HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS CAUCUS

PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENTS, JANUARY 14, 2018

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, FEBRUARY 15, 2018, 6:00 p.m.

Democratic Party of Hawaii Headquarters

PURPOSE: To bring the Hawaiian Affairs Caucus bylaws into conformance with Article V, State Central Committee, Section 7, Caucuses, 7D, Nomination and Filing that was amended at the 2016 DPH Convention and to make other minor amendments. Article V, Section 7D reads:

7D. Nomination and Filing. Each Caucus and Youth Democrats shall certify eligible nominees of different genders to elect two (2) representatives of different genders to the State Central Committee. Procedures and qualifications for the candidate and the election process shall be specified in the bylaws of each caucus and Youth Democrats. If a Caucus’ Bylaws does not specify nomination procedures or qualifications by 2018, then a caucus member nominated by five (5) other members of the Caucus before the deadline for State Central Committee nominations shall be certified an eligible nominee. In the event a Caucus fails to certify an eligible nominee as specified in the Caucus Bylaw, appeal may be made to the Convention Credentials Committee. If the State Convention accepts a Credentials Committee report that rules the nominee should have been certified as eligible in accord with the Caucus’ Bylaws, the nominee shall stand as a Caucus candidate for State Central Committee at the State Convention.

Deletions are shown with strike through

Additions are bolded and underlined

Find the complete set of the current bylaws (34 pages) at our caucus website, www.hawaiianaffairs.org

ARTICLE II - STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Section 1 - The Mission: Specific Purposes and Objectives

The Hawaiian Affairs Caucus supports and promotes cultural values of aloha, mālama ‘āina, ho‘okipa, kuleana and, above all, pono, in alignment with the values of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i. The Hawaiian Affairs Caucus seeks to address issues of self-determination responsibilities and rights, ~~as they relate to~~, protection of Hawaiian cultural practices and sacred sites, ~~information sharing for educational purposes~~, pono economic development, distribution of wealth to those segments of society most in need, protection of Hawai‘i’s natural resources (on the ‘āina and in the kai), **housing, health, education**, and accountability of public servants identified as Democrats to the mission and goals of the Democratic Party of Hawaii with regard to the above objectives.

RATIONALE: Updates the mission to specifically include housing, health, and education.

**ARTICLE VI, OFFICER AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 2 - Executive Committee**

2A. Composition. The Executive Committee shall consist of:

The officers of the Caucus as defined in these Bylaws;

1. The immediate Past Chair;
2. Two (2) At-Large Members from O‘ahu County;
3. One (1) At-Large Member from Hawai‘i County;
4. One (1) At-Large Member from Maui County;
5. One (1) At-Large Member from Kauai County:
6. The Hawaiian Affairs Caucus ~~Male and Female~~ Representatives of **two different genders** to the State Central Committee (SCC) of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i

RATIONALE: Updates bylaws to bring conform to the DPH bylaws adopted at the May 2016 convention.

**ARTICLE VI, OFFICER AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 2 – Executive Committee**

2C. Specific Duties of the Officers and Other Members of the Executive Committee. The duties of the officers are as outlined in Article VI, Section 1 of these Bylaws.

1. The At-Large Members shall assist the Vice-Chairs with the general membership and Executive Committee meetings and perform other tasks as assigned by the Chair or Executive Committee.
2. The ~~Male and Female~~ Representatives to the SCC shall serve as liaisons to the State Central Committee of the Party, attend SCC meetings, prepare necessary reports to the SCC and the Caucus, and carry out the responsibilities outlined in the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i Constitution and Bylaws. The Representatives to the SCC shall be authorized to vote on all matters brought before the SCC.

 RATIONALE: Conform to DPH Bylaws adopted at the May 2016 convention.

**ARTICLE VI, OFFICER AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 3 - Qualifications**

To serve in any of the positions that comprise the Executive Committee, the nominee must provide a written statement certifying that he/she meets the following qualifications:

1. Is a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i;
2. Is a member of the Hawaiian Affairs Caucus ~~for at least six (6)~~ **~~three (3)~~** ~~months prior to the election;~~
3. Fully subscribes to the purpose, mission, and values of the Caucus as set forth in these Bylaws;
4. Demonstrates involvement and active participation with the Caucus or **any other** **Hawaiian organization** by such activities as attending meetings, serving as a committee chair, serving as an officer, **advocating for the well being of Native Hawaiians** or any other activity in support of the Caucus **and/or Hawaiian organization.**
5. Commit to attend Executive Committee and general membership meetings.

RATIONALE: Removes requirements that limit availability of candidates for Executive Committee positions and expands on qualifications criteria that recognizes involvement and participation in other Hawaiian organizations that advocate for the well-being of Native Hawaiians.

**ARTICLE VI, OFFICER AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 4, Election and Term of Office**

4A (1) Caucus Representatives **of two different genders** to the State Central Committee

* 1. Those seeking to serve as the ~~Male or Female~~ Caucus Representative to the State Central Committee must be a member of the Hawaiian Affairs Caucus and shall file with the Secretary of the Caucus nomination papers, which shall include:
		1. A ten dollar ($10) filing fee payable to “The Democratic Party of Hawai‘i;”
		2. Signatures from not less than five (5) members of the Caucus; and
		3. Fulfill the requirements set forth above in Section 3 of this Article.
	2. **~~The nomination papers shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Caucus prior to, or at the meeting of the Executive Committee which is held immediately prior to the ten (10) day deadline for submission of nomination papers to the Party. The Executive Committee will review and make the certification(s) based on the criteria laid out in this Article.~~**
	3. **~~If the nomination is rejected by the Executive Committee, the member will be notified within forty-eight (48) hours.~~**
	4. The ~~certified~~ nominees will be placed on the ballot and elected **by members of the Hawaiian Affairs Caucus at its election meeting.** **~~Democratic State Convention by the delegates as designated pursuant to Article V, Section 2 and Section 7 of the Party Constitution.~~**

 RATIONALE: Bring bylaws into conformance with DPH bylaws that allow caucuses

 to elect their own SCC representatives and broadens eligibility beyond the traditional

 male/female genders.

 **ARTICLE VI, Officer and Executive Committee**

 **Section 6, Vacancies**

 6B. First Vice-Chair, Second Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, At-Large Members,

 and SCC Representatives

1. Any vacancy caused by the resignation or removal of the First Vice-Chair will be filled automatically by the Second Vice-Chair for the remainder of the unexpired term.
2. Any vacancy caused by the resignation or removal of the Second Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, or At-Large Members shall be filled by a member of the Caucus as determined by the Executive Committee for the remainder of the unexpired term.
3. If the office of a HAC Representative to the SCC becomes vacant:
4. The Executive Committee of the HAC shall notify Caucus members by e-mail and posting on its HAC web site.
5. The notice shall indicate that:
	* 1. There is a vacancy,
		2. ~~A list of potential replacements~~, **The date that applicants must apply to be considered, a summary of duties, qualification requirements, and the forms they must submit,**
		3. **The deadline for receipt of applications and the name and address to which the application must be transmitted.**
		4. ~~The date by which the vacancy must be filled, and~~
		5. ~~The date by which feedback must be received from the caucus members; the caucus members shall have no less than 10 days in which to provide feedback to the Executive Committee.~~
6. The Executive Committee shall **select a replacement from among the applications received** ~~review the feedback from the caucus members and recommend a caucus member~~ to fill the remainder of the term.
7. The ~~recommended candidate’s name shall be presented to the State Central Committee.~~ **Secretary shall inform the State Central Committee of the name, address, and phone number of the selected replacement.**

RATIONALE: To implement the DPH bylaws adopted in 2016 that allowed caucuses to elect their own representatives to the State Central Committee.

**ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**

**Section 3.** The Caucus shall be informed of the proposed amendments at least thirty (30) days prior to a scheduled Caucus membership meeting. The Caucus shall be given at least ten (10) calendar days notice of such meeting. **Posting the proposed amendments and the notice of the meeting on the Hawaiian Affairs Caucus website will satisfy these requirements.**

**Section 4.** There must be a quorum of caucus members in attendance at this meeting **as stipulated in Article V, Section 2**~~of at least twenty-five (25)~~~~Caucus members in attendance at this meeting,~~ and ~~a~~ two-thirds (2/3) **vot**e of members present is required for adoption.

RATIONALE: Establishes the process for notifying Caucus members of proposed amendments to bylaws and implements the definition of the quorum necessary to adopt the amendments as the same as defined in Article V, Section 2 of the bylaws.