THE

CHARTER

AND

BYLAWS

OF

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF GEORGIA

Revised August 1st, 2026

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THE CHARTER OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF GEORGIA

PREAMBLE

STATEMENT OF GOALS

We, the members of the Democratic Party of Georgia, are committed to the establishment of a Party open to all Georgia Democrats. We believe that a Party which is to call forth the best in our State will have to embody the best of our State's traditions and heritage. We are committed to the wisdom and efficacy of the will of the majority; to a belief in the merits of a two-Party system of government which allows for diversity of groups and individuals and to the belief that our party will be strengthened by these differences. We believe in the value of the individual and that government, while protecting life, liberty, and property of individuals, must also be responsive to their collective needs and wills. To this end, we encourage full, timely, and equal opportunity for all segments of the population to participate in party affairs.

While pledging ourselves to an honest and open conduct of public affairs befitting the traditions of a people dedicated to a free and just society, we seek to protect and enhance political freedom of all people and to encourage the meaningful participation of all citizens within the framework of the United States Constitution and the laws of the United States and the State of Georgia. We believe that this Charter and our Bylaws confirm a Party strengthened by its differences and armed by its devotion to the principles of a moral and ethical society.

CHARTER ARTICLE I: NAMES, DUTIES AND BYLAWS

SECTION 1. NAME

C1.01.01 The name of this organization shall be the Democratic Party of Georgia, which may hereafter be referred to as the "State Party." All members, officers, and subdivisions of the State Party, and those seeking to participate in State Party affairs, are subject to this Charter and the State Party Bylaws.

SECTION 2. DUTIES

C1.02.01 The State Party, through the State Committee, shall assist in the election of Democratic candidates, adopt and promote statements of policy, provide voter education, and raise and disburse moneys needed for State Party operation. The State Committee shall also promote fair adjudication of disputes, fair campaign practices, encourage and support codes of political ethics that embody substantive rules of ethical guidance for all public officials and Party members, and assure that public officials shall always conduct themselves in a manner that reflects credibility upon the offices they serve.

C1.02.02 In carrying out its duties, the State Party, through the State Committee, shall afford all persons full, timely, and equal opportunities to participate without prejudice based on gender, race, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, economic status, sexual orientation, ethnic identity, or physical disability.

C1.02.03 Participation in the State Party shall not be denied for failure to pay fees.

SECTION 3. BYLAWS

C1.03.01 Provisions for operating the State Party, and all bodies thereof, shall be provided for in the Bylaws.

CHARTER ARTICLE II: STATE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY

C2.01.01 The State Committee shall be the highest authority of the State Party. The State Committee shall have general responsibility for the affairs of the State Party.

SECTION 2. TIME AND CALL

C2.02.01 The State Committee shall assemble at least twice per year, at a date and time established by the Chair or as otherwise set forth in the Bylaws.

C2.02.02 Other meetings may be called by the State Chair, the Executive Committee, or the State Committee as provided in the Bylaws.

SECTION 3. DUTIES

C.2.03.01 The State Committee may adopt Party policy, legislative platforms, amend the Charter and Bylaws, nominate and elect State Party Officers and Congressional District Chairs, and act upon other matters it deems necessary.

C2.03.02 Any decision of any State Party Officer and/or the Executive Committee may be overridden by a majority vote of the State Committee, provided a forty percent (40%) quorum is present.

SECTION 4. MEMBERSHIP

C2.04.01 The State Committee shall be composed of regular and ex-officio members.

C2.04.02 Regular members of the State Committee shall be:

- the State Party Officers,
- all Executive Committee members,
- members elected by County Committees, divided as equally as possible according to gender,
- thirty (30) members named by the State Chair, and
- one member of each approved Affiliate organization.

C2.04.03 Ex-officio Members of the State Committee shall be:

- the most recent non-elected State Party nominees for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, State School Superintendent, Commissioner of Insurance, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Labor, Public Service Commissioner, and United States House and Senate, and
- if Democrats, Speaker and Speaker Pro Tempore of the State House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate; and
- the Democratic leader of both Houses of the General Assembly; and
- a male Young Democrat and a female Young Democrat, both selected by the Young Democrats of Georgia; and
- an elected member of a municipal governing body; and
- an elected member of a county governing body appointed by the State Chair.

SECTION 5. ELECTION AND TERM

C2.05.01 Election of State Committee members shall be held as provided for in the Bylaws.

C2.05.02 Regular State Committee members shall serve terms of four (4) years.

SECTION 6. OFFICERS

C2.06.01 State Party Officers shall be officers of the State Committee.

CHARTER ARTICLE III: STATE CONVENTION

SECTION 1. TIME AND CALL

C3.01.01 The State Committee shall assemble as the State Convention in Gubernatorial election years on a date between the Gubernatorial Primary and the General Election.

C3.01.02 If not established in the Bylaws, the time and place for the Convention shall be established by the Executive Committee.

C3.01.03 The Chair, the Executive Committee, or the State Committee may call a convention at such other times as either considers necessary.

SECTION 2. DUTIES

C3.02.01 The State Convention may adopt Party policy, legislative platforms, conduct any business that could be conducted at a regular State Committee meeting, and act upon other matters it deems necessary.

SECTION 3. DELEGATES

C3.03.01 All State Committee Members, regular and ex-officio, shall be delegates.

C3.03.02 Each credentialed Affiliate Organization may elect one delegate.

C3.03.03 The current State Party nominee for Governor may appoint up to two (2) additional delegates per State Senate District who reside in said District.

C3.03.04 In addition to the above, each County may elect up to twice as many delegates as that County is entitled to State Committee Members and as many alternates as that County is entitled to State Committee Members. These elected delegates do not have to be County Committee members. The method for election shall be provided in the Bylaws.

CHARTER ARTICLE IV: STATE PARTY OFFICERS

SECTION 1. STATE PARTY OFFICERS

C4.01.01 The officers of the State Party shall be a Chair, a First Vice-Chair, additional Chairs as established by the Bylaws, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

C4.01.02 The First Vice-Chair shall be of the opposite gender to the State Chair, unless there is an exception within this Charter and Bylaws.

C4.01.03 Where a racial group constitutes twenty percent (20%) or more of the registered voters in the State and where the Chair or the First Vice-Chair are not of that race, one of the additional Vice-Chairs shall be of that race, unless there is an exception within this Charter and Bylaws.

C4.01.04 A vacancy in a state party office shall be filled as provided in the Bylaws.

SECTION 2. DUTIES OF THE STATE PARTY OFFICERS

C4.02.01 The Chair shall carry out the programs and policies of the State Committee, preside over the meetings of the State Committee and Executive Committee, provide general administrative direction to the Executive Director, and serve as an ex-officio member of all committees of the State Party.

C4.02.02 In addition to other duties established by the Bylaws, the First Vice-Chair shall preside at meetings of the State Committee in the absence of the Chair. All Vice-Chairs shall perform such duties as may be delegated to them by the Chair. Where a vacancy occurs in the office of Chair, the First Vice-Chair shall be vested with full authority and power of the Chair until an election is held to fill such vacancy.

C4.02.03 The Secretary shall keep official minutes of the State Convention and meetings of the State and Executive Committees, ensure maintenance of records of official activities, and where required certify State Party Elections and attest to the signature of the Chair.

C4.02.04 The Treasurer shall serve as custodian of State Party funds and moneys, serve as member of the State Finance Committee, and maintain financial records subject to audit and review by the State Committee.

SECTION 3. ELECTION AND TERM

C4.03.01 The State Officers shall be elected as provided for in the Bylaws at a State Committee meeting to be held in the month of January immediately following the November General Election for the Office of Governor of Georgia, and shall take office immediately upon election, each serving for a term of four (4) years.

C4.03.02 If electing a State Party Chair or First Vice-Chair due to a vacancy in position mid-term, the provisions in C4.01.02 and C4.01.03 shall not be applicable for the remainder of the current term of office.

C4.03.03 If electing any state party officer due to a vacancy during a term, such election shall be to fill the remainder of the unexpired term.

CHARTER ARTICLE V: CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CHAIRS

SECTION 1. DUTIES OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CHAIRS

C5.01.01 Congressional District Chairs shall be members of the State Committee, Executive Committee, and State Party Affirmative Action Committee, and shall coordinate State Party affairs within Congressional Districts.

SECTION 2. ELECTION AND TERM

C5.02.01 A Congressional District Chair from each Congressional District shall be elected at the State Committee meeting as provided for in the Bylaws and by a vote of State Committee members representing such Congressional District; shall take office immediately; and serve a term of four (4) years.

CHARTER ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. CREATION, AUTHORITY, AND DUTIES

C6.01.01 There shall be an Executive Committee, which, except for the election of state party officers, shall act on behalf of the State Committee between State Committee meetings.

SECTION 2. MEMBERSHIP

C6.02.01 Membership of Executive Committee shall be comprised of the following persons:

- Officers of the State Party,
- State Constitutional elected officials (if Democrats),
- elected federal officials (if Democrats),
- Congressional District Chairs,
- the members of the Georgia Delegation to the Democratic National Committee,
- a Democratic member from each House of the General Assembly appointed by the Chairs of the Democratic Caucus of each House of the General Assembly,
- the President of the Georgia Association of Democratic County Chairs,
- the President of the Georgia Federation of Democratic Women,
- the President of the Georgia Council of Democratic Women,
- the President of the Young Democrats of Georgia,
- an elected member of a municipal governing body,
- an elected member of a county governing body both appointed by the State Chair,
- a representative of the Georgia State AFL-CIO appointed by the Chair,
- the Chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (formerly known as the Affirmative Action Committee), and
- three (3) additional members appointed by the Chair.

SECTION 3. OFFICERS

C6.03.01 State Party officers shall be officers of the Executive Committee.

CHARTER ARTICLE VII: COUNTY COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. CREATION AND AUTHORITY

C7.01.01 There shall be a Committee in each county of the State, which shall have countywide responsibility for the affairs of the Party.

SECTION 2. DUTIES

C7.02.01 Duties of County Committees shall be to elect State Committee members, promote development of Party organizations and activities, to seek and encourage qualified candidates for public office, to support Democratic nominees, to perform such primary and election functions as are required by law, to maintain appropriate records, to promote and add logistical support to the State Affirmative Action Program, to raise funds for the above purposes, and to perform such other duties as may be required by the State Committee.

SECTION 3. MEMBERSHIP AND PARTY DISTRICTS

C7.03.01 Unless waived by the State Executive Committee, each County Committee shall consist of at least ten (10) members to be elected from two (2) or more Party Districts. Party Districts shall be established and apportioned by the County Committee in such a way as to provide for equitable representation for each such district and to allow full participation by all segments of the population.

C7.03.02 All members, other than ex-officio members, of the County Committees must be registered to vote in that County.

SECTION 4. ELECTION AND TERMS

C7.04.01 Elected Post Seat Holders shall be elected by Party District Caucus. Half of the elected membership of each County Committee shall be elected in Gubernatorial election years and the remainder shall be elected in presidential election years. Elected Post Seat Holders shall serve four (4) year terms except where terms are affected by reapportionment or if one is elected in the middle of a term and then that Post Seat Holder will serve out the remainder of that term.

SECTION 5. OFFICERS AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

C7.05.01 Post Seat Holders shall hold a meeting to elect officers no later than December 31 following the general election. One must be a Post Seat Holder to be elected to an officer position for a County Committee.

SECTION 6. BYLAWS

C7.06.01 Each County Committee shall adopt bylaws not in conflict with the provisions of this Charter, the Bylaws, and the Election Code. Such bylaws shall become effective only when copies, certified by the County Chair, have been filed with and approved by the State Party.

CHARTER ARTICLE VIII: NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

SECTION 1. DUTIES

C8.01.01 A delegation of National Committee members shall represent the State Party on the National Committee and shall report to the State Party on National Committee affairs.

SECTION 2. ELECTION AND TERM

C8.02.01 National Committee members shall be selected at the State Committee meeting held prior to the National Convention in accordance with the requirements of the National Committee and the State Party Bylaws. National Committee members shall serve four (4) year terms.

CHARTER ARTICLE IX: AFFILIATES

SECTION 1. AFFILIATES

C9.01.01 The State Committee and County Committees may recognize and allow affiliation of statewide and countywide organizations respectively as they deem appropriate.

CHARTER ARTICLE X: PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS

SECTION 1. QUALIFICATION

C10.01.01 The qualifications for Presidential Elector nominees shall be the same as those prescribed for membership in the Democratic Party, except that such nominees may not be members of the United States Congress or hold offices of profit or trust under the United States Government.

SECTION 2. APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATION

C10.02.01 The State Party Chair shall submit names of Presidential Elector nominees to the State Executive Committee for approval. The State Party Chair and State Party Secretary shall certify a slate of nominees so approved to the Secretary of State as required by the Georgia Election Code.

SECTION 3. DUTIES

C10.03.01 The duties of Presidential Electors shall be to meet in the State Capitol on the first Monday after the second Tuesday in November, or at such other time and place as may be required by law, and vote for President and Vice-President of the United States, making such return thereof as is required by United States Law.

CHARTER ARTICLE XI: BYLAWS AND AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. BYLAWS

C11.01.01 The Bylaws of the State Party, not in conflict with this Charter, shall be adopted for the governance of the affairs of the State Party.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS

C11.02.01 This Charter and the Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the State Committee provided a fifty percent (50%) quorum is present. Each member of the State Committee shall receive written notice including the full text of any proposed amendments at least thirty (30) days in advance of a meeting held for this purpose.

THE BYLAWS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF GEORGIA

BYLAWS ARTICLE I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE PARTY

BL1.01.01 Unless the body votes to go into executive session, all meetings of each body of the State Party shall be open to the public.

BL1.01.02 The State Party may establish standards and rules of procedure to afford all members full, timely, and equal opportunity to participate in decisions concerning the formulation of policy and the conduct of Party affairs.

BL1.01.03 In order to encourage full, timely and equal opportunity to participate to all segments of the population, the State Party shall adopt and implement affirmative action programs in compliance with the Charter of the National Democratic Party.

SECTION 2. RESIDENCE, REGISTRATION AND AFFIRMATION REQUIREMENTS

BL1.02.01 No person shall be entitled to be voted for, to be nominated for, to be elected to, or to be appointed to, nor may any person hold a Party office or position to represent a particular district or representative area (such representative area may be the State at large) unless such person is registered to vote in and continues to reside in such district or area, and affirms belief in the goals of the Democratic Party as stated in the Charter, is not a member of any other political party or body as defined in the Georgia Election Code, and is not affiliated with any political group whose ideals, goals, and methods are incompatible with those of the State Party, as identified by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 3. DONATIONS

BL1.03.01 County Committees may request donations, but no one shall be denied participation for failure to pay.

BL1.03.02 The State Party may request Convention Fees, but no one shall be denied participation for failure to pay.

SECTION 4. VOTING

BL1.04.01 No person shall be entitled to more than one vote in or on any convention, caucus, committee, or any affiliated organization, even though such person shall be a member of, or delegate, or alternate to any of the foregoing in more than one capacity.

BL1.04.02 Voting by proxy shall not be permitted except where specifically provided for.

BL1.04.03 Votes shall not be taken by secret ballot at any meeting of the State Party at any level.

BL1.04.04 The State Party shall not require a delegate or a member to cast a vote contrary to the expressed preference of that delegate or member.

SECTION 5. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

BL1.05.01 Unless otherwise provided for in this Charter or the Bylaws, Robert's Rules of Order as most recently revised shall govern the conduct of all meetings of each body of the State Party, including affiliates.

SECTION 6. STATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EMPLOYEES

BL1.06.01 The State Executive Director shall be appointed by the State Chair with the approval of the Executive Committee and may be dismissed by the State Chair with the approval of the Executive Committee.

BL1.06.02 The Executive Director shall be responsible for administrative affairs of the State Party under the general direction of the State Chair and in accordance with policies and directives of the Executive Committee and the State Committee. The State Chair may delegate to the Executive Director any duties and responsibilities required of the State Chair under this Charter and the Bylaws.

BL1.06.03 The Executive Director shall serve full time and receive compensation as may be determined by the State Chair with the approval of the Executive Committee.

BL1.06.04 The Executive Director shall propose such staff positions as necessary to carry out the functions of the State Party, along with salaries to be paid. Such proposals shall be forwarded to the State Chair for inclusion or modification in the proposed annual budget. Except for temporary office help involving total expenditure of $2,500 or less, all unbudgeted positions or changes in salaries of budgeted positions must be approved by the State Chair and the Executive Committee.

BL1.06.05 The Executive Director shall be responsible for the hiring of qualified staff members for all budgeted and other approved or temporary positions and institute dismissal or other disciplinary actions as necessary against such employees.

BL1.06.06 Appeals from disciplinary actions affecting the Executive Director or employees shall be made to the Executive Committee.

SECTION 7. ENDORSEMENTS

BL1.07.01 The Democratic Party and its County Committees may endorse or oppose a Democratic candidate in any federal or state election upon receiving two-thirds approval from the elected members of a County Committee and two-thirds approval from the State Executive Committee, followed by a two-thirds approval from the State Committee. The State Executive Committee shall issue rules as to procedure for obtaining permission to endorse or oppose a candidate and grounds for such exception.

BL1.07.02 The Democratic Party and its County Committees may endorse or oppose a Democratic candidate in any non-federal or non-state election upon receiving two-thirds approval from the elected members of a County Committee and two-thirds approval from the State Executive Committee. The State Executive Committee shall issue rules as to procedure for obtaining permission to endorse or oppose a candidate and grounds for such exception.

BL1.07.03 Nothing in these bylaws prohibits campaigning against any candidate not nominated by the Democratic Party or not identified on a special election ballot as being a Democrat.

BL1.07.04 Nothing in these bylaws prohibits campaigning for any Democrat who is in a race not contested by another Democrat.

BL1.07.05 No County or State Committee member shall publicly support another candidate other than the Democratic nominee in a General Election; provided, however, nothing herein shall prevent any County or State Committee member from making any endorsement in a non-partisan election.

SECTION 8. CONTRIBUTIONS TO CANDIDATES

BL1.08.01 The State Party may seek reimbursement of any contribution, whether real or in-kind, made to a candidate who qualifies for office as a Democrat and, after qualification, switches to another party.

SECTION 9. CANDIDATE QUALIFICATION AND WITHDRAWAL AND REPLACEMENT

BL1.09.01 In conducting qualifying for local, state, or federal office as directed by the laws of the State of Georgia, the State Party, or any appropriate County Committee, may refuse, in its discretion, to accept the withdrawal of a candidate who has completed the appropriate qualifying affidavit and submitted the required fee, and/or may delay accepting such withdrawal until after the time for qualifying has closed.

BL1.09.02 At the beginning of each election cycle, defined as the period between January 1 of each odd numbered year and December 31 of the following even numbered year, the State Chair shall appoint a standing committee known as the "Nominations Vacancy Committee" which shall remain in place for the duration of the election cycle. The Nominations Vacancy Committee shall be comprised of members of the Executive Committee whose sole responsibility shall be to select candidates to fill vacancies for partisan federal, state, and county offices as set forth in Article I, Section 9 of the Bylaws. The Nominations Vacancy Committee shall be comprised of no fewer than 3 members and no more than 5 members. In the event a member of the committee wishes to be considered for a vacancy that the committee is required to fill, then that member shall recuse themselves from the selection process for that vacancy and the State Chair shall appoint another Executive Committee member to join the Nominations Vacancy Committee on a limited basis solely for the purpose of filling that vacancy.

BL1.09.03 With respect to any county, state, or federal office that is not elected by the voters of the entire State of Georgia, in the event of a death or an accepted withdrawal of a candidate previously selected at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the election, the Nominations Vacancy Committee shall qualify a replacement candidate within the time allotted by state statute from the death or accepted withdrawal of a candidate previously selected. The Nominations Vacancy Committee may consult with Congressional District Chairs, County Chairs, and others as appropriate. The committee shall comply in all respects with the applicable state statute.

BL1.09.04 Notwithstanding BL1.09.03, if a vacancy is created for any party nomination for any county, state, or federal office at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the election by reason of an accepted withdrawal of a candidate previously selected, then the person who received the second highest total number of votes cast in such primary shall become the nominee so long as that person received at least forty percent (40%) of the votes cast for that office in the Democratic Primary.

BL1.09.05 With respect to any state or federal office that is elected by the voters of the entire State of Georgia, in the event of a death of a candidate at least ten (10) days prior to the election or an accepted withdrawal of a candidate previously selected at least sixty (60) days prior to the election, the Nominations Vacancy Committee shall call a convention composed of the delegates of the County Committees in each county of the State. The convention shall comply in all respects with the applicable state statute.

BL1.09.06 With respect to any state or federal office that is elected by the voters of the entire State of Georgia, in the event of a death of a candidate previously selected during the ten days preceding the day of the election, the Nominations Vacancy Committee shall qualify a replacement candidate in the manner set forth in BL1.09.03.

BL1.09.07 With respect to any county, state, or federal office, in the event of an accepted withdrawal of a candidate previously selected less than sixty (60) days prior to the election, that position shall not be filled unless permitted under state statute. If authorized by state statute, the vacancy shall be filled in the manner set forth in BL1.09.03, BL1.09.05, or BL1.09.06, as appropriate.

BL1.09.08 The purpose of this Section 9 is to ensure the State Party's compliance with O.C.G.A. 21-2-134 or any successor statute addressing the withdrawal, death, or disqualification of candidates for office. To the extent there are any questions about the interpretation of this Section 9, the Section shall be construed consistent with the state statute and any accompanying regulations or interpretive case law.

SECTION 10: INTERNAL ELECTIONS

BL1.10.01 Elections carried out by the DPG State Committee, its caucuses, county committees, or any other sub-entities shall be in accordance with any election-specific provisions in these bylaws or DPG Charter, the systems provided in this section, any rules published by the DPG Executive Committee, and any provisions in an approved set of County Committee Bylaws.

BL1.10.02 Prior to being applied during an election, rules issued by the DPG Executive Committee affecting voting systems must be passed and published at least 30 days prior to an election or the shortest election-specific notification period, whichever is longer.

BL1.10.03 No election systems may be used which are not provided for in this section, provided for by a rule established by the DPG Executive Committee or provided for by the approved set of County Committee Bylaws.

BL1.10.04 For every election, the election system to be used shall be announced concurrently with the other election details and is subject to the same notification requirements for the other details affecting the election in question.

BL1.10.05 For the purposes of this section, a single-winner election shall be defined as any election in which the position in question shall be filled by one single individual. For example, this includes elections such as Chair, Treasurer, Vice-Chair, and similar. Multiple-winner election shall be defined as any election in which the position(s) in question shall be filled by multiple people. For example, this includes elections such as elected DNC Members, State Committee Members if more than one, County Committee Members within a district, and similar.

BL1.10.06 For single-winner elections, this voting system may be used, subject to modification, to include any mandated diversity requirements: The candidate receiving a majority of the vote shall be elected. In the case of no candidate receiving a majority, the top two candidates shall advance to a runoff. The winner of the runoff shall be elected.

BL1.10.07 For multiple-winner elections, this voting system may be used, subject to modification, to include any mandated diversity requirements. The candidate receiving the most votes shall be seated first. The candidate of a different gender receiving the next most votes shall be seated second. This process will continue similarly until all the allotted positions are filled. If there is not a remaining, unseated candidate of a different gender, that position shall be filled by the candidate with the next highest number of votes.

BL1.10.08 In any uncontested election, where the number of candidates is exactly equal to or lower than the number of positions to be elected, electing by acclamation instead of the announced method is permissible unless otherwise prohibited.

BYLAWS ARTICLE II: STATE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. ELECTION OF REGULAR MEMBERS

BL2.01.01 Regular State Committee members shall be elected by County Committees according to the population-based formula described in Section 2.01.04 below.

BL2.01.02 At a minimum, there shall be at least one member per County Committee.

BL2.01.03 A person does not have to be a County Committee member to be elected to the State Committee.

BL2.01.04 In determining the number of Regular State Committee Members to be elected in each County, and with each county having at least one member, the calculating formula shall be:

- "County Population / (State Population / 233)" = number of seats rounded to the nearest whole number with each county getting at least one seat.
    - Example: Gwinnett County = 954,076 population / (Georgia Population of 10,062,000/233) = 954,076/43,184.55 = 22.09 = 22 seats for Gwinnett
    - Example: Clay County = 2,734 population / (Georgia Population of 10,062,000/233) =2,734/43,184.55 =0.063 = 1 seat

BL2.01.05 The State Chair shall notify all County Chairs and Congressional District Chairs of the date by which County Committees must hold elections for State Committee members. That date must be between February 1 and February 28 immediately following the regular gubernatorial election. The State Executive Committee may grant defined extensions or exceptions to the dates for holding State Committee elections.

BL2.01.06 Within thirty (30) days, not to exceed sixty (60) days, prior to the election, the election shall be advertised in at least three (3) of the following ways:

- Social Media
- Website posts and events
- Notice / Press Story in a local paper
- Public Service Announcement on the Radio
- Email to a comprehensive list of present and past members

BL2.01.07 Either at a regular meeting or at a meeting called specially for this purpose, each County shall elect the number of State Committee Members allotted to that County. No appointments to the State Committee may be made by the County Committee; all members must be elected by County Committee members.

BL2.01.08 All persons desiring to be candidates for the State Committee must sign the following affidavit:

_____County, GA _____ Date of Election

I am a resident and registered voter in _____ County, GA. I hereby make application to be an elected member of the Democratic Party of Georgia State Committee. I believe in the goals of the Democratic Party of Georgia, am not a member of any other political party or body (as defined in the Georgia Election Code) and am not affiliated with any political group who's ideal, goals, and methods are incompatible with that of the Democratic Party of Georgia (as identified by the Executive Committee of the Democratic Party of Georgia).

Applicant *(Printed Name)* _____
Address _____
Telephone _____
Email _____
Signature _____

BL2.01.09 The County Committee may allow one short (1 minute) speech on behalf of those seeking to be elected to the State Committee.

BL2.01.10 Each elected member/Post Seat Holder of the County Committee should vote for the number of State Committee members allotted to that county.

BL2.01.11 County Committees shall ensure that there is racial and gender diversity among the Committee members elected. Counties that elect more than ten (10) State Committee members shall also ensure there is geographical diversity among State Committee members elected. A plan for ensuring geographical diversity must be submitted to the County Affairs Committee for approval at least forty-five (45) days, but no more than ninety (90) days, prior to election. Any affected person or county may appeal the decision of the County Affairs Committee to the Executive Committee.

BL2.01.12 The election and voting shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions set forth in BL1.10.01.

BL2.01.13 All votes shall be by signed paper ballot, open electronic method, or by acclamation.

BL2.01.14 Within 30 days following the State Committee election, the County Chair shall certify to the State Chair the names, addresses, email addresses, and phone numbers of those persons elected as members of the State Committee and shall file their candidacy affidavits with the Congressional District Chair and the State Chair along with the following completed form:

State Committee Election Form

Chair's Name: _____ Date Submitted: ___/___/___

Date of Election: _____ Location: _____

Number of Attendees: _____

The Election was advertised in at least three (3) of the following ways:
_____ Social Media
_____ Website posts and events
_____ Notice / Press story in a local paper
_____ Public Service Announcement on the Radio
_____ Email to a comprehensive list of present and past members

My signature below hereby affirms that all State Committee members were elected by a quorum and by paper ballot. These ballots will be kept by the County Committee for the next four (4) years or may be sent to the State Chair for filing until the next State Committee election. No ballots are secret, and all ballots may be reviewed upon request.

_____
Signature of County Committee Chair Date

BL2.01.15 All State Committee members must be approved by the Credentials Committee at least five (5) business days prior to their first state committee meeting of their terms.

SECTION 2. MEETINGS

BL2.02.01 The State Committee shall convene for a regular meeting at least twice yearly at such times and places, either in-person, virtual or both, designated by the State Chair. The State Chair or the Secretary shall give at least a thirty (30) days prior notice to each State Committee member. The State Chair or Secretary shall provide a ten (10) day notice as well and shall include an agenda and the prior meeting minutes.

BL2.02.02 A majority of the Executive Committee or twenty percent of State Committee members, upon written notice signed by the requisite number and delivered to the State Chair, may also call for a meeting. Where twenty percent (20%) of the membership of the State Committee or a majority of the Executive Committee calls for a meeting and the State Chair fails within twenty-one (21) days from the receipt of said notice to call such meeting, the aforementioned twenty percent (20%) or majority who called for such meeting may give notice in writing to State Committee members setting out a proposed agenda and establishing the date, time, and place of such meeting. Such notice must be given at least thirty (30) days prior to the called meeting.

BL2.02.03 All notices to the State Committee members shall be given electronically. In cases where it is known that a State Committee member has no working email address, the Congressional District Chair shall be responsible for notifying them.

BL2.02.04 Every attempt shall be made to hold all State Committee meetings at ADA compliant facilities.

SECTION 3. QUORUM

BL2.03.01 A quorum for a meeting of the State Committee shall be twenty percent (20%) of the Regular State Committee members except as otherwise provided in the Charter or Bylaws.

BL2.03.02 The Credentials Committee shall report the attendance of State Committee Members during a State Committee meeting to the Secretary for inclusion in the State Committee Meeting minutes and to the County Committees.

SECTION 4. COMMITTEES

BL2.04.01 The members of all committees, caucuses and councils, including Chairs, need not be members of the State Committee.

BL2.04.02 Unless provided differently in the Charter or these Bylaws, the State Chair shall appoint all committee members and all committee chairs.

BL2.04.03 There shall be the following Standing Committees:

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, formerly known as the Affirmative Action Committee
- State Finance Committee
- Credentials & Affiliate Organizations Committee
- Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee
- County Affairs Committee
- Rules, Budget & Operations Committee
- Strategic Planning Committee
- Constituent Advisory Committee
- Voter Protection Committee
- Nominations Vacancy Committee
- Recruitment Committee

BL2.04.04 The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (formerly known as the Affirmative Action Committee) shall function in compliance with National Democratic Party guidelines. Congressional District Chairs shall serve as ex-officio members.

BL2.04.05 The State Finance Committee shall be responsible for increasing the financial support of the State Party, shall raise funds to support the State Party and shall advise and assist County Committees and Democratic nominees in securing funds for their purposes. The State Finance Committee shall produce and submit to the State Committee at each of the State Committee meetings a comprehensive report detailing the efforts undertaken to raise funds to the state party and the plan for raising in the future. The members of this committee need not be State Committee Members. The State Treasurer shall serve ex-officio.

BL2.04.06 The Unified Campaign Sub-Committee of the State Finance Committee (UCC) shall have authority for raising and disbursing financial support for the benefit of the nominees of the State Party in the General Election, as determined by its Steering Committee.

BL2.04.07 The Credentials and Affiliate Organizations Committee shall review the rules, bylaws, activities, minutes and annual financial statements of State Party Affiliates and provide for direct communication between such affiliates and the State Committee. Additionally, the committee is responsible for reviewing and approving the credentials of all elected State Committee Members, seating such members prior to State Committee Meetings, and credentialing Delegates during State Convention. All members of this committee shall be current State Committee members.

BL2.04.08 The Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee shall review the structure and procedures of the State Party and recommend any additions or changes to assure its effective operation, in compliance with the governing rules of the National Party. This committee shall ensure compliance with the State Party Charter and Bylaws through inquiry, review, and recommendation of remedy. The State Chair shall name the Chair from among the members of the committee. The membership of the committee shall consist of the General Counsel, the Parliamentarian, the Caucus Chairs of each legislative chamber, at least two DNC members, the first Vice-Chair, the Secretary, and at least three other State Committee members.

BL2.04.09 The County Affairs Committee shall be comprised of at least two members from each Congressional District and shall assure coordination of County Committee and State Party activities, provide information and assist in the implementation of State Party Charter and Bylaws standards, audit the status of County Committee organizations and activities, and provide recommendations and mechanisms for counties failing to organize in a manner consistent with State Party standards. The Vice Chair of Congressional District Chairs and County Committees shall be the Chair of the County Affairs Committee.

BL2.04.10 The Rules, Budget and Operations Committee shall consider proposed resolutions and special rules for the conduct of State Committee meetings, review the creation of new positions on staff, review staff raises greater than five percent (5%) in one year, and participate in a Strategic Planning process or SWOT analysis process in odd numbered years, in addition to performing any other duty assigned to the Committee by the State Chair. The committee shall be comprised of Georgia DNC Members, State Party Officers, the General Counsel, the Party Parliamentarian, and such additional members as the State Chair shall appoint.

BL2.04.11 The Strategic Planning Committee shall before March 31st of each year formulate or modify and submit to the Executive Committee for approval a strategic plan for the Party for the next two state election cycles. The Strategic Plan shall contain funding, grass-roots structure, and implementation plans to accomplish the strategic goals of the Party. Membership on this committee is at the discretion of the State Chair, however, there shall be at least one (1) State Committee member from each Congressional District. Other members do not have to be State Committee members.

BL2.04.12 The Constituent Advisory Committee shall report to the Constituency Group Vice-Chair, be made up of each Chair of a duly organized Caucus or Council, have such additional members as designated by the Constituency Group Vice-Chair, include the Chair of the Credentials and Affiliates Committee and provide advice to such Vice-Chair regarding constituency group matters. The committee shall meet at least twice a year.

BL2.04.13 The Voter Protection Committee shall assure coordination between voter protection efforts, national best practices and state party activities and be comprised of a Chair of the State Chair's naming, the Democratic Appointee to the State Board of Elections, the General Counsel, and any other person(s) of the State Chair's choosing. The Chair of the Voter Protection Committee shall have a seat on the State Executive Committee.

BL2.04.14 The Recruitment Committee shall be chaired by the Vice Chair of Candidate Recruitment and should assume the responsibility for the creation of a statewide recruitment plan every cycle, as defined in BL1.09.02. Other members shall include, but should not be limited to, the House Caucus Chair or designee, the Senate Caucus Chair or designee, the Vice Chair of the State Party, the Chair of the County Affairs Committee and a member from each of the active caucuses and affiliate groups of the State Party. Additional members may be appointed by the State Chair.

BL2.04.15 The State Chair may establish such other Committees as the State Chair or the State Committee deems necessary.

SECTION 5. STATE ADVISORY CAUCUSES AND COUNCILS

BL2.05.01 Caucuses shall be comprised of members who share an inherent and/or immutable trait which defines the Caucus, not a concern about an issue or cause, or as defined by the rules by the Georgia State Senate or Georgia State House of Representatives. Councils shall be comprised of members who share a common concern about an issue or a cause which defines the Council, not an immutable trait. Caucuses and Councils for constituent groups may be formed upon the request of twenty-five (25) members of the State Committee and a vote of two-thirds of the State Committee, provided there is a fifty percent quorum.

BL2.05.02 The members of all committees, Caucuses, and Councils, including Chairs, need not be Members of the State Committee unless required in these bylaws.

BL2.05.03 Each Caucus and Council shall elect a Chair, a Vice-Chair, and a Secretary at the first meeting of the State Committee after its formation. Only members of the Caucus or Council may vote or run for a Caucus or Council office. The term of office shall be four years.

BL2.05.04 The Chair of each Caucus and Council shall serve on the Constituent Advisory Committee.

BL2.05.05 Every Caucus and Council shall have a set of Bylaws approved by the Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee on file with the State Party. The Bylaws must meet minimum requirements as determined by the Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee.

BL2.05.06 Caucuses and Councils shall meet and maintain compliance and record keeping requirements as determined by the State Committee, and those requirements shall be filed with the Vice Chair of Constituency Groups.

BL2.05.07 In meeting filing requirements, Caucuses and Councils shall report directly to the Vice Chair of Constituency Groups. Caucuses and Councils shall file annually by March 31st with the Vice Chair of Constituency Groups a list of membership; all rules, regulations, bylaws; a report of activities or minutes; and certification by the Caucus and Council Chairs that the Caucuses or Councils are duly constituted and organized.

BL2.05.08 Each Caucus and Council shall meet regularly at least once each quarter. Special meetings may be called by the Caucus or Council Chair or as provided in the Caucus or Council Bylaws. Where such meetings are not held at a previously designated time and place, all members shall be given at least ten (10) days prior notice.

BL2.05.09 A Caucus or Council may have their charter suspended or revoked by the Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee for noncompliance with these bylaws.

SECTION 6. ELECTION OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

BL2.06.01 Consistent with the Charter, Bylaws, and Rules of the Democratic National Committee, and pursuant to the procedures of Article VIII, Section 1 of these Bylaws, the members of the State Committee shall elect the State's allotted members of the Democratic National Committee.

SECTION 7. VACANCIES

BL2.07.01 Unless provided differently in these Bylaws, a vacancy in any elected position shall be filled by a special election by the body that selected the original position holder and no such vacancy may be filled by appointment.

BL2.07.02 In case of a State Party officer, a Congressional District Chair, or a National Committee member, such special election shall be called within ten (10) days of the vacancy and such notice shall specify an election date no less than thirty (30) and no more than forty-five (45) days from the date of the notice. Any person desiring to fill the vacancy must file a notice of candidacy with the State Chair no later than ten (10) days before the election date. Such special election shall be called by the State Chair for a State Party office, a Congressional District Chair, or National Committee member vacancy.

BL2.07.03 In case of a State Committee member, such special election shall be called within thirty (30) days of the vacancy and such notice shall specify an election date no less than sixty (60) and no more than eighty (80) days from the date of the notice. Any person desiring to fill the vacancy must file a notice of candidacy with the County Committee Chair. If a County Committee has a filing deadline, such filing deadline shall be no longer than ten (10) days prior to the election date. Such special election shall be called by the County Committee Chair for a State Committee member vacancy.

BL2.07.04 If there is no Vice-Chair to fill a Chair vacancy, the State Chair may appoint an interim Chair to fill such vacancy until such special election can be held.

BL2.07.05 A vacancy in an appointed position shall be filled by the office that appointed the position holder.

SECTION 8. REMOVAL

BL2.08.01 State Committee officers or members may be removed for cause by a 2/3 vote of the State Committee, provided there is a fifty percent (50%) quorum.

BL2.08.02 Elected State Committee members may be removed for cause by a 2/3 vote of the County Committee that elected them.

BL2.08.03 Cause may include:

- The endorsement of, support of, or contribution to a candidate of another party.
- Failure to perform the designated duties of office.
- Failure to abide by an attendance policy set by their County Committee.
- Conduct or circumstances which reflect discredit or disrepute upon the Party.
- Public disclaimer of Party affiliation.
- Intentional misrepresentation of positions or policies of the Party.
- Conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude, or which otherwise reflects discredit or disrepute upon the Party.
- Any violation of these bylaws.

BL2.08.04 The person to be removed shall have the right to written notice, at least ten (10) days before a hearing on said charges before the committee that is seeking to remove them, of the reasons for removal and the names of all persons who will testify in support of the charges against them.

BL2.08.05 The person to be removed shall have the right to counsel and to present all witnesses, documents, and arguments in support of their position.

BYLAWS ARTICLE III: STATE CONVENTION

SECTION 1. DELEGATE ELECTION METHOD

BL3.01.01 One-half of the delegates and one-half of the alternates selected pursuant to Charter, Article III, Section 3.4 shall be elected by the elected County Committee Members/Post Seat Holders. If there are an odd number of alternates, the elected County Committee Members/Post Seat Holders shall elect the additional alternate.

BL3.01.02 One-half of the delegates and one-half of the alternates selected pursuant to Charter, Article III, Section 3.4 shall be elected by a county caucus. If there are an odd number of alternates, the County Committee shall elect the additional alternate.

BL3.01.03 The State Chair shall notify all County Chairs and Congressional District Chairs of the date by which to elect State Convention delegates. That date shall be after the Democratic Primary and before the General Election.

BL3.01.04 County Committee elected delegates and alternates must be elected prior to the County Caucus elections of delegates and alternates.

BL3.01.05 Each County shall select the best method for holding a caucus for the public at large to elect the remaining one-half of that County's delegates.

BL3.01.06 The County Chair shall appoint a caucus chair to run the caucus.

BL3.01.07 Such caucuses shall be scheduled for public places which would be the most likely to encourage the participation of all Democrats, and the caucus must begin and end at reasonable hours.

BL3.01.08 The local caucus shall be publicized widely so as to encourage the participation of all Georgia Democrats in at least three of the following ways:

- _____ Social Media
- _____ Website posts and events
- _____ Notice / Press Story in a local paper
- _____ Public Service Announcement on the Radio
- _____ Email to a comprehensive list of present and past members

BL3.01.09 The Executive Director of the State Party, or a designee of the State Chair, shall, well in advance of the local caucuses, undertake, through emails to members of the State Party and through dissemination of such information to organizations affiliated with or supportive of the State Party, a comprehensive publicity campaign including, but not limited to, social media, mass mailings, and broadcast media to inform the public of the purpose of the Convention, the goals of the Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Committee (formerly known as the Affirmative Action Committee), the mechanics of the election process, who is eligible to participate in the process and become a delegate to the Convention, and where to obtain complete information on how to become a delegate to the Convention. Such information shall also be posted on the State Party website.

BL3.01.10 Additional public notice shall be given by the County Committee at least fourteen (14) but not more than thirty (30) days before the date of the local caucus, giving the date, time, and place for the convening of the caucus, and the purpose for which the caucus shall be held. Such notices shall be posted in accordance with the methods articulated in BL3.01.08.

BL3.01.11 A candidate for delegate or alternate, whether elected by Caucus or Committee, and anyone wishing to vote in the Caucus must be a registered voter in and a resident of the County holding the election.

BL3.01.12 Candidates for delegate and alternate do not have to be a member of the County Committee of the County holding the election.

BL3.01.13 All persons desiring to be delegates or alternates to the State Convention shall give notice in writing no later than the close of nominations for delegate election. Such notice shall be given to the Caucus Chair and meet the requirements of Section BL3.01.14 below.

BL3.01.14 Any registered voter of the County in which the local caucus is held may be a member of that caucus and may be a candidate for delegate, provided each person executes the following affidavit:

Georgia State Convention Delegate and Delegate Elector's Affidavit

(All portions of this form must be completed)

Complete Name *(Printed)*: _____
Occupation: _____
County where you live and are registered to vote: _____
Complete Home Address: _____
_____
_____
Home Phone: _____ Cell/Work Phone (circle one): _____
Email Address: _____

Do you hold Party Leadership or other Elected Positions: _____

Receipt of this Party Declaration Form certifies that I, _____, am a resident and registered to vote in _____ County, GA.

My initials below signify and proclaim that the statements below are true and accurate:
_____ I believe in the goals of the Democratic Party of Georgia
_____ I am not a member of any other political party or body (as defined in the Georgia Election Code).
_____ I am not affiliated with any political group whose ideas, goals, and methods are incompatible with that of the Democratic Party of Georgia (as identified by the Executive Committee of the Democratic Party of Georgia).

My initials below signify my purpose in participation:
__ _____I am an Elector for Delegates
_____ I am running as a Delegate
_____ I am both running as a Delegate and I am an Elector.

The Democratic Party of Georgia is committed to sending a diverse delegation to Convention. Please help us achieve these goals by optionally checking all that you identify with.

Please check ALL that apply:

Gender:	_____ Male _____ Female _____ Non-Binary _____ Not Listed *(please state)*
Ethnicity/Race:	_____ African American/Black _____Asian-Pacific Islander _____Caucasian/White
	_____ Hispanic/Latino(a) _____Native American _____ Not Listed *(please state)*
Age:	_____ Under 36 _____ Ages 36-59 _____ Ages 60 and Above
Sexual Orientation:	_____ LGBTQ+ _____ Heterosexual ____ Not Listed ____Prefer Not To Respond
Veteran:	_____
Union Member:	_____

I meet all the qualifications and hereby declare my candidacy as a Georgia Delegate and/or my eligibility to vote in the election of Delegates to the Democratic State Convention.

_____

PRINT NAME *SIGNATURE* *DATE*

BL3.01.15 All persons who sign such affidavits shall be entitled to vote at the caucus held in their County.

BL3.01.16 One short (one minute) speech may be made on behalf of those seeking to be delegates or alternates to the State Convention.

BL3.01.17 Each voter shall cast votes for up to the number of delegates to be elected.

BL3.01.18 The election and voting shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions set forth in BL1.10.01. If there are no remaining candidates for positions, those positions shall be left vacant and filled in accordance with section BL3.01.20 below. This process shall be followed by both the County Committees and the County Caucuses.

BL3.01.19 All Committee votes shall be by signed paper ballot, open electronic method, or by acclamation.

BL3.01.20 Either at a specially called meeting or at the next regular meeting after the County Caucus, each County Committee may elect any remaining number of that County's delegates and alternates, if there are still vacancies. If any vacancies exist ten (10) days prior to the State Convention, the County Chair may appoint delegates, so long as such delegates live in the County with the vacancy.

BL3.01.21 Within one week of the County Caucus election or the meeting pursuant to BL3.01.20 above, whichever is later, the County Chair shall certify to the State Chair and the Congressional District Chair the names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of those persons elected as delegates and alternates to the State Convention, which shall be filed with the State Party.

BL3.01.22 In the event there is no County Committee properly formed and recognized by the State Committee, the Congressional District Chair for that County shall perform the requirements of and have the power of the County Chair with respect to such County.

SECTION 2. RULES FOR CONVENTION PROCEDURE

BL3.02.01 For purposes of this section, the term "delegates" shall mean all delegates set forth in Article 3, Section 3 of the Charter.

BL3.02.02 For purposes of this section, the term "elected delegates" or "delegates elected to the convention" means those delegates selected pursuant to BL3.01.

BL3.02.03 For purposes of this section, the term "Chair" shall mean such person who shall be acting as the presiding officer of the State Convention from time to time.

BL3.02.04 The Chair shall not be entitled to speak to any matter but may vote if a delegate to the State Convention. The Chair may, however, vacate their position and appoint another person to serve as presiding officer of the State Convention, and take the floor and speak on any matter, provided that the person who was in the Chair may not then resume the Chair until the completion of the matter on which the Chair has spoken.

BL3.02.05 The Chair may from time to time, at their discretion, appoint other persons to serve as presiding officer, but may resume the Chair as desired from time to time.

BL3.02.06 The Chair may appoint a Parliamentarian or Parliamentarians for the purpose of interpreting the Charter, the Bylaws, and any Rules of the Convention. However, all rulings as to interpretation shall be made by the Chair, and the Chair shall not be bound to comply with the advice of the Parliamentarian.

BL3.02.07 A majority of the delegates entitled to vote at the State Convention shall constitute a quorum for all purposes at the State Convention. When a quorum is once declared to organize a meeting of the State Convention, a quorum shall be conclusively presumed for all subsequent business until adjournment of the Convention.

BL3.02.08 Actions of the State Convention shall require a majority vote of those present and voting, unless the vote of a greater number is required by the Charter or Bylaws.

BL3.02.09 Voting shall be by voice vote, or, at the discretion of the Chair or the demand of any delegate shall be by standing vote (but in the latter case, the Chair shall not count the members but shall make only a visual comparison of the delegate standing for or against a proposition.) A roll call vote shall be conducted if the Chair is in doubt as to the vote or upon the demand of either (i) twenty percent of the delegates of the Convention present at the time (such percentage to be determined at the discretion of the Chair); or (ii) a majority of the Congressional District Chairs.

BL3.02.10 When a question has been put, the vote thereon may not be interrupted for any purpose other than demand for a roll call vote or a point of order directed to the conduct of the vote.

BL3.02.11 Only those persons who are duly certified delegates to the State Convention (or duly certified alternates in their absence) may vote on any issue before the Convention and/or be recognized to speak on questions before the Convention.

BL3.02.12 Delegates and alternates shall be seated on the floor in designated areas according to their respective Counties. Access to the floor shall be restricted to delegates, alternates, and persons bearing credentials under the authority of the State Convention.

BL3.02.13 Adoption of the rules and agenda shall be the first order of business.

BL3.02.14 Immediately after the State Convention has been convened, delegates from each County shall caucus and select a Chair who, should a roll call vote be required, shall poll the members of their delegation and report to the Convention Chair the number of ayes and nays on said proposition under consideration.

BL3.02.15 At least ten days before the Convention date, delegates to the State Convention shall be provided with the proposed agenda, rules of the Convention, delegate seating plan, and accommodations availability by the State Party office.

BL3.02.16 All proposed resolutions for consideration by the State Convention shall be submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee and shall be signed by at least one delegate to the State Convention. Resolutions received by the State Party office at least five days prior to the meeting of the State Convention shall require only one such signature. Resolutions received later than five days prior to such meeting shall require the signature from at least one delegate from each of the Congressional Districts. Rules of the State Convention shall designate the time at which all resolutions to be considered by the Convention must be received.

SECTION 3. STANDING CONVENTION COMMITTEES

BL3.03.01 Prior to the State Convention, the following Committees shall be appointed by the State Chair from among Convention delegates. In making these appointments, the State Chair shall seek recommendations from Congressional District Chairs.

BL3.03.02 The Rules Committee shall be comprised of the members of Rules Committee of the State Committee, plus one additional member from each Congressional District, and shall formulate rules and an agenda for the conduct of convention business.

BL3.03.03 The Platform Committee shall be comprised of at least two members from each Congressional District, as well as three State Senators, three State House Members, and three municipal or county elected officials, and shall formulate platform resolutions for consideration by the State Convention.

BL3.03.04 The Credentials and Affiliate Organizations Committee shall be comprised of at least two members from each Congressional District and shall establish credentials criteria and arbitrate credentials disputes prior to the State Convention.

BL3.03.05 The Resolutions Committee shall be comprised of at least three members from each Congressional District and shall receive and recommend resolutions to the State Convention for consideration.

BL3.03.06 Reports of Convention Committees shall be as specified in the call for the State Convention.

BL3.03.07 Minority reports from any Convention Committee shall be considered by the Convention if supported by a petition signed by twenty percent (20%) of the Committee membership.

BYLAWS ARTICLE IV: STATE PARTY OFFICERS

SECTION 1. DUTIES OF STATE OFFICERS

Chair

BL4.01.01 The State Chair shall have overall responsibility for the State Party affairs and shall be the official spokesperson for the State Party subject to the provisions of the Charter and these Bylaws and to such directives as may be given from time to time by the State Committee and the Executive Committee.

BL4.01.02 The Chair shall be a full-time position. The Chair shall not be an elected government official or declared candidate for government office. The salary of the Chair shall be set by the Executive Committee. Such compensation:

- Shall align with the financial capabilities and annual operating budget of the State Party and may include consideration for benefits, travel allowances, and other necessary expenses as determined by the Executive Committee; and
- Shall be established at least thirty (30) days prior to the election of the Chair and be included in the Call for Elections distributed by the State Party Secretary; and
- Shall factor in the Chair's duties, time commitment, fundraising targets, and performance metrics when setting compensation levels; and
- May be adjusted annually based on budgetary considerations, performance evaluations, and comparable positions; and
- Shall ensure the Chair retains the right to opt out of receiving compensation, or to request a reduced level of compensation, if so desired.

BL4.01.03 In addition to appointments specified elsewhere in the Charter and Bylaws, the State Chair may appoint Special Committees, a Parliamentarian and Legal Counsel. With concurrence of the Executive Committee, the State Chair may create other positions as the State Chair deems appropriate.

BL4.01.04 All persons appointed by the State Chair shall serve at the pleasure of the State Chair.

BL4.01.05 Upon consultation with each Congressional District Chair, a minimum of one (1) State Committee Member per Congressional District shall sit on each committee specified within the Bylaws. There shall be no cap as to the number of appointees to serve on these committees. Diversity and inclusion shall be considered when making appointments.

Vice-Chairs

BL4.01.06 There shall be four (4) Vice-Chairs of the Party, one of whom will be the First Vice-Chair. The other Vice-Chairs shall be designated by their responsibilities.

BL4.01.07 The First Vice-Chair shall preside at meetings of the State Committee in the absence of the State Chair and shall perform such other duties as may be delegated by the State Chair. The First Vice-Chair shall be an ex-officio member of all committees of the State Committee. In the event of a vacancy in the office of State Chair, the First Vice-Chair shall become Acting State Chair and shall have the authority, powers and duties of the State Chair. The First Vice-Chair shall, with the Treasurer, interact with the activities of the Finance Committee to assure the Party has the resources to meet its Strategic Plan.

BL4.01.08 The Vice Chair of Congressional District Chairs and County Committees shall be the primary point of contact for all Congressional District Chairs and County Chairs. Such Vice Chair shall meet with the Executive Director at least twice annually. Such Vice Chair shall hold meetings with the Congressional District Chairs and County Chairs at least quarterly. Such Vice Chair shall ensure that each chartered county committee is properly certified on a yearly basis in accordance with the provisions set forth in BL7.07.06. Such Vice Chair shall be an ex-officio member of every chartered county committee (except for purposes of quorum).

BL4.01.09 The Constituency Group Vice-Chair shall be the primary contact for constituency groups. Such Vice-Chair shall create and maintain relationships with the constituency facets of the Democratic Party of Georgia. Such Vice-Chair shall interact with the State Committee Caucuses and Councils to assure their concerns are recognized by the State Committee. Such Vice-Chair shall ensure that all constituency groups file an annual report to the State Party in accordance with the provisions set forth in BL2.05.07. Such Vice-Chair shall perform other such duties as may be delegated by the State Chair. The Constituency Group Vice-Chair shall be an ex- officio member of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (formerly known as the Affirmative Action Committee) and of the Affiliates Organization Committee.

BL4.01.10 The Candidate Recruitment Vice-Chair shall have primary responsibility for creation and implementation of candidate recruitment plans. The Candidate Recruitment Vice-Chair shall serve as the Chair of the Recruitment Committee. Such Vice-Chair shall perform such other duties as may be delegated by the State Chair.

Secretary

BL4.01.11 The Secretary shall keep and distribute all official minutes of the State Convention, the State Committee, and the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall distribute the minutes of the Convention and the State Committee meetings to State Committee members within thirty (30) days of the appropriate meeting. The Secretary shall distribute minutes of the Executive Committee meetings to all members of the State Committee as soon as possible, but not later than fourteen (14) days after the meeting. Minutes of the State Convention shall be made available to convention delegates.

BL4.01.12 The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining accurate records of office, including lists of Party officers, members, and contributors, reports and official documents, and at the expiration of their term shall turn these Party records over to the succeeding Secretary.

BL4.01.13 The Secretary shall certify all delegates to the State Convention, all members of the State Committee, and all members of the Executive Committee, and shall issue certificates of election to all newly elected officers of the State Party.

BL4.01.14 When required, the Secretary shall attest the signature of the State Chair on State Party documents. Such attestation shall be conclusive evidence as to the official action of the State Party.

BL4.01.15 The Secretary shall be an ex-officio member of the Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee and of the Rules Committee.

Treasurer

BL4.01.16 The Treasurer shall serve as custodian of State Party funds and moneys, serve as a member of the State Finance Council and maintain financial records subject to audit and review by the State Committee.

BL4.01.17 The Treasurer shall provide to all State Committee Members at all State Committee meetings (at a minimum semi-annually) a financial report to be in such form and contain such information as the State Committee shall determine from time to time. The report shall include key information that is publicly available such as cash on hand and expenditures, and copies of the latest filings.

BL4.01.18 The Treasurer shall be an ex-officio member of the Finance Committee.

SECTION 2. ELECTION OF STATE OFFICERS

BL4.02.01 Election of State Officers shall be by signed paper ballot or open electronic method, unless only one person is nominated for a State Office. Only State Committee Members may vote for State Officers. The election and voting shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions set forth in BL1.10.01.

BL4.02.02 State Officers shall be elected ad seriatim and in the following order: State Chair, First Vice-Chair, Congressional District/County Liaison Vice-Chair, Constituency Group Vice- Chair, Candidate Recruitment Vice-Chair, State Secretary, and State Treasurer.

BL4.02.03 Those persons interested in running for a State Officer position shall file an "intent to run" statement with the State Party office no later than ten (10) days before the State Committee meeting. A non-State Committee Member wishing to run for any office must submit such “intent to run” with the endorsement of no less than thirty (30) State Committee Members and submit such no later than ten (10) days before the State Committee meeting.

BL4.02.04 A brief (3-4 minute) nominating speech may be made for each candidate. A (1 minute) seconding speech may also be made. The nominees may then address the State Committee for no more than five (5) minutes.

BL4.02.05 Balloting will proceed by ballots prepared by the Executive Director and the Executive Director shall ensure only State Committee Members vote for State Officers.

SECTION 3. REMOVAL

BL4.03.01 Officers are subject to removal pursuant to Article II, Section 8 of these Bylaws.

SECTION 4. COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL CAMPAIGN LAWS

BL4.04.01 The Party shall be authorized to take appropriate actions necessary to ensure compliance with federal or state campaign finance laws, including, without limitation, modifying the duties of any State Party Officer who holds federal office or is a candidate for federal office. In the event the Chair holds federal office or is a candidate for federal office, the remaining State Party Officers who neither hold federal office nor are candidates for federal office shall collectively perform any duties the Chair is prohibited or restricted from performing under federal law. In the event any State Party Officer other than the Chair holds federal office or is a candidate for federal office, the Chair shall appoint another State Party Officer to perform any duties the federal officeholder or candidate for federal office is prohibited or restricted from performing under federal law.

BYLAWS ARTICLE V: CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CHAIRS

SECTION 1. ELECTION

BL5.01.01 Immediately following completion of the election of the State Officers and such acceptance speeches and other related actions as shall be required, the meeting shall be recessed by the State Chair to allow the delegates to meet by Congressional Districts to elect Congressional District Chairs.

BL5.01.02 State Committee Members shall meet according to the Congressional District in which such Members reside, under the Chairmanship of the existing Congressional District Chair, unless such Chair is placing oneself for re-election, in which case the State Chair shall appoint a Congressional District Caucus Chair to conduct the election process in such Congressional District (which shall be the Vice-Chair, unless such Vice-Chair is placing oneself for election).

BL5.01.03 To the extent not provided for in the Charter, the Bylaws, or the Rules of the Convention, the most recently revised edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all Congressional District Caucuses. All rulings as to interpretation shall be made by the Chair presiding at a Congressional District Caucus.

BL5.01.04 Those persons interested in running for a Congressional District Chair position shall file an "intent to run" statement with the State Party office no later than ten (10) days before the State Committee meeting. A non-State Committee Member wishing to run for a Congressional District Chair must submit such “intent to run” statement with the endorsement of no less than thirty (30) State Committee Members no later than ten (10) days before the State Committee meeting.

BL5.01.05 All votes shall be by signed paper ballot, open electronic method, or by acclamation as determined by each Congressional District Caucus Chair.

BL5.01.06 A quorum for the purpose of a Congressional District Caucus shall be a majority of the seated State Committee Members residing in that particular Congressional District.

BL5.01.07 Pursuant to the procedure for the Election of Congressional District Chairs under the Charter and Bylaws, each Congressional District Caucus shall proceed to elect a Congressional District chair by those State Committee Members present and voting, provided a quorum is present. The election and voting shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions set forth in BL1.10.1.

BL5.01.08 Once the Congressional District Chair has been elected, such Chair shall appoint a First Vice Chair no later than March 31 of the year in which the Congressional District Chair’s full term begins and the First Vice Chair’s appointment will be subject to approval by a majority vote of all State Committee Members from the Congressional District at a meeting held either virtually or in person no later than one month after the Vice Chair’s appointment. The Vice Chair must be a State Committee Member, except that the Vice Chair shall be of a different gender than the Congressional District Chair. In the case of a vacancy in the position of Congressional District Chair, the Vice Chair shall serve as Chair until the State Committee Members from the Congressional District elect a new Chair. The Congressional District Chair may appoint other vice chairs to assist, but the First Vice Chair of the District will be appointed and confirmed in their own right. If there is any vacancy of a Vice Chair, the Congressional District Chair can name an Acting First Vice Chair until such time as a new First Vice Chair is appointed and confirmed. BL 2.07.02 shall govern the process for replacing the appointed and confirmed First Vice Chair, except that the notice of candidacy provided in that section shall be made to the Congressional District Chair rather than the State Chair.

BL5.01.09 A Congressional District Chair may appoint additional Vice-Chairs, in accordance with gender guidelines.

SECTION 2. DUTIES

BL5.02.01 Each Congressional District Chair shall within their respective Congressional Districts coordinate the affairs of the Party, assist in the recruitment of Democratic candidates for Congress, review reports of the activities and membership of County Committees, and assist County Committees in their operation and compliance with the Charter and Bylaws.

BL5.02.02 Each Congressional District Chair shall keep a record of all county bylaws, contact information for the county officers, a schedule of events for the county, a list of committee members with contact information, member affidavits, meeting minutes, and financial records when appropriate.

BL5.02.03 The Congressional District Chair shall be responsible for collecting all signed and sworn affidavits of all State Committee Members along with the meeting minutes of when the election took place for those State Committee Members. The Congressional District Chair shall also ensure that the affidavits are turned into the Credentials Chair and that the Vice Chair of Congressional District Chairs and County Committees is copied on any such correspondence.

BL5.02.04 The Congressional District Chair shall meet on at least a quarterly basis with all County Committees in their Congressional District.

BL5.02.05 The Congressional District Chair shall perform such other duties as may be delegated to them by the State Committee and the State Executive Committee.

BL5.02.06 If a County lies in more than one Congressional District, the County Chair for that county shall decide which Congressional District Chair shall be the Chair for that County.

BL5.02.07 When a county goes into formation status, the Congressional District Chair shall appoint an acting County Chair from that county until such time as the committee receives its charter from the State Party.

SECTION 3. REMOVAL

BL5.03.01 Congressional District Chairs and Vice Chairs may be removed from office for cause upon the filing of a written complaint to the Vice Chair of Congressional District Chairs and County Committees by at least three State Committee Members from their Congressional District specifically asking for the removal of the Congressional District Chair or Vice Chair(s). The Congressional District Chair or Vice Chair(s) subject to the complaint may be removed by either (i) a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the State Committee; (ii) a two-thirds (2/3) vote of State Committee Members from that Congressional District; or (iii) a majority vote of the Executive Committee, provided a fifty percent (50%) quorum is present in each case. For purposes hereof, “cause” shall be defined as failure to perform their duties as specified from time to time by the Executive Committee or any of the reasons provided in BL2.08.02 hereof.

BYLAWS ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY AND DUTIES

BL6.01.01 The Executive Committee shall act on behalf of the State Committee between State Committee meetings.

BL6.01.02 The Executive Committee may act by subcommittees of its own choosing.

BL6.01.03 The Executive Committee may:

a) Issue rules and regulations regarding procedures used by the State Party.
   1) All rules shall be filed with the Secretary of State to be effective.
   2) All rules shall specify an effective date.
   3) The State Committee shall be notified of any changes within seven days prior of the effective date.
   4) The State Committee may review and change any rules at its discretion.

b) Devise and implement a system to allow participation in meetings by electronic or other means rather than require personal attendance.

c) Devise and implement procedures to allow voting to be conducted by email, telephone, or any other means, or by the use of proxies, when the State Chair of the State Party declares that the use of alternate voting methods is appropriate for the issue requiring a vote, subject to review by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 2. MEETINGS

BL6.02.01 Regular meetings of the Executive Committee may be set by the State Chair or a majority of the Executive Committee.

BL6.02.02 Special Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the State Chair or at least one quarter (1/4) of the membership of the Executive Committee upon receipt by all members of written notice at least two (2) days prior to such meeting. Such notice may be given electronically.

BL6.02.03 Meetings of the Executive Committee may be conducted by telephone or by a virtual meeting platform.

SECTION 3. QUORUM/VOTE

BL6.03.01 A quorum for the conduct of Executive Committee business shall be a majority of the membership of the Executive Committee. A majority vote is required for passage of Executive Committee actions. No confidentiality agreements shall be required to be filed with respect to matters other than meetings in Executive Session.

BYLAWS ARTICLE VII: COUNTY COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. COUNTY COMMITTEE DISTRICTS AND APPORTIONMENT PLAN

BL7.01.01 Each County Committee shall determine the County Committee Districts and Apportionment of the County Committee and include such determinations in the Bylaws of that County Committee. Newly organized County Committees may designate their county as a single District for the purpose of organization for up to one year from the date the County Committee was put into formation. Changes in County Committee Districts or Apportionment shall be filed promptly with the Vice Chair of Congressional District Chairs and County Committees and the County Election Superintendent. Information to be filed shall include the designations and boundaries of County Committee Districts, the number of Post Seat Holders to be elected from each district, and any reasons for unequal districts if such districts are designated. For purposes of these Bylaws, a County Committee shall only be considered "new" if no County Committee for the County accepted filing fees and acted as the qualifying agent for local County elections for the most recent local elections held in such County.

BL7.01.02 In establishing County Committee Districts and allocating Committee Posts, the County Committee shall make a good faith effort to ensure that all segments of the population, including minority populations, are fairly and evenly represented on the County Committee. Where practicable, the County Committee shall apportion each County Committee District so that each district contains a substantially equal population. Unless impractical, each County Committee District shall be represented by an equal number of Committee members, and where representation is unequal, such districts shall be apportioned as nearly as practicable to population.

BL7.01.03 Within twelve (12) months of organizing pursuant to Section 7.01.01 above, each County Committee shall apportion at least four (4) County Committee Districts. Such County Committee Districts may be apportioned based on County Commission Districts or any other county or municipal districts or portions thereof as long as they are apportioned to ensure that each district contains a substantially equal population. For counties with a population greater than 250,000, State Senate Districts or State House Districts may serve as the basis for apportionment.

BL7.01.04 Each County Committee shall establish County Committee Districts and allocate Committee positions following any census at which reapportionment of the General Assembly is mandated, within a time designated by the State Chair. A County Committee may also establish County Committee Districts as necessary, provided the County Committee does so in an odd numbered year. A County Committee may, at any time, vote to change the number of posts allocated per County Committee District.

BL7.01.05 An individual who voted in the most recent Democratic Primary and who is a member of the State Party shall have standing to challenge the drawing of County Committee District lines or the allocation of County Committee positions on the grounds that such districts or allocation preclude or substantially diminish fair representation for significant segments of the population.

SECTION 2. CHALLENGE TO THE COUNTY APPORTIONMENT PLAN

BL7.02.01 Challenge of the Apportionment Plan may be made by executing a petition, setting forth the objections, and by filing the petition with the Chair or Secretary of the County Committee.

BL7.02.02 The petition may be filed at any time, provided, however, that after a primary election held by the State Party, the relief granted in the case of any successful petition may take into account the fact that the petition was filed subsequent to the date on which members of the County Committee were last elected insofar as the relief may be prospective rather than retroactive, and thus allow elected members to continue to hold their office until the next election.

BL7.02.03 The County Committee shall have thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of a validly filed petition to meet and rule and/or act upon such petition. If the County Committee does not rule and/or act upon the petition within said time, the County Affairs Committee shall have full jurisdiction to hear the challenge, as set forth in Section 7.02.04 below.

BL7.02.04 If the response by the County Committee to the petition is unsatisfactory to any petitioner, or if the County Committee fails to act within the thirty (30) day period set forth in Section 7.02.03 above, one may file an appeal in writing to the County Affairs Committee of the State Party within thirty (30) days from the earlier of (1) the date of the decision of the County Committee or (2) in the event of failure to act on the petition on the part of the County Committee by the expiration of the thirty (30) day period set forth in Section 7.02.03 above, the expiration of such thirty (30) day period. The County Affairs Committee shall thereafter have thirty (30) days from receipt of the notice of appeal to hear the matter and render a decision and/or fashion an appropriate remedy.

BL7.02.05 In acting on such challenge or appeal, the County Affairs Committee shall have authority to (1) appoint such fact-finding body as it considers necessary and appropriate and may act on the basis of those facts determined by such fact-finding body, and (2) render any decision and/or fashion appropriate remedies including, without limitation, expulsion of or expansion of the County Committee through the appointment by the County Affairs Committee or by local caucus of additional members, the establishment of a redistricting plan to provide for the election of County Committee members at a special or other election, or any combination of such relief. Copies of any such decisions of the County Affairs Committee shall be delivered by the County Affairs Committee to the State Chair, the First Vice-Chair, the Executive Director and the General Counsel.

BL7.02.06 This Section 2 of Article VII shall not be construed to require or constitute the implementation of any quotas, and the failure to have a certain number of minority members on the County Committee shall not be deemed in and of itself to set forth a conclusive ground for a challenge. Such underrepresentation shall, however, constitute proof of violation of Article VII, Section 1 in the absence of a countervailing showing that sufficient efforts were made to comply with the requirements of Article VII, Section 1.

BL7.02.07 Whenever this Section 2 of Article VII requires that an act be done within a specified period of time, such period of time may be extended by mutual consent of the parties to the subject proceeding.

BL7.02.08 Any notices required to be given pursuant to the provisions of this Section 2 of Article VII shall be required to be delivered in writing

SECTION 3. DESIGNATION OF POSTS AND TERMS

BL7.03.01 Each County Committee shall designate one-half (1/2) of the elected Committee Posts to be elected in Gubernatorial election years and one-half (1/2) to be elected in Presidential election years.

BL7.03.02 The minimum number of elected Post Seat Holders shall be one (1) for every 10,000 in population, or ten (10), whichever is higher.

SECTION 4. SELECTION OF METHOD OF ELECTION

BL7.04.01 The method of election shall be by County District Caucus. Elections for Post Seat Holders shall be held within forty-five (45) days following the General Primary. The method and time of qualification and election of Post Seat Holders shall be set forth in the Bylaws of each County Committee.

SECTION 5. ELECTION PROCEDURE

BL7.05.01 Post Seat Holders shall take office immediately following their election. At no time are appointments by the Chair allowed for Post Seat Holders. All Post Seat Holders, including any member of an at large district, must be elected by the registered voters of their district (or by the registered voters of the county for an at large seat).

BL7.05.02 The County Committee shall elect their members by public caucuses, with the date, time, location, and method of such caucuses set by the County Committee. If the County Committee fails to do so, the Congressional District Chair shall set the date, time, location and method of the caucus elections.

BL7.05.03 Any registered voter residing within a County Committee District may vote and/or run to represent that County Committee District after declaring themselves to be a Democrat.

BL7.05.04 The election and voting shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions set forth in BL1.10.01.

SECTION 6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

BL7.06.01 Each County Committee's elected Post Seat Holders shall elect its officers no later than December 31 of the appropriate year. The new chair shall, immediately upon taking office on January 1st, notify the State Chair and appropriate Congressional District Chair of their election.

BL7.06.02 Each County Committee shall elect from its membership a Chair, two or more Vice Chairs, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. Where available, at least one of the Vice Chairs shall be of a different gender to the Chair. In addition, the County Committee shall elect such other officers as deemed necessary.

BL7.06.03 Each Committee may provide for the election or appointment of such sub-committees as they deem necessary.

BL7.06.04 The Chair, Vice Chairs, Secretary, and the Treasurer of the County Committee shall serve two year terms, beginning January 1st. All appointed members of any sub-committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Chair and their term ends when the Chair removes them or when the Chair's term ends.

BL7.06.05 All County Committee bank accounts, website and social media account logins and administrative control, reports, records, files and any other physical or intellectual property shall be turned over to the newly elected officers within ten (10) business days of their election.

SECTION 7. O.C.G.A. ELECTION DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS

BL7.07.01 In accordance with the Georgia Election Code, poll officers to conduct primaries and elections shall be recommended by each County Committee to the County Election Superintendent.

BL7.07.02 In accordance with the Georgia Election Code (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-408), two official poll watchers may be designated by the County Committee for each precinct for each election.

BL7.07.03 Vacancies in Party nominations for Federal, State, or County offices shall be governed by the provisions of the Georgia Election Code (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-134) and as set forth in Article I, Section 9.

BL7.07.04 County Committees shall maintain a list of all financial transactions (kept on a calendar year basis), and a list of all unpaid obligations. County Committees shall also maintain records of information to be filed with the Vice Chair of Congressional District Chairs and County Committees.

BL7.07.05 In meeting filing requirements, County Committees shall report directly to the Vice Chair of Congressional District Chairs and County Committees. By the 31st of January each calendar year, County Committees shall file with said Vice Chair a list of current officers, a list of elected committee members, all rules, regulations and bylaws, bylaws and charters of any affiliate organizations, an annual report of activities or minutes, the location and signatories of Committee bank accounts, and certification by the County Committee Chair that the Committee is duly constituted and organized and is following sound financial operating procedure.

BL7.07.06 Each County Committee shall meet regularly at least once each quarter. Special meetings may be called by the County Committee Chair or as provided in the County Committee Bylaws. Where such meetings are not held at a previously designated time and place, all members shall be given at least five (5) days prior notice.

SECTION 8. COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES

BL7.08.01 Each County Committee shall provide for a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee and such other sub-committees as the County Committee may deem necessary.

SECTION 9. VACANCIES

BL7.09.01 All vacancies in elected County Committee post seats shall be elected on a date, time and manner set forth by the County Committee to fill the remainder of the current term.

SECTION 10. REMOVAL PROCEDURE

BL7.10.01 Post Seat Holders and officers may be removed by the elected Post Seat Holders of the County Committee for cause, as established in BL2.08.02. The notification to the affected person shall be given with at least a ten (10) day notice prior to a hearing, by email that copies the Congressional District Chair, the Vice Chair of Congressional District Chairs and County Committees, and the elected Post Seat Holders of the County Committee. There shall be an opportunity for the affected person to be heard. Removal shall require a two thirds (2/3) vote by the elected Post Seat Holders of the County Committee in attendance, provided a forty percent (40%) quorum is met.

BL7.10.02 Any person subject to removal shall receive written notice of the alleged reasons for removal as set forth in BL2.08.02.

BL7.10.03 The removal procedure shall be conducted by a subcommittee appointed by the County Committee Chair. Where the County Committee Chair is the subject of the removal procedure, the subcommittee shall be appointed by a majority of the other County Committee Officers.

BL7.10.04 The person sought to be removed shall have the right to be informed of all persons who will be witnesses against them and who will testify in support of the charges against them, at least ten (10) days before a hearing on said charges before the full County Committee.

BL7.10.05 The person sought to be removed shall have the right to counsel and to present all witnesses, documents, and arguments in support of their position. The subcommittee which has tendered the charges may likewise have counsel and present witnesses, documents, and arguments in support of its position.

SECTION 11. REIMBURSEMENT PROHIBITION

BL7.11.01 No member of a County Committee shall receive compensation for or be reimbursed for personal expenses in conducting the business of the County Committee.

SECTION 12. COUNTY AFFILIATES

BL7.12.01 Each County Committee may recognize and allow affiliation of such county organizations as it deems appropriate as provided for in the Charter and Bylaws.

SECTION 13. COUNTIES WITHOUT DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEES

BL7.13.01 In any county not having a duly constituted Democratic County Committee the appropriate Congressional District Chair(s) may appoint an Acting County Chair and an Acting County Secretary. In counties where there is no duly constituted Democratic County Committee, the Election Superintendent of the County will receive declarations of candidacy and qualifying fees from candidates desiring to qualify for nomination in the Democratic Primary and execute appropriate certifications of those candidates in accordance with the Georgia Election Code. Said Election Superintendent shall forward the County Committee portion of the qualifying fees to the State Chair to be held in escrow until released by the State Chair. If a duly constituted County Committee is chartered within sixty (60) days following the Democratic Primary, the funds shall be paid to the County Committee. If a duly constituted County Committee is not chartered within sixty (60) days following the Democratic Primary, the funds shall be used in the current election cycle on behalf of candidates of the State Party.

BL7.13.02 Where there is no existing County Committee, any registered voter residing within the county may ask the Congressional District Chair to call an organizational meeting. In the event the Congressional District Chair does not act within ten (10) days, any registered voters within that county may ask the Vice Chair of Congressional District Chairs and County Committees to call such a meeting or to name an acting County Chair. The Vice Chair of Congressional District Chairs and County Committees shall act within seven (7) days.

BL7.13.03 At the organizational meeting, any persons who are registered to vote in that County and who profess their intention to abide by the State Party Charter and Bylaws may organize a County Committee and proceed to adopt bylaws, provided that at least ten (10) registered voters within that county agree to serve as committee members.

BL7.13.04 Within two weeks of adopting same, the Acting Chair of the County Committee shall submit the proposed bylaws to the Vice Chair of Congressional District Chairs and County Committees and to the Congressional District Chair, and request to be placed into formation status. In formation status can last up to one year from the date the request was made to the State Party. While a county committee is in formation status, it must establish its districts, refine its bylaws, establish a bank account, elect members from the designated districts and elect officers from those elected members. After completing these tasks, the Chair of the County Committee shall request to be chartered as the Democratic Committee in that county. The County Chair must forward proof of the completion of these tasks and the following certification:

CERTIFICATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE OF _____COUNTY

This is to certify that the Democratic Committee of _____County, Georgia has been duly organized in accordance with the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Georgia. The following members and officers were duly and properly elected:

_____
_____
_____
_____

We further certify that the officers of the County Committee have read and are familiar with the State Party Charter, Bylaws, and Rules, and the State Election Code.

SIGNED:

_____
(County Committee Chair)

_____
(County Committee Secretary)

BL7.13.05 Upon approval by the State Executive Committee or the State Committee that County Committee shall be chartered.

SECTION 14. PROCESS FOR VETOING ACTIONS OF COUNTY COMMITTEES

BL7.14.01 Pursuant to the following procedure, any action of a County Committee may be reversed by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the membership of the State Executive Committee.

BL7.14.02 The motion must be brought by a State Executive Committee member or by written petition of twenty percent (20%) but not less than three (3) of a particular county's County Committee Members.

BL7.14.03 Any decision by the State Executive Committee to reverse an action of a County Committee must be sent to all State Committee members within thirty (30) days of such reversal.

BL7.14.04 Any appeal of the Executive Committee's reversal must be sent in writing to the State Chair within thirty (30) days of the date of the notice pursuant to BL7.14.03 above. The matter will then be placed on the agenda for the next State Committee meeting at least thirty (30) days after receipt of the appeal by the State Chair.

BYLAWS ARTICLE VIII: NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

SECTION 1. ELECTION OF MEMBERS

BL8.01.01 Pursuant to Article Three, Section 2 of the Charter of the Democratic National Committee, the State Delegation to the National Committee shall consist of the State Chair, the next highest-ranking officer of a different gender, plus an additional number allocated by the Democratic National Committee, and any other resident of Georgia who fits the qualifications of subsections (c) through (p) of said Article Three, Section 2.

BL8.01.02 Those members apportioned according to Article Three, Section 2 of the Charter of the Democratic National Committee shall be elected by vote of the State Committee Members at the regular meeting next prior to the National Convention by signed paper ballot, open electronic method, or by acclamation. The election and voting shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions set forth in BL1.10.01.

BL8.01.03 Notice of the State Committee meeting at which National Committee members are to be elected shall be mailed to all members of the State Committee no less than thirty (30) days before the convening of that meeting, designating time, date, and place of the meeting and including in such mailing copies of those sections of the Charter, Bylaws, and Rules governing the National Committee member selection.

BL8.01.04 Persons interested in running for a National Committee Member post shall file an "intent to run" statement with the State Party office no later than ten days before the State Committee meeting. A non-State Committee Member wishing to run for a National Committee Member post must submit such “intent to run” statement with the endorsement of no less than thirty (30) State Committee Members no later than ten (10) days before the State Committee meeting.

BL8.01.05 A brief (3-4 minute) nominating speech may be made for each candidate. A (1 minute) seconding speech may also be made. The nominees may then address the State Committee for no more than 5 minutes. These speeches shall be made the following order: Post 1, Post 2, etc.

BL8.01.06 Balloting will proceed using ballots prepared by the State Party office, with a provision for write-ins.

SECTION 2. DUTIES

BL8.02.01 Members of the State Delegation to the National Committee shall hold themselves available for consultation prior to National Committee Meetings.

BL8.02.02 The Georgia Delegation to the National Committee shall report on the activities of the National Committee to the State Convention, State Committee, and Executive Committee at every called meeting.

SECTION 3. VACANCIES

BL8.03.01 Vacancies among members of the National Committee elected by the State Committee shall be filled in accordance with the provisions set forth in BL1.10.01 to serve until the next meeting of the State Committee at which time the vacancy shall be filled by a vote of the State Committee in accordance with the provisions set forth in BL1.10.1.

SECTION 4. REMOVAL PROCEDURE

BL8.04.01 National Committee members may be removed by the State Committee for cause, as established in BL2.08.02. The notification to the affected person shall be given with at least ten (10) days prior to a hearing, by email

copying the State Committee. There shall be an opportunity for the affected person to be heard. Removal shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote by the State Committee in attendance, provided a forty percent (40%) quorum is met.

BYLAWS ARTICLE IX: AFFILIATES

SECTION 1. CHARTERING AFFILIATES

BL9.01.01 An organization seeking to affiliate with the State Party may petition the Executive Committee for the issuance of a charter. Such an organization shall be aligned with the goals and ideals of the Democratic Party. The organization shall submit a set of approved Bylaws and a list containing their elected leadership with the petition. The Executive Committee shall have sixty (60) days to accept or deny said petition, during which time the Executive Committee may interview leaders of the petitioning organization. Each Affiliate Organization may elect one Member to the State Committee, unless specified within the Charter.

SECTION 2. REVOKING AFFILIATE CHARTERS

BL9.02.01 The State Committee may revoke Affiliate Charters for willful violation or failure to comply with the goals or ideals of the Democratic Party.

BYLAWS ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

BL10.01.01 Proposed amendments to the State Party Bylaws shall be submitted in writing to the State Chair and the Chair of the Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee.

BL10.01.02 The Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee may review and provide recommendations on any proposed amendments either filed with or generated by the committee.

BL10.01.03 All proposed amendments approved by the Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee shall be submitted to the State Chair who shall submit said proposed amendments to the State Committee in accordance with the amendment provisions of the Charter.

SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

BL10.02.01 All amendments shall take effect as of the date stated therein, or if no date is stated, upon adoption of the amendment.

THE OPERATING RULES OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF GEORGIA

RULES ARTICLE I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. ORGANIZATIONAL RULES

R1.01.01 Any change made to the Employee Handbook must be provided in writing to the Executive Committee five (5) calendar days prior to the change taking effect. *Effective March 26th, 2025.*

RULES ARTICLE II: CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENT PROCESS AND PROCEDURE

SECTION 1. GENERAL

R.2.01.01 This Article shall implement the rules referenced in BL1.07.01 and BL1.07.02.

R.2.01.02 The endorsement process is intended to be the exception rather than the rule. Endorsements should only occur under limited circumstances where there is a compelling need consistent with the best interests of the Democratic Party of Georgia on the local and state level.

R.2.01.03 For purposes of this Article, BL1.07.01 and BL1.07.02, the following definitions shall apply to the extent not inconsistent with the Charter and Bylaws:

(a) "Federal Election" shall mean any election for the United States Senate or the United States House of Representatives.

(b) "State Election" shall mean any election for a statewide constitutional office, the Georgia State House, the Georgia State Senate, District Attorney, the Supreme Court of Georgia, the Georgia Court of Appeals, or any non-municipal trial court in the State of Georgia.

(c) "County Election" shall mean any election for either a countywide position or for a seat on a county-wide elected body.

(d) "Municipal Election" shall mean any election for either a citywide position or for a seat on a city-wide elected body.

R 2.01.04 No County Committee, the State Executive Committee, the State Committee, or the State Party may act on any endorsement or opposition or publicize any vote for an endorsement or opposition until the entire endorsement process has been completed.

SECTION 2. ENDORSEMENT PROCESS AT THE COUNTY COMMITTEE LEVEL

R2.02.01 Any County Committee may pass a resolution by a two-thirds vote of its elected members to endorse or oppose a Democratic Candidate or a candidate that considers themselves a Democrat in a non-partisan election (to be followed by a two-thirds vote by the State Executive Committee) as set forth in BL1.07.01 and BL1.07.02 of these Rules.

R2.02.02 Upon the County Committee's adoption of such a resolution, the County Committee shall present to their Congressional District Chair, the DPG Congressional District/County Committee Vice Chair, and the DPG Party Affairs Director a copy of the resolution, the minutes from the meeting where the resolution was adopted, and a report signed by the County Committee Chair explaining why the County Committee voted to endorse or oppose the candidate, including any evidence or supporting documentation.

R2.02.03 If the candidate that is subject to endorsement or opposition by a County Committee through a resolution adopted pursuant to R2.02.01 is running for an office that encompasses multiple counties, and there is more than one County Committee that passes a resolution endorsing or opposing the same candidate, all such endorsements or oppositions of the same candidate may be bundled together and submitted to the Congressional District Chair, the DPG Congressional District/County Committee Vice Chair, and the DPG Party Affairs Director.

SECTION 3. ENDORSEMENT PROCESS AT THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LEVEL

R2.03.01 Upon receiving a resolution, minutes, and report relating to the endorsement or opposition of a candidate from one or more County Committees, the Congressional District Chair, the DPG Congressional District/County Committee Vice Chair, and/or the DPG Party Affairs Director shall promptly share those materials with the members of the State Executive Committee.

R2.03.02 Any five members of the State Executive Committee may initiate an endorsement or opposition for a candidate in a federal or state election pursuant to BL1.07.01. Those members shall submit a written report to the State Executive Committee explaining the basis for their desire to endorse or oppose the candidate.

R2.03.03 Upon receiving a resolution, minutes, and report relating to the endorsement or opposition of a candidate from a County Committee under R2.03.01 or from any five members of the State Executive Committee under R2.03.02, the Secretary of the State Executive Committee shall add the endorsement or opposition to the agenda of the next regularly scheduled State Executive Committee meeting or, if no such meeting is scheduled to occur within 14 days, the Secretary shall work with the Chair to specially set a State Executive Committee meeting within 14 days for the purpose of considering the endorsement or opposition.

R2.03.04 The County Committee that approved the endorsement or opposition shall be provided with at least 48 hours' notice of the State Executive Committee meeting. At the State Executive Committee meeting, the Chair of any County Committee that approved the endorsement or opposition or their designee or any of the five members of the State Executive Committee who petitioned for the endorsement or opposition may present in favor of the endorsement or opposition if they wish to do so. Any member of the same County Committee who opposes the endorsement or opposition may present in opposition if they wish to do so.

R2.03.05 The State Executive Committee may only approve the endorsement or opposition by a two-thirds vote. In cases where the endorsement or opposition is for a candidate in a federal or state election under BL1.07.01, a YES vote is a vote to endorse/oppose the candidate by the State Executive Committee. A NO vote is a vote to end the endorsement or opposition process. If cases where the endorsement or opposition is for a candidate in a county or municipal election under BL1.07.02, the State Executive Committee's vote is final and approves or denies the County Committee's action. It is not seen as an endorsement by the State Executive Committee itself.

R2.03.06 The Secretary of the State Executive Committee will provide written notification to the Chairs of the relevant County Committee(s) immediately (i.e., within 2 business days) following the State Executive Committee's vote.

SECTION 4. ENDORSEMENT PROCESS AT THE STATE COMMITTEE LEVEL

R2.04.01 The Chair shall endeavor to schedule a State Committee meeting after the close of qualifying but at least 30 days before the general primary in even-numbered years or, if requested, at least 30 days before any special primary or special election, so that endorsements of federal and state candidates can be timely considered in advance of those elections.

R2.04.02 If a County Committee has voted to endorse or oppose a candidate for a federal or state election, and the State Executive Committee has also voted to endorse or oppose that candidate, the State Executive Committee shall add the endorsement or opposition as an agenda item for the next State Committee meeting.

R2.04.03 The State Committee shall then vote on the endorsement or opposition of any candidate for a state or federal election at the next scheduled State Committee meeting. In all such cases under BL1.07.01, the State Committee's vote on the endorsement or opposition shall be final. A YES vote will be an endorsement of or an opposition to the candidate(s) in question by the Democratic Party of Georgia. A NO vote denies such endorsement or opposition notwithstanding prior approval by one or more County Committees and/or the State Executive Committee.

R2.04.04 The Secretary of the State Executive Committee will provide written notification to the Chairs of the relevant County Committee(s) immediately (i.e., within 2 business days) following the State Committee's vote. *Effective June 1st, 2026*.

APPENDIX: ACRONYM AND OTHER DEFINITIONS

ADA	Americans With Disabilities Act
CBCR Committee	Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee
DPG	Democratic Party of Georgia
DNC	Democratic National Committee
Georgia Election Code	O.C.G.A. § 21-2-1 *et seq.*
SWOT Analysis	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats Analysis

APPENDIX: CHARTER, BYLAWS AND COMPLIANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT 2021

This Charter and Bylaws language was researched, debated, and amended between January 4th through July 27th, 2021. This language was approved by the Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee (formerly known as the Charter and Bylaws Committee) on July 27th, 2021, with feedback from the Executive Committee, the State Committee, the Congressional District Chairs, the County Committee Chairs and other interested members under the umbrella of the Democratic Party of Georgia. This language was then approved by the State Committee on August 28th, 2021.

Committee Membership	CD	County
Will Fowlkes (Chair)	7	Cobb
Al Turnell	5	Fulton
Barbara Campbell	4	DeKalb
Becky Arrington	6	Cobb
Ben Myers	6	Cobb
Bev Jackson	6	Cobb
Carlotta Harrell	13	Henry
Carolyn Fludd	3	Fayette
Dennis Marks	8	Lowndes
Dominick Perkins	2	Muscogee
George Chidi	4	DeKalb
Gretchen Quarterman	8	Lowndes
John H Brown	12	Bulloch
Justin Holsomback	6	Fulton
Matt Weiss *(Legal)*	---	---
Mike Jablonski *(Legal)*	---	---
Pat Pullar	5	Clayton
Sachin Varghese *(Legal)*	---	---
Sandra Williams	11	Cherokee
Sarah Todd	4	Newton
Sean Calahan	6	Fulton
Stephen Day	10	Gwinnett
Zane Malas	6	Fulton

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT 2025, MARCH

This Charter and Bylaws language was researched, debated, and next amended between December 3rd, 2024, through February 5th, 2025. This language was approved by the Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee on February 5th, 2025, with feedback from the Executive Committee, the State Committee, the Congressional District Chairs, the County Committee Chairs and other interested members under the umbrella of the Democratic Party of Georgia. This language was then approved by the State Committee on March 29th, 2025.

Committee Membership	CD	County
Will Fowlkes (Chair)	11	Cobb
Becky Arrington	11	Cobb
Maria Banjo	5	Fulton
John Brown	12	Bulloch
Sean Calahan	7	Fulton
Barbara Campbell	4	DeKalb
Joel Cope	6	Cobb
Glenn Paul Friedman	5	Fulton
Bobby Fuse	2	Sumter
Carlotta Harrell	13	Henry
Justin Holsomback	5	Fulton
Mike Jablonski (Legal)	---	Fulton
Bev Jackson	11	Cobb
Jay Jones	1	Chattam
Kristen Kiefer	8	Houston
Julie Locke	14	Whitfield
Pat Pullar	5	Clayton
Jim Taflinger	10	Clarke
Sarah Todd	13	Newton
Sachin Varghese (Legal)	---	DeKalb
Matt Weiss (Legal)	---	DeKalb
Sandra Williams	11	Cherokee
Matt Wilson	5	DeKalb

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT 2025, MAY

This Charter and Bylaws language was researched, debated, and next amended between March 30th, 2025, through April 2nd, 2025. This language was approved by the Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee on April 2nd, 2025, with feedback from legal counsel, the Democratic National Committee and other interested members under the umbrella of the Democratic Party of Georgia. This language was then approved by the State Committee on May 3rd, 2025.

Committee Membership	CD	County
Will Fowlkes (Chair)	11	Cobb
Becky Arrington	11	Cobb
Maria Banjo	5	Fulton
John Brown	12	Bulloch
Sean Calahan	7	Fulton
Barbara Campbell	4	DeKalb
Joel Cope	6	Cobb
Glenn Paul Friedman	5	Fulton
Bobby Fuse	2	Sumter
Carlotta Harrell	13	Henry
Justin Holsomback	5	Fulton
Mike Jablonski (Legal)	---	Fulton
Bev Jackson	11	Cobb
Jay Jones	1	Chattam
Kristen Kiefer	8	Houston
Julie Locke	14	Whitfield
Pat Pullar	5	Clayton
Jim Taflinger	10	Clarke
Sarah Todd	13	Newton
Sachin Varghese (Legal)	---	DeKalb
Matt Weiss (Legal)	---	DeKalb
Sandra Williams	11	Cherokee
Matt Wilson	5	DeKalb

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT 2026, AUGUST

This Charter and Bylaws language was researched, debated, and next amended between March 25th, 2026, and June 29th, 2026. This language was approved by the Charter, Bylaws and Compliance Review Committee on June 1st, June 17th, June 22nd, and June 29th, 2026, with feedback from legal counsel and other interested members under the umbrella of the Democratic Party of Georgia. This language was then approved by the State Committee on August 1st, 2026.

Committee Membership	CD	County
Matt Weiss (Chair & Legal)	7	Fulton
Becky Arrington	11	Cobb
Maria Banjo	5	Fulton
William Boddie	5	Fulton
John Howard Brown	12	Bulloch
Barbara Campbell	4	DeKalb
Eustacia McCloud Carter	6	Cobb
Joel Cope	6	Cobb
Andrew Ten Ecyk	7	Fulton
Will Fowlkes (Vice Chair)	11	Cobb
Glenn Paul Friedman	5	Fulton
Bobby Fuse	2	Sumter
Jamie Harmon	3	Fayette
Carlotta Harrell	13	Henry
Mike Jablonski (Legal)	---	Fulton
Bev Jackson	11	Cobb
Kristen Kiefer	8	Houston
Julie Locke	14	Whitfield
Ben Myers	5	Fulton
Stephanie Newell (Ex Officio)	---	Coweta
Elena Parent	5	Dekalb
Pat Pullar	5	Clayton
Sarah Todd	13	Newton
Sachin Varghese (Legal)	---	DeKalb
Sandra Williams	11	Cherokee