

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF DELAWARE, OHIO

PREAMBLE

We, members of the DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PART in convention assembled, in order to organize and perpetuate a representative, effective, and responsible party organization at all levels in DELAWARE COUNTY, OHIO, affiliate with and advance the interest of the Democratic Party for the State of Ohio and nationally, sustain and advance the principles of democracy, and uphold human and civil rights and constitutional government, do establish this Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE 1. NAME, MEMBERSHIP AND ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE

SECTION 1. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

SECTION 2. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this party shall be open to all residents of DELAWARE COUNTY, in the state of Ohio who support the Constitution of the United States of America, and the Constitution of the State of Ohio, and the Constitution, By-Laws and principles of the DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY. No person may be a member or may vote on any motion, resolution, nomination, or election at any caucus, convention, meeting or conference of the DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY, who does not meet the aforesaid qualifications or who is a member of any other political party at that time.

SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS

In the event that any person's qualifications as a member of the DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY or eligibility for party office must be determined, the same procedure by the Election Laws of Ohio.

ARTICLE II. CONSTITUTION AND LAWS

SECTION 1.

Nothing herein shall conflict with the Constitution of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, the laws of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, the Constitution of the State of Ohio, the laws of the State of Ohio, and the Ohio Democratic Party Constitution and By-Laws. Any matter that conflicts with any of the aforesaid shall be of no force and effect. All constitutional provisions and laws of the United States of Ohio are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part hereof. Each clause of the Constitution and By-Laws shall be considered

separately and the illegality of unenforceability of any one clause shall not affect any other clause.

ARTICLE III. CENTRAL COMMITTEE - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1.

The controlling committee of the DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY SHALL BE THE COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE consisting of such membership as shall be elected according to the laws - of the State of Ohio. The County Central Committee shall elect a County Executive Committee which shall have such powers as are granted it by the County Central Committee, as are provided by law, and by this Constitution and By-Laws.

SECTION 2.

The members-elect of the party's Central Committee shall meet not earlier than six nor later than fifteen days after Declaration of the Board of Election results, at a suitable place and time in Delaware County, Ohio. This place is to be designated by the retiring chairperson of the Committee. Notice of such meeting, giving the place and time, shall be sent to each member-elect by the retiring secretary or if there is no such officer or if such officer is absent, then as provided by the laws of the State of Ohio. The meeting shall be called according to the Statutes of the State of Ohio. The meeting shall be called to order by the retiring chairperson or secretary or if there is no such officer or if such officer is absent then as provided by the laws of the State of Ohio. A temporary chairperson and secretary shall be chosen for the matter of organization only from the Elected Members of the Central Committee.

SECTION 3.

The County Central Committee shall then elect themselves to the County Executive Committee and carry with them their Chairperson who shall be Chairperson of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 4.

The County Central Committee shall confer upon the County Executive Committee all powers and authority of the County Central Committee and the County Executive Committee shall be authorized to act for the County Central Committee in all things pertaining to welfare, business, operation and organization of the County Central Committee and the DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY during the period of its existence which shall be continue until the 6th day after the election of the next County Central Committee at the primary election. Any vacancies which may occur in the County Executive Committee or in the County Central Committee shall be filled by a majority vote of the County Executive Committee.

SECTION 5.

The Chairperson of the County Executive Committee shall then recommend to the County Executive Committee additional At-Large members up to six less than the number of precincts. The recommendations of the Chairperson must be broadly representative of all the various elements of the party. These recommended persons must be approved by the vote of committee and may be rejected or approved on an individual basis for membership on the County Executive Committee.

SECTION 6.

The County Executive Committee shall then immediately proceed to elect from its members of majority vote two Vice-Chairpersons, one of whom shall be a woman and one of whom shall be a man. Immediately after such election the County Executive Committee shall elect one of the two Vice-Chairpersons as First Vice-Chairperson. The County Executive Committee shall then elect a treasurer and a secretary from its members.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

SECTION 1.

The Chairperson's duties shall be those of chief executive officer and he shall be subject to the directions of and responsible to the County Executive Committee. The Chairperson shall appoint a finance committee and a finance chairperson, a budget committee and a budget committee chairperson, and auditing committee and an auditing committee chairperson and a director of publicity or other committees as necessary.

SECTION 2.

The First Vice-Chairperson shall act as the Chairperson in case of the death, resignation, incapacity, removal or absence of the Chairperson, and shall, in such event, have the same powers, duties, and responsibilities as the Chairperson until such time as the County Central Committee shall properly elect a new Chairperson. In the event the First Chairperson is unable to serve as Chairperson, the Second Vice-Chairperson shall act as the Chairperson as provided herein.

SECTION 3.

The Secretary shall be in charge of all official documents of the Executive Committee and of the preparation of the necessary notices, minutes and other documents. He shall preserve such files and other documents. He shall preserve such files and records and open them for examination and at appropriate times at the request of any duly elected member of the County Executive Committee under such rule and regulations as are prescribed by said Executive Committee.

SECTION 4.

The Treasurer shall have custody of the funds of the party and shall render up-to-date financial reports to each meeting of the County Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall be accountable for all receipts and expenditures of the party, subject to the direction of the Finance Committee. He and any other party officer or employee responsible for handling of party funds shall be under sufficient bond, the amount to be determined by the County Executive Committee.

SECTION 5.

The Chairperson of the Finance Committee shall preside over said Committee. The Committee shall be responsible for soliciting all contributions and promoting all fund-raising activities for the party, and monitor the expenses of the party.

SECTION 6.

The Chairperson of the Auditing Committee shall preside over said Committee. The Committee shall make an annual audit of the receipts and expenditures of the party. The Committee shall make an annual audit and such other audits as the Chairperson of the County Executive Committee or any member of the Auditing Committee may request. The Auditing Committee shall consist of the Chairperson and two members appointed by the County Executive Committee.

SECTION 7.

The Chairperson of the Budgeting Committee shall preside over said Committee. The Budgeting Committee shall be responsible for the planning of all expenditures of the party, and submit said annual budget to the Executive Committee for approval.

ARTICLE V. STATE, COUNTY, POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS AND DEMOCRATIC CLUBS, COOPERATIONS

SECTION 1.

The Chairperson of the DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE shall consult with, and cooperate with the various precincts or Ward Committeemen and all officers of all Democratic Clubs of the Ohio Democratic Party within their duly chartered areas of jurisdiction.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

SECTION 1.

The County Central Committee shall meet after its elections as required by law and this Constitution and By-Laws. The County Executive Committee shall meet immediately upon its election by the County Central Committee and at least quarterly thereafter during the period of its existence. The County Executive Committee may be called to meet by the chairperson or by a minimum or one-eighth of the membership of said Committee.

SECTION 2.

Notice of any meeting, other than the original meetings of the County Executive Committee, specifying time and place, shall be sent in writing through regular United States Mail to all members of the Committee in seven (7) days in advance of the meeting except in extenuating circumstances.

SECTION 3.

Minutes shall be taken of all meetings of the County Central Committee and the County Executive Committee,

SECTION 4.

Twenty percent of the membership of said Committee shall constitute a quorum for conducting any business to come before the meeting.

ARTICLE VII. PRE-PRIMARY ENDORSEMENTS

SECTION 1.

In an election year in which the State Democratic Executive Committee makes endorsements, the DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY may use its resources and leadership to aid and assist in the nomination of such endorsements made by the State Committee for the benefit of the Ohio Democratic Party.

SECTION 2.

At any time, the Delaware County Executive Committee may make pre-primary endorsements for any local or district office providing that 60% of the members of the committee present and voting on such question, so determine. At any meeting on which endorsements shall be discussed, ample notice shall be given to each member of the Committee.

ARTICLE VIII. FINANCE

SECTION 1.

The Chairperson of the Delaware County Executive Committee shall at least once a year list all contributions and monies received and such listings shall be made available upon request to all members of the Delaware County Democratic Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IX. PARTY UNITY

SECTION 1.

All members of the party, candidates for office, party officers, party committees and organizations, and elected Democratic officials shall support the principles of the DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

ARTICLE X. STATE CONVENTION, PARTY STRUCTURE, NATIONAL GUIDELINES PARTY STRUCTURE, STATE GUIDELINES

SECTION 1.

The provisions for a State Convention of the Ohio Democratic Party, Party Structure - National Guidelines and Party Structure - State Guidelines as adopted in Article X, Article XI and Article XII of the Ohio Democratic Party Constitution and By-Laws adopted on January 14, 1987, are incorporated herein and made a part of the Constitution and By-Laws of the DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

ARTICLE XI. OATH OF OFFICE

SECTION 1.

All officers of the Delaware County Central Committees and the County Executive Committee shall be required to take an oath of office to support the Constitution of the United States of America, the Constitution of the State of Ohio, the Constitution and By-Laws, the principles of the Ohio Democratic Party, and the Constitution and By-Laws of the Delaware County Democratic Party.

ARTICLE XII. ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER

SECTION 1.

Any matters regarding the conduct of the affairs of the Delaware County Central and Executive Committees not governed by this Constitution and By-Laws or by the convention rules or by the laws of the State of Ohio shall be governed by ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER.

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENT

SECTION 1.

This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by 60% affirmative vote of the members of the Executive Committee of the DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY present at any meeting called for that purpose. Amendments proposed under this Section must be submitted in writing and copies thereof sent to each member of the said Committee at a reasonable time prior to the meeting.

Adopted at Delaware, Ohio

This 22nd day of March 1989

By the DELAWARE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
duly assembled for this purpose.

Roger M. Van Sickle, Chairperson

DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE