

# STATE REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## 2024-2026 SREC BYLAWS

Adopted May 25, 2024 – Last Amended August 3, 2024

### ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of the organization is the State Republican Executive Committee (SREC).

### ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purposes of the SREC are:

1. To act as the governing body of the Republican Party of Texas (RPT) and exercise those powers conferred upon it by the state or federal statutes,
2. To establish general policy for the RPT, subject to the direction of the biennial state convention,
3. To be responsible for the general supervision and management of the RPT,
4. To foster and encourage growth in the RPT by promoting the principles as expressed in the platform, planks, and legislative priorities and by electing Republican officeholders, and
5. To provide an opportunity for full participation in the RPT to all Texans who subscribe to the beliefs and principles advocated by the RPT.

### ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

#### Section 1. Definitions

The SREC is composed of the State Chairman (Chairman) and the State Vice-Chairman (Vice-Chairman), one a man and the other a woman, and two SREC members (Members) from each state senatorial district, one a man and the other a woman.

#### Section 2. Election

The SREC is elected at the RPT's biennial state convention as prescribed by these Bylaws. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman are elected by majority vote of the entire State convention. Members are elected by majority vote in their respective Senate Caucuses.

#### Section 3. Qualifications

In order to qualify as a candidate for membership on the SREC, one must affiliate as a Republican in the year in which the SREC is elected and in which he or she runs for SREC membership, contingent only upon requisites stated in Section 1 of this Article.

## **Section 4. Term of Office**

The term of office for the SREC commences immediately upon conclusion of the State Convention, at which the SREC is elected and continues until the conclusion of the next biennial convention.

## **Section 5. Vacancies Between RPT Conventions**

In the event of a vacancy on the SREC between State Conventions, the person resigning must submit written notice to the Secretary, who will verify the resignation with the person, attest the date and time of the resignation in the official record of the SREC, and report the resignation to the Chairman and the SREC within three days. A majority vote of the SREC will fill the vacancy in accordance with these Bylaws. Notice of an election to fill the vacancy will be included in the notice of call of the meeting at which the vote to fill the vacancy will be taken. If the vacancy is due to death or other extraordinary circumstances, notice may be waived by a two-thirds vote of the SREC at the meeting at which the vacancy could be filled.

## **Section 6. Duties**

It is the duty of each Member to furnish liaison between the RPT and Republicans within the district he or she represents; to promote the growth of the RPT within that district through the recruitment of Republican officials where no entity of Republicans exists; to ensure that Republican officials within that district have adequate information concerning the conduct of primary elections, county or district conventions and meetings, and legal requirements governing contributions and expenditures; and to fulfill the purposes of the SREC as stated in Article II of these Bylaws.

## **Section 7. Honorary Members**

- A. The following are Honorary Members of the SREC, ex officio, as long as each holds such office:
- National Committeeman
  - National Committeewoman
  - Finance Chairman
  - Treasurer
  - Assistant Treasurer(s), if any
  - Chaplain
  - General Counsel
  - Assistant General Counsel(s), if any
  - Parliamentarian
  - Assistant Parliamentarian, if any
  - Sergeant at Arms
  - Secretary, if not an SREC member.
- B. Members of Qualified Republican Organizations. The SREC extends honorary memberships to a representative from each organization, to be selected by each respective group, contingent upon meeting the criteria outlined in Article VII, Section 8(E)(2)(b). These Republican organization representatives may attend SREC meetings, without the right to attend executive session or to vote, but they may speak to the body when approved by the Chairman. We recognize the substantial contributions to RPT development and growth by autonomous Republican Partnerships, and desire to promote harmonious interaction between these groups and the RPT.

# ARTICLE IV – ELECTED OFFICERS OF THE SREC

## Section 1. Elected Officers

The elected officers of the SREC are the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, and the Secretary, who perform those duties assigned to them by these Bylaws and by the Rules of the RPT.

## Section 2. Duties

- A. The CHAIRMAN is the chief executive officer of the RPT, representing the SREC as its official spokesman. Additionally, the Chairman's duties include:
1. Preside at all meetings of the SREC;
  2. Serve as temporary chairman of the biennial state convention;
  3. Make the appointments specified by these Bylaws;
  4. Call the meetings specified in these Bylaws;
  5. Be an ex-officio member of all committees;
  6. Serve as a member of the Republican National Committee, subject to that body's rules;
  7. Ensure RPT compliance with all applicable state and federal laws, with these Bylaws, and with the Rules of the RPT;
  8. In conjunction with the SREC, coordinate the political activities of the RPT and direct the advance planning of the programs of the RPT;
  9. Exercise the usual powers of supervision and management pertaining to the State Headquarters of the RPT, including employment of an executive director and such supportive staff as warranted; and
  10. Assure the safekeeping of all records of the RPT and turn them over to his successor upon vacating the office.
  11. In his or her official capacity, only become a party to a lawsuit, or name the RPT as a party to a lawsuit, with the express prior approval of a majority of the members present and voting of the Officials Committee. If the RPT is named as a plaintiff in a lawsuit, the Chairman must notify all Members via secure and confidential electronic mail regarding the details of such litigation prior to any public release. In case of emergency litigation, the Officials Committee must be given a minimum two-hours' notice before any press release, if possible.
  12. Obtain preauthorization from the Officials Committee, immediately prior to the period during which an election will be conducted, in order to engage in legal action on behalf of the RPT relating to that election cycle.
- B. The VICE-CHAIRMAN is elected as prescribed by these Bylaws and assists the Chairman as requested in the performance of the duties of that office. In the event of the Chairman's death, incapacity, or resignation, the Vice-Chairman will perform the duties of the Chairman until a new Chairman is elected. The Vice-Chairman is an ex-officio member of all committees.
- C. The SECRETARY is elected by the SREC at its organizational meeting for a term concurrent with that of the SREC and acts as recording officer of the SREC, keeping the minutes and attendance records for all SREC meetings, such records to be retained at State Headquarters in a journal for that purpose. If the Secretary is a voting member of the SREC, then the Secretary will be an ex-officio member of all committees. In the event that the Secretary is not a voting member of the SREC, that person is an honorary member of the SREC and all committees.

### **Section 3. Vacancy in office of Chairman**

If the office of Chairman becomes vacant, the Vice-Chairman will assume the duties of Chair until a replacement is elected according to these Bylaws. The Vice-Chairman must call a meeting of the SREC, to be held within 30 days of the Chairman's death, incapacity, or resignation, for the purpose of electing a new Chairman. Notice of the date, time, and place of the meeting will be given to Members no fewer than ten days prior to the meeting. This notice provision for the meeting to elect a new Chairman must be superior to and govern any and all other notice provisions contained in these Bylaws. However, notwithstanding the foregoing, if a Chairman submits in writing to the SREC an irrevocable letter of resignation setting a specific day and exact time certain in the future as to when the Chairman's resignation will be effective, and such resignation is accepted by the Officials Committee or the SREC, then the Chairman may in place of the Vice-Chairman call a meeting of the SREC to be held on the day the resignation takes place provided such notice was sent to the SREC at least thirty 30 days prior to the meeting at which the new Chairman will be elected. In the event the Chairman does not call such a meeting, the Vice-Chairman will call a meeting after the resignation is in effect in accordance with the previous provisions of this article.

## **ARTICLE V – MEETINGS**

### **Section 1. Conduct of Meetings**

The SREC meets in person upon the call of the Chairman and at such times as required or as provided by these Bylaws and by the Rules of the RPT. All meetings of the SREC are open to credentialed media representatives and to Republican members of the public, except when the SREC goes into executive session.

- A. **STATUTORY MEETINGS.** Meetings prescribed by these Bylaws will be duly called by the Chairman, or in his absence by the Vice-Chairman, for the purpose so designated by law; and no other business may be transacted at such statutory meetings unless notice of such other business has been included in the call.
- B. **REGULAR MEETINGS.** The SREC will meet no less frequently than quarterly for the conduct of business necessary to fulfill its objectives and purposes. Statutory business may occur at a regular meeting. In even-numbered years, the fourth quarterly meeting will be held after the November general election.
- C. **SPECIAL MEETINGS.** Special meetings of the SREC may be called by the Chairman, and must be called by the Chairman upon petition signed by at least 15 Members, representing no fewer than ten state senatorial districts, delivered to the Secretary (or to the State Headquarters if the Secretary is not available) at least 14 days prior to the date specified for the meeting. Any notice of a special meeting must contain the purpose for which the meeting is called or specify the business to be considered.

### **Section 2. Notice of Meetings**

A written call containing notice of the meeting must be mailed and postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service, or transmitted by electronic mail, no later than 12 days prior to the meeting, to each Member at the Member's address appearing on the Secretary's records, with the method of notice above to be at the Member's option. The twelve-day notice may be waived in the event of a stated emergency, as declared by the Officials Committee, in which case 48 hours' notice must be given by telephone and confirmed by overnight letter or via electronic mail.

### **Section 3. Proxies**

Written proxies for voting Members will be recognized at any regular, special, or statutory meeting of the SREC, but not committee meetings of the SREC, except where otherwise specified in these Bylaws. Proxies are considered valid if the Member's signature is notarized or confirmation is provided to the Secretary and is approved by a proxy committee selected by the Chairman. A Member may choose to designate his or her Senate District counterpart to serve as a default proxy in the case of the Member's absence and no other proxy being submitted.

### **Section 4. Quorum**

A quorum for all regular and special meetings of the SREC consists of a majority of the Members, in person or represented by proxy. At statutory meetings, a quorum consists of those Members present, in person or represented by proxy provided, however, that if a majority of Members is not represented as above provided, only business required by Texas law may be transacted. For digital meetings pursuant to Section 6 below, Members will be deemed "present" if they are connected to the meeting electronically.

### **Section 5. Voting**

Each Member, the Chairman, and the Vice-Chairman, in person or represented by proxy, has the right to cast his or her individual vote. Votes are taken: by roll call when demanded by at least 20% of the Members present or required by RPT Rules, otherwise by any method approved by majority vote of the Members, otherwise by voice, show of hands, ballot, or electronic vote, as determined by the Chairman. The "ayes" and "nays" of any roll call vote will be entered into the minutes of the meeting.

### **Section 6. Meeting Via Digital Conference**

All meetings may be conducted via telecommunications or digital conference platform. Meetings held by telephone conference or digital conference platform, must allow for simultaneous voice communication, ability to share documents among all participating Members, and must provide a method for non-committee members who have a right to appear before the committee or testify to seek recognition from the Chairman of the committee or provide a scheduled opportunity for such testimony prior to the vote being taken on the relevant issue. The results of any Record Vote in a digital conference meeting will be displayed on the shared screen space for all members and the public streaming feeds to see the results immediately as the result of the vote is announced.

## **ARTICLE VI – OFFICIALS OF THE RPT**

### **Section 1. Elective Officials**

The Republican National Committeeman and Committeewoman are the elective officials of the RPT. Each is elected in accordance with RPT Rules and these Bylaws. Each serves a term of four years, commencing with the adjournment of the quadrennial national convention. The duty of each is to provide liaison and communication between the SREC and Republican National Committee. In the event of a vacancy in the office of either National Committee member, the Chairman will call a meeting of the SREC no fewer than 20 days or more than 30 days within occurrence of such vacancy for the purpose of electing a successor.

## **Section 2. Appointive Officials**

The appointive officials of the RPT are the Finance Chairman, the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer(s) (optional), the Parliamentarian, the Assistant Parliamentarian (optional), the General Counsel, the Assistant General Counsel(s) (optional), the Sergeant at Arms, and the Chaplain, each of whom is appointed by the Chairman. Any SREC confirmation required by these Bylaws is by majority vote of Members present at the meeting when confirmation is considered unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

- A. **APPOINTIVE VACANCIES.** The appointive officials serve at the pleasure of the Chairman. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Chairman, the appointive officials serve until the election of a new Chairman. Upon the election of a new Chairman, the offices of all appointive officials automatically are vacated and are open for appointment by the new Chairman.
- B. **DUTIES OF APPOINTIVE OFFICIALS**
  1. The **FINANCE CHAIRMAN** serves as Chairman of the Finance Committee.
  2. The **TREASURER** is appointed by the Chairman, subject to confirmation by the SREC. The Treasurer may exercise all powers and duties of that office prior to and following confirmation. The Treasurer is custodian of all funds belonging to the RPT and will submit a monthly report of net income by category and expenses by category to the Chairman and a quarterly report of disbursements and receipts to the SREC. He or she supervises a system of bookkeeping in which the accounts correspond to identical categories in the budget, the records of which will be in safekeeping at State Headquarters and available for inspection by any Member or the Officials Committee. The Treasurer is responsible for filing with the appropriate authorities all statements and reports required by state or federal law. At the end of his term of office, he will turn over to his successor all funds, books, and other papers of the RPT. The Treasurer is an ex-officio member of any SREC committee or board having supervisory or oversight responsibility over the RPT's "non-allocable" or "exempt" (as those terms are used in federal campaign finance law) state campaign activities, including programs conducted by the "Victory" committee of the SREC.
  3. The **ASSISTANT TREASURER(S)** (optional) may be appointed by the Chairman subject to confirmation by the SREC. In the event of the Treasurer's death, resignation, or inability to serve, the Assistant Treasurer(s), if any, automatically succeeds to the office of Treasurer and assumes the duties thereof until the Treasurer's replacement by action of the Chairman. Each Assistant Treasurer, if any, is a voting ex-officio member of the Finance Committee.
  4. The **GENERAL COUNSEL** is appointed by the Chairman subject to confirmation by the SREC. The General Counsel must be an attorney duly licensed to practice law in the State of Texas, whose general duties are to advise the Chairman and the SREC of the legal responsibilities and statutory obligations of the RPT.
  5. The **ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL(S)** (optional) may be appointed by the Chairman subject to confirmation by the SREC. Each Assistant General Counsel must be an attorney duly licensed to practice law in the State of Texas, whose general duties are to assist the General Counsel.
  6. The **PARLIAMENTARIAN** is appointed by the Chairman, subject to confirmation by the SREC. The general duties are to advise the Chairman and the SREC on the Rules, and procedures of the RPT, these Bylaws, and any rules of order.
  7. The **ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARIAN** (optional) is appointed as needed by the Chairman, subject to confirmation by the SREC. The general duties are to assist the Parliamentarian as needed and to serve as temporary Parliamentarian in the absence of the Parliamentarian.

8. The SERGEANT AT ARMS is appointed by the Chairman. The general duties are to maintain order during the meetings of the SREC, and to perform such other duties as requested by the Chairman.
9. The CHAPLAIN is appointed by the Chairman. The Chaplain will provide the spiritual leadership for the RPT and perform such duties as requested by the Chairman.
10. The HISTORIAN (optional) is appointed by the Chairman. The historian will compile and maintain records reflecting the history of the SREC and the RPT.

## **ARTICLE VII – COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1. Committee Members**

Committee members are nominated by the Chairman subject to confirmation by the SREC.

### **Section 2. Committee Chairmen**

Committee chairmen are appointed by the Chairman from among the committee members, unless otherwise specified.

### **Section 3. Committee Meetings and Notice**

Committees and subcommittees meet at the call of the Chairman, or the committee or subcommittee chairman, or by petition by one half of the committee or subcommittee members. Unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws, notice of committee and subcommittee meetings will be sent to all Members and officers of the SREC and any other members of the committee or subcommittee no later than five days prior to the meeting date. Notice may be distributed by either postal or electronic mail to the address(es) appearing on the Secretary's records. The five-day notice requirement may be waived in the event of an emergency declared by the Chairman or the Officials Committee, in which case no less than 48 hours' notice must be given by overnight mail, electronic mail, or telephone. All Members are allowed to attend any committee or subcommittee meeting but do not have the right to vote and may only participate with leave of the committee chairman.

### **Section 4. Committee Quorum**

A majority of the regular committee members constitutes a quorum, except for the Candidate Resource Committee, for which a quorum will be one-third of the regular committee members. Ex-officio members are not used in calculating the number required for a committee quorum. However, both regular members and ex-officio members present are counted in establishing that the required number of persons is present for a quorum.

### **Section 5. Committee Voting**

1. Voting Committee Members. Each member of the committee has the right to cast his individual vote. Method of voting is by voice, or show of hands, or ballot, as determined by the Chairman or by majority vote of the committee, provided, however, that upon demand by 20% of the members present, a roll-call vote must be taken.
2. Honorary Members. The National Committeeman, the National Committeewoman, the Finance Chairman, the Treasurer, the General Counsel, the Assistant General Counsel(s), if any, the Parliamentarian, if any, and the Secretary are, by virtue of their offices, automatically accorded honorary membership on all SREC committees as long as each holds such office.

## **Section 6. Minority Report**

A minority report may be given by no fewer than 20% of the committee members present and moved as a motion to amend the majority report by substitution.

## **Section 7. Standing Committees**

The standing committees of the SREC are the

1. Officials Committee,
2. Finance Committee,
3. Candidate Resource Committee,
4. Party Organization Committee,
5. Partnerships and Coalitions Committee,
6. Resolutions Committee,
7. Rules Committee,
8. Legislative Priorities Committee, and
9. Election Integrity Committee.

## **Section 8. Duties of Standing Committees**

### **A. THE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE**

1. **Composition and Voting Members:** the Officials Committee is composed of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary, the National Committeeman, the National Committeewoman, the Finance Chairman, the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer(s) if any, the General Counsel, the Assistant General Counsel(s), if any, the Parliamentarian, the Assistant Parliamentarian(s), if any, any two Members appointed by the Chairman, and five Members of the SREC to be elected at the next quarterly meeting of the SREC following the Organizational Meeting. The Chairman serves as the chairman of the Officials Committee. In his or her absence, the Vice-Chairman serves as the chairman of the Officials Committee. The voting members of the Officials Committee are the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, any two Members appointed by the Chairman, and the five elected Members.
2. **Election of the Five SREC Member:** nominations are made from the floor. After nominations have been made, the nominees will draw numbered lots as to speaking order. The nominee drawing the number 1 speaks first, followed by number 2, and so forth in sequential number order. Each nominee has a total of five minutes to speak, including those who wish to speak on behalf of the nominee(s). After all nomination speeches have concluded, voting is conducted by secret paper ballot. The Chairman will appoint three non-nominated Members to count the ballots. Each nominee may have one teller to witness the vote counting.
3. **Ballot:** each paper ballot consists of five blank lines, one for each open office. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, and each Member or a Member's official proxy, are each entitled to receive one paper ballot. On the paper ballot, those entitled to vote may write up to five names, one per line. The order in which the names are written on the ballot is of no consequence. A ballot may not contain the name of any nominee(s) multiple times. If a ballot contains the name of any nominee multiple times, that ballot will only count as one vote for that nominee on that particular ballot. However, if a ballot contains more names than there are nominees, then that entire cast ballot is invalid and will not be counted at all. The top five nominees receiving the most votes are duly elected, provided that



each nominee must at a minimum receive a majority of the total votes cast. In the event there are only five nominations for election to the Officials Committee, the voting may be by voice vote, or the presiding officer may declare them elected.

4. Runoff: in the event of a tie among two or more nominees receiving the lowest votes among the five top vote recipients, those nominees will enter a runoff election. No additional time for speeches is allowed before runoff elections. A new paper ballot containing lines for the number of positions remaining to be filled will be prepared. Voting will take place as with the ballots in Article VII, Section (8)(A)(3) above.
5. Conclusion of Voting: voting concludes when all five positions have been filled by Members, each of whom has received at least a majority of votes.
6. Quorum, Meetings, Voting, and Proxies: quorum consists of 50% or more of the voting Members present. The Officials Committee will only vote on matters on which each member of the committee and each Member was sent an electronic mail notice five days prior to the matter being discussed in a meeting. Failure to send proper notice makes decisions of the meeting voidable at the option of the SREC. Matters may only be voted on in a meeting at which a quorum of Officials Committee members is present in person, via telephone conference call, or a combination of in person and via telephone conference. No meeting and no voting may be conducted via email electronic mail. A method of identity verification will be established for each Member on a telephone conference call. No proxies are allowed for Officials Committee members. Proxies of Members are not allowed to attend. The Secretary will keep written minutes of all Officials Committee meetings and will distribute the written minutes to the SREC within ten days of the end of each meeting.
7. Vacancies: during the time from the first organizational meeting until the election of the Officials committee at the first quarterly meeting after convention, the composition of the Officials committee will consist of members from the prior term if re-elected to the SREC, and the newly elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Any vacancies after the election at the first quarterly meeting will be filled by appointment or election, consistent with Article VII Section 8(A)(2-4).
8. The duties of the Officials Committee are:
  - a. To assume responsibility for transaction of business necessary between meetings of the SREC.
  - b. To prepare a budget for the RPT each year. After the third quarterly SREC meeting, the Officials committee will meet at the call of the Chairman at least three times prior to the fourth quarterly meeting of the SREC, in order to work on the budget to be proposed at the SREC's fourth quarterly meeting that year.
  - c. To ratify written contracts:
    - (1) Concerning and related to 1099 contractors or consultants who are paid more than \$5,000 per month; the RPT State Convention; real estate purchases; leases; and all new or amended contracts of any kind involving proceeds or costs greater than \$50,000 during the budget year, and
    - (2) Ensure all contracts contain provisions so that Members are not individually or collectively liable for contract(s), fulfillment, or disputes arising from contract(s) with the RPT.
  - d. To negotiate and ratify contracts, if any, concerning compensation of the Chairman.

- e. To consider approval of the RPT's involvement as a plaintiff in any lawsuit, which may only be approved by a majority vote of the Committee Members present and voting.

## B. THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

1. The duty of the Finance Committee is to develop and implement ways and means to fund the programs and activities of the RPT.
2. The appointed Finance Chairman serves as chairman of the Finance Committee. Additional ex-officio members are the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer(s), if any, the General Counsel, and the Assistant General Counsel(s), if any. The Chairman may also appoint, but is not required to appoint, one or more Deputy Finance Chairmen.

## C. THE CANDIDATE RESOURCE COMMITTEE

1. The Candidate Resource Committee is appointed at the organizational meeting of the SREC, as follows:
  - a. The Chairman appoints 12 current Members and six others subject to confirmation by the SREC. The Chairman may appoint up to four additional Members also subject to confirmation by the SREC.
  - b. The National Committeeman and the National Committeewoman are ex-officio committee members.
2. The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Candidate Resource Committee must be Members and are appointed by the Chairman.
3. The following persons are ineligible for appointment to the Candidate Resource Committee:
  - a. Any person who holds an elected office or is a candidate for an elected office, and has filed for the appointment of a campaign treasurer; provided, however, that the ineligibility rules under this subsection will not apply to a person on the basis that he holds an elected office of or is a candidate for the office of Member, a county chairman, or precinct chairman.
  - b. Any person who is employed for compensation, either full-time or part-time, as a political consultant or as a staff member of an elected official or candidate.
  - c. Any person who is the spouse of an elected official, candidate, or political consultant.
  - d. Any Member who is an elected member of the Officials Committee.
4. The Candidate Resource Committee provides support to Republican candidates for County and District offices by administering the RPT Campaign Fund, makes available campaign training materials, and assists with targeting of races, all within the limits of funds and other resources available.
5. The Candidate Resource Committee is authorized to develop and prescribe policies, standards, procedures, and criteria to form the basis upon which monies will be expended for the purposes of the Fund, subject expressly to the following:
  - a. It is not required that monies within the Fund be distributed to or on account of all candidates for offices of the same type or class or in equal amounts within any class;
  - b. The best efforts of the Candidate Resource Committee will be applied to distribute the monies in the Fund to, or on account of, those races and candidacies having the greatest chance of winning, fairly balanced with the policy of the RPT, first, to support its incumbents or successor officeholders needing support, and second, to emphasize races at the legislative, district, and county levels of government, with emphasis on the following:

- (1) Establishing a Republican foothold in counties that do not have a Republican base; or
  - (2) Establishing, moving toward, or maintaining Republican control of the county courthouse; or
  - (3) Increasing the number of Republican judges or legislators within the State of Texas; and
- c. No part of the Fund may be used for the purpose, directly or indirectly, of paying any past campaign debts of, or attributable to, any candidate for public office; and
  - d. The Candidate Resource Committee must respect and implement any directives or resolutions on spending approved by the SREC.
6. The Candidate Resource Committee will work with the RPT staff and fellow Members to target the most appropriate candidates and to assist with effective training or training materials and fundraising efforts and ideas.
  7. The term of office runs to the appointment of a succeeding committee at the first meeting of the SREC in each odd-numbered year unless a person becomes ineligible to serve due to a change in status under Article VII, Section 8(C)(3), in which case a vacancy is created and must be filled according to Article VII, Section 8(C)(1).
  8. A vacancy on the Candidate Resource Committee will be filled promptly by the Chairman subject to Article VII, Section 8(C)(3), with such appointment to be presented for confirmation at the next meeting of the SREC. A member may be removed by two-thirds vote of the SREC at any duly called and convened meeting with previous notice.
  9. Written proxies for a Candidate Resource Committee meeting may only be given to a current Member who is not ineligible under Article VII, Section 8(C)(3), unless otherwise allowed by these Bylaws.

#### D. THE PARTY ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

1. The Party Organization Committee is composed of no fewer than five Members, nominated by the Chairman, and subject to confirmation by the SREC.
2. The Party Organization Committee coordinates the development and improvement of the organizational structure of the RPT at every level, including the following:
  - a. COUNTY CHAIRMEN. The Committee is responsible for recruiting, organizing, and training county chairmen, in cooperation with their respective Members, and for improving the effectiveness of the RPT at the county level. The committee provides for meetings of county chairmen, no less than biennially, for the purpose of assisting and training county chairmen. All Members who are also county chairmen are also ex-officio members of the Party Organization Committee. All other county chairmen are non-voting, ex-officio members of the Party Organization Committee.
  - b. VOTER REGISTRATION. The Party Organization Committee will develop programs to improve the registration of voters reasonably calculated to support Republican candidates.

#### E. THE PARTNERSHIPS AND COALITIONS COMMITTEE

1. The Partnerships and Coalitions Committee is composed of no fewer than five Members nominated by the Chairman and subject to confirmation by the SREC. The RPT acknowledges Republican organizations as either Partnerships or Coalitions. These organizations are an integral part of the

RPT's growth plan. As such, each organization granted Partnership or Coalition status will be listed on the RPT website with links to their own websites to promote their initiatives and expansion.

## 2. Partnerships

- a. A Partnership is defined as a statewide group which subscribes to the beliefs, principles, and Legislative Priorities advocated by the RPT, which offers opportunities for the growth and development of the RPT, the primary purpose of which is to promote the RPT and Republican nominees and causes, and which is granted Partnership status by the SREC. The Partnerships and Coalitions Committee, in its sole discretion, will decide which groups, if any, the Committee will recommend to the SREC for Partnership status and will ascertain that each group granted Partnership status remains a viable and active organization compatible with the ideals of the RPT.
- b. In order for an organization to become a Partnership of the RPT, the organization:
  - (1) Must apply in writing or by electronic mail requesting Partnership status to the Committee Chair.
  - (2) Must attend any interview scheduled by the Committee Chairman before the full committee at the next regularly scheduled quarterly meeting. The Committee will conclude discussion and vote at the next quarterly meeting after the official request is received, to either accept the organization as a Partnership or deny the request.
- c. The Committee Report to the full body of the SREC will include the results of the vote.
- d. If the Committee reports favorably, the full SREC will vote to confirm the Committee's recommendation or deny the request of the organization applying for Partnership status.
- e. In order to maintain compatibility with the RPT and its Partnership status, each Partnership desiring non-voting ex-officio membership on the SREC must, at a minimum:
  - (1) Keep a copy of the document used to govern its organization, either a charter, a constitution, or a set of current bylaws, any of which suffices, on file with the Partnerships and Coalitions Committee.
  - (2) File a copy of minutes of the meeting at which its officers or directors are elected or vacancies in any such offices filed with the RPT within 30 days after such meeting.
  - (3) Make available to the State Headquarters an updated list of the names, addresses, electronic mail addresses, and phone numbers of the Partnership's, Chapter's, or Club's Board of Directors for purposes of communications. This list will not be released to any other group, campaign, or individual, nor will any mailings be made to that list without permission of the executive committee of that Partnership.
  - (4) Provide for ex-officio status to one representative from the SREC, appointed by the State Chairman, to the Partnership's governing body.
  - (5) When providing a forum or support for candidates, limit the forum or support to Republican candidates only in partisan office elections.
  - (6) Contribute to the RPT Master Calendar on Partnership activities.
  - (7) Attend through a representative at least one SREC quarterly meeting annually and provide a brief report, written or verbal, at all SREC meetings.
  - (8) Submit a report prior to the second quarterly meeting following the biennial state convention on the Partnership's education and campaign activities.
  - (9) Take no position contrary to the RPT platform and support no candidate opposing a Republican nominee. Partnership organizations are not prohibited from endorsing a

Republican candidates in a primary election if in agreement with the bylaws of the Partnership organization.

- f. If any RPT funds are disbursed to a Partnership, that Partnership must file an accounting, satisfactory to the Committee, of such funds.
- g. At the sole discretion of the Partnerships and Coalitions Committee, some or all of the required documents may be waived for existing Partnerships that are current ex-officio members, if the committee determines they are in good standing according to a March questionnaire preceding the State Convention. The questionnaire must be signed by a committee officer and notarized.
- h. All correspondence pertaining to provisions in this paragraph must be addressed to the Chairman, Partnerships and Coalitions Committee, at the RPT State Headquarters.
- i. Honorary status on the SREC may be granted to Partnerships meeting the criteria established by the Partnerships and Coalitions Committee. For each term of the SREC, at the second quarterly meeting following the biennial State Convention, the Partnerships and Coalitions Committee may recommend honorary status for organizations that the Committee decides meet all criteria set by the Committee, which status may be granted only by majority vote of the SREC for its term. During each term of the SREC, the Partnerships and Coalitions Committee may additionally recommend additional honorary status for organizations that the Committee decides meet all criteria set by the Committee, which status may be granted only by majority vote of the SREC for its term. A Partnership's status can be revoked by a two-thirds vote of the SREC at any duly called and convened meeting.

### 3. Coalitions

- a. A Coalition is defined as a temporary alliance between two or more groups, especially within political parties. It is a relationship on a specific project or issue for the current term which must be stated and published for recognizing the purpose of the alliance. In order to grow and develop the RPT, the Partnerships and Coalitions Committee may seek opportunities for the RPT to coalesce with other organizations on issues on which the RPT and such organizations agree.
- b. Coalitions:
  - (1) Are not to be part of the RPT but only form associations for the purpose of temporary projects.
  - (2) Are not granted official standing as described for Partnerships status.
  - (3) May offer opportunity for growth and development of the RPT.
  - (4) Must not work against the principles and values of the RPT.
- c. All Coalitions work as autonomous organizations in conjunction with the RPT to promote conservative causes and may seek and receive RPT funding for special projects deemed constructive to the goals of the RPT, as recommended by the Partnerships and Coalitions Committee to the State RPT Chairman.
- d. If RPT funds are disbursed to a Coalition, the Coalition must file an accounting, satisfactory to the Committee, of the use and disposition of such funds, and the request for funds must be approved by the SREC.

## F. THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

1. The Resolutions Committee is composed of no fewer than five Members, nominated by the Chairman and subject to confirmation by the SREC. The chairman of the Resolutions Committee must be a Member and is appointed by the Chairman.
2. The duty of the Resolutions Committee is to recommend policy positions of the RPT on any issue brought before it and to recommend changes in the RPT platform to the Temporary Platform and Resolutions Committee of the next biennial state convention.
3. The SREC may not consider a policy position resolution which has either not been previously considered by the Resolutions Committee, or has been considered by the Resolutions Committee and failed of adoption. This bylaw may be suspended by either a majority vote of those Members present and voting, or by the filing of a minority report with the committee chairman prior to the convening of the SREC meeting by no less than 20% of the Resolutions Committee present and voting when a proposed resolution failed of adoption.
4. Resolutions may be submitted to the Resolutions Committee by:
  - a. A Member
  - b. A county chairman
  - c. Passage at a properly called County Executive Committee meeting

## G. THE RULES COMMITTEE

1. The Rules Committee is composed of no fewer than five Members, nominated by the Chairman and subject to confirmation by the SREC. The chairman of the Rules Committee must be a Member and is appointed by the Chairman.
2. Subject to the approval by the SREC, it is the duty of the Rules Committee to recommend changes to these Bylaws, to recommend changes in the RPT Rules to the Temporary Rules Committee of the next biennial state convention, and to recommend action on the Chairman's clarification of any ambiguities in these Bylaws or in the RPT Rules.

## H. THE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

1. The voting membership of the Legislative Priorities Committee is composed of a chairman and no fewer than eight Members who are nominated by the Chairman and subject to confirmation by the SREC, and any non-Members appointed in the discretion of the Chairman necessary to complete the work of the Committee.
2. Eligibility and Vacancies
  - a. The following persons are ineligible to be appointed voting members of the Legislative Priorities Committee:
    - (1) A person who holds any elected federal, state, or county public office, or who is a candidate for any elected federal, state, or county public office elected public office and has filed for the appointment of a campaign treasurer.
    - (2) A person who is a registered lobbyist.
    - (3) A person who is the spouse of a person described in (1) or (2).
  - b. The term of office for the voting membership runs until the end of the term of the current SREC unless a voting member becomes ineligible to serve due to a change in status under Article VII, Section 8(H)(2)(a), in which case a vacancy is created.

- c. Vacancies in the voting membership will be filled promptly by the Chairman in the same manner as the original appointment.
- 3. Duties: the Legislative Priorities Committee is authorized to work with RPT staff and Republican members of the Texas State Government to promote passage of legislation crafted in support of the Legislative Priorities of the RPT by:
  - a. Reviewing bills filed in the Texas Legislature and providing information to the SREC and Republican voting public on bills that implement in whole or in part any of the Legislative Priorities of the RPT.
  - b. Promoting communication and education among the Republican voting public of recommended grassroots advocacy techniques to promote passage of bills that implement the Legislative Priorities of the RPT.
  - c. Making recommendations to the SREC or its other committees for other action(s) to take in support of the Legislative Priorities of the RPT.
- 4. Committee Meetings: During legislative sessions, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, or Committee Chairman may call for meetings, including those via telecommunications, with two hours' notice. Notice will be given as far in advance as is practical. A quorum is one-third of the voting members of the Committee.

#### I. THE ELECTION INTEGRITY COMMITTEE

- 1. The voting membership of the Election Integrity Committee is composed of a chairman and no fewer than four Members, nominated by the Chairman and subject to confirmation by the SREC and non-Members appointed in the discretion of the Chairman as necessary to complete the work of the Committee.
- 2. Eligibility, and Vacancies:
  - a. Non-voting members, if any, are appointed by the Chairman, subject to confirmation by the SREC no later than the first regular meeting following their appointment, and serve at the pleasure of the Chairman.
  - b. The following persons are ineligible to be appointed voting members of the Election Integrity Committee:
    - (1) A person who holds any elected federal, state, or county public office, or who is a candidate for any elected federal, state, or county public office elected public office and has filed for the appointment of a campaign treasurer.
    - (2) A person who is a registered lobbyist.
    - (3) A person who is the spouse of a person described in (1) or (2).
  - c. The term of office for the voting membership runs until the end of the term of the current SREC unless a voting member becomes ineligible to serve due to a change in status under Article VII, Section 8(I)(2)(b), in which case a vacancy is created.
  - d. Vacancies in the voting membership will be filled promptly by the Chairman in the same manner as the original appointment.
- 3. Duties: the Election Integrity Committee is authorized to work with RPT Staff, Republican members of the Texas State Government, County Republican Committees, and elected officials of counties and municipalities to safeguard the integrity of Texas elections by:
  - a. Educating the Republican voting public of recommended techniques to safeguard election integrity, including the development and administration of training classes.

- b. Assisting in the recruitment and training of Republican poll watchers, election clerks, and election judges.
  - c. Coordinating Election Day operations to monitor the integrity of elections and to respond to potential violations, and to guide local and county Republican efforts with legal expertise.
  - d. Directing the Chairman's designee(s) to make recommendations to the Legislature to advocate for legislation to safeguard the integrity of Texas elections.
  - e. Reviewing bills filed in the Texas Legislature pertaining to election integrity.
  - f. Making recommendations to the SREC or its other committees for other actions to take to safeguard and strengthen the integrity of Texas elections.
4. Committee Meetings: during legislative session and within 60 days before or after any election within the state of Texas, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, or Committee Chairman may call for meetings, including those via telecommunications, with two hours' notice. Notice will be given as far in advance as is practical. A quorum is one-third of voting committee members.

### **Section 9. Other Committees**

Additional standing or special committees may be created by the Chairman or the SREC. If created by the Chairman, standing committees, charge, and membership are subject to confirmation by the SREC while special committees, charge, and membership are subject to confirmation by the SREC or Officials Committee.

## **ARTICLE VIII – FINANCE**

### **Section 1. Campaign Fund**

- A. After making provisions for payment in an orderly and timely basis of anticipated operating expenses of the RPT, and any other obligations of the RPT, the Chairman will cause to be deposited promptly all monies received by the RPT into the RPT Campaign Fund (Fund). The Chairman and any other authorized person(s) soliciting funds for the RPT are expressly empowered to accept contributions directly into the Fund. The Fund will be divided into sub-funds, or accounts, in such a manner as to comply with all applicable state or federal laws or regulations pertinent to the purposes herein prescribed, subject to any limitation imposed by such laws and regulations, and will be accounted for and reported in an accurate and timely manner.
- B. The Fund will be used exclusively for the purpose of participating in direct campaign activities of Republican candidates for election to the public offices of the United States, the State of Texas, or any unit or subdivision thereof, as appropriate. Once money has been credited to the Fund, the Chairman is authorized to transfer money to other funds or accounts of the RPT in cases of emergency (not inconsistent with applicable law), upon notice of such action to the chairman of the Candidate Resource Committee. No monies may be transferred from the Fund that have been dedicated by the donor for use as RPT Campaign Funds.
- C. The Fund will be administered and invested as may be directed by the Chairman. Monies in the Fund may be distributed or expended only as directed by the Candidate Resource Committee, as provided in Article VII, Section 8(C)(4) and 8(C)(5), of these Bylaws.
- D. Monies in the Fund may not be raised or expended in connection with any primary campaign of any candidate for nomination of the RPT or in any campaign in which more than one Republican, as shown by



ballot designation, appears on the ballot, with the exception that in a non-primary election, by a two-thirds vote of the SREC, funds may be so raised and expended. See also RPT Rule No. 44.

## **Section 2. Audit**

- A. The National Committeeman and National Committeewoman will appoint an audit Committee of three Members not later than November 1 of each year to audit the current fiscal year. The Audit Committee will select a firm of independent certified public accountants to audit all accounts of the RPT for the current fiscal year, to be conducted so that the audit of the current fiscal year will be completed no later than 180 days following the end of the current fiscal year. The original of the audit report will be sent to the Chairman, with copies to the National Committeeman, the National Committeewoman, the Vice-Chairman, the General Counsel, the Treasurer, and the Finance Chairman, plus each member of the Audit Committee and any Member requesting a copy. In addition, a copy will be filed with the State Headquarters where it will be preserved and made available for inspection during office hours by any Member or RPT official. The SREC, by majority vote, may require the Chairman to post the Audited Financial Statements and Report of Independent Certified Public Accountants, or any portion thereof, on the website of the RPT.
- B. The Audit Committee will present the audit report to the SREC for approval at the next occurring regular meeting
- C. In event of a vacancy in the office of Chairman, a complete audit will be conducted in accordance with applicable provisions of this Section unless waived by a two-thirds vote of the SREC.

## **Section 3. Fiscal**

Neither the Chairman nor any other officer, Member, employee, or representative of the RPT may borrow money in the name of the RPT unless expressly authorized to do so by a two-thirds vote of the SREC. Notice of request for such authorization must be included in the call to the meeting at which the request is to be made and considered.

# **ARTICLE IX – STATE HEADQUARTERS**

## **Section 1. Location**

The permanent headquarters and executive office of the RPT will be in Travis County, Texas.

## **Section 2. Administration**

The executive director (if one be appointed) administers the operations of the State Headquarters under the direction of the Chairman.

## **Section 3. Funds**

Funds will be allocated for rental space and for personnel, as budgeted by the SREC. No RPT funds or resources may be used, either directly or indirectly, to influence intraparty contests, subject only to RPT Rule No. 44. This restriction does not preclude the Chairman of the RPT or the Chairman's designee(s) from soliciting the support and involvement of elected officials and candidates for fundraising assistance for the benefit of the RPT, nor does it prohibit commendations for meritorious service, nor prohibit the RPT from publishing or promoting any resolution that was adopted by the SREC.

## **Section 4. Staff Policy**

Staff members must remain neutral in intraparty contests for both public and RPT offices.

# **ARTICLE X – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

Rules contained in the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised govern the SREC in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, the Rules of the RPT, or any state or federal statute.

# **ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS**

## **Section 1.**

These Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the SREC, duly called and constituted, by two-thirds vote of those Members present and voting, in person or represented by proxy, provided that the amendment has been proposed in writing at the previous regular meeting, or notice of proposed amendment is included in the call to the meeting at which it will be presented. A proposed amendment may include a description of the scope.

## **Section 2.**

Additionally, it is only in order for the SREC to consider an SREC Bylaws change which has been previously considered by the Rules Committee. This Section 2 Bylaw may be suspended by either a majority vote of those Members present and voting, or by a minority report signed by no less than 20% of the Rules Committee and filed with the chairman of the Rules Committee prior to the convening of the SREC meeting at which the amendment is to be considered.

- A. Revised: 10/15/77;
- B. Amended: 9/8/78; 5/19/79; 9/6/80; 8/3/85; 11/23/85; 6/26/86; 7/30/88; 3/24/90; 3/23/91; 3/21/92; 3/27/93;
- C. Revised: 9/15/95; 12/1/95; 4/13/96;
- D. Amended: 10/18/96; 9/20/97; 12/13/97; 6/11/98; 6/12/99; 9/8/01;
- E. Revised: 4/1/02;
- F. Amended: 8/16/05; 3/10/06; 3/22/07; 9/26/09; 12/5/09; 9/25/10; 9/22/12; 3/2/13; 6/8/13; 9/28/13; 12/7/13; 3/29/14; 9/13/14; 12/6/14; 6/6/15; 9/12/15; 12/5/15; 5/14/16; 3/4/17; 6/3/17; 12/2/17; 1/27/18; 8/11/18; 9/22/18; 12/1/18;
- G. Revised: 7/20/20;
- H. Amended: 9/19/20; 3/27/21; 6/4/21; 12/4/21; 2/12/22; 12/10/22; 9/23/23; 12/2/23;
- I. Revised: 5/25/24;
- J. Amended: 8/3/24.

# STANDING RULES

## I. Recording by Non-Members

Adopted 2017 – 4Q

Staff and guests may photograph, record, or stream the proceedings of any meeting of the SREC or its committees or subcommittees not held in executive session.

## II. Electronic Voting

Adopted 2018 – 1Q

- A. Electronic voting for non-secret votes may be used at the Chairman’s discretion, assuming no objection from the body. If there is an objection, a majority of the SREC may approve electronic voting for that vote.
- B. The SREC will use the devices approved by the Officials Committee for all electronic votes.
- C. Each individual voting device will be registered and identified on the tabulation device with a unique machine address and the name of the voting Member to whom it is issued in a list to restrict the devices that may be used to vote.
- D. Voting Members are each entitled to only one vote; therefore, voting Members may vote only on the respective devices assigned to them. No Member may vote for another Member under any circumstances, except as the official proxy of another voting Member.
- E. Electronic Voting Devices that are not issued to a Member or proxy at a meeting due to absence be secured under the direct control of the sergeant at arms Sergeant at Arms or the the designee of the Sergeant at Arms during the meeting.
- F. Electronic voting devices may not be taken out of the meeting room during the meeting.
- G. Votes. The results of a vote, including names of Members, will be displayed or projected during and until the end of the voting period.
- H. The polls will be declared closed by the Chairman unless there is an objection, in which case a two-thirds vote, by a method other than electronic voting, will be required to close the voting period.
- I. Secret ballot votes will only be taken by paper ballot.
- J. Every voting Member has the right to confirm the record of that Member’s vote, either privately or on a projection screen, before the result is announced. If a method for such confirmation is not available or not functional, electronic voting may not be used.

## III. Use of RPT Staff and Resources for Campaigns

Adopted 2018 – 2Q; Amended 2023 – 1Q, 2023 – 2Q, 2023 – 3Q

- A. With the exception of Standing Rule III(B), the staff and resources of the RPT may be made available to support the campaign efforts of Republican nominees in any way that is not in conflict with RPT Rules or SREC Bylaws. These resources may be made available in the same way to support the campaigns of

Republican candidates in non-contested primaries and identifiable Republican candidates in non-partisan races where authorized by resolution of the SREC.

- B. The Local Government Committee may, in one or more meetings called in accordance with the SREC Bylaws, report proposed endorsements of candidates who have satisfied the requirements listed in the Standing Rules of the Local Government Committee and whose answers to questions are determined by the Committee to be aligned with the Principles of the RPT. Any endorsements proposed by the Local Government Committee will be sent by electronic mail to all Members by RPT staff. Members have five calendar days after the day each proposed endorsement is sent to object to any proposed endorsements. An endorsement of any candidate will be considered approved by the SREC after the fifth calendar day, provided that it has been approved by one Member who represents a Senate District that contains territory within the jurisdiction in which the candidate is running for election, and that it is not objected to by one-fourth of the total SREC membership. Approved endorsements will not take effect until the endorsed candidate signs and returns the endorsement disclaimer to the Secretary of the RPT.

#### **IV. Location of SREC Meetings**

Adopted 2021 – 3Q; Amended 2022 – 1Q, 2024 – 3Q

All regular meetings of the SREC will be held in Travis County or in an adjacent county when the Legislature is in session. When the Legislature is not in session, meeting location will be at the discretion of the Chairman. Staff must consider space, microphones, video screens, internet bandwidth, firearm policy, and mask and vaccine requirements when recommending a location.

#### **V. Editorial Authority**

Adopted 2023 – 3Q

The Secretary may make non-substantive and grammatical corrections to the SREC Bylaws and Standing Rules.

#### **VI. RPT Rule No. 42 Disclosure**

Adopted 2023 – 4Q; Amended 2024 – 3Q

In accordance with RPT Rule No. 42, all Members must disclose to the SREC whether or not they receive compensation from any elected official, registered lobbyist, or political action committee, using a form created by and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary will publish the disclosures to the SREC and will maintain those records.

## **VII. Debate Limitations**

Adopted 2024 – 3Q

In all meetings of the SREC, for all debatable questions, debate is limited to three proponents and three opponents, with a limit of two minutes for each speaker.

# GLOSSARY

## **A Member has the following rights:**

1. Attend Meetings
2. Speak in Debate
3. Make Motions
4. Vote

## **An Ex-Officio member has:**

All of the rights of a member, but does not have the obligation to attend meetings.

## **An Honorary Member has the following rights:**

1. Attend meetings
2. Speak in debate