# MAINE DELEGATE SELECTION PLAN

For the 2024 Democratic National Convention

ISSUED BY THE MAINE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

April 23, 2023

## The Maine Delegate Selection Plan For the 2024 Democratic National Convention

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## Maine Delegate Selection Plan For the 2024 Democratic National Convention

## Section I Introduction & Description of Delegate Selection Process

#### A. Introduction

- 1. Maine has 32 delegates and two alternates. (Call I & Appendix B)
- 2. The delegate selection process is governed by the *Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States*, the *Delegate Selection Rules for the 2024 Democratic National Convention* ("Rules"), the *Call for the 2024 Democratic National Convention* ("Call"), the *Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee for the 2024 Democratic National Convention* ("Regs."), the rules of the Maine Democratic Party (MDP), Maine's election laws, and this Delegate Selection Plan. (*Call II.A*)
- 3. Following the MDP's Democratic State Committee's adoption of this Delegate Selection Plan, the MDP shall submit the Plan for review and approval by the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee ("RBC"). The MDP Chair shall be empowered to make any technical revisions to this document as required by the RBC to correct any omissions and/or deficiencies as found by the RBC to ensure its full compliance with Party Rules. Such corrections shall be made by the MDP Chair and the Plan resubmitted to the RBC within 30 days of receipt of notice of the RBC's findings. (*Reg. 2.5, Reg. 2.6 & Reg. 2.7*)
- 4. Once this Plan has been found in Compliance by the RBC, any amendment to the Plan by the MDP must be submitted to and approved by the RBC before it becomes effective. (*Reg. 2.9*)

#### B. Description of Delegate Selection Process

1. Maine will use a proportional representation system based on the results of the Presidential Primary for apportioning delegates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention. The primary will be by ranked-choice voting, with the national delegates for each candidate apportioned by party rule, based on which candidates reach at least 15 percent.

- 2. The "first determining step" of Maine's delegate selection process will occur on March 5, 2024, with a Presidential Primary.
- 3. Maine Democrats will gather in municipal or regional caucuses on Feb. 3 or 4, 2024, to elect delegates and alternates to the state convention. Each caucus will elect state convention delegates according to a formula using the results of the 2022 gubernatorial election. Those state convention delegates will be elected without declaring a presidential preference.
- 4. Candidates for national delegate and alternate declare their candidacy by April TBD, two weeks before the state convention, on a filing form provided by the MDP. The form must contain signatures of at least 25 delegates and alternates to the state convention.
- 5. State convention delegates declare their presidential preference as they register for the state convention.

#### C. Voter Participation

- 1. Participation in Maine's delegate selection process is open to all voters who wish to participate as Democrats. (*Rule 2.A and Rule 2.C.*)
  - a. Mainers may register to vote as late as the day of the presidential primary.
  - b. <u>(</u>1) Maine has registration by party.
    - (2) Voters who are unaffiliated may vote in the Democratic presidential primary by requesting a Democratic Party ballot, either during the absentee period or on election day. (*Rule 2.A & Reg. 4.3.B*)
    - (3) Unaffiliated voters participating in the Democratic presidential primary will have their participation recorded. Unaffiliated voters will not be required to re-register as Democrats. (*Rule 2.A & Reg. 4.3.A*)
    - (4) Voters registered in a party other than Democratic must re-register 15 days ahead of the primary in order to vote in the Democratic presidential primary.
  - c. To encourage participation by youth in the delegate selection process, any individual who will have turned 18 by the date of the general election will be allowed to participate in the delegate selection process. (*Reg. 4.3.C*)
  - d. At no stage of Maine's delegate selection process shall any person be required, directly or indirectly, to pay a cost or fee as a condition for participating. Voluntary contributions to the Party may be made, but under no circumstances shall a contribution be mandatory for participation. There is a fee for the state convention, which conducts business beyond delegate selection, but delegates

and alternates may apply for the fee to be waived. The fee will be set by the MDP Democratic State Committee. (*Rule 2.D & Reg. 4.4*)

- e. No person shall participate or vote in the nominating process for the Democratic presidential candidate who also participates in the nominating process of any other party for the corresponding election. (*Rule 2.E*)
- f. Votes shall not be taken by secret ballot at any stage of the delegate selection process, including processes leading up to the selection of DNC Members, except that use of such voting by secret ballot may be used in a process that is the first determining stage of the delegate selection process and in which all individual voters who wish to participate as Democrats are eligible to do so. *(Rule 2.F)*
- g. No person shall vote in more than one (1) meeting which is the first meeting in the delegate selection process. (*Rule 3.E & Reg. 4.7*)
- 2. Maine state law maintains the following standards in elections. It will:
  - a. Maintain secure and accurate state voter registration rolls, so that every eligible American who registers to vote has their personal information protected and secure; (*Rule 2.H.1*)
  - b. Implement transparent and accurate voter registration list maintenance procedures that comply with federal requirements and ensure that every eligible voter stays on the rolls; (*Rule 2.H.2*)
  - c. Promote the acquisition, maintenance, and regular replacement of precinct based optical scan voting systems; (*Rule 2.H.3*)
  - d. Ensure that any direct recording electronic systems in place have a voter verified paper record; (*Rule 2.H.4*)
  - e. Implement risk limiting post-election audits such as manual audits comparing paper records to electronic records; (*Rule 2.H.5*)
  - f. Ensure that all voting systems have recognized security measures; (Rule 2.H.6)
  - g. Use accessible and secure voting machines that make it possible for individuals with disabilities to vote securely and privately, with votes verifiable by voters; (*Rule 2.H.7*)
  - h. Provide educational materials to enhance public knowledge and confidence in election administration and counter disinformation; (*Rule 2.H.8*)

- i. Actively engaging with state and local officials to implement fair and honest election policies and practices; and (Rule 2.H.9)
- j. Support adequate funding for state and local election administration. (Rule 2.H.10)
- 3. Maine state law ensures the following: In accordance with the Democratic Party's requirement to assess and improve participation with respect to presidential preference and the delegate selection process. Our state will: (*Rule 2.I and 2.I.1*)
  - a. Expand access to voting, including by early voting, no excuse absentee voting, same-day voter registration, drop boxes and voting by mail; (*Rule 2.I.1.a*)
  - b. Ensure that voting locations are accessible, fairly placed, and adequate in number, and have a sufficient number of voting machines; (*Rule 2.1.1.b*)
  - c. Speed up the voting process and minimize long lines; (*Rule 2.1.1.c*)
  - d. Eliminate onerous and discriminatory voter identification requirements; (*Rule 2.1.1.d*)
  - e. Count and include in the final total ballots from voters who are eligible to vote but cast their ballots in the wrong precinct, for offices for which they are eligible to vote; and (*Rule 2.I.1.e*)
  - f. Facilitate military and overseas voting. (Rule 2. I.1.f)
  - g. Absentee voters may request an absentee ballot by filing a request form beginning three months before election day, and up to the third business day before the election.
- 4. The MDP supports the following: (*Rule 2.1.2*)
  - a. Voter registration modernization, including online voter registration and automatic and same-day registration; (Rule 2.I.2.a)
  - b. Pre-registration of high school students so that they are already registered once they reach voting age; (Rule 2.I.2.b)
  - c. Restoration of voting rights to all people who have served the time for their criminal conviction, without requiring the payment of court fees or fines; and (Rule 2.1.2.c)
  - d. Same-day or automatic registration of voters for the Democratic presidential nominating process.] (Rule 2.1.2.d)

5. The MDP regularly confers with Maine's Democratic governor and its Democratic Legislature to ensure that our primary elections are open and inclusive. The MDP also continually reviews its Charter for those purposes. There is a strong support in our party and state government to prevent voter suppression and disenfranchisement. Legislation was enacted last year to allow unaffiliated voters to vote in Democratic Party primaries without re-registering as Democrats. In the case of presidential primaries, a record of unaffiliated voters in the primary are kept in order to comply with DNC rules requiring that all presidential primary voters, regardless of registration, intended to vote as Democrats. Maine voters registered in other parties must change their registration to Democrat or unaffiliated 15 days before the presidential primary. *(Rule 2.J and Rule 2.J.1)* 

#### D. Scheduling of Delegate Selection Meetings

1. The dates, times and places for all official Party meetings and events related to Maine's delegate selection process will be scheduled to encourage the participation of all Democrats. Such meetings will begin and end at reasonable hours. (*Rule 3.A & Reg. 4.*)

## Section II Presidential Candidates

#### A. Ballot Access

A presidential candidate gains access to the Maine presidential preference primary ballot, by the following:

- 1. The MDP must certify to the Maine Sec. of State whether to hold a presidential primary election by Oct. 1, 2023.
- 2. Presidential candidates get petition forms from the Maine Secretary of State. They may begin collecting signatures on Oct. 1, 2023, and must be ready to submit them to municipal clerks by Nov. 20, 2023. Petitions must be filed with the Sec. of State by Dec. 1, 2023.
- 3. Petitions must be signed by at least 4,000 Maine Democratic registered voters and no more than 5,000.
- 4. There are no filing fees.
- 5. There will be no "uncommitted" listing on the ballot.
- 6. Write-in presidential candidates are allowed, provided they file a form with the Sec. of State's office by the 60<sup>th</sup> day before the primary election.

#### B. Other Requirements

- 1. Each presidential candidate shall certify in writing to the MDP Chair, the name(s) of their authorized representative(s) by Dec. 1, 2023. (*Rule 13.D.1*)
- 2. Each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) shall use their best efforts to ensure that their respective delegation within the state delegation achieves the affirmative action, outreach and inclusion goals established by this Plan and is equally divided between men and women. (*Rule 6.I*)

## Section III Selection of Delegates and Alternates

#### A. District-Level Delegates

- 1. Maine is allocated 16 district-level delegates and no district-level alternates. (Rule 8.C, Call I.B, I.I, & Appendix B
- 2. District-level delegates shall be elected by a state convention.
  - a. State convention delegates and alternates are elected without declaring a presidential preference at caucuses held Feb. 3, or 4, 2024. They declare their presidential preference as they register for the state convention on May TBD.
  - b. Candidates for national convention delegate will file a petition to declare their candidacy by April TBD, two weeks before the state convention. They will obtain the petition from the MDP, and will file it with the MDP by the deadline. The petition must contain the signatures of at least 25 state convention delegates and alternates.
  - c. The number of national delegate candidates assigned to each presidential candidate will depend on the presidential primary election results in each congressional district.
  - d. State convention delegates will vote for the national convention delegate candidates pledged to their presidential candidate and running in their congressional district. Each state convention delegate will vote for the numbers of delegates assigned to each presidential candidate on ballots separated by gender.
  - e. National delegate candidates elected will be balanced by gender, within each presidential preference, congressional district and in total district-level national delegates elected.
  - f. Gender balance is achieved by ensuring that the number of men and women elected in each category differ by no more than one.
  - g. Results of the elections will be announced as soon as possible after they are tabulated, and before consideration of the Party Leader/Elected Official national delegate candidates. Any national delegate candidate not elected may run at the PLEO (if they quality) or the At-Large level.

- 3. Apportionment of District-Level Delegates
  - a. Maine's district-level delegates are apportioned among the districts based on a formula giving equal weight to the vote for the Democratic candidates in the 2020 presidential and the 2022 gubernatorial elections. (*Rule 8.A, Reg. 4.12, Reg. 4.11 & Appendix A*)
    - (1) Using the latest presidential and gubernatorial elections as a basis for determining the number of delegates elected by each congressional district is the most accurate reflection of voting strength. It combines regularly Democratic votes with those unaffiliated or other party voters who are persuaded to vote for the Democratic candidates at the top of the ticket.
    - b. The number of men and the number of women in Maine's total number of district-level delegates will not vary by more than one. (*Rule 6.C.1 & Reg. 4.9*)
    - c. The district-level delegates are apportioned to districts as indicated in the following table, assuming no gender non-binary delegates:

District	Delegates			Alternates			
District	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
#1	4	5	9	0	0	0	
#2	4	3	7	0	0	0	
Total	8	8	16	0	0	0	

Alternates will be elected on a statewide basis, and not from the congressional districts.

- 4. District-Level Delegate Filing Requirements
  - a. A district-level delegate candidate may run for election only within the district in which they are registered to vote (*Rule 13.H*)
  - b. An individual can qualify as a candidate for district-level delegate to the 2024 Democratic National Convention by filing a statement of candidacy designating their singular presidential (or uncommitted) preference and a signed pledge of support for the presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) with the MDP by April TBD, two weeks before the state convention begins.
    - (1) District-level delegate candidates must submit a petition provided by the MDP, with the names of at least 25 state convention delegates or alternates. The filing form will be provided by the MDP by Feb. TBD.

- (2) A delegate or alternate candidate may modify their singular presidential preference by submitting an updated pledge of support no later than the filing deadline (*Rule 13.B, Rule 15.F & Reg. 4.22*)
- (3) Any national delegate candidate must be a registered Democrat and a Maine resident. (*Rule 1.A.7, Rule 1.A.8 & Reg. 4.22*)
- 5. Presidential Candidate Right of Review for District-Level Delegates
  - a. The MDP Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than May TBD, a week before the start of the state convention, a list of all persons who have filed for delegate pledged to that presidential candidate. (*Rule 13.D & Rule 13.F*)
  - b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must then file with the MDP Chair by May TBD, six days before the start of the state convention, a list of all such candidates they have approved, provided that approval be given to at least three (3) separate individuals for each position. (*Rule 13.E.1, Reg. 4.23 & Reg. 4.24*)
  - c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate.
  - d. National convention delegates and alternate candidates removed from the list of bona fide supporters by a presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), may not be elected as a delegate or alternate at that level pledged to that presidential candidate. (*Rule 13.E & Reg. 4.23*)
  - e. The MDP Chair shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective district-level delegate candidates meet the affirmative action and outreach and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved district-level delegate candidates as indicated in Section III.A.5.b of this Plan. (*Rule 6.1 & Reg.4.10.C*)
- 6. Fair Reflection of Presidential Preference
  - a. Presidential Primary Proportional Representation Plan (Rule 14.A, Rule 14.B & Rule 14.D)

The Maine presidential primary election is a "binding" primary. Accordingly, delegate and alternate positions shall be allocated so as to fairly reflect the expressed presidential (or uncommitted) preference of the primary voters in each district. The National Convention delegates selected at the district level shall be allocated in proportion to the percentage of the primary vote won in

that district by each preference, except those preferences falling below a 15% threshold shall not be awarded any delegates.

- b. Within a district, if no presidential preference reaches a 15% threshold, the threshold shall be half the percentage of the vote received in that district by the front-runner. (*Rule 14.F*)
- 7. Equal Division of District-Level Delegates
  - a. To ensure the district-level binary-gendered delegates are equally divided between men and women (determined by gender self-identification) the gender of the first binary delegate elected in each district will be designated. At the time of election of delegates in the district, the binary gender advantage will alternate as delegate positions are filled and the alternation shall continue across presidential preferences in order of vote-getting preference. In the case of non-binary gender delegates, they shall not be counted in either the male or female category, but do count towards the total delegate allotment. (*Rule 6.C.*, *Rule 6.C.1 & Reg. 4.10*)
- 8. The MDP Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) the election of Maine's district-level delegates to the Democratic National Convention within ten (10) days after their election. (*Rule 8.C & Call IV.A*)

#### B. Automatic Delegates

- 1. Automatic Party Leaders and Elected Officials
  - a. The following categories (if applicable) shall constitute the Automatic Party Leaders and Elected Official delegate positions:
    - (1) Members of the Democratic National Committee who legally reside in the state; (*Rule 9.A.1, Call I.F, Call I.J, & Reg. 4.15*)
    - (2) Democratic President and Democratic Vice President (if applicable); (Rule 9.A.2 & Call I.G)
    - (3) All of State's Democratic Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate; (*Rule 9.A.3, Call I.H & Call I.J*)
    - (4) The Democratic Governor (if applicable); (Rule 9.A.4, Call I.H & Call I.J)
    - (5) "Distinguished Party Leader" delegates who legally reside in Maine (if applicable); (*Rule 9.A.5, Call I.G & Reg. 4.14*)

- b. An Automatic delegate may run and be elected as a Pledged delegate. If an Automatic delegate is elected and certified as a Pledged delegate, that individual shall not serve as an Automatic delegate at the 2024 National Convention. *(Call I.J)*
- c. The certification process for the Automatic Party Leader and Elected Official delegates is as follows:
  - (1) Not later than March 6, 2024, the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee shall officially confirm to the State Democratic Chair the names of the Automatic delegates who legally reside in State. (*Rule 9.A*)
  - (2) Official confirmation by the Secretary shall constitute verification of the Automatic delegates from the categories indicated above. (*Call IV.B.1*)
  - (3) The MDP Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the DNC the presidential preference of Maine's Automatic delegates 10 days after the completion of the State's Delegate Selection Process. *(Call IV.C)*
- 2. For purposes of achieving equal division between delegate men and delegate women and alternate men and alternate women within the state's entire convention delegation (determined by gender self-identification), the entire delegation includes all pledged and Automatic delegates, including those who identify as male or female. (*Rule 6.C and Reg. 4.9*)

#### C. Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates (PLEOs)

- 1. Maine is allotted three pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) delegates. (*Call I.D, Call I.E & Appendix B*)
- 2. Pledged PLEO Delegate Filing Requirements
  - a. Individuals shall be eligible for the pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegate positions according to the following priority: big city mayors and state-wide elected officials (to be given equal consideration); state legislative leaders, state legislators, and other state, county and local elected officials and party leaders. Automatic delegates who choose to run for PLEO delegate will be given equal consideration with big city mayors and state-wide elected officials. (*Rule 10.A.1 & Reg. 4.16*)
  - An individual can qualify as a candidate for a position as a pledged PLEO delegate by filing a petition form provided by the MDP by April TBD, two weeks before the state convention. The petition form must contain the names of at least 25 state convention delegates and alternates. (*Rule 15.G, Reg.4.18 & Reg. 4.17*)

- 3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review
  - a. The MDP Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), no later than May TBD, a week before the start of the state convention, a list of all persons who have filed for a party and elected official delegate pledged to that presidential candidate. (*Rule 13.D*)
  - b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must file with the MDP Chair, by May TBD, at the state convention after the election of district-level delegates is announced, a list of all such candidates they have approved, as long as approval is given to at least two for every position to which the presidential candidate is entitled. (*Rule 13.E.2 & Reg. 4.24*)
  - c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate. (*Rule 13.D*)
  - d. The MDP Chair shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective pledged PLEO delegate candidates meet the affirmative action and outreach and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved pledged PLEO candidates as indicated in Section III.C.3.b of this Plan. (*Rule 6.1 & Reg. 4.10.C*)
- 4. Selection of Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates
  - a. The pledged PLEO slots shall be allocated among presidential preferences on the same basis as the at-large delegates. (*Rule 10.A.2, Rule 11.C, Rule 14.E & Rule 14.F*)
  - b. Selection of the pledged PLEO delegates will occur at (time) on (date) at the state convention, which is after the election of district-level delegates and alternates and prior to the selection of at-large delegates and alternates. (*Rule 10.A*)
    - (1) State convention delegates and alternates are elected without declaring a presidential preference at caucuses held Feb. 3, or 4, 2024. They declare their presidential preference as they register for the state convention on May TBD.
    - (2) Candidates for national convention delegate will file a petition to declare their candidacy by April TBD, two weeks before the state convention. They will obtain the petition from the MDP, and will file it with the MDP

by the deadline. The petition must contain the signatures of at least 25 state convention delegates and alternates.

- (3) The number of national delegate candidates assigned to each presidential candidate will depend on the presidential primary election results in each congressional district.
- (4) State convention delegates will vote for the national convention delegate candidates pledged to their presidential candidate. Each state convention delegate will vote for the numbers of delegates assigned to each presidential candidate on ballots separated by gender.
- (5) National delegate candidates elected will be balanced by gender.
- (6) Gender balance is achieved by ensuring that the number of men and women elected in each category differ by no more than one.
- (7) Results of the elections will be announced as soon as possible after they are tabulated, and before consideration of the At-Large delegates and alternates. Any PLEO delegate candidate not elected may run at the At-Large level.
- 5. The MDP Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the election of Maine's pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates to the Democratic National Convention within ten (10) days after their election. (*Call IV.A & Reg. 5.4.A*)

#### D. At-Large Delegates and Alternates

- 1. The state of Maine is allotted five (5) at-large delegates and two (2) at-large alternates. (*Rule 8.C, Call I.B, II, Appendix B & Reg. 4.32*
- 2. At-Large Delegate and Alternate Filing Requirements
  - a. Persons desiring to seek at-large delegate or alternate positions may file a statement of candidacy designating their singular presidential or uncommitted preference and a signed pledge of support for the presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) with the MDP by May TBA that will be two weeks before the state convention, on a form provided by the MDP. The form must include signatures from at least 25 state convention delegates and alternates. A delegate or alternate candidate may modify their singular presidential preference by submitting an updated pledge of support no later than the filing deadline. (*Rule 13.A., Rule 13.B, Rule 15.G, Reg. 4.21, Reg. 4.22, & Reg. 4.29*)

- b. The statement of candidacy for at-large delegates and for at-large alternates will be the same. After the at-large delegates are elected by the state convention, those persons not chosen will then be considered candidates for at-large alternate positions unless they specify otherwise when filing. (*Rule 19.A*)
- c. Upon a delegate's or alternate's selection at one level, any statement of candidacy by that individual for another level is nullified and that individual is ineligible to be considered for election at another level. (*Reg. 4.29*)
- 3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review
  - a. The MDP Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than May TBD, during the state convention, after the election of PLEO delegates, a list of all persons who have filed for delegate or alternate pledged to that presidential candidate. (Rule 13.D) (Reg. 4.23.D & Reg. 4.29.C)
  - b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must then file with the MDP Chair, by May TBD, during the state convention, a list of all such candidates they have approved, provided that, at a minimum, two remain for every national convention delegate or alternate position to which the presidential candidate is entitled. The list must be provided after the election of PLEO delegates and before the election of At-Large delegates and alternates begins. (*Rule 13.D.4, Rule 13.E.2 & Reg. 4.24*)
  - c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate.
  - d. The MDP Chair shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective at-large delegate candidates and at-large alternate candidates meet the affirmative action and outreach and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action and Outreach and Inclusion section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved at-large delegate candidates and at-large alternate candidates as indicated in this Section.
- 4. Fair Reflection of Presidential Preference
  - a. At-large delegate and alternate positions shall be allocated among presidential preferences according to the state-wide primary vote.

- b. Preferences which have not attained a 15% threshold on a statewide basis shall not be entitled to any at-large delegates. (*Rule 14.E*)
- c. If no presidential preference reaches a 15% threshold, the threshold shall be half the percentage of the statewide vote received by the front-runner. (*Rule* 14.F)
- d. If a presidential candidate otherwise entitled to an allocation is no longer a candidate at the time of selection of the at-large delegates, their allocation will be proportionally divided among the other preferences entitled to an allocation. (*Rule 11.C*)
- e. If a given presidential preference is entitled to one (1) or more delegate positions but would not otherwise be entitled to an alternate position, that preference shall be allotted one (1) at-large alternate position. (*Rule 19.B, Call I.I & Reg. 4.31*)
- 5. Selection of At-Large Delegates and Alternates
  - a. The selection of the at-large delegates and alternates will occur at the state convention on May TBD at TBD, which is after all pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates have been selected. (*Call III*)
    - Alternates will not be listed separately on the ballot. Alternate positions will be offered depending on vote performance, gender balance, and representation goals. State convention delegates and alternates are elected without declaring a presidential preference at caucuses held Feb. 3, or 4, 2024. They declare their presidential preference as they register for the state convention on May TBD.
    - (2) Candidates for national convention delegate will file a petition to declare their candidacy by April TBD, two weeks before the state convention. They will obtain the petition from the MDP, and will file it with the MDP by the deadline. The petition must contain the signatures of at least 25 state convention delegates and alternates.
    - (3) The number of national delegate candidates assigned to each presidential candidate will depend on the presidential primary election results in each congressional district.
    - (4) State convention delegates will vote for the national convention delegate candidates pledged to their presidential candidate. Each state convention delegate will vote for the numbers of delegates assigned to each presidential candidate on ballots separated by gender.
    - (5) National delegate candidates elected will be balanced by gender.
    - (6) Gender balance is achieved by ensuring that the number of men and women elected in each category differ by no more than one.

- (7) Results of the elections will be announced as soon as possible after they are tabulated.
- c. Priority of Consideration
  - (1) In the selection of the at-large delegation priority of consideration shall be given to African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and women, if such priority of consideration is needed to fulfill the affirmative action goals outlined in the state's Delegate Selection Plan. (*Rule 6.A.3*)
  - (2) To continue the Democratic Party's ongoing efforts to include groups historically under-represented in the Democratic Party's affairs and to assist in the achievement of full participation by these groups, priority of consideration shall be given other groups by virtue of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identify, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, economic status or disability. (*Rule 5.C, Rule 6.A.3, Rule 7 & Reg. 4.8*)
  - (3) The election of at-large delegates shall be used, if necessary, to achieve the equal division of positions between men and women as far as mathematically practicable, and may be used to achieve the representation goals established in the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program section of this Plan. The election of at-large alternates shall be used, if necessary, to achieve the equal division of positions between men and women as far as mathematically practicable, and may be used to achieve the representation goals established in the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program section of this Plan. (*Rule 6.A, Rule 6.C and Reg. 4.9*)
  - (4) Since Maine has only two alternates, a combined delegation of 32 delegates and two alternates will be used for determining representation goals. (*Rule 6.C.1, Rule 11.A, Reg. 4.9 & Reg. 4.19*)
- 6. The MDP Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the election of Maine's at-large delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention within 10 days after their election. (*Rule 8.C & Call IV.A*)

#### E. Replacement of Delegates and Alternates

- 1. A pledged delegate or alternate may be replaced according to the following guidelines:
  - a. Permanent Replacement of a Delegate: (Rule 19.D.3)

- (1) A permanent replacement occurs when a delegate resigns or dies prior to or during the national convention and the alternate replaces the delegate for the remainder of the National Convention.
- (2) Any alternate permanently replacing a delegate shall be of the same presidential preference (including uncommitted status) and gender of the delegate they replace, and to the extent possible shall be from the same political subdivision within the state as the delegate.
  - (a) In the case where the presidential candidate has only one (1) alternate, that alternate shall become the certified delegate.
  - (b) If a presidential candidate has only one (1) alternate, and that alternate permanently replaces a delegate of a different gender, thereby causing the delegation to no longer be equally divided, the delegation shall not be considered in violation of Rule 6.C. In such a case, notwithstanding Rule 19.D.2, the national convention delegation shall, at the time of a subsequent permanent replacement, replace a delegate with a person of a different gender, in order to return the delegation to equal division of men and women. (*Reg. 4.34*)
- (3) If a delegate or alternate candidate who has been elected but not certified to the DNC Secretary resigns, dies, or is no longer eligible to serve, they shall be replaced, after consultation with the MDP, by the authorized representative of the presidential candidate to whom they are pledged. (*Rule 19.D.2*)
- b. Temporary Replacement of a Delegate: (Rule 19.D.4)
  - (1) A temporary replacement occurs when a delegate is to be absent for a limited period of time during the convention and an alternate temporarily acts in the delegate's place.
  - (2) Any alternate who temporarily replaces a delegate must be of the same presidential preference (including uncommitted status) as the delegate they replace, and to the extent possible shall be of the same gender and from the same political subdivision within the state as the delegate.
- c. If there is a delegate vacancy, the delegation will choose an alternate. (*Rule* 19.D.1)

- d. Certification of Replacements
  - (1) Any alternate who permanently replaces a delegate shall be certified in writing to the Secretary of the DNC by the MDP Chair. (*Rule 19.D.3*)
  - (2) Permanent replacement of a delegate (as specified above) by an alternate and replacement of a vacant alternate position shall be certified in writing by the MDP Chair to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the replacement is selected. (*Call IV.D.1*)
  - (3) Certification of permanent replacements will be accepted by the Secretary up to 72 hours before the first official session of the Convention is scheduled to convene. (*Call IV.D.1 & Reg. 4.33*)
  - (4) In the case where a pledged delegate is permanently replaced after 72 hours before the time the first session is scheduled to convene or, in the case where a pledged delegate is not on the floor of the Convention Hall at the time a roll call vote is taken, an alternate may be designated (as specified above) to cast the delegate's vote. In such case, the Delegation Chair shall indicate the name of the alternate casting the respective delegate's vote on the delegation tally sheet. (*Call IX.F.3.e, Call IX.F.3.c & Reg. 5.6*)
- e. A vacant alternate position shall be filled by the delegation. The replacement shall be of the same presidential preference (or uncommitted status), of the same gender and, to the extent possible, from the same political subdivision as the alternate being replaced. (*Rule 19.E*)
- 2. Automatic delegates shall not be entitled to a replacement, nor shall the state be entitled to a replacement, except under the following circumstances: (Call IV.D.2 & Reg. 4.35)
  - a. Members of Congress and the Democratic Governor shall not be entitled to name a replacement. In the event of changes or vacancies in the state's Congressional Delegation, following the official confirmation and prior to the commencement of the National Convention, the DNC Secretary shall recognize only such changes as have been officially recognized by the Democratic Caucus of the U.S. House of Representatives or the Democratic Conference of the U.S. Senate. In the event of a change or vacancy in the state's office of Governor, the DNC shall recognize only such changes as have been officially recognized by the Democratic Governors' Association. (*Call IV.D.2.a*)
  - b. Members of the Democratic National Committee shall not be entitled to a replacement, nor shall the state be entitled to a replacement, except in the

#### Maine 2024 Delegate Selection Plan

case of death of such delegates. In the case where Maine's DNC membership changes following the DNC Secretary's official confirmation, but prior to the commencement of the 2024 Democratic National Convention, acknowledgment by the Secretary of the new DNC member certification shall constitute verification of the corresponding change of Automatic delegates. (*Call, IV.D.2.b*)

- c. Automatic distinguished Party Leader delegates allocated to the state pursuant to Rule 9.A.(5), shall not be entitled to name a replacement, nor shall the state be entitled to name a replacement. (*Call IV.D.2.c*)
- d. In no case may an alternate cast a vote for an Automatic delegate. (Call IX.F.3.e)

## **Section IV**

## **Selection of Convention Standing Committee Members**

#### A. Introduction

- 1. Maine has been allocated one member(s) on each of the three (3) standing committees for the 2024 Democratic National Convention (Credentials, Platform and Rules), for a total of three members. *(Call VII.A & Appendix D)*
- 2. Members of the Convention Standing Committees need not be delegates or alternates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention. *(Call VII.A.3)*
- 3. These members will be selected in accordance with the procedures indicated below. (*Rule 1.G*)

#### B. Standing Committee Members

- 1. Selection Meeting
  - a. The members of the standing committees shall be elected by a quorum of Maine's National Convention delegates, at a meeting to be held on May TBD, after the state convention. (*Call VII.B.1*)
  - b. All members of the delegation shall receive adequate notice of the time, date and place of the meeting to select the standing committee members. (Call VII.B.1)
- 2. Allocation of Members
  - a. The members of the standing committees allocated to Maine shall proportionately represent the presidential preference of all candidates (including uncommitted status) receiving the threshold percentage used in the state's delegation to calculate the at-large apportionment pursuant to Rule 14.E. of the Delegate Selection Rules. (*Call VII.C.1 & Reg. 5.9*)
  - b. The presidential preference of each candidate receiving the applicable percentage or more within the delegation shall be multiplied by the total number of standing committee positions allocated to Maine. If the result of such multiplication does not equal 0.455 or above, the presidential preference in question is not entitled to representation on the standing committee. If the result of such multiplication is 0.455 but less than 1.455, the presidential preference is entitled to one (1) position. Those preferences securing more than 1.455 but less than 2.455 are entitled to two (2) positions, etc. (Call VII.C.2)

- c. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation exceeding the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is farthest from its eventual rounded-off total shall be denied that one (1) additional position. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation falling short of the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is closest to the next rounding level shall be allotted an additional committee position. (*Call VII.C.3*)
- d. Standing committee positions allocated to a presidential candidate shall be proportionately allocated, to the extent practicable, to each of the three (3) standing committees. When such allocation results in an unequal distribution of standing committee positions by candidate preference, a drawing shall be conducted to distribute the additional positions. (*Call VII.C.4*)
- 3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review
  - a. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), shall be given adequate notice of the date, time and location of the meeting of Maine's delegation authorized to elect standing committee members. (Call VII.D.1)
  - b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must submit to the MDP Chair, by May TBD, during the state convention and after the election of all national delegates and alternates, a minimum of (1) name for each slot awarded to that candidate for members of each committee. The delegation shall select the standing committee members from among names submitted by the presidential candidates (including uncommitted status). Presidential candidates shall not be required to submit the name of more than one (1) person for each slot awarded to such candidate for members of standing committees. *(Call VII.D.2)*
- 4. Selection Procedure to Achieve Equal Division
  - a. Presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) shall use their best efforts to ensure that their respective delegation of standing committee members shall achieve Maine's affirmative action, outreach and inclusion goals and that their respective male and female members are equally divided between the men and women determined by gender self-identification. (Rule 6.1 & Reg. 4.10)
  - b. The first binary gender position on each standing committee shall be assigned by binary gender as self-identified. For example, the first binary position on the Credentials Committee of the presidential candidate with the most standing

#### Maine 2024 Delegate Selection Plan

committee positions shall be designated for a female, and the next binary position, if one occurs, will be designated for a male or non-binary person. The remaining binary positions, to the extent they occur, shall be designated in like fashion, alternating between males and females, where applicable. For avoidance of doubt: there is no requirement that positions be assigned to gender non-binaries but the described alternation of binary genders may not be used to exclude a gender non-binary from consideration for a committee position. Positions for presidential candidates on each committee shall be ranked according to the total number of standing positions allocated to each such candidate. After positions on the Credentials Committee are designated by gender, the designation shall continue with the Platform Committee, then the Rules Committee.

- (1) A separate election shall be conducted for membership on each standing committee.
- (2) The male and female membership of the standing committees shall be as equally divided among the men and women as possible under the state allocation; the variance between men and women in any committee and among the three committees in aggregate shall not exceed one. (Call VII.E.2)
- (3) Gender non-binary committee members shall not be counted as either a male or female, and the remainder of the delegation shall be equally divided between male gender (men) and female gender (women). (Call VII.E.1)
- (4) The positions allocated to each presidential candidate on each committee shall be voted on separately, and the winners shall be the highest vote-getter(s) of the appropriate gender.
- 5. Certification and Substitution
  - a. The MDP Chair shall certify the standing committee members in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after their selection. *(Call VII.B.3)*
  - b. No substitutions will be permitted in the case of standing committee members, except in the case of resignation or death. Substitutions must be made in accordance with the rules and the election procedures specified in this section, and must be certified in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the substitute member is selected but not later than 48 hours before the respective standing committee meets, except in the case of death. (Call VII.B.4)

## Section V Delegation Chair and Convention Pages

#### A. Introduction

Maine will select one (1) person to serve as Delegation Chair and one (1) person to serve as Convention Page. (Call IV.E, Call IV.F.1 & Appendix C)

#### B. Delegation Chair

- 1. Selection Meeting
  - a. The Delegation Chair shall be selected by a quorum of the state's National Convention Delegates, at a meeting to be held on May TBD, the day after the state convention. (*Call IV.E & Call VII.B.1*)
  - b. All members of the delegation shall receive timely notice of the time, date and place of the meeting to select the Delegation Chair. (*Rule 3.C*)
- 2. The MDP Chair shall certify the Delegation Chair in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after their selection. *(Call IV.E)*

#### C. Convention Page

- 1. One person will be selected to serve as State's Convention Pages by the MDP Chair in consultation with the members of the Democratic National Committee from the state. This selection will take place May TBD, a day after the state convention. (Call IV.F.3, Appendix C & Reg. 5.7)
- 3. The MDP Chair shall certify the person to serve as Maines Convention Page in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the selection (*Call IV.F.3 & Reg. 5.7.B*)

## Section VI Presidential Electors

#### A. Introduction

Maine will select four (4) persons to serve as Presidential Electors for the 2024 Presidential election. Two (2) will serve as at-large electors, and two (2) will serve as electors for their congressional districts.

#### B. Selection of Presidential Electors

The Presidential Electors shall be selected by the state convention.

- 1. Candidates are nominated by petition. The petition form will be available from the MDP, and must be submitted to the MDP, with the signatures of 25 state convention delegates and alternates, by April TBD, two weeks before the state convention.
- 2. The state convention elects the electors after national convention delegates and alternates are elected.
- 3. Candidates for elector will run in the congressional district where they are registered to vote.
- 4. State convention delegates will vote for two electors in the congressional district where they are registered. The candidate finishing first will decide whether to serve as the at-large elector or as the elector in their congressional district. The candidate finishing second will take the remaining position.

#### C. Affirmation

- 1. Each candidate for Presidential Elector shall certify in writing that they will vote for the election of the Democratic Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees. *(Call VIII)*
- 2. In the selection of the Presidential Electors, the MDP will take the following steps to ensure the persons selected are bona fide Democrats who are faithful to the interests, welfare, and success of the Democratic Party of the United States, who subscribe to the substance, intent and principles of the Charter and the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States:
  - a. MDP will ensure that a candidate is a registered Democrat voting in Maine before placing that candidate on the ballot.
  - b. Maine state law requires an elector to vote for the presidential candidate winning their district. In Maine, the electoral vote for each congressional

district goes to the candidate who won that district, and the votes of the two statewide electors go to the candidate who wins the statewide vote.

## Section VII General Provisions and Procedural Guarantees

- A. The MDP reaffirms its commitment to an open party by incorporating the "six basic elements" as listed below. As our Party strives to progress in the fight against discrimination of all kinds, these six basic elements have evolved and grown along with the constant push for more inclusion and empowerment. These provisions demonstrate the intention of the Democratic Party to ensure a full opportunity for all minority group members to participate in the delegate selection process. (*Rule 4.A, Rule 4.B & Rule 4.C*)
  - 1. All public meetings at all levels of the MDP should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, economic status or disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as "status"). (*Rule 4.B.1*)
  - 2. No test for membership in, nor any oaths of loyalty to, the MDP should be required or used which has the effect of requiring prospective or current members of the Democratic Party to acquiesce in, condone or support discrimination based on "status." (*Rule 4.B.2*)
  - 3. The time and place for all public meetings of the MDP on all levels should be publicized fully and, in such manner, as to assure timely notice to all interested persons. Such meetings must be held in places accessible to all Party members and large enough to accommodate all interested persons. (*Rule 4.B.3*)
  - 4. The MDP, on all levels, should support the broadest possible registration without discrimination based on "status." (*Rule 4.B.4*)
  - 5. The MDP should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the legal and practical procedures for selection of Democratic Party officers and representatives on all levels. Publication of these procedures should be done in such fashion that all prospective and current members of the MDP will be fully and adequately informed of the pertinent procedures in time to participate in each selection procedure at all levels of the Democratic Party organization. As part of this, the MDP should develop a strategy to provide education programs directly to voters who continue to experience confusing timelines for registration, changing party affiliation deadlines, or lack of awareness of the process for running for delegate, to ensure all Democratic voters understand the rules and timelines and their impact on voter participation. (*Rule 4.B.5*)
  - 6. The MDP should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties, a complete description of the legal and practical qualifications of all positions as officers and representatives of the MDP. Such publication should be done in timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected

or appointed position within the MDP will have full and adequate opportunity to compete for office. (*Rule 4.B.6*)

- B. Discrimination on the basis of "status" in the conduct of Democratic Party affairs is prohibited. (*Rule 5.B*)
- C. Maine's delegation shall be equally divided between delegate men and delegate women, and alternate men and alternate women, i.e. the number of men and women shall not vary by more than one. Such goal applies to the entire delegation, which includes all pledged delegates and alternates and all automatic delegates. In the case of gender non-binary delegates or alternates, they shall not be counted as either a male or female, and the remainder of the delegation shall be equally divided by gender. (*Rule 6.C*)
- D. All delegate and alternate candidates must be identified as to presidential preference or uncommitted status at all levels which determine presidential preference. (*Rule 13.A*)
- E. No delegate at any level of the delegate selection process shall be mandated by law or Party rules to vote contrary to that person's presidential choice as expressed at the time the delegate is elected. (*Rule 13.I*)
- F. Delegates elected to the national convention pledged to a presidential candidate shall in all good conscience reflect the sentiments of those who elected them. (*Rule 13.J*)
- G. Each delegate, alternate and standing committee member must be a bona fide Democrat, who is faithful to the interests, welfare and success of the Democratic Party of the United States, who subscribes to the substance, intent and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States, and who will participate in the Convention in good faith. (*Rule 13.H, Call VII.A.4 & Reg. 4.25*)
- H. Forty percent of the members of any Party body above the first level of the delegate selection process shall constitute a quorum for any business pertaining to the selection of National Convention delegates, alternates, standing committee members, and other official Convention participants. (*Rule 16*)
- I. Proxy voting is not permitted by the MDP Charter. (Rule 17 & Reg. 4.30)
- J. The unit rule, or any rule or practice whereby all members of a Party unit or delegation may be required to cast their votes in accordance with the will of a majority of the body, shall not be used at any stage of the delegate selection process. (*Rule 18.A*)
- K. Any individual or group of Democrats may sponsor or endorse a slate of candidates for convention delegates. But no slate may, by virtue of such endorsement, receive a preferential place on a delegate selection ballot or be publicly identified on the ballot as the official Democratic Party organization slate, and all slates must meet identical

qualifying requirements for appearing on a ballot at all levels of the delegate selection process. (*Rule 18.B*)

- L. All steps in the delegate selection process, except the filing of presidential candidates as allowed by rule 15.D, must take place within the calendar year of the Democratic National Convention, except with respect to the implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Programs or as otherwise allowed. (Rule 1.F & Rule 12.B)
- M. In electing and certifying delegates and alternates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention, the MDP hereby undertakes to assure all Democratic voters in Maine, a full, timely and equal opportunity to participate in the delegate selection process and in all Party affairs and to implement affirmative action and outreach and inclusion plans toward that end; that the delegates and alternates to the Convention shall be selected in accordance with the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2024 Democratic National Convention; and that the delegates certified will not publicly support or campaign for any candidate for President or Vice President other than the nominees of the Democratic National Convention. (Call II.B)

## **Section VIII**

## Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program

#### A. Statement of Purpose and Organization

- 1. Purpose and Objectives
  - a. To make sure that the Democratic Party at all levels be an open Party which includes rather than excludes people from participation, a program of effective affirmative action is hereby adopted by Maine. (*Rule 5.A*)
  - b. Discrimination on the basis of "status" in the conduct of Democratic Party affairs is prohibited. (*Rule 5.B*)
  - c. All public meetings at all levels of the MDP should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, economic status or disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as "status"). (*Rule 4.B.1*)
  - d. Consistent with the Democratic Party's commitment to including groups historically under-represented in the Democratic Party's affairs, by virtue of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or disability, Maine has established goals for these groups. (*Rule 5.C & Reg. 4.8*)
  - e. To encourage full participation by all Democrats in the delegate selection process and in all Party affairs, the MDP has adopted and will implement programs with specific goals and timetables for African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and women. To further encourage full participation in the process, the State Party has established goals and timetables for other underrepresented groups, including the LGBTQ+ community, people with disabilities, and youth. (*Rule 6.A & Rule 7*)
    - (1) The goal of the programs shall be to encourage participation in the delegate selection process and in Party organizations at all levels by the aforementioned groups as indicated by their presence in the Democratic electorate. (*Rule 6.A.1*)
    - (2) For the delegate selection process, "Youth" is defined as any participant younger than 36 years old at the time of election. (*Reg. 5.3.A*)

- (3) For the delegate selection process, individuals identifying as Native Americans should provide their tribal affiliation and indicate if they are enrolled in a tribe. (*Reg. 5.3.B*)
- (4) These goals shall not be accomplished either directly or indirectly by the Party's imposition of mandatory quotas at any level of the delegate selection process or in any other Party affairs. (*Rule 6.A.2*)
- 2. Organizational Structure
  - a. An Affirmative Action Committee shall be appointed by the MDP Chair on March 1, 2024. The Chair may appoint a new committee or use a previously organized body appointed by the MDP Chair. (*Rule 6.F*)
  - b. The MDP Chair shall certify in writing to the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the Democratic National Committee the compliance of the State's Affirmative Action Committee with Rules 5.C, 6.A and 7, and submit the names, demographic data and contact information of the members no later than 15 days after their appointment. (*Reg. 2.2.J*)
  - c. The Committee shall consist of members who are regionally diverse and represent the Democratic constituency groups set forth in the Introduction to the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program.
  - d. The Affirmative Action Committee shall be responsible for:
    - (1) Helping develop and design the proposed Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program and making recommendations to the State Democratic Chair. (*Rule 6.F*)
    - (2) Directing the implementation of all requirements of the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program section of this Plan.
    - (3) Implementing a specific outreach and financial assistance program for persons of low and moderate income to encourage their participation and representation in the national convention delegation. (*Rule 6.G*)
    - (4) Ensuring, on behalf of the MDP, that district lines used in the delegate selection process are not gerrymandered to discriminate against African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and women. (*Rule 6.E*)
  - e. Financial and staff support for the Affirmative Action Committee shall be provided by the MDP to the greatest extent feasible, including, but not limited

to, making the MDP and volunteers available on a priority basis and covering all reasonable costs incurred in carrying out this Plan.

3. Implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program shall begin on Sept. 15, 2023, with the distribution of the press kits, and will continue through the end of the delegate selection process. (*Rule 1.F*)

#### B. Representation Goals

- 1. In cooperation with the National Committee, the MDP has determined the demographic composition of African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Maine's Democratic electorate. These constituency percentages shall be established as goals for representation in the state's convention delegation. (*Rule 6.A*)
- 2. In cooperation with the National Committee, the MDP has determined the demographic composition of members of the LGBTQ+ community, people with disabilities, and youth in the state's Democratic electorate. The MDP has chosen to establish these percentages as goals for representation in the state's convention delegation (*Rule 7 & Reg. 4.8.C.iii*)
- 3. The Maine Democratic Party has reviewed 2020 U.S. Census Bureau data, recent population estimates and polling data to identify likely Democratic voters in the 2020 Presidential election, in developing its best estimate of the demographic composition of African Americans, Hispanic/Latin Americans, Native Americans, Asian & Pacific Americans, The LGBTQ+ community, Youth, and People with Disabilities in Maine's Democratic electorate. These constituency percentages shall be established as inclusion goals for representation in Maine's National Convention delegation. The Maine Democratic Party will also continue making its best efforts to reach out to other underrepresented constituencies for which precise demographic statistics are not available and to ensure their fair representation and active participation. These constituencies include people of other ethnic backgrounds, unorganized Workers, people with a high school diploma or less, and people of low and moderate income.
- 4. The Maine Democratic Party has taken reasonable steps to determine the composition of members of the LGBTQ+ community and people with disabilities in Maine's Democratic electorate. An earlier poll estimated Maine's LBGTQ+ population at 8.9% of the state's total population. Polling has shown that 69 percent of LGBTQ+ voters backed Clinton in 2016, and 81 percent voted for Biden in 2020. Based upon these numbers, we conclude that LGBTQ+ people make up 12% of the Democratic electorate in Maine.

The Maine Democratic Party reviewed data supplied by AbilityMaine, a support group for Persons with Disabilities. They claim that 21% of people in Maine have a

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disability. They also feel this is a low number because of the reticence of some people to self-identify as having a disability. As with the LGBTQ+ community, accurately determining the percentage of people with disabilities within the Democratic electorate is difficult, because available polling (including exit polls, media surveys, and internal polling) do not include crosstabs for respondents who reside in Maine and have a disability.

- 5. According to the voter file used by the Maine Democratic Party, 21% of Democratic voters are 36 or younger.
- 6. When selecting the at-large portion of the delegation, the demographic composition of the rest of the delegation (district-level, pledged PLEO, and automatic) shall be compared with the Maine Democratic Party's goals in order to achieve an at-large selection process that helps to bring about a representative balance. To that end, information regarding priorities shall be provided before voting for district-level delegates in an effort to educate State Convention delegates about party affirmative action goals and the demographic characteristics of the delegates who have already been chosen.
- 7. Use of the at-large delegation to achieve the affirmative action goals established by this Plan does not diminish the need for the Maine Democratic Party to conduct outreach activities such as recruitment, education, and training, and to encourage Democrats from all demographic constituencies to participate in all aspects of the process. (Rule 6.A.(3)

	African Americans	Hispanics	Native Americans	Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders	LGBTQ+ Americans	People with Disabilities	Youth
Percent in Democratic Electorate	2%	2%	2%	1%	12%	21%	21%
Numeric Goals for Delegates	1	1	1	1	4	7	7

- 8. When selecting the at-large portion of the delegation, the demographic composition of the other delegates (district-level, pledged PLEO, and Automatic) shall be compared with the MDP's representation goals to achieve an at-large selection process that helps to bring about a representative balance. (*Rule 11.A*)
- 9. Although the selection of the at-large delegation may be used to fulfill the affirmative action goals established by this Plan, the MDP will conduct outreach and inclusion activities such as recruitment, education and training at all levels of the delegate selection process. (*Rule 6.A.3*)

#### C. Efforts to Educate on the Delegate Selection Process

- 1. Well-publicized educational workshops will be conducted in each of the delegate districts beginning in September 2023. These workshops will be designed to encourage participation in the delegate selection process, including apprising potential delegate and alternate candidates of the availability of financial assistance. These workshops will be held in places that are easily accessible to persons with disabilities. The times, dates, places and rules for the conduct of all education workshops, meetings and other events involved in the delegate selection process shall be effectively publicized by the party organization and include mailings to various organizations representative of the Democratic voting electorate. (*Rule 3.A, Rule 3.C & Rule 3.D*)
- 2. A speakers' bureau of volunteers from the MDP, including the Affirmative Action Committee, shall be comprised of individuals who are fully familiar with the process and will be available to appear before groups, as needed, to provide information concerning the process.
- 3. The MDP's education efforts will include outreach to community leaders within the Democratic Party's constituencies and ensuring that information about the delegate selection process is available to Democratic clubs and Party caucuses representing specific constituencies.
- 4. The MDP will publish, and make available at no cost, a clear and concise explanation of how Democratic voters can participate in the delegate selection process. As well, the MDP shall also make available copies of the MDP Charter, MDP rules and procedures related to the delegate selection process, the Delegate Selection Plan (and its attachments), the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program, and relevant state statutes at no cost. Copies of documents related to Maine's delegate selection process will be prepared and the MDP and Affirmative Action Committee will distribute them in the various delegate districts not later than Dec. 5, 2023. (*Rule 1.H*)
- 5. Participation in the delegate selection process shall be open to all voters who wish to participate as Democrats. Democratic voters shall be those persons who publicly declare their Party preference and have that preference publicly recorded. (*Rule 2.A*)
- 6. The MDP shall take all feasible steps to encourage non-affiliated voters and new voters to register or enroll, to provide simple procedures through which they may do so and to eliminate excessively long waiting periods for voters who wish to register or to change their party enrollment status. (*Rule 2.C*)
- 7. The Affirmative Action Committee will develop a MDP strategy to be implemented beginning Sept. 15, 2023 that will provide education programs directly to voters who continue to experience confusing timelines for voter registration and deadlines for
changing party affiliation, or who are unaware of the process for running for delegate, so that all Democratic voters understand the rules and timelines and their impact on voter participation. (*Rule 4.B.5*)

# D. Efforts to Publicize the Delegate Selection Process

- 1. The MDP shall direct special attention to publicizing the delegate selection process in the state. Such publicity shall include information on eligibility to vote and how to become a candidate for delegate, the time and location of each stage of the delegate selection process, and where to get additional information. The foregoing information will also be published in the MDP's communications and on its website. The Party organization, official, candidate, or member calling a meeting or scheduling an event, shall effectively publicize the role that such meeting or event plays in the selection of delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention. (*Rule 3.C & Rule 3.D*)
- 2. The MDP shall have a Delegate Selection Media Plan (see Attachment) for using all available and appropriate resources, such as social media, websites, newspapers, radio and television, to inform the general public how, when and where to participate in the delegate selection process. Specifically, the Delegate Selection Media Plan will provide details as to how to qualify to run as a delegate candidate. Regular updates should be posted/released throughout the state's delegate selection process to ensure broad and timely coverage and awareness about the process to all interested persons. (*Rule 4.B.3 & Rule 6.D*)
- 3. A priority effort, as described in the Delegate Selection Media Plan, shall be directed at publicity among the Democratic Party's constituencies.
  - a. Information about the delegate selection process will be posted on and made available to social and specialty media directed toward the Democratic constituency groups set forth in the introduction of this Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program.
  - b. The MDP shall be responsible for the implementation of this publicity effort. For purposes of providing adequate notice of the delegate selection process, the times, dates, places and rules for the conduct of municipal/regional caucuses, the state convention, and all filing deadlines shall be effectively publicized to encourage the participation of minority groups. Parties will make a good faith effort to publicize this information in an accessible manner and multilingually where necessary. (*Rule 6.D*)
- 4. Not later than Sept. 15, 2023, the MDP will make information about the delegate selection process available on its website and publicize the resource through press releases and communications to Party leaders, activists and targeted constituencies. Information to be posted on the website will include:

- a. Materials designed to encourage participation and inform prospective delegate candidates;
- b. A summary explaining the role of the 2024 Convention in nominating the Party's Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates and adopting the National Platform;
- c. A summary of the MDP's delegate selection process including all pertinent rules, dates, and filing requirements related to the process;
- d. A map of delegate districts and how many delegates will be elected within each district, along with filing forms or information on how to obtain the filing forms.

# E. Obligations of Presidential Candidates to Maximize Participation

- 1. Presidential candidates shall assist the MDP in meeting the demographic representation goals reflected in the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program. (*Rule 6.H*)
- 2. Each presidential candidate must submit a written statement to the MDP Chair by Dec. 1, 2023 which indicates the specific steps they will take to encourage full participation by their supporters in Maine's delegate selection process, including, but not limited to, procedures by which persons may file as candidates for delegate or alternate pledged to the presidential candidate. (*Rule 6.H.1*)
- 3. Each presidential candidate must submit demographic information with respect to all candidates for delegate and alternate pledged to them. Such information shall be submitted in conjunction with the list of names approved for consideration as delegate and alternate candidates pledged to the presidential candidate. (*Rule 6.H.2*)
- 4. Presidential candidates shall use their best effort to ensure that their respective delegates, alternates and standing committee members shall achieve the affirmative action goals reflected in the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program and that the number of men and the number of women in their respective delegations shall not differ by more than one (as determined by gender self-identification). Furthermore, presidential candidates shall use their best efforts at the district level to approve delegate, alternate, and standing committee candidates who meet applicable equal division and affirmative action considerations to promote and achieve the state's affirmative action, outreach and inclusion goals and equal division for their respective delegations. (*Rule 6.C., Rule 6.I & Reg. 4.10*)

# F. Outreach and Inclusion Program

- 1. The MDP is committed to help achieve full participation of those groups of Americans who have historically been explicitly denied the right to vote or who have been subjected to discriminatory and exclusionary practices that have denied them voting rights and full participation in the delegate selection process and other Party meetings, events and elections, along with other groups of Americans who are also underrepresented in Party affairs.
- 2. As such, the MDP has developed outreach and inclusion programs and is committed to fully implementing the programs so that all persons who wish to participate as Democrats understand they are welcome and encouraged to be a part of the delegate selection process and in the Party at the local, state and national levels.
- 3. The MDP will make accommodations to facilitate greater participation by people with disabilities, including access, and assistance for those with hearing and vision difficulties.
- 4. In addition to the education, publicity and other steps described above, the MDP will:
  - Seek to hold meetings describing the Delegate Selection Plan with all groups having an affinity with Democratic Party. These groups would include people of color, sexual orientation, economic status, and people with disabilities.
  - Publicize the delegate selection plan through the MDP website, Facebook accounts, emails, and media outlets.
  - Meet with Maine Democratic Party affiliates to inform members of the delegate selection plan.
  - Hold training sessions throughout Maine for those wanting to participate.

# Section IX Challenges

# A. Jurisdiction & Standing

- 1. Challenges related to the delegate selection process are governed by the *Regulations* of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee for the 2024 Democratic National Convention (Reg. Sec. 3), and the "Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2024 Democratic National Convention." (Call Appendix A)
- 2. Under Rule 21.B. of the 2024 Delegate Selection Rules, the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee has jurisdiction over challenges pertaining to the submission, non-implementation and violation of State Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program. (*Rule 21.B & Call Appendix A*)
- 3. The Rules and Bylaws Committee has jurisdiction to hear and decide any challenge provided it is initiated before the 56th day preceding the date of the commencement of the 2024 Democratic National Convention. *(Call Appendix A & Reg. 3.1)*
- 4. Challenges to the credentials of delegates and alternates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention initiated on or after the 56th day preceding the date of commencement of the Democratic National Convention shall be processed in accordance with the "Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2024 Democratic National Convention." (Call Appendix A)
- 5. Any challenge to the credentials of a standing committee member shall be considered and resolved by the affected standing committee in accordance with Appendix A of the *Call for the 2024 Democratic National Convention*. The Rules and Bylaws Committee shall have jurisdiction over challenges brought before the 56th day preceding the date of the commencement of the Democratic National Convention. (*Call VII.B.5*)
- 6. Copies of the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee and/or the Call for the 2024 Democratic National Convention, including the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee (*Appendix A*), shall be made available by the MDP upon reasonable request.
- 7. Any group of 15 Democrats with standing to challenge as defined in Reg. 3.2 or the Call (*Appendix A, Sec. 2.A*), may bring a challenge to this Plan or to the implementation of this Plan, including its Affirmative Action provisions.

# B. Challenges to the Status of the State Party and Challenges to the Plan

- 1. A challenge to the status of the MDP as the body entitled to sponsor a delegation from Maine shall be filed with the Rules and Bylaws Committee not later than 30 calendar days prior to the initiation of the state's delegate selection process. (Rule 21.A & Reg. 3.4.A)
- 2. A challenge to the Maine's Delegate Selection Plan shall be filed with the MDP Chair and the Co-Chairs of the Rules and Bylaws Committee within 15 calendar days after the adoption of the Plan by the MDP's Democratic State Committee. (*Reg. 3.4.B*)
- 3. A challenge to a Plan must be brought in conformity with the Rules and the RBC Regulations, which should be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

# C. Challenges to Implementation

- 1. A challenge may be brought alleging that a specific requirement of an approved Plan has not been properly implemented. Jurisdiction over all challenges initiated in a timely fashion shall reside with either the Rules and Bylaws Committee or the Credentials Committee of the National Convention (See Section VII.A. above). However, the Rules and Bylaws Committee may provide advice, assistance or interpretations of the Delegate Selection Rules at any stage of the delegate selection process. (*Reg. 3.1.C*)
- 2. An implementation challenge brought before the Rules and Bylaws Committee is initiated by filing a written challenge with the MDP and with the Rules and Bylaws Committee not later than 15 days after the alleged violation occurred. The MDP has 21 days to render a decision. Within ten (10) days of the decision, any party to the challenge may appeal it to the Rules and Bylaws Committee. If in fact, the MDP renders no decision, any party to the challenge may request the Rules and Bylaws Committee to process it. The request must be made within ten (10) days after expiration of the above 21-day period. (*Reg. 3.4.C, Reg. 3.4.E & Reg. 3.4.H*)
- 3. Performance under an approved Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program and composition of the convention delegation shall be considered relevant evidence in the challenge to any state delegation. If a State Party has adopted and implemented an approved affirmative action program, the State Party shall not be subject to challenge based solely on delegation composition or primary results. (*Rule 6.B*) The procedures are the same for challenges alleging failure to properly implement the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Programs of a Plan, except that such challenges must be filed not later than 30 days prior to the initiation of the state's delegate selection process. (*Reg. 3.4.C*)
- 4. Depending on the appropriate jurisdiction (see Section VIII.A. above), implementation challenges must be brought in conformity with the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee or the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials

Committee, which should be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

# Section X Summary of Plan

# A. Selection of Delegates and Alternates

Maine will use a proportional representation system based on the results of the presidential primary apportioning its delegates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention.

The "first determining step" of Maine's delegate selection process will occur on March 5, 2024, with a presidential primary. Ranked-Choice Voting will be used in the primary.

Delegates and alternates will be selected as summarized on the following chart:

Туре	Delegates	Alternates	Date of Selection	Selecting Body
				Filing Requirements and Deadlines
District-Level Delegates	16	None	May TBD	Selecting Body: State Convention Candidates file by TBD, with petition of 25 signatures from convention delegates and alternates.
Automatic Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates*	8	n/a	n/a	Automatic by virtue of respective public or Party office as provided in Rule 9.A. of the 2024 Delegate Selection Rules.
Pledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials (PLEOs)	3	**	May TBD	Selecting Body: State Convention Candidates file by TBD, with petition of 25 signatures from convention delegates and alternates.
At-Large Delegates At-Large Alternates	5	2	May TBD	Selecting Body: State Convention Candidates file by TBD, with petition of 25 signatures from convention delegates and alternates.
TOTAL Delegates and Alternates	32	2		

\*Automatic Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) delegates includes the following categories, if applicable, who legally reside in Maine: the Democratic National Committee Members, the Democratic President, the Democratic Vice President, all Democratic members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, the Democratic Governor, and any other Distinguished Party Leader as specified in Rule 9.A. of the 2024 Delegate Selection Rules. The exact number of Automatic PLEO Delegates is subject to change due to possible deaths, resignations, elections or special elections.

# B. Selection of Standing Committee Members (For the Credentials, Platform and Rules Committees)

Standing committee members will be selected by Maine's National Convention delegates as summarized below:

Members Per	Total	Selection	Filing Requirements and Deadlines
Committee	Members	Date	
1	3	May TBD	To be nominated from the floor at the national delegation meeting. Committee members are elected by presidential preference, with gender balance required.

# C. Selection of Delegation Chair and Convention Pages

The Delegation Chair will be selected by the National Convention Delegates on May TBD.

One Convention Page will be selected by the National Convention Delegates on May TBD.

# D. Selection of Presidential Electors

Four Presidential Electors will be selected by the state convention on May TBD.

# E. Presidential Candidate Filing Deadline

Presidential candidates start gathering between 4,000 and 5,000 signatures by Oct. 1, 2023. Those signatures must be submitted to town clerks by Nov. 20, 2023, and submitted to the Secretary of State by Dec. 1, 2023. (*Rule 15.D*)

Presidential candidates must certify the name of their authorized representative(s) to the State Democratic Chair by Dec. 1, 2023.

# F. Timetable

Date	Activity
2023	
March 1	Delegate Selection Affirmative Action Committee members are established by the MDP Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.
March 1	Letter of intent, describing Maine's delegate selection process, is sent to DNC.
March 6	Affirmative Action Committee meets to draft proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans.
March 15	Proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program is tentatively approved for public comment by MDP Executive Committee
March 17	Public comments are solicited on the proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program. Press releases are mailed announcing the public comment period.

# Maine 2024 Delegate Selection Plan

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Date	Activity			
April 17	Period for public comment on State Plan is concluded. Responses are compiled for review by the MDP.			
April 23	MDP reviews public comments and adopts revised Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program for submission to DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee. Press releases are mailed announcing the approval of the Plan.			
May 3	Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program is forwarded to the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee.			
September 15	MDP begins implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program. Press kits, as described in the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program, are sent to all state media.			
October 1	Deadline for MDP Democratic State Committee to decide whether a presidential primary is needed.			
October 1	Presidential candidate petition forms are available from the Maine Secretary of State's office.			
November 20	Presidential candidate petition forms sent to town clerks for signature verification.			
December 1	Presidential candidate deadline for filing the petition of candidacy with the Secretary of State and a copy to the MDP.			
December 1	Deadline for each announced presidential candidate to submit a statement specifying steps the candidate will take to encourage full participation in the delegate selection process. (Individuals who announce their candidacy after this date must provide this full participation statement to the State Party not later than 30 days after their announcement.)			
2024				
Feb. 3 & 4	Municipal caucuses held to elect delegates and alternates to the state convention. Delegates and alternates will be unpledged.			
March 5	Presidential primary			
March TBD	Delegate and alternate candidates may obtain the statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms and filing instructions from MDP Headquarters, in person, by mail, or from MDP's web site at mainedems.org.			
April TBD	Deadline for district-level and PLEO delegates and At-Large delegates and alternates for filing the statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms with the MDP.			
May TBD	MDP provides a list of district-level, PLEO, and At-Large delegate and alternate candidates to the respective presidential candidates.			
May TBD	Presidential candidates provide a list of approved district-level delegate candidates to the MDP.			
May TBD	State convention begins. State convention delegates and alternates choose a presidential preference as they register.			
May TBD	After district-level delegates are elected, presidential candidates decide whether to provide list of approved PLEO candidates.			
May TBD	After PLEO candidates are elected, presidential candidates decide whether to provide list of approved At-Large delegate and alternate candidates.			
May TBD	State convention elects presidential electors.			
May TBD	National Convention delegation meeting. Delegates select National Convention Standing Committee Members and Delegation Chair. MDP Chair names convention page.			
May TBD	MDP certifies remainder of elected delegates and alternates (PLEOs and at-large), along with standing committee members, delegation chair, and convention pages.			
May TBD	MDP Chair certifies in writing to the Secretary of the DNC the State's Delegation Chair, Convention Pages and Standing Committee Members.			
May TBD	The MDP certifies in writing to the Secretary of the DNC the presidential preference (including uncommitted) of the state's Automatic Delegates.			

# Attachments

# A. Affirmative Action Committee [to be submitted to RBC within 15 days after their appointment]

# 1. List of Affirmative Action Committee Members

Reese Remington, Chair of the MDP Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee

African-American, Youth, LGBTQ+ Julian Rogers, MDP Vice Chair, Vice Chair of the MDP DEIB Committee African-American, LGBTQ+ Joseph Zamboni, Secretary of the MDP DEIB Committee Celia Canavan, MDP DEIB Committee member Youth, LGBTQ+, People with Disabilities Daniel Norwood, MDP DEIB Committee member Hispanic, Youth Ina Demers, MDP DEIB Committee member Asian/Pacific Islander American Megan Smith, Chair of the Penobscot County Democrats, MDP DEIB member Native American Lisa Clark, MDP DEIB Committee member Abi Iverson, MDP DEIB Committee member

2. See attached statement from the State Chair confirming that the composition of the State Affirmative Action Committee complies with Rules 5.C, 6.A., and 7 and that the names, demographic data and contact information of members was submitted to the RBC 15 days after their appointment. (*Reg. 2.2.K*)

# B. Documents Accompanying the Delegate Selection Plan

- 1. **A summary** of the process for selecting delegates, alternates, standing committee members, the delegation chair and convention pages, and Presidential Electors, along with related deadlines is contained in Section X of the Delegate Selection Plan. (*Reg. 2.2.A*)
  - 2. A timetable reflecting all significant dates in the state's delegate selection process is contained in Section I of the Delegate Selection Plan. (*Reg. 2.2.B*)
  - 3. See attached copy of the press release distributed by the MDP announcing its adoption of the Plan and summarizing the major components of the Plan. (*Reg. 2.2.D*)
  - 4. See attached statement from the State Democratic Chair certifying the following:

- a. The Plan as submitted to the RBC was approved by the MDP. (Reg. 2.2.C)
- b. The proposed Plan, including all attachments and appendices, was placed on the MDP website during the 30-day public comment period. (*Reg. 2.2.E*)
- c. Compliance with Rule 1.C which requires a 30-day public comment period prior to the adoption of the Plan by the MDP, provided that the State Party has published specific guidance for the submission of public comments. (*Reg. 2.2.F*)
- 5. See attached statement from the Chair of the Affirmative Action Committee certifying **compliance with Rule 6.F.,** which requires that the Affirmative Action Committee has reviewed the proposed Affirmative Action outreach plan, including any numerical goals established. (*Rule 6.F & Reg. 2.2.1*)
- 6. We had but two comments during the public comment period. One, from a person in Australia, and another from a Maine Republican Party Activist. The MDP made several attempts to advertise the public comment period, including announcements on its website and on Facebook, its email distribution list, and at Democratic Party meetings. (*Rule 1.C & Reg. 2.2.G*)
- 7. Filing forms for national delegate candidates will be available online. They will be developed in very early 2024. (*Rule 1.A.7, Rule 1.A.8 & Reg. 2.2.H*)
- 8. Copies of all state statutes and other relevant legal authority reasonably related to:
  - a. The Delegate Selection Process (Reg. 2.2.L)
  - b. The election of Presidential Electors (Call VIII)
  - c. State statutes:

# §321. Time and place; procedure

#### (CONTAINS TEXT WITH VARYING EFFECTIVE DATES)

Each party shall hold a state convention between March 1st and August 1st biennially during each general election year. [PL 2005, c. 387, §4 (AMD).]

1. (TEXT EFFECTIVE UNTIL 1/01/24) Time, place and representation. The party's state committee shall determine the time, place and basis of representation for the convention. Delegates must be qualified to vote in the party's primary election unless otherwise permitted by party rules.

[PL 2005, c. 387, §4 (AMD).]

1. (TEXT EFFECTIVE 1/01/24) Time, place and representation. The party's state committee shall determine the time, place and basis of representation for the convention, except that unenrolled voters who participate in the party's primary election must be considered members of the party for purposes of allocating delegates. Delegates must be members of the party unless otherwise permitted by party rules.

[PL 2021, c. 750, §4 (AMD); PL 2021, c. 750, §14 (AFF).]

2. Proceedings at convention. The convention shall do the following:

A. Elect a secretary and a chair of the convention in that order; [PL 2005, c. 387, §4 (AMD).]

B. Adopt a platform for the next general election; [PL 1985, c. 161, §6 (NEW).]

C. Nominate the number of presidential electors to which the State is entitled; [PL 1985, c. 161, §6 (NEW).]

D. Determine the size of the state, district and county committees and the method of their election; [PL 2005, c. 387, §4 (AMD).]

E. Elect a district committee for each congressional district; and [PL 1985, c. 161, §6 (NEW).]

F. Elect a county committee for each county from persons nominated at municipal caucuses held in the county, unless party rules provide for county committee members to be elected directly by their respective municipalities. If a municipality entitled to nominate a person for election to the county committee fails to do so, the convention may elect any resident of that municipality to the county committee. [PL 2005, c. 387, §4 (AMD).]

### §322. Committee functions

State, congressional district and county committees of qualified political parties are governed by the following provisions. [PL 2005, c. 387, §5 (AMD).]

1. Committees to organize and report. The secretary of each committee shall notify the state committee of the name and residence of its chair and secretary within 10 days after their election. The state committee shall hold an organizational meeting within 30 days after the convention.

[PL 2005, c. 387, §5 (AMD).]

2. State committee to report organization. The chair and the secretary of the state committee shall certify to the Secretary of State the names of the party's candidates for presidential elector within 30 days after the convention. The chair or the secretary of the state committee shall provide upon request by the Secretary of State the name, residence and contact information of the chair and secretary of any committee and of any committee member.

[PL 2005, c. 568, §11 (AMD).]

# §335. Petition requirements

A primary petition shall be on a form provided by the Secretary of State and is governed by the following provisions. [PL 1985, c. 161, §6 (NEW).]

#### Maine 2024 Delegate Selection Plan

1. Content. A primary petition must contain the name of only one candidate and that candidate's place of residence, party, office sought and electoral division. A primary petition may contain as many separate papers as necessary and may contain the candidate's consent required by section 336.

A. When 2 United States Senators are to be nominated, the primary petition must contain the term of office sought by the candidate. [PL 2019, c. 371, §10 (AMD).]

[RR 2019, c. 2, Pt. B, §41 (COR).]

2. By whom signed. A primary petition may be signed only by voters of the electoral division which is to make the nomination and who are enrolled in the party named in the petition. Other signatures are void.

[PL 1985, c. 161, §6 (NEW).]

3. How signed. The voter must personally sign that voter's name in such a manner as to satisfy the registrar of that voter's municipality that the voter is a registered voter and enrolled in the party named on the petition. Either the voter or the circulator of the petition must print the voter's name.

[RR 2019, c. 2, Pt. B, §42 (COR).]

4. Residence. The voter or the circulator of the petition must write or print the voter's residence address and municipality of registration. Ditto marks are permitted for residence address and municipality of registration only.

[PL 2005, c. 453, §47 (AMD).]

5. Number of signatures required. Petitions must be signed by the following numbers of voters:

A. For a candidate for Governor, at least 2,000 and not more than 2,500 voters; [PL 2021, c. 273, §5 (AMD).]

B. For a candidate for United States Senator, at least 2,000 and not more than 2,500 voters; [PL 2021, c. 273, §5 (AMD).]

B-1. [PL 1995, c. 154, §1 (RP).]

B-2. [PL 2015, c. 474, §1 (NEW); MRSA T. 21-A §335, sub-§5, ¶B-2 (RP).]

B-3. For a candidate for the office of President of the United States, at least 2,000 and not more than 2,500 voters; [PL 2021, c. 273, §5 (AMD).]

C. For a candidate for Representative to Congress, at least 1,000 and not more than 1,250 voters; [PL 2021, c. 273, §5 (AMD).]

D. For a candidate for county office other than county commissioner, at least 150 and not more than 200 voters; [PL 1991, c. 362, §1 (AMD).]

E. For a candidate for county commissioner, at least 50 and not more than 75 voters; [PL 1991, c. 362, §1 (AMD).]

F. For a candidate for State Senator, at least 100 and not more than 150 voters; and [PL 1985, c. 161, §6 (NEW).]

G. For a candidate for State Representative, at least 25 and not more than 40 voters. [PL 1985, c. 161, §6 (NEW).]

[PL 2021, c. 273, §5 (AMD).]

6. When signed. Except as provided in subchapter 8, a petition may not be signed before January 1st of the election year in which it is to be used.

[PL 2019, c. 445, §2 (AMD).]

7. Certification of petition. A primary petition shall be verified and certified as follows.

A. The circulator of a primary petition shall verify by oath or affirmation before a notary public or other person authorized by law to administer oaths or affirmations that the circulator personally witnessed all of the signatures to the petition and

#### Maine 2024 Delegate Selection Plan

that to the best of the circulator's knowledge and belief each signature is the signature of the person whose name it purports to be; each signature authorized under section 153-A was made by the authorized signer in the presence and at the direction of the voter; and each person is enrolled in the party named in the petition and is a resident of the electoral division named in the petition. [PL 2009, c. 253, §17 (AMD).]

B. The registrar, or clerk at the request or upon the absence of the registrar, of each municipality concerned shall certify which names on a petition appear in the central voter registration system as registered and enrolled voters in that municipality and may not certify any names that do not satisfy subsection 3. [PL 2005, c. 453, §48 (AMD).]

[PL 2009, c. 253, §17 (AMD).]

8. When filed. Except as provided in subchapter 8, a primary petition must be filed in the office of the Secretary of State before 5 p.m. on March 15th of the election year in which it is to be used.

[PL 2019, c. 445, §3 (AMD).]

9. Petition validity. For a candidate to qualify for the ballot, a nomination petition must meet all of the requirements of this section. If the circulator swears an oath or affirmation in accordance with subsection 7, paragraph A that the circulator reasonably believes to be true and accurate at the time the oath or affirmation is sworn and there is no proof of fraud or a knowingly false statement by the circulator, then the voters' signatures that do not meet the requirements of subsection 7, paragraph A may not be counted, but the petition is otherwise valid.

[PL 2009, c. 253, §18 (RPR).]

# §341. Unenrolled voter participation in primary elections allowed

## (CONTAINS TEXT WITH VARYING EFFECTIVE DATES)

(WHOLE SECTION TEXT EFFECTIVE 1/01/24)

A registered voter not enrolled in a political party may participate, subject to the restrictions of section 145, subsection 3, in a party's primary election without enrolling in that political party. An unenrolled voter may vote in only one party's primary election. The Secretary of State shall establish procedures to ensure that each voter voting in a party's primary election is offered a ballot for that primary election. [PL 2021, c. 750, \$6 (NEW); PL 2021, c. 750, \$14 (AFF).

#### §441. Determination and date of primary; voter eligibility

#### (CONTAINS TEXT WITH VARYING EFFECTIVE DATES)

**1. Determination of primary.** No later than October 1st of the year prior to a presidential election year, the state committee of each party shall certify whether there is a contest among candidates for nomination as the presidential candidate. Upon receiving the certification from one or more parties, the Secretary of State shall announce the parties that will have a presidential primary election, which must be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March of the presidential election year.

[PL 2021, c. 273, §7 (AMD).]

2. (TEXT EFFECTIVE UNTIL 1/01/24) Eligible voter. No later than October 1st of the year prior to a presidential election year, the state committee of each party shall notify the Secretary of State of the enrollment qualifications, subject to the restrictions in section 144, for voters eligible to vote in that party's presidential primary election. If no notice is received by that date, only voters enrolled in a political party may vote in that party's presidential primary election.

[PL 2021, c. 273, §7 (AMD).]

#### 2. (TEXT REPEALED 1/01/24) Eligible voter.

[PL 2021, c. 750, §7 (RP); PL 2021, c. 750, §14 (AFF).]

**3. (TEXT EFFECTIVE 1/01/24) Unenrolled voter participation in presidential primary elections allowed.** A registered voter not enrolled in a political party may participate, subject to the restrictions of section 145, subsection 3, in a party's presidential primary election without enrolling in that political party. An unenrolled voter may vote in only one party's presidential primary election. The Secretary of State shall establish procedures to ensure that each voter voting in a party's presidential primary election is offered a ballot for that primary election.

[PL 2021, c. 750, §8 (NEW); PL 2021, c. 750, §14 (AFF).

# §442. Petitions

On or before October 1st of the year prior to a presidential election year, the Secretary of State shall prepare and make available petitions for circulation by a person desiring to be a candidate in the state presidential primary election of any party. Petitions must be delivered to the registrar, or clerk at the request or upon the absence of the registrar, for certification by 5 p.m. on November 20th of the year prior to a presidential election year. Petitions must be completed and filed with the Secretary of State no later than 5 p.m. on December 1st of the year prior to a presidential election year in the manner provided in sections 335 and 336. [PL 2021, c. 273, §8 (AMD).]

# §443. Ballot preparation

The Secretary of State shall prepare ballots for a presidential primary election. A ballot must include the name of a person who files a petition with the Secretary of State in accordance with section 442. The Secretary of State shall determine if a petition meets the requirements of sections 335, 336 and 442, subject to challenge and appeal under section 337. [PL 2019, c. 445, \$4 (NEW).]

# §723-A. Determination of winner in election for an office elected by ranked-choice voting

(CONTAINS TEXT WITH VARYING EFFECTIVE DATES)

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Batch elimination" means the simultaneous defeat of multiple candidates for whom it is mathematically impossible to be elected. [IB 2015, c. 3, §5 (NEW).]

B. "Continuing ballot" means a ballot that is not an exhausted ballot. [IB 2015, c. 3, §5 (NEW).]

C. "Continuing candidate" means a candidate who has not been defeated. [IB 2015, c. 3, §5 (NEW).]

D. "Exhausted ballot" means a ballot that does not rank any continuing candidate, contains an overvote at the highest continuing ranking or contains 2 or more sequential skipped rankings before its highest continuing ranking. [IB 2015, c. 3, §5 (NEW).]

E. "Highest continuing ranking" means the highest ranking on a voter's ballot for a continuing candidate. [IB 2015, c. 3, §5 (NEW).]

F. "Last-place candidate" means the candidate with the fewest votes in a round of the ranked-choice voting count. [PL 2019, c. 320, §9 (AMD).]

G. "Mathematically impossible to be elected," with respect to a candidate, means either:

(1) The candidate cannot be elected because the candidate's vote total in a round of the ranked-choice voting count plus all votes that could possibly be transferred to the candidate in future rounds from candidates with fewer votes or an equal number of votes would not be enough to surpass the candidate with the next-higher vote total in the round; or

(2) The candidate has a lower vote total than a candidate described in subparagraph (1). [PL 2019, c. 320, §9 (AMD).]

H. "Overvote" means a circumstance in which a voter has ranked more than one candidate at the same ranking. [IB 2015, c. 3, \$5 (NEW).]

H-1. "Ranked-choice voting count" means the ranked-choice counting process described in this section and in rules adopted by the Secretary of State. [PL 2019, c. 320, \$10 (NEW).]

I. "Ranking" means the number assigned on a ballot by a voter to a candidate to express the voter's preference for that candidate. Ranking number one is the highest ranking, ranking number 2 is the next-highest ranking and so on. [IB 2015, c. 3, §5 (NEW).]

J. "Round" means an instance of the sequence of vote counting steps established in subsection 2 and in rules adopted by the Secretary of State. [PL 2019, c. 320, \$11 (AMD).]

K. "Skipped ranking" means a circumstance in which a voter has left a ranking blank and ranks a candidate at a subsequent ranking. [IB 2015, c. 3, §5 (NEW).]

[PL 2019, c. 320, §§9-11 (AMD).]

2. Procedures. Except as provided in subsections 3 and 4, the following procedures are used to determine the winner of an election determined by ranked-choice voting. The ranked-choice voting count must proceed in rounds. In each round, the number of votes for each continuing candidate must be counted. Each continuing ballot counts as one vote for its highest-ranked continuing candidate for that round. Exhausted ballots are not counted for any continuing candidate. The round then ends with one of the following 2 potential outcomes.

A. If there are 2 or fewer continuing candidates, the candidate with the most votes is declared the winner of the election. [IB 2015, c. 3, §5 (NEW).]

B. If there are more than 2 continuing candidates, the last-place candidate is defeated and a new round begins. [IB 2015, c. 3, §5 (NEW).]

[PL 2019, c. 320, §12 (AMD).]

3. Ties. A tie under this section between last-place candidates in any round must be decided by lot, and the candidate chosen by lot is defeated. The result of the tie resolution must be recorded and reused in the event of a recount. A tie between candidates for the most votes in the final round must be decided as provided in section 732.

[PL 2019, c. 320, \$13 (AMD).]

4. Modification of ranked-choice voting ballot and ranked-choice voting count. Modification of a ranked-choice voting ballot and ranked-choice with the following.

A. The number of allowable rankings may be limited to no fewer than 5. [PL 2019, c. 320, \$14 (AMD).]

B. Two or more candidates may be defeated simultaneously by batch elimination in any round of counting. [PL 2019, c. 320, §14 (AMD).]

[PL 2019, c. 320, §14 (AMD).]

5. Effect on rights of political parties. For all statutory and constitutional provisions in the State pertaining to the rights of political parties, the number of votes cast for a party's candidate for an office determined by ranked-choice voting is the number of votes credited to that candidate after the initial counting in the first round described in subsection 2.

[PL 2017, c. 316, §9 (AMD).]

5-A. Rules. The Secretary of State shall adopt rules for the proper and efficient administration of elections determined by ranked-choice voting. At a minimum, rules required under this subsection must include procedures, as determined appropriate by the Secretary of State, for requesting and conducting recounts of the results as determined in the rounds of counting described in subsection 2. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined by Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

[PL 2019, c. 320, §15 (AMD).]

5-B. (TEXT EFFECTIVE UNTIL 1/01/24) Presidential primary elections; selection of delegates. Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, for presidential primary elections, batch elimination may not be used for any candidates with more than 100 votes, tabulation must continue until only 2 continuing candidates remain, separate tabulations must be conducted statewide and for each congressional district and selection and allocation of delegates to a party's national presidential nominating convention must be in accordance with any reasonable procedures established at the state party convention.

[PL 2021, c. 273, §11 (AMD).]

5-B. (TEXT EFFECTIVE 1/01/24) Presidential primary elections; selection of delegates. Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, for presidential primary elections, batch elimination may not be used for any candidates with more than 100 votes, tabulation must continue until only 2 continuing candidates remain, separate tabulations must be conducted statewide and for each congressional district and selection and allocation of delegates to a party's national presidential nominating convention must be in accordance with any reasonable procedures established at the state party convention, except that unenrolled voters who participate in the party's primary election must be considered members of the party for purposes of allocating delegates.

[PL 2021, c. 750, §11 (AMD); PL 2021, c. 750, §14 (AFF).]

6. Application. This section applies to elections held on or after January 1, 2018.

[IB 2015, c. 3, §5 (NEW).]

#### §801. Election

In a presidential election year, the presidential electors shall be chosen at the general election. [PL 1985, c. 161, §6 (NEW).]

1. Vote for presidential candidate construed. A vote for the candidate for President is a vote for the presidential electors nominated by the candidate's political party or by petition.

[PL 2001, c. 516, §17 (AMD).]

2. Counting of ballots. Counting of ballots for candidates for President must proceed according to the ranked-choice method of counting votes described in section 723-A.

[PL 2019, c. 539, §4 (NEW).]

## §802. Representation

One presidential elector shall be chosen from each congressional district and 2 at large. [PL 1985, c. 161, §6 (NEW).]

9. Petition forms used to qualify presidential candidates for the 2024 presidential primary are not yet available from the Maine Secretary of State's office. Once they are, a copy will be provided. (*Reg. 2.2.*)

# 10. The Maine Delegate Selection Media Plan.

The MDP will work with the Affirmative Action Committee and DSC members to publicize the Delegate Selection Plan and educate the public about this process as simply and thoroughly as possible.

We are working to form a speakers' bureau to present this plan locally. Members of our Affirmative Action Committee and others will speak with members of the public at well-publicized presentations on the DSP. We will visit all over Maine at county parties and larger municipal parties, with an eye to engaging areas of diverse communities.

The MDP will disseminate DSP information as well as important date reminders to print and digital media outlets through this year and next. We will produce simple one-pagers and other materials on an easily accessed web page.

We are working on a communications toolkit to share. This toolkit includes an electronic presentation that will be shown all over the state, with filing forms and other documents on the MDP webpage.

Finally, we are working on a strong social media and digital calendar to inform the public about this process and direct them to online resources outlining this process.

# a. Major media outlets

(1) Print Media

Dailies: Portland Press Herald Lewiston Sun Journal Bangor Daily News Waterville Morning Sentinel Kennebec Journal (Augusta) Biddeford Journal Tribune Brunswick Times Record

Weeklies and similar local papers: 39 outlets identified

(2) Radio (79 Stations)

(3) Television

Eastern Maine: WLBZ WABI WVII Southern Maine: WCSH WMTW WCBB WGME WPXT

Northern Maine: WAGM

(4) Public Access and other community cable services

# b. Other Non-Minority Media Outlets

- (1) College Media:
  7 Community Colleges
  7 Campuses of the University of Maine System Husson University
  Beal College
  College of the Atlantic
  Bates
  Unity
  Colby
  Bowdoin
  St. Joseph's
  University of New England
  Maine Maritime Academy
- (2) Internet: Social media including, but not limited to, Twitter, Facebook, listservs, and message boards.
- c. Constituency and Specialty Media Outlets and Targeted Groups (Affirmative Action Committee is making ongoing efforts to identify additional targeted media)

Centro Latino Maine Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project

Maine Council of Churches Maine Civil Liberties Union Maine Immigrant Rights Coalition Maine People's Alliance Mano en Mano (Hand in Hand) Latino Community in Washington County NAACP Portland Branch NAACP Bangor Branch The M.A.I.N. Update PROP African Culture & Learning Center Asian American Heritage Foundation Franco-American Center Somali Community Services of Maine United Somali Women of Maine Agencies for Aging Colby Echo **Bowdoin Orient** Bates Student Maine Campus (UMaine Orono) Labor Council for Latin American Advancement



Press Contact Jacob Stern MDP Communications Director press@mainedems.org (207) 835-1606

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 1, 2023

# Maine Democratic Party Announces 2024 Delegate Selection Plan

Following a month-long public comment period, the Democratic State Committee (DSC) has voted unanimously to approve the Maine Democratic Party's 2024 Delegate Selection Plan (DSP).

In accordance with the Maine Democratic Party charter and Maine state law, municipal and regional Democratic committees will hold caucuses in early February 2024 to elect delegates to the State Convention. Then, at the State Convention (details TBA), the party will elect thirty-two delegates and two alternates to attend the August 2024 National Democratic Convention in Chicago.

"The Delegate Selection Plan is a reflection of the party's values and will ensure that Democrats of all walks of life will have the opportunity to fully participate in the party's 2024 delegate selection process," said **Bev Uhlenhake, Chair of the Maine Democratic Party**. "With so many important elections on the ballot next year and so much at stake, we want to ensure that every voice is heard.

A final version of the party's 2024 Delegate Selection Plan can be found <u>here</u>.

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Bev Uhlenhake, Chair Julian Rogers, Vice Chair Vicky Cohen, Secretary Betty Johnson, Treasurer Jonathan Goble, Assistant Treasurer



Maine Democratic Party P.O. Box 5258 Augusta, ME 04332-5258 207.622.6233 www.mainedems.org

May 1, 2023

To DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee Chairs Minyon Moore and James Roosevelt

This is to certify that the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee of the Maine Democratic Party, in its duty as the MDP Affirmative Action Committee, has reviewed the Affirmative Action outreach plan and representation goals as required in the MDP Delegate Selection Plan.

Rus hope

Reese Remington, Chair DEIB Committee, and Chair of the Affirmative Action Committee Maine Democratic Party

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Bev Uhlenhake, Chair Julian Rogers, Vice Chair Vicky Cohen, Secretary Betty Johnson, Treasurer Jonathan Goble, Assistant Treasurer



Maine Democratic Party P.O. Box 5258 Augusta, ME 04332-5258 207.622.6233 www.mainedems.org

May 1, 2023

To DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee Chairs Minyon Moore and James Roosevelt

This is to certify the following:

- The delegate selection plan was approved by the Maine Democratic State Committee on April 23, 2023.
- The delegate selection plan was placed on the Maine Democratic Party's website on March 17, 2023, and public comments were invited for 30 days.
- Public comments for the plan were encouraged by the MDP through its website, Facebook page, and emails to its email list and to county and municipal Democratic parties in Maine. A public comment form was provided on the MDP website.
- Names of the members of the MDP's Affirmative Action Committee, along with their contact and demographic information were sent to the Democratic National Committee within 15 days of their appointment. Under MDP rules, its Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee was tasked with serving at the Affirmation Action Committee.

Bev Uhlenhake, Chair Maine Democratic Party