

# **Bylaws of the Libertarian Party Of Michigan Thumb Region Committee**

as ratified in convention, \_\_\_\_\_

## **I. Name**

This Committee shall be known as the Thumb Region Libertarian Committee, also known as the Thumb Region Committee and hereinafter referred to as the “Affiliate Committee”, “Region Committee” or “Committee”

## **II. Purpose**

The purpose of this committee is to further the principles of individual liberty as expressed in the Statement of Principles of the National and State Libertarian Party, by nominating and campaigning for candidates for political office, engaging in political activism and by conducting informational activities.

## **III. Officers**

### **Section 1. Positions:**

The required officers of this Committee shall be a chair, a vice-chair, a secretary, and a treasurer. No member of this committee may hold more than one elected position per term.

### **Section 2. Term:**

All of these offices shall be elected at a regular affiliate convention and shall serve until the final adjournment of the next regular affiliate convention.

### **Section 3. Chair:**

**(a)** The chair shall preside at all meetings of the Committee and at all Conventions. The chair shall be the chief executive officer. In the absence of directives from the Thumb Executive Committee, the chair shall have the power to speak for and to generally manage the affairs of the committee.

**(b)** In years in which a Libertarian primary is required by law, on or before April 1, the chair shall forward by mail or otherwise deliver to the board of county election

commissioners a certificate showing the number of delegates to the county convention to which each precinct of the county is entitled, as described in MCL 168.623a.

**(c)** The Chair may appoint members of the party to serve as precinct election inspectors and notify the appropriate city, township, or village board of election commissioners of the appointment, as described in MCL 168.674.

**(d)** Upon completion of his term as chair, a departing chair shall be given the honorary title of past chair, and act as advisor to the incoming chair. The past chair shall retain this position until the current chair completes his term.

#### **Section 4. Vice-Chair:**

**(a)** The vice-chair shall act as assistant to the chair, shall perform the duties of the chair if the chair is unable to perform those duties, and is responsible for supporting the chair in accomplishing the stated objectives of the party.

#### **Section 5. Secretary:**

**(a)** The Secretary shall be the recording officer of the Committee and of the Thumb Executive Committee.

**(b)** The Secretary shall be responsible for publishing meeting and convention minutes and to distribute the minutes to the executive committee for review prior to distributing the minutes to the committee membership.

#### **Section 6. Treasurer:**

**(a)** The treasurer shall receive, expend, and account for all funds of this committee under the supervision and direction of the chair and the Thumb Executive Committee.

**(b)** The treasurer shall be prepared to present a transparent accounting of fund usage and current status.

**(c)** The required committee accounts to be established by the chair and treasurer will be an administrative account and a campaign committee account to be used for all election or ballot initiative purposes.

#### **Section 7. Officer Term Ended or Resignation:**

**(a)** All executive officers shall turn over to his/her successor all funds, money and books, treasury accounts, any files, letters, papers and other property pertaining to or associated

with the affairs and business of the Committee within 48 hours after end of term or resignation by said officer.

#### **IV. The Thumb Region Executive Committee**

**Section 1.** The Thumb Region Executive Committee of the Party shall consist of the officers of the party.

**Section 2.** The Thumb Region Executive Committee shall have the control and management of all the affairs, property, and funds of the committee.

**Section 3.** The Thumb Region Executive Committee shall meet at such times and places as it may determine, by call of the chair, or by written (email or mail) request of three of the executive committee members.

**Section 4.** A quorum of the Thumb Region Executive Committee shall consist of 50% or more of its officers.

**Section 5.** The Thumb Region Executive Committee shall have the power to judge the validity of the seating of any delegate to the state convention, as per the Libertarian Party of Michigan Bylaws Article VI Section 8.

**Section 6.** When an executive committee member leaves a seat vacant the Thumb Region Executive Committee may appoint a replacement. This appointment will hold until a new officer has been elected to the seat. A Thumb Region Executive Officer shall be defined as "leaving a seat vacant" when that officer has missed more than 3 scheduled Executive Committee meetings in a row. The Thumb Region Executive Committee may also vote to remove an officer of this committee for any reason with 3 votes. The removed officer will not be eligible for appointment or election until after 2 years have elapsed.

**Section 7.** If the office of chair becomes vacant, the vice chair shall become the chair. The Thumb Region Executive Committee shall fill any other vacancy.

**Section 8.** For so long as the Libertarian Party of Michigan qualifies for the primary, the Thumb Executive Committee shall not select a separate county committee as per MCL 168.599 (4) but shall satisfy the statutory duties prescribed to the committee.

## **V. Conventions**

**Section 1.** During even-numbered years, the affiliate committee shall hold a regular convention before the filing deadline for the August primary. During odd-numbered years, the affiliate Committee shall hold a regular convention between February and not less than seven days before the Libertarian Party of Michigan's regular state convention, performing such business required herein.

**Section 2.** The affiliate Committee shall hold an affiliate convention at the call of the Libertarian Party of Michigan Executive Committee, for the purpose of selecting delegates and alternates to a Libertarian Party of Michigan state convention. These state conventions include the even-numbered year fall state convention, the odd-numbered year regular state convention, and the national delegate selection convention. No delegate or alternate to a state convention shall be selected who is not a member of the State Party.

**Section 3.** A regular affiliate convention may be combined with a state convention called for by the State Committee for the purpose of selecting delegates to a regular state convention or national delegate selection convention, provided their time frames overlap.

**Section 4.** The Committee shall hold a special convention upon the call of the Thumb Executive Committee.

**Section 5.** All members of this committee who attend and register at the convention shall be delegates, as defined in article VII Section 1.

**Section 6.** For so long as the Libertarian Party of Michigan qualifies to elect precinct delegates at primary elections to region conventions under state law, the affiliate shall be required to accept precinct delegates so selected as delegates to region conventions. If the Libertarian Party of Michigan ever no longer qualifies to elect precinct delegates at

primary elections, then the affiliate may set its own rules for qualifying delegates to its region conventions.

**Section 7.** Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the procedures at the convention of the affiliate Committee shall be in accordance with the rules adopted by a majority of the delegates present at each convention.

**Section 8.** The Thumb Executive Committee shall have supervision and management of all conventions.

**Section 9.** The officers of each convention shall be the officers of the Thumb Executive Committee.

**Section 10.** All conventions shall be notified to the membership at least 21 days in advance.

## **VI. Selection of Party Officers and Candidates for Partisan Office**

**Section 1.** Selection of candidates for partisan office shall be made in accordance with state law, via primary, district caucus, region or state conventions as necessary.

**Section 2.** Nominations shall be made from the convention floor by the delegates.

**Section 3.** Committee officers and candidates for partisan office shall be chosen by a majority of the delegates voting at the time of the balloting. If no person has a majority after a ballot, the person with the least number of votes shall be struck from the next ballot until one person receives a majority.

## **VII. Membership**

## **Section 1. Membership Approval**

Membership shall be granted to any person who affirms the Statement of Principles and is required to meet subsections (a), (b) (c) and one level of subsection (d).

**(a)** A member of the State or National Party

**(b)** Is a monthly or annual dues paying member. Is a member that has paid the lifetime membership in full.

**(c)** Each member of this Committee shall be a resident of and a registered voter in this committee's region. This committee's region includes the counties of: Saint Clair, Sanilac, Huron, Tuscola, Lapeer and Genesee counties.

**(d)** Committee Dues Schedule

1. Lifetime Membership: \$100.00
2. Annual Membership: \$50.00
3. Monthly Membership: \$5.00

## **Section 2. Membership Lapse - Renewal - Termination**

**(a)** Membership to this committee will lapse if membership dues are not kept current. Members that lapse in dues will be given 30 days notice to bring membership current before termination to this committee occurs. If a member is an officer of this committee and membership is terminated, the officer's seat shall be vacated and held vacant until appointment or election occurs according to these bylaws. Pursuant to this section, the term termination is applicable to dues only and members will be reinstated once dues are brought current.

## **Section 3. Removal of Members By Membership Petition**

**(a)** Any member of this committee may be removed by the membership of this committee. Any member seeking a potential removal via "Petition" must meet the following criteria:

- (1) The Thumb Region Executive Committee must receive a written "Petition" by the committee member seeking the removal of a member and the reasons for their removal.
- (2) Upon receipt of the "Petition" and verification of the reasons listed with the petitioning member, the Thumb Region Executive Committee will notify membership that a "Petition" by a member to remove a member or members has been submitted along

with the reasons listed in the petition and that a vote for removal will take place after a 30 day notice period has elapsed for the member or members to be removed.

(3) After 30 days has elapsed and provided there is an Executive Committee quorum present and a quorum of the committee members present. The Thumb Executive Committee will conduct a membership roll call vote understanding a seventy-five percent (75%) vote of the members within the Committee present and voting must be reached. If the (75%) vote total is reached the member/members stated in the petition will have their membership terminated immediately and will no longer be able to attend or participate in this committee indefinitely.

**(b)** Removal by the Committee must follow as described as above (Section 3, subsection (a) 1, 2 & 3 of Article VII). Removed member shall turn over any funds, money and books, accounts, files, letters, papers, and other property pertaining to or associated with the affairs and business of the Committee within 24 hours upon receiving such notification to the Chairman, Vice Chairman or Secretary of the Region Committee.

## **VIII. Electronic Meetings**

The Thumb Area Libertarian Party of Michigan may hold electronic meetings for official party business of any recognized body of the Committee, including the Thumb Executive Committee as well as any sub committees created by the Thumb Executive Committee, unless specifically prohibited from doing so during their creation. Any official party business conducted via electronic means shall comply with the Electronic Meetings section of the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

## **IX. Legal and Parliamentary Authority**

**Section 1.** The Thumb Area Libertarian Party of Michigan, in the exercise of its constitutional rights of free association and speech, as affirmed by the US Supreme Court ruling in *Eu, et al., vs. San Francisco Democratic Committee, State Central Committee of the Libertarian Party of California, et al.*, reserves the right to accept or decline the application of Michigan statutory provisions, which appear to govern its affairs. The incorporation of statutory provisions in these bylaws is voluntary and is subject to the foregoing reservation. Any violations of statutory provisions by these bylaws are deliberate and will take precedence over such statutory provisions.

**Section 2.** Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by the Bylaws or convention rules of the committee.

## **X. Amendments**

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present at a regular convention.

## **XI. Dissolution**

If the Thumb Area Libertarian Party of Michigan is terminated, dissolved or unaffiliated, its remaining assets, if any, shall, as determined by the Thumb Executive Committee, be conveyed or distributed to, and only to, one of or any combination of the following organizations: Libertarian Party organizations in the state of Michigan, the national Libertarian Party, or libertarian-oriented organizations anywhere in Michigan which are categorized as tax-exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) or organizations categorized under section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.