



**CHARTER, BYLAWS, AND STANDING
RULES OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS
OF AMERICA**

**As adopted and amended on August 12th, 2017 by the National Convention of
the Young Democrats of America in Dallas, Texas**

*This copy of the Charter, Bylaws, and the Standing Rules of the Young Democrats of America has been
certified by the Secretary as a true and accurate representation.*

THE CHARTER OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA

PREAMBLE

We, the Young Democrats of America, in order to stimulate in young people an active interest in governmental affairs and promote their involvement in the political process, to promote the acquisition of political power by young people, to promote the policies and practices which are consistent with the advancement of democracy and legislation and policies that are important to young people, to increase the efficiency of popular government and to provide the highest degree of justice and social welfare for the citizens of our country, do associate ourselves together and establish this Charter.

CHARTER

ARTICLE I

CHARTERED UNITS

SECTION 105 Chartered Units.

Section 105(a) Definition. This organization shall be composed of chartered units representing all Young Democrats within their respective territories. Territories shall be defined as each of the fifty (50) United States; the District of Columbia; Guam; Puerto Rico; U.S. Virgin Islands; and American Samoa. There may be no more than one (1) chartered unit in any territory.

Section 105(b) Issuance of Unit Charters. Unit charters shall be issued by the National Convention in accordance with the Charter and the Bylaws and are subject to renewal by each succeeding National Convention. Interim unit charters may be issued by the National Committee between National Conventions in accordance with the Charter and the Bylaws and are subject to renewal by each succeeding National Convention. All unit charters that have not been renewed by the close of a National Convention shall be terminated at that time.

SECTION 110 Application for Unit Charters; Contents.

Section 110(a). Name of the unit.

Section 110(b). Territory represented by the unit.

Section 110(c). Date of last unit convention.

Section 110(d). List of unit officers, including names, addresses, phone numbers, dates of election, dates of term expiration, and dates of birth. Addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses for state officers serving on the National Committee must be for personal use and unique to each officer.

Section 110(e). A copy of the unit Constitution, Charter, Bylaws, Certification of Incorporation, and/or any other such prevailing organic document.

Section 110(f). Certification by no less than one (1) member of the Democratic National Committee representing the applying unit's territory that the unit is recognized, sanctioned, or authorized by the Democratic Party of that

territory as that territory's official organization of Young Democrats and that the unit's officers were elected subsequent to the preceding National Convention, with the exception of the host unit of the National Convention, which shall be allowed to schedule its unit convention no later than thirty (30) days after the close of the National Convention.

Section 110(g). A list of the members of the unit, including all of the following: name, city, state, ZIP code, and date of birth (including month, day and year). The unit shall provide the email addresses of any members who joined the unit subsequent to the preceding National Convention. Phone numbers are optional.

Section 110(h). Certifications signed by two (2) of the unit's President and two (2) National Committee Representatives, acknowledged or sworn to be said officers, and attested to by a notary public or other officer authorized by law to so attest in the jurisdiction where certified. Such certification shall state that to the best of the signer's knowledge, all documents submitted are current, complete, and in every respect accurate; that the membership list submitted consists of actual members of the unit subsequent to the preceding National Convention who currently satisfy the age requirements of the Charter and the Bylaws; and that the unit has held a convention and elected officers subsequent to the preceding National Convention.

Section 110(i). Rules for the selection of Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention.

Section 110(j). Supporting materials for Participation Votes pursuant to the Charter and the Bylaws.

SECTION 145 Revocation of Unit Charters.

Section 145(a) Revocation of Unit Charter; Cause. Unit charters may be revoked for inactivity or non-compliance with this Charter.

Section 145(b) Consideration; Notice. The revocation of a unit charter shall be considered by the Standing Committee on Credentials. Such committee may not consider such a revocation unless the challenged unit shall have been notified in writing at least thirty (30) days prior thereto. Such notice shall contain the grounds for revocation and the date, time, and place of the first consideration thereof by said committee and shall be sent to the last known President and two (2) National Committee Representatives of the challenged unit, and no fewer than (1) member of the Democratic National Committee representing the challenged unit's territory, based on the most recent contact information provided to the Secretary.

CHARTER

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 205 Categories.

Section 205(a) Regular Member. Any person who has not yet reached the age of thirty-six (36) may be accorded regular membership in this organization by and through a chartered unit. Each chartered unit shall have the primary responsibility for setting requirements for membership in such unit. If a person selected or elected to a position on the National Committee or any Standing or Select Committee is not a regular member, the person holding that position shall be entitled to participate in meetings of such committee, but shall not be permitted to cast a vote in such committee.

Section 205(b) Honorary Member. Any person who has reached the age of thirty-six (36) may be elected to honorary membership in this organization upon nomination by the President and confirmation by an affirmative vote

of three fourths (3/4) of the National Convention. Prior to nomination for honorary membership, candidates shall have demonstrated a commitment to the highest ideals of the Democratic Party and shall have performed extraordinary service to the Young Democrats of America. Honorary members shall be accorded full, non-voting, floor privileges at any National Convention.

CHARTER
ARTICLE III
NATIONAL CONVENTION

SECTION 305 Authority. The National Convention shall be the highest authority of the Young Democrats of America, subject to the provisions of the Charter and the Bylaws.

SECTION 310 Time, Place. A National Convention shall be held in July or August of each odd-numbered year at a time and place so designated by the National Committee, pursuant to bids received from interested localities.

SECTION 320 Convention Officers. Not less than sixty (60) days prior to the opening general session of each National Convention, the President shall appoint at least one (1) Convention Chair, Secretary, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-At-Arms, and other such officers as may be necessary or required to conduct the affairs of the National Convention. The Convention Secretary shall be required to compile reports from all Convention Standing Committee Chairs, maintain the voting results in electronic form, and prepare an electronic copy of the Convention minutes. Such packet shall be electronically submitted to the President and Secretary of the National Committee within thirty (30) days of the adjournment of the National Convention. Upon receiving such packet, the Secretary shall make such packet available, electronically, to the National Committee within fourteen (14) days.

SECTION 350 Convention Standing Committees.

Section 350(a) Named. At each National Convention, there shall be established Convention Standing Committees on Credentials, Rules and Charter, and Platform.

Section 350(b) Officers. The President shall appoint at least one Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary of each Convention Standing Committee and shall give notice of such appointments to the National Committee not less than sixty (60) days prior to the opening general session of the Convention.

Section 350(c) Voting. Every unit chartered by the previous National Convention or issued an interim charter by the National Committee, and all new units that have applied for a charter, shall be entitled to one vote on each Convention Standing Committee, unless a credentials challenge is raised against such unit. If a dispute arises, the following procedure will be followed:

- (i) If the challenged unit was chartered by the preceding convention and has applied to re-charter in accordance with the Charter and the Bylaws, it shall be entitled to vote in any Convention Standing Committee until the credentials challenge is settled by the Convention.
- (ii) In all other cases, the challenged unit shall not be permitted to vote in any Convention Standing Committee until the credentials challenge is settled by the Convention.

Section 350(d) Committee Delegates and Alternates. Unit delegations are encouraged to designate a specific delegate or alternate to serve on each Committee and to certify such persons to the Convention Secretary no later than seven (7) days prior to the opening of the general session. Such certificate may restrict participation to such

delegate and alternate, but in all other cases, any delegate or alternate to the National Convention may cast their unit's vote in Committee. A person serving in the capacity of Chair may not cast their own unit's vote. No committee officers shall cast a separate vote by virtue of their positions as officers.

Section 350(e) Quorum Requirements. Each Convention Standing Committee shall meet at the call of its Chair but not later than the day preceding the opening general session of the Convention. A quorum in any Convention Standing Committee shall be representatives for one-third (1/3) of those units entitled to cast a vote.

SECTION 360 Unit Vote Allocation. Chartered units shall be eligible for votes at the National Convention based on the following formula: Population Votes (maximum of 50) + Participation Votes (maximum of fifty-two (52)) + Charter Votes (maximum of eight (8)) = Number of Votes (maximum of one-hundred ten (110)). Under no circumstance shall any chartered unit be allowed to cast more votes than one-half (1/2) the number of regular members in the unit, as determined by such unit's membership list.

Charter Section 360(a) Population Votes. Each territory shall receive ten (10), twenty (20), thirty (30), forty (40) or fifty (50) votes for population regardless of the territory's number of members. The populations of territories shall be ranked so that the ten (10) territories with the highest population shall receive fifty (50) votes, the next ten (10) territories shall receive forty (40) votes, the next ten (10) territories shall receive thirty (30) votes, the next ten (10) territories shall receive twenty (20) votes, and the final sixteen (16) territories shall receive ten (10) votes. The population figures shall be based on the most recent decennial census figures issued by the United States Census Bureau

Section 360(b) Participation Votes. A chartered unit shall receive up to fifty-two (52) participation votes based on the following formula:

(i) National Participation (maximum of thirty (30) votes)

(1) Meeting Participation. A chartered unit is eligible for up to twenty-four (24) votes for attendance of National Committee members to National Committee meetings as follows: the number of meetings that at least one member of the National Committee from a chartered unit attended a national committee meetings subsequent to the previous National Convention, divided by the total number of National Committee meetings held, taken as a percentage of the total twenty-four (24) votes. Proxies held by members of the chartered unit shall be counted as full participation. Proxies held by National Committee members of chartered units for other chartered units will be counted as one-half (1/2) attendance by the unit sending the proxy.

(2) Website / Blog Submissions. A chartered unit shall be eligible for up to six (6) votes for submission of articles to the Young Democrats of America website / blog, and shall receive three (3) votes per submission with copies of the articles submitted included with the charter application.

(ii) Regional Participation (maximum of six (6) votes) - A chartered unit is eligible for up to six (6) votes for attendance at official regional meetings based proportionally on the ratio of meetings attended and meetings held as reflected by the official minutes of the regional meetings as verified by the Regional Director.

(iii) Campaign Participation (maximum of six (6) votes) - A chartered unit shall receive six (6) votes for participation in at least two (2) Democratic candidate or issue campaigns, and shall receive three (3) votes per campaign by including written verification from the candidates or campaign coordinators, including their names, addresses, and phone numbers, along with the unit's charter application.

(1) Campaign Participation Metrics. The Board of Directors shall establish and adopt, at the beginning of each biennium, a set of required metrics to be met by a chartered unit in order to receive maximum campaign participation votes

(iv) Online membership management participation (ten (10) votes) - A chartered unit shall receive ten (10) votes for the submission of their official membership list via spreadsheet. Spreadsheets shall be in a digital format supplied via media accompanying the unit's charter application or via email prior to the packet-opening deadline.

Section 360(c) Charter Votes. A chartered unit shall receive four (4) votes for each of the two (2) immediately preceding National Conventions at which it was chartered. A chartered unit shall receive four (4) votes for receiving an interim charter since the preceding National Convention.

SECTION 370 Voting of Delegates and Units.

Section 370(a) Delegate Vote Allocation. The total votes to which a chartered unit is entitled shall be equally divided among the registered Delegates present in person at the convention. The final votes by a chartered unit shall be cast in whole numbers rounded as closely as possible to the expressed votes of its individual Delegates.

Section 370(b) Minimum Unit Delegation to Vote Ratio; Mileage Formula. Chartered units shall be permitted to cast votes allocated under the provisions of the Charter and the Bylaws provided that each chartered unit is represented by registered Delegates, present in person, whose aggregate number does not fall below the votes per delegate ratio established according to the driving mileage from each unit's territorial capitol or largest city, whichever is furthest, to the site of the National Convention as follows: Zero (0) to five hundred (500) miles, one (1) delegate for every two (2) votes; five hundred one (501) to one thousand (1000) miles, one (1) delegate for every three (3) votes; one thousand one (1001) to one thousand five hundred (1500) miles, one (1) delegate for every four (4) votes; one thousand five hundred one (1501) to two thousand five hundred (2500) miles, one (1) delegate for every five (5) votes; any distance in excess of two thousand five hundred (2500) miles, one (1) delegate for every six (6) votes. No later than sixty (60) days prior to each National Convention, the Chair of the Standing Committee on Credentials shall prepare a chart of each territory's driving mileage, derived by the mileage indicated in the current Rand McNally Atlas or comparable mapping standard, along with the delegate to vote ratio derived therefrom.

Section 370(c) Voting Preference. No Delegate shall be forced to cast a vote against their expressed preference on any issue, candidate, or questions that comes before the National Convention. No Delegate shall solicit or accept monetary compensation or anything of value to abstain from voting or to cast a vote for or against any issue, candidate, or question that comes before the National Convention. No Delegate shall be threatened with revocation of any previously promised monetary stipend or subsidy for convention expenses due to their expressed preference or official action with respect to any issue, candidate, or question that comes before the National Convention. No member of the Young Democrats of America shall offer or threaten to withhold from any Delegate monetary compensation or anything of value due to their expressed preference or official action with respect to any issue, candidate, or question that comes before the National Convention. Each Delegation Chair shall ensure that each Delegate's vote is correctly recorded and cast and that all duly earned stipends and subsidies are allocated fairly and in strict adherence with the Charter and the Bylaws and the Rules of the National Convention.

SECTION 380 Delegates and Alternates. Registered Delegates shall be voting members of a chartered unit's delegation, and registered Alternates shall be non-voting members of a chartered unit's delegation. Registered Alternates may be seated as registered Delegates in the event that a registered Delegate is not present pursuant to rules adopted by the National Convention. Each chartered unit shall be responsible for selecting its own Delegates and Alternates and for setting the rules and procedures for said selection with the following limitations:

Section 380(a) Eligibility. Any regular member is eligible to represent a unit as a Delegate to the National Convention provided the member resides within such unit's territory, resides outside the United States but resided in such unit's territory directly prior to moving abroad, or appears on the membership list submitted by such unit in its charter application.

Section 380(b) Selection Process. Each unit shall adopt rules to govern the process for the selection of Delegates and Alternates that shall encourage the full participation of all members of the unit, especially historically underrepresented groups in the Young Democrats of America. These rules shall be filed with such unit's charter

application and shall be made public on the national website and the convention website and shall be provided upon request by the National Office. Unless provided for in a unit's rules for selecting Delegates and Alternates, no registered Delegate or Alternate present at the convention shall be removed from such unit's delegation.

Section 380(c) Filing. Each unit shall file the name and contact information for each Delegate and Alternate with the Convention Secretary no later than seven (7) days prior to the first general session of the National Convention. If the names of the Delegates and Alternates have not been filed by this deadline, any members from a chartered unit who are present at the National Convention may register as Delegates or Alternates.

SECTION 385 Delegation Chair. Each unit's Delegation Chair shall be appointed by such unit's President, and such appointment shall be filed with the Convention Secretary no later than seven (7) days prior to the first general session of the National Convention. If no such appointment is filed in time, all registered Delegates from such unit shall caucus and elect a Delegation Chair immediately prior to the opening general session of the Convention.

CHARTER

ARTICLE IV

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

SECTION 405 Authority. Except for powers reserved to the National Convention, the governing body of the Young Democrats of America shall be the National Committee.

SECTION 410 Composition.

Section 410(a) Voting Members. All elected Officers, the Chair of each Voting Constituency Caucus, the Regional Director of each Regional Caucus, the Chair of each Standing and Select Committee, the Chair of the State Presidents' Association, the Chair of the Judicial Council, and the President and two (2) National Committee Representatives of each chartered unit shall be voting members of the National Committee. No person shall be entitled to cast more than one vote on the National Committee by virtue of holding multiple offices. The two (2) National Committee Representatives from each Chartered Unit shall be of two (2) different gender identities.

Section 410(b) Non-Voting Members. Each Administrative Officer specified in the Charter and the Bylaws shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of the National Committee.

Section 410(c) Voting Requirements. Voting Members of the National Committee may not vote at a meeting of the National Committee unless they have paid the conference registration fee, made alternate payment arrangements with the Standing Committee on Credentials, or received a fee waiver.

SECTION 420 Meetings.

Section 420(a) Required Meetings. The National Committee of the Young Democrats of America shall meet at the call of the President subject to approval by of the Board of Directors. No fewer than two (2) meetings shall be held each calendar year.

Section 420(b) Notice of Meetings. Except as provided in Section 420(d), the Board of Directors shall provide notice of any meeting of the National Committee to all National Committee members not less than ninety (90) days prior to the opening session of such meeting (This amendment shall take effect on December 1, 2017).

Section 420(c). Location of Meetings. The number of meetings held on the East and West sides of the Mississippi River between National Conventions shall be equal within one meeting.

Section 420(d). Additional Meetings. Upon receiving a written request to call a meeting of the National Committee signed or electronically signed by not less than twenty percent (20%) of the current membership of the National Committee, the Secretary or their designee shall notify the Board of Directors, who shall meet and specify the location, date, and time of the meeting, and such date shall be not less than sixty (60) days from the date such request was received.

SECTION 430 Standing Committees of the National Committee.

Section 430(a) Named. The National Committee shall have Standing Committees on Credentials, Rules and Charter, and Resolutions.

Section 430(b) Membership. Each Standing Committee shall consist of one representative from each chartered unit and such representative need not be a member of the National Committee. Standing Committee members shall be chosen in accordance with procedures established by the chartered units they represent and shall be certified in writing to the Secretary.

Section 430(c) Meetings. Standing Committees shall meet at each meeting of the National Committee and at other times as called by such Standing Committee's Chair or the President. Meetings not held in conjunction with a National Committee meeting shall require fourteen (14) days written notice to each committee member and the National Committee and must be held via videoconference, teleconference, or online conference.

SECTION 440 Select Committees of the National Committee.

Section 440(a) Named and Establishment. The National Committee shall have Select Committees on Budget, Campaign, Chapter Building, International Affairs, and Site Selection. The President, with the approval of the National Committee, shall have the discretion to establish and instruct additional Select Committees.

Section 440(b) Membership. Each Select Committee shall consist of one (1) representative selected by each Regional Caucus and up to three (3) at-large members appointed by the President. Appointments for these positions must be sponsored by one National Committee member from the chartered unit in which the appointee resides. Appointees from a non-chartered territory shall provide a letter of support from a Democratic Party official from such territory and a member of the National Committee. The President shall designate a Director, Deputy Director, and Secretary from among the members of each Select Committee.

Section 440(c) Meetings. Select Committees shall meet at each meeting of the National Committee and at other times as called by such Select Committee's Chair or by the President. Meetings not held in conjunction with a National Committee meeting shall require fifteen (15) days written notice to each committee member and the National Committee and must be held via videoconference, teleconference, or online conference.

CHARTER

ARTICLE V

REMOVED BY ACTION OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA

CHARTER

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 603 Board of Directors. There shall be a Board of Directors for the Young Democrats of America, composed of the Officers of the Young Democrats of America and six (6) members representing stakeholder communities. The President shall serve as chair of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 605 Officers; Named. The Officers of the Young Democrats of America shall be a President, an Executive Vice President, a Democratic National Committeeman, a Democratic National Committeewoman, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President, a Third Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

SECTION 606 Duties of Officers. The Officers of the Young Democrats of America shall perform such duties as required by the Charter and the Bylaws, the President, and the National Committee.

SECTION 607 Gavel Order. The list of officers in Section 605 shall constitute the gavel order of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 608 Duties of Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for selecting, supervising, and managing the employment of the Executive Director, reviewing staff performance, awarding raises and bonuses, and adopting human resources and staff management policies. In addition, the Board of Directors shall review and approve major contracts and management decisions as needed. The Board of Directors shall meet not less than once every three (3) months. The Secretary or their designee shall inform the National Committee of the time, date, location, and topics of discussion for each meeting not later than 48 hours prior to such meeting, and shall distribute accurate minutes of each meeting to the National Committee not later than fourteen (14) days after such meeting.

SECTION 610(a) Eligibility. Regular members who have not yet reached the age of thirty-four (34) years shall be eligible to serve as Officers. Individuals who are not members of a Party other than the Democratic Party shall be eligible for selection as Stakeholder Members of the Board of Directors.

Section 610(b). Upon filing paperwork to qualify for, create an exploratory committee for, or accept an appointment to any federal or statewide elected office, an Officer of the Young Democrats of America shall resign their position.

SECTION 615 Elections. Officers other than the Democratic National Committeeman and Democratic National Committeewoman shall be elected by a majority vote of the National Convention for a term of two years or until their successors are elected. The Democratic National Committeeman and Democratic National Committeewoman shall be elected by a vote of the National Committee in even-numbered years at a National Committee Meeting held before July for a term of two years or until their successors are elected.

SECTION 618 Selection of Stakeholder Members. The six (6) Stakeholder Members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors subject to confirmation by the National Committee. Three (3) Stakeholder Members shall be selected in each even-numbered year, at the same meeting at which the Democratic National Committeeman and Committeewoman are elected, for a term of four years or until their successors are appointed and confirmed.

SECTION 620 Attendance at Meetings. Board Members shall be required to attend all meetings of the National Committee. Multiple meetings of the National Committee convened within a period of three (3) days shall be construed as one (1) meeting for the purpose of this section. Board Members who fail to attend two successive

meetings of the National Committee, shall be deemed guilty of nonfeasance of assigned duties and to have been removed from office. Vacancies created pursuant to this section shall be filled as prescribed in the Charter and the Bylaws. Persons who have been removed from office pursuant to this section shall be ineligible for election or appointment to any office in the Young Democrats of America. The absence of a Board Member at a meeting may be excused by the National Committee before the Board Member is removed from office and any absence so excused shall not constitute a failure to attend a meeting.

SECTION 650 Impeachment; Cause. Officers and Board Members are subject to impeachment and removal from office for misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance of assigned duties or for violation of the Charter, the Bylaws, or any rule of the Young Democrats of America, the Democratic Party, or for the commission of high crimes and misdemeanors.

CHARTER

ARTICLE VII

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Section 720 Non-Voting Officers Named. 720 Non-Voting Officers Named. There shall be appointed by the President and confirmed by the National Committee a parliamentarian and up to eighteen (18) non-voting administrative officers which shall include a deputy treasurer (nominated by the Treasurer and confirmed by the National Committee), an issue advocacy director, communications director, deputy communications director, finance director, community service director, technology director, deputy technology director, and diversity and outreach director. Appointments for these positions must be supported by one National Committee member from the unit in which the appointee resides. Appointees from an un-chartered area shall provide a letter of support from a party official from that unit and a member of the National Committee. These officers shall serve as ex-officio non-voting members of the National Committee.

SECTION 735 Terms. Administrative Officers shall serve at the pleasure of the President except that removal of the parliamentarian shall require the approval of the Officers.

SECTION 740 Duties. The Administrative Officers shall perform such duties as required by the Charter, the Bylaws, and the National Committee.

SECTION 805 Judicial Council.

Section 805(a) Authority. The Judicial Council shall hear impeachment proceedings against Officers and Board Members and shall investigate, arbitrate, resolve, and report on serious disputes which do not fall within the jurisdiction of the Rules and Charter, Credentials, or Resolutions Committees prior to their final resolution by the National Committee. The Judicial Council may also hear cases involving disputes regarding the election or impeachment of members who are members of the National Committee by virtue of their office, but only after all means of adjudication provided for in the charter of such member's chartered unit have been exhausted. Questions of fact that have been adjudicated by the chartered unit shall be sustained if supported by substantial evidence, unless the chartered unit failed to include a complete record of all evidence submitted in the proceeding before the chartered unit, in which case no deference shall be given to any question of fact adjudicated by the chartered unit. All such records shall be accompanied by notarized verifications from the chartered unit's President, Secretary, or other relevant officer with responsibility for the production or maintenance of the record being submitted, that the

record is a complete and accurate copy of the evidentiary materials and adjudicative decisions made by the chartered unit in said matter.

Section 805(b) Grounds for Appeals of Unsuccessful Impeachments of National Committee Members. Appeals from impeachment convictions of persons who hold a seat as a member of the National Committee by virtue of an election by a chartered unit shall be limited to violations of the Charter and the Bylaws of the Young Democrats of America or a breach of fiduciary duty to the Young Democrats of America, and shall not extend to any other grounds. No appeal may be made from an impeachment acquittal of a member of the National Committee for any other reason and no original impeachment actions shall be brought for any reason whatsoever. Questions of fact that have been adjudicated by the chartered unit shall be sustained if supported by substantial evidence, unless the chartered unit failed to include a complete record of all evidence submitted in the proceeding before the chartered unit, in which case no deference shall be given to any question of fact adjudicated by the chartered unit. All such records shall be accompanied by notarized verifications from the chartered unit's President, Secretary, or other relevant officer with responsibility for the production or maintenance of the record being submitted, that the record is a complete and accurate copy of the evidentiary materials and adjudicative decisions made by the chartered unit in said matter.

Section 805(c) Appeals from National Committee Member Impeachment Convictions. In the case of appeals from impeachments from chartered units, all interpretations of the Charter, Bylaws, and any rule of the Young Democrats of America shall be reviewed de novo, while interpretations of the Constitution, Bylaws, Charter, and rules of a chartered unit shall be reviewed for clear error. Questions of fact that have been adjudicated by the chartered unit shall be sustained if supported by substantial evidence, unless the chartered unit failed to include a complete record of all evidence submitted in the proceeding before the chartered unit, in which case no deference shall be given to any question of fact adjudicated by the chartered unit. All such records shall be accompanied by notarized verifications from the chartered unit's President, Secretary, or other relevant officer with responsibility for the production or maintenance of the record being submitted, that the record is a complete and accurate copy of the evidentiary materials and adjudicative decisions made by the chartered unit in said matter.

Section 805(d) National Committee Election Contest Appeals. In any matter arising from actions challenging, or appeals from the election of a member of the National Committee by a chartered unit, the Judicial Council shall not reverse any decision of a chartered unit by the properly constituted process of said chartered unit except in cases of a violation of the Charter and the Bylaws, or any rule of the Young Democrats of America, or in cases of a clear error by the chartered unit supported by clear and convincing evidence, provided the chartered unit submits the record in support of its decisions including the complete evidentiary basis and reasons for each decision being contested. Questions concerning the interpretation or application of the Charter, Bylaws, or any rule of the Young Democrats of America shall be determined de novo. If the chartered unit failed to adjudicate a question of fact that would be dispositive in a given case, the Judicial Council shall review it and the decisions of the chartered unit de novo. All chartered unit's records shall be accompanied by notarized verifications from the chartered unit's President, Secretary, or other relevant officer with responsibility for the production or maintenance of the record being submitted, that the record is a complete and accurate copy of the evidentiary materials and adjudicative decisions made by the chartered unit in said matter. Review of all other matters whose standard of review is not set forth in this subsection shall be de novo.

SECTION 810 Composition. The Judicial Council shall be composed of one (1) representative elected by each Regional Caucus and three (3) at-large members appointed by the President.

SECTION 820 Disqualification. No person who is a party in a dispute raised before the Judicial Council shall sit in judgment or cast a vote on the Judicial Council's consideration of that dispute, regardless of such person's membership on the Judicial Council or possession of a proxy vote of a Judicial Council member. A temporary replacement for such member may be chosen by a vote of the National Committee members who are members of chartered units within that affected Region, by the affected Regional Caucus's Regional Director, or by the President.

CHARTER
ARTICLE IX
REGIONAL CAUCUSES

SECTION 905 Regional Caucuses. There shall be eight (8) Regional Caucuses of the Young Democrats of America.

Section 905(a) Composition. Each Regional Caucus shall be composed of all chartered units within the region as provided for in the Bylaws.

Section 905(b) Officers. Each Regional Caucus shall elect a Regional Director as provided for in the Bylaws.

SECTION 910 Regional Directors. Each Regional Director shall serve as ex-officio voting member of the National Committee.

CHARTER
ARTICLE X
CONSTITUENCY CAUCUSES & AUXILIARY BODIES

SECTION 1000 Constituency Caucuses. There shall be three (3) types of constituency caucuses in the Young Democrats of America.

SECTION 1005 Voting Constituency Caucuses. Voting Constituency Caucuses shall exist as organizations within the Young Democrats of America pursuant to Article X, Section 1005 of the Bylaws. The chairs of each of such caucuses shall serve as ex-officio, voting members of the National Committee.

SECTION 1010 Provisional Constituency Caucuses. Provisional Constituency Caucuses may be established at the discretion of the National Committee pursuant to Article X, Section 1010 of the Bylaws. The chairs of each of such caucuses shall serve as ex-officio, non-voting members of the National Committee.

SECTION 1015 Constituency Caucus Working Groups. Constituency Caucus Working Groups may be established at the discretion of the National Committee pursuant to Article X, Section 1015 of the Bylaws.

SECTION 1020 Provisions. Each Constituency Caucus shall establish internal bylaws and rules necessary for its operation, not in conflict with the Charter or the Bylaws, and subject to the approval of the National Committee. Such bylaws and rules must contain provisions specifying the definition of membership, the definition of voting privileges, procedures for election of officers, duties of officers, and procedures for removal of officers. A copy of the bylaws, rules, and any subsequent amendments to the bylaws or rules must be submitted to the National Office within thirty (30) days of approval and must be available to any member of the National Committee upon request.

SECTION 1030. Caucus Re-Chartering. At each meeting subsequent to the National Convention, each Constituency Caucus will submit an application to be certified as an active Caucus. Each Caucus will submit a plan to guide its

activities over the course of the biennium. Said plan may include a budget, fundraising goals, proposed training programs, and other action items. At the meeting of the election of the DNC Committee Members, each Caucus may make amendments to their previously submitted plan. The initial submitted plan shall be reviewed and initially approved by the Convention Standing Committee on Rules and Charter. Any amendments made in the interim must be approved by the Standing Committee on Rules and Charter. Each Caucus recommendation from the Convention Standing Committee on Rules and Charter must be approved by discrete vote of the National Convention. Multiple Caucuses may not be approved in a single vote.

SECTION 1040. Auxiliary Bodies: Established. The Young Democrats of America shall recognize such auxiliary bodies as necessary to represent the function of those officers to the national organization and its bodies.

Section 1040(a). Auxiliary Bodies: Named. The State Presidents' Association (SPA) and The Council of Region Directors (CORD) are recognized as official auxiliary bodies of the Young Democrats of America.

Section 1040(b). Auxiliary Bodies. The auxiliary bodies shall establish policies and governing procedures, not inconsistent with the Young Democrats of America governing documents, to carry out such responsibilities as may be necessary to accomplish the goals therein set by the bodies.

CHARTER

ARTICLE XI

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SECTION 1100 Meetings and Voting.

Section 1100(a). Meeting by Videoconference, Teleconference, or Online Conference. Official meetings of the Board of Directors, Standing Committees, Select Committees, and Judicial Council may be held by videoconference, teleconference, or online conference, provided that the following provisions apply:

- (i) Members shall be allowed full participation in un-muted and un-censored real-time discussion, and all members must be able to hear or see the communication from all other members.
- (ii) Attendance by members participating can be accurately recorded.
- (iii) Roll call votes shall be taken on any vote upon the request of one member.
- (iv) No Officer or National Committee member may interfere with the procedures regarding notification or execution of a videoconference, teleconference or online conference without providing to the convening officer conclusive evidence that said meeting would cause direct financial or legal harm to the Young Democrats of America.

Section 1100(b). Vote By Mail or Internet. One fifth (1/5) of the National Committee shall be able to refer matters normally handled at meetings of the National Committee to the members of the National Committee through the mail, or by means of electronic voting, provided that the following provisions apply:

- (i) Members shall have at least eleven (11) days to return their ballot, and within five (5) days after the close of balloting, the list of members voting and their votes cast shall be distributed to the National Committee.
- (ii) Any vote pursuant to this subsection shall be void unless ballots are returned by a majority of the members of the National Committee.

(iii) Voting must be made available through postal mail or fax to any member upon request to the Secretary.

(iv) Voting must be done in a manner to ensure that all votes cast bear the signature or electronic signature of the member who cast the vote.

(v) Should twenty-five percent (25%) of the members of the National Committee vote to postpone the matter under consideration until the next in-person meeting of the National Committee, the matter shall be considered tabled until that time. The option to postpone shall be listed on any matter referred in this matter as an option to vote.

(vi) The election of Officers shall not be held pursuant to this subsection.

Section 1100(c), Regional Caucuses and Constituency Caucuses. Regional Caucuses and Constituency Caucuses may conduct meetings and vote pursuant to this section unless otherwise prohibited, provided that in no instance shall any officer be elected by these means except by confirmation of an appointment.

SECTION 1105 Quorum.

Section 1105(a) National Committee. A quorum of the National Committee shall consist of twenty-five (25) members representing not less than twenty-five percent (25%) of chartered units.

Section 1105(b) Standing Committees of the National Committee. A quorum of a Standing Committee shall consist of representatives from twenty-five percent (25%) of chartered units.

Section 1105(c) Board of Directors, National Committee; Judicial Council; Select Committees. A quorum of the Board of Directors, National Committee, Judicial Council, and Select Committees shall consist of forty percent (40%) of the voting membership. At any meeting of the Board of Directors, a majority of the members in attendance must be Officers as opposed to Stakeholder Members.

SECTION 1110 Proxies Authorized. Proxy voting shall be permitted as specified in the Charter and the Bylaws at in-person meetings of the National Committee, Board of Directors, Judicial Council, Standing Committees, and Select Committees. Proxies shall be carried only by regular members, and shall be general, uninstructed, and transferable unless otherwise specified. Under no circumstances may any Young Democrat carry more than two (2) proxies. Proxies for Officers of the Young Democrats of America in the Board of Directors must be held by a member of the National Committee. Proxies by email or fax shall be accepted. Should a faxed or emailed proxy be challenged, it shall be considered as a provisional vote until such time that the Chair of the Credentials Committee may review the original document. Such review shall take place within 30 days of the casting of the vote or the proxy shall be considered out of order and the vote improperly cast.

SECTION 1115 Requirements; Restrictions. No law or rule of any chartered unit may conflict with this Charter and any provision which does so conflict shall be null and void. Every chartered unit shall be required to hold a general convention not less than biennially. The National Committee shall have authority to revoke the Charter of any unit for violation of any law or rule of the Democratic Party at any level. Restrictions on voting commonly referred to as "unit rule" are prohibited. Chartered units shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, religion, national origin, economic status, gender or sexual orientation.

SECTION 1120 Open Meeting Policy. All meetings of the Young Democrats of America shall be open to the public excluding those portions of meetings of the National Committee and the Judicial Council concerning proposals to take disciplinary action provided that a majority of those present and voting vote to close to non-members of the same body, and votes shall not be taken by secret ballot. Meetings shall be publicized on the public website of the

Young Democrats of America no later than the notification date required for membership and minutes shall be taken and made accessible.

SECTION 1125 Definitions.

Section 1125(a) National Committee. National Committee means the National Committee of the Young Democrats of America.

Section 1125(b) Board of Directors. Board of Directors means the Board of the Directors of the Young Democrats of America, including the Officers and Stakeholder Members of the Young Democrats of America.

Section 1125(c) Charter and Bylaws. The Charter and the Bylaws means the current version of the Charter and the Bylaws of the Young Democrats of America.

Section 1125(d) Biennium. Biennium means the period between the conclusion of a National Convention and the conclusion of the subsequent National Convention.

SECTION 1130 Parliamentary Authority. The Rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Young Democrats of America in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Charter and the Bylaws and any other rules of order the Young Democrats of America may adopt.

SECTION 1140 Rules. Each official body of the Young Democrats of America created under the authority of this Charter shall adopt and conduct its affairs in accordance with written rules, which rules shall be consistent with the Charter and the Bylaws and other provisions adopted pursuant to authority of the Charter, including resolutions or other actions of the National Convention or National Committee. The National Committee shall maintain copies of all such rules and shall make them available upon request.

SECTION 1145. Elections to be held at the National Convention. All Constituency Caucuses, Provisional Caucuses, Working Groups, and other Young Democrats of America sub-groups (excluding chartered units and Regional Caucuses and the filling of vacancies) whose elections are not otherwise provided for in the Charter and the Bylaws shall elect their officers at the National Convention.

SECTION 1150 Procedural Guarantees. The Young Democrats of America shall implement the following guarantees to members:

Section 1150(a) Open Meetings. All public meetings and official functions at all levels of the Young Democrats of America shall be open to all members of the Young Democrats of America regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (except as provided in Section 205(a)), color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, economic status, physical disability, or philosophical persuasion.

Section 1150(b) Membership Test. No test for membership in, nor any oath of loyalty to, the Young Democrats of America shall be required or used which has the effect of requiring prospective or current members of the Young Democrats of America to acquiesce in, condone or support discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (except as provided in Section 205(a)), color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, economic status or physical disability.

Section 1150(c) Non-Discrimination. The Young Democrats of America shall adopt a policy providing an environment that is free from all forms of discrimination and conduct that can be considered harassing, coercive, or

disruptive, including sexual harassment. This policy shall include, but not be limited to, stating that actions, words, jokes, or comments based on an individual's sex, race, color, national origin, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or any other legally protected characteristic will not be tolerated, and shall provide a process for complaints and resolution.

Section 1150(d) Registration. The Young Democrats of America, on all levels, shall support the broadest possible registration without discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (except as provided in Section 205(a)), color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, economic status, or physical disability.

Section 1150(e) Selection of Officers. The Young Democrats of America shall publicize fully and in such manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the practical procedures for selection of Young Democrats of America Officers and Representatives on all levels. Publication of these procedures shall be done in such fashion that all prospective and current members of the Young Democrats of America will be fully and adequately informed of the pertinent procedures in time to participate in each selection procedure at all levels of the Young Democrats of America.

Section 1150(f) Qualifications for Officers. The Young Democrats of America shall publicize fully and in such manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a complete description of the practical qualifications of all Officers and Representatives of the Young Democrats of America. Such publication shall be done in a timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected or appointed position within the Young Democrats of America will have full and adequate opportunity to compete for office. It is the intention of the Young Democrats of America to ensure a full opportunity for all minority group members to participate in these electoral processes.

SECTION 1180 Notary Requirements. Attached to all documents where the veracity must be affirmed by a notary public or other officer authorized by law, should the jurisdiction not require a stamp or seal, a copy of the local ordinance or code stating the same must also be attached. In any instance where a document is required to be notarized at the time of or before its submission, under this Charter, the Bylaws, or any other rule or regulation of the Young Democrats of America, the Secretary, General Counsel, the Chair of the Judicial Council in the absence of a/the General Counsel, or their designees may certify it in lieu of notarization provided that the person whose signature is being validated appears in person before them at the meeting in question where the document is to be submitted and personally signs or delivers the document to them. The Convention Chair and Convention Secretary shall also be allowed to make these certifications but only for documents submitted at a National Convention. In no case shall proxies be certified pursuant to this section.

CHARTER

ARTICLE XII

AMENDMENT AND BYLAWS

SECTION 1205 Amendment. This Charter may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the registered Delegates to the National Convention or by a four-fifths (4/5) vote of the National Committee.

SECTION 1210 Bylaws. Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the National Committee or the National Convention. Bylaws may not conflict with the Charter.

SECTION 1215 Submission and Publication of Amendments. Proposals to amend the Charter or the Bylaws at a National Convention shall be submitted via email to the officers of the Convention Standing Committee on Rules

and Charter no later than fourteen (14) days before the opening general session of the Convention. Proposals to amend the Charter or the Bylaws at a meeting of the National Committee shall be submitted via email to the officers of the National Committee Standing Committee on Rules and Charter no later than fourteen (14) days before the National Committee meeting. All proposed amendments shall be posted on the Young Democrats of America website not later than ten (10) days prior to the opening general session of the National Convention or National Committee meeting at which the amendments are to be considered.

CERTIFICATION OF CHARTER

The undersigned hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Charter of the Young Democrats of America as amended, including amendments certified by the Secretary, as adopted by the National Convention, on August 12, 2017, in Dallas, Texas

Louis Elrod, President
Young Democrats of America

Andrew Goldson, Chair
Convention Committee on Rules and Charter

THE BYLAWS OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA

Adopted pursuant to the Charter of the Young Democrats of America on August 12, 2017, by the National Convention of the Young Democrats of America in Dallas, Texas.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

CHARTERED UNITS

SECTION 115 Time Period for Filing Unit Charter Applications.

Section 115(a). All component documents of unit charter applications shall be filed not earlier than sixty (60) days nor later than thirty (30) days preceding the day on which the first General Session of the National Convention is scheduled to be convened.

Section 115 (b). The Young Democrats of America shall provide notice to all members of the National Committee of the charter application requirements not fewer than sixty (60) days prior to the day on with the first General Session of the National Convention is scheduled to be convened.

Section 115(c). The Young Democrats of America will make available in digital file documents formatted to collect the chartering information required in Section 110 of the Charter. Electronic means of submission of all allowable documents will also be provided to the units eligible for chartering. These means may include but are not limited to a dedicated email address, an internally hosted web-based form, an externally hosted web-based form or other comparable system in common practice that allows for the needs of the process. All materials required by Section 110 may be submitted electronically using the prescribed method, including digital scans of documents requiring signatures.

SECTION 120 Office of Receipt for Unit Charter Applications.

Section 120(a). Applications shall be filed with the National Office of the Young Democrats of America (National Office) or at a mailing address specified by the President or via the specified electronic submission process (email, web form, etc.). Each unit shall bear sole and complete responsibility for ensuring that all component documents of its charter application are filed in a timely manner.

Section 120(b). All charter applications shall be opened and examined by the Chair of the Convention Standing Committee on Credentials at the National Office or at an address specified by the President, at 12:00 noon on the first Saturday immediately following the deadline for receipt of charter applications. Any member of any unit shall be allowed to attend, observe, and make records of the opening and examination of the charter applications, but no observer may interfere or raise challenges at such time.

Section 120(c). Units shall be notified of the status of their application by email and certified mail to the unit President and by email to the unit's two (2) National Committee Representatives at the addresses shown on the

charter application no later than forty-eight (48) hours after the initial opening of packets. The notification shall include preliminary votes to be allocated to the unit, specifics of any defects, penalties to be assessed, and the procedure to follow to correct defects.

Section 120(d). Amendments or late applications shall be sent to a mailing address specified by the President or to the National Office to be forwarded to the Chair of the Convention Standing Committee on Credentials. The arrival date at the mailing address shall govern assessment of penalties. All late materials and amendments are to be opened and examined within five (5) days of receipt by the National Office, and notification sent to the unit within seven (7) days of receipt by the National Office.

SECTION 125 Penalties for Late or Defective Unit Charter Application. Units which file charter applications past the deadline established in the Charter and the Bylaws or that do not comply with the requirements of the Charter and the Bylaws shall be penalized a cumulative percentage of their eligible votes as set out below. After the initial notification in Section 120(c), units will have a grace period of five (5) business days to amend their charters to correct errors specified by the Convention Standing Committee on Credentials without penalty. Units can make one (1) set of correction to charters under this provision. Additional amendments to an application may be submitted at any time and such amended applications shall be treated as late applications with penalties calculated based on the date the amendments are received at the National Office or other mailing address in relation to the original due date for applications. If penalties total one hundred percent (100%) or more, the unit charter application shall be rejected and the fee returned. In no case shall an amendment act to increase to number of pre-penalty eligible votes a unit may cast as calculated under Section 360 of the Charter. Any omission or fault related to required documents in Section 110 of the Charter, shall be assessed a penalty equal to 100% unless a different penalty is provided for. Penalties shall be rounded to the nearest whole vote, except the minimum total penalty shall be one (1) vote, and the minimum numbers of votes remaining after penalties shall be five (5) votes.

Section 125(a). Incomplete or inaccurate officer lists or governing documents. Changes in officers or governing documents due to elections or amendments subsequent to submission of application shall not result in any penalty.

- (i) Officer list defective: twenty percent (20%) penalty
- (ii) Governing documents defective: twenty percent (20%) penalty

Section 125(b) Membership lists improper. Individual names with defects shall not be counted toward determining the number of members in the unit. Omitting required information on all members shall result in the following penalties:

- (i) Missing ZIP codes: ten percent (10%) penalty
- (ii) Incomplete birth dates (other than month, day, and year): twenty percent (20%) penalty
- (iii) Missing birth dates: forty percent (40%) penalty
- (iv) Missing email addresses (where required): one hundred percent (100%) penalty

Section 125(c). Applications received at the National Office after the submission deadline or amended after that date. Penalty shall be computed as follows:

- (i) After deadline but before opening: five percent (5%) penalty
- (ii) After opening: three percent (3%) per day after opening until application is received

SECTION 135 Interim Charter Application. All applications for interim unit charter issuance shall conform to the requirements of Section 110 except that units applying for interim charter may have held their convention subsequent to the most recent National Convention, and they are not required to submit materials for Participation Votes or the rules governing the selection of their Delegates and Alternates to the convention.

SECTION 140 Fees for Interim Charter Applications. The fee for issuance of an interim unit charter shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00)

BYLAWS

ARTICLE II

REMOVED BY ACTION OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA

BYLAWS

ARTICLE III

NATIONAL CONVENTION

SECTION 300 Site Selection Committee. The Select Committee on Site Selection (Site Selection Committee) shall have the purpose of reviewing bids from cities to host the next National Convention and submitting their report to the National Committee. The Committee shall consist of the Director, Deputy Director, and Secretary of the Select Committee on Site Selection, the Chair of the SPA, and one member appointed by each Regional Director. The Site Selection Committee shall seek the advice and counsel of experts in event planning and disability access.

SECTION 305 Site Selection.

Section 305(a) Bidding Application and Deadline. Prior to the first day of October following a National Convention, the National Office shall prepare a list of information which prospective bidders must submit with their bids to host the next National Convention. The Site Selection Committee may subsequently require further information but the initial requirements must be available and sent to the National Committee by December 1. In order to be considered by the Site Selection Committee, bids from interested localities must be received by the National Office by February 1 of even-numbered years.

Section 305(b) Bid Review and Site Visitation. The Site Selection Committee shall adopt procedures for review of each submitted bid, and for selection of sites for visitation to the potential host cities.

Section 305(c) Committee Report. The Site Selection Committee shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations, including a ranking of bids from most desirable to least desirable, to the President no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the National Committee meeting at which the site will be selected. A copy of the report shall be provided to every member of the National Committee not less than ten (10) days prior to the National Committee meeting at which the site will be selected.

Section 305(d): Failure to bid. Should no bids be properly submitted or deemed acceptable by the Site Selection Committee in their report as required by Section 305(c) it shall be the responsibility of the Site Selection Committee to approve a bid by August 15 of even-numbered years. The committee may re-solicit bids, create an independent convention bid, direct the President to begin National Convention planning, or take any other action that is necessary to approve a bid by August 15 of even-numbered years. Upon failure to approve a bid by August 15 in even-numbered years, authority over and responsibility for the Convention site-selection and creation process rests with the Young Democrats of America President.

Section 305(d) Consideration by National Committee. When the report of the Site Selection Committee is presented to the National Committee, consideration of the three (3) bids ranked most desirable by the report shall automatically become the question before the National Committee. Prior to any presentations or debate thereon the President shall ask for a motion to consider additional sites. Such a motion may only be made at that time and may only move consideration of a site which submitted a written proposal to the National Office by the February 1 deadline for submitting bids. Such a motion shall require a majority vote for passage. A fifteen (15) minute

presentation may then be given by each site under consideration. Following the presentations, debate will proceed in regular order. At the close of debate, the question shall be put to all bids under consideration with each National Committee member voting for only one bid. If no bid receives a majority, a second vote shall be taken without debate on the two bids which received together the greatest number of votes. On this second vote, the site receiving the majority shall be designated the National Convention site and the site receiving the minority shall be the alternate site. If any of the bids receive a majority on the first ballot, said site shall be designated the National Convention site and balloting shall proceed in the same fashion to determine an alternate site.

SECTION 307 Convention Management Committee. There shall be a Convention Management Committee consisting of three (3) members appointed by the President, one of whom shall serve as Chair, and three (3) members appointed by the Chair of the Host Committee, one of whom shall serve as Vice Chair. The Convention Management Committee shall be responsible for the management and implementation of the National Convention, including scheduling, logistics, and other matters. The Host Committee shall hire and supervise staff and vendors as needed, subject to the review, supervision, and approval of the Board of Directors. The Host Committee shall exist as a legal entity solely for the purpose of putting on the National Convention, separate from both the Young Democrats of America and the Host unit of the National Convention. The Host Committee shall also submit a proposed budget to the Select Committee on Budget for approval and a fundraising plan to the Finance Director and the Board of Directors. The Host Committee shall work with the Finance Director to implement the fundraising plan.

SECTION 310 Committee on Convention Procedures. There shall be a Convention Procedures Committee composed of the President, the Executive Vice President, the Chair of the Convention Host Committee, the Convention Secretary, the Chair or Chairs of each Convention Standing Committee, Convention Parliamentarian, and the Chair of the Judicial Council. Any of these persons may designate a representative to take their place on said committee. If any of these persons are running for National Office during the Convention, they must designate a representative to take their place on said committee. The President shall call the initial meeting of the Convention Procedures Committee not less than sixty (60) days prior to each National Convention. At the initial meeting, a Chair shall be elected by the Convention Procedures Committee who shall be empowered to select times, dates, and places for such further meetings as may be appropriate. Within fourteen (14) days of the meeting, minutes and copies of the Rules of the National Convention as adopted by the National Committee shall be transmitted to each member of the National Committee. Said Committee shall be responsible for ensuring that the Rules of the National Convention are observed and complied with. It shall be the responsibility of said Committee to ensure the efficient scheduling of National Convention meetings and activities and to provide adequate administrative, legal, and clerical facilities for the delegations and committees.

SECTION 315 Election of Officers. Officers shall be elected in the same order in which the offices are listed in the Charter and the Bylaws.

Section 315(a) Declaration of Candidacy. At or before 12:00 noon of the day on which the second general session of the National Convention is convened, persons seeking election to National Office shall file with the Convention Secretary a Declaration of Candidacy for a specific office. Persons who have not timely filed declarations of candidacy shall be ineligible for election to national office.

Section 315(b) Disclosure of Campaign Finances. At or before 12:00 noon of the day on which the second general session of the National Convention is convened, candidates shall file with the Convention Secretary a statement of all expenditures made, and sources of all funds utilized relating to their campaign for national office. Such statements shall be attested to by the signature of the candidate and sworn before a notary public or other officer authorized by law to so attest in the jurisdiction where executed. Persons who have failed to timely file disclosures of campaign finances, or who make a materially false statement in connection thereto, shall be ineligible for election to national office. Within one (1) hour of their having been filed, the Convention Secretary shall forward to the General Counsel or Chair of the Judicial Council in the absence of the/a General Counsel or their designee, copies of the documents submitted pursuant to this Section, who shall review them for compliance with this Section. The

General Counsel or the Chair of the Judicial Council in the absence of a/the General Counsel shall be authorized to call a special session of the Judicial Council, at any time prior to the General Session at which elections will be conducted, which shall be authorized to adjudicate alleged violations of this Section. The Judicial Council shall be further authorized to compel candidates, alleged in violation of this Section, to appear before it, subject to its summary Judgment of Ineligibility for Election. Persons accused subject to this Section, shall have the right to be accompanied by counsel, to present and cross examine witnesses, and to present evidence in their own defense.

Section 315(c) Disclosure of Campaign Finances for Democratic National Committee Members. At or before 12:00 noon of the day before the General Session at which the Democratic National Committeewoman and Committeeman are elected is convened, candidates shall file with the Secretary a statement of all expenditures made, and sources of all funds utilized relating to their campaign for national office. Such statements shall be attested to by the signature of the candidate and sworn before a notary public or another officer authorized by law to so attest in the jurisdiction where executed. Persons who have failed to timely file disclosures of campaign finances, or who make a materially false statement in connection thereto, shall be ineligible for election. Within one (1) hour of their having been filed, the Secretary shall forward to the General Counsel or the Chair of the Judicial Council in the absence of a/the General Counsel or his designee, copies of the documents submitted pursuant to this Section, who shall review them for compliance with this Section. The General Counsel or the Chair of the Judicial Council in the absence of a/the General Counsel shall be authorized to call a special session of the Judicial Council, at any time prior to the General Session at which elections will be conducted, which shall be authorized to adjudicate alleged violations of this Section. The Judicial Council shall be further authorized to compel candidates, alleged in violation of this Section, to appear before it, subject to its summary Judgment of Ineligibility for Election. Persons accused subject to this Section, shall have the right to be accompanied by counsel, to present and cross examine witnesses, and to present evidence in their own defense.

SECTION 350 Convention Standing Committees.

Section 350(a) Rules and Charter. The Convention Standing Committee on Rules and Charter shall recommend rules to govern the conduct of the National Convention and shall review and propose amendments to the Charter. No rule, special rule, standing rule, rule amendment or amendment to the Charter or the Bylaws shall be considered by the National Convention until and unless it has been reported favorably out of this committee. No later than ninety (90) days prior to the National Convention, the National Committee shall adopt temporary Convention Rules which shall govern the National Convention until the National Convention has adopted its own rules.

Section 350(b) Credentials. The Convention Standing Committee on Credentials shall review and recommend action on unit charter applications, new and renewal, to the National Convention. No other committee shall conduct business until the Credentials Committee has given its Convention Report to said other committees. The preliminary report of Credentials shall be determinative of voting rights until the report of the Credentials Committee is adopted by the National Convention.

Section 350(c) Platform. The Convention Standing Committee on Platform shall recommend to the National Convention a biennial Platform for the Young Democrats of America and shall consider any resolutions submitted.

SECTION 360 Credentials Report.

Section 360(a). The Chair of the Convention Standing Committee on Credentials shall prepare and distribute to the National Committee a complete preliminary credentials report not less than twenty (20) days prior to the day on which the first General Session of the National Convention is scheduled to convene. The report shall show all units that have submitted or attempted to submit charter applications, whether the application is accepted or denied, the date of original filing, the date of each subsequent amendment, the status of each required item under the Charter and the Bylaws, and the number of votes allocated under the Charter and the Bylaws, including penalties and delegate ratios.

Section 360(b). The Chair of the Convention Standing Committee on Credentials shall make available all original documents submitted by units in the charter applications for inspection by the Convention Standing Committee on

Credentials at the National Convention, except the Chair of said Committee shall provide a copy of the check. These documents must be present at the location in which the National Convention is being conducted.

Section 360(c). The Chair of the Convention Standing Committee on Credentials shall prepare a Credentials Committee Report upon completion of the business of the Convention Standing Committee on Credentials for submission to the National Convention, reflecting all actions of the Convention Standing Committee on Credentials. This report shall be in the same form as the preliminary credentials report and shall govern voting until further action is taken by the National Convention. This report shall be available to all registered Delegates and distributed to the chair of each Convention Standing Committee, all convention officers, and the delegation chair of each chartered unit. A Final Credentials Report in the same format shall be submitted to the first National Committee meeting following the National Convention reflecting the final actions by the National Convention.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE IV

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

SECTION 405 Selection of Chartered Unit Representation. Each chartered unit shall provide for the selection and, where vacancies occur, the replacement of its representatives on the National Committee. Each chartered unit shall provide certification to the Secretary of their representatives, and such certification shall be made by the presiding officer of the chartered unit they represent provided, however, that such certification may be waived by the National Committee by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

SECTION 410 Credentials Certification. Prior to the opening session of each National Committee Meeting, the Chair of the Standing Committee on Credentials shall present its preliminary report to the President. Pending adoption of the final report by the National Committee, the preliminary report shall be determinative of member voting rights. Amendments to the final report which enfranchise or disenfranchise National Committee members shall be effective immediately upon approval, pending adoption of the final report.

SECTION 415 Agenda. Not less than thirty (30) days prior to any meeting of the National Committee, the President shall prepare, and the Secretary shall distribute to all National Committee members, a written agenda for said meeting. The first order of business at every National Committee meeting shall be the report of the Standing Committee on Credentials. Thereafter, business shall proceed in regular order as designated by the agenda.

SECTION 420 Minutes.

Section 420(a) Preparation; Responsibility. The Secretary shall ensure that accurate minutes are taken, prepared, and maintained of each and every meeting, session, or workshop of the National Convention, or the National Committee. The Secretary shall ensure that summary reports of all such meetings are included in all Young Democrats of America publications and such other national publications as may be appropriate.

Section 420(b) Delivery; Mailing. A copy of the minutes of each meeting of the National Committee shall be delivered or mailed to each member thereof not more than thirty (30) days subsequent thereto. A copy of the minutes of each public meeting shall be made electronically available within thirty (30) days subsequent thereto.

SECTION 425 Notices. It shall be the responsibility of each member of the National Committee to ensure that their contact information and preferred method of notification is on file with the Secretary. In the absence of a request for

notification through United States mail or fax, email notification shall be sufficient for all requirements for notice or mailing required by the Charter or the Bylaws.

SECTION 430 Use of Membership Lists. The national records of membership in the chartered units shall not be public record. The Board of Directors shall adopt a policy regarding management of the national records and membership lists that:

- (i) identifies acceptable uses of membership lists as only those uses pertaining to YDA business,
- (ii) prohibits the improper use of membership lists for non-YDA business,
- (iii) ensures steps are taken to secure membership lists,
- (iv) details criteria and a process for securing consent to share lists with candidates, issues, and organizations both internal and external to YDA,
- (v) details criteria and a process for YDA-affiliated individuals to request a copy of membership list, and
- (vi) outlines recourse for improper use of YDA membership lists.

SECTION 435 Select Committees.

Section 435(a) Select Committee on Budget. The Select Committee on Budget (Budget Committee) shall meet at the call of its Chair and shall be responsible for review, modification, and submission of the Presidential National Budget to the National Committee for approval. The Budget Committee will regularly report on the status of income and expenditures compared to the budget and shall approve any expenditure in excess of the approved budget. The Budget Committee shall also be responsible for the review, modification, and submission of the Convention Management Committee Convention Budget to the National Committee for approval. The Budget Committee is empowered to recommend to the National Committee the investment on assets, the purchase or sale of real estate, and all other fiduciary arrangements, and shall serve as the Committee on Audit. The Treasurer shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of this committee. The Chair of the Budget Committee shall also serve as the Administrative Director.

Section 435(c) Select Committee on Campaign. The Select Committee on Campaign (Campaign Committee) shall meet at the call of its Chair and shall be responsible for the development, implementation, and submission to the National Committee for approval of a national campaign plan and shall assist in the development and implementation of individual campaign plans for each chartered unit. The Committee shall also be responsible for submitting a draft of the Budget and Finance plans for Young Democrats of America's federal Political Action Committee (PAC) funds to the Budget Committee for consideration and approval. The Campaign Committee shall also be responsible for preparing proposed criteria for the awarding of all PAC funds which will then be submitted to the National Committee for approval. Upon approval of criteria, the Campaign Committee is responsible for dispersal of funds. The Chair of the Campaign Committee shall also serve as the Campaign Director.

Section 435(d) Select Committee on Chapter Building. The Select Committee on Chapter Building (Chapter Building Committee) shall meet upon the call of its Chair and shall be responsible for the review and approval of plans and programs for chapter building submitted by chartered units and local chapters. The Chapter Building Committee shall set the overall guidelines for programs that the national organization will partner with both chartered unit and local chapters and recommend chapters that meet the criteria to the national staff for implementation and completion of the programs. The Chair of the Chapter Building Committee shall also serve as the Membership Director.

Section 435(e) Select Committee on International Affairs. The Select Committee on International Affairs shall meet upon the call of its Chair and shall be responsible for initiating and coordinating contact between the YDA and youth political organizations outside the United States. The committee shall organize joint programs and activities, shall recommend to the National Committee international organizations for formal affiliation, and shall educate

members of YDA about international issues and the political process in other countries. The committee shall also work on getting ballots to and from those living abroad.

Section 435 (j) Select Committee Officers. Vice Chairs and Secretaries of Select Committees shall also serve as Deputy Directors for the area assigned to the Chair of the Select Committee.

Section 435 (k) Regional Appointments to Select Committees. Select committee members appointed as representatives from their regions shall also serve as the Regional Coordinator for the activities assigned to that particular committee and shall coordinate their efforts with the Regional National Committee members and officers. Regional appointees shall be as follows: the Regional Secretary shall serve as regional appointee to the Communications Committee; the Regional Treasurer shall serve as regional appointee to the Budget Committee. The Regional Director may appoint an alternate representative as necessary in the absence of the designated representative.

SECTION 440 Standing Committees.

Section 440(a) Standing Committee on Credentials. The Standing Committee on Credentials shall review the credentials of all members of the National Committee at each meeting thereof. Said committee may establish administrative guidelines to promote a more efficient accreditation of National Committee members and units. All matters pertaining to the issuance or revocation of unit Charters shall be considered by this Committee prior to their consideration by the National Committee. Reports of the Standing Committee on Credentials shall be kept on file with the Credentials Committee Chair, the Young Democrats of America Office, and the Secretary.

Section 440(b) Standing Committee on Rules and Charter. The Standing Committee on Rules and Charter shall meet in conjunction with every sitting of the National Committee and shall review and recommend the adoption or deletion of rules governing the National Committee and/or amendments to the Charter and the Bylaws. No rule change, Charter amendment or Bylaw amendment shall be submitted to the National Committee until it has been favorably reported out of this committee. Proposed amendments to the Charter or the Bylaws shall be submitted by a member of the National Committee to the President, Secretary, Executive Director, and Chair of the Rules and Charter Committee of the Young Democrats of America no later than thirty-five (35) days prior to the National Committee meeting for which they are to be considered. The Secretary of the Young Democrats of America shall then submit all proposed amendments to the National Committee no later than thirty (30) days prior to the National Committee meeting for which they are to be considered.

Section 440(c) Standing Committee on Resolutions. The Standing Committee on Resolutions shall meet in conjunction with every sitting of the National Committee and shall review every resolution on matters of policy and program, which does not fall within the jurisdiction of any other Standing or Select Committee, prior to action by the National Committee. No policy resolution, as above described, may be submitted to the National Committee until it has been favorably reported out of this committee. Proposed resolutions shall be submitted by a member of the National Committee to the Secretary not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the National Committee meeting for which they are to be considered. The Secretary shall then submit all proposed resolutions to the National Committee no later than ten (10) days prior to the National Committee meeting for which they are to be considered. Resolutions deemed urgent and timely by the National Committee, or by being presented to the Standing Committee on Resolutions prior to the adjournment of its meeting with the signatures of the fifteen (15) members of the National Committee, shall be eligible for consideration by the National Committee regardless of the time of submission or consideration by the Standing Committee on Resolutions.

SECTION 445 Officers of Standing Committees. The President, within ninety (90) days of assuming office, shall appoint a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary for each Standing Committee. Standing Committee Chairs shall serve at the pleasure of the President conterminously with the appointing administration. Chairs of the Standing Committees shall be ex-officio, voting members of the National Committee. Appointments for these positions must be supported by one National Committee member from the chartered unit in which the appointee resides. Appointees from a non-chartered area shall provide a letter of support from a party official from that territory and a member of the National Committee. Vice Chairs of Standing Committees shall preside at meetings in the absence of the Chair but not succeed in the event of the Chair's death, resignation, or removal.

SECTION 450 Voting in Standing Committees. Although a specific individual should be certified in writing to represent each unit in each Standing Committee, any chartered unit member present may represent and cast the vote of their unit in any meeting of a Standing Committee when the certified representative is not present. The officers of the Standing Committee shall not be entitled to a vote because of their position as an officer. However, the Vice Chair and Secretary may cast the vote of the unit they represent provided they are not serving in the capacity of Chair at the time of the vote.

SECTION 455 Duties of Standing Committee Chairs. The Chair of each Standing Committee shall present a report to each meeting of the National Committee as to matters being reported out of committee for consideration by the National Committee. This report shall be in writing and, where feasible, copies should be distributed to all National Committee members.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE V

REMOVED BY ACTION OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA

BYLAWS

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 600 Board of Directors Duties. The Officers of the Young Democrats of America, and six (6) Board members representing stakeholder communities, when convened as the Board of Directors, shall be responsible for the hiring and firing of the Executive Director, reviewing staff performance, awarding raises and bonuses, and adopting human resources staff management policies. In addition, the Board will review and approve major contracts as needed, as well as performing other ongoing management decisions. The Board shall prepare by October 15 of each year a Budget to be submitted to the Budget Committee, and a Fundraising Plan to be submitted to the Select Committee on Finance.

SECTION 605 Elected Officers Duties.

Section 605(a) President. The President shall be the principal administrative officer of the Young Democrats of America and shall preside over meetings of the Board of Directors and National Committee. The President, except as may otherwise be provided, shall appoint all administrative officers, committee officers, and select committees, subject to confirmation by the National Committee, as may be provided for in the Charter and the Bylaws, at its first meeting subsequent to said appointment.

Section 605(b) Executive Vice President. The Executive Vice President shall assist the President in the performance of the President's duties and shall act as President during the President's absence and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors and the National Committee.

Section 605(c) Democratic National Committeeman and Committeewoman. The Democratic National Committee Members shall lobby and vote on behalf of the Young Democrats of America at every meeting of the Democratic National Committee. They shall coordinate the participation of the Young Democrats of America in the Democratic National Convention and any other conferences of committees of the Democratic National Committee.

Section 605(d) Vice Presidents. The three (3) Vice Presidents shall develop and administer programs on behalf of the Young Democrats of America, and shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors and the National Committee.

Section 605(e) Secretary. The Secretary shall be responsible for non-financial records of the Young Democrats of America, including but not limited to, the minutes of all meetings of the National Committee, the Charter and the Bylaws, the Standing Rules, and the formal reports of Officers, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors and the National Committee.

Section 605(f) Treasurer. The Treasurer shall oversee the receipt and disbursement of all funds of the organization, which shall be administered in full compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, and which shall be deposited in a Federally Chartered Banking Institution. The Treasurer shall file all necessary reports as required by law, and keep a record of receipts and disbursements which shall be audited biannually and upon demand of the National Committee. The Treasurer shall publish and distribute a Finance Report to the National Committee meeting not less than (10) days prior thereto, and shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors and the National Committee or are customarily performed by a treasurer. Within ninety (90) days after election, the Treasurer shall obtain bond for satisfactory performance of their duties in an amount not less than forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) and shall submit proof thereof to the Secretary. Payment of the premium thereon is authorized out of the National Treasury. The Treasurer shall also be a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Select Committees on Budget and Finance.

SECTION 615 Election of National Committeewoman and National Committeeman. Officers shall be elected in the same order in which the offices are listed in the Charter and the Bylaws.

Section 615(a) Declaration of Candidacy. At or before 12:00 noon of the day on which the General Session of the National Committee meeting is convened, candidates shall file with the Secretary a statement of all expenditures made, and sources of all funds utilized relating to their campaign for National Office. Such statements shall be attested to by the signature of the candidate and sworn before a notary public or other officer authorized by law to so attest in the jurisdiction where executed. Should the jurisdiction in which the signatures were executed not require a stamp or seal, a copy of the local ordinance or code stating the same must also be attached. Persons who have failed to timely file disclosures or campaign finances, or who make a materially false statement in connection thereto, shall be ineligible for election to national office. Within one (1) hour of their having been filed, the Secretary shall forward to the President copies of the documents submitted pursuant to this Section, who shall review them for compliance with this Section. The Chair of the Judicial Council or their designee shall be authorized to call a special session of the Judicial Council, at any time prior to the General Session at which elections will be conducted, which shall be authorized to adjudicate alleged violations of this Section. The Judicial Council shall be further authorized to compel candidates, alleged in violation of this Section, to appear before it, subject to its summary Judgment of Ineligibility for Election. Persons accused subject to this Section, shall have the right to be accompanied by counsel, to present and cross examine witnesses, and to present evidence in their own defense.

SECTION 640 Vacancies.

Section 640(a) Office of the President. In the event of the death, resignation, or removal of the President, the resultant vacancy shall be filled at a special meeting of the National Committee called for that purpose not less than thirty (30) days nor more than forty five (45) days from such occurrence, provided, that no special meeting shall be called within sixty (60) days prior to the National Convention. The call to meeting shall be issued by the Secretary, and a majority vote of the National Committee will elect the Presidential successor who shall serve for the balance of the current unexpired term.

Section 640(b) Officer other than the President. In the event of the death, resignation or removal of an Officer other than the President, the President shall appoint an interim officer to fill the resultant vacancy until the next meeting of the National Committee, occurring at least thirty (30) days subsequent to written notice of the vacancy being provided to the members thereof. The National Committee shall fill the vacancy for the balance of the current unexpired term upon its majority vote.

Section 640(d) Initial Appointment for Newly Created Officers. In the event of the creation of a new office between National Conventions, the President shall appoint the initial holder of the office, subject to confirmation by the National Committee, as soon as practical after adoption of the Charter amendment creating the office. Appointments for these positions must be supported by one National Committee member from the unit in which the appointee resides. Appointees from an non-chartered area shall provide a letter of support from a party official from that unit and a member of the National Committee. The term of the appointed officer shall be from confirmation until their successor is elected at the next National Convention, or that National Convention adjourns without ratifying the amendment creating the office.

Section 640(e) Board of Directors Stakeholder Members. Vacancies in the Stakeholder Members of the Board of Directors shall be filled at the National Committee Meeting immediately following the vacancy in the same manner in which Board Members are originally chosen.

SECTION 655 Impeachment.

Section 655(a) Impeachment, Initiation. Impeachment proceedings may be initiated upon majority vote of the Judicial Council, which shall serve its resolution and a Bill of Particulars to the accused and the Executive Director by registered mail within ten (10) days of its action.

Section 655(b) Impeachment, Hearing. Not less than twenty (20) days nor more than sixty (60) days subsequent to service of the Impeachment Resolution and Bill of Particulars upon the accused, the Chair of the Judicial Council shall convene an open hearing in a mutually agreeable location or via videoconference, teleconference, or online conference to hear evidence of the impeachment and the defense of the accused. The accused shall have the right to be accompanied by Counsel and to present and cross-examine witnesses and present evidence in his or her defense. The Judicial Council may upon majority vote dismiss the impeachment or recommend to the National Committee removal from office of the accused, such recommendation shall be accompanied with its findings of fact and conclusions of law. The notice of dismissal or recommendation for removal shall be served upon the accused and the Executive Director by registered mail within five (5) calendar days.

SECTION 660 Removal from Office. Upon receipt of an affirmative recommendation for removal of an Officer, the National Committee, meeting not less than thirty (30) days after such notice, shall consider said removal as a special order. The National Committee shall be empowered to remove Officers and Board Members it adjudges guilty of stated charges upon its majority vote.

Section 670(a) Diversity and Outreach Director. The Diversity and Outreach Director shall establish recommended guidelines for the selection of delegates that will encourage participation by groups heretofore underrepresented in Democratic politics. Said Director shall also work to make available tools and resources to assist every level of the Young Democrats of America in accomplishing its diversity and outreach efforts. Said Director shall propose and administer such programs as they deem advisable to ensure future participation in Democratic politics of all persons regardless of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, or age.

Section 670(b) Finance Director. The Finance Director shall be responsible for the design, coordination and implementation of national fundraising projects. Said Director shall be responsible for review, modification, implementation and submission to the National Committee for approval of the National Fundraising Plan. Said Director shall work with the officers, staff, and consultants engaged in fundraising on behalf of the Young Democrats of America to effectively oversee these programs and ensure their successful implementation.

Section 670(c) Communications Director. The Communications Director shall advise and oversee programs related to internal and external communications and message development and outreach.

Section 670(d) Community Service Director. The Community Service Director shall be responsible for planning, implementing, and seeking out community service projects and programs. The Director shall educate and advise

members of Young Democrats of America on community based and public service opportunities and needs. The Community Service Director shall work to provide service opportunities at each National Conference and aid regions and states in implementing regular service projects.

Section 670(e) Policy and Advocacy Director. The Policy and Advocacy Director shall be responsible for coordinating issue-based contact between the Young Democrats of America, the President of the United States, members of Congress, Governors, and state legislators, shall direct grassroots political advocacy efforts on behalf of Young Democrats of America, and shall educate members on significant issues coming before Federal and state lawmakers. Prior to October 1 of each year, the Policy and Advocacy Director shall, in consultation with the Board of Directors, recommend to the National Committee one (1) or more priority issues for which the Young Democrats of America will organize advocacy efforts for the ensuing calendar year. Prior to November 1 of each year, the National Committee shall refine and approve such priority issues. Prior to December 1 of each year, the Board of Directors shall set tangible goals and advocacy efforts and actions to achieve such goals. The goals and the YDA's progress toward them shall be assessed at the first National Committee Meeting or National Convention following the subsequent Session of Congress.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE VII

EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS

SECTION 700 Executive Director. The Executive Director shall serve as the administrator of the National Office of the Young Democrats of America. The Executive Director shall work under the day-to-day supervision of the President and the Board of Directors and shall be responsible for supervising staff and contractors and implementing programs and projects as assigned by the President and the Board of Directors.

SECTION 705 Other Staff and Contractors. Other staff and contractors shall be hired as necessary and as provided for in the national budget to fulfill programs and projects as assigned by the President and the Board of Directors. These staff and contractors shall work under the day-to-day supervision of the Executive Director or an officer or staff member designated by the Executive Director.

SECTION 710 Employment, Contracting and Human Resources. The National Committee shall establish written policies and processes for all matters relating to hiring, bidding, managing and terminating of employees or contractors, specifically providing for the fair and equal opportunity of employment, evaluation and treatment of all employees and contractors.

SECTION 715 Internal Campaigning by Young Democrats of America Staff. Any individual who is a paid staff member or contractor of the Young Democrats of America shall be prohibited from actively campaigning for any announced or unannounced candidate for any level of the Young Democrats organization, including local chapters, state chapters, regional organizations, and officers. Activities prohibited include electioneering, fundraising, canvassing, phone-calling, or any other activity in advancement of the announced or unannounced candidate. This prohibition shall be stipulated in each staff member's or contractor's written contract.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE VIII

JUDICIAL COUNCIL

SECTION 810 Officers. The President shall appoint from the membership of the Judicial Council, a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary within ninety (90) days after assuming office. The Chair of the Judicial Council shall be an ex-officio, nonvoting member of the National Committee.

SECTION 815 Term of Office. Members elected from each of the Regional Caucuses shall be elected at a regional conference or meeting convened prior to, or during each National Convention. Members of the Judicial Council shall serve a term of two years or until their successors are elected or appointed.

SECTION 820 Filling Vacancies.

Section 820(a) Officers of the Judicial Council. The Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the President and in the event of their death, resignation, or removal, the President shall appoint their successors.

Section 820(b) Eight Regional Members. In the event of a vacancy among the eight (8) members elected to the Judicial Council by Regional Caucuses, the alternate representative shall succeed and the Director of the Regional Caucus of the vacant member's region shall appoint a successor to fill the vacated alternate seat for the unexpired term with the approval of the regional board.

SECTION 825 Rules of Procedure and Records. The Judicial Council may adopt its own rules of procedure, and shall keep a record of its proceedings and make the same available to the National Committee.

SECTION 830 Referral of Matters to Judicial Council. Matters may be referred to the Judicial Council by the President, by a majority vote of the National Committee, upon receipt of a petition signed by twenty-five (25) members of the National Committee, or upon receipt of a petition signed by six (6) members of the Judicial Council submitted to the Chair of the Judicial Council and the President.

SECTION 840 Notice of Meeting. Upon proper notice of a matter being referred to the Judicial Council, the Chair shall call a meeting and shall provide no less than ten (10) days notice to the members except where as issues may arise at a National Committee Meeting or National Convention the notice requirement shall be deemed waived and they may meet at the call of the Chair, the President, or any three (3) members of the Judicial Council as necessary.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE IX

REGIONAL CAUCUSES

SECTION 905 Composition. There shall be eight (8) Regional Caucuses designated as follows:

Section 905(a) Northeast. Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont

Section 905(b) Mid-Atlantic. Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia.

Bylaws Section 905(c) Southeast. Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, U.S. Virgin Islands.

Section 905(d) Great Lakes. Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin

Section 905(e) Midwest. Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota,

Section 905(f) Southcentral. Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas

Section 905(g) Southwest. Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming

Bylaws Section 905(h) Pacific. Alaska, American Samoa, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Northern Mariana Islands, Montana, Oregon, Washington.

SECTION 910 Directors of Regional Caucuses. Directors for each Regional Caucus (Regional Director) shall be elected to terms of two (2) years at Regional Conferences held between sixty (60) and one-hundred eighty (180) days prior to the opening general session of each National Convention and shall serve until their successors are elected. Each Regional Director shall serve as Chair of each Regional Conference called during such Director's tenure. Regional Directors may be removed for misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance by a majority vote of the members of the National Committee members who are members of chartered units within that Director's Region.

SECTION 915 Regional Conferences. Regional Conferences may be called by the Director of the Regional Caucus upon thirty (30) days written notice to all National Committee members who are members of chartered units within that Region, or upon the failure of the Director to do so, by the President of the Young Democrats of America upon twenty-five (25) days written notice. Regions shall hold a conference outside of a Young Democrats of America National Committee meeting at least once per biennium.

SECTION 920 Voting at Regional Conferences

Section 920 (a) Generally. Each chartered unit shall cast a vote at Regional Conferences equal to the population vote to which that chartered unit would have been entitled at the previous National Convention regardless of previous chartering status or penalties assessed by the Standing Committee on Credentials.

Section 920 (b) Minimum Unit Delegation to Vote Ratio; Mileage Formula. Chartered units shall be permitted to cast votes allocated under the provisions of the Charter and the Bylaws provided that each unit is represented by registered Delegates, present in person, whose aggregate number does not fall below the votes per delegate ratio established according to statute driving mileage from each unit's territorial capitol or largest city, whichever is furthest, to the site of the Regional Convention as follows: One (1) to one hundred (100) miles, one (1) delegate for every ten (10) votes; one hundred one (101) to two hundred (200) miles, one (1) delegate for every twenty (20) votes; two hundred one (201) to four hundred (400) miles, one (1) delegate for every thirty (30) votes; four hundred one (401) and above, one (1) delegate for every fifty (50) votes. Not less than sixty (60) days prior to each Regional Conference, the Regional Director shall prepare a chart derived by the mileage indicated in the current Google Maps or comparable mapping standard, of each chartered unit's driving mileage from territorial capitol to conference site, along with the delegate to vote ratio derived therefrom.

SECTION 925 Regional Officers. Regions shall elect the following officers: Regional Director, Deputy Director, Secretary, Treasurer, Judicial Council Representative, and Judicial Council Alternate. Officers shall take office at the conclusion of the Regional Conference at which they were elected.

SECTION 935 Elected Officers Duties:

SECTION 935 (a) Regional Director: The Regional Director shall chair Regional Conferences, make appointments to the Select Committees of the Young Democrats of America, decide the time and place of Regional Conferences, and chair meetings of the Regional Executive Committee. Regional Directors shall make their appointments after the announcement of national appointments.

SECTION 935 (b) Deputy Director: The Deputy Director shall chair Regional Conferences and meetings of the Regional National Committee in the absence of the Regional Director and perform other duties as may be assigned by the Regional Director.

SECTION 935 (c) Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of Regional Conferences and meetings of the Regional National Board and provide notices and communications as necessary to perform the duties of office. The Secretary shall serve as the regional appointee to the Communications Committee.

SECTION 935 (d) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall oversee the receipt and disbursement of any funds of the region, which shall be administered in full compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, and which shall be deposited in a Federally Insured Banking Institution to be approved by the Regional Director and the Young Democrats of America Treasurer. The Treasurer shall file all necessary reports as required by law which shall be forwarded to the General Counsel, the Regional Budget Director, and the Regional Finance Director, and keep a record of receipts and disbursements which shall be audited biannually and upon demand of the Regional National Committee, a majority of the National Committee Members of the Region, or the President, Executive Vice President, General Counsel, the chair of the judicial council in the absence of a/the General Counsel, or Finance Director of the Young Democrats of America. The treasurer shall serve as the regional appointee to the Budget Committee.

SECTION 935 (e) Judicial Council Representative and Judicial Council Alternate: The Judicial Council Representative and the Judicial Council Alternate shall represent the region on the Young Democrats of America Judicial Council. The Judicial Council Representative shall serve as the Regional Parliamentarian and shall adjudicate any disputes arising out of the region when there shall be conflict.

SECTION 940 Removal of Officers. Regional officers are subject to impeachment and removal from office for misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance of assigned duties or for violation of any law or rule of the Young Democrats of America, the Democratic Party, or for the commission of high crimes and misdemeanors. Impeachment shall require a 2/3 vote of the members of the National Committee from that region. Appeals to the impeachment of a regional officer may be heard by the Young Democrats of America Judicial Council.

SECTION 945 Filling of Vacancies. Vacancies in the office of Regional Director shall be filled by the Deputy Director until a new election which shall be held by the members of the National Committee who are members of chartered units within that Region at the next National Committee meeting or preferably, by the delegates to the next Regional Conference provided that such election may not be held less than fifteen (15) days following the occurrence of the vacancy at the next Regional Conference no less than fifteen (15) days following the occurrence of the vacancy. Vacancies in all other offices shall be filled by an appointment from the Regional Director which must be confirmed by a majority vote of the National Committee members from that region. at the next National Committee meeting or preferably, at the next Regional Conference provided that such vote may not be held less than fifteen (15) days following the occurrence of the vacancy.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE X

CONSTITUENCY CAUCUSES

SECTION 1005 Voting Constituency Caucuses

Section 1005(a) Named. There shall be established the following Voting Constituency Caucuses: Women, Black, Hispanic, Asian American and Pacific Islander, Minority, Native American, Labor, Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-Transgender-Questioning, Disability Issues, Jewish, Veterans and Military Affairs, Rural, College, and High School.

Section 1005(b) Formation. The establishment of new Voting Constituency Caucuses shall be approved by the Convention Standing Committee on Rules and Charter and shall be voted upon before the National Convention. Voting Constituency Caucuses may not be created except at National Conventions. Voting Constituency Caucuses must be created in place of an existing Provisional Constituency Caucus.

Section 1005(c) Re-designation. Should a Constituency Caucus fail to hold elections over a span of no less than two (2) years and three (3) months, the Caucus shall be re-designated as a Constituency Caucus Working Group. This action may be delayed until the close of the subsequent National Convention by a majority vote of the National Committee.

Section 1005(d). The name of every Constituency Caucus shall be "The Young Democrats of America (name of constituency) Caucus". The name of every Provisional Constituency Caucus shall be "The Young Democrats of America (name of constituency) Provisional Caucus". The name of every Working Group shall be "The Young Democrats of America (name of constituency) Working Group."

Section 1005(e). Caucuses part of the Young Democrats of America. Caucuses are components of Young Democrats of America that exist to promote involvement by their constituency in the Young Democrats of America and Democratic Party politics and not autonomous or separate organizations.

SECTION 1010 Provisional Constituency Caucuses.

Section 1010(a) Formation. The establishment of new Provisional Constituency Caucuses shall be subject to a report by the Standing Committee on Rules and Charter and a simple majority vote of the National Committee.

Section 1010(b) Dissolution. Provisional Constituency Caucuses shall cease to exist at the conclusion of the first National Convention following the creation of the Provisional Constituency Caucus.

SECTION 1015 Constituency Caucus Working Groups.

Section 1015(a) Formation. The establishment of new Constituency Caucus Working Groups shall be subject to a majority vote of the National Committee.

Section 1015(b) Dissolution. Constituency Caucus Working Groups shall cease to exist at the conclusion of the first National Convention following the creation of the Constituency Caucus Working Group. A majority vote of the National Committee can prevent this dissolution.

SECTION 1020 Provisions.

Section 1020(a) Chairs of Constituency Caucuses. Each Constituency Caucus must provide in its bylaws for the election of a Chair who shall serve as the director of caucus activities and as a point-of-contact for interested members of the Young Democrats of America.

Section 1020(b) Membership. Constituency Caucuses shall have provisions in their bylaws for caucus membership. No caucus may allow for members that are ineligible for membership in the Young Democrats of America as provided in the Charter and the Bylaws, Charter Section 205(a)

BYLAWS

ARTICLE XI

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SECTION 1110 Proxies.

Section 1110(a) Form. All proxies shall be written and shall include the name and position of the person executing the proxy, the name of the regular member to whom the proxy is given and the period of time for which the proxy is valid and instructions, if any, on the voting of the proxy. Every proxy and such acknowledgment or swearing that is hand-delivered, mailed, or faxed shall be attested to by a notary public or other officer authorized by law to so attest in the jurisdiction where executed. Proxies by email shall be accepted without a notary if sent to the Chair of the Credentials Committee and Secretary from the individual's email that is listed on the official leadership roster. Should a faxed or emailed proxy be challenged it shall be considered as a provisional vote until such time that the Chair of the Credentials Committee may review the original document. Such review shall take place within 30 days of the casting of the vote or the proxy shall be considered out of order and the vote improperly cast.

Section 1110(b) Approval. Proxies shall be presented to the Chair of the Standing Committee on Credentials of the National Committee who shall determine whether they are in proper order. Proxies approved by the Chair are immediately entitled to a vote. A majority vote upon appropriate motions shall be sufficient to reject a proxy approved by the Chair or approve a proxy rejected by the Chair.

Section 1110(c) Instructions. Proxies may not be voted inconsistent with instructions at any time. Should the Chair or any member discover that a member has voted a proxy in violation of this Section, that proxy shall be discarded and cannot be used for any purpose other than recording the attendance of the person who executed the proxy. On any vote, violated proxies shall be indicated as having voted 'present.'

SECTION 1120 Standards for Accessibility. No officer or staff member of the Young Democrats of America, or any Constituency Caucus or Regional Caucus, shall sign any contract or make any financial obligation to hold an official function in a facility without receiving written certification that said facility is compliant with the accessibility requirements of the Charter.

SECTION 1140 Standards for Labor Preference. The receipt of a letter from a duly recognized labor union certifying the requirements of the Charter have been met in relation to labor preference shall be considered adequate for compliance with the Charter.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE XII

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1205 Endorsements. It shall be the policy of the Young Democrats of America Officers, National Committee, National Convention, Committees, Regional Caucuses, and Constituency Caucuses not to provide official endorsements to any candidate in a contested primary election. Chartered units and local organizations are not bound by this policy, but are urged to carefully consider the possible organizational risks of such an endorsement. Officers who are registered Delegates to the Democratic National Convention by virtue of their office in the Young Democrats of America may make endorsements in U.S. Presidential elections provided they do not present said endorsement as an official position of the Young Democrats of America. Such officers are encouraged to consider the consequences of such an endorsement before making it however.

SECTION 1206. No funds shall be obligated or drawn from the Young Democrats of America treasury or any other account of Young Democrats of America or any of its subsidiaries (not including state or other chartered units or their sub-groups) without the approval of the President, their designee, or the Board of Directors. For obligations or disbursements in an amount in excess of Five Hundred dollars (\$500), the President shall require the concurrence of

the Board of Directors for any such approval. For the purposes of this Rule, all obligations or disbursements for a substantial transaction or occurrence shall be added together to determine the amount involved.

SECTION 1207 Young Democrats of America Policy Positions. No Caucus, Region, Committee, staff, or other component of the Young Democrats of America shall contradict the Policy positions, Resolutions, and/or platform of Young Democrats of America.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE XIII

AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1305 Amendments. Bylaws may be adopted or amended by a majority vote of the National Committee or the National Convention; and must comply with all procedural requirements for charter amendments as to notice and committee approval, as provided for in the Charter and the Bylaws. Bylaws may not conflict with the Charter.

STANDING RULES

Standing Rule 1. Standards for Dietary Restrictions: Food served at any official function of the Young Democrats of America shall be clearly labeled as to the contents, noting whether it contains meat, gluten, nuts, shellfish or dairy.

Standing Rule 2. National Conventions, National Committee Meetings, and all official functions of the Young Democrats of America, or any Constituency Caucus or Regional Caucus, shall be held only at facilities which are accessible to persons with disabilities as defined by the American with Disabilities Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG).

Standing Rule 4. National Conventions and National Committee Meetings shall be held only at facilities organized by a duly recognized labor organization, should they exist in the location selected.