

A RESOLUTION

to Amend the Rules of the New York State Democratic Committee to Promote a Representative and Accountable Democratic National Committee

August 10, 2020

WHEREAS the ideals of the Democratic Party are ones of inclusion, equality and representation;

WHEREAS the Democratic National Committee (hereinafter “DNC”) is charged with winning nationwide elections and benefits particularly from diverse and representative experiences in its membership;

WHEREAS the members of the New York State Democratic Committee, as representatives of New York’s Democratic voters, are responsible for electing the members of New York’s delegation to the DNC;

WHEREAS Article II, Section 6(d) of NYSDC bylaws reads: “(d) All members of the Democratic National Committee elected pursuant to this section shall be chosen according to the standards of non-discrimination and affirmative action incorporated into the Charter of the Democratic Party of the United States, and such members shall be elected so as to reflect representation of the various regions of New York State and of the various groups and constituents within the New York State Democratic Party”;

WHEREAS the elected DNC delegation in 2019 has deficient representation of various constituencies, including but not limited to, a single member from Upstate New York, no members from rural counties, no members under the age of 50, no members who are hispanic, or Latino, and no members of Asian descent;

WHEREAS the charter and bylaws of the Democratic Party give state parties wide latitude in how they decide to select their elected members of the National Committee but disallows reserved seats for geographic areas or ethnic groups;

WHEREAS Article IX, Section 12 of the DNC Charter reads: “All meetings of the Democratic National Committee, the Executive Committee, and all other official Party committees, commissions and bodies shall be open to the public, and votes shall not be taken by secret ballot or use of the unit rule.”;

WHEREAS it is impossible for members of the New York State Democratic Committee to cast informed votes for DNC members without information on the geographic and ethnic composition of the delegation and candidates running;

WHEREAS it is impossible for members of the New York State Democratic Committee to cast informed votes for DNC members without information on the voting records and attendance records of their representatives to the DNC; and

WHEREAS the Chair of a State Democratic Party is an ex-officio member of the DNC and is responsible to the State Committee as its highest ranking officer;

THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that the Rules of the New York State Democratic Committee be amended as follows:

(New language is indicated with underlines and deleted language is indicated with a [~~bracketed-strike-through~~].)

ARTICLE II: PARTY ORGANIZATION

...

Section 6: Election of Members of the Democratic National Committee

...

(e) The Chair of the New York State Democratic Party shall provide the following reports with the meeting notice at which any DNC member(s) shall be elected, or with the statements of candidacy for a DNC election, whichever shall be first:

i. A geographic report, including:

a. The representation by county, Assembly district, and municipality in New York's DNC delegation.

b. The representation, based on the home municipality of DNC members, of rural, exurban, suburban and urban.

c. The number of registered Democrats of each county of New York State, along with the population of each county.

ii. A demographic report, including:

a. The ethnic, age, disability and occupational composition of the DNC delegation, based on census categories, by requested self-identification of the delegation.

b. The ethnic, age, disability and occupational composition of New York State based on census categories.

iii. Voting and attendance report, including:

a. The individual voting record of each incumbent DNC member running for reelection.

b. The individual attendance record of each incumbent DNC member running for reelection.

c. All elected members of New York's DNC delegation, and all members serving on the DNC due to their position in State

Party leadership shall aid in the creation of this report by providing voting and attendance records as necessary.

d. Failure of the Chair to provide records of the New York State DNC delegation's voting and attendance shall be grounds for removal from office.

e. Failure of members of the DNC specified in paragraph (d) to provide records of the NY State DNC delegation's voting and attendance shall be grounds for removal from office

Reports shall be made available electronically via downloadable spreadsheet as well as non-electronic format upon request of any State Committee member.

(f) Committees of the New York State Democratic Committee, including, but not limited to, the Executive Committee, shall be barred from endorsing any candidate or slate of candidates for election to the DNC.

(g) In case any provision within paragraphs (e) and (f) shall be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby and such provision shall be ineffective only to the extent of such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability.

Submitted August 10, 2020, by the following Members of the New York State Democratic Committee:

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