

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN BY-LAWS
As Amended September , 1989

I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the "Libertarian Party of Michigan," hereinafter referred to as the "Party".

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization is to further the principles of individual liberty as expressed in the Statement of Principle of the National Libertarian Party, by nominating candidates for political office and by entering into political information activities.

III. OFFICERS

1. The officers of the Party shall be a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. None of these offices shall be combined. All of these officers shall be elected at a regular convention of the Party by the attending delegates and shall take office immediately upon the close of such convention and shall serve until the final adjournment of the next regular convention.

2. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Libertarian Central Committee, and at all conventions. The Chair shall be the chief executive officer of the Party. In the absence of directives from the Libertarian Central Committee, the Chair shall have the power to speak for and to generally manage the affairs of the Party.

3. The Vice-Chair shall act as assistant to the Chair and shall perform the duties of the Chair if the Chairperson is unable to perform those duties.

4. The Secretary shall be the recording officer of the Party and of the Libertarian Central Committee.

5. The Treasurer shall receive, expend, and account for the funds of the Party under supervision and direction of the Chair and the Libertarian Central Committee.

IV. THE LIBERTARIAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE

1. The Libertarian Central Committee of the Party, hereinafter referred to as the "LCC", shall consist of the officers of the Party and one delegate (when possible) from each county.

2. The LCC shall have the control and management of all the affairs, property, and funds of the Party.

3. The LCC shall meet at such times and places as it may determine by call of the Chair, or by written request of one-third of its members.

4. A quorum of the LCC shall consist of twenty per-cent of its members. A majority of those present shall rule except as otherwise provided in these By-laws.

5. A two-thirds vote of the LCC may remove a member from office, LCC membership, as well as pass resolutions of the Party or deny any candidate endorsement. The LCC shall fill the vacancy of any office except that of the Chair which shall be completed by the Vice-Chair.

6. The LCC shall have the authority to levy dues which shall be required for registration at any convention of the Party.

7. LCC delegates shall be appointed at the annual convention by county caucus.

8. After the completion of caucuses under section 7, any remaining vacancies on the LCC may be filled by the Convention without regard to county residency.

9. Any vacancies occurring on the LCC between conventions may be filled by the LCC without regard to county residency.

10. If any member of the LCC shall be absent from three consecutive meetings, his position shall be declared vacant and may be filled by the LCC.

11. The LCC may levy annual dues of not more than 20 dollars upon each Party member.

V. LOCAL PARTY ORGANIZATIONS

1. Party members may form organizations entitled to be known as the "Libertarian Party" of their respective areas.

2. The LCC shall charter affiliate parties from those organizations requesting such status in each county of Michigan. A copy of the petitioning organization's proposed operating rules shall be submitted with the petition. No organization shall be so chartered which does not ratify the Statement of Principles of the Party.

3. The autonomy of the affiliate parties shall not be abridged by the LCC or any other committee of the Party, except as provided herein.

4. The LCC shall have the power to suspend affiliate party status from any organization by a two-thirds vote of the LCC. Such suspension is subject to written appeal within 30 days notification. Failure to appeal shall be interpreted as an act of secession by the affiliate party. The LCC shall not suspend any affiliate party within a period of three months prior to a State Party Convention.

5. The appeal of the affiliate party is to be directed to the Judicial Committee of the National Party. Written arguments shall be sent to the Judicial Committee by representatives of the LCC urging revocation and by representatives of the affiliate party opposing revocation. The Judicial Committee shall rule to either revoke the charter of the affiliate party or to reinstate the charter within 30 days of receiving the arguments and no later than 30 days prior to a State Party Convention. Should the Judicial Committee fail to rule, the affiliate party's charter shall be reinstated with all rights and privileges pertaining thereto.

6. Organizations which wish to become affiliate parties shall apply for official designation on a standard petition form adopted by the LCC. The petition shall be signed by not less than two members of the Libertarian Party of Michigan residing in the appropriate county.

7. There shall be no more than one affiliate party in any one county. The affiliate party shall determine who shall be delegates from its respective county to all State Party Conventions.

8. County organizations which have already organized at the time of the adoption of this By-law are exempt from Article V, Section 6.

VI. CONVENTIONS

1. The Party shall hold an annual convention each year between April 1, and July 1, performing such business as required herein.

2. The Party shall hold a convention upon the call of the LCC.

3. All members of the Party who attend and register at a convention shall be delegates, as long as the Party has less than 401 members.

4. A majority shall rule at the convention except for the platform and resolutions of the Party which shall require a two-thirds vote of those present, or as otherwise required by these by-laws.

5. The LCC shall have supervision and management of all conventions.

6. The officers of each convention shall be the officers of the Party.

7. A person who has never been a member of the Libertarian Party of Michigan must become a member 30 days prior to a state convention before being allowed to vote at that convention.

VII. NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

1. Nomination of candidates for office shall be made only at a convention during the election year. No candidate may be nominated for an office for which they are legally ineligible to serve.

2. Delegates to the national convention shall be elected only at the state convention immediately prior to the national convention by majority vote. Rules governing delegate procedures shall be determined by action of the LCC.

3. Nominations shall be made from the convention floor by the delegates.

4. The Party's nominee for each office shall be chosen by a majority vote of the delegates in attendance at the time of balloting. If no candidate has a majority after the fourth ballot, the candidate with the least number of votes shall be struck from the next ballot until one candidate receives a majority.

5. Votes cast for "None of the Above" in voting on the Party's nominees for public office, the Party officers, and members of the LCC, shall be considered valid. Should a majority of the votes be cast for "None of the Above" in balloting for a public office, no candidate shall be nominated for that office. Should "None of the Above" be selected for any Party office, that position shall be declared vacant and none of the losing candidates for that position may be selected to fill the vacancy for the term of office.

VIII. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be granted to any person who affirms the Statement of Principles.

IX. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by the By-laws, or convention rules of the Party.

X. AMENDMENT

These By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present at a convention, or by a four-fifths vote of those LCC members attending a meeting called for that purpose.