

VIRGINIA DELEGATE SELECTION PLAN

FOR THE 2020 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

**ISSUED BY THE
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF VIRGINIA**

(APPROVED SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2019,
INCLUDES TECHNICAL CHANGES SUGGESTED BY DNC RULES AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE ON JULY 30, 2019)

**The Virginia Delegate Selection Plan
For the 2020 Democratic National Convention**

Virginia Delegate Selection Plan For the 2020 Democratic National Convention

Section I Introduction & Description of Delegate Selection Process

A. Introduction

1. This Virginia Delegate Selection Plan for the 2020 Democratic National Convention (“Delegate Selection Plan”) provides the procedure for the selection of delegates and alternates from Virginia who will participate in the 2020 National Democratic Convention.
2. Pursuant to the Democratic National Committee (“DNC”) Call to Convention, Virginia has a total of 124 delegates, consisting of 86 base delegates, 13 party leaders and elected officials, and 25 automatic delegates, and 8 alternates. (*Call I & Appendix B*)
3. The delegate selection process is governed by the *Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States*, the *Delegate Selection Rules for the 2020 Democratic National Convention* (“Rules”), the *Call for the 2020 Democratic National Convention* (“Call”), the *Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee for the 2020 Democratic National Convention* (“Regs.”), the rules of the Democratic Party of Virginia, the Virginia election code, and this Delegate Selection Plan. (*Call II.A*)
4. Following the State Party Committee’s adoption of this Delegate Selection Plan, the State Party shall submit the Plan for review and approval by the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee (“RBC”). The State Party Chair shall be empowered to make any technical revisions to this document as required by the RBC to correct any omissions and/or deficiencies as found by the RBC to ensure its full compliance with Party Rules. Such corrections shall be made by the State Party Chair and the Plan resubmitted to the RBC within 30 days of receipt of notice of the RBC’s findings. (*Reg. 2.5, Reg. 2.6 & Reg. 2.7*)
5. Once this Plan has been found in Compliance by the RBC, any amendment to the Plan by the State Party must be submitted to and approved by the RBC before it becomes effective. (*Reg. 2.9*)

B. Description of Delegate Selection Process

1. Virginia will use a proportional representation system based on the results of the Presidential Preference Primary for apportioning delegates to the 2020 Democratic National Convention.
2. The “first determining step” of Virginia’s delegate selection process will occur on March 3, 2020, with a Presidential Preference Primary (“primary”). The State Board of Elections will certify the primary results by March 17, 2020. The primary results will be used to allocate National Convention delegates. No other elections are held in conjunction with the March 3, 2020 presidential primary.
3. The delegates and alternates to the National Convention will be elected through caucus/convention process by state-level delegates. The primary results will be used to allocate state-level delegates who will be elected at county and city caucuses, held on April 18, 2020, beginning at 12:00 noon, or April 20, 2020, beginning at 7:30 p.m. These state-level delegates will attend congressional district conventions, held on May 2, 9 or 16, 2020, and elect district-level National Convention delegates and alternates and conduct other business. The same state-level delegates shall attend a State Convention, to be held on June 20, 2020 to elect at-large delegates and alternates, pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates, and conduct other business.
4. The state-level delegates and alternates elected in county and city caucuses (or conventions) shall be allocated according to the Presidential Preference Primary and the Party Plan Article 15.1. Pursuant to DNC rules, the 15% threshold shall apply to the election of National Convention delegates and alternates elected at the district and State Conventions. See *Rule 15*. District and State Convention delegates who do not form a candidate caucus that reaches a 15% threshold at the district or state level (“non-viable candidate caucus”) may join another candidate caucus and pledge to that candidate. After joining another candidate caucus, however, the delegates shall remain committed to that candidate throughout the process.
5. If a presidential candidate withdraws from the campaign and releases his or her delegates after the primary, but prior to National Convention delegate selection, that candidate shall still be awarded delegates and alternates elected at the district level. At the state level, however, if a presidential candidate is no longer a candidate at the time of selection of the at-large delegates and alternates, then those at-large slots that would have been allocated to the candidate will be proportionally divided among the remaining preferences entitled to an allocation.

C. Voter Participation

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1. Participation in Virginia's delegate selection process is open to all voters who wish to participate as Democrats. (*Rule 2.A and Rule 2.C.*)
 - a. The deadline to register to vote for the primary is February 17, 2020
 - b. Virginia does not provide for registration by party when registering to vote in Virginia. (*Rule 2.A and Rule 4.3.B.*) Pursuant to the Code of Virginia, Section 24.2-530, voters in the March 3, 2020 Democratic Presidential Primary will publicly declare their Party preference and that preference will be publicly recorded through the maintenance of separate poll books for each party. (*Rules 2.A and Reg. 4.3.A*) Any person is eligible to participate in county and city caucuses if that person is a member of the Democratic Party of Virginia, as defined in Party Plan Article 2, and is a registered voter in the jurisdiction in which that caucus is held.
 - c. To encourage participation by youth in the delegate selection process (and pursuant to state law), any individual who will have turned 18 by the date of the general election will be allowed to participate in the delegate selection process. (*Reg. 4.3.C*)
 - d. At no stage of Virginia's delegate selection process shall any person be required, directly or indirectly, to pay a cost or fee as a condition for participating. Voluntary contributions to the Party may be made, but under no circumstances shall a contribution be mandatory for participation. Specifically, pursuant to Party Plan Section 14.4, “[a] voluntary administrative fee may be requested for participation in any convention. However, no party member shall be excluded from participation in a convention because of not paying a fee. Any Democrat who desires to participate in a convention but who chooses not to pay the requested fee shall be permitted to participate.” (*Rule 2.D & Reg. 4.4*)
 - e. No person shall participate or vote in the nominating process for the Democratic presidential candidate who also participates in the nominating process of any other party for the corresponding election. (*Rule 2.E*)
 - f. Votes shall not be taken by secret ballot at any stage of the delegate selection process, including processes leading up to the selection of DNC Members or State Chairs or Vice Chairs, who serve as DNC members by virtue of their office, except that use of such voting by secret ballot may be used in a process that is the first determining stage of the delegate election process and in which all individual voters who wish to participate as Democrats are eligible to do so. (*Rule 2.F*)

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- g. No person shall vote in more than one (1) meeting which is the first meeting in the delegate selection process. (*Rule 3.E & Reg. 4.7*)
- 2. The DPVA has taken, and continues to take, steps to seek enactment of legislation, rules, and policies at the state and local level to enhance voter and election security, including to accomplish the goals set forth below. DPVA staff and volunteers attend public meetings and interact with agency and staff and legislators to advance these goals.
 - a. Maintain secure and accurate state voter registration rolls, so that every eligible American who registers to vote has their personal information protected and secure (*Rule 2.H.1*): Virginia elections are administered by the Virginia State Board of Elections and Department of Election, which work with Federal, state, and local agencies to ensure election security.¹ Recent initiatives include obtaining a 2018 HAVA grant for election security. Nevertheless a recent state legislative committee study recommended improvements in the functionality and reliability of Virginia's voter registration list system, and DPVA supports necessary improvements.²
 - b. Implement transparent and accurate voter registration list maintenance procedures that comply with federal requirements and ensure that every eligible voter stays on the rolls (*Rule 2.H.2*): The Virginia Department of Elections uses data from sources to maintain their voting roles, including the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) National Change of Address database and Virginia Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV), the U.S. Social Security Administration Master Death File and Virginia Department of Health vital records, which are used to identify deceased voters and prevent fraudulent use of their identity for voting. The U.S. Attorney's Office and Virginia State Police (VSP) regularly provide data that identifies state or federal felony convictions for removal from the registration list. The Department of Elections is also a member of two multistate data exchange partnerships, Crosscheck and ERIC. However, Crosscheck has been reported to have major problems with inaccuracies and voter data security. DPVA will urge the Department of Elections to discontinue use of Crosscheck.
 - c. Promote the acquisition, maintenance, and regular replacement of precinct based optical scan voting systems (*Rule 2.H.3*): This goal has been accomplished and DRE (direct recording electronic) systems have been replaced by optical scan voting systems. Virginia enacted a ban on purchase of

¹ See Department of Elections, Election Security, <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/resultsreports/election-security/index.html>.

² See Virginia General Assembly, JLARC Report, 2018, <http://jlarc.virginia.gov/pdfs/reports/Rpt508.pdf>.

new DRE voting machines as of July 1, 2007, and prohibited the use of DREs in the 2017 election and in all election moving forward.

- d. Ensure that any direct recording electronic systems in place have a voter verified paper record; (*Rule 2.H.4*): DRE systems are not used in Virginia.
 - e. Implement risk limiting post-election audits such as manual audits comparing paper records to electronic records; (*Rule 2.H.5*): Pursuant to Va. Code § 24.2-671.1, the Department of Elections is required to coordinate an annual post-election risk-limiting audit of ballot scanner machines used in Virginia. The audits evaluate the accuracy of the ballot scanner machines. The localities selected for the audit were chosen randomly and every locality must participate in the Department's annual audit at least once during a five-year period. The first such audit was completed in August of 2018.
 - f. Ensure that all voting systems have recognized security measures (*Rule 2.H.6*): The Department of Elections approves voting machines and continues to evaluate improved security measures.
 - g. Use accessible and secure voting machines that make it possible for individuals with disabilities to vote securely and privately (*Rule 2.H.7*): Virginia provides accessible voting,³ including curbside voting but in many locations implementation of these systems can be improved. The DPVA Voter Protection Council works with the DPVA Disability Caucus on voting accessibility improvement issues.
3. In accordance with the Democratic Party's requirement to assess and improve participation with respect to presidential preference and the delegate selection process, the DPVA has in the past retained a voter protection director and/or worked in close coordination with the state coordinated campaign's voter protection director. The DPVA has also established a year-round volunteer Voter Protection Council, which has worked at the local and state level to educate voters (e.g., about voter identification requirements) and supported administrative actions by the State Board of Elections and legislation to make voting easier. See DPVA Resolution, Exhibit 1. Litigation has been brought in Virginia challenging the State's voter identification law and several successful cases have been brought challenging GOP-gerrymandered redistricting. (*Rule 2.I and 2.I.1*)
 - a. Expand access to voting, including by early voting, no excuse absentee, same-day voter registration, and voting by mail; (*Rule 2.I.1.a*): Virginia allows voting in-person prior to Election Day if requirements for obtaining an absentee ballot

³ See Virginia Department of Elections, Accessible Voting, <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/voter-outreach/accessible-voting.html>.

are met. Such voting may take place between 45 and three days prior to Election Day. Localities are not required to provide in-person absentee voting and DPVA voter protection efforts works to have localities expand these opportunities. Virginia allows mail-in absentee voting, but requires an excuse. Absentee ballots can be requested on line and will be sent out starting 45 days before the election. They must be received by the registrar by the end of election day. (*Rule 2.I and 2.I.1*): DPVA has advocated for no-excuse absentee voting. See Exh. 1. DPVA has supported legislation implementing early voting and no excuse absentee voting.

- b. Ensure that voting locations are accessible, fairly placed, and adequate in number, and have a sufficient number of voting machines; (*Rule 2.I.1.b*): DPVA's voter protection program works with the Department of Elections and local Electoral Boards to support addition of new precincts, appropriately located polling places, and a sufficient number of voting machines. It has also supported successful legislation requiring a sufficient number of voting machines.
- c. Speed up the voting process and minimize long lines; (*Rule 2.I.1.c*): DPVA recognizes that long lines are one of the most impactful forms of voter suppression. It has supported legislative efforts to provide adequate resources at polling places, and has brought litigation specifically targeting long lines, which was settled successfully with the Board of Elections. As part of its voter protection program, counsel interact with local registrars in advance of election day to identify and avoid potential delays, and our election day voter protection program and year round voter protection hotline to address problems that may cause long lines as they occur.
- d. Eliminate onerous and discriminatory voter identification requirements; (*Rule 2.I.1.d*): DPVA has supported legislation to change the state's voter identification requirements. DPVA has also engaged in public education programs about required ID, and supported efforts to contact potentially affected voters directly to ensure that they have appropriate IDs.
- e. Count and include in the final total ballots from voters who are eligible to vote but cast their ballots in the wrong precinct, for offices for which they are eligible to vote; and (*Rule 2.I.1.e*): DPVA supports this goal. See Exh. 1
- f. Facilitate military and overseas voting. (*Rule 2. I.1.f*): DPVA supports making military and overseas voting easier. See Exh. 1. It works with Democrats Abroad to publicize voting information and its voter protection hotline assists voters with absentee voting issues.

4. As part of encouraging participation in the delegate selection process by registered voters, DPVA has supported administrative and legislative changes to make voting easier, and has supported the following actions: (*Rule 2.I.2*)
 - a. *Voter registration modernization, including online voter registration and automatic and same-day registration (Rule 2.I.2.a)*: Virginia has adopted online voter registration. DPVA has supported automatic registration and, since 2016, voters who update their address at the DMV are registered or have their registration updated unless they opt out. DPVA has supported expanding such automatic voter registration. DPVA also supports same day registration, although it has not been adopted.
 - b. *Pre-registration of high school students so that they are already registered once they reach voting age (Rule 2.I.2.b)*: Virginia allows seventeen (17) year-olds who will be eighteen (18) by the next general election to register to vote and even to participate in the primary.
 - c. *Restoration of voting rights to all people who have served the time for their criminal conviction, without requiring the payment of court fees or fines (Rule 2.I.2.c)*: The Constitution of Virginia gives the Governor the sole discretion to restore voting rights. An individual is eligible to have their rights restored by the Governor if they have been convicted of a felony and are no longer incarcerated or under active supervision (including supervised probation or parole). Individuals can apply to have their rights restored. The Secretary of the Commonwealth's office also identifies individuals who meet the Governor's standards for rights restoration. Virginia does not require the payment of court fees or fines in order to eligible for rights restoration. DPVA supported legislation to reform the voting rights restoration process, which was introduced, but not adopted, in 2019.
 - d. *Same-day or automatic registration of voters for the Democratic presidential nominating process.] (Rule 2.I.2.d)* : DPVA has supported automatic registration and extension of registration locations to a broad variety of state facilities.
5. Virginia does not register by party, and thus there is no issue with regards to deadlines for voters to switch parties. (*Rule 2.J and Rule 2.J.1*)
6. Scheduling of Delegate Selection Meetings: The dates, times and places for all official Party meetings and events related to the state's delegate selection process have been scheduled to encourage the participation of all Democrats. The meetings will begin and end at reasonable hours and will be located in publicly accessible

facilities. In scheduling the meetings, DPVA will consider religious observations that could significantly affect participation. (*Rule 3.A & Reg. 4.*)

Section II

Presidential Candidates

A. Ballot Access

A presidential candidate gains access to the Virginia presidential preference primary ballot by the following:

- (1) **Ballot Access:** By December 4, 2019, the Chair of the Democratic Party of Virginia will notify the Virginia State Board of Elections in writing of the decision to hold a presidential primary, the method of delegate selection, and requirements for voter participation. Potential candidate petition forms are available from the State Party Committee Headquarters. A presidential candidate gains access to the Virginia Presidential preference primary ballot by complying with the requirements set forth in Virginia Code Section 24.2-545, including by filing with the Virginia State Board of Elections a declaration of candidacy and petitions signed by at least 5,000 qualified voters, including at least 200 qualified voters from each Congressional District in the Commonwealth, who attest that they intend to participate in the Democratic primary. These signatures will be verified by DPVA. There is no statutorily required candidate filing fee. The candidate filing deadline will be December 12, 2019 as determined by the State Board of Elections. “Uncommitted” will not appear on the ballot. Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 24.2-644 (c), voters may not write-in the names of candidates who are not listed on the ballot. Candidates should contact the Virginia State Board of Elections, Washington Building, First Floor, 1100 Bank Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219 (Telephone: 804-864-8901: Toll Free: 800-552-9745; email: info@sbe.state.va.us) to obtain detailed information on procedures adopted by the board. On December 18, 2019, there will be a drawing to determine the order that presidential candidates will be listed on the ballot. (*Rules 1.A.7, 11.C, 14.A, 14.C, 14.D, 14.E, 15.A, 15.B, 15.D, 15.E 15.H*)

The DPVA has received a waiver from the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee granted a waiver pursuant to *Rule 15.E* to allow compliance with the statutory December 2019 primary filing deadline.

- (2) The Democratic Party of Virginia does not prescribe any additional filing or petition requirements. However, it does have guidance on the format for the submission of petition signatures and the process that will be used to conduct signature verification. Candidates should contact DPVA at political@vademocrats.org to obtain the guidance.

B. Other Requirements

1. Each presidential candidate shall certify in writing to the State Democratic Chair, the name(s) of their authorized representative(s) by January 10, 2020. (*Rule 13.D.1*)
2. Each presidential candidate shall use their best efforts to ensure that their respective delegation within the state delegation achieves the affirmative action, outreach and inclusion goals established by this Plan and is equally divided between men and women. (*Rule 6.I*)

Section III

Selection of Delegates and Alternates

A. District-Level Delegates and Alternates

1. Virginia is allocated 65 district-level delegates and 6 district-level alternates. (*Rule 8.C, Call I.B, I.I, & Appendix B*) Pursuant to Reg. 4.34, DPVA has chosen to split the allocation of eight (8) alternates between six (6) District-Level (75%) and two (2) At-Large (25%).
2. District-level delegates and alternates shall be elected pursuant to a Presidential preference primary followed by post-primary district conventions. The process shall be as set forth below.
 - a. The Presidential preference primary will be held on March 3, 2020. The results of that primary shall be used to allocate delegates who will be elected to district conventions and a State Convention.
 - b. As set forth above, counties and cities shall hold caucuses on April 18 or April 20, 2018. These caucuses may be unassembled or assembled and shall follow the procedures set forth in the Party Plan. The caucuses shall be open to all Democrats. Caucuses generally shall elect state-level delegates and alternates to the district and State Conventions. District and State Convention delegates and alternates (state-level delegates and alternates) elected by the county and city caucuses (or conventions) shall be elected in proportion to the percentage each candidate receives in the March 3, 2020 primary.
 - c. Each Congressional District Committee shall conduct a convention for the delegates from that district to the State Convention on May 2, 9, or 16, 2020, as determined by the Congressional District Committee. Congressional district conventions shall be held for the purpose of electing delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention, electing a Democratic Elector from each district, and accomplishing any other business required by the Call to the

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State Convention or set out in the Call to the District Convention. Each Congressional District Democratic Committee shall meet to determine the date and time of its convention and shall advise Democratic Party State Headquarters of such information by February 21, 2020. Each District Committee shall issue a Call to the District Convention by April 1, 2020.

- d. The district conventions shall elect district level delegates (and alternates, if applicable) and conduct other appropriate business. At the district conventions, caucuses electing National Convention delegates and alternates shall be composed of supporters of candidates who have filed declaration forms or signed statements of support for that presidential preference.
 - e. Persons wishing to be elected as National Convention delegates or alternates at district conventions must file a statement of candidacy by 5:00 p.m., 15 days prior to the applicable district conventions, and presidential candidates shall provide lists of approved delegate (and alternate candidates) eight (8) days prior to the convention. Specifically, the candidate filing deadlines shall be April 17, 2020 for May 2, 2020 conventions, April 24, 2020 for May 9, 2020 conventions and May 1, 2020 for May 16, 2020 conventions. See Section III.B.4 below for filing requirements.
3. Apportionment of District-Level Delegates and Alternates
- a. Virginia's district-level delegates and alternates are apportioned among the districts based on a formula giving equal weight to total population and to the average vote for the Democratic candidates in the 2012 and 2016 presidential elections. This formula was selected in order to make sure that Democrats from around the state, including rural areas, had an equal opportunity to attend the convention. (*Rule 8.A, Reg. 4.12, Reg. 4.11 & Appendix A*)
 - b. The number of men and the number of women in the state's total number of district-level delegates and alternates will not vary by more than one. If a congressional district is allocated an even number of delegates, one half will go to the highest male vote-getters and one half to the highest female vote-getters if there are no gender non-binary. The gender of the odd delegates in the affected districts has been determined by a drawing of lots conducted by the Democratic Party of Virginia Executive Director on May 7, 2019 to allocate gender in districts with odd numbered delegates. The results of the drawing have been incorporated into this plan. (*Rule 6.C.1 & Reg. 4.9*)
 - c. The district-level delegates and alternates are apportioned to districts as indicated in the following table:

District	Delegates	Alternates
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	Males*	Females*	Total	Males*	Females*	Total
1	3	3	6			
2	3	2	5			
3	3	4	7	1		1
4	3	3	6	1		1
5	3	3	6			
6	3	2	5			
7	3	3	6		1	1
8	3	4	7	1		1
9	2	2	4			
10	3	3	6		1	1
11	4	3	7		1	1
Total	33	32	65	3	3	6

**(Assuming no gender non-binary delegates are elected.)*

- d. State delegates in the caucus/convention system are assigned based on Article 15.1.a of the Party Plan, a formula giving equal weight to population and to the average of the Democratic vote in the most recent elections for Governor, United States Senator, and United States President. (*Rule 8.B*)

4. District-Level Delegate and Alternate Filing Requirements
 - a. A district-level delegate and alternate candidate may run for election only within the district in which they are registered to vote. (*Rule 13.H*)
 - b. An individual can qualify as a candidate for district-level delegate or alternate to the 2020 Democratic National Convention by filing a statement of candidacy, designating his or her singular presidential preference, and a signed pledge of support for the presidential candidate with the congressional district Democratic committee chair (with a copy to State Party Chair) by 5:00 p.m., 15 days prior to the district convention at which the individual seeks election. (Specifically, the filing deadlines shall be April 17, 2020 for May 2, 2020 conventions, April 24, 2020 for May 9, 2020 conventions, and May 1, 2020 for May 16, 2020 conventions.) The filing address for the State Party Chair will be set forth in the Call to Convention and the filing addresses for Congressional District Chairs will be set forth in the Congressional District Calls to Convention. Candidates for delegate or alternate may modify their singular presidential preference by submitting an updated pledge prior to the deadlines set forth above. Persons need not be congressional district and state delegates to be eligible to run for National Convention delegate. (*Rule 13.B, Rule 15.F & Reg.*)

- 4.23). All information related to filing for any type of delegate can be found at vademocrats.org/delegateselection
- c. All candidates considered for district-level alternate positions must meet the same requirements as candidates for district-level delegate positions except that candidates who were not chosen at the delegate level may be considered at the alternate level. (*Rule 13.C*)
5. Presidential Candidate Right of Review for District-Level Delegates and Alternates
- a. The State Democratic Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than 5:00 pm on April 18, 2020 for May 2, 2020 conventions, April 25, 2020 for May 9, 2020 conventions and May 2, 2020 for May 16, 2020 conventions, a list of all persons who have filed for delegate or alternate pledged to that presidential candidate. (*Rule 13.D & Rule 13.F*)
 - b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must then file with the State Democratic Chair by 5:00 pm on April 24, 2020 for May 2, 2020 conventions, May 1, 2020 for May 9, 2020 conventions, and May 8, 2020 for May 16, 2020 conventions, a list of all such candidates they have approved, provided that approval be given to at least three (3) separate individuals for each position for delegate and three (3) separate individuals for each alternate position to be selected. (*Rule 13.E.1, Reg. 4.24 & Reg. 4.25*)
 - c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate and alternate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate, or the authorized representative(s), signifies otherwise in writing to the State Democratic Chair not later than 5:00 pm on April 24, 2020 for May 2, 2020 conventions, May 1, 2020 for May 9, 2020 conventions, and May 8, 2020 for May 16, 2020 convention.
 - d. National convention delegate and alternate candidates removed from the list of bona fide supporters by a presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), may not be elected as a delegate or alternate at that level pledged to that presidential candidate. (*Rule 13.E & Reg. 4.24*)
 - e. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective district-level delegate candidates and district-level alternate candidates meet the affirmative action and outreach and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of

approved district-level delegate candidates and district-level alternate candidates as indicated in Section III.A.5.b of this Plan. (*Rule 6.I & Reg.4.10.C*)

6. Fair Reflection of Presidential Preference

- a. Presidential Primary - Proportional Representation Plan (*Rule 14.A, Rule 14.B & Rule 14.D*)

The Virginia presidential primary election is a “binding” primary. Accordingly, delegate and alternate positions shall be allocated so as to fairly reflect the expressed presidential preference of the primary voters in each district. The National Convention delegates and alternates selected at the district level shall be allocated in proportion to the percentage of the primary vote won in that district by each preference, except that preferences falling below a 15% threshold shall not be awarded any delegates or alternates.

- b. Within a district, if no presidential preference reaches a 15% threshold, the threshold shall be half the percentage of the vote received in that district by the front-runner. (*Rule 14.F*)
- c. At each district convention, the convention shall divide into caucuses based on presidential candidate preference. The delegates elected who are pledged to a candidate shall participate in that candidate’s caucus. Delegates whose presidential candidates do not meet the 15% threshold may join a candidate caucus by signing a statement of support for that candidate. The candidate caucuses will then elect the proportionate number of National Convention delegates and alternates. Each candidate caucus participant may cast the same number of votes as National Convention delegates to be elected. Each Call to a District Convention electing an alternate shall state whether National Convention delegates and alternates shall be elected at the same time and the caucus that has been awarded an alternate shall elect the next highest vote-getters as alternate, or whether National Convention delegates and alternate shall be elected separately. (*Rule 13.G*)

7. Equal Division of District-Level Delegates and Alternates

- a. To ensure the district-level delegates are equally divided between men and women (determined by gender self-identification) the gender of the first binary delegate elected in each district will be designated. At the time of election of delegates in the district the binary gender advantage will alternate as delegate positions are filled and the alternation shall continue across presidential preferences in order of vote-getting preference. In the case of

- non-binary gender delegates, they shall not be counted in either the male or female category. (*Rule 6.C., Rule 6.C.1 & Reg. 4.10*)
- b. After the delegates are selected, the alternates will be awarded, using the same process described above.
8. Congressional district chairs must certify in writing to the State Party Chair the election of the district-level National Convention delegates and alternates within 24 hours of their election. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) the election of the state's district-level delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention within 10 days after their election. (*Rule 8.C & Call IV.A*)

B. Automatic Delegates

- 1. Automatic Party Leaders and Elected Officials
 - a. The following categories (if applicable) shall constitute the Automatic Party Leaders and Elected Official delegate positions:
 - (1) Members of the Democratic National Committee who legally reside in the state; (*Rule 9.A.1, Call I.F, Call I.J, & Reg. 4.15*)
 - (2) Democratic President and Democratic Vice President (if applicable); (*Rule 9.A.2 & Call I.G*)
 - (3) All of Virginia's Democratic Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate; (*Rule 9.A.3, Call I.H & Call I.J*)
 - (4) The Democratic Governor (if applicable); (*Rule 9.A.4, Call I.H & Call I.J*)
 - (5) "Distinguished Party Leader" delegates who legally reside in the state (if applicable); (*Rule 9.A.5, Call I.G & Reg. 4.14*)
 - b. An Automatic delegate may run and be elected as a Pledged delegate. If an Automatic delegate is elected and certified as a Pledged delegate, that individual shall not serve as an Automatic delegate at the 2020 National Convention. (*Call I.J*)
 - c. The certification process for the Automatic Party Leader and Elected Official delegates is as follows:
 - (1) Not later than March 6, 2020, the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee shall officially confirm to the State Democratic Chair the

- names of the Automatic delegates who legally reside in Virginia. (*Rule 9.A*)
- (2) Official confirmation by the Secretary shall constitute verification of the Automatic delegates from the categories indicated above. (*Call IV.B.1*)
 - (3) The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the DNC the presidential preference of state's Automatic delegates 10 days after the completion of the State's Delegate Selection Process. (*Call IV.C*)
2. For purposes of achieving equal division between delegate men and delegate women within the state's entire convention delegation (determined by gender self-identification), the entire delegation includes all pledged and Automatic delegates, including those who identify as male or female. (*Rule 6.C and Reg. 4.9*)

C. Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) Delegates

1. Virginia is allotted 13 pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) delegates. (*Call I.D, Call I.E & Appendix B*)
2. Pledged PLEO Delegate Filing Requirements
 - a. Individuals shall be eligible for the pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegate positions according to the following priority: big city mayors and state-wide elected officials (to be given equal consideration); state legislative leaders, state legislators, and other state, county and local elected officials and party leaders. Automatic delegates who choose to run for PLEO delegate will be given equal consideration with big city mayors and state-wide elected officials. (*Rule 10.A.1 & Reg. 4.16*)
 - b. An individual can qualify as a candidate for a position as a pledged PLEO delegate by filing a statement of candidacy by 5:00 pm on May 21, 2020, with the State Party Chair. The filing address for the State Party Chair will be set forth in the Call to Convention. (*Rule 10.A.3, Rule 15.G, Reg.4.18 & Reg. 4.17*)
 - c. If persons eligible for pledged PLEO delegate positions have not already made known their presidential preference as candidates for district-level or at-large delegate positions, their preference shall be ascertained through the following alternative procedure: The statement of candidacy filed by PLEO candidates shall include a signed pledge of support for a singular presidential candidate. Candidates for pledged PLEO delegate may modify their singular presidential preference by submitting an updated pledge prior to the deadline set forth above. (*Rule 10.A.3 & Reg. 4.17*)

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3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review
 - a. The State Democratic Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than 5:00 pm on May 21, 2020, a list of all persons who have filed for a party and elected official delegate pledged to that presidential candidate. (*Rule 10.A.3 & Rule 13.D*)
 - b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must file with the State Democratic Chair, by 5:00 pm on May 27, 2020, a list of all such candidates they have approved, as long as approval is given to at least two (2) names for every position to which the presidential candidate is entitled. (*Rule 10.A.3, Rule 13.D.3, Rule 13.E.2, & Reg. 4.25*)
 - c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate or the authorized representative(s) signifies otherwise in writing to the State Democratic Chair not later than 5:00 pm on May 27, 2020. (*Rule 13.D*)
 - d. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective pledged PLEO delegate candidates meet the affirmative action and outreach and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved pledged PLEO candidates as indicated in Section III.C.3.b of this Plan. (*Rule 6.I & Reg. 4.10.C*)
4. Selection of Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates
 - a. The pledged PLEO slots shall be allocated among presidential preferences on the same basis as the at-large delegates. (*Rule 10.A.2, Rule 11.C, Rule 14.E & Rule 14.F*)
 - b. Selection of the pledged PLEO delegates will occur at the June 20, 2020 Convention, which is after the election of district-level delegates and alternates and prior to the selection of at-large delegates and alternates. Persons may file for both pledged PLEO and at-large delegate positions at the same time. (*Rule 10.A*)
 - c. Pledged PLEO delegates will be selected by delegates to the State Convention. (*Rule 10.B*)
5. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the election of the state's pledged Party Leader and Elected

Official delegates to the Democratic National Convention within 10 days after their election. (*Call IV.A & Reg. 5.4.A*)

D. At-Large Delegates and Alternates

1. The state of Virginia is allotted 21 at-large delegates and 2 at-large alternates. (*Rule 8.C, Call I.B, II, Appendix B & Reg. 4.34*)
2. At-Large Delegate and Alternate Filing Requirements
 - a. Persons desiring to seek at-large delegate or alternate positions may file a statement of candidacy designating their singular presidential preference and a signed pledge of support for the presidential candidates with the State Party by 5:00 pm on May 21, 2020. A delegate or alternate candidate may modify their singular presidential preference by submitting an updated pledge of support no later than the filing deadline. (*Rule 13.A., Rule 13.B, Rule 15.G, Reg. 4.22, Reg. 4.23, & Reg. 4.31*)
 - b. The statement of candidacy for at-large delegates and for at-large alternates will be the same. After the at-large delegates are elected by state convention delegates, those persons not chosen will then be considered candidates for at-large alternate positions unless they specify otherwise when filing. (*Rule 19.A*)
3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review
 - a. The State Democratic Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than 5:00 pm on May 21, 2020, a list of all persons who have filed for delegate or alternate pledged to that presidential candidate. (*Rule 13.D*) (*Reg. 4.24.D & Reg. 4.31.C*)
 - b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must then file with the State Democratic Chair, within 30 minutes after the selection of PLEO delegates, a list of all such candidates they have approved, provided that, at a minimum, two (2) names remain(s) for every national convention delegate or alternate position to which the presidential candidate is entitled. (*Rule 13.D.4, Rule 13.E.2 & Reg. 4.25*)
 - c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate or the authorized representative(s) signifies otherwise in writing to the State Democratic Chair not later than not later than 30 minutes after the selection of the PLEO delegates.

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- d. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective at-large delegate candidates and at-large alternate candidates meet the affirmative action and outreach and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action and Outreach and Inclusion section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved at-large delegate candidates and at-large alternate candidates as indicated in this Section.
4. Fair Reflection of Presidential Preference
- a. At-large delegate and alternate positions shall be allocated among presidential preferences according to the state-wide primary vote. (*Rule 11.C*)
 - b. Preferences which have not attained a 15% threshold on a state-wide basis shall not be entitled to any at-large delegates. (*Rule 14.E*)
 - c. If no presidential preference reaches a 15% threshold, the threshold shall be half the percentage of the statewide vote received by the front-runner. (*Rule 14.F*)
 - d. If a presidential candidate otherwise entitled to an allocation is no longer a candidate at the time of selection of the at-large delegates, their allocation will be proportionally divided among the other preferences entitled to an allocation. (*Rule 11.C*)
 - e. If a given presidential preference is entitled to one (1) or more delegate positions but would not otherwise be entitled to an alternate position, that preference shall be allotted one (1) at-large alternate position. (*Rule 19.B, Call I.I & Reg. 4.33*)
5. Selection of At-Large Delegates and Alternates
- a. The selection of the at-large delegates and alternates will occur at State Convention on June 20, 2020, at a time after the pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates have been selected. (*Rule 11.B & Rule 11.B, Call III*)
 - b. Priority of Consideration
 - (1) In the selection of the at-large delegation priority of consideration shall be given to African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and women, if such priority of consideration is needed to fulfill the affirmative action goals outlined in the state's Delegate Selection Plan. (*Rule 6.A.3*)

- (2) To continue the Democratic Party's ongoing efforts to include groups historically under-represented in the Democratic Party's affairs and to assist in the achievement of full participation by these groups, priority of consideration shall be given other groups by virtue of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identify, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, economic status or disability. (*Rule 5.C, Rule 6.A.3, Rule 7 & Reg. 4.8*)
 - (3) The election of at-large delegates and alternates shall be used, if necessary, to achieve the equal division of positions between men and women as far as mathematically practicable, and may be used to achieve the representation goals established in the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program section of this Plan. (*Rule 6.A, Rule 6.C and Reg. 4.9*)
 - (4) Delegates and alternates are to be considered separate groups for this purpose. (*Rule 6.C.1, Rule 11.A, Reg. 4.9 & Reg. 4.20*)
6. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the election of the state's at-large delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention within 10 days after their election. (*Rule 8.C & Call IV.A*)

E. Replacement of Delegates and Alternates

- 1. A pledged delegate or alternate may be replaced according to the following guidelines:
 - a. Permanent Replacement of a Delegate: (*Rule 19.D.3*)
 - (1) A permanent replacement occurs when a delegate resigns or dies prior to or during the national convention and the alternate replaces the delegate for the remainder of the National Convention.
 - (2) Any alternate permanently replacing a delegate shall be of the same presidential preference and gender of the delegate they replace, and to the extent possible shall be from the same political subdivision within the state as the delegate.
 - (a) In the case where the presidential candidate has only one (1) alternate, that alternate shall become the certified delegate.

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- (b) If a presidential candidate has only one (1) alternate, and that alternate permanently replaces a delegate of a different gender, thereby causing the delegation to no longer be equally divided, the delegation shall not be considered in violation of Rule 6.C. In such a case, notwithstanding Rule 19.D.2, the State Party Committee shall, at the time of a subsequent permanent replacement, replace a delegate with a person of a different gender, in order to return the delegation to equal division of men and women. (*Reg. 4.36*)
- (3) If a delegate or alternate candidate who has been elected but not certified to the DNC Secretary resigns, dies, or is no longer eligible to serve, they shall be replaced, after consultation with the State Party, by the authorized representative of the presidential candidate to whom they are pledged. (*Rule 19.D.2*)
 - a. Temporary Replacement of a Delegate: (*Rule 19.D.4*)
 - (1) A temporary replacement occurs when a delegate is to be absent for a limited period of time during the convention and an alternate temporarily acts in the delegate's place.
 - (2) Any alternate who temporarily replaces a delegate must be of the same presidential preference as the delegate they replace, and to the extent possible shall be of the same gender and from the same political subdivision within the state as the delegate.
 - b. The following system will be used to select permanent and temporary replacements of delegates: The delegate chooses the alternate. (*Rule 19.D.1*)
 - c. Certification of Replacements
 - (1) Any alternate who permanently replaces a delegate shall be certified in writing to the Secretary of the DNC by the State Democratic Chair. (*Rule 19.D.3*)
 - (2) Permanent replacement of a delegate (as specified above) by an alternate and replacement of a vacant alternate position shall be certified in writing by Virginia's Democratic Chair to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the replacement is selected. (*Call IV.D.1*)
 - (3) Certification of permanent replacements will be accepted by the Secretary up to 72 hours before the first official session of the Convention is scheduled to convene. (*Call IV.D.1 & Reg. 4.35*)

- (4) In the case where a pledged delegate is permanently replaced after 72 hours before the time the first session is scheduled to convene or, in the case where a pledged delegate is not on the floor of the Convention Hall at the time a roll call vote is taken, an alternate may be designated (as specified above) to cast the delegate's vote. In such case, the Delegation Chair shall indicate the name of the alternate casting the respective delegate's vote on the delegation tally sheet. (*Call IX.F.3.e, Call IX.F.3.c & Reg. 5.6*)
 - d. A vacant alternate position shall be filled by the delegation. The replacement shall be of the same presidential preference, of the same gender and, to the extent possible, from the same political subdivision as the alternate being replaced. (*Rule 19.E*)
2. Automatic delegates shall not be entitled to a replacement, nor shall the state be entitled to a replacement, except under the following circumstances: (*Call IV.D.2 & Reg. 4.37*)
 - a. Members of Congress and the Democratic Governor shall not be entitled to name a replacement. In the event of changes or vacancies in the state's Congressional Delegation, following the official confirmation and prior to the commencement of the National Convention, the DNC Secretary shall recognize only such changes as have been officially recognized by the Democratic Caucus of the U.S. House of Representatives or the Democratic Conference of the U.S. Senate. In the event of a change or vacancy in the state's office of Governor, the DNC shall recognize only such changes as have been officially recognized by the Democratic Governors' Association. (*Call IV.D.2.a*)
 - b. Members of the Democratic National Committee shall not be entitled to a replacement, nor shall the state be entitled to a replacement, except in the case of death of such delegates. In the case where the state's DNC membership changes following the DNC Secretary's official confirmation, but prior to the commencement of the 2020 Democratic National Convention, acknowledgment by the Secretary of the new DNC member certification shall constitute verification of the corresponding change of Automatic delegates. (*Call IV.D.2.b*)
 - c. Automatic distinguished Party Leader delegates allocated to the state pursuant to Rule 9.A.(5), shall not be entitled to name a replacement, nor shall the state be entitled to name a replacement. (*Call IV.D.2.c*)
 - d. In no case may an alternate cast a vote for an Automatic delegate. (*Call IX.F.3.e*)

Section IV

Selection of Convention Standing Committee Members

A. Introduction

1. Virginia has been allocated four (4) member(s) on each of the three (3) standing committees for the 2020 Democratic National Convention (Credentials, Platform and Rules), for a total of 12 members. (*Call VII.A & Appendix D*)
2. Members of the Convention Standing Committees need not be delegates or alternates to the 2020 Democratic National Convention. (*Call VII.A.3*)
3. These members will be selected in accordance with the procedures indicated below. (*Rule 1.G*)

B. Temporary Standing Committee Members

1. Temporary members for the Convention Platform Standing Committee, will be selected by the State Central Committee at a meeting on February 15, 2020. The meeting shall be open to the public and well publicized in accordance with this Plan. Members of State Central Committee shall receive timely notice of the meeting, in accordance with State Party rules. (*Call VII.G.2*)
2. Any Democrat may apply for a position as a temporary member of the platform standing committee. Persons wishing to be considered must submit an application to the State Party Chair by 5:00 pm on February 8, 2020. The application will be available at vademocrats.org/delegateselection
3. The male and female membership of the platform standing committee shall be as equally divided among men and women (determined by self-identification) as possible under the state allocation; i.e. the variance between men and women on the committee. (*Call VII.E.2*) In the case of gender non-binary committee members, they shall not be counted as either a male or female, and the remainder of the standing committee members shall be equally divided between male gender (men) and female gender (women). (*Call VII.E.1*)
4. Temporary members serve only in the event that the respective standing committee is called to meet prior to completion of the state's delegate selection process and subsequent selection of permanent standing committee members. No temporary member may continue to serve after the selection of the permanent standing committee members unless they are elected as a permanent member. (*Call VII.G.3*)

5. Temporary members selected after the first determining step has occurred in a state shall reflect the Presidential preferences so established. (*Call VII.G.3*)
6. The State Chair shall certify the temporary standing committee members in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after their selection. Substitutions in a state's list of temporary members may only be made up to ten (10) days prior to the time the standing committee meets. Substitute temporary standing committee members will be selected at a meeting of the State Central Committee in accordance with the provisions outlined above. (*Call VII.B.3 and Call VII.G.4*)

C. Standing Committee Members

1. Selection Meeting
 - a. The members of the standing committees shall be elected by a quorum of Virginia's National Convention delegates, at a meeting to be held on June 21, 2020 (the day after the State Convention). (*Call VII.B.1*)
 - b. All members of the delegation shall receive adequate notice of the time, date and place of the meeting to select the standing committee members. (*Call VII.B.1*)
2. Allocation of Members
 - a. The members of the standing committees allocated to Virginia shall proportionately represent the presidential preference of all candidates receiving the threshold percentage used in the state's delegation to calculate the at-large apportionment pursuant to Rule 14.E. of the Delegate Selection Rules. (*Call VII.C.1 & Reg. 5.9*)
 - b. The presidential preference of each candidate receiving the applicable percentage or more within the delegation shall be multiplied by the total number of standing committee positions allocated to Virginia. If the result of such multiplication does not equal 0.455 or above, the presidential preference in question is not entitled to representation on the standing committee. If the result of such multiplication is 0.455 but less than 1.455, the presidential preference is entitled to one (1) position. Those preferences securing more than 1.455 but less than 2.455 are entitled to two (2) positions, etc. (*Call VII.C.2*)
 - c. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation exceeding the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is farthest from its eventual rounded-off total

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shall be denied that one (1) additional position. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation falling short of the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is closest to the next rounding level shall be allotted an additional committee position. (*Call VII.C.3*)

- d. Standing committee positions allocated to a presidential candidate shall be proportionately allocated, to the extent practicable, to each of the three (3) standing committees. When such allocation results in an unequal distribution of standing committee positions by candidate preference, a drawing shall be conducted to distribute the additional positions. (*Call VII.C.4*)
3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review
 - a. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), shall be given adequate notice of the date, time and location of the meeting of the state's delegation authorized to elect standing committee members. (*Call VII.D.1*)
 - b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must submit to the State Democratic Chair, by June 20, 2020, a minimum of (1) name for each slot awarded to that candidate for members of each committee. The delegation shall select the standing committee members from among names submitted by the presidential candidates. Presidential candidates shall not be required to submit the name of more than one (1) person for each slot awarded to such candidate for members of standing committees. (*Call VII.D.2*)
 4. Selection Procedure to Achieve Equal Division
 - a. Presidential candidates shall use their best efforts to ensure that their respective delegation of standing committee members shall achieve Virginia's affirmative action, outreach and inclusion goals and that their respective male and female members are equally divided between the men and women determined by gender self-identification. (*Rule 6.1 & Reg. 4.10*)
 - b. The first binary gender position on each standing committee shall be assigned by binary gender as self-identified. The first binary position on the Credentials Committee of the presidential candidate with the most standing committee positions shall be designated for a female, and the next binary position, if one occurs, will be designated for a male, and the remaining binary positions, to the extent they occur, shall be designated in like fashion, alternating between males and females, where applicable. For avoidance of doubt: there is no requirement that positions be assigned to gender non-binaries but the described alternation of binary genders may not be used to exclude a gender

non-binary from consideration for a committee position. Positions for presidential candidates on each committee shall be ranked according to the total number of standing positions allocated to each such candidate. After positions on the Credentials Committee are designated by gender, the designation shall continue with the Platform Committee, then the Rules Committee.

- (1) A separate election shall be conducted for membership on each standing committee.
- (2) The male and female membership of the standing committees shall be as equally divided among the men and women as possible under the state allocation; the variance between men and women in any committee or among the three committees in aggregate shall not exceed one. (*Call VII.E.2*)
- (3) Gender non-binary committee members shall not be counted as either a male or female, and the remainder of the delegation shall be equally divided between male gender (men) and female gender (women). (*Call VII.E.1*)
- (4) The positions allocated to each presidential candidate on each committee shall be voted on separately, and the winners shall be the highest vote-getter(s) of the appropriate gender.

5. Certification and Substitution

- a. The State Democratic Chair shall certify the standing committee members in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after their selection. (*Call VII.B.3*)
- b. No substitutions will be permitted in the case of standing committee members, except in the case of resignation or death. Substitutions must be made in accordance with the rules and the election procedures specified in this section, and must be certified in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the substitute member is selected but not later than 48 hours before the respective standing committee meets, except in the case of death. (*Call VII.B.4*)

Section V

Delegation Chair and Convention Pages

A. Introduction

Virginia will select one (1) person to serve as Delegation Chair and three (3) persons to serve as Convention Pages. (*Call IV.E, Call IV.F.1 & Appendix C*)

B. Delegation Chair

1. Selection Meeting
 - a. The Delegation Chair shall be selected by a quorum of the state's National Convention Delegates, at a meeting to be held on June 21, 2020. (*Call IV.E & Call VII.B.1*)
 - b. All members of the delegation shall receive timely notice of the time, date and place of the meeting to select the Delegation Chair. (*Rule 3.C*)
2. The State Democratic Chair shall certify the Delegation Chair in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after their selection. (*Call IV.E*)

C. Convention Pages

1. 3 individuals will be selected to serve as Virginia's Convention Pages by the State Democratic Chair in consultation with the members of the Democratic National Committee from the state. This selection will take place June 21, 2020. (*Call IV.F.3, Appendix C & Reg. 5.7*)
2. The Convention Pages shall be as evenly divided between men and women (determined by self-identification) as possible under the state allocation and shall reflect as much as possible, the Affirmative Action and Outreach and Inclusion guidelines in the state plan. In the case of gender non-binary pages, they shall not be counted as either a male or female, and the remainder of the pages shall be equally divided. (*Reg. 5.7.A*)
3. The State Democratic Chair shall certify the individuals to serve as Virginia's Convention Pages in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the selection. (*Call IV.F.3 & Reg. 5.7.B*)

Section VI
Presidential Electors

A. Introduction

Virginia will select thirteen (13) persons to serve as Presidential Electors for the 2020 Presidential election.

B. Selection of Presidential Electors

Eleven (11) Presidential Electors shall be selected by the state delegates of each Congressional District Convention. Two (2) Presidential Electors shall be elected by the state delegates during State Convention. Candidates for electors can run by filing a statement of candidacy for electors representing congressional districts by 5:00 pm on April 17, 2020 for May 2, 2020 conventions, April 24, 2020 for May 9, 2020 conventions, and May 1, 2020 for May 16, 2020 conventions, and on 5:00 pm May 21, 2020 for candidates running for the 2 electors elected during state convention, with the State Party Chair. The filing address for the State Party Chair will be set forth in the Call to Convention. The State Party Chair will certify the electors to the State Board of Elections by 12:00 pm on August 21, 2020. (*Call VIII*)

C. Affirmation

1. Each candidate for Presidential Elector shall certify in writing that they will vote for the election of the Democratic Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees. (*Call VIII*)
2. In the selection of the Presidential Electors, the State Party will take the following steps to ensure the persons selected are bona fide Democrats who are faithful to the interests, welfare, and success of the Democratic Party of the United States, who subscribe to the substance, intent and principles of the Charter and the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States: Candidates for Elector have to sign the following statement, "I, the undersigned, certify that I am a Democrat, am a registered voter in _____, subscribe to the principles of the Democratic Party, do not intend to support any candidate who is opposed to a Democratic Nominee in the next ensuing election, and will not participate in the nominating process of any other political party." Under State Code § 24.2-542, Electors are required to vote for their party's nominee and they must submit a signed and notarized oath to that effect. (*Call VIII*)

Section VII
General Provisions and Procedural Guarantees

- A. The Virginia Democratic Party reaffirms its commitment to an open party by incorporating the “six basic elements” as listed below. As our Party strives to progress in the fight against discrimination of all kinds, these six basic elements have evolved and grown along with the constant push for more inclusion and empowerment. These provisions demonstrate the intention of the Democratic Party to ensure a full opportunity for all minority group members to participate in the delegate selection process. (*Rule 4.A, Rule 4.B & Rule 4.C*)
 - 1. All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party in Virginia should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, economic status or disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as “status”). (*Rule 4.B.1*)
 - 2. No test for membership in, nor any oaths of loyalty to, the Democratic Party in Virginia should be required or used which has the effect of requiring prospective or current members of the Democratic Party to acquiesce in, condone or support discrimination based on “status.” (*Rule 4.B.2*)
 - 3. The time and place for all public meetings of the Democratic Party in Virginia on all levels should be publicized fully and, in such manner, as to assure timely notice to all interested persons. Such meetings must be held in places accessible to all Party members and large enough to accommodate all interested persons. (*Rule 4.B.3*)
 - 4. The Democratic Party in Virginia, on all levels, should support the broadest possible registration without discrimination based on “status.” (*Rule 4.B.4*)
 - 5. The Democratic Party in Virginia should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the legal and practical procedures for selection of Democratic Party officers and representatives on all levels. Publication of these procedures should be done in such fashion that all prospective and current members of the State Democratic Party will be fully and adequately informed of the pertinent procedures in time to participate in each selection procedure at all levels of the Democratic Party organization. As part of this, the State Democratic Party should develop a strategy to provide education programs directly to voters who continue to experience confusing timelines for registration, changing party affiliation deadlines, or lack of awareness of the process for running for delegate, to ensure all Democratic voters understand the rules and timelines and their impact on voter participation. (*Rule 4.B.5*)
 - 6. The Democratic Party in Virginia should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties, a complete description of the legal and practical qualifications of all positions as officers and representatives of the State

Democratic Party. Such publication should be done in timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected or appointed position within each State Democratic Party will have full and adequate opportunity to compete for office. (*Rule 4.B.6*)

- B. Discrimination on the basis of “status” in the conduct of Democratic Party affairs is prohibited. (*Rule 5.B*)
- C. Virginia’s delegation shall be equally divided between delegate men and delegate women, and alternate men and alternate women, i.e. the number of men and women shall not vary by more than one. Such goal applies to the entire delegation, which includes all pledged delegates and alternates and all automatic delegates. Delegates and alternates shall be considered separate groups for purposes of achieving equal division as determined by gender self-identification. In the case of gender non-binary delegates or alternates, they shall not be counted as either a male or female, and the remainder of the delegation shall be equally divided by gender. (*Rule 6.C*)
- D. All delegate and alternate candidates must be identified as to presidential preference at all levels which determine presidential preference. (*Rule 13.A*)
- E. No delegate at any level of the delegate selection process shall be mandated by law or Party rules to vote contrary to that person’s presidential choice as expressed at the time the delegate is elected. (*Rule 13.I*)
- F. Delegates elected to the national convention pledged to a presidential candidate shall in all good conscience reflect the sentiments of those who elected them. (*Rule 13.J*)
- G. Each delegate, alternate and standing committee member must be a bona fide Democrat, who is faithful to the interests, welfare and success of the Democratic Party of the United States, who subscribes to the substance, intent and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States, and who will participate in the Convention in good faith. (*Rule 13.H, Call VII.A.4 & Reg. 4.26*)
- H. Forty percent (40%) of the members of any Party body above the first level of the delegate selection process shall constitute a quorum for any business pertaining to the selection of National Convention delegates, alternates, standing committee members, and other official Convention participants. (*Rule 16*)
- I. Proxy voting is prohibited by Article 10.1 of the DPVA Party Plan. (*Rule 17 & Reg. 4.32*)
- J. The unit rule, or any rule or practice whereby all members of a Party unit or delegation may be required to cast their votes in accordance with the will of a majority of the body, shall not be used at any stage of the delegate selection process. (*Rule 18.A*)

- K. Any individual or group of Democrats may sponsor or endorse a slate of candidates for convention delegates. But no slate may, by virtue of such endorsement, receive a preferential place on a delegate selection ballot or be publicly identified on the ballot as the official Democratic Party organization slate, and all slates must meet identical qualifying requirements for appearing on a ballot at all levels of the delegate selection process. (*Rule 18.B*)
- L. All steps in the delegate selection process, including the filing of presidential candidates, must take place within the calendar year of the Democratic National Convention, except with respect to the implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Programs. (*Rule 1.F & Rule 12.B*)
- M. In electing and certifying delegates and alternates to the 2020 Democratic National Convention, the State Democratic Party hereby undertakes to assure all Democratic voters in Virginia, a full, timely and equal opportunity to participate in the delegate selection process and in all Party affairs and to implement affirmative action and outreach and inclusion plans toward that end; that the delegates and alternates to the Convention shall be selected in accordance with the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2020 Democratic National Convention; and that the delegates certified will not publicly support or campaign for any candidate for President or Vice President other than the nominees of the Democratic National Convention. (*Call II.B*)

Section VIII

Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program

A. Statement of Purpose and Organization

- 1. Purpose and Objectives
 - a. To make sure that the Democratic Party at all levels be an open Party which includes rather than excludes people from participation, a program of effective affirmative action is hereby adopted by Virginia. (*Rule 5.A*)
 - b. Discrimination on the basis of “status” in the conduct of Democratic Party affairs is prohibited. (*Rule 5.B*)
 - c. All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party in Virginia should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, economic status or disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as “status”). (*Rule 4.B.1*)

- d. Consistent with the Democratic Party's commitment to including groups historically under-represented in the Democratic Party's affairs, by virtue of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or disability, Virginia has established goals for these groups. (*Rule 5.C & Reg. 4.8*)
 - e. To encourage full participation by all Democrats in the delegate selection process and in all Party affairs, the Democratic Party of Virginia has adopted and will implement programs with specific goals and timetables for African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and women. To further encourage full participation in the process, the State Party has established goals and timetables for other underrepresented groups, including the LGBTQ+ community, people with disabilities, and youth. The Democratic Party of Virginia shall use its outreach efforts to encourage all Virginia Democrats to vote in the Democratic Presidential Primary. (*Rule 6.A & Rule 7*)
 - (1) The goal of the programs shall be to encourage participation in the delegate selection process and in Party organizations at all levels by the aforementioned groups as indicated by their presence in the Democratic electorate. (*Rule 6.A.1*)
 - (2) For the delegate selection process, "Youth" is defined as any participant younger than 36 years old at the time of election. (*Reg. 5.3.A*)
 - (3) For the delegate selection process, individuals identifying as Native Americans should provide their tribal affiliation and indicate if they are enrolled in a tribe. (*Reg. 5.3.B*)
 - (4) These goals shall not be accomplished either directly or indirectly by the Party's imposition of mandatory quotas at any level of the delegate selection process or in any other Party affairs. (*Rule 6.A.2*)
2. Organizational Structure
- a. An Affirmative Action Committee was appointed by the State Democratic Chair on March 4, 2019. (*Rule 6.F*)
 - b. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the Democratic National Committee the compliance of the State's Affirmative Action Committee with Rules 5.C, 6.A and 7, and submit the names, demographic data and contact information of the members no later than 15 days after their appointment. (*Reg. 2.2.J*)

- c. The Committee shall consist of members who are regionally diverse and represent the Democratic constituency groups set forth in the Introduction to the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program.
 - d. The Affirmative Action Committee shall be responsible for:
 - (1) Helping develop and design the proposed Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program and making recommendations to the State Democratic Chair. (*Rule 6.F*)
 - (2) Directing the implementation of all requirements of the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program section of this Plan.
 - (3) Implementing a specific outreach and financial assistance program for persons of low and moderate income to encourage their participation and representation in the national convention delegation. (*Rule 6.G*)
 - (4) Ensuring, on behalf of the State Party Committee, that district lines used in the delegate selection process are not gerrymandered to discriminate against African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and women. (*Rule 6.E*)
 - e. Financial and staff support for the Affirmative Action Committee shall be provided by the State Party Committee to the greatest extent feasible, including, but not limited to, making available on a priority basis, the State Party staff and volunteers, and covering all reasonable costs incurred in carrying out this Plan.
3. Implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program shall begin on September 13, 2019, with the distribution of the press kits, and will continue through the end of the delegate selection process. (*Rule 1.F*)

B. Representation Goals

- 1. In cooperation with the National Committee, the State Party has determined the demographic composition of African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the state's Democratic electorate. These constituency percentages shall be established as goals for representation in the state's convention delegation. (*Rule 6.A*)
- 2. In cooperation with the National Committee, the State Party has determined the demographic composition of members of the LGBTQ+ community, people with disabilities, and youth in the state's Democratic electorate. The State Party has

Virginia 2020 Delegate Selection Plan

chosen to establish these percentages as goals for representation in the state's convention delegation. (*Rule 7 & Reg. 4.8.C.iii*)

3. The Democratic National Committee provided the following calculations to the Democratic Party of Virginia.

	African Americans	Hispanics	Native Americans	Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders	LGBTQ+ Americans	People with Disabilities	Youth
Percent in Democratic Electorate	30%	7%	0%	6%	5%	14%	34%
Numeric Goals for Delegation	40	9	0	8	7	18	45

4. Although Native Americans do not have a numerical targeted goal, the Democratic Party of Virginia is committed to full inclusion of Native Americans and will seek to elect at least one Native American Delegate or Alternate. The Party will also encourage the election of delegates and alternates belonging to groups identified in Section VII.A.1.d.
5. When selecting the at-large portion of the delegation, the demographic composition of the other delegates (district-level, pledged PLEO, and Automatic) shall be compared with the State Party's representation goals to achieve an at-large selection process that helps to bring about a representative balance. (*Rule 11.A*)
6. Although the selection of the at-large delegation may be used to fulfill the affirmative action goals established by this Plan, the State Party will conduct outreach and inclusion activities such as recruitment, education and training at all levels of the delegate selection process. (*Rule 6.A.3*)

C. Efforts to Educate on the Delegate Selection Process

1. Well-publicized educational workshops will be conducted in each of the delegate districts, either in person or through a webinar, beginning in September 2019. These workshops will be designed to encourage participation in the delegate selection process, including apprising potential delegate and alternate candidates of the availability of financial assistance. These workshops will be held in places that are easily accessible to persons with disabilities. The times, dates, places and rules for the conduct of all education workshops, meetings and other events involved in the delegate selection process shall be effectively publicized by the party organization

and include mailings to various organizations representative of the Democratic voting electorate. (*Rule 3.A, Rule 3.C & Rule 3.D*)

2. A speakers bureau of volunteers from the State Party, including the Affirmative Action Committee, shall be comprised of individuals who are fully familiar with the process, will be organized to appear before groups, as needed, to provide information concerning the process.
3. The State Party's education efforts will include outreach to community leaders within the Democratic Party's constituencies and making sure that information about the delegate selection process is available to Democratic clubs and Party caucuses representing specific constituencies.
4. The State Party will publish and make available at no cost: a clear and concise explanation of how Democratic voters can participate in the delegate selection process. As well, the State Party shall also make available copies of the State Party Rules, the Delegate Selection Plan (and its attachments), the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program, and relevant state statutes at no cost. Copies of documents related to the state's delegate selection process will be prepared and the State Party and Affirmative Action Committee will distribute them in the various delegate districts not later than September 13, 2019. (*Rule 1.H*)
5. Participation in the delegate selection process shall be open to all voters who wish to participate as Democrats. Democratic voters shall be those persons who publicly declare their Party preference and have that preference publicly recorded. (*Rule 2.A*)
6. The State Party shall take all feasible steps to encourage non-affiliated voters and new voters to register or enroll, to provide simple procedures through which they may do so and to eliminate excessively long waiting periods for voters wish to register or to change their party enrollment status. (*Rule 2.C*)
7. The Affirmative Action Committee will develop a State Party strategy to be implemented beginning September 13, 2019, that will provide education programs directly to voters who continue to experience confusing timelines for registration, changing party affiliation deadlines, or lack of awareness of the process for running for delegate, to ensure all Democratic voters understand the rules and timelines and their impact on voter participation. (*Rule 4.B.5*)

D. Efforts to Publicize the Delegate Selection Process

1. The State Party shall direct special attention to publicizing the delegate selection process in the state. Such publicity shall include information on eligibility to vote and how to become a candidate for delegate, the time and location of each stage of the delegate selection process, and where to get additional information. The foregoing

information will also be published in the State Party communications and on the State Party's website. The Party organization, official, candidate, or member calling a meeting or scheduling an event, shall effectively publicize the role that such meeting or event plays in the selection of delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention. (*Rule 3.C & Rule 3.D*)

2. The State Party shall have a Delegate Selection Media Plan for using all available and appropriate resources, such as social media, websites, newspapers, radio and television, to inform the general public how, when and where to participate in the delegate selection process. Specifically, the Delegate Selection Media Plan will provide details as to how to qualify to run as a delegate candidate. Regular updates should be posted/released throughout the state's delegate selection process to ensure broad and timely coverage and awareness about the process to all interested persons. (*Rule 4.B.3 & Rule 6.D*)
3. A priority effort, as described in the Delegate Selection Media Plan, shall be directed at publicity among the Democratic Party's constituencies.
 - a. Information about the delegate selection process will be posted on and made available to social and specialty media directed toward the Democratic constituency groups set forth in the introduction of this Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program.
 - b. The State Party shall be responsible for the implementation of this publicity effort. For purposes of providing adequate notice of the delegate selection process, the times, dates, places and rules for the conduct of the State primary and the delegate selection process, including City or County Level Caucuses, Congressional District Conventions, and the State Convention, shall be effectively publicized, multilingually where necessary, to encourage the participation of minority groups. (*Rule 6.D*)
4. Not later than September 13, 2019, the State Party will make information about the delegate selection process available on its website and publicize the resource through press releases and communications to Party leaders, activists and targeted constituencies. Information to be posted on the website will include:
 - a. materials designed to encourage participation and inform prospective delegate candidates;
 - b. a summary explaining the role of the 2020 Convention in nominating the Party's Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates and adopting the National Platform;

- c. a summary of the State Party's delegate selection process including all pertinent rules, dates, and filing requirements related to the process;
- d. a map of delegate districts and how many delegates will be elected within each district, along with filing forms or information on how to obtain the filing forms.

E. Obligations of Presidential Candidates to Maximize Participation

- 1. Presidential candidates shall assist the Democratic Party of Virginia in meeting the demographic representation goals reflected in the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program. (*Rule 6.H*)
- 2. Each presidential candidate must submit a written statement to the State Democratic Chair by October 1, 2019, which indicates the specific steps they will take to encourage full participation by their supporters in Virginia's delegate selection process, including, but not limited to, procedures by which persons may file as candidates for delegate or alternate pledged to the presidential candidate. (*Rule 6.H.1*)
- 3. Each presidential candidate must submit demographic information with respect to all candidates for delegate and alternate pledged to them. Such information shall be submitted in conjunction with the list of names approved for consideration as delegate and alternate candidates pledged to the presidential candidate. (*Rule 6.H.2*)
- 4. Presidential candidates shall use their best effort to ensure that their respective delegates, alternates and standing committee members shall achieve the affirmative action goals reflected in the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program and that the number of men and the number of women in their respective delegations shall not differ by more than one (as determined by gender self-identification). Furthermore, presidential candidates shall use their best efforts at the district level to approve delegate, alternate, and standing committee candidates who meet applicable equal division and affirmative action considerations to promote and achieve the state's affirmative action, outreach and inclusion goals and equal division for their respective delegations. (*Rule 6.C., Rule 6.I & Reg. 4.10*)

F. Outreach and Inclusion Program

- 1. The State Democratic Party is committed to help achieve full participation of those groups of Americans who have historically been explicitly denied the right to vote or who have been subjected to discriminatory and exclusionary practices that have denied them voting rights and full participation in the delegate selection process and

other Party meetings, events and elections, along with other groups of Americans who are also underrepresented in Party affairs.

2. As such, the State Democratic Party has developed outreach and inclusion programs and is committed to fully implementing the programs so that all persons who wish to participate as Democrats understand they are welcome and encouraged to be a part of the delegate selection process and in the Party at the local, state and national levels.
3. The State Party, in collaboration with the Democratic Party of Virginia Disabilities Caucus, will make accommodations to facilitate greater participation by people with disabilities. This will include making sure facilities used for all steps of the process, including trainings and workshops, meet ADA accessibility requirements and providing assistance for the hearing and visually impaired.
4. In addition to the education, publicity and other steps described above, the State Party will work with the Caucuses and Organizations of the Virginia Democratic Party, including the Virginia Democratic Women's Caucus, the Democratic Black Caucus of Virginia, the Disability Caucus, the Rural Caucus, the Small Business Caucus, the LGBT Democrats of Virginia, the Virginia Young Democrats, the Democratic Asian Americans of Virginia, the Latino Democratic Caucus, the Veterans and Military Family Members Caucus, and the Labor Caucus, to ensure participation reflects the diversity of the Commonwealth. The Democratic Party of Virginia will host a training webinar for these Caucuses and Organizations and their members and stakeholders in January 2019 to provide an overview of the delegate selection period and answer any questions the participants may have on the process.

Section IX Challenges

A. Jurisdiction & Standing

1. Challenges related to the delegate selection process are governed by the *Regulations of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee for the 2020 Democratic National Convention (Reg. Sec. 3)*, and the "Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2020 Democratic National Convention." (*Call Appendix A*)
2. Under Rule 21.B. of the *2020 Delegate Selection Rules*, the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee has jurisdiction over challenges pertaining to the submission, non-implementation and violation of state Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program. (*Rule 21.B & Call Appendix A*)

3. The Rules and Bylaws Committee has jurisdiction to hear and decide any challenge provided it is initiated before the 56th day preceding the date of the commencement of the 2020 Democratic National Convention. (*Call Appendix A & Reg. 3.1*)
4. Challenges to the credentials of delegates and alternates to the 2020 Democratic National Convention initiated on or after the 56th day preceding the date of commencement of the Democratic National Convention shall be processed in accordance with the “Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2020 Democratic National Convention.” (*Call Appendix A*)
5. Any challenge to the credentials of a standing committee member shall be considered and resolved by the affected standing committee in accordance with Appendix A of the *Call for the 2020 Democratic National Convention*. The Rules and Bylaws Committee shall have jurisdiction over challenges brought before the 56th day preceding the date of the commencement of the Democratic National Convention. (*Call VII.B.5*)
6. Copies of the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee and/or the Call for the 2020 Democratic National Convention, including the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee (*Appendix A*), shall be made available by the State Party upon reasonable request.
7. Any group of 15 Democrats with standing to challenge as defined in Reg. 3.2 or the Call (*Appendix A, Sec. 2.A*), may bring a challenge to this Plan or to the implementation of this Plan, including its Affirmative Action provisions.

B. Challenges to the Status of the State Party and Challenges to the Plan

1. A challenge to the status of the State Party Committee as the body entitled to sponsor a delegation from that state shall be filed with the Rules and Bylaws Committee not later than 30 calendar days prior to the initiation of the state’s delegate selection process. (*Rule 21.A & Reg. 3.4.A*)
2. A challenge to the state’s Delegate Selection Plan shall be filed with the Chair of the Virginia Democratic Party and the Co-Chairs of the Rules and Bylaws Committee within 15 calendar days after the adoption of the Plan by the State Party. (*Reg. 3.4.B*)
3. A challenge to a Plan must be brought in conformity with the Rules and the RBC Regulations, which should be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

C. Challenges to Implementation

1. A challenge may be brought alleging that a specific requirement of an approved Plan has not been properly implemented. Jurisdiction over all challenges initiated in a timely fashion shall reside with either the Rules and Bylaws Committee or the Credentials Committee of the National Convention (See Section VII.A. above). However, the Rules and Bylaws Committee may provide advice, assistance or interpretations of the Delegate Selection Rules at any stage of the delegate selection process. (*Reg. 3.1.C*)
2. An implementation challenge brought before the Rules and Bylaws Committee is initiated by filing a written challenge with the State Party Committee and with the Rules and Bylaws Committee not later than 15 days after the alleged violation occurred. The State Party has 21 days to render a decision. Within 10 days of the decision, any party to the challenge may appeal it to the Rules and Bylaws Committee. If in fact, the State Party renders no decision, any party to the challenge may request the Rules and Bylaws Committee to process it. The request must be made within 10 days after expiration of the above 21-day period. (*Reg. 3.4.C, Reg. 3.4.E & Reg. 3.4.H*)
3. Performance under an approved Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program and composition of the convention delegation shall be considered relevant evidence in the challenge to any state delegation. If a State Party has adopted and implemented an approved affirmative action program, the State Party shall not be subject to challenge based solely on delegation composition or primary results. (Rule 6.B) The procedures are the same for challenges alleging failure to properly implement the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Programs of a Plan, except that such challenges must be filed not later than 30 days prior to the initiation of the state's delegate selection process. (*Reg. 3.4.C*)
4. Depending on the appropriate jurisdiction (see Section VIII.A. above), implementation challenges must be brought in conformity with the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee or the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee, which should be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

Section X

Summary of Plan

A. Selection of Delegates and Alternates

Virginia will use a proportional representation system based on the results of the primary apportioning its delegates to the 2020 Democratic National Convention.

The “first determining step” of Virginia’s delegate selection process will occur on March 3, 2020, with a primary.

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

Type	Delegates	Alternates	Date of Selection	Selection Body
				Filing Requirements and Deadlines
District-Level Delegates District-Level Alternates	65	6	May 2, May 9, or May 16, 2020	Selecting Body: Congressional District Conventions Must be a Democrat and registered voter in the district. Candidates must file a statement of candidacy with the State Party Chair. Filing deadlines will be 5:00 p.m 15 days prior to convention. April 17 (for May 2 conventions) April 24 (for May 9 conventions) May 1 (for May 16 conventions)
Automatic Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates*	25	n/a	n/a	Automatic by virtue of respective public or Party office as provided in Rule 9.A. of the 2020 Delegate Selection Rules.
Pledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials (PLEOs)	13	n/a	June 20, 2020	Selecting Body: State Convention Must be a Democrat and registered voter. Candidates must file statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms with State Party. Filing deadline will be 5:00 pm on May 21, 2020.

Virginia 2020 Delegate Selection Plan

At-Large Delegates At- Large Alternates	21	2	June 20, 2020	Selecting Body: State Convention
				Must be a Democrat and registered voter. Candidates must file statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms with State Party. Filing deadline will be 5:00 pm on May 21, 2020.
Total Delegates and Alternates	124	8		

- * Automatic Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) delegates includes the following categories, if applicable, who legally reside in the state: the Democratic National Committee Members, the Democratic President, the Democratic Vice President, all Democratic members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, the Democratic Governor, and any other Distinguished Party Leader as specified in Rule 9.A. of the *2020 Delegate Selection Rules*. The exact number of Automatic PLEO Delegates is subject to change due to possible deaths, resignations, elections or special elections.

B. Selection of Standing Committee Members (For the Credentials, Platform and Rules Committees)

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

Members Per Committee	Total Members	Selection Date	Filing Requirements
4	12	June 21, 2020	Presidential candidate must file authorized candidates by 5:00 p.m. on June 20, 2020. Standing committee members are elected at a meeting of Virginia's National Convention delegates after the State Convention adjourns on June 20, 2020

Temporary Platform Committee Members	Total Members	Selection Date	Filing Requirements

Virginia 2020 Delegate Selection Plan

4	4	March 7, 2020	Presidential candidate must file authorized candidates by 5:00 p.m. on June 20, 2020. Standing committee members are elected at a meeting of Virginia's National Convention delegates after the State Convention adjourns on June 20, 2020
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C. Selection of Delegation Chair and Convention Pages

The Delegation Chair will be selected by the National Convention Delegates on June 21, 2020.

Three (3) Convention Pages will be selected by the State Democratic Chair on June 21, 2020.

D. Selection of Presidential Electors

13 Presidential Electors will be selected. 11 will be selected by Congressional District Conventions on May 2, 2020, May 9, 2020, and May 16, 2020. 2 will be selected by the State Convention on June 20, 2020.

E. Presidential Candidate Filing Deadline

The filing deadline for the Presidential preference primary is determined, pursuant to state law, by the Virginia State Board of Elections and is expected to be December 12, 2020. (Rule 11.B & 14.E.; Va. Code § 24.2-522) The State Board of Elections is expected to certify the primary results by March 17, 2020.

Presidential candidates must certify the name of their authorized representative(s) to the State Democratic Chair by January 10, 2020.

F. Timetable

Date	Activity
2019	
March 1	Delegate Selection Affirmative Action Committee members were appointed by the State Chair.

Virginia 2020 Delegate Selection Plan

March 4	State Party Chair certifies compliance with Affirmative Action requirements and submits names and information of Affirmative Action Committee.
May 8	Proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action plans are tentatively approved for public comment by State Party Chair. Public comments are solicited on the proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans. Press releases are mailed announcing the public comment period.
June 7	Period for public comment on state Plan is concluded. Responses are compiled for review by the State Central Committee.
June 15	The State Central Committee meets and reviews public comments, and adopts revised Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans for submission to DNC RBC. Press releases are mailed announcing the approval of the Plan.
June 17	Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans are forwarded to the DNC RBC.
July 1	First day on which presidential primary petitions may be circulated. Presidential candidate petition forms are available from the State Party Headquarters. State Board of Elections makes Ballot Access Requirements available.
September 13	State Party begins implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan. Press kits, as described in the Affirmative Action Plan, are sent to all state media.
October 1	Deadline for each announced presidential candidate to submit a statement specifying steps the candidate will take to encourage full participation in the delegate selection process. (Individuals who announce their candidacy after this date must provide this full participation statement to the State Party not later than 30 days after their announcement.)
December 4 at 5:00 pm	State Party Chair deadline to notify State Board of Elections of decision to hold a presidential primary, the method of delegate selection, and requirements for voter participation. Potential candidate petition forms are available from the State Party Committee Headquarters.
December 12	Deadline for submission of presidential candidate Declaration of Candidacy and petitions to State Board of Elections.
December 17	Deadline for State Party Chair to certify names of candidates deemed qualified to appear on the presidential primary ballot.
December 18	State Board of Elections conducts drawing for placement of candidate names on presidential primary ballot.

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2020	
January 10	Presidential candidate deadline for certifying the name(s) of their authorized representative(s) to the State Party.
February 8 at 5:00 pm	Deadline to file with the State Party Chair to be considered to be a temporary member of the Platform Committee.
February 14	County and city parties to notify State Party of method of nomination of delegates and alternates and dates and locations of local caucuses (and conventions, if applicable).
February 17	Last day to register to vote in the presidential primary.
February 15	State Central Committee issues Call to Convention by this date and selects Temporary Committee members for the Platform Committee.
February 21	Congressional districts to notify State Party of date and time of district conventions. District Committees to select members of the State Convention temporary Credentials, Rules, and Resolutions Committees.
February 25	Deadline for receipt of absentee ballot application to vote by mail in presidential primary.
February 29	Last day to vote in-person absentee for March 1 primary.
March 3	Presidential preference primary
March 6	DNC confirms names of automatic delegates.
March 17	State Board of Elections meets to ascertain and certify primary results.
March 25	County and City Calls to Caucus completed and forwarded to State Party and Congressional District Chairs.
April 1	Congressional District Calls to Convention issued.
April 9	Temporary rules available for caucuses held on April 18 or April 20.
April 11 at 5:00 pm	Pre-filing deadline for State/District Convention delegates and alternates elected at April 18 caucuses.
April 13 at 5:00 pm	Pre-filing deadline for State/District Convention delegates and alternates elected at April 20 caucuses.

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April 16 at 7:00 pm	County and city absentee, in-person voting for unassembled caucuses (optional)
April 18: 12:00 p.m. April 20: 7:30 p.m.	County and City caucuses
April 23, April 25 at 5:00 pm	County and city chairs provide list of elected state delegates and alternates to the district and State Conventions. April 23 (for April 18 caucuses) April 25 (for April 20 caucuses)
April 17, April 24, or May 1 at 5:00 pm	Filing deadlines for district-level delegate and alternate candidates will be 5:00 p.m. (15 days prior to convention) April 17 (for May 2 conventions) April 24 (for May 9 conventions) May 1 (for May 16 conventions)
April 18, April 25, or May 2 at 5:00 pm	5:00 p.m. State Party provides list of district-level delegate and alternate candidates to the respective Presidential candidates. (14 days prior to convention) April 18 (for May 2 conventions) April 25 (for May 9 conventions) May 2 (for May 16 conventions)
April 24, May 1 or May 8 at 5:00 pm	5:00 p.m. Presidential candidates provide list of approved district-level delegate and alternate candidates to State Party. (8 days prior to convention) April 24 (for May 2 conventions) May 1 (for May 9 conventions) May 8 (for May 16 conventions)
May 2, May 9, or May 16	Congressional District Conventions
May 6, 13, or 20 by 5:00 pm	Congressional district chairs must certify in writing to the State Party Chair the election of the district-level National Convention delegates and alternates.
May 10, 17, or 24	State Party certifies elected district-level delegates and alternates to the Secretary of the DNC.
May 21 at 5:00 pm	At-large delegate and alternate and pledged PLEO candidate deadline for filing the statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms with State Party. This is also candidate filing deadline for statewide electors.
May 21 at 5:00 pm	State Party provides list of PLEO and at-large delegate and alternate candidates to the respective Presidential candidates.

Virginia 2020 Delegate Selection Plan

May 27	Presidential candidates provide approved list of pledged PLEO delegates to State Party.
June 20 th	State Convention convenes. Pledged PLEO delegates selected. Following selection of PLEO delegates, presidential candidates provide approved list of at-large delegate and alternate candidates to State Party. State Convention selects at-large delegates and alternates.
June 20 by 5:00 pm	Presidential candidates submit lists of candidates for standing committee members to State Party by 5:00 pm.
June 21	National Convention delegation meeting held. Delegates select National Convention standing committee members and delegation chair. State Chair names convention pages.
June 24	Deadline for State Party Chair to certify to the Secretary of the DNC the delegation chair, standing committee members, and pages.
June 25	Deadline for State Party Chair to certify to the Secretary of the DNC the remainder of elected delegates and alternates (PLEOs, and at-large), and the presidential preferences of pledged PLEOs and At-Large Delegates and Alternates and the Presidential Preference of the State's Unpledged Delegates.

ATTACHMENTS

1. **Affirmative Action Committee**
 - a. **List of Affirmative Action Committee Members**
 - b. **Statement from the State Chair confirming that the composition of the State Affirmative Action Committee complies with Rules 5.C, 6.A., and 7** and that the names, demographic data and contact information of members was submitted to the RBC 15 days after their appointment. (*Reg. 2.2.K*)
2. **As specified in Reg. 2.2, the following documentation must accompany the state's Delegate Selection Plan at the time it is formally submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee.**
 - a. **A summary** of the process for selecting delegates, alternates, standing committee members, the delegation chair and convention pages, and Presidential Electors, along with related deadlines. (*Reg. 2.2.A*)
See Plan, Section X, Page 41-43
 - b. **A timetable** reflecting all significant dates in the state's delegate selection process. (*Reg. 2.2.B*)
See Plan, Section X, Page 43-47
 - c. **A copy of the press release** distributed by the State Party Committee announcing its adoption of the Plan and summarizing the major components of the Plan. (*Reg. 2.2.D*)
 - d. **A statement from the State Democratic Chair certifying** the plan as submitted to RBC was approved by the Virginia Central Committee, the plan was placed on the website during the 30-day public comment period, and that the Virginia State Party has published specific guidance for the submission of public comments. (*Reg. 2.2.C, 2.2.E, and 2.2.F*)
 - e. A statement from the Chair of the Affirmative Action Committee certifying **compliance with Rule 6.F.**, which requires that the Affirmative Action Committee has reviewed the proposed Affirmative Action outreach plan, including any numerical goals established. (*Rule 6.F & Reg. 2.2.I*)
 - f. **A copy of all written public and online comments** submitted through the process provided above about the Plan. (*Rule 1.C & Reg. 2.2.G*)

- g. A blank copy of forms to be filed with the state and the State Party by delegate and alternate candidates. (*Rule 1.A.7, Rule 1.A.8 & Reg. 2.2.H*)
- h. Copies of all state statutes and other relevant legal authority reasonably related to:
 - i. the Delegate Selection Process [*For example, include any and all state statutory requirements related to: ballot access for presidential candidates; filing requirements for delegate and alternate candidates; timing of the presidential primary, caucuses, and/or the state convention; participation in the state's presidential primary or caucuses, including Party registration or enrollment provisions; and any other stipulations made by the state regarding the selection process or the role of National Convention delegates.*] (Reg. 2.2.L)
 - ii. The election of Presidential Electors [*i.e., state statutory requirements related to the selection of Presidential Electors, including whether the Electors are required to vote for the Party's nominee and how that is enforced.*] (Call VIII)
- i. A copy of all presidential candidate qualifying forms to be filed with the state and the State Party. (Reg. 2.2.M)
- j. A copy of the **State Delegate Selection Media Plan**, describing how the State Party will communicate information about the process to all available and appropriate sources, including social and specialty media directed toward Democratic constituency groups as described in the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program.



6/10/2019

The Democratic Party of Virginia has formed its Affirmative Action Committee that is in compliance with Rules 5.C., 6.A., and 7; and the names, demographic data, and contact information of members was submitted to the DNC Rules and By-Laws Committee within 15 days of their appointment.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Swecker".

Susan Swecker
Chairwoman, Democratic Party of Virginia

Affirmative Action Committee Members

Democratic Party of Virginia Releases Delegate Selection Plan for 2020 Democratic National Convention

Jake Rubenstein (DPVA) <jake@vademocrats.org>
To: Shyam Raman <shyam@vademocrats.org>

Thu, Jun 20, 2019 at 1:27 PM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Jake Rubenstein
jake@vademocrats.org - 412-860-2020



Democratic Party of Virginia Releases Delegate Selection Plan for 2020 Democratic National Convention

RICHMOND, VA. – This past weekend, the Democratic Party of Virginia formally approved the Delegate Selection Plan for the 2020 Democratic National Convention.

The plan formally describes the process of how the Democratic Party of Virginia will select its delegates to the 2020 Democratic National Convention.

Virginia's presidential preference primary will be held Tuesday, March 3rd, 2020.

The plan can be viewed on the Democratic Party of Virginia website at vademocrats.org/delegateselection and questions should be directed to the Political Department at political@vademocrats.org.

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Statement Certifying Passage of the Virginia Delegate Selection Plan

June 15, 2019

The Democratic Party of Virginia Delegate Selection Plan was placed on the website and opened up the 30 day public comment period on May 7, 2019. There were clear instructions available on the website for the method to file public comment and a form made available through which public comment could be filed. The Democratic Party of Virginia received three comments through the form prior to the comment deadline of June 7, 2019. On June 15, 2019, the Virginia Central Committee passed the 2020 Virginia Delegate Selection Plan unanimously.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan R. Swecker".

Susan Swecker
Chair, Democratic Party of Virginia



6/14/2019

We hereby certify that the Affirmative Action Committee has reviewed the Affirmative Action outreach plan as well as the numerical representation goals as required by Rule 6.F. of the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2020 Democratic National Convention.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Louise Lucas".

Senator Louise Lucas
Co-Chairwoman, Democratic Party of Virginia Affirmation Action Committee
Vice Chair of Outreach, Democratic Party of Virginia

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gaylene Kanoyton".

Gaylene Kanoyton
Co-Chairwoman, Democratic Party of Virginia Affirmative Action Committee
1st Vice Chair of Organization, Democratic Party of Virginia

Delegate Selection Plan Public Comments

Timestamp	Name	Please leave your input below
5/9/2019 13:42:01	Daniel M. Press	<p>Please get rid of the provision allowing for slates to appear on ballots. If a slate wants to do a sample ballot, fine, but the ballot should require votes to be cast for individuals. Slates are unfair and promote party insiders.</p> <p>I am a member of the Richmond City Democratic Committee, having volunteered to be a member about two years ago, following the disastrous 2016 elections. Having formerly been a delegate to a Virginia State Convention {for George McGovern}, I decided to investigate the process whereby delegates would be named following the March 3, 2020 Democratic Party primary for presidential candidates. I discovered the Virginia Delegate Selection Plan on the state party website. No mention of this plan, or of the approval process, was made to the Richmond City Democratic Committee, although several members are also members of the state party Central Committee. With only two days remaining before the March 7 comment period deadline, I was able to bring this matter to the attention of City Committee members, but as there was no quorum at this meeting, no resolution could be approved. I am writing to object to provisions of this plan, and to request that the Central Committee and the state party amend the plan so that the process is both fair and democratic.</p> <p>My basic premise is that ALL delegates should be apportioned in accordance with the statewide vote in the March 3 primary. Under the proposed system, only 65 of 124 total state delegates, and 6 of 8 alternates, are to be apportioned according to the primary vote. However, even these "district-level delegates" are determined by Congressional District Convention. These convention, which are to be held on three different dates {so as to discourage participation}, are likely to be dominated by incumbent elected politicians and their staff members and close associates. It is my opinion that the result will skew the delegate selection to favor establishment {or "corporate"} Democrats, regardless of the statewide vote. Should, for example, Elizabeth Warren receive 40% of the primary vote, and Bernie Sanders 40%, and Joe Biden 20%, it would be likely that the party regulars {some of whom have already declared support for Biden} would allocate a majority of the district-level delegates to him. The result of this type of action will surely be the destruction of the Democratic Party, splintering it finally into a progressive wing and a centrist-conservative wing. It is also my firm belief that if former Vice President Biden is the Democratic Party nominee, that he will lose decisively in November 2020.</p> <p>The Draft Plan provides that 59 delegates, and 2 alternates, are to be selected according to three other, undemocratic methods. The first method provides for selection of 25 "automatic party leader and elected official delegates." It does appear that these super-delegates are to be queried about their presidential preferences subsequent to certification of the primary results. However, it is possible, or likely in my opinion, that these elected officials will all support an establishment candidate {the current front runner being Biden}. In my hypothetical example of a 40-40-20 split as above, Biden's 13 votes among district-level delegates would be increased by 25, for a majority total of 38 {with the other two candidates having 26}. I propose dealing with this type of situation by eliminating any special status for the elected incumbents, and adding the "automatic party leader and elected official delegates" number to that of the "district-level delegates." If a presidential candidate wishes to have a U.S. Senator as one of his or her delegates, so be it. However, all delegate numbers should be apportioned according to the primary results.</p> <p>The same objection applies to the categories of "pledged party leaders and elected officials," and "at-large delegates and alternates." These national convention delegates are to be selected by a state party convention to be held on May 20, 2020. The state convention seems redundant in a state having a primary, and it is another undemocratic process. Provided that all such delegates are named according to publicly-stated presidential candidate preferences, in the exact ratio of primary votes {less excluded candidates who fail to achieve a minimum threshold tally}, such state convention selections would largely serve to provide a spotlight for potential party leaders. There are 34 national convention delegates among these two categories. Provision for these at-large and PLEO {pledged party leaders and elected officials} further skews the selection process towards establishment candidates.</p> <p>It is an absolute certainty that few people who consider themselves supporters of the Democratic Party understand the delegate selection process. A small minority of those who will vote in the March 3, 2020 primary are likely to be knowledgeable of this process. It is incumbent upon the Democratic Party of Virginia to honor to wishes of the electorate, and to make the election process as fair and transparent as possible.</p> <p>I was reminded last night that the state party central committee will meet in Richmond tomorrow, June 8th. It was not made clear whether there will be any discussion of the Virginia Delegate Selection Plan, nor was I informed of the proposed date for consideration of approval of this plan. An email inquiry I made on Wednesday, June 5th to the Democratic Party State Office, seeking information in addition to that which was made available online, has not been answered. In addition, I requested a listing of names of the persons who currently sit on the Steering Committee and Central Committee of the Party. The Steering Committee list was found online, but appears to be outdated, but the Central Committee list is not to be found.</p>
6/7/2019 11:57:10	Charles V. Ware	
6/10/2019 14:04:35	Steve Baker	Section VIII (A) 2(d)2 - Directing the implementation of all requirements of the affirmative action plan and outreach and inclusion program section of this plan by all members of the committee, including members of State Central and our local Democratic committees. (note: it is important to stress that everyone has ownership. Thanks)



Congressional District National Delegate and Alternate Candidate Pre-Filing Form

Congressional District Convention, [Date]

Please Note: This form is to run for National Delegate or Alternate to represent your CD. You can file this form online at www.vademocrats.org/2020Convention. If you want to run as a delegate to your CD and State Conventions, you can contact your local committee chair.

I, the undersigned, certify that I am a Democrat, am a registered voter in _____, subscribe to the principles of the Democratic Party, do not intend to support any candidate who is opposed to a Democratic Nominee in the next ensuing election, and will not participate in the nominating process of any other political party.

Please Print:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Congressional District: _____ County or City: _____

Gender: Male/Female/Non-binary/Other: _____ (Please circle one)

Optional Demographic Information:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> African American | <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQ+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Latino | <input type="checkbox"/> People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native American | <input type="checkbox"/> Labor |
| <input type="radio"/> Tribal Affiliation: _____ | <input type="radio"/> Union: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American and Pacific Islander | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Ethnicity | |

Filing For:

CD Delegate to the National Convention (insert number)

CD Alternate to the National Convention (insert number)

Signature _____ **Date** _____



National Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) Delegate and At-Large Delegate and Alternate Candidate Pre-Filing Form

Congressional District Convention, [Date]

Please Note: This form is to run for National Delegate or Alternate. You can file this form online at www.vademocrats.org/2020Convention. If you want to run as a delegate to your CD and State Conventions, you can contact your local committee chair.

I, the undersigned, certify that I am a Democrat, am a registered voter in _____, subscribe to the principles of the Democratic Party, do not intend to support any candidate who is opposed to a Democratic Nominee in the next ensuing election, and will not participate in the nominating process of any other political party.

Please Print:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Congressional District: _____ County or City: _____

Gender: Male/Female/Non-binary/Other: _____ (Please circle one)

Optional Demographic Information:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> African American | <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQ+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Latino | <input type="checkbox"/> People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native American | <input type="checkbox"/> Labor |
| <input type="radio"/> Tribal Affiliation: _____ | <input type="radio"/> Union: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American and Pacific Islander | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Ethnicity | |

Filing For:

Pledged Party Leader or Elected Official Delegate to the National Convention (13)

Office Held: _____

At-Large Delegate to the National Convention (21)

At-Large Alternate to the National Convention (2)

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Virginia Election Code

§ 24.2-202. Electors for President and Vice President.

The qualified voters of the Commonwealth shall choose the Commonwealth's electors for President and Vice President of the United States at the general election in November 1996, and every fourth year thereafter. Each voter shall vote for a number of electors which equals the whole number of senators and representatives to which the Commonwealth at that time is entitled in the Congress of the United States.

§ 24.2-203. Convening of electors; filling vacancies; how electors required to vote.

The electors shall convene at the capitol building in the capital city of the Commonwealth at 12:00 noon on the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December following their election. Those electors present shall immediately fill, by ballot and by a plurality of votes, any vacancy due to death, failure or inability to attend, refusal to act, or other cause. When all electors are present, or the vacancies have been filled, they shall proceed to perform the duties required of such electors by the Constitution and laws of the United States.

Electors selected by the state convention of any political party as defined in § 24.2-101 shall be required to vote for the nominees of the national convention to which the state convention elects delegates. Electors named in any petition of qualified voters as provided in § 24.2-543 shall be required to vote for the persons named for President and for Vice President in the petition.

§ 24.2-204. Election of electors and meeting when Congress prescribes a different day.

If Congress establishes a different day for choosing electors, or appoints a different day for their meeting to give their votes, then the election shall be held and the meeting of the electors take place on those days.

§ 24.2-205. Pay of electors.

Each elector shall receive the sum of fifty dollars per day while actually engaged in the discharge of his official duties and the same mileage as is allowed to members of the General Assembly.

§ 24.2-500. Qualification of candidates.

In order to qualify as a candidate for any office of the Commonwealth, or of its governmental units, a person must be qualified to vote for and hold that office. In order to hold any office of the Commonwealth or its governmental units, elective by the people, the candidate must have been a resident of the Commonwealth for one year next preceding his election and be qualified to vote for that office.

§ 24.2-501. Statement of qualification as requirement of candidacy.

It shall be a requirement of candidacy for any office of the Commonwealth, or of its governmental units, that a person must file a written statement under oath, on a form prescribed by the State Board, that he is qualified to vote for and hold the office for which he is a candidate. Every candidate for election to statewide office, the United States House of

Representatives, or the General Assembly shall file the statement with the State Board. Every candidate for any other office shall file the statement with the general registrar of the county or city where he resides. Each general registrar shall transmit to the State Board, immediately after the filing deadline, a list of the candidates who have filed statements of qualification.

The candidate may state, as part of his statement of qualification, how he would like his name to appear on the ballot; however, all names printed on the ballot shall meet the criteria established by the State Board.

§ 24.2-502. Statement of economic interests as requirement of candidacy.

It shall be a requirement of candidacy that a written statement of economic interests shall be filed by (i) a candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Attorney General and a candidate for the Senate or House of Delegates with the State Board, (ii) a candidate for a constitutional office with the general registrar for the county or city, and (iii) a candidate for member of the governing body or elected school board of any county, city, or town with a population in excess of 3,500 persons with the general registrar for the county or city. The statement of economic interests shall be that specified in § 30-111 for candidates for the General Assembly and in § 2.2-3117 for all other candidates. The foregoing requirement shall not apply to a candidate for reelection to the same office who has met the requirement of annually filing a statement pursuant to § 2.2-3114, 2.2-3115, 2.2-3116, or 30-110.

The general registrar, the clerk of the local governing body, or the clerk of the school board, as appropriate, shall transmit to the local electoral board, immediately after the filing deadline, a list of the candidates who have filed initial or annual statements of economic interests.

§ 24.2-503. Deadlines for filing required statements; extensions.

The written statements of qualification and economic interests shall be filed by (i) primary candidates not later than the filing deadline for the primary, (ii) all other candidates for city and town offices to be filled at a May general election by 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday in March, (iii) candidates in special elections by the time of qualifying as a candidate, and (iv) all other candidates by 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday in June.

A statement shall be deemed to be timely filed if it is mailed postage prepaid to the appropriate office by registered or certified mail and if the official receipt therefor, which shall be exhibited on demand, shows mailing within the prescribed time limits.

The State Board may grant an extension of any deadline for filing either or both written statements and shall notify all candidates who have not filed their statements of the extension. Any extension shall be granted for a fixed period of time of ten days from the date of the mailing of the notice of the extension.

§ 24.2-504. Persons entitled to have name printed on ballot.

Only a person fulfilling all the requirements of a candidate shall have his name printed on the ballot for the election. No person shall have his name printed on the ballot for more than one office at any one election. However, a candidate for federal or statewide office, or a candidate

for an office being filled in a special election, may have his name printed on the ballot for two offices at an election.

§ 24.2-508. Powers of political parties in general.

Each political party shall have the power to (i) make its own rules and regulations, (ii) call conventions to proclaim a platform, ratify a nomination, or for any other purpose, (iii) provide for the nomination of its candidates, including the nomination of its candidates for office in case of any vacancy, (iv) provide for the nomination and election of its state, county, city, and district committees, and (v) perform all other functions inherent in political party organizations.

§ 24.2-509. Party to determine method of nominating its candidates for office; exceptions.

A. The duly constituted authorities of the state political party shall have the right to determine the method by which a party nomination for a member of the United States Senate or for any statewide office shall be made. The duly constituted authorities of the political party for the district, county, city, or town in which any other office is to be filled shall have the right to determine the method by which a party nomination for that office shall be made.

B. Notwithstanding subsection A, the following provisions shall apply to the determination of the method of making party nominations. A party shall nominate its candidate for election for a General Assembly district where there is only one incumbent of that party for the district by the method designated by that incumbent, or absent any designation by him by the method of nomination determined by the party. A party shall nominate its candidates for election for a General Assembly district where there is more than one incumbent of that party for the district by a primary unless all the incumbents consent to a different method of nomination. A party, whose candidate at the immediately preceding election for a particular office other than the General Assembly (i) was nominated by a primary or filed for a primary but was not opposed and (ii) was elected at the general election, shall nominate a candidate for the next election for that office by a primary unless all incumbents of that party for that office consent to a different method.

When, under any of the foregoing provisions, no incumbents offer as candidates for reelection to the same office, the method of nomination shall be determined by the political party.

For the purposes of this subsection, any officeholder who offers for reelection to the same office shall be deemed an incumbent notwithstanding that the district which he represents differs in part from that for which he offers for election.

§ 24.2-510. Deadlines for parties to nominate by methods other than primary.

For any office, nominations by political parties by methods other than a primary shall be made and completed in the manner prescribed by law according to the following schedule:

1. For a general election in November, by 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday in June;
2. For a general election in May, by 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday in March;
3. For a special election held at the same time as a November general election, either (i) at least 81 days before the election or (ii) if the special election is held at the second November election

after the vacancy occurred, by 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday in June before that November election;

4. For a special election held at the same time as a May general election, by 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday in March; or

5. For a special election held at a time other than a general election, (i) at least 60 days before the election or (ii) within five days of any writ of election or order calling a special election to be held less than 60 days after the issuance of the writ or order.

In the case of all general elections a party shall nominate its candidate for any office by a nonprimary method only within the 47 days immediately preceding the primary date established for nominating candidates for the office in question. This limitation shall have no effect, however, on nominations for special elections or pursuant to § 24.2-539.

§ 24.2-511. Party chairman or official to certify candidates to State Board and general registrars; failure to certify.

A. The state, district, or other appropriate party chairman shall certify the name of any candidate who has been nominated by his party by a method other than a primary for any office to be elected by the qualified voters of (i) the Commonwealth at large, (ii) a congressional district or a General Assembly district, or (iii) political subdivisions jointly electing a shared constitutional officer, along with the date of the nomination of the candidate, to the State Board not later than five days after the last day for nominations to be made. The State Board shall notify the general registrars of the names of the candidates to appear on the ballot for such offices.

B. The party chairman of the district or political subdivision in which any other office is to be filled shall certify the name of any candidate for that office who has been nominated by his party by a method other than a primary to the State Board and to the general registrars of the cities and counties in which the name of the candidate will appear on the ballot not later than five days after the last day for nominations to be made. Should the party chairman fail to make such certification, the State Board shall declare that the candidate is the nominee of the particular party and direct that his name be treated as if certified by the party chairman.

C. In the case of a nomination for any office to be filled by a special election, the party chairman shall certify the name of any candidate (i) by the deadline to nominate the candidate or (ii) not later than five days after the deadline if it is a special election held at the second November election after the vacancy occurred.

D. No further notice of candidacy or petition shall be required of a candidate once the party chairman has certified his name to the State Board.

E. In no case shall the individual who is a candidate for an office be the person who certifies the name of the party candidate for that same office. In such case the party shall designate an alternate official to certify its candidate.

§ 24.2-512. Primaries to be conducted in accordance with article.

A primary when held shall be conducted in all respects under the provisions of this article. All references in this chapter to primaries shall be deemed to mean those elections held for the purpose of nominating candidates as authorized by this article.

§ 24.2-513. Provisions as to general elections applicable.

All the provisions and requirements of the laws of this Commonwealth in relation to the holding of elections shall apply to all primaries insofar as they are consistent with this article.

§ 24.2-514. To what nominations this article applies.

This article shall apply to the nomination of candidates for offices by a direct primary held on the regular dates established in § 24.2-515 for the conduct of primaries, and to no other nominations.

A primary is not authorized under this article to nominate presidential electors, nor to nominate candidates to fill vacancies unless the candidates for nomination to fill vacancies are to be voted for on the regular date set by this article for primaries.

§ 24.2-515. Presidential election year primaries.

Primaries for the nomination of candidates for offices to be voted on at the general election date in November shall be held on the second Tuesday in June next preceding such election, except that beginning with the year 2012 and in presidential election years thereafter, primaries to choose among presidential candidates may be held as provided in Article 7 (§ 24.2-544 et seq.). Primaries for the nomination of candidates for offices to be voted on at the general election date in May shall be held on the first Tuesday in March next preceding such election.

§ 24.2-515.1. Schedule for primaries in the year 2001 and each tenth year thereafter.

Primaries for the nomination of candidates for the offices listed in Section 4 of Article VII of the Constitution of Virginia to be voted on at the general election in November 2001 and each tenth year thereafter shall be held on the second Tuesday in June next preceding such election notwithstanding any special primary schedule enacted for any other office.

§ 24.2-516. Party to furnish names of chairmen and notify State Board of adoption of direct primary.

Each political party within the Commonwealth shall furnish to the State Board the names and addresses of its state, county, and city party chairmen in January of each year, and during the remainder of the year it shall notify the Board of any changes in such names and addresses.

At least 135 days prior to the regular date for a primary, the Board shall inquire of each state chairman and each county and city chairman whether a direct primary has been adopted. The Board shall advise each chairman that notification to the Board of the adoption of a direct primary is required and must be filed with the Board not more than 125 days and not less than 105 days before the date set for the primaries.

Each chairman shall file timely written notice with the Board whether or not a primary has been adopted and identify each office for which a primary has been adopted. The requirement to notify the Board of the adoption of a direct primary shall be satisfied when the Board receives by the deadline (i) written notice from the appropriate party chairman or (ii) a copy of the written notice from an incumbent officeholder to his party chairman of the incumbent's selection, pursuant to § 24.2-509, of the primary as the method of nomination.

§ 24.2-517. State Board to order election.

The State Board shall order the holding of a primary election in any county, city, or other district of the Commonwealth in which it is notified pursuant to § 24.2-516 that a primary is intended to be held. The notice ordering the primary shall be sent to the secretary of the electoral board. Within five days of the issuance of the order by the State Board, each secretary shall post a copy of the notice on the official website of the county or city, post copies of the notice at not less than 10 public places in the county or city, or have notice of the election published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or city.

§ 24.2-518. County and city treasurers to pay primary expenses; certain uses of machinery by party.

The treasurer of the county or city in which the elections are held shall pay the costs of primary elections.

A political party may hold an election to select the members of its party committee at the same time and in the same places as a primary election without fee or charge for making use of the electoral machinery, provided that a primary to nominate the party's candidate for an office is in fact conducted on that primary date. Such elections for party committee members may be conducted by paper ballots or by voting machines in the discretion of the local electoral board.

The proper political party committee shall pay the costs of using the election machinery at any other time for the purpose of conducting other nominating procedures adopted pursuant to the rules of that party, if such use is authorized by the officials having custody of the machinery.

§ 24.2-519. Qualification of primary candidates.

In order to qualify as a candidate at any primary, a person must be legally qualified to hold the office for which he is a candidate and be qualified to vote in the primary in which he seeks to be a candidate.

§ 24.2-520. Declaration of candidacy required.

A candidate for nomination by primary for any office shall be required to file a written declaration of candidacy on a form prescribed by the State Board. The declaration shall include the name of the political party of which the candidate is a member, a designation of the office for which he is a candidate, and a statement that, if defeated in the primary, his name is not to be printed on the ballots for that office in the succeeding general election. The declaration shall be acknowledged before some officer who has the authority to take acknowledgments to deeds, or attested by two witnesses who are qualified voters of the election district.

§ 24.2-521. Petition required to accompany declaration; number of signatures required.

A candidate for nomination by primary for any office shall be required to file with his declaration of candidacy a petition for his name to be printed on the official primary ballot, on a form prescribed by the State Board, signed by the number of qualified voters specified in this section after January 1 of the year in which the election is held or before or after said date in the case of a March primary, and listing the residence address of each such voter. Each signature on the petition shall have been witnessed by a person who is himself a legal resident of the Commonwealth and who is not a minor or a felon whose voting rights have not been restored and whose affidavit to that effect appears on each page of the petition.

Each voter signing the petition may provide on the petition the last four digits of his social security number, if any; however, noncompliance with this requirement shall not be cause to invalidate the voter's signature on the petition.

The minimum number of signatures of qualified voters required for primary candidate petitions shall be as follows:

1. For a candidate for the United States Senate, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Attorney General, 10,000 signatures, including the signatures of at least 400 qualified voters from each congressional district in the Commonwealth;
2. For a candidate for the United States House of Representatives, 1,000 signatures;
3. For a candidate for the Senate of Virginia, 250 signatures;
4. For a candidate for the House of Delegates or for a constitutional office, 125 signatures;
5. For a candidate for membership on the governing body of any county or city, 125 signatures; or if from an election district not at large containing 1,000 or fewer registered voters, 50 signatures;
6. For a candidate for membership on the governing body of any town that has more than 3,500 registered voters, 125 signatures; or if from a ward or other district not at large, 25 signatures;
7. For a candidate for membership on the governing body of any town that has at least 1,500 but not more than 3,500 registered voters, 50 signatures; or if from a ward or other district not at large, 25 signatures;
8. For a candidate for membership on the governing body of any town that has fewer than 1,500 registered voters, no petition shall be required; and
9. For any other candidate, 50 signatures.

§ 24.2-522. When and to whom filings to be made.

A. Declarations of candidacy, petitions, and receipts indicating the payment of filing fees shall be filed not earlier than noon of the ninety-second day and not later than 5:00 p.m. of the seventy-fifth day before the primary.

B. Except as provided in subsection C, candidates for nomination shall file their declarations, petitions, and receipts with the chairman or chairmen of the several committees of the respective parties.

C. Any candidate for nomination for United States Senator, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Attorney General shall file with the State Board (i) his declaration of candidacy, (ii) the petitions for his candidacy, sealed in one or more containers to which is attached a written statement under oath by the candidate giving his name and the number of signatures on the petitions contained in the containers, and (iii) a receipt indicating the payment of his filing fee.

The State Board shall transmit the material so filed to the state chairman of the party of the candidate within 72 hours and not later than the seventy-fourth day before the primary. The sealed containers containing the petitions for a candidate may be opened only by the state chairman of the party of the candidate.

§ 24.2-523. Candidates to pay fee before filing.

Every candidate for nomination for any office at any primary shall, before he files his declaration of candidacy, pay a fee equal to two percent of one year's minimum salary attached to the office for which he is candidate in effect in the year in which he files.

In case of an office for which compensation is paid in whole or in part by fees, the amount to be paid by a candidate as his contribution for the payment of the expenses of the primary shall be fixed by the proper committee of the respective parties.

If there is no salary or fee attached to the office, the fee for primary expenses shall be five dollars. This provision includes candidates for party committees in § 24.2-518.

§ 24.2-524. To whom fees paid; refund of fees.

A. Candidates for United States Senators, for representatives in Congress, and for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General shall pay the primary fee to the State Board of Elections. The primary fees shall be credited by the Board to a fund to be known as the "state primary fee fund."

The Board shall refund the fee by warrant upon the state primary fee fund in the event the prospective candidate does not become a candidate, becomes a candidate and is not opposed, or must refile for any reason. All other primary fees paid to the Board shall be paid or placed to the credit of the fund out of which the Board pays the Commonwealth's expenses for the primary.

B. All other candidates shall pay the fee to the treasurer, or director of finance if there is no treasurer, of the city or county in which they reside. The treasurer or director of finance shall pay back the fee in the event the prospective candidate does not become a candidate, or becomes a candidate and must refile for any reason. In the event the candidate is unopposed, the State Board or the local electoral board, as appropriate, shall notify, no less than 60 days before the primary, the treasurer or director of finance to whom the fee was paid that the candidate is unopposed and shall provide the name and mailing address for returning the fee to

the candidate. The treasurer or director of finance promptly shall return the fee to the candidate. All other primary fees paid a county or city treasurer or director of finance shall be paid or placed to the credit of the fund of the county or city out of which the expenses of the primary were paid by the county or city.

C. A receipt for the payment of the fee must be attached to the declaration of candidacy; otherwise the declaration shall not be received or filed.

§ 24.2-525. Persons entitled to have name printed on ballot.

Only a person meeting all the qualifications and fulfilling all the requirements of a candidate, and who has complied with the rules and regulations of his party, shall have his name printed on the ballot provided for the primary election. No person shall have his name printed on the ballot for more than one office at any one primary election. However, a candidate for federal or statewide office, or a candidate for an office being filled in a special election, may have his name printed on the ballot for two offices at a primary election.

§ 24.2-526. Primary not to be held when less than two candidates declare.

Whenever within the time prescribed by this article there is only one declaration of candidacy in a political party for the nomination for any office, the person filing the declaration shall be declared the nominee of the party for the office for which he has announced his candidacy and his name shall not be printed on the ballot for the primary. Whenever within the time prescribed by this article there is no declaration of candidacy in a political party for the nomination for any office, the appropriate committee of the party may provide for an alternative method of nominating a candidate.

§ 24.2-527. Chairman or official to furnish State Board and general registrars with names of candidates and certify petition signature requirements met.

A. It shall be the duty of the chairman or chairmen of the several committees of the respective parties to furnish the name of any candidate for nomination for any office to be elected by the qualified voters of the Commonwealth at large or of a congressional district or of a General Assembly district to the State Board, and to furnish the name of any candidate for any other office to the State Board and to the general registrars charged with the duty of preparing and printing the primary ballots. In furnishing the name of any such candidate, the chairman shall certify that a review of the filed candidate petitions found the required minimum number of signatures of qualified voters for that office to have been met. The chairman shall also certify the order and date and time of filing for purposes of printing the ballots as prescribed in § 24.2-529, provided that the State Board shall determine the order and date and time of filing for candidates for United States Senator, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General for such purposes. Each chairman shall comply with the provisions of this section not less than 70 days before the primary.

B. In no case shall the individual who is a candidate for an office be the person who certifies the names of candidates for a primary for that same office. In such case the party shall designate an alternate official to certify the candidates.

§ 24.2-528. No primary candidate to be nominated by convention.

No party which has adopted the method of making a nomination for an office by primary pursuant to § 24.2-509 shall nominate by a convention any candidate to be voted for at that primary.

§ 24.2-529. Primary ballots.

The primary ballots for the several parties taking part in a primary shall be composed, arranged, printed, delivered, and provided in the same manner as the general election ballots except that at the top of each official primary ballot shall be printed in plain black type the name of the political party and the words "Primary Election." The names of the candidates for various offices shall appear on the ballot in an order determined by the priority of the time of filing for the office. In the event two or more candidates file simultaneously, the order of filing shall then be determined by lot by the electoral board or the State Board as in the case of a tie vote for the office. No write-in shall be permitted on ballots in primary elections.

§ 24.2-530. Who may vote in primary.

All persons qualified to vote, pursuant to §§ 24.2-400 through 24.2-403, may vote at the primary. No person shall vote for the candidates of more than one party.

§ 24.2-531. Pollbooks used during primaries.

There shall be pollbooks in the form set forth in § 24.2-611 provided for use during any primary.

§ 24.2-532. Abstracts of votes; law-enforcement officer to obtain returns not forwarded.

As soon as the electoral board shall determine the persons who have received the highest number of votes for nomination to any such office, the secretary of the board shall immediately make out abstracts and certificates of the votes cast as provided in § 24.2-675 and forward certified copies thereof to the State Board. The secretary in addition shall place certified copies thereof in an envelope and forward them in person or by certified mail (i) for members of the House of Representatives of the United States, to the chairman of the congressional district committee, (ii) for members of the General Assembly, to the chairman of the Senate or House of Delegates district committee, and (iii) for county and city and district officers, to the chairman of the county or city. "Chairman" means the chairman of the political party under whose auspices the primary is held.

If the abstract of votes shall not have been received by the State Board from any county or city within six days after any state primary election, the Board shall dispatch a law-enforcement officer to obtain them as provided in § 24.2-678.

§ 24.2-534. Returns tabulated by State Board; when nominee declared.

As soon as possible after receipt of the certified abstract and not later than fourteen days after the day of the election, the State Board shall open and tabulate the returns. Upon completion of the tabulation the Board shall declare the nominee in the manner and form as it does in general elections.

§ 24.2-535. Vote required to nominate.

Any candidate for party nomination to any office who receives a plurality of the votes cast by his party shall be the nominee of his party for that office and his name shall be printed on the official ballots used in the election for which the primary was held.

§ 24.2-536. Procedure when a vacancy in office occurs less than 75 days before primary date. Whenever, by reason of the death, resignation, or removal of the incumbent, a vacancy in any office occurs less than 75 but more than 45 days before the regular date for the holding of a primary, the properly constituted party authorities may permit the filing of declarations and petitions of candidacy for nomination for that office in the primary. Notice of the vacancy and the right to file declarations and petitions of candidacy for nomination to fill it shall be advertised by the party committee or committees in at least one newspaper of general circulation within the Commonwealth if it is an office filled by election by the people at large, and in the manner prescribed by the properly constituted party authorities in the case of all other offices. No declaration and petitions of candidacy shall be filed with the committee or committees until such advertisement is made, nor within 35 days prior to the date for holding the primary. Declarations and petitions of candidacy filed pursuant to this section shall comply in every respect, except for the time of filing, with the requirements established generally for such declarations and petitions in this article.

If more than one person qualifies, the party chairman shall promptly certify their names to the State Board and the appropriate electoral boards as having qualified under the provisions of this section. The electoral boards having charge of the printing of the official ballots for the primary shall either:

1. Cause to be printed on the ballot the name of each person so certified; or
2. If the official ballots have already been printed, cause separate ballots to be printed for the office for which the persons have qualified pursuant to this section.

In the event that only one person qualifies as a candidate under the provisions of this section, the person so qualifying shall be declared the nominee of his party for that office and his name shall not be printed on the primary ballot.

In the event that no person qualifies as a candidate under the provisions of this section, or that the vacancy occurs less than 45 days before the primary, the appropriate committee of the political party shall determine the time and method of nominating its candidate for the office.

§ 24.2-537. Procedure when nominee by default dies or withdraws or nomination is set aside prior to primary.

A. If any person who would have been nominated as the candidate of a political party for any office in any general election by reason of the fact that he was the only person who filed the required declaration of and petition for candidacy dies or withdraws as the party candidate, or his nomination is set aside for any reason, 45 days or more before the day on which the primary would have been held if two or more candidates had qualified, the appropriate committee of

the political party shall determine the time and method of nominating its candidate for the office.

B. If the party committee determines that the party's nominee shall be elected at the scheduled primary, any person desiring to become a candidate for nomination by the party at that primary who is otherwise qualified may file a declaration of and petition for his candidacy with the proper chairman of his party committee. No person whose nomination has been set aside for fraud knowingly participated in by the candidate, or other person who knowingly participated in such fraud, shall be deemed qualified. The declaration and petition shall comply in every respect with the requirements established generally for such declarations and petitions in this article, except that the declaration and petition shall be filed at least 35 days before the day on which the primary is to be held.

If more than one person qualifies, the party chairman shall promptly certify their names to the State Board and the appropriate electoral boards as having qualified under the provisions of this section. The electoral boards having charge of the printing of the official ballots for the primary election shall either:

1. Cause to be printed thereon the name of every person so certified; or
2. If the official ballots have already been printed, cause separate ballots to be printed for the office for which two or more persons have qualified pursuant to the provisions of this section.

In the event that only one person qualifies as a candidate in accordance with the provisions of this section, the person so qualifying shall be declared the nominee of his party for that office and his name shall not be printed on the primary ballot.

In the event that no person qualifies as a candidate pursuant to the provisions of this section, or that the death or withdrawal or setting aside of candidacy of any such party nominee should occur at a time which is less than 45 days prior to any such primary, the appropriate committee of the political party shall determine the time and method of nominating its candidate for the office.

C. No party shall nominate any person whose nomination has been set aside for fraud knowingly participated in by the candidate, or any other person who knowingly participated in such fraud.

§ 24.2-538. Procedure when opposed candidate for nomination dies prior to primary.

If any person who is a candidate for nomination by a political party at a primary election, and who, along with one or more other candidates, has qualified to have his name printed on the official ballot for the primary, dies 45 days or more before the day on which the primary is to be held, any person otherwise qualified who desires to be a candidate at that primary may file a declaration of and petition for his candidacy with the proper chairman of his party committee. The declaration and petition shall comply in every respect with the requirements established generally for such declarations and petitions by this article, except that the declaration and petition shall be filed at least 35 days before the day on which the primary is to be held.

The party chairman or chairmen shall promptly certify the names of every such person to the State Board and appropriate electoral boards as having qualified under the provisions of this section. Every electoral board having charge of the printing of official ballots for the primary election shall either:

1. Cause to be printed thereon the name of every person so certified; or
2. If the official ballots have already been printed, cause separate ballots to be printed for the office containing the names of those candidates other than the decedent who have theretofore qualified and the names of those certified to it as having qualified pursuant to the provisions of this section. The board may, in its discretion, cause to be stricken from the ballots already printed the title of the office involved and the names of all candidates for nomination for the office appearing thereon.

Whenever any additional candidate shall qualify pursuant to this section, no ballots theretofore cast by absentee vote for a candidate for such office shall be counted, but any person who has so voted shall be entitled to receive a new ballot and to vote for his choice among all the candidates for such office.

§ 24.2-542. State Board to be furnished names of electors selected by political parties; oaths of electors.

In elections for President and Vice President of the United States, the appropriate chairman or secretary of each political party shall furnish to the State Board by noon of the seventy-fourth day before the presidential election (i) the names of the electors selected by the party at its convention held for that purpose, together with the names of the political party and of the candidates for President and Vice President for whom the electors are required to vote in the Electoral College and (ii) a copy of a subscribed and notarized oath by each elector stating that he will, if elected, cast his ballot for the candidates for President and Vice President nominated by the party that selected the elector, or as the party may direct in the event of death, withdrawal or disqualification of the party nominee. In the event of the death or withdrawal of a candidate of a political party for President or Vice President, that party may substitute the name of a different candidate before the State Board certifies to the county and city electoral boards the form of the official ballots. The State Board shall also be furnished, if it requests, with satisfactory evidence that any person undertaking to act as an elector on behalf of any political party is, in fact, duly and properly authorized to do so.

§ 24.2-542.1. State Board to be furnished names of electors selected by political parties; certain national conventions.

Notwithstanding the provisions of § 24.2-542, (i) the state political party chairman of a political party whose national convention has been scheduled to be held after the seventy-fourth day before the presidential election, shall file by noon on the seventy-fourth day before the presidential election, with the certification of its at-large electors, a certification of the persons expected to be nominated for President and Vice President at its national convention; (ii) the State Board of Elections shall certify candidates to the local electoral boards and ballot preparation shall proceed based on the state party chairman's certifications; and (iii) the

persons nominated by the party at its national convention shall be certified to the State Board no later than 5:00 p.m. on the sixtieth day before the presidential election.

§ 24.2-543. How other groups may submit names of electors; oaths of electors.

A. A group of qualified voters, not constituting a political party as defined in § 24.2-101, may have the names of electors selected by them, including one elector residing in each congressional district and two from the Commonwealth at large, printed upon the official ballot to be used in the election of electors for President and Vice President by filing a petition pursuant to this section. The petition shall be filed with the State Board by noon of the seventy-fourth day before the presidential election. The petition shall be signed by at least 5,000 qualified voters and include signatures of at least 200 qualified voters from each congressional district. The petition shall be signed by petitioners on and after January 1 of the year of the presidential election only and contain the residence address of each petitioner. The signature of each petitioner shall be witnessed either by a person who is a constitutionally qualified candidate for President of the United States, who may witness his own petition, or by a person who is a resident of the Commonwealth and who is not a minor or a felon whose voting rights have not been restored and whose affidavit to that effect appears on each page of the petition. The petition shall state the names of the electors selected by the petitioners, the party name under which they desire the named electors to be listed on the ballot, and the names of the candidates for President and Vice President for whom the electors are required to vote in the Electoral College. The persons filing the petition shall file with it a copy of a subscribed and notarized oath by each elector stating that he will, if elected, cast his ballot for the candidates for President and Vice President named in the petition, or as the party may direct in the event of death, withdrawal or disqualification of the party nominee. In order to utilize a selected party name on the ballot, the petitioners shall have had a state central committee composed of registered voters from each congressional district of the Commonwealth, a party plan and bylaws, and a duly designated chairman and secretary in existence and holding office for at least six months prior to filing the petition. The State Board may require proof that the petitioners meet these requirements before permitting use of a party name on the ballot. The party name shall not be identical with or substantially similar to the name of any political party qualifying under § 24.2-101 and then in existence.

In the event of the death or withdrawal of a candidate for President or Vice President qualified to appear on the ballot by party name, that party may substitute the name of a different candidate before the State Board certifies to the county and city electoral boards the form of the official ballots.

In the event that a group of qualified voters meets the requirements set forth in this section except that they cannot utilize a party name, the electors selected and the candidates for President and Vice President shall be identified and designated as "Independent" on the ballot. Substitution of a different candidate for Vice President may be made by the candidate for President before the State Board certifies to the county and city electoral boards the form of the official ballot.

In the event of the death or disqualification of any person listed as an elector for candidates for President and Vice President on a petition filed pursuant to this section, the party or candidate for President, as applicable, may substitute the name of a different elector. Such substitution shall not invalidate any petition of qualified voters circulated with the name of the deceased or disqualified elector provided that notice of the substitution is filed with the State Board by noon of the seventy-fourth day before the presidential election. Notice of the substitution and the name of any substitute elector shall be submitted on a form prepared by the State Board.

B. If the State Board determines that a candidate for President does not qualify to have his name appear on the ballot pursuant to this section by reason of the candidate's filed petition not containing the minimum number of signatures of qualified voters for the office sought, the candidate may appeal the determination to the State Board within seven calendar days of the issuance of the notice of disqualification. The notice of disqualification shall be sent by email or regular mail to the address on file for the candidate, and such notice shall be deemed sufficient. The State Board shall hear the appeal within three business days of its filing.

The State Board shall develop procedures for the conduct of such an appeal. The consideration on appeal shall be limited to whether or not the signatures on the petitions that were filed were reasonably rejected according to the requirements of this title and the rules and procedures set forth by the State Board for checking petitions. Immediately after the conclusion of the appeal hearing, the State Board shall notify the candidate of its decision in writing. The decision on appeal shall be final and not subject to further appeal.

§ 24.2-544. Time presidential primaries to be held and completion of duties by officers of election; age qualifications for participation.

A. Primaries for the nomination of candidates for the office of President of the United States to be voted on at the November 2012 general election and the November general election in each presidential election year thereafter shall be held on the first Tuesday in March preceding the November general election.

B. The provisions of this title shall apply to the conduct of presidential election year primaries including the time limits applicable to notices and candidate filing deadlines and the closing of registration records before the primary. The State Board shall provide a schedule for the notices and filing deadlines by the August 1 prior to the March primary including a campaign finance disclosure report filing schedule adjusted to reflect the differences between the June date for other primaries and the March date for the presidential primary and primaries for the nomination of candidates for offices to be voted on at the general election date in May.

C. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any officer of election who serves at any election held on the first Tuesday in March shall be required to complete his official duties relating to that election whether or not he has been reappointed to serve for the ensuing year.

D. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any person who is otherwise qualified and will be 18 years of age on or before the day of the next November general

election shall be permitted to register in advance of and also vote in any presidential primary and any other primary held on the same day.

§ 24.2-545. Presidential primary.

A. The duly constituted authorities of the state political party shall have the right to determine the method by which the state party will select its delegates to the national convention to choose the party's nominees for President and Vice President of the United States including a presidential primary or another method determined by the party. The state chairman shall notify the State Board of the party's determination at least 90 days before the primary date. If the party has determined that it will hold a presidential primary, each registered voter of the Commonwealth shall be given an opportunity to participate in the presidential primary of the political party, as defined in § 24.2-101, subject to requirements determined by the political party for participation in its presidential primary. The requirements may include, but shall not be limited to, the signing of a pledge by the voter of his intention to support the party's candidate when offering to vote in the primary. The requirements applicable to a party's primary shall be determined at least 90 days prior to the primary date and certified to, and approved by, the State Board.

B. Any person seeking the nomination of the national political party for the office of President of the United States, or any group organized in the Commonwealth on behalf of, and with the consent of such person, may file with the State Board petitions signed by at least 5,000 qualified voters, including at least 200 qualified voters from each congressional district in the Commonwealth, who attest that they intend to participate in the primary of the same political party as the candidate for whom the petitions are filed. Such petitions shall be filed with the State Board by the primary filing deadline. The petitions shall be on a form prescribed by the State Board and shall be sealed in one or more containers to which is attached a written statement giving the name of the presidential candidate and the number of signatures on the petitions contained in the containers. Such person or group shall also attach a list of the names of persons who would be elected delegates and alternate delegates to the political party's national convention if the person wins the primary and the party has determined that its delegates will be selected pursuant to the primary. The slate of delegates and alternates shall comply with the rules of the national and state party.

The State Board shall transmit the material so filed to the state chairman of the party of the candidate immediately after the primary filing deadline. The sealed containers containing the petitions for a candidate may be opened only by the state chairman of the party of the candidate. The state chairman of the party shall, by the deadline set by the State Board, furnish to the State Board the names of all candidates who have satisfied the requirements of this section. In furnishing the name of each such candidate, the state chairman shall certify that a review of the filed candidate petitions found the required minimum number of signatures of qualified voters for that office to have been met. Whenever only one candidate for a party's nomination for President of the United States has met the requirements to have his name on the ballot, he will be declared the winner and no presidential primary for that party will be held.

C. The names of all candidates in the presidential primary of each political party shall appear on the ballot in an order determined by lot by the State Board.

D. The State Board shall certify the results of the presidential primary to the state chairman. If the party has determined that its delegates and alternates will be selected pursuant to the primary, the slate of delegates and alternates of the candidate receiving the most votes in the primary shall be deemed elected by the state party unless the party has determined another method for allocation of delegates and alternates. If the party has determined to use another method for selecting delegates and alternates, those delegates and alternates shall be bound to vote on the first ballot at the national convention for the candidate receiving the most votes in the primary unless that candidate releases those delegates and alternates from such vote.

E. The election, or binding of votes, of delegates to a political party's national convention for the nomination of that party's candidates for President and Vice President of the United States through the presidential primary process shall be considered to be equivalent to a primary for the nomination of a party's candidate.

F. The cost of the presidential primary shall be paid by the Commonwealth pursuant to the provisions of the appropriation act.

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY**

This document must be signed and acknowledged below before an officer authorized to take oaths. Both it and the petitions of qualified voters must be received by the Department of Elections no later than **5:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 10, 2015.**

A. CONSENT OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

The group listed below has been organized in Virginia to circulate petitions on my behalf and with my consent.

NAME OF GROUP _____

NAME OF CHAIR _____

MAILING ADDRESS OF CHAIR _____

SIGNATURE OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____

B. DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

I, _____, FIRST NAME _____ MIDDLE/MAIDEN NAME _____ LAST NAME _____, SUFFIX _____,

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____ CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____,

hereby declare myself to be a candidate for the office of President of the United States in the Presidential Primary election of the political party indicated below to be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2016.

Democratic Republican

CHECK ONE BOX

I understand and agree that my name will appear on the presidential general election ballot only if I am nominated by the political party in whose presidential primary I am participating. Given under my hand this _____ day of _____, 2015.

SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE _____

PRINT YOUR NAME AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT*

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____

HEADQUARTERS TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

*Name on ballot must not exceed 25 spaces and may not include any titles.

State of _____, STATE _____, COUNTY/CITY _____,

PRINT NAME OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE _____, personally appeared before

me on this _____ day of _____, 2015, signed the foregoing instrument, and having been duly sworn by me, affirmed that the statements made herein are true.

PLACE NOTARY SEAL HERE IF APPLICABLE.

SIGNATURE OF NOTARY OR OTHER PERSON AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER OATHS _____ Commission expires _____.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

I, _____, FIRST NAME MIDDLE OR MAIDEN NAME LAST NAME SUFFIX, IF ANY _____,

RESIDENT ADDRESS _____,

of the city/county/town of _____, hereby declare myself to be a candidate for
 the office of _____ in the _____

ENTER CONGRESSIONAL, STATE SENATE OR HOUSE, OR LOCAL DISTRICT, IF APPLICABLE; OTHERWISE LEAVE BLANK

District in the election to be held on _____, 20 _____. [CHECK ONE SQUARE BELOW]

- General
 Democratic Primary

- Special
 Republican Primary

If I am a candidate in a primary and am defeated in the primary, my name is not to be printed on the ballots to be used in the succeeding general election for the same office.

Given under my hand this _____ day of _____, 20 _____.

SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE		(AREA CODE) HOME TELEPHONE	
PRINTED NAME OF CANDIDATE		(AREA CODE) BUSINESS TELEPHONE	
MAILING ADDRESS			
CITY/TOWN/STATE/ZIP+ 4			

*THIS DECLARATION MUST BE ACKNOWLEDGED BEFORE A NOTARY OR OTHER OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO TAKE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OR
 WITNESSED BEFORE TWO PERSONS REGISTERED AND QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN THE ELECTION DISTRICT IN WHICH THE CANDIDATE OFFERS FOR OFFICE.*

To be completed by witnesses **OR** notary

State of _____ County/City of _____

The foregoing instrument was subscribed and sworn before me this _____ day of _____,
 20 ____, by _____.
 PRINT NAME OF CANDIDATE

WITNESSED:

1. _____

SIGNATURE OF QUALIFIED VOTER

PRINT FULL NAME

RESIDENT ADDRESS

CITY/TOWN

ZIP

2. _____

SIGNATURE OF QUALIFIED VOTER

PRINT FULL NAME

RESIDENT ADDRESS

CITY/TOWN

ZIP

OR

PLACE PHOTOGRAPHICALLY REPRODUCIBLE
 NOTARY SEAL/STAMP BELOW

SIGNATURE OF NOTARY OR OTHER OFFICER

NOTARY REGISTRATION NUMBER

DATENOTARYCOMMISSIONEXPIRES

THIS DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY MUST BE FILED WITH PETITIONS CONTAINING THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF SIGNATURES OF REGISTERED VOTERS. TO OBTAIN ALL REQUIRED FORMS AND CANDIDATE INFORMATION BULLETIN WHICH DETAILS QUALIFICATIONS, NUMBER OF SIGNATURES REQUIRED, WHERE TO FILE AND FILING DEADLINES, CALL THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS AT:

804-864-8901 OR OUTSIDE THE RICHMOND CALLING AREA, TOLL-FREE 800-552-9745.

Virginia Delegate Selection Media & Outreach Plan

The Chair of the Democratic Party of Virginia, together with members of the Affirmative Action Committee, and State Party staff and officers will work to engage all members of the public in the process and election of Virginia's delegates to the national convention, with particular focus on communities that are historically underrepresented.

On September 13, 2019, the State Party will distribute the press kits to a large media list, curated with effort to include all constituency-based media outlet. The list of outlets is included at the end of this plan. The Executive Director has the authority to add outlets throughout the delegate selection process.

Well-publicized educational workshops will be conducted in each of the delegate districts, either in person or through a webinar, beginning in September 2019. These workshops will be designed to encourage participation in the delegate selection process, including apprising potential delegate and alternate candidates of the availability of financial assistance. These workshops will be held in places that are easily accessible to persons with disabilities. The times, dates, places and rules for the conduct of all education workshops, meetings and other events involved in the delegate selection process shall be effectively publicized by the party organization and include mailings to various organizations representative of the Democratic voting electorate.

A speakers bureau of volunteers from the State Party, including the Affirmative Action Committee, shall be comprised of individuals who are fully familiar with the process, will be organized to appear before groups, as needed, to provide information concerning the process.

The State Party's education efforts will include outreach to community leaders within the Democratic Party's constituencies and making sure that information about the delegate selection process is available to Democratic clubs and Party caucuses representing specific constituencies.

The State Party will publish and make available at no cost: a clear and concise explanation of how Democratic voters can participate in the delegate selection process. As well, the State Party shall also make available copies of the State Party Rules, the Delegate Selection Plan (and its attachments), the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program, and relevant state statutes at no cost. Copies of documents related to the state's delegate selection process will be prepared and the State Party and Affirmative Action Committee will distribute them in the various delegate districts not later than September 30, 2019.

The Affirmative Action Committee will develop a State Party strategy to be implemented beginning September 13, 2019, that will provide education programs directly to voters who continue to experience confusing timelines for registration, changing party affiliation deadlines,

or lack of awareness of the process for running for delegate, to ensure all Democratic voters understand the rules and timelines and their impact on voter participation.

The State Party shall direct special attention to publicizing the delegate selection process in the state. Such publicity shall include information on eligibility to vote and how to become a candidate for delegate, the time and location of each stage of the delegate selection process, and where to get additional information. The foregoing information will also be published in the State Party communications in social media, at in-person meetings, on the general distribution list and on the State Party's website in addition to the press list below. The Party organization, official, candidate, or member calling a meeting or scheduling an event, shall effectively publicize the role that such meeting or event plays in the selection of delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention.

The goal of this plan is to increase the participation of people running to be a delegate and to increase the diversity in the pool of candidates. To achieve this, the State Party staff will post and share regular updates about the state's delegate selection process, rules, timeline and any other pertinent information to ensure broad and timely coverage and awareness about the process to all interested persons.

At all times beginning in September 2019 and throughout the delegate selection process all necessary materials, media alerts, press releases, forms, instructions and notice of meetings and elections will be kept up-to-date and in a prominent place on the State Party website. Specifically, information to be posted on the website will include:

- State 2020 Delegate Selection Plan
- Materials designed to encourage participation and inform prospective delegate candidates;
- A summary explaining the role of the 2020 Convention in nominating the Party's Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates and adopting the National Platform;
- A summary of the State Party's delegate selection process including all pertinent rules, dates, and filing requirements related to the process;
- A map of delegate districts and how many delegates will be elected within each district, along with filing forms or information on how to obtain the filing forms.

The State Democratic Party is committed to help achieve full participation of those groups of Americans who have historically been explicitly denied the right to vote or who have been subjected to discriminatory and exclusionary practices that have denied them voting rights and full participation in the delegate selection process and other Party meetings, events and elections, along with other groups of Americans who are also underrepresented in Party affairs.

As such, the State Democratic Party has developed outreach and inclusion programs and is committed to fully implementing the programs so that all persons who wish to participate as Democrats understand they are welcome and encouraged to be a part of the delegate selection process and in the Party at the local, state and national levels.

The State Party, in collaboration with the Democratic Party of Virginia Disabilities Caucus, will make accommodations to facilitate greater participation by people with disabilities. This will include making sure facilities used for all steps of the process, including trainings and workshops, meet ADA accessibility requirements and providing assistance for the hearing and visually impaired.

In addition to the education, publicity and other steps described above, the State Party will work with the Caucuses and Organizations of the Virginia Democratic Party, including the Virginia Democratic Women's Caucus, the Democratic Black Caucus of Virginia, the Disability Caucus, the Rural Caucus, the Small Business Caucus, the LGBT Democrats of Virginia, the Virginia Young Democrats, the Democratic Asian Americans of Virginia, the Latino Democratic Caucus, the Veterans and Military Family Members Caucus, and the Labor Caucus, to ensure participation reflects the diversity of the Commonwealth. The Democratic Party of Virginia will host a training webinar for these Caucuses and Organizations and their members and stakeholders in January 2019 to provide an overview of the delegate selection period and answer any questions the participants may have on the process.

Alexandria Gazette Packet	The Floyd Press	Radford News Journal
Alexandria Times	Fluvanna Review	Rappahannock News
Alexandria Zebra	The Franklin News-Post	Rappahannock Record
The Altavista Journal	The Free Lance-Star	Rappahannock Times
The Amelia Bulletin Monitor	The Free Press	The Recorder
Amherst New Era-Progress	The Gazette	Reston Connection
Arlington Catholic Herald	The Gazette-Virginian	Richland News-Press
Arlington Connection	Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal	Richmond Free Press
Arlington Sun Gazette	The Goochland Gazette	Richmond Magazine
Associated Press	Great Falls Connection	Richmond Times-Dispatch
Bedford Bulletin	The Greene County Record	The Rivah Visitor's Guide
The Bland County Messenger	Henrico Citizen	The Roanoke Times
The Blue Ridge Leader and Loudoun Today	In and Around Horse Country	The Rockbridge Advocate
The Breeze	Independent-Messenger	Rocktown Weekly
Bristol Herald Courier	Inside Business	The Rotunda
Brunswick Times-Gazette	Inside NOVA - Prince William	Salem Times-Register
Bull Run Observer	Inside NOVA - Stafford	Scott County Virginia Star
The Burg	The Journal	The Shenandoah Valley-Herald
Burke Connection	The Kenbridge-Victoria Dispatch	Showcase Magazine
The Carroll News	The Lebanon News	Smith Mountain Eagle
The Cavalier Daily	The Legacy	The Smithfield Times
The Central Virginian	Liberty Champion	Smyth County News and Messenger
Centre View	Loudoun Now	South Hill Enterprise
Chantilly Connection	Loudoun Times-Mirror	The Southside Messenger
The Charlotte Gazette	The Madison County Eagle	Southside Sentinel
Charlottesville Tomorrow	Martinsville Bulletin	The Southwest Times
Chesterfield Observer	McLean Connection	Springfield Connection
Clinch Valley News	The Mechanicsville Local	The Star-Tribune
The Coalfield Progress	The Mecklenburg Sun	Style Weekly
Collegiate Times	Middleburg Life	Suffolk Living
The Commonwealth Times	Mount Vernon Gazette	Suffolk News-Herald
Cooperative Living	Mountain Courier	Sussex-Surry Dispatch
Courier-Record	Nelson County Times	The Tidewater News
The Crewe-Burkeville Journal	The New Castle Record	Tidewater Review
The Crozet Gazette	The News and Advance	Times-Virginian
Culpeper Star-Exponent	The News and Record	The Union Star
Culpeper Times	The News Leader	The Vienna/Oakton Connection
C-Ville Weekly	The News Virginian	Village News
Daily News-Record	The News-Gazzete	The Vinton Messenger
Daily Press	The News-Massenger	Virginia Business
The Daily Progress	The News-Progress	The Virginia Gazette
Danville Register and Bee	North of the James Magazine	Virginia Lawyers Weekly
The Declaration	The Northern Neck News	The Virginia Mountaineer
The Dickenson Star	Northern Virginia Daily	Virginian Leader
The Dinwiddie Monitor	Northumberland Echo	Virginian Review

Eastern Shore News	Nuevas Raices	The Virginian-Pilot
Eastern Shore Post	The Oak Hill/Herndon Connection	The Voice
El Tiempo Latino	The Old Bridge Observer	The Warren County Report
The Enterprise	Orange County Review	The Warren Sentinel
Evince Magazine	Oyster Pointer	Washington Business Journal
Fairfax Connection	Page News and Courier	Washington County News
The Fairfax County Times	The Patriot	The Washington Post
Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection	The Post	The Washington Times
Fairfax Sun Gazette	Powell Valley News	Westmoreland News
Falls Church News-Press	Powhatan Today	What's Up Prince William
The Farmville Herald	The Prince George Journal	The Whitetopper
Fauquier Now	Prince William/Gainesville Times	The Winchester Star
Fauquier Times	The Princess Anne Independent News	Wytheville Enterprise
The Fincastle Herald	The Progress-Index	Yorktown Crier/The Poquoson Post

El Pregonero	Spanish Lang	Richmond Free Press	AFAM
Las Americas	Spanish Lang	The Filipino Chronicle	AAPI
Tidewater Hispanic	Spanish Lang	The Washington Blade	AFAM
El Tiempo Latino	Spanish Lang	The Washington Afro American (Washington, DC)	AFAM
Telemundo (Channel 44)	Spanish Lang	MetroWeekly (DC)	LGBT
Washington Hispanic	Spanish Lang	Arlington Gay & Lesbian Alliance Newsletter	LGBT
El Comercio	Spanish Lang	Asian Fortune	AAPI
Nuestra Voz Unida	Spanish Lang	The New Journal & Guide (Norfolk)	AFAM
Univision (TV)	Spanish Lang	The Captain's Log (CNU)	Student
La Voz Hispana	Spanish Lang	The Breeze (JMU)	Student
Washington's Voz	Spanish Lang	The Cavalier Daily (UVA)	Student
Tamrindo News	Spanish Lang	Collegiate Times (VPI)	Student
Hispanic Link	Spanish Lang	The Tartan (Radford)	Student
Impacto	Spanish Lang	The Iron Blade (Ferrum)	Student
Variedades de Washington (TV)	Spanish Lang	The Mace and Crown (ODU)	Student
Azteca America	Spanish Lang	The Script (HU)	Student
Radio Capital (730am)	Spanish Lang	The Rotunda (LU)	Student
Viva 900 (900 am)	Spanish Lang	The Flat Hat (W&M)	Student
El Zol (99.1)	Spanish Lang	The Yellow Jacket (R-MC)	Student
Radio Fiesta	Spanish Lang	The Blue and Gray Press (UMW)	Student
Qatar News Agency	AAPI	Korea Times	AAPI
The Muslim Link	AAPI		



★ VIRGINIA ★
STATE BOARD *of* ELECTIONS

How to Run for Office For Candidates and Party Representatives

Requirements for the
March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election

Who is this document for?

For candidates who want to file to run for President in the Primary, go to page 4.

For political party representatives, go to page 9.

Important definitions and key icons

Follow these instructions to **get on the ballot for President in the Presidential Primary Election on Tuesday March 3, 2020.**

Independent candidate – an individual who is seeking to run in a General Election without running as a Republican or Democrat (may include a recognized party or no party)

Political party – An organization that, at either of the two preceding statewide general elections, received at least 10 percent of the total vote cast for any statewide office filled in that election (currently only Democratic and Republican)

Primary candidate – an individual who is seeking the nomination of a political party by running in a primary

Qualified voter – A person who is entitled to vote under the Virginia Constitution and is properly registered to vote (*see [definition here](#)*)

Recognized political party – An organization that meets the requirements set out in Va. Code § 24.2-612

Va. Code – Virginia Code



- Notes where to find information in the Code of Virginia or Virginia Administrative Code.



- Indicates beginning and/or ending deadlines for filing documents.



- Indicates information on where to file documents.



- Indicates additional information that may be helpful.

Only the Republican and Democratic parties run a presidential primary on March 3, 2020.

The Democratic Party of Virginia and the Republican Party of Virginia are the only organizations currently recognized as political parties under § 24.2-101 of the *Code of Virginia*. Therefore, they are the only political parties permitted to select a presidential primary in connection with the respective national conventions in the summer of 2020.

The deadlines provided below apply only to those political parties and candidates who wish to participate in either party's presidential primary. They do not apply to independent candidates or candidates for a recognized political party.

Election deadlines for voters 2020

Type of election	Candidates: last day to file	Parties: last day to file	Last day to register to vote	Last day to apply for an absentee ballot	Election Date
Primary for Nov 3 general.	Thursday Dec 12th, 2019 at 5pm	Tuesday Dec 17th, 2019 at 5pm	Monday, Feb 17th, 2020 •In-person:5:00 pm •Online:11:59 pm	Online, fax, or mail: Tuesday February 25 th , 2020 at 5 pm. In-person: Saturday Feb 29 th , 2020 at 5:00 pm.	Tuesday March 3 rd , 2020
Find in code	Va. Code §§ 24.2-503 , 24.2-522 and 24.2-524	Va. Code § 24.2-527	Va. Code §§ 24.2-414 and 24.2-416	Va. Code § 24.2-701	Va. Code § 24.2-515

I want to run in my party's primary.

Use this table to learn what, when, and where to file. [Find more information below this table.](#)

What do I need to file?	Notes or other information	Where do I file this form?	When does filing open?	What is the deadline to file?
The following 3 forms are required by all candidates filing for this election.				
1 Declaration of Candidacy	File with the Petitions of Qualified Voters (2) and Petition Statement (3).	Must be in the possession of the Department of Elections by the deadline.	Monday, July 1, 2019	Thursday December 12, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.
2 Petition of Qualified Voters	Do not collect signatures before July 1, 2019. File these in a sealed container. File with the Consent/Declaration (1) and the Petition Statement (3).	Must be in the possession of the Department of Elections by the deadline.	Monday, July 1, 2019	Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.
3 Petition Statement	File with Declaration of Candidacy (1) and must be attached to the outside of the Petitions of Qualified Voters (2).	Must be in the possession of the Department of Elections by the deadline.	Monday, July 1, 2019	Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.
The following documents may be required depending on your party's rules. Check with your party to know if these forms are required.				
List of National Convention Delegates and Alternates	File list of delegates and alternates if the party's delegates are selected at the primary. File with (1), (2), and (3).	With the Department of Elections. If required, must be in the possession of the Department of Elections by the deadline.	Monday, July 1, 2019	Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.
Primary Filing Fee	No filing fee is required for the presidential primary.			
Campaign Finance Reports	Candidates for President do not file reports with the Department of Elections.	With the Federal Election Commission (FEC).		

The following three steps are required for your candidacy:

1. Fill out and submit [Declaration of Candidacy \(SBE-505/520\(P\)\)](#).



Find in Virginia Code [§ 24.2-520](#).



Presidential Primary candidates

File starting **July 1st, 2019**.

File ending **December 12th, 2019 at 5 pm.**

This form must be in the possession of the Department of Elections by the deadline.
Forms postmarked by the deadline, but received after the deadline will not be accepted.



Submit this form to the Department of Elections.



File along with the Petitions of Qualified Voters and the Petition Statement.

- Fill the form out completely.
- Make sure the witness or notary statement is completed.

After you submit this form:

- The Department of Elections puts your information into the Virginia Election and Registration Information System (VERIS).
- The Department of Elections posts your contact information on the Department website.

2. Collect petition signatures and submit the [Petitions of Qualified Voters \(SBE-545\)](#).



Find in Va. Code §§ [24.2-505\(D\)](#), [24.2-506](#), [24.2-507](#), [24.2-521](#), [24.2-522](#), and [24.2-545](#).

Find in Virginia Administrative Code [1 VAC 20-50-20](#) and [1 VAC 20-50-30](#).

Contact your attorney for guidance.

	Do not collect signatures before	You can collect signatures between	You can submit signatures:
	July 1, 2019.	Monday, July 1 st , 2019 through Thursday, December 12 th , 2019.	Monday, July 1 st , 2019 through Thursday, December 12 th , 2019 at 5:00pm



File the original petition pages with the Department of Elections.



File along with the Declaration of Candidacy and the Petition Statement.

Number of petition signatures you need from qualified voters

Total: 5,000 signatures

From each of the 11 Congressional Districts: 200 signatures

Things to remember about petitions:

Petition Pages must...

- be on the form from the State Board of Elections, and you cannot alter it in any way
- be either letter or legal size. Both are available on the [Department of Elections website](#).
- be one page printed on the front and back. You can make as many copies as you need.
- contain the signature, printed full name, and full residence address of each qualified voter and the date the voter signed. The last four (4) digits of the qualified voter's Social Security number are helpful, but not required.

The petition circulator...

- must be a resident of the United States and must sign the affidavit for each page in front of a notary.
- cannot be the circulator of the page on which they sign the petition.

When filing your petition pages...

- Each page should contain signatures from only one locality and congressional district. It is helpful to track signatures by congressional district, and there is a place on the page to enter that information.
- Please file the pages in ascending order by congressional district to facilitate processing.
- Deliver the Petitions for the Presidential Primary to the Department of Elections in a sealed container. The Department of Elections will deliver the sealed container to the state chair of the candidate's political party. The state chair is the only person who can open the sealed container(s).

When collecting your petition signatures, it is helpful to remember that...

- Because people who are not registered to vote often sign petitions for candidates, we recommended that you collect at least 7,500 signatures with at least 300 from each congressional district.



3. Fill out and submit the [Petition Statement \(ELECT-545B\)](#).



Find in Virginia Code § [24.2-545](#).



File starting **July 1st, 2019**.

File ending **December 12th, 2019 at 5 pm**.



Submit this form to the Department of Elections.



File along with the Declaration of Candidacy and Petitions of Qualified Voters.

Attach this form to the first sealed container of petitions.

The Department of Elections provides the ELECT-545B for your use, but you may use your own form. If you use your own form, make sure it contains the following pieces of information:

- Name of the presidential candidate
- Total number of signatures on petitions in the container(s)

Check with your party to see if the following steps are required for your candidacy:

List of national convention delegates and alternates.



Find in Virginia Code § [24.2-545](#).



File starting **July 1st, 2019**.

File ending **December 12th, 2019 at 5 pm**.



Submit this information to the Department of Elections.



Submit along with the Declaration of Candidacy, Petitions of Qualified Voters, and Petition Statement.

ONLY submit these lists if your political party has determined that delegates to the National Convention will be selected based on the results of the primary.

There is no official form for this list.

How do I withdraw my candidacy?



Submit by **Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 5:00 pm** to have your name removed from the ballot.

If you submit any time after December 18 at 5:00 pm, your name will not be removed from the ballot, but you will no longer be a candidate.



Submit your written withdrawal to your state party chair.



To be withdrawn from the ballot you must submit a signed written notice declaring your intent to withdraw from the primary.

I am the state chair of the Democratic or Republican Party.

What, when, and where do I file?

Use this table to learn what, when, and where to file. [Find more information below this table.](#)

What do I need to file?	Notes or other information	Where do I file this form?	When does filing open?	What is the deadline to file?
The following 2 items are required to be filed by the State Party Chair.				
1	Notice of Nomination Method § 24.2-545(A)	Notify the State Board of Elections of choice of primary or other method of nomination. Include any rules for participation in a primary (if applicable).	Must be in the possession of the Department of Elections by the deadline.	Monday, July 1, 2019 Wednesday December 4 th , 2019 at 5:00 p.m.
2	Certification of Presidential Primary Candidates § 24.2-545(B)	List all certified by the party as candidates for the presidential primary.	Must be in the possession of the Department of Elections by the deadline.	Friday, December 13 th , 2019 Tuesday, December 17 th , 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

Follow these steps to file your party's paperwork:

1. Submit Notice of Nomination Method.



Find in Virginia Code [§ 24.2-545\(A\)](#).



File starting **July 1st, 2019**.

File ending **December 4th, 2019 at 5 pm**.

This notice must be in the possession of the Department of Elections by the deadline. Notices postmarked by the deadline, but received after the deadline will not be accepted. The notice can be emailed to the Department (ea@elections.virginia.gov) by the party chair.

There is no form for this notice. A letter to the State Board of Elections with all required information is sufficient.



Submit this to the Department of Elections.



Include this required information:

- The method the party will use to determine its delegates to the National Convention (primary or other method);
- If the party chooses a primary, any voter in the Commonwealth may participate. The party may also add additional requirements to participate. If the party adds additional requirements, include those in the notice letter.

2. File the [Certification of Presidential Primary Candidates \(SBE-545\)](#).



Find in Va. Code [§ 24.2-545\(B\)](#).



File starting **Friday, December 13th, 2019**.

File ending **Tuesday, December 17th, 2019 at 5 pm**.

This form must be in the possession of the Department of Elections by the deadline. Forms postmarked by the deadline, but received after the deadline will not be accepted. The form can be emailed to the Department (ea@elections.virginia.gov) by the party chair.



Submit this form to the Department of Elections.



The candidate filing deadline is Thursday, December 12th, 2019 at 5:00pm. Immediately after the deadline, the Department of Elections will provide all candidate material to the state party chair.

The state party chair is the only person permitted by law to open the sealed candidate petitions.

After evaluating the candidates' materials, list on the form all individuals who have met the requirements to be a candidate in your party's Presidential Primary Election.

On December 18th, The State Board of Elections will conduct a drawing to determine the order the candidates' names will be listed on the ballot.

What do I do when a candidate withdraws?



Candidate must submit by **Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 5:00 pm** to have their name removed from the ballot.

Candidates who submit any time after December 18 will not be removed from the ballot, but they will no longer be a candidate.



Submit the written withdrawal to the Department of Elections as soon as possible after you receive it. The letter can be emailed to ea@elections.virginia.gov from the party chair's email address.



To be withdrawn from the ballot, a candidate must submit a signed written notice declaring their intent to withdraw from the primary.

If a withdrawal is received close to or at the 5:00 pm deadline on December 18th, please follow up immediately by phone to ensure the withdrawal was received by the Department.

General Disclaimer

The electronic version of this Candidate Bulletin can be found on the Department of Elections website:
<https://www.elections.virginia.gov/candidatepac-info/candidate-bulletins/index.html>

Candidates are responsible for complying with all current applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations.

This Candidate Bulletin provides an overview of Virginia electoral requirements only. It does not purport to provide legal advice or binding statements of official policy. Rather, the Candidate Bulletin describes election law found in the Code of Virginia. Applicable laws and regulations are subject to change in content and interpretation.



November 15, 2019

James Roosevelt, Jr.
Lorraine Miller
Rules and Bylaws Committee Co-Chairs
Democratic National Committee
430 South Capitol Street, S.E.
Washington, DC 20003

Re: Request for a waiver for Article III of the 2020 Call for the Democratic National Convention

Dear Mr. Roosevelt and Ms. Miller

There is a provision of the 2020 Call for the Democratic National Convention which prevent the Democratic Party of Virginia from having its Delegate Selection Plan being found in compliance by the Rules and Bylaws Committee (“RBC”). We respectfully ask that the RBC grant the waiver requested below. We further ask that representatives of the Democratic Party of Virginia be permitted to address the RBC in support of this request when it comes before the Committee.

Article III provides:

All state parties are required to take all steps necessary and appropriate to complete the process of selecting delegates to the 2020 Democratic National Convention no later than June 20, 2020.

The Democratic Party of Virginia will hold our State Convention for the purpose of election DNC Members, Electors, At-Large Delegates, At-Large Alternates, and At-Large PLEOs on June 20th, 2020. Securing a space large enough to hold the full delegation of State Level Delegates was not possible prior to June 20th. In light of this reality, we have scheduled a meeting of our National Delegation for the morning of **June 21st** where we will elect the **Delegation Chair, Standing Committee Members, and Convention Pages**. The Democratic Party of Virginia fully expects to comply with the Certification Requirements outlined in *Article IV* of the Call to Convention.

In light of our logistical reality, we request that the RBC grant the Democratic Party of Virginia’s waiver from full compliance with Article III of the 2020 Call for the Democratic National Convention. Thank you so much for your attention to this matter.





Sincerely yours,

Susan R Swecker

Susan Swecker
Chairwoman
Democratic Party of Virginia

CC: Patrice Taylor





July 15, 2019

James Roosevelt, Jr.
Lorraine Miller
Rules and Bylaws Committee Co-Chairs
Democratic National Committee
430 South Capitol Street, S.E.
Washington, DC 20003

Re: Request for a Waiver for Rule 12.B and Rule 15.E.

Dear Mr. Roosevelt and Ms. Miller

There are two provisions of Virginia State law which prevent the Democratic Party of Virginia from being compliant with DNC Delegate Selection Rules. We respectfully ask the Rules and Bylaws Committee (“RBC”) to grant the waivers requested below. We further ask that representatives of the Democratic Party of Virginia be permitted to address the Committee at its July 30, 2019 meeting in support of these requests.

2020 Delegate Selection Rules for which the Democratic Party of Virginia requests waivers.

The Democratic Party of Virginia requests waivers from full compliance with 2020 Delegate Selection Rules 12.B and 15.E.

Rule 12.B Provides:

All steps in the delegate selection process, including the filing of presidential candidates, must take place within the calendar year of the Democratic National Convention (except as otherwise provided in these rules or specifically allowed by the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee).

Rule 15.E Provides:

No deadline for the filing of petitions for participation in the presidential nomination process by a presidential candidate shall be less than 30 days in advance of the primary or caucus nor more than 75 days in advance of the primary or caucus.

Beginning in 2012, the Commonwealth of Virginia holds its Presidential Preference Primary on the first Tuesday in the month of March (see Va. Code § 24.2-544.A). This date, which falls on March 3, 2020 is permissible under the DNC Delegate Selection Rules.

The Virginia State Board of Elections set the candidate filing deadline for 82 days prior to the primary (December 12, 2019). This date is not permissible under both Rule 12.B and Rule 15.E.





The Democratic Party of Virginia has received a waiver of Rule 12.B in the past. It has not required a waiver of Rule 15.E, however, this deadline should not pose a significant difficulty for the presidential candidates. Petition forms were made available by the State Board of Election on July 1, 2019, and the Democratic Party of Virginia has communicated this information to all known presidential campaigns and will assist all the candidates in understanding the requirements and circulating the necessary forms. Indeed, a number of campaigns are currently gathering signatures.

For the reasons stated above, we request that the RBC grant the Democratic Party of Virginia's waivers from full compliance with 2020 Delegate Selection Rules 12.B and 15.E. Thank you so much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan R. Swecker".

Susan Swecker
Chairwoman
Democratic Party of Virginia

CC: Patrice Taylor



August 2nd, 2019

Lorraine Miller
James Roosevelt, Jr.
Rules and Bylaws Committee Co-Chairs
Democratic National Committee
430 South Capitol Street, S.E.
Washington, DC 20003

Re: RBC Inquiry into Democratic Party of Virginia Affirmative Action Goals

Dear Ms. Miller and Mr. Roosevelt

Following the Democratic Party of Virginia's Delegate Selection Plan submission, the Rules and Bylaws Committee voted to consider the plan in Conditional Compliance pending an explanation as to why our African American numerical goals were lower than they had been in previous years.

Unlike previous years, the DNC Data Staff worked to develop models of demographic representation for the State Parties. Part of this process included using new Consumer Voting Age Population ("CVAP") data, as well as the most up to date Partisanship Models available to the DNC. Based on their analysis of Partisanship trends in Virginia, as well as the demographic breakdown of the Democratic electorate, they concluded that the numerical representation for African Americans should be 30%, down from the 2016 number of 34%. While that represents a decrease in the percentage for African Americans, the percentage for Hispanic Americans increased from 6% to 7%, and from 5% to 6% for Asian Americans. In addition, the numerical goal for Persons with Disabilities increased from 6% to 14%, and 13.2% to 34% for young Americans. This reflects an expansion of the Democratic electorate in Virginia that has been reflected in electoral results for the past two years.

Sincerely yours,

Susan Swecker
Chairwoman
Democratic Party of Virginia

CC: Patrice Taylor





Certification

In compliance with the Democratic National Committee Delegate Selection Regulation 2.2.J, I hereby certify that the Affirmative Action Committee Composition complies with Rules 5.C, 6.A, and 7. The calculation of representative goals began with compiling the total number of voters using the registered voter list and DNC Ethnicity Modeling. The Group Democratic Vote was calculated as the number of voters in each group multiplied by the group's turnout fraction by the group's Democratic performance.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan R. Swecker".

Susan Swecker
Chair, Democratic Party of Virginia