

STATE ENDORSING CONVENTION RULES

(Revised June 6, 2015)

RULE NO. 1. CALL OF THE CONVENTION

Ninety (90) days prior to the State Republican Endorsing Convention, the State Chairman and the State Executive Committee shall issue to the State Republican Committee the Call of the Convention. The Call of the Convention shall include the purpose, date, place, and the time of the State Republican Endorsing Convention.

RULE NO. 2. DEFINITION OF "LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS"

Delegates and alternates to the State Republican Endorsing Convention shall be allotted as provided by these Convention Rules.

RULE NO. 3. DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Section 1. District Endorsing Convention. During the period between January 1 and March 1 of an even year the District Chairman shall call a convention for the purpose of electing delegates and alternates to the State Republican Endorsing Convention.

Section 2. Eligibility. Delegates and alternates to the State Republican Endorsing Convention must be an American citizen of voting age (18) by the time the convention is called to order, must have been a resident of the District for the 30 days immediately preceding the District Convention, and must be a dues paying member of the North Dakota Republican Party at the time of the District Convention and forward those dues to the State Party before the convention. No person may seek election as a delegate or alternate in more than one District during one election cycle. In addition, the delegates and alternates must have voted or affiliated with the Republican Party in the last general election or intend to vote or affiliate with the Republican Party in the next general election.

Section 3. Non-Discrimination. No American citizen eligible to vote shall be denied from participating as a delegate or alternate for reasons of sex, race, religion, color, age or national origin.

Section 4. Allocation of Delegates and Alternates Between Districts. Delegates and alternates to the 2014 State Republican endorsing convention shall be allocated as follows:

- A. One delegate for every 300 votes cast for the Republican candidate for Governor in the previous General Election. In the event that a Legislative District has 100 percent new territory as compared to the Legislative District's territory in the prior election cycle, that Legislative District shall receive delegates equal to the average number of delegates granted under this subsection (4a) for all the Legislative Districts from which the territory of the new district was acquired during the prior election cycle, rounded up.
- B. One delegate for every 300 votes cast for the Republican candidate for U.S. House of Representatives in the previous General Election. In the event that a Legislative District has 100 percent new territory as compared to the Legislative District's territory

in the prior election cycle, that Legislative District shall receive delegates equal to the average number of delegates granted under this subsection (4b) for all the Legislative Districts from which the territory of the new district was acquired during the prior election cycle, rounded up.

- C. One delegate for every 300 votes cast for the Republican candidate for President in the previous General Election. In the event that a Legislative District has 100 percent new territory as compared to the Legislative District's territory in the prior election cycle, that Legislative District shall receive delegates equal to the average number of delegates granted under this subsection (4c) for all the Legislative Districts from which the territory of the new district was acquired during the prior election cycle, rounded up.
- D. One delegate for each Republican Legislator elected in the last legislative election cycle for that Legislative District. In the event that a Legislative District has 100 percent new territory as compared to the Legislative District's territory in the prior election cycle, that Legislative District shall receive bonus state legislator delegates equal to the average of all the Legislative Districts from which the territory of the new district was acquired during the prior election cycle, rounded up.
- E. One bonus delegate shall be awarded to a district for every 20 dues-paying members of the North Dakota Republican Party from that district at the end of the preceding calendar year.
- F. One bonus delegate shall be awarded to a district for every 5 percentage points of increase in the number of dues-paying members of the North Dakota Republican Party from that district at the end of the preceding calendar year compared to the number on January 1 of that year.
- G. Total bonus delegates awarded under subsections 4(E) and 4(F) shall not exceed 25% of the delegates awarded under subsections 4(A) – 4(D).
- H. Each Legislative District will be entitled to at least five delegates.
- I. Each Legislative District shall be afforded a number of Alternate Delegates to the State Republican Endorsing Convention equal to the number of Regular Delegates under this section.
- J. One delegate for each member of the State Executive Committee who is not a District Chairman.

Section 5. Election of Delegates. The District Chairman and all members of State Committee and State Executive Committee residing in the District shall be delegates. The District Executive Committee may elect a maximum of ten percent of the District's delegates to elected officials, District officers, or other persons in consideration of long service to the party or responsibilities at the State Endorsing Convention. All remaining Delegates to the Republican State Endorsing Convention must be elected by plurality vote of qualified Republican District Convention voters physically present at a District Convention called for such purpose.

The District Chairman or District Executive Committee may appoint a nominating committee for the purpose of recommending candidates for election as delegates. The selection of recommended candidates may optionally be determined by assigning points to criteria set forth by the nominating committee.

To be nominated as a delegate, a candidate who is unable to personally attend the District Convention must personally contact the District Chairman, indicate interest in being nominated, and provide evidence that the candidate meets all district membership criteria. Any person attending a District Convention whose eligibility to serve as a delegate based on the District's membership criteria has been verified may be nominated from the floor.

If the number of persons nominated for election as a delegate is greater than the number of delegate slots available for that district, the delegates must be elected by secret ballot. If the number of persons submitting their name for delegate election is equal to or less than the number of slots available for that district, a majority voice vote on the proposed slate of delegates may be permitted. Proxy voting is not permitted.

All names placed in nomination must be included on a uniform paper ballot for use by all eligible voters. Names shall be placed on the ballot in the order in which they were nominated. To tally the votes, election tellers may be appointed by the District Chair or Executive Committee.

Alternate delegate slots shall be filled by those delegate candidates who receive the greatest number of votes, with the ascending vote totals determining alternate delegate priority. A majority of votes is not necessary for the selection of alternate delegates.

Section 6: State Convention delegate and alternate delegate vacancies remaining after a district convention, or created by delegate or alternate delegate withdrawal, shall be filled at the discretion of the respective District Executive Committees.