A copy of the nomination papers of candidates for the Youth Representative, Caucus  
20 Representatives, and County Committee representatives and their application fee shall be  
21 provided to the State Central Committee Secretary by the deadline established by Article V,  
22 Section 2A of these Bylaws.  
23

### 24 **Section 3. Officers.**

25 The duties of the Officers of the State Central Committee shall be those usually pertaining to the  
26 office concerned and specifically include any duties imposed as follows:  
27

- 28 (1) The Party Chairperson shall serve as chairperson of the State Central Committee,  
29 and appoint chairpersons of all special and standing committees with the advice  
30 and consent of the State Central Committee. Vacancies may be filled on an  
31 interim basis until confirmed by the State Central Committee at its next meeting.  
32 The Chairperson shall call all regular and special meetings of the Executive and  
33 State Central Committee. The Chairperson shall submit an operating budget for  
34 the biennium following the initial organization meeting of the State Central  
35 Committee.  
36

37 The Chairperson shall serve faithfully on behalf of the Democratic Party of  
38 Hawai‘i as an active member of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) and  
39 the DNC’s Association of State Democratic Chairs (ASDC), and is encouraged to  
40 attend each regular DNC and ASDC meeting.  
41

- 42 (2) The elected Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties and functions of the  
43 Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson shall also  
44 perform other duties and functions as assigned by the Chairperson. The elected  
45 Vice-Chairperson shall also be charged with the responsibility of monitoring the  
46 activities of the standing committees.

1  
2 The elected Vice-Chairperson shall serve faithfully on behalf of the Democratic  
3 Party of Hawai‘i as an active member of the Democratic National Committee  
4 (DNC) and the DNC’s Association of State Democratic Chairs (ASDC), and is  
5 encouraged to attend each regular DNC and ASDC meeting  
6

7 (3) The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all Executive and State Central  
8 Committee meetings in a permanent Minutes book. The Secretary shall also have  
9 primary responsibility for care and maintenance of the membership lists. The  
10 Secretary shall be responsible for seeing that such lists are available for inspection  
11 by interested Democrats at all reasonable times. The membership lists, certified  
12 as correct to the best of the Secretary’s knowledge and belief, shall be turned over  
13 intact to the new Secretary at the end of the old Secretary’s term of office. The  
14 Secretary shall also be responsible for issuing membership cards, in such form as  
15 may be prescribed by the State Central Committee, to all duly certified members  
16 of the Party with the County. The Secretary is responsible for providing annual  
17 notification to the Party members in writing, by electronic mail or by posting the  
18 notice on the Party's webpage that annual voluntary membership dues are  
19 requested.  
20

21 (4) The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary in carrying on the various duties  
22 assigned to the Secretary and shall perform the duties, in the absence of the  
23 Secretary.  
24

25 (5) The Treasurer shall account for all moneys received by the Party and shall follow  
26 standard accounting procedures in recording receipt of moneys and the  
27 disbursement of funds. All disbursements shall be by check, bank draft, or debit  
28 card, and countersigned by either the Party Chairperson or the elected Vice-  
29 Chairperson. All disbursements should be supported by a document or an invoice  
30 approved through a prescribed procedure. Other duties and responsibilities  
31 include:

- 32 (a) Provide a financial statement on its operations at each meeting of the  
33 Executive and State Central Committee.  
34 (b) To comply with all tax laws as it applies to the Party as an employer.  
35 (c) To determine and analyze the biennial budget at regular intervals and  
36 report its findings to the finance committee.  
37 (d) To serve as an ex-officio member of all special projects where a subsidiary  
38 set of records is kept with an appointed Treasurer. These projects upon  
39 completion should be incorporated into the general books of the Party and  
40 filed as a part of the Treasurer’s general record.  
41 (e) To ~~request reports~~ receive funds, receipts, and contributor information  
42 on an ongoing basis from County, and District [~~and Precinct~~] Treasurers  
43 as necessary to comply with any Federal or State laws governing political  
44 campaign contributions and expenditures.  
45 (f) To comply with, prepare reports or assist in the preparation of reports  
46 required by any Federal or State laws governing political campaign

1 contributions and expenditures.

- 2  
3 (6) The Assistant Treasurer shall assist the Treasurer in carrying on the various duties  
4 assigned to the Treasurer and shall perform the duties, in absence of the  
5 Treasurer.  
6

7 **Section 4. Term of Office.**

8 The term of office of persons elected to the State Central Committee shall begin immediately  
9 after the adjournment of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i State Convention and end at the  
10 conclusion of the following Convention, unless otherwise specified in the bylaws of the County,  
11 Caucus, or Young Democrats concerning their State Central Committee representatives.  
12

13 **Section 5. Filling of Vacancies.**

14 5A. Vacancy in the office of the Party Chairperson shall be filled by the State Central  
15 Committee by election of an interim Party Chairperson. The elected Vice-Chairperson shall  
16 assume the office of Acting Party Chairperson for a period not to exceed forty-five (45) calendar  
17 days during which time the State Central Committee shall elect an interim Party Chairperson.  
18

19 5B. Vacancy in the office of the National Committeeman or National Committeewoman shall be  
20 filled by the Party Chairperson with the concurrence of the majority of the State Central  
21 Committee members present at the State Central Committee meeting where the position is filled,  
22 until the following Democratic State Convention. In a non-presidential year, the term of the new  
23 officer shall take effect upon conclusion of the State Convention. In a presidential year, the term  
24 of the committeemember shall begin at the conclusion of the national convention.  
25

26 5C. Vacancy in the office of Youth Representative shall be filled by the Party Chairperson with  
27 the concurrence of the majority of the State Central Committee members present at the State  
28 Central Committee meeting where the position is filled and the Executive Board of the Young  
29 Democrats of Hawai'i.  
30

31 5D. Any vacancy in the office of the Committee Person from a Senatorial District or the County  
32 Representative shall be filled by the County Committee within which the past incumbent resided.  
33 The person filling the vacancy shall meet the requirements of the candidate for Committee  
34 Person.  
35

36 5E. Any vacancy in the office of Caucus Representative shall be filled by the Caucus as set forth  
37 in Caucus bylaws. A position is deemed vacant if a Caucus Representative no longer maintains  
38 Caucus membership or is otherwise ineligible according to approved Caucus bylaws. If the  
39 Caucus fails to fill the vacancy within forty-five (45) calendar days, it shall be filled by the Party  
40 Chairperson.  
41

42 5F. If vacancies are not filled within forty-five (45) calendar days, the State Central Committee  
43 shall fill the vacancies.  
44

45 **Section 6. Meetings.**

46 6A. To the extent possible, the place of the meeting of the State Central Committee or of the

1 Executive Committee shall be rotated among the Counties; and, whenever possible, all or a  
2 portion of the cost of transportation of members from Counties other than the County in which  
3 the meeting is held shall be defrayed from the Party treasury.  
4

5 6B. Minutes of each meeting shall be kept and permanently filed by the Secretary in a book kept  
6 for such purposes, which book shall be turned over to the next succeeding Secretary of the State  
7 Central Committee. Copies of the minutes shall be made available to Party members upon  
8 request.  
9

10 6C. The State Central Committee is empowered to establish rules and procedures for  
11 participation in its meetings by telephonic or electronic means. Participation in meetings by such  
12 means shall be construed as attendance for purposes of quorum and voting.  
13

14 6D. Notice of regular meetings shall be given not less than ten (10) calendar days before the  
15 meeting and may be delivered by mail, fax or electronic mail.  
16

17 6E. Notice of special meetings shall be given not less than five (5) calendar days before the  
18 meeting and may be delivered by mail, fax, or electronic mail.  
19

20 6F. Meetings of the State Central Committee shall normally be open to all Party members.  
21 Under exceptional circumstances, the State Central Committee may decide to go into Executive  
22 Session to deal with a matter. Any decision to go into Executive Session shall require a two-  
23 thirds vote of State Central Committee members in attendance.  
24

#### 25 **Section 7. Proxies.**

26 7A. State Central Committee members unable to attend a State Central Committee meeting may  
27 give their proxy to another member. In no event shall a State Central Committee member carry  
28 more than [~~four~~] one proxy[ies].  
29

30 7B. All proxies must be in writing in the form approved by the State Central Committee and  
31 shall be filed with the Secretary of the State Central Committee.  
32

#### 33 **Section 8. Caucuses.**

34 8A. Minimal criteria for certification of a caucus shall include:  
35

36 (1) Sufficient statewide membership. The State Central Committee may establish a  
37 minimum membership of not less than twenty (20) Caucus members from at least  
38 two (2) Counties, to apply for and to maintain certification.  
39

40 (2) Caucus Bylaws shall be consistent with the Constitution of the Democratic Party  
41 of Hawai'i. The Bylaws shall provide for democratic selection of officers and  
42 representatives to the State Central Committee, defined terms of office,  
43 membership that is open to all Party members who belong to the defined  
44 constituency, public notice of meetings, and quorum. The Caucus bylaws shall be  
45 filed with the Standing Rules Committee of the State Central Committee for  
46 review and comment, and must be approved by the State Central Committee.

1  
2 (3) Application for certification as a Democratic Party of Hawai'i Caucus shall  
3 include a record of meetings and activity that establishes the viability of the  
4 Caucus.

5  
6 (4) Certification shall be continuous until officially terminated by the State Central  
7 Committee due to:

- 8 (a) Action of Caucus substantially not in compliance with Democratic Party  
9 of Hawai'i Constitution and Bylaws or the Caucus Bylaws, or  
10 (b) At least twelve (12) consecutive months without meetings or required  
11 reports.  
12

13 8B. New Caucus Representatives to the State Central Committee. Within forty-five (45)  
14 calendar days of certification of a new Caucus, the new Caucus shall nominate two (2)  
15 representatives of different genders, taking office immediately upon the advice and consent of a  
16 majority of the State Central Committee members present at the meeting at the time the  
17 nomination is presented. Vacancies shall be filled according to this Article.  
18

19 8C. The following caucuses are recognized by the Democratic Party of Hawai'i:

- 20  
21 (1) Hawaiian Affairs;  
22 (2) Education;  
23 (3) Environment;  
24 (4) Kupuna;  
25 (5) Stonewall;  
26 (6) Labor;  
27 (7) Veterans; and,  
28 (8) Women.  
29

30 8D. Any name change to a Caucus must be initiated by the respective Caucus.  
31

32 8E. Reports and Certification. Each Caucus, to maintain its certification, shall make a written  
33 report to the State Central Committee at least twice a year and at such other times as may be  
34 necessary. Each Caucus must maintain a certified copy of its bylaws with the Democratic Party  
35 of Hawai'i which shall be posted on the Party's website. Caucuses shall also provide a current  
36 list of their officers to the State Central Committee by not later than July 1 every year.  
37

38 8F. Any Caucus that fails to meet any of the required steps listed in Sections 8A and 8E to  
39 maintain its certification will lose all access to use any of the Party assets, including but not  
40 limited to Party Headquarters, Database, Email service, copying machine, etc. Access will be  
41 restored once all the required steps have been completed. Failure to address any missing required  
42 steps within thirty (30) calendar days of notification by the Secretary of the Party shall open the  
43 Caucus to have its certification pulled by the State Central Committee.  
44

45 **Section 9. Committees.**

46 9A. Every special committee shall make a report in writing to the State Central Committee or

1 the Executive Committee if such committee was appointed by the Executive Committee upon the  
2 conclusion of its work and at such other times as may be required.

3  
4 At least one of the co-chairs of each of the standing committees shall be a member of the State  
5 Central Committee. Co-chairs shall be appointed by the Chair with advice and consent of the  
6 State Central Committee. Membership on the committees shall not be limited to State Central  
7 Committee members and shall include representation from all four counties.

8  
9 9B. Every such report shall be filed by the Secretary of the State Central Committee in the  
10 Minute book of the Committee.

11  
12 9C. The Finance Committee shall be chaired by the Treasurer and shall prepare the biennial  
13 budget in consultation with the Party Chairperson. Its membership shall include at least one (1)  
14 member from each County. This budget shall be presented to the members of the State Central  
15 Committee at the meeting following the initial organizational meeting of the State Central  
16 Committee. In addition, the Finance Committee shall:

- 17  
18 (1) Review and analyze the approved budget at regular intervals and if necessary  
19 submit the Committee’s recommendation in regards to changes to the budget.  
20
- 21 (2) Submit written policies and procedures relative to the various accounting  
22 functions required to maintain proper financial records of the Party to the State  
23 Central Committee for its approval.  
24
- 25 (3) Oversee special fund raising projects undertaken in the name of the Democratic  
26 Party to ensure that proper accounting procedures are followed in conforming  
27 with the policies and procedures established in Article V of the Constitution of the  
28 Democratic Party of Hawai‘i.  
29
- 30 (4) Review staff appointments made by the Party Chairperson and the amount of  
31 remuneration to be paid the staff member in conformance with the adopted  
32 budget. Review also the appointment of individual contractors and the  
33 requirement of a formal contract to be signed by the Party Chairperson and the  
34 independent contractor. Review all contracts with independent contractors and  
35 contractor’s remuneration levels for services to be rendered.  
36

37 9D. PLATFORM: The Platform Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and proposing  
38 updates to the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i’s Platform and work to encourage support of the  
39 Platform. The Platform Committee shall also be responsible for formulation, distribution and  
40 collecting results of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i Platform Survey as required for all  
41 candidates running as a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i. The Platform Committee  
42 shall be responsible for matters delegated or duties as from time-to-time may be assigned to it by  
43 the Chair and/or State Central Committee.  
44

45 9E. LEGISLATION: The Legislation Committee shall be responsible for preparing and  
46 promoting the passage of legislation consistent with the positions of the Democratic Party as



1 expressed in the platform and resolutions adopted at the State Convention, or by a vote of the  
2 State Central Committee. The Legislation Committee shall prepare a plan for approval by the  
3 State Central Committee prior to each legislative session, shall provide timely reports to the State  
4 Central Committee during the session and shall be subject to oversight by the State Central  
5 Committee. The Legislation Committee shall be responsible for matters delegated or duties as  
6 from time-to-time may be assigned to it by the Chair and/or State Central Committee.

7  
8 9F. RULES: The Rules Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and proposing updates to  
9 the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i Constitution and Bylaws, assisting in the development of the  
10 Standing Rules for the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, reviewing and determining the validity of  
11 changes submitted by the Counties and Caucuses Bylaws, reviewing requests for establishment  
12 of new caucuses to assure eligibility requirements are met, making recommendations for  
13 certification, reviewing any allegations of rules violations and reporting its findings and  
14 recommendations to the State Central Committee, and interpreting the Constitution and Bylaws  
15 when called upon by the Chair or members of the State Central Committee. The Rules  
16 Committee shall be responsible for matters delegated or duties as from time-to-time may be  
17 assigned to it by the Chair and/or State Central Committee.

18  
19 9G. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: The Affirmative Action Committee shall be responsible for  
20 reviewing and proposing updates to the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i’s Affirmative Action plan,  
21 implementing the Affirmative Action Plan, assisting the Membership Committee in outreach to  
22 under-represented communities in the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, and ensuring that concerted  
23 efforts are made to reach those communities. The Affirmative Action Committee shall be  
24 responsible for matters delegated or duties as from time-to-time may be assigned to it by the  
25 Chair and/or State Central Committee.

26  
27 9H. MEMBERSHIP: The Membership Committee shall be responsible for coordinating  
28 recruitment of new members and membership drives, developing and maintaining on boarding  
29 procedures for new members, encouraging the registration of voters, as well as coordinating  
30 membership enhancements – i.e. talent management. The Membership Committee shall also be  
31 responsible for training materials. The Membership Committee shall be responsible for matters  
32 delegated or duties as from time-to-time may be assigned to it by the Chair and/or State Central  
33 Committee.

34  
35 9I. FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE. The Fundraising Committee shall be responsible for  
36 planning, organizing, and implementing statewide Democratic Party of Hawai‘i fundraising  
37 activities. The Fundraising Committee will also develop and offer training on fundraising  
38 requirements for the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i. The Fundraising Committee shall be  
39 responsible for matters delegated or duties as from time-to-time may be assigned to it by the  
40 Chair and/or State Central Committee.

41  
42 9J. COMMUNICATIONS: The Communications Committee shall be responsible for  
43 establishing and maintaining the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i’s social media platforms as well  
44 as establishing and maintaining a member newsletter. It will also maintain a media outreach  
45 center. The Communications Committee shall be responsible for matters delegated or duties as  
46 from time-to-time may be assigned to it by the Chair and/or State Central Committee.

1  
2 9K. COMMUNITY RELATIONS: The Community Relations Committee shall be responsible  
3 for social services projects on behalf of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, as well as developing a  
4 plan for building positive relationships with key community organizations that support the  
5 Democratic Party of Hawai‘i platform in the community. The Community Relations Committee  
6 shall be responsible for matters delegated or duties as from time-to-time may be assigned to it by  
7 the Chair and/or State Central Committee.  
8

9 9L. CONVENTION: The Convention Committee shall be responsible for planning, organizing,  
10 and implementing the biennial Democratic Party of Hawai‘i State Convention. By September in  
11 the year before the Convention, the Convention Committee shall provide to the entire State  
12 Central Committee a Convention plan that will include the suggested theme for the Convention,  
13 the recommended location of the Convention, a recommended Convention budget, and the  
14 recommended State Convention Standing Rules. This information will be provided to State  
15 Central Committee members at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the meeting. The Convention  
16 Committee shall be responsible for matters delegated or duties as from time-to-time may be  
17 assigned to it by the Chair and/or State Central Committee.  
18

19 9M. CAMPAIGN: The Campaign Committee shall be responsible for training of members to run  
20 campaigns – candidates, volunteer coordinators, campaign managers, and campaign treasurers.  
21 The Campaign Committee shall be responsible for matters delegated or duties as from time-to-  
22 time may be assigned to it by the Chair and/or State Central Committee.  
23

24 9N. COMPLIANCE REVIEW: The Compliance Review Committee shall be responsible for  
25 ensuring an annual review of the financial records of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i for  
26 compliance with any federal, state, Democratic Party of Hawai‘i and Democratic National  
27 Committee requirements and proper authorized expenditures, and shall review the system it uses  
28 to account for revenue and expenses. The Compliance Review Committee shall be responsible  
29 for matters delegated or duties as from time-to-time may be assigned to it by the Chair and/or  
30 State Central Committee.  
31

32  
33 **ARTICLE VI – STATE CONVENTION**  
34

35 **Section 1. Time, Place, Notice.**

36 The State Convention will be called biennially in May of each even numbered year, or at such  
37 other times as may be determined by the State Central Committee. The date and place of the  
38 meeting shall be fixed by the State Central Committee. The place of the meeting may be rotated  
39 in non-Presidential Election years among the following three (3) counties in the state of Hawai‘i  
40 - Kaua‘i, Maui & Hawai‘i. In Presidential Election years, the Convention shall be held on O‘ahu,  
41 unless the State Central Committee decides to call an electronic Convention which may conduct  
42 business online as described in Standing Rules as it may adopt. Notice thereof shall be given by  
43 the methods as determined by the State Central Committee not less than ten (10) calendar days  
44 prior to the date of the biennial [~~Precinct Club~~] election meetings.  
45

1 **Section 2. Composition.**

2 2A. Incumbent Party Chairperson, National Committeeman and National Committeewoman,  
3 State Central Committee Members, Incumbent and Immediate Past County at-Large  
4 Representatives to the State Central Committee, District Chairpersons, Incumbent and Immediate  
5 Past County Chairpersons, including ex-officio members of the State Central Committee, former  
6 Democratic Governors, former Democratic Lieutenant Governors, and former Democratic Party  
7 Chairpersons.

8  
9 2B. Elected Federal, State and County Officials, or officials who may have been appointed to  
10 fill a vacant position of an elected official, who meet the following requirements:

- 11 (1) Be a member in good standing.
- 12
- 13 (2) Have attained their present office in an election as a Democrat or appointed to fill
- 14 a vacant position of an elected official or have attained their present office in a
- 15 nonpartisan election provided they are Democratic Party members in good
- 16 standing.
- 17
- 18 (3) The rights and privileges granted in this paragraph are nontransferable.
- 19
- 20

21 2C. The delegates in Section 2A and 2B above shall have all the rights and privileges of a  
22 delegate, but shall not be allowed to vote in the National Convention Delegate Selection Process  
23 unless elected as a State Convention delegate in their respective [~~precinct~~] biennial election  
24 meeting. In non-presidential years, those qualified to serve as automatic delegates shall not be  
25 eligible to hold an elected delegate slot. A delegate elected at a [~~precinct~~] biennial election  
26 meeting shall automatically vacate that position upon election to an office entitling them to an  
27 automatic delegate seat.

28  
29 2D. The number of State Convention delegates allotted to each [~~Precinct Club~~] precinct shall be  
30 determined by the total number of votes cast for the Democratic candidate in the most recent  
31 gubernatorial or presidential election.

- 32 (1) The total number of elected delegates to the State Convention shall be 1000. The
- 33 number of delegates allotted to each precinct shall be determined by the total
- 34 votes cast in each Precinct plus the apportioned absentee ballots, divided by the
- 35 total number of votes cast for the gubernatorial or presidential candidate, and the
- 36 result multiplied by the total number of elected delegates to the State Convention.
- 37
- 38 (2) Absentee ballots are prorated as a percentage of the total number of Precincts
- 39 affected by the absentee ballots.
- 40
- 41 (3) If the result for any Precinct is less than or equal to two (2) delegates, that
- 42 Precinct shall elect two (2) delegates.
- 43
- 44 (4) If the result for any Precinct is greater than two delegates and more than fifty
- 45 percent (50%) of each additional delegate, that Precinct shall be entitled to one
- 46

1 additional delegate.

2  
3 2E. Precincts shall elect delegates and alternates reflecting gender diversity, making note of the  
4 history of under representation of women, other genders and those that do not adhere to the  
5 gender binary, except as provided below:  
6

7 (1) If the number of delegates allotted to a Precinct is an odd number, then the  
8 composition of that delegation may deviate by one (1), or  
9

10 (2) If the [~~Precinct Club~~] precinct lacks sufficient candidates of different gender to  
11 make a delegation of gender diversity, then the Precinct shall make reasonable  
12 attempts to comply with this subsection.  
13

### 14 **Section 3. Purposes.**

15 3A. To elect a National Committeeman and a National Committeewoman in every Presidential  
16 election year by the delegates voting at-large and to fill any vacancy in these positions in the  
17 non-Presidential election year. In the event there is a vacancy in the office of National  
18 Committeeman or National Committeewoman due to death or to resignation, such vacancy shall  
19 be filled by the State Central Committee until the following Democratic State Convention.  
20

21 3B. To elect delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention in every  
22 Presidential election year. The number of delegates and alternates allotted to each State is  
23 determined by the Democratic National Convention (based on the Hawai'i National Delegate  
24 Selection Plan and Affirmative Action Plan).  
25

26 (1) The Delegate Selection Plan regarding the selection of delegates and alternates to  
27 the Democratic National Convention shall be approved by the State Central  
28 Committee and published on the website of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i  
29 within thirty (30) calendar days of the approval of the plan by the Democratic  
30 National Committee.  
31

32 (2) Certification. The National Convention Delegates and Alternates shall be  
33 certified by the Party Chairperson and filed with the Secretary of the Democratic  
34 National Committee within ten (10) calendar days after selection.  
35

36 (3) Slate-Making. Any individual or group of Democrats may sponsor or endorse a  
37 slate of candidates for National Convention Delegates. But no slate may receive  
38 preferential treatment for a preferential place on a delegate selection ballot or be  
39 publicly identified on the ballot as the "official" slate. All slates must meet the  
40 same qualifying requirements set forth in this Article.  
41

42 3C. To elect Presidential Electors and Alternates, as prescribed by law, in every Presidential  
43 election year, by the delegates voting at-large. Candidates for Presidential Electors and  
44 Alternates shall be members of the Party in good standing for at least one (1) year.  
45

46 3D. To elect the Democratic Party Chairperson and members of the State Central Committee,

1 except County Representatives elected at the County Convention, youth representatives elected  
2 by their members, and caucus representatives elected by their members as provided by their  
3 bylaws.

- 4 (1) The Chairperson of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, Caucus Representatives,  
5 and the Youth Representatives, shall be elected by the Convention delegates  
6 voting at-large.  
7
- 8 (2) The State Central Committee members, representing Senatorial Districts, shall be  
9 elected by the State Convention delegates from the respective Senatorial Districts;  
10 provided that two (2) representatives of different genders shall be elected from  
11 each County or a Senatorial District which covers more than one County. State  
12 Central Committee members, representing their Counties, shall be elected by their  
13 County Convention.  
14
- 15 (3) The elected or appointed Democratic officials or candidates running for elective  
16 public office, with the exception of those running for or elected as a delegate to  
17 the State Constitutional Convention, are not eligible to be Chairperson of the  
18 Democratic Party of Hawai‘i.  
19
- 20 (4) Election of the Party Chairperson shall include weighted votes, unless an in-  
21 person Convention cannot be held due to an emergency, and/or a mail or  
22 electronic ballot has been authorized by the State Central Committee.  
23
  - 24 (a) Weighted votes are defined as those delegates not registered at the State  
25 Convention. Weighted votes shall be permitted for members in Counties  
26 who need to travel to another County to participate in the State  
27 Convention. The total votes, including weighted votes, for any County  
28 shall not exceed their allocated total.  
29
    - 30 (i) Weighted votes shall be applied automatically by the Elections  
31 Committee for a County, by County, in direct proportion to the  
32 votes cast for the various candidates by the registered delegates  
33 of that County.  
34
    - 35 (ii) For mathematical computation, fractions shall be carried to two  
36 decimal places. Fractional votes of one-half or more shall  
37 increase to the next whole number, whereas, less than one-half  
38 shall have the fraction dropped. Where mathematical  
39 computations cause the total County vote to exceed or decrease  
40 its total allocated count, a coin toss by the Credentials  
41 Chairperson, who shall be present in the Elections counting  
42 room, shall be implemented to offset the discrepancy.  
43
- 44 (5) All elections shall be determined by plurality.  
45  
46

1 3E. To adopt the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i.

2  
3 3F. To adopt the revisions, amendments or alterations to the Constitution of the Democratic  
4 Party of Hawai‘i.

5  
6 3G. To adopt Resolutions.

7  
8 3H. To consider such other business as may come before it.

9  
10 **Section 4. Candidate’s Filing Fee.**

11 Any member of the Party wishing to be a candidate described in Article V of the Constitution of  
12 the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i shall file a nomination paper with the Secretary of the State  
13 Central Committee, signed by not less than ten (10) members of the Party for candidates for  
14 statewide office and by not less than five (5) members of the Party for all other offices, at least  
15 twenty (20) calendar days prior to the State Convention and pay to the Democratic Party of  
16 Hawai‘i a fee of ten dollars (\$10), except that papers for the County Representative seats shall be  
17 filed at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the County Convention. In the event that no papers  
18 have been filed by the filing deadline, the filing deadline shall be extended until ten (10) calendar  
19 days prior to the State Convention. However, no additional nomination papers shall be allowed  
20 for those positions for which papers had been filed by the filing deadline.

21  
22 **Section 5. Delegate Registration Fee.**

23 The State Central Committee is responsible to ensure the budget for State Convention allows  
24 reasonable registration fees affordable to middle-and low-income delegates, and waivers to  
25 delegates unable to pay the registration fee.

26  
27 A request for waiver should be submitted in writing, by email, or on a form provided for this  
28 purpose and conveyed to the State Convention Credentials Committee, as follows:

- 29
- 30 (1) The written request for waiver must be submitted within sixty (60) calendar days  
31 following the [~~Precinct Meeting~~] biennial election meeting and explain the reason  
32 for the request.
  - 33  
34 (2) When reasonable circumstances justify a request for waiver submitted after the  
35 sixty (60) calendar day deadline, the Convention Credentials Committee shall  
36 consider whether circumstances justify the late request. Such circumstances may  
37 include alternates filling late-occurring delegate vacancies, or other reasonable  
38 cause for a delayed submittal.
  - 39  
40 (3) A full or partial waiver shall be granted if the delegate is unable to pay the full  
41 registration fee.
- 42

43 **Section 6. Organization of the Convention.**

44 6A. The Party Chairperson shall appoint all Convention Committee Chairpersons not less than  
45 one-hundred-twenty (120) calendar days prior to the opening of the State Convention. The  
46 Party Chairperson shall appoint committee members to the Convention Committees not less than

1 forty-five (45) calendar days prior to the opening of the State Convention. If committee  
2 vacancies exist, additional members shall be appointed up to seven (7) calendar days prior to the  
3 State Convention.  
4

5 The Convention Committee is a standing committee of the State Central Committee; other  
6 Convention committees appointed by the Party Chairperson include the following:  
7

- 8 (1) Convention Platform Committee: Responsible to receive proposals to amend or  
9 revise the Platform. Prepares a report of recommendations to the Convention.  
10
- 11 (2) Convention Rules Committee: Responsible to receive proposals to amend or  
12 revise the rules of the Party. Shall have the power to format, edit, combine  
13 proposed rules changes, and make substantive amendments that do not alter the  
14 intent of the proposed rule addition or change. Prepares a report of  
15 recommendations to the Convention.  
16
- 17 (3) Convention Resolutions Committee(s): Responsible to receive resolutions. Shall  
18 have the power to format, edit, combine resolutions of similar substance, and  
19 make substantive amendments that do not alter the intent of the resolving clauses.  
20 Prepares a report of recommendations to the Convention.  
21
- 22 (4) Convention Affirmative Action Committee: Responsible to receive  
23 recommendations concerning Affirmative Actions and to finalize  
24 recommendations to the Convention.  
25
- 26 (5) Convention Credentials Committee: Responsible to investigate and certify a  
27 temporary roll of delegates. The temporary roll as prepared by the Secretary of the  
28 State Central Committee will be accepted as prima-facie correct pending action  
29 by the duly appointed State Convention Credentials Committee.  
30
  - 31 (a) The Convention Credentials Committee shall hold hearings to decide a  
32 contest with due notice to the parties.  
33
  - 34 (b) The Credentials Committee shall, throughout the delegate registration  
35 period assess a member or members to the Registration Committee to verify  
36 and certify a delegate's or an alternate's status for seating as a delegate.  
37

38 6B. The Party Chairperson shall assure that all Convention Committees shall include members  
39 from each County in proportion to the ratio of delegates allocated to each County to the total  
40 number of delegates to the Convention. The Party Chairperson, with the concurrence of the  
41 State Central Committee, shall establish a process to ensure that appointments to the Convention  
42 Committees shall be fair, and that such committees shall in so far as practicable reflect the varied  
43 constituencies and diverse views of the Convention delegates. Each recognized Caucus and the  
44 Young Democrats may have a member on the Rules, Platform and Resolutions committees and  
45 each of these committees shall have a minimum of 41 members. In a presidential election year,  
46 efforts shall be made to appoint committees whose membership reflects the proportion of votes

1 cast for the presidential candidates.

2  
3 6C. The Chairperson(s) of each Convention Committee shall notify committee members at least  
4 five (5) calendar days in advance of any Convention meetings.

5  
6 (1) On the opening day of the Convention, all Convention Committee members who  
7 are Convention delegates shall constitute the membership of the Convention  
8 Committee.

9  
10 (2) Only registered Convention delegates shall actively participate and vote on the  
11 issues before the committee.

12  
13 (3) Authors of proposals before a committee may speak for the proposal in accord  
14 with committee procedure.

15  
16 (4) Convention Resolutions Committee(s) shall have the power to format, edit,  
17 combine resolutions of similar substance, and make substantive amendments.  
18 This committee will report to the assembled delegates only those resolutions it  
19 recommends for adoption.

20  
21 6D. The Convention Standing Rules and the Convention Budget will be adopted by the State  
22 Central Committee not later than January of the year of the State Convention.

23  
24 **Section 7. Prohibition Against Unit Rule.**

25 Unit Rule shall not be permitted in any vote at the State Convention. “Unit Rule,” as used in this  
26 section, means any agreement entered into by any delegation that a majority of the votes from  
27 the delegation on any issue or election will bind the total delegation vote on such issue or  
28 election, unless the agreement is entered into by unanimous vote.

29  
30 **Section 8. Report to the Convention.**

31 The Party Chairperson shall be called upon to present a full report of the State Central  
32 Committee's activities. The Treasurer of the State Central Committee shall report and submit a  
33 financial statement on the financial status of the Party. Both reports shall be included in the  
34 Convention packet for all delegates.

35  
36 **Section 9. Convention Reports to the Delegates.**

37 The Secretary of the State Central Committee shall publish on the website of the Democratic  
38 Party of Hawai‘i the following documents at least five (5) calendar days prior to the date of the  
39 Convention: the proposed changes to the Party Platform, the Constitution and/or Bylaws of the  
40 Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, and the Affirmative Action Plan; proposed resolutions; a list of all  
41 candidates and the positions they seek to be elected to at the State Convention; and the list of all  
42 proposed permanent Convention Committee members. Permanent Convention Committee  
43 members shall be posted to the website as they are appointed/confirmed. The above information  
44 shall be made available to all delegates via the website of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i.



1 **Section 10. Candidate Speeches.**

2 No candidate may be charged a fee to speak at the State Convention.

3  
4 **Section 11. Electronic Voting.**

5 Electronic voting or balloting may be used to adopt any convention business or elect nominees to  
6 any position following procedures provided in the Convention Standing Rules adopted by the  
7 State Central Committee.

8  
9  
10 **ARTICLE VII – REVENUES**

11  
12 **Section 1. [~~Precinct Club and~~] District Council Fund Raising.**

13 Each [~~Precinct Club and~~] District Council shall be entitled to raise such funds as it deems  
14 necessary for the conduct of its business and social affairs, and to meet assessments made by the  
15 County Committee. Such funds shall be raised by assessments, dues or contributions, or by  
16 some specific business or social projects. Where the funds are to be raised by some method  
17 other than assessment, dues, or contributions, such method shall be coordinated by the County  
18 Committee. It shall be the function of the County Committee to prevent conflicts between  
19 various fund raising projects and similar projects on the County and State level.

20  
21 **Section 2. County Committee and State Central Committee Responsibility.**

22 It shall be the duty of the County Committee in each County and the State Central Committee to  
23 raise and maintain as large a fund as possible to help elect all Party candidates in the general  
24 election and to promote understanding and acceptance of the Party program in both the primary  
25 and general election.

26  
27  
28 **ARTICLE VIII – DEMOCRATIC PARTY HEADQUARTERS**

29  
30 **Section 1. Establishment, Maintenance and Operation.**

31 The Democratic Party of Hawai‘i Headquarters shall be established, maintained and operated by  
32 the State Central Committee.

33  
34 **Section 2. Executive Director and Staff.**

35 An Executive Director and staff for the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i may be appointed by the  
36 Chairperson of the State Central Committee with the approval of the State Central Committee.  
37 The Executive Director shall report to the Party Chairperson and assist in implementing the  
38 policies and plans of the State Central Committee. The compensation of the Executive Director  
39 and the budget for the staff shall be determined by the State Central Committee. Paid staff  
40 members, including the Executive Director and those under contract with the Party, shall not be  
41 voting members of the State Central Committee. Employees of the Party shall maintain  
42 neutrality towards political campaigns prior to the completion of the primary election as well as  
43 maintain neutrality in internal party elections above District Secretary.

44  
45 **Section 3. Duty to Support All Democratic Party Organizations.**

46 The Democratic Party of Hawai‘i Headquarters shall serve all Democratic Party organizations in

1 the active and effective performance of their respective duties and responsibilities.

2  
3 **Section 4. Services to be Made Available to All Democrats.**

4 The use of the facilities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Headquarters and its services shall  
5 be made available to all Democrats under such rules as may be prescribed by the State Central  
6 Committee.

7  
8  
9 **ARTICLE IX – GENERAL PROVISIONS**

10  
11 **Section 1. Candidate Support of Platform, Resolutions, Constitution and Bylaws.**

12 The Secretary of the State Central Committee and the Secretary of each County Committee shall  
13 provide each Democratic candidate for elective office with a copy of the most recently approved  
14 State and County Party Platforms, Resolutions, Constitution, and the Bylaws [~~of the Democratic~~  
15 ~~Party of Hawai'i and the respective County Rules~~] within seven (7) calendar days after the  
16 legally established filing deadline. Said candidates shall submit Candidate Statement Forms  
17 provided by the State Central Committee indicating their agreement, disagreement, and/or  
18 reservations with the Platform [~~and Resolutions~~] of the State and County Party organizations  
19 within [~~seven (7)~~] fourteen (14) calendar days after receipt of the blank forms to the State Central  
20 Committee. Should the candidate draw or pull nomination papers prior to the biennial State  
21 Convention, then two (2) sets of Candidate Statement Forms shall be sent, filled out, returned,  
22 and kept on file, one (1) set of forms relevant to the preceding biennial State Convention's  
23 Resolutions and Platform and one (1) set of forms relevant to the current biennial State  
24 Convention's Resolutions and Platform. These Candidate Statement Forms, in turn, will be kept  
25 for review by Democratic Party members at State Party Headquarters, and posted to the  
26 Democratic Party of Hawai'i website until the end of the General Election. Further, relevant  
27 copies of the Candidate Statement Forms shall be made available to the four County Party  
28 Chairpersons so that each inhabited island [~~with at least one (1) active Precinct Club,~~] has one  
29 (1) copy of the Candidate Statement Forms for review by Democratic Party members, with the  
30 exception of Hawai'i County, which shall have two (2), one (1) for East Hawai'i and one (1) for  
31 West Hawai'i. A candidate who is in agreement with the Platform of the State and Party  
32 organizations shall be eligible for Party support upon request. A candidate who fails to abide by  
33 these requirements shall not be eligible for Party [~~endorsement~~] support by the respective County  
34 Committees or the State Central Committee, [~~and is subject to reprimand by the Democratic~~  
35 ~~Party of Hawai'i.~~]

36  
37 **Section 2. Party Sponsored Legislation.**

38 All resolutions adopted at the State Convention that request legislation shall be drafted and  
39 introduced in a timely manner by Party leaders in the appropriate legislative body upon request  
40 by the Party Chairperson.

41  
42 **Section 3. Availability of the Constitution and Bylaws.**

43 [~~It shall be the responsibility of the newly elected State Central Committee to certify as official a~~  
44 ~~complete copy of the newly amended Constitution and/or bylaws of the Democratic Party of~~  
45 ~~Hawai'i.~~] Each member of the State Central Committee and the respective County Committees  
46 shall be [~~provided~~] notified by the Secretary of the State Central Committee that they may access

1 ~~[with]~~ an updated copy of ~~[this]~~ the Constitution and or Bylaws on the Democratic Party of  
2 Hawai'i's website when it is posted. The updated Constitution and or Bylaws shall be posted on  
3 the Democratic Party of Hawai'i website within sixty (60) calendar days of the conclusion of the  
4 State Convention, or in the case of an amendment within sixty (60) calendar days of the date  
5 such amendment was adopted by the State Central Committee. Any member may also receive a  
6 hard copy of this Constitution and Bylaws, upon requesting the same from the Secretary of the  
7 respective County Committee and upon payment of a reasonable fee to cover the cost of copies  
8 and postage.  
9

#### 10 **Section 4. Responsibility for Filling Vacancies in Election Process.**

11 4A. The selection body, as defined in the Constitution, shall meet after proper notice to all  
12 members not later than 12:00 p.m. on the third (3rd) day after the vacancy occurs, but not later  
13 than 12:00 p.m. on the fiftieth (50th) day prior to the primary or special primary election or the  
14 fortieth (40th) day prior to a general, special or special general election. The selection body shall  
15 forward the name of the replacement candidate to the Party Chairperson who shall transmit the  
16 name to the Chief Election Officer or clerk.  
17

18 The replacement candidate shall be a member in “good standing” which means the candidate  
19 shall have been a member of the Party for a minimum of six (6) months prior to the date the  
20 vacancy occurred provided that the candidate is not currently under reprimand pursuant to  
21 Article I of the Constitution of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i. The replacement candidate shall  
22 meet all the qualifications for the office set by law for candidates who file to run in an election  
23 for that office.  
24

25 4B. If for any reason, the selection body most immediately affected by the vacancy is unable for  
26 whatever reason to fill the vacancy in a timely manner, the Party Chairperson may fill the  
27 vacancy.  
28

29 4C. If for any reason, the selection body most immediately affected by the vacancy is unable for  
30 whatever reason to fill the vacancy in a timely manner, the Party Chairperson may fill the  
31 vacancy.  
32

33 4D. Any meeting notice requirements may be waived by the selection body in order to meet the  
34 time requirements of this section.  
35

#### 36 **Section 5. Process to Identify Candidates to Fill Midterm Vacancies.**

37 5A. For a State House or State Senate vacancy, the Party Chairperson shall notify the  
38 appropriate County Chair of the announced vacancy, who in turn shall notify the appropriate  
39 selection body as identified in Sections 9(1) and 9(2) of the Constitution of the Democratic Party  
40 of Hawai'i. The selection body shall make a call for candidates who are members in “good  
41 standing.” A list of at least three (3) names shall be provided to the County Chair to transmit to  
42 the Party Chairperson within twenty-one (21) calendar days. The Party Chairperson shall  
43 transmit the list of names to the Governor's Office within three (3) business days of receipt of  
44 names.  
45

46 A member in “good standing” means that the candidate shall have been a member of the Party or

1 a minimum of six (6) months prior to either the date on which the event occurs that creates a  
2 vacancy during the term of the office or the public announcement of the office holder of their  
3 intent to vacate the office during the term, whichever is appropriate and that the candidate is not  
4 currently under reprimand pursuant to Article I of the Constitution of the Democratic Party of  
5 Hawai‘i. No candidate shall be recommended who does not meet all the qualifications for office  
6 set by law for candidates who file to run in an election for the vacant office.

7  
8 5B. The selection process for a State House or State Senate vacancy shall be conducted in a place  
9 accessible to District Party members.

10  
11 Prospective candidates are to provide to the County Chair for dissemination to the appropriate  
12 selection body (as defined in Sections 9(1) and 9(2) of the Constitution of the Democratic Party  
13 of Hawai‘i) a written application including the following:

- 14 (1) Credentials and reasons for consideration for appointment to the position;
- 15 (2) Evidence of party participation;
- 16 (3) Verified signatures of at least five (5) Party members within the District where the  
17 vacancy has occurred.  
18

19  
20 5C. If for any reason, the body most immediately affected by the vacancy is unable to fill the  
21 vacancy within the stated timeframe, the County Chairperson may recommend the names for an  
22 office within the County or the Party Chairperson may recommend the names for a statewide  
23 office.

24  
25 **Section 6. Smoking.**

26 Smoking shall be prohibited at all Democratic Party events except in designated areas.

27  
28 **Section 7. Prior Consent.**

29 Any person who will be absent from their election meeting and is willing to serve an elected  
30 position shall submit their written consent for presentation at the meeting.

31  
32 **Section 8. Elections.**

33 8A. If unstated, whenever a winner cannot be determined in an election due to a tie, there shall  
34 be an action taken to break the tie with a coin toss or odd man out procedure.

35  
36 8B. Whenever secret ballots are used in an election, after the actual ballot count and election  
37 results have been publicly posted, said ballots shall be destroyed after thirty (30) calendar days of  
38 that posting. If a challenge arises, the appropriate governing body of that election may determine  
39 a later date for the destroying of ballots.

40  
41 **Section 9. Impossibility Provision.**

42 In the event of an emergency, such provisions of these bylaws as deemed necessary, may be  
43 suspended by the State Central Committee at a regular or special meeting. Any suspension under  
44 this provision must describe a compelling interest for the suspension and include specific dates  
45 when the suspense begins and ends.  
46

1 **Section 10. Policies**

2 Written policies formally adopted by the State Central Committee shall remain in effect until  
3 amended or rescinded by the State Central Committee.