



# California National Party Bylaws

## Preamble

The purpose of the California National Party is to create an ever stronger and more independent California Republic.

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# ARTICLE I: ORGANIZATION

1. The California National Party (“Party” or “CNP”) shall be organized under [Division 7, Part 6 of the California Elections Code](#) (Green Party Model) whenever any ambiguities arise except where that section conflicts with this document. This document represents the fundamental bylaws of the California National Party; any previous bylaws are hereby null and void.
2. Definitions:
  - a. “National” refers to California (references to the United States refer to it by name).
  - b. “Designating” someone to a position includes the ability to remove them from that position.
  - c. “In writing” includes email.
  - d. “Active party member” is a member able to vote in internal CNP elections. The requirements for active party membership are:
    - i. They must be sixteen or older in age.
    - ii. They must have made a donation of at least \$20 or performed 20 hours of volunteer work for the Party in the last twelve months.
    - iii. If they are eligible to vote in California, they must be registered to vote in California, and they must have selected CNP as their party preference.
  - e. “Local county chapter” is a unit of the CNP that shall have its own County-based leadership, decision making, organizational, and event planning and execution capacity.
  - f. A “County Central Committee” is the highest decision making body within a local county chapter.
  - g. “National Party Conventions” are conventions for CNP members called for various purposes by The Leadership Committee in order to further the organizational goals of the CNP.
  - h. “One member, one vote” is the idea that in any election for the CNP, each voting member has an equal vote which they may cast in determining the outcome of any given election issue or for the benefit of any given CNP candidate.
  - i. “Leadership Committee” is the highest decision making body within the CNP. Its decisions reflect the voice of the CNP as a party and any other official decision-making entity or element within the CNP should avoid any official disagreement or conflict with a decision made by The Leadership Committee.
  - j. “Delegates” are a list of CNP members designated prior to conventions and approved by The Leadership Committee. During conventions where decisions are made, delegates shall have a role in making those decisions through a democratic voting structure.

- k. The “Mediation and Arbitration Committee” (MAC) shall be tasked with helping resolve any internal conflicts within the CNP and investigating any acts that harm the CNP. Conflicts through mediation may only be sought with the agreement of all parties to the conflict. MAC investigations may only occur if there is reasonable suspicion that activities covered by Article X, sec. 3,4 have occurred.
  - l. A “Supermajority” is a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority of a vote or more.
- 3. Where these Bylaws conflict with the California Elections Code (CA ELEC), or other relevant law, the law takes precedence.
- 4. Where bylaws of different divisions of the party conflict (e.g. County Central Committee or Affiliate Bylaws), these Bylaws take precedence.
- 5. Organizational documents and other decisions not enacted through changes to bylaws do not override bylaws at any level, nor does the Party Platform.
- 6. Except as otherwise specified in these bylaws or the bylaws of a local county chapter, all CNP meetings generally function under Robert’s Rules of Order. National Party Conventions generally function under the rules laid down by The Leadership Committee for that convention, or Robert’s Rules of Order if no rules are prepared prior to a National Party Convention.

## ARTICLE II: VOTING POWER

- 1. Voting for internal offices within the CNP shall be conducted democratically on a one member, one vote basis. That is, each Party member shall have an equal vote in any internal CNP election in which they are eligible to vote and cast a vote.
- 2. In order to be a party member and eligible to vote in CNP internal party elections one must meet the following criteria:
  - a. “Active party member” is a member able to vote in internal CNP elections. The requirements for active party membership are
    - I. They must be sixteen or older in age.
    - II. They must have made a donation of at least \$20 or performed 20 hours of volunteer work for the Party in the last twelve months.
    - III. If they are eligible to vote in California, they must be registered to vote in California, and they must have selected CNP as their party preference.

# ARTICLE III: CNP LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

1. The CNP Leadership Committee (hereinafter “Leadership Committee) is the highest executive decision making body of the party, and serves as the “state coordinating committee” for the purposes laid out in California Elections Code [Division 7, Part 6, Chapter 4](#).
2. Meetings:
  - a. The Leadership Committee shall meet at least once yearly per [§7926 of the California Elections Code](#).
  - b. Meetings of The Leadership Committee may occur in person, telephonically, or by video conference.
  - c. If a Leadership Committee member is unable to attend a meeting, they may designate, in writing, an alternate that meets the eligibility requirements for their position (see Article VI, Section 1) to vote in their place.
  - d. Leadership Committee Members who miss three consecutive meetings of The Leadership Committee have failed to meet the minimum level of attendance and shall be deemed to have resigned from The Leadership Committee. Vacancies created by any member for failing to meet the minimum level of attendance shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of Article V.
  - e. A majority of the full membership of The Leadership Committee present shall constitute a quorum.
  - f. The minutes of all meetings of The Leadership Committee and all other official Party committees and bodies shall be open to all Party members, and votes shall not be taken by secret ballot.
3. The Leadership Committee shall make the following decisions by supermajority vote:
  - a. Calling a National Party Convention and approving a list of Delegates to said Convention prepared in consultation with the Leadership Committee Secretary.
  - b. Proposing an amendment to the Bylaws
  - c. Removing a County Central Committee member for cause, including failure to perform duties or violation of the law, per [§7908 of the California Elections Code](#).
  - d. Determining the size of County Central Committees and their method of election unless laid out in the active CCC’s own bylaws as laid out in Article VI.
4. The Leadership Committee shall make the following decisions by majority vote, but may not delegate them:
  - a. Cancelling or reducing appropriations already made.
  - b. Certifying the results of internal party elections or petitions, including the creation of a new County Central Committee.
  - c. Temporarily filling vacant county elected positions until an election can be held.

- d. Provisionally filling vacant Leadership Committee positions until the next intraparty elections are held.
  - e. Ratifying the finding of a Mediation and Arbitration Committee hearing that finds a local chapter should be suspended from involvement in the CNP or use of the CNP name, trademarks, or resources.
5. The Leadership Committee shall make all other decisions by majority vote including:
- a. Sharing copies of the voter registration index, provided free of charge to the party per [§2185 of the California Elections Code](#). Access to the voter registration index is subject to privacy restrictions specified in [§2194 of the California Elections Code](#) and any other applicable laws and regulations relating to privacy.
  - b. Delegating any powers covered by this Section, or revoking such delegated powers.
  - c. All other matters determined by The Leadership Committee.

## ARTICLE IV: LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE OFFICERS

1. Leadership Committee Officers must:
  - a. Reside in California;
  - b. Be registered to vote in California with party preference of California National Party both to run for any Leadership Committee office and during the entirety of any period of service to the CNP as a Leadership Committee officer. Changing registration to a party other than CNP is grounds for immediate removal from the Leadership Committee of any elected officer on that committee;
  - c. Donated at least \$20 or performed 20 hours of volunteer work for the Party in the last six months.
  - d. Candidates for the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson positions must additionally have previously served in one of the other Officer positions for at least six months.
  - e. Candidates for the Treasurer position must additionally not have been convicted of embezzlement of public money, bribery, forgery or other related crimes. Furthermore any such candidate must have at least a bachelor's degree with a some level of academic coursework in math, accounting and / or finance or prior financial accounting and reporting experience.
2. All Leadership Committee Officers shall have equal voting power. No Leadership Committee Officer shall have authority over another.
3. The same person may not hold multiple Leadership Committee Officer positions.

4. Leadership Committee Officers shall attend all Leadership Committee meetings or designate an alternate to attend in their place (see Section 5).
5. Leadership Committee Officers may, in writing, temporarily and for not more than three meetings, designate responsibilities to an alternate that meets the eligibility requirements for that position as stated in Section 1 of this Article.
6. The Leadership Committee may appoint officers and agents to act on behalf of the CNP by majority vote or unanimity from time to time, and at any time, with the votes and final result made available to CNP members no more than seven (7) days after such appointments are made.
7. The following are expected responsibilities of all Leadership Committee Officers
  - a. Coordinate and communicate with all other party leaders across the organization.
  - b. Help formulate the high level planning and work on coordinating party activities in consultation with other CNP leaders and members.
  - c. Carry out duties not specifically enumerated here or below for the benefit of the CNP as needed.
  - d. All duties and power as enumerated anywhere in these bylaws.
8. Leadership Officer Positions and Duties Descriptions:
  - a. Chairperson:
    - I. Serve as the parliamentarian for all official business of the CNP as needed.
    - II. Serve as the highest elected official of the CNP and coordinate party activities to best support the continued growth and development of the CNP.
  - b. Vice-Chairperson:
    - I. Serve as the parliamentarian for all official business of the CNP as needed whenever the Chairperson is not available.
    - II. Serve as the second highest elected official of the CNP and coordinate party activities to best support the continued growth and development of the CNP.
  - c. Secretary:
    - I. Record all National Party Proceedings and provide summaries and records of those proceedings pursuant to relevant protocols.
    - II. Work to improve communication across all aspects of the CNP.
  - d. Treasurer:

- I. Prepare regular reports on the income and spending of the CNP.
  - II. Ensure proper compliance with all spending and fundraising laws of California and the United States.
  - III. Work with other stakeholders to ensure that the CNP effectively raises and spends funds in a manner that incorporates best practices and maximizes the value of funds expended on behalf of CNP projects and goals.
- e. Political Action Coordinator:
- I. Provide legislative briefs of potential legislation the Leadership Committee can endorse on behalf of the CNP, either at the request of the Leadership Committee or as they see fit.
  - II. Coordinate with all active campaigns with the Local Chapter Coordinator.
  - III. Lead the candidate search committee with the Local Chapter Coordinator.
  - IV. Become knowledgeable on all relevant campaign regulations and provide advice regarding compliance to the Leadership Committee and all CNP campaigns as needed.
- f. Local Chapter Coordinator, Northern California:
- I. Coordinate with all local chapter chairpersons
  - II. Determine the best ways the Leadership Committee can support local chapters and provide guidance and advice to the Leadership Committee.
  - III. Help grow all local chapters and build local chapters in any county that currently lacks a local chapter.
  - IV. Coordinate with all active campaigns with the Political Action Coordinator.
  - V. Lead the candidate search committee with the Political Action Coordinator.
  - VI. For the purpose of this position the southern boundary of the County of Monterey, continuing to the Nevada border, shall be deemed the dividing line between Northern and Southern California.
  - VII. Candidates for this position must live in Northern California.
- g. Local Chapter Coordinator, Southern California:
- I. Coordinate with all local chapter chairpersons
  - II. Determine the best ways the Leadership Committee can support local chapters and provide guidance and advice to the Leadership Committee.
  - III. Help grow all local chapters and build local chapters in any county that currently lacks a local chapter.
  - IV. Coordinate with all active campaigns with the Political Action Coordinator.
  - V. Lead the candidate search committee with the Political Action Coordinator.
  - VI. For the purpose of this position the southern boundary of the County of Monterey, continuing to the Nevada border, shall be deemed the dividing line between Northern and Southern California.
  - VII. Candidates for this position must live in Southern California.

- h. Other Positions: The Leadership Committee may add additional elected positions to the Leadership Committee as needed by supermajority vote. The Leadership Committee may appoint a CNP party member to fill any newly created position until the next party elections and any such appointee must obtain the consent of a supermajority of the Leadership Committee.
- i. If a position becomes vacant in the Leadership Committee during an elected term of any Leader the remaining Leadership Committee shall select a replacement if available and that replacement must be a CNP Member and must receive at least a majority vote confirming their appointment to the Leadership Committee.
- j. If a Leadership Committee position has no candidates in any given CNP internal election cycle, then that position shall either remain vacant or a CNP member may be appointed to that position at a later time depending on the preference of the other members of the Leadership Committee as expressed by a majority vote on the matter.
- k. No one may be elected to more than one Leadership Committee position at one time. Leadership Committee members may also be elected or appointed to County Central Committee positions and hold both offices simultaneously when necessary, but this should be discouraged when it is not deemed necessary.

## ARTICLE V: CALIFORNIA NATIONAL PARTY CONVENTIONS

1. Conventions are the in-person meeting of party members throughout California wherein Party members can take actions on behalf of the Party.
2. National Party Conventions must be called by The Leadership Committee at least 30 days before the start of the Convention.
3. All Party members in attendance are considered delegates for any CNP convention they attend.
4. Delegates present on the Convention floor may exercise the following powers by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Delegates:
  - a. Ejecting an attendee (including a Delegate) from the Convention for being disruptive.
5. Conventions shall be held in venues compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)



6. The Party shall make best efforts to accommodate alternate language requests submitted with fourteen days notice, including but not limited to accommodations for the hearing impaired and non-English speakers.
7. Minutes of the Convention:
  - a. Shall include the names of Delegates present on the floor, proposed decisions voted on, and the final vote totals.
  - b. Shall be publicly posted no more than three (3) days after the close of the Convention.
  - c. Need not record how each delegate voted unless the rules of the Convention require it.
  - d. Shall be the responsibility of the Leadership Committee Secretary.

## ARTICLE VI: COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEES

1. County Central Committees are the highest executive body of the party in a county, and serve as the “county councils” in California Elections Code [Division 7, Part 6, Chapter 2](#) and [Chapter 3](#).
2. County Central Committee members must be residents of that county and be registered to vote in California with party preference of CNP, as described in [California Elections Code §§7905-7907](#). The makeup of elected County Central Committees may not be changed until the following election, except that if a seat becomes vacant on a County Central Committee, its remaining members may appoint an interim County Central Committee replacement until the next County Central Committee elections occur.
3. County Central Committees may be in one of three states:
  - a. Inactive: all seats are vacant
  - b. Elected: elected in compliance with the California Elections Code [Division 7, Part 6, Chapter 2](#).
  - c. Acting: selected as described in Section 5.
4. For the purposes of all other Articles of these Bylaws, Elected and Acting County Central Committees are equivalent and referred to as “County Central Committees” or “active County Central Committees”
5. If a County Central Committee is Inactive, an Acting County Central Committee may be selected as follows:
  - a. The Leadership Committee announces, at least ten days in advance, a public meeting, open to all active party members eligible to vote in internal CNP matters that the CNP is able to locate and contact.
  - b. The attendees of the meeting elect, by secret ballot, three (3) Acting County Central Committee members who meet the eligibility requirements in Section 2. Candidates need not be present to be elected.

- c. An agent for The Leadership Committee, who may be a volunteer, shall attend the vote and transmit to the Leadership Committee Secretary the results of the election, including who attended and the total number of votes for each candidate.
  - d. The Leadership Committee certifies, at its discretion, the election results.
- 6. An Acting County Central Committee serves only until the next Elected County Central Committee can be seated, as described in [California Elections Code §7922](#). The makeup of an Acting County Central Committee (e.g. the number of seats) may be changed in accordance with its Bylaws.
- 7. Elections for Elected County Central Committees shall comply with [§7911 of the California Elections Code](#):
  - a. All counties shall have at least three but not more than nine Central Committee members, elected at large by all CNP voting members who choose to cast a vote in any internal county CNP election.
- 8. Meetings:
  - a. County Central Committees must hold an in-person meeting every year, and are strongly encouraged to do so at least once every six months. Such meetings shall be publicly announced at least seven (7) days in advance, open to all residents of California registered to vote in California with party preference of CNP.
  - b. Elected County Central Committees may hold meetings, free of charge, in a building within the county owned by California's government, per [California Elections Code §7910](#). However, any suitable venue is acceptable and government buildings are not mandated as meeting places for such meetings.
  - c. A County Central Committee which fails to hold an in-person meeting within nine calendar months from its last meeting shall receive an inquiry from the Leadership Committee Secretary, informing them of the need to hold a meeting by one calendar year from their last in-person meeting.
  - d. If a County Central Committee fails to hold an in-person meeting by that date, the Leadership Committee may remove all members from that Central Committee for cause, rendering it Inactive.
  - e. County Central Committees may, in a manner described in their Bylaws, hold additional meetings, which need not be in person.
- 9. Bylaws:
  - a. County Central Committees shall have their own Bylaws.
  - b. The Party shall provide a newly active County Central Committee with sample Bylaws, which the Committee may adopt at its discretion.
  - c. County Central Committees which have no Bylaws, or which received Bylaws from a previous County Central Committee that became Inactive, may adopt county Bylaws by a vote of two-thirds of the County Central Committee members.
  - d. County Central Committees may amend their Bylaws by a vote of two-thirds of the County Central Committee members at two (2) consecutive in-person meetings, or in a manner specified in their Bylaws.

10. County Central Committees shall choose the following officers, with the following powers and responsibilities, in line with County and National bylaws:

a. Chair:

- i. Organizes and runs meetings of the County Central Committee.
- ii. Serves as liaison to the California Department of General Services, per [California Elections Code §7910](#) (see Section 7(b))
- iii. Speaks publicly on behalf of the County Central Committee or appointing a spokesperson or spokespeople for the County Central Committee with the consent of the County Central Committee.
- iv. Requests from the county elections official, in a timely manner prior to each statewide election, an electronic copy of the voter registration index provided free of charge to the Party per [§2185 of the California Elections Code](#).

b. Secretary:

- i. Takes minutes detailing the actions taken at County Central Committee meetings and votes made by Committee members, and makes these publicly available no more than three (3) days after such meetings.
- ii. Reports appointments to fill vacancies in Elected County Central Committees to the county Elections Department, per [§7909 of the California Elections Code](#) (see Section 10)
- iii. Maintains a current, publicly available copy of the county Bylaws and a document detailing the local county chapter's organizational structure.
- iv. Serves as liaison to the Leadership Committee Secretary

c. Treasurer

- i. Manages the County Central Committee's finances, including opening bank accounts, collecting donations, and disbursing funds.
- ii. Keeps records, files campaign statements, and notifies contributors of their filing obligations in compliance with the California Elections Code, the California Government Code, regulations of the California Fair Political Practices Commission, and federal law.
- iii. Oversees the preparation and maintenance of an annual budget for the County Central Committee
- iv. Produces records in response to requests from the Treasurer of The Leadership Committee or from auditors per [California Government Code §90001](#).

11. If one or more seats on a County Central Committee (Elected or Acting) is vacant, the remaining members may, at a Monthly Meeting, appoint County Central Committee member(s), per [California Elections Code §7904](#), by unanimity or in a manner specified in its Bylaws.

12. Two or more counties may be unified into a Regional Chapter made up of no more than nine (9) counties.

- a. A Regional Chapter may be formed when a county with an active Central Committee coordinates with the Leadership Committee, establishing which counties with inactive Central Committees will fall under their regional jurisdiction.
- b. A Regional Chapter may also be formed when three prospective Central Committee members within a connected geographic area petition the Leadership Committee to form a Regional Chapter, enumerating which counties will comprise the region.
- c. Regional Central Committees are subject to the same requirements as County Central Committees to retain active status, including bylaws, meetings, and election notices.
- d. A county within a Regional Chapter may petition their Regional Central Committee and the Leadership Committee to form its own separate County Central Committee once it has three prospective Central Committee members.
- e. Regional Chapters are automatically dissolved once the final two counties comprising it become separate County Central Committees. If a Regional Chapter wishes to be reinstated, it must again apply to the Leadership Committee.

## ARTICLE VII: ENDORSEMENTS

1. An Endorsement is a public statement giving campaigns for candidates, proposed legislation in any jurisdiction in California or ballot measure the ability to use the name of the Party (a public statement that does not give this permission is a “recommendation”).
2. The Leadership Committee, California National Party Conventions, County Central Committees, and Affiliates shall be free to endorse candidates or ballot measures as they see fit, except that if the Leadership Committee publicly opposes a specific candidate or initiative then no County Central Committee can endorse that candidate or initiative. The Leadership Committee and County Central Committees should coordinate in order to avoid endorsing different candidates for the same office, but such endorsements are not prohibited.
  - a. Any of the previously mentioned bodies will report back to the party as a whole, upon request of any member of the Leadership Committee, on the following:
    - i. What a candidate seeking the party’s endorsement will do to promote the CNP’s current platform and goals such as California’s independence as the function of California as a Republic and any jurisdiction inside of it from the United States.
    - ii. How the proposed legislation or candidate supports the CNP’s current platform.
3. Prior to each election, The Leadership Committee shall issue a suggested timeline for endorsements so that The Leadership Committee may consider County Central Committee endorsements prior to making its own.

4. Party Officials are free to make endorsements as they see fit, as long as they state clearly in their endorsements that they are speaking as individuals and not on behalf of the Party.
5. The Political Action Coordinator shall be tasked with providing guidance and advice to the Leadership Committee regarding endorsements, and they shall also provide guidance and research regarding endorsements to any local chapter upon request.
6. Seven (7) days notice will be given to the party membership by email about any formal discussion or deliberation of a candidate, legislation or proposition. Email notice will be sent to the entire CNP supporter list. If a member wishes to be notified of these events they must provide their email to the CNP's email database.

## ARTICLE VIII: APPOINTMENTS

1. Volunteers or Employees appointed to any leadership position in the CNP may be evaluated, at the request of any two members of the Leadership Committee, by the Leadership Committee regarding their work for the CNP. Any such evaluation will be confidential and conducted by any five members of the Leadership Committee. Any member of the leadership committee who wishes to be part of such an evaluation may participate. The evaluation shall assess:
  - a. Relevant experience for the position
  - b. Interest in and ideas for the position
  - c. Ability to fulfill commitment
  - d. Previous political activism
  - e. Previous participation with the party
  - f. Previous participation in the California independence movement
  - g. Compensation requests (as appropriate)
  - h. Commitment to exit interview if for a short term position
  - i. Internships
    - i. Academic record
    - ii. If done to fulfill an educational requirement, a review of the course syllabus to ensure requirements are being met

## ARTICLE IX: AMENDING THE BYLAWS

1. These Bylaws may be amended by the Leadership Committee via the following process:
  - a. A member of the Leadership Committee proposes a Bylaws Amendment to the Leadership Committee. If that proposal is approved by a supermajority vote then the amendment is presented to all County Central Committees for consultation.
  - b. County Central Committees have 30 days to present any proposed changes to the Bylaws Amendment to the Leadership Committee Secretary.

- c. If one or more County Central Committees provide proposed changes, then the Leadership Committee shall vote on any such proposed changes. If any such proposed changes obtain supermajority support in the Leadership Committee then then the proposed Bylaws Amendment(s) shall be thereby modified to incorporate those suggested changes.
  - d. If no County Central Committee provides proposed changes within the 30 day period then the Amendment is considered approved and the Bylaws are thereby amended.
  - e. If any County Central Committee provides suggested changes and those changes are approved by a supermajority vote, then there shall be a final vote after all approved changes are reconciled into a final text of the proposed amendment. If that proposed amendment, including all changes, are approved by a supermajority vote of the Leadership Committee, then the Bylaws are thereby amended. If that supermajority vote fails, then the amendment fails.
  - f. Specific Sections of these Bylaws may be amended through alternate processes specified elsewhere in the Article containing them if such processes are provided in an Article.
2. These bylaws may be amended by the County Central Committees proposing amendments to the Leadership Committee via the following process:
- a. Use the following chart to determine how many County Central Committees are required to submit the proposal to the Leadership Committee based on how many active committees exist:
    - When 1-5 Active County Central Committees exist, 1 central committee can propose Bylaws Amendments.
    - When 5-15 Active County Central Committees exist, 2 central committees can jointly propose Bylaws Amendments.
    - When 16-30 Active County Central Committees exist, 3 central committees can jointly propose Bylaws Amendments.
    - When 31+ Active County Central Committees exist, 4 central committees can jointly propose Bylaws Amendments.
  - b. When the required number of County Central Committees agrees on a proposed amendment via a supermajority vote in each such committee, they shall submit their proposed amendment to the Leadership Committee by presenting it to the Leadership Committee Secretary. That amendment shall then be discussed at the next meeting of the Leadership Committee or the one thereafter depending on the Leadership Committee's judgement regarding its action items and meeting agendas, etc.
  - c. The Leadership Committee may then approve the County Central Committee Bylaws Amendment by supermajority vote or it may propose amendments to the County Central Committees' proposed amendment(s). If the Leadership Committee proposed amendments then the Leadership Committee Secretary shall present those proposed amendments to the County Central Committees for consultation and County Central Committees have 30 days to provide input.

- d. If one or more County Central Committees provide proposed changes, then the Leadership Committee shall vote on any such proposed changes. If any such proposed changes obtain supermajority support in the Leadership Committee then then the proposed Bylaws Amendment(s) is thereby modified to incorporate those suggested changes.
- e. A final vote shall then be held on the proposed bylaws by the Leadership Committee including any amendments. If the amendment(s) are approved by supermajority vote of the Leadership Committee then the CNP Bylaws are amended. If they are not approved by the Leadership Committee by a supermajority vote then the amendment(s) fail and are not included in the CNP Bylaws.

## ARTICLE X: PARTY PLATFORM

1. The Party Platform is the current statement of goals and principles of the party. The Leadership Committee shall endeavor to recruit candidates who agree with all or nearly all of the platform to the degree feasible for a given region or office. If The Leadership Committee delegates candidate recruitment, the person(s) or committee who is delegated that responsibility shall strive to recruit candidates that agree with all or nearly all of the platform to the degree feasible for a given California region or political office.
3. The Party Platform may be amended by the following process:
  - a. The CNP shall solicit party members for proposals on how to amend the platform as determined by the Leadership Committee but not less than once every two years. The Platform Amendment Proposal submission period shall be at least 30 calendar days to allow party members to propose edits to the existing platform.
  - b. A Platform Amendments Committee shall be established to review all of the proposed changes to the platform submitted by CNP members.
  - c. The Platform Amendments Committee shall incorporate the best ideas of the CNP members into the revised platform.
  - d. A Party-wide vote will be held in which all CNP members may vote Yes or No as to the revised platform. If the revised platform is approved by a simple majority in this vote, then that platform becomes the new official platform of the CNP.
  - e. If the revised platform is rejected by the members then the existing platform remains in effect without amendment.

## ARTICLE XI: PARTY FINANCES

1. Contributions
  - a. "Contribution" means a monetary or nonmonetary payment as defined in [Government Code §82015](#) and [FPPC Regulation 18215](#).

- b. For purposes of this Article, "Fundraiser" means a Central County Committee, an Active Party Member, and any agent that receives Contributions on behalf of CNP.
  - c. Fundraisers shall report all Contributions they receive to the Treasurer of The Leadership Committee or the Treasurer's designated agents. They shall report any Contribution of less than \$5,000 by the sooner of (i) the first day of the month after the month in which the Contribution was received, or (ii) the closing date of any campaign statement The Leadership Committee is required to file. They shall report any Contribution of \$5,000 or more by the sooner of (i) three business days after receiving the Contribution, or (ii) the closing date of any campaign statement The Leadership Committee is required to file.
  - d. Fundraisers shall transfer or deposit the full amount of each Contribution they receive into a bank account controlled by The Leadership Committee within two weeks of receiving the Contribution.
  - e. Contributions in the form of cash, checks, or money orders shall be considered received on the date they are tendered to Fundraisers. Contributions made by payment card or electronic transfer shall be considered received on the date they become available to be transferred out of an account controlled by a Fundraiser.
  - f. Fundraisers shall not spend or retain custody of any Contributions they receive without written authorization from The Leadership Committee.
2. Disbursements
- a. The Leadership Committee shall determine by majority vote a threshold amount ("Threshold Amount") above which any purchase shall require an authorized purchase requisition. To request a purchase that exceeds the Threshold Amount, a requester must submit a completed purchase requisition form to the Treasurer of The Leadership Committee or his or her designated agents and attach any supporting documents, including any contract provided by the vendor.
  - b. The requester and the approver of a purchase requisition may not be the same person. The Treasurer, Vice Chairperson, or Chairperson of The Leadership Committee may authorize a purchase requisition at his or her sole discretion for amounts that comprise up to 10% (ten percent) of CNP's working capital (i.e. current assets minus current liabilities).
  - c. Any purchase requisition that exceeds 10% (ten percent) of CNP's working capital shall require approval of the full Leadership Committee by majority vote. If a member of The Leadership Committee is the requestor, that member must abstain from voting.
  - d. Active Party members, volunteers, and authorized agents of CNP may request reimbursement for expenses they have incurred on behalf of CNP. In aggregate, reimbursements may not exceed the Threshold Amount in one month. The Treasurer, Vice Chairperson, or Chairperson of The Leadership Committee may approve reimbursements at his or her sole discretion. The requester and the approver of a reimbursement may not be the same person.



- e. No expense shall be reimbursed without a receipt or, in the absence of a receipt, proof of payment. A receipt must include the name of the vendor, the transaction date, a description of the goods or services purchased, the amount paid, and the form of payment. Acceptable proofs of payment are cleared checks, credit card statements, and bank account statements.
- f. To receive reimbursement, requesters must submit a receipt or proof of payment by the sooner of (i) 90 (ninety) days after the date the expense was incurred, or (ii) the closing date of any campaign statement The Leadership Committee is required to file.
- g. Only the Treasurer, Vice Chairperson, or Chairperson of The Leadership Committee may authorize payment of an invoice. The person requesting authorization and the approver may not be the same person. Before approving an invoice for payment, the approver shall verify that the information on the invoice matches the information on the purchase requisition and receiving documents, and that all goods have been received and all services have been performed.

## ARTICLE XII: NON-DISCRIMINATION

1. The CNP does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of their ability, age, race, ethnic background, creed, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status.
2. Diligent efforts will be made to accommodate anyone with disabilities at CNP events. CNP Conventions shall only be held in spaces that are ADA compliant.