

# **DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF VIRGINIA AMENDMENTS TO 2020 CALL TO STATE CONVENTION**

Adopted by DPVA Steering Committee May 22, 2020

As a result of the current Covid-19 virus public health emergency, it is not possible for the Democratic Party of Virginia (“DPVA”) to implement the national convention delegate selection process as set forth in the Virginia Delegate Selection Plan (“DSP”) and the Call to State Convention (adopted December 7, 2019). The DPVA is implementing a fair and open alternative process for the election of national convention delegates and alternates and conducting other necessary party business. The process substitutes virtual meetings for local caucuses, Congressional District Conventions, and the State Convention and utilizes remote voting. These processes will keep participants safe and are consistent with the guidance provided by the Democratic National Committee (“DNC”) Rules & Bylaws Committee (“RBC”) and the RBC’s May 12, 2020 Resolution.

## **I. Pre-State Convention Process**

The initial step of the Virginia delegate selection process -- the presidential primary – occurred on March 3, 2020, and pursuant to the DSP, the primary results were used to allocate state and national convention delegates among the eligible Presidential candidates.

The State Convention delegates were selected pursuant to the DPVA Statewide Call to Caucus, issued March 21, 2020, which provided for virtual unassembled caucus to be held in each Virginia city and county from April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 12:00PM until April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:00PM. These caucuses elected State Delegates and Alternates from each locality who will participate in Congressional District Conventions and the State Convention for the purpose of electing Democratic National Convention Delegates and Alternates and conducting other business.

The next step was virtual Congressional District Conventions held in accordance with Calls issued by each Congressional District Democratic Committee, pursuant to a draft Call issued by DPVA on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020. As set forth in the Call to State Convention, these Congressional District Conventions elected National Convention Delegates and Alternates, selected an elector, and some considered resolutions and/or nomination of candidates for Congress.

The Congressional District Conventions were held on the following dates: May 2, 2020: 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional Districts; May 9, 2020: 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional Districts; May 16, 2020: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional Districts.

## **II. The State Convention**

The DPVA will hold a virtual State Democratic Convention on June 20, 2020. As set forth in the Call to Convention, the State Convention shall elect 13 Pledged Party Leaders and Elected

Official (“PLEO”) Delegates, 21 At-Large Delegates, and 2 At-Large Alternates to the Democratic National Convention; chose 2 Democratic Electors; elect 5 Members to the Democratic National Committee, and consider the adoption of a Resolutions report. The filing and other deadlines set forth in the Delegate Selection Plan and Call to Convention apply to the virtual state convention, except as noted in the attached timeline.

Pursuant to the April 30, 2020 guidance (“April 30 Guidance”) provided by the DNC and the Biden and Sanders presidential campaigns, (1) At-Large/PLEO delegates/alternate (“statewide delegate”) candidates may file for either the Biden or Sanders campaign; (2) all statewide delegates will be allocated to Vice President Biden; (3) statewide delegate candidates filing for Sanders will be considered as Biden Statewide delegates; and (4) each statewide delegate candidate will be subject to the respective presidential candidate’s right of review.

The Presidential campaigns will be allowed to remove any statewide delegate candidate from the ballot so long as at least one name remains for every pledged statewide candidate position to which the presidential candidate is entitled.

Presidential campaigns may also submit slates of candidates for national delegates and alternates for inclusion on the State Convention ballots by June 6, 2020.

The deadline for filing and submission of petitions by DNC candidates is May 21, 2020 at 5pm. Candidates for DNC may file slates for inclusion on the State Convention ballots by June 6, 2020.

The Temporary Resolutions Committee shall be considered the permanent committee. It shall consider Resolutions adopted by Congressional District Conventions. The Report of the Resolutions Committee will be offered for a vote with no amendments allowed.

The DPVA Steering Committee shall act as the State Convention Rules and Credentials Committees, to the extent necessary.

Vacant delegate positions for the State Convention will be filled as follows:

- (1) Elected State Convention alternates pledged to each presidential candidate will be elevated to delegate and assigned to vacant delegate positions, first within their Congressional District, and then to other Congressional Districts.
- (2) The remaining vacant delegate positions will be filled as follows. From 12:00PM on May 25 until 5:00PM on May 27, persons interested in filling vacancies may submit a Delegate Filing Form available on the DPVA website. Applicants for these vacancies will be subject to presidential candidate right of review.
- (3) Vacant state convention alternate positions will not be filled.

The State Convention shall consist of a virtual meeting using internet technology, followed by remote electronic voting for the various offices. The voting shall be conducted pursuant to the same process as was used at the virtual local caucuses to elect state delegates and at the virtual Congressional District Conventions to elect congressional district level national delegates.

Following the State Convention, the delegation shall hold a virtual meeting to elect a Delegation Chair and National Convention Committee members. Pursuant to the April 30 Guidance, the National Convention Committee membership will reflect the Biden and Sanders statewide primary totals.



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Date

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Chairwoman, Democratic Party of Virginia