

PUERTO RICO DELEGATE SELECTION PLAN

FOR THE 2024 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION



ISSUED BY THE
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF PUERTO RICO

(AS OF APRIL 1, 2024)

The Puerto Rico Delegate Selection Plan For the 2024 Democratic National Convention

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Puerto Rico Delegate Selection Plan For the 2024 Democratic National Convention

Section I Introduction & Description of Delegate Selection Process

A. Introduction

1. Puerto Rico has a total of 56 delegates and 5 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 Democratic Party of Puerto Rico, (“DPPR”), the Puerto Rico Election Code of 2020, Act 58-2020, 16 L.P.R.A. §§ 4501, et seq., in particular Sub Chapter VIII-A on Presidential Primaries, and this Delegate Selection Plan. *(Call II.A)*
3. Following the state Party Committee’s adoption of this Delegate Selection Plan, the state Party shall submit the Plan for review and approval by the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee (“RBC”). The state Party 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 state Party 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 state Party must be submitted to and approved by the RBC before it becomes effective. *(Reg. 2.9)*
5. Puerto Rico will use a government run voting primary election to establish presidential preference and election of delegates. The Puerto Rico Election Code of 2020, Act 58-2020, 16 L.P.R.A. §§ 4501, et seq., in particular Sub Chapter VIII-A on Presidential Primaries, provides the filing terms and conditions required for presidential candidates to participate in the primary and the basic procedures for delegate selection. The Puerto Rico Election Code of 2020 is hereby made an

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integral part of this Delegate Selection Plan and in case any conflict arises between the English and Spanish texts of the law, the Spanish text shall prevail.

B. Description of Delegate Selection Process

1. Puerto Rico will use a proportional representation system based on the results of the Primary for apportioning delegates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention.
2. The “first determining step” of State’s delegate selection process will occur on **March 17, 2024**, with a Primary.

C. Voter Participation

1. Participation in Puerto Rico’s delegate selection process is open to all voters who wish to participate as Democrats. (*Rule 2.A and Rule 2.C.*)
 - a. Pursuant to the Puerto Rico Election Code of 2020, any citizen of the United States of America who is legally domiciled in Puerto Rico and who, on the date of a voting event, has attained the age of eighteen (18), and is duly qualified as active before the voting event, shall be deemed to be a voter in Puerto Rico; provided the voter has not been declared mentally incompetent by a court of law. (Act 58-2020, Section 5.3, 16 L.P.R.A. §4563). The deadline to register to vote is thirty (30) days preceding the voting event. (*Act 58-2020, Section 5.11, 16 L.P.R.A. §4571*).
 - b. The Democratic Presidential Primary is open to all voters who wish to participate as Democrats subject to the following requirements. (*Rule 2.A*)
 - (1) The Democratic Presidential Primary shall be an internal voting process of the national party, its state national party and the affiliate members thereof. Every active voter in the Puerto Rico General Voter Registry who also meets the affiliation requirement for the Democratic Party shall be entitled to vote in the Democratic Presidential Primary. If an active voter is not affiliated at the time of casting a vote, the voter shall be entitled to immediately affiliate to the Democratic Party before casting a vote. The DPPR is required to provide the mechanisms for said registration, whether through printed or electronic mechanisms. (*Act 58-2020, Section 8.4a, 16 L.P.R.A. §4644*).
 - (2) The DPPR may prevent a person from exercising their right to vote if said person is not affiliated or refuses to fill out and sign the party affiliation form to be completed before voting. The DPPR shall have discretion to decide whether to allow these voters to cast a vote

through the challenge procedure. Not being affiliated or refusing to affiliate therein shall be sufficient grounds to prevent such voter from voting or to challenge said vote, if allowed to vote. (*Act 58-2020, Section 8.4a, 16 L.P.R.A. §4644*).

- (3) In the Democratic Presidential Primary or in any subsequent stages for election of delegates, the voters declare their Democratic Party preference by signing next to their name in the official voter list or signing a party affiliation form through printed or electronic mechanisms as provided by law or regulation. (*Rule 2.A & Reg. 4.3.A and Act 58-2020, Section 8.4a, 16 L.P.R.A. §4644*).
- c. To encourage participation by youth in the delegate selection process and pursuant to the Puerto Rico Election Code of 2020, every active voter in the Puerto Rico General Voter Registry who also meets the affiliation requirement shall be entitled to vote in the Democratic Presidential Primary. Thus, any individual who has attained the age of 18 by the date of the 2024 general election and is registered to vote shall be allowed to participate in the delegate selection process. (*Reg. 4.3.C and Act 58-2020, Section 8.4.a., 16 L.P.R.A. §4644*).
 - d. At no stage of Puerto Rico'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. (*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 and Act 58-2020, Section 8.5.a.(3), 16 L.P.R.A. §4645 (3)*).
 - 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 Democratic National Committee ("DNC") Members or State Chairs or Vice Chairs, who serve as DNC members by virtue of their office, except that use of such voting by secret ballot may be used in the Democratic Presidential Primary, which is the first determining stage of the delegate election process, and in which all individual voters who wish to participate as Democrats are eligible to do so. (*Rule 2.F and Act 58-2020, Section 8.4a, 16 L.P.R.A. §4644*).
 - 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 and Act 58-2020, Section 8.5.a.(3), 16 L.P.R.A. §4645 (3)*).

2. The DPPR has taken steps and is taking steps to seek enactment of legislation, rules, and policies at the state and local level to enhance voter and election security and combat election subversion, to accomplish the following goals:

- 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):*

The DPPR is bound by the provisions of the Puerto Rico Election Code of 2020, Act 58-2020, 16 L.P.R.A. §§ 4501, et seq., that provides for a General Voter Registry that uses a separate and exclusive information system for an effective management and adequate protection of personal information of the voters. Only officials from the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections can access this information by means of an authentication of users requiring two factors for validation and a minimum of two users from separate local parties. The system transmits voter data from the local Permanent Registration Boards to the main server on a virtual private network (VPN). Voter database is encrypted and backed up on a daily basis to three different and separate locations.

- 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):*

The General Voter Registry of Puerto Rico is regulated and fully complies with the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (“HAVA”), Pub. L. 107–252.

- c. Promote the acquisition, maintenance, and regular replacement of precinct based optical scan voting systems; *(Rule 2.H.3):*

All the optical scanning machines acquired by the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections in 2015 are under a maintenance contract until 2024. Thus, for the Democratic Presidential Primary of 2024 these machines will be in condition and ready to use for its designated purpose.

- d. Ensure that any direct recording electronic systems in place have a voter verified paper record; *(Rule 2.H.4):*

Puerto Rico does not use electronic voting systems or direct-recording electronic (DRE) voting machines. The electronic canvass system operated in Puerto Rico uses paper ballots that remain as record of the counted votes.

- e. Implement risk limiting post-election audits such as manual audits comparing paper records to electronic records; *(Rule 2.H.5):*

The regulations adopted by the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections regarding a general canvassing after every election held since 2015 requires a mandatory post-election audit of the electronic canvass system. This audit is performed by randomly selecting a ballot sample and comparing the image captured of the paper ballot deposited in the electronic device ballot box versus the actual paper ballot and the result of the canvas of votes in the corresponding polling station.

- f. Ensure that all voting systems have recognized security measures; *(Rule 2.H.6):*

The electronic canvassing system features acquired by the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections in 2015 comply with the U.S. Election Assistance Commission Latest Voluntary Voting System Guidelines.

- 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):*

Pursuant to the accessibility guidelines set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act, entitled Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities, (ADAAG), an accessible polling place shall be available in every polling center of an electoral unit to facilitate the voting process for voters with physical disabilities, limitations or barriers that may affect their mobility. *Act 58-2020 Section 9.16, 16 L.P.R.A. §4716.* At each polling center for every election held in Puerto Rico, including Presidential Primaries, an easily accessible polling station is provided for individuals with disabilities. A telephone voting option is also available in each polling station for voters with vision loss or who have a disability that restricts their ability to vote independently, in compliance with Section 301 (a)(3)(B) of HAVA. Likewise, ballots in braille system will be available in the Presidential Primaries.

- h. Provide educational materials to enhance public knowledge and confidence in election administration and counter disinformation; *(Rule 2.H.8):*

Prior to any electoral event, an item is set aside from the budget for an educational campaign and electoral orientation in social networks, television, radio and state and regional written press.

- i. The DPPR actively engages with state and local officials to implement fair and honest election policies and practices; and *(Rule 2.H.9)*

- j. The DPPR promotes and supports adequate funding for state election administration in the Puerto Rico Legislative Assembly and the Governor. It also supports similar efforts with the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico created by the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act, (PROMESA) approved by Congress in 2016. *(Rule 2.H.10)*

- 3. In accordance with the Democratic Party's requirement to assess and improve participation with respect to presidential preference and the delegate selection process, the DPPR has taken steps and continues to take steps to establish and promote legislation and regulations, with DNC assistance, for year-round voter protection programs to support educational, administrative, legislative, and litigation-based efforts to protect and expand the vote and advance election fairness and security, including the six goals set forth below *(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)*

The current laws and regulations in Puerto Rico do not provide for same-day voter registration and general voting by mail. Puerto Rico allows early voting in-person during eight (8) days prior to the Democratic Presidential Primary to be held at the 34 offices of the Permanent Registration Boards (PRB) located throughout Puerto Rico. No excuse absentee voting for the Democratic Presidential Primary may be requested by any active registered voter who is domiciled in Puerto Rico and anticipates will not be in Puerto Rico on primary day. The absentee ballots must be requested at least 45 days prior to the date of the primary and can be requested online. Absentee ballots must be postmarked by primary day and received by mail at the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections on or before the last day of the primary general canvass or recount. *(Act 58-2020 Section 8.5a.(2)(3) and Section 9.36 (2), 16 L.P.R.A. §4645 (1)(2) and §4736 (2))*

The DPPR is promoting the adoption of voting by mail for voters over the age of 80 and other categories based on the discretion provided by the Puerto Rico Electoral Code of 2020 that allows the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections or in the case of presidential primaries, the Presidential Primary Commission, to extend eligibility for early voting or vote by mail to other categories provided by law. *(Act 58-2020 Section 9.37(4), 16 L.P.R.A. §4737(4))*

Also, the DPPR is endorsing amendments to the Puerto Rico Electoral Code of 2020 to adopt same day registration on the Democratic Presidential Primary day applying the provisional voting clause of Section 9.15 of Act 58-2020, 16 L.P.R.A. §4715, for those voters who register after the General Voter Registry closes thirty (30) days prior to the primary event.

- b. Ensure that voting locations are accessible, fairly placed, and adequate in number, and have a sufficient number of voting machines; *(Rule 2.I.1.b)*

The Puerto Rico Election Code of 2020 requires that polling places shall be preferably established in state or municipal public buildings located next to highways, roads, or streets that are easily accessible to automobiles and pedestrians. The Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections may also establish polling centers in private premises and housing facilities, pursuant to the regulations adopted by the Commission to such effect. Private entities that receive public funds, and that provide direct services to the citizens, shall make their structures or facilities available to be used by the Commission as polling centers without requiring compensation or a bond for the use thereof. *(Act 58-2020, Section 9.17, 16 L.P.R.A. §4717)*

All polling places must comply with the legal required accessibility standards. For the Democratic Presidential Primary at least one polling station with no less than one optical scanning machine shall be available in each of the 114 electoral districts in which Puerto Rico for election purposes is divided.

- c. Speed up the voting process and minimize long lines; *(Rule 2.I.1.c)*

Early voting, no excuse absentee voting and the proposed vote by mail in specific circumstances for the Democratic Presidential Primary will streamline the voting process and minimize long lines on primary day. Also, the amount of polling stations with optical scanning machines to be provided for the Primary shall be determined by the number of qualified registered voters in each polling station. This will help speed up the voting process on the election event.

- d. Eliminate onerous and discriminatory voter identification requirements; *(Rule 2.I.1.d)*

The DPPR supported legislation that expanded voter identification requirements. In addition to the voter identification card issued by the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections, the following identifications are accepted for purposes of identifying voters at the polling stations: driver licenses issued in accordance with the Real ID Act of 2005, U.S. Passport, U.S. Global Entry cards, and IDs issued by the U.S. Armed Forces and the U.S. Merchant Marine. All identifications cards must be current and include a photo of the bearer. Voters who have no form of valid ID must visit a Permanent Registration Board office to obtain their voter identification cards and complete their election-related transactions. *(Act 58-2020, Section 5.13, 16 L.P.R.A. §4573)*

The DPPR has also engaged in public education programs about required ID and supported efforts to contact potentially affected voters directly to ensure that they have appropriate IDs.

- 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 2.1.1.e)*

The Puerto Rico Electoral Code of 2020 provides that for the Democratic Presidential Primary if a voter votes in an electoral district other than the one where the voter is registered but within the senatorial district where domiciled, that vote shall be counted. If a voter, however, casts their vote outside of their senatorial district, their vote shall not be adjudicated. *Act 58-2020 8.4.a.(5)(6); 16 L.P.R.A. §4644 (5)(6)*

- f. Facilitate military and overseas voting. *(Rule 2.1.1.f)*

Since 2012 Puerto Rico complies with the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (“UOCAVA”), P.L. 99-410, as amended by the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act of 2009, Pub. L. No. 111-84. Every person active in the U.S. Armed Forces and U.S. Merchant Marine, their families and other overseas U.S. citizens can download the absentee ballot application, submit it by email to the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections and vote absentee in all our elections.

- 4. As part of encouraging participation in the delegate selection process by registered voters, the DPPR has been and is promoting before the Governor, Legislative Assembly and the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections amendments to current laws, regulations and policies to make voter registration easier, including supporting: *(Rule 2.1.2)*

- a. Voter registration modernization, including online voter registration and automatic and same-day registration; *(Rule 2.1.2.a)*

The DPPR recommended online voter registration that was finally adopted by legislation. For the Democratic Presidential Primary any person may use the Electronic Voter Registry System (“Sistema eRE” by its Spanish acronym) to file a new voter registration application or to conduct election-related transactions remotely and in real-time via the internet. *(Act 58-2020 Section 5.9; 16 L.P.R.A. §4569)*

The DPPR also supports same day registration, although it has not been adopted.

- b. Pre-registration of high school students so that they are already registered once they reach voting age; *(Rule 2.1.2.b)*

Regarding pre-registration of high school students, Puerto Rico has for many years pre-registered high school students so that they are already registered once they reach voting age.

- 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)*

Prison inmates are allowed to vote in Puerto Rico. Our Electoral Code since 1980 has recognized the right to vote to every citizen regardless of being a convicted felon in prison or having served time.

- d. Same-day or automatic registration of voters for the Democratic presidential nominating process. *(Rule 2.1.2.d)*

The DPPR has encouraged administrative rules and legislation to allow same-day registration for the Democratic presidential nominating process.

- 5. The DPPR will use government run registration and voting systems to establish presidential preference. The DPPR Chair shall appoint an Election Commissioner to the Presidential Primary Commission who in turn will appoint the local election commissioners and the alternate election commissioners for each electoral district to conduct Democratic Presidential Primary election-related matters. The Presidential Primary Commission shall direct and oversee the Democratic Presidential Primary, and assist in the general canvass and recounts if necessary. It shall be empowered to prescribe through regulations the rules to comply with its responsibility and implement the regulation or rules for the selection of delegates. The DPPR works vigilantly to ensure an open and inclusive process that resists attempts at voter suppression and disenfranchisement. Puerto Rico does not register voters by party, and thus there is no issue with regards to deadlines for voters to switch parties. *(Rule 2.J and Rule 2.J.1; Act 58-2020 Section 8.15.a.; 16 L.P.R.A. §4655)*

D. Scheduling of Delegate Selection Meetings

The dates, times and places for all official Party meetings and events related to Puerto Rico's delegate selection process must be scheduled to encourage the participation of all Democrats. The meetings will begin and end at reasonable hours and will be located in publicly accessible facilities. In scheduling the meetings, the DPPR will consider religious observations that could significantly affect participation. *(Rule 3.A & Reg. 4.)*

PRELIMINARY

Section II Presidential Candidates

A. Ballot Access

A presidential candidate gains access to the State presidential preference primary ballot, or is eligible to participate in the State's first-tier caucuses, by the following:

1. **Not later than January 5, 2024**, the Secretary of State of Puerto Rico shall prepare a list of the names of hopefuls running for the Democratic Party nomination for President of the United States and shall notify each of them on the same day by regular mail, return receipt requested, and by electronic mail. To fulfill this responsibility, the Secretary of State shall previously verify with the DPPR Chair the names of the hopefuls recognized for presidential nomination pursuant with the criteria and bylaws of the Democratic National Committee (DNC). The name of each presidential hopefuls included in the list shall appear on the Democratic Presidential Primary ballot as a presidential candidate, unless any of the presidential hopefuls certifies in writing to the Secretary of State by **January 10, 2024**, that they have no intention to be a candidate in the Democratic Presidential Primary in Puerto Rico. Not later than **January 15, 2024**, the Secretary of State shall notify by certified regular mail, return receipt requested, and by electronic mail on the same day, to the DPPR Chair, the DNC Chair, and the Secretary of the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections the names of the persons who shall appear as presidential candidates on the ballot of the Democratic Presidential Primary. (*Act 58-2020 Section 8.11.a.; 16 L.P.R.A. §4651*)
2. No filing fees, signatures, petitions or qualifying forms are required by law and no corresponding deadlines are prescribed by the DPPR rules. (*Rule 1.A.8, Rule 15.A, Rule 15.B, Rule 15.D, Rule 15.E*)
3. Write-ins are not permitted, and an "uncommitted" presidential option will not appear on the ballot. (*Rule 11.C, Rule 14.A, Rule 14.C, Rule 14.D, Rule 14.E, & Rule 15.H*)
4. Not later than **January 15, 2024**, the DPPR Chair shall file with the Secretary of the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections a certification attesting to the number of delegates and alternate delegates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention which Puerto Rico is entitled to select. (*Act 58-2020 Section 8.10.a.; 16 L.P.R.A. §4650*)

B. Other Requirements

1. Each presidential candidate shall be entitled to have a representative who shall serve as an observer in the Presidential Primary Commission. The name of the designated representative shall be submitted in writing to the DPPR Chair and the Secretary of the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections not later than **January 20, 2024**. (*Rule 13.D.1; Act 58-2020 Section 8.15.a.(2); 16 L.P.R.A. §4655*)
2. Each presidential candidate 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 6.1*)

Section III
Selection of Delegates and Alternates

A. District-Level Delegates and Alternates

1. Puerto Rico is allocated 33 district-level delegates. DPPR has chosen to allocate its alternates at the at-large level, so that there will be no district level alternates. (*Rule 8.C, Call I.B, I.I, & Appendix B*)
2. District-level delegates shall be elected by a two-part primary (a presidential preference primary that includes the election of delegates). The Democratic Presidential Primary shall be held on **March 17, 2024**. The first part of the ballot shall contain the names of the qualified presidential candidates and the second part of the ballot shall contain the names of the delegate candidates for a specific senatorial district, grouped by their pledge to a Presidential candidate. Delegates shall be elected on the ballot based on the proportion of the vote won in the first part of the ballot by the presidential candidate to whom they are pledged.
3. Apportionment of District-Level Delegates
 - a. Puerto Rico's district-level delegates are apportioned among the districts based on the island's population alone due to the fact that the residents of the Puerto Rico are disenfranchised U.S. citizens who cannot vote in the presidential elections while domiciled in the territory and the local elections are not conducted by affiliation with the national political parties. (Rule 8.A, Reg. 4.12, Reg. 4.11 & Appendix A)

Puerto Rico is electorally divided into eight (8) senatorial districts based on population, and consequently, the apportionment of thirty-three (33)

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district-level delegates will be made among those eight (8) senatorial districts.

- b. The number of men and the number of women in the state’s total number of district-level delegates and alternates 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 | | |
|-------------|-----------|----------|-------|
| | Males* | Females* | Total |
| San Juan #1 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Bayamon#2 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Arecibo #3 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Mayaguez#4 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Ponce #5 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Guayama #6 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Humacao #7 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Carolina #8 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Total | 16 | 17 | 33 |

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 and are affiliated as a Democrat with the DPPR. (*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 preference and a signed pledge of support for the presidential candidate with DPPR by mail or DPPR’s web site beginning on **January 9, 2024** and file the notice of candidacy by mail or online addressed to the DPPR Chair, with a copy to the President of the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections, stating their name, address, electoral district and senatorial district in which they reside, and the name of the presidential candidate to whom they wish to be committed no later than **by 5:00 p.m. on January 30, 2024**. (*Rule 13.B, Rule 15.F & Reg. 4.22*)

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A delegate candidate may modify their singular presidential preference by submitting an updated pledge of support no later than the filing deadline. There are no petition or filing fees requirements in Puerto Rico to file for delegate to the 2024 Democratic National Convention. (*Rule 1.A.7, Rule 1.A.8, Rule 13.B, Rule 15.F & Reg. 4.22*)

The mailing address of the DPPR Chair is PO Box 366229, San Juan PR 00936-6229 and the website is www.prdeems.org. The mailing address of the President of the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections is PO Box 195552, San Juan PR 00919-5552. A statement of candidacy, pledge or updated pledge of support for a presidential candidate, postmarked after **January 30, 2024** will not be accepted.

5. Presidential Candidate Right of Review for District-Level Delegates
 - a. The DPPR Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than **February 2, 2024**, 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 DPPR Chair **by 5:00 pm on February 6, 2024** a list of all such candidates they have approved, to allow sufficient time to ensure that names removed from the list do not appear on the ballot. The presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), may approve a number of delegate candidates equal to or greater than the number of delegates allocated to the district. (*Rule 13.D.2, 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 unless the presidential candidate, or the authorized representative(s), signifies otherwise in writing to the DPPR Chair **not later than 5:00 pm on February 6, 2024**.
 - d. National convention delegates 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 at that level pledged to that presidential candidate. (*Rule 13.E & Reg. 4.23*)
 - e. The DPPR 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**

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days of returning the list of approved district-level delegate candidates as indicated in Section III.A.5.b of this Plan. (*Rule 6.I & 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 State presidential primary election is a “binding” primary. Accordingly, delegate positions shall be allocated so as to fairly reflect the expressed presidential 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 that preferences falling below a 15% threshold shall not be awarded any delegates or alternates.

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*)

c. If a presidential candidate in the **March 17, 2024** presidential primary qualifies to receive delegates but failed to slate a sufficient number of delegates, the additional delegates shall be selected at the State Convention of the DPPR on **June 1, 2024**. (*Rule 14.C*)

d. The State Convention will be open for every member of the DPPR Central Committee, and the district level delegates elected in the primary held on **March 17, 2024**. It will be publicized fully and, in such manner, as to assure timely notice to all interested persons at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting of the State Convention. The Executive Committee of the DPPR shall establish the time and place of the meeting of the State Convention and shall adopt the election procedures to be followed in the State Convention. An individual can qualify as a candidate for a position as a delegate, under these circumstances, by filing by mail or online with the DPPR a statement of candidacy and signed pledge form indicating support for a single presidential candidate, **by 5:00 p.m. on May 17, 2024**. The mailing address of the DPPR is PO Box 366229, San Juan PR 00936-6229 or online at www.prdems.org. A statement of candidacy, pledge or updated pledge of support for a presidential candidate, postmarked after **May 17, 2024** shall not be accepted. (*Rule 14.C*). The filing paperwork can be obtained by mail or from DPPR’s web site at www.prdems.org

7. Equal Division of District-Level Delegates and Alternates
 - 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. **Not later than April 1st, 2024**, once the general canvass or recount is completed, the Presidential Primary Commission shall certify and notify the results for each candidacy in absolute numbers to the DPPR Chair, the DNC Chair, and all of the Presidential Primary candidates who appeared on the primary ballot. *(Act 58-2020 Section 8.17.a.(2); 16 L.P.R.A. §4657)*

In turn, the DPPR Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) the election of the state's district-level delegates to the Democratic National Convention within ten (10) days after the Presidential Primary Commission has certified the election results. *(Rule 8.C & Call IV.A; Reg. 5.4.B & Reg. 5.4.C)*

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 the state (if applicable); (Persons who qualify as "Distinguished Party Leader"

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delegates are: all former Democratic Presidents or Vice Presidents, all former Democratic Leaders of the U.S. Senate, all former Democratic Speakers of the U.S. House of Representatives and Democratic Minority Leaders, as applicable, and all former Chairs of the Democratic National Committee.) (*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 DPPR Chair the names of the Automatic delegates who legally reside in Puerto Rico. (*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 DPPR Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the DNC the presidential preference of the territory's Automatic delegates **10 days after** the completion of the Puerto Rico 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. Puerto Rico is allotted 7 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)*

- b.** An individual can qualify as a candidate for a position as a pledged PLEO delegate by filing by mail or online a statement of candidacy designating their singular presidential preference and a signed pledge of support for the presidential candidate with the DPPR **by 5:00 p.m. on May 17, 2024**. The filing paperwork can be obtained by mail or from DPPR's web site at www.prdems.org beginning on **January 9, 2024**. A delegate candidate may modify their singular presidential preference by submitting updated pledge of support no later than the filing deadline. The mailing address of the DPPR is PO Box 366229, San Juan PR 00936-6229 or online at www.prdems.org. A statement of candidacy, pledge or updated pledge of support for a presidential candidate postmarked after **May 17, 2024** will not be accepted. *(Rule 15.G, Reg.4.18 & Reg. 4.17)*

3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review

- a.** The DPPR Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), **no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 21, 2024**, 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 DPPR Chair, **by 5:00 p.m. on May 25, 2024**, a list of all such candidates they have approved, as long as approval is given to at least one (1) name 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 unless the presidential candidate or the authorized representative(s) signifies otherwise in writing to the DPPR Chair **not later than 5:00 p.m. on May 25, 2024**. *(Rule 13.D)*
- d.** The DPPR 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.I & Reg. 4.10.C)*

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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 or about 10:30 a.m. on June 1, 2024** at the DPPR State Convention, which is after the election of district level delegates and prior to the selection of at-large delegates and alternates. These PLEO delegates will be selected by the DPPR State Convention per Section III.A.6.d. above. *(Rule 10.A & 10.B)*
5. The DPPR Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the election of the state'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. Puerto Rico is allotted 11 at-large delegates and 5 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 preference and a signed pledge of support for the presidential candidates with the DPPR by mail or online with the DPPR **by 5:00 P.M. on May 17, 2024**. The filing paperwork can be obtained by mail or from DPPR's web site beginning on **January 9, 2024**. The mailing address of the DPPR is PO Box 366229, San Juan PR 00936-6229 and the website is www.prdems.org. A delegate or alternate candidate may modify their singular presidential preference by submitting an updated pledge of support no later than the filing deadline. A statement of candidacy, pledge or updated pledge of support for a presidential candidate postmarked after **May 17, 2024** will not be accepted. *(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 DPPR 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)*

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- 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 DPPR Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), immediately after the selection of the PLEO delegates on **June 1, 2024**, 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 DPPR Chair, immediately after the selection of the PLEO delegates a list of all such candidates they have approved, provided that, at a minimum, one (1) name remains for every national convention delegate or alternate position to which the presidential candidate is entitled. (*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 unless the presidential candidate or the authorized representative(s) signifies otherwise in writing to the DPPR Chair immediately after the selection of the PLEO delegates.
 - d. The DPPR 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. (*Rule 11.C*)
 - b. Preferences which have not attained a 15% threshold on a state-wide 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*)

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- 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 or about 11:30 am on June 1, 2024** at the DPPR State Convention, which is after all pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates have been selected. *(Call III)*
 - b. These delegates and alternates will be selected by the DPPR State Convention per Section III.A.6.d. above. *(Rule 10.B, Rule 11.B & Rule 11.B)*
 - 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 Puerto Rico 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. *(Rule 6.A, Rule 6.C and Reg. 4.9)*
 - (4) Delegates and alternates are to be considered separate groups for this purpose. *(Rule 6.C.1, Rule 11.A, Reg. 4.9 & Reg. 4.19)*

6. The DPPR Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the election of the state'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 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 DPPR 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 DPPR, 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 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. The following system will be used to select permanent and temporary replacements of delegates: The delegate chooses the 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 DPPR 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 DPPR 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, 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. The Democratic Governor shall not be entitled to name a replacement. 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 territory be entitled to a replacement, except in the case of death of such delegates. In the case where Puerto Rico'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. In no case may an alternate cast a vote for an Automatic delegate. *(Call IX.F.3.e)*

PRELIMINARY

Section IV

Selection of Convention Standing Committee Members

A. Introduction

1. Puerto Rico has been allocated two (2) members on each of the three (3) standing committees for the 2024 Democratic National Convention (Credentials, Platform and Rules), for a total of six (6) 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. Temporary Standing Committee Members

1. Temporary members for the Convention Standing Committees may be selected to ensure Puerto Rico has representation if any of the standing committees meet before the DPPR State Convention. The temporary members will be selected by the Executive Committee of the DPPR at a meeting on **May 6, 2024** at a time and place selected by the DPPR Chairman. The meeting shall be open to the public and well publicized in accordance with this Plan. Members of the Executive Committee shall receive timely notice of the meeting, in accordance with the DPPR rules. *(Call VII.G.2)*
2. Any Democrat may apply for a position as a temporary member of the standing committees. Persons wishing to be considered must submit an application form online at www.prdems.org no later than **12:00 p.m. on May 2, 2024** stating their name, address, gender, date of birth, voter identification number, electoral district, telephone numbers, emails, including the committee for which they wish to be considered. An application filed after **12:00 p.m. on May 2, 2024** will not be accepted.
3. If members of more than one standing committee are to be selected, a separate election shall be conducted for membership on each of the standing committees. The male and female membership of each standing committee shall be as equally divided among men and women (determined by self-identification) as possible under the state allocation; i.e., the variance between men and women on any committee shall not exceed one. *(Call VII.E.2)* In the case of gender non-binary committee members, they shall not be counted as either a male or female, and the remainder of the standing committee members shall be equally divided between male gender (men) and female gender (women). *(Call VII.E.1)*

4. Temporary members serve only in the event that the respective standing committee is called to meet prior to completion of the Puerto Rico delegate selection process and subsequent selection of permanent standing committee members. No temporary member may continue to serve after the selection of the permanent standing committee members unless they are elected as a permanent member. *(Call VII.G.3)*
5. Temporary members selected after the first determining step has occurred in a state shall reflect the Presidential preferences so established. *(Call VII.G.3)*
6. The DPPR Chair shall certify the temporary standing committee members in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee **within three (3) days** after their selection. Substitutions in the Puerto Rico's list of temporary members may only be made up to ten (10) days prior to the time the standing committee meets. Substitute temporary standing committee members will be selected at a meeting of the DPPR Executive Committee in accordance with the provisions outlined above. *(Call VII.B.3 and Call VII.G.4)*

C. Standing Committee Members

1. Selection Meeting
 - a. The members of the standing committees shall be elected by a quorum of the Puerto Rico National Convention delegates, at a meeting to be held on **June 1, 2024** immediately following the DPPR 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 Puerto Rico shall proportionately represent the presidential preference of all candidates receiving the threshold percentage used in the territory'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 Puerto Rico. 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 the state'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 DPPR Chair, by the close of the State Convention on **June 1, 2024**, 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. 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 shall use their best efforts to ensure that their respective delegation of standing committee members shall achieve Puerto Rico'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 committee positions shall be designated for a female, and the next binary position, if one occurs, will be designated for a male, and the remaining binary positions, to the extent they occur, shall be designated in like fashion, alternating between females and males, 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 DPPR 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

Puerto Rico will select one (1) person to serve as Delegation Chair and three (3) to serve as Convention Pages. *(Call IV.E, Call IV.F.1 & Appendix C)*

B. Delegation Chair

1. Selection Meeting
 - a. The Delegation Chair shall be the DPPR Chair to be ratified by a quorum of Puerto Rico's National Convention Delegates, at a meeting to be held on **June 1, 2024** immediately following the DPPR 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 State Democratic 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 Pages

1. Three (3) individuals will be selected to serve as Puerto Rico's Convention Pages by the DPPR Chair in consultation with the members of the Democratic National Committee from the territory. This selection will take place on **May 6, 2024** immediately after a meeting of DPPR's Executive Committee at a time and place selected by the DPPR Chairman. *(Call IV.F.3, Appendix C & Reg. 5.7)*
2. The Convention Pages shall be as evenly divided between men and women (determined by self-identification) as possible under the state allocation and shall reflect as much as possible, the Affirmative Action and Outreach and Inclusion guidelines in the state plan. In the case of gender non-binary pages, they shall not be counted as either a male or female, and the remainder of the pages shall be equally divided. *(Reg. 5.7.A)*

3. The DPPR Chair shall certify the individuals to serve as State's Convention Pages 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*)

PRELIMINARY

Section VI Presidential Electors

Puerto Rico does not select persons to serve as Presidential Electors for the 2024 Presidential election because it is a territory and although Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens by birth they cannot vote for President while living in the territory.

Section VII General Provisions and Procedural Guarantees

- A. The Democratic Party of Puerto Rico 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 Democratic Party in Puerto Rico 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 Democratic Party in Puerto Rico 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 Democratic Party in Puerto Rico 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 Democratic Party in Puerto Rico, on all levels, should support the broadest possible registration without discrimination based on “status.” *(Rule 4.B.4)*
 5. The Democratic Party in Puerto Rico 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 DPPR 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 DPPR 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 Democratic Party in Puerto Rico 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 DPPR. Such publication should be done in timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected or appointed position within each State Democratic Party 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. Puerto Rico’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. Delegates and alternates shall be considered separate groups for purposes of achieving equal division as determined by gender self-identification. 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 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. 40% 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 prohibited at every stage of the delegate selection process. *(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 DPPR hereby undertakes to assure all Democratic voters in Puerto Rico, 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 Puerto Rico. *(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 Democratic Party in Puerto Rico should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of the 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 status, Puerto Rico 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 DPPR 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 DPPR 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, "people with disabilities" means a persons with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities as defined in the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, Pub. L. No. 101-336, 104 Stat. 328, as amended in 2008.
 - (3) 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)*
 - (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 DPPR Chair on **March 1, 2023**. *(Rule 6.F)*
 - b. The DPPR 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 DPPR 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 DPPR, 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 DPPR to the greatest extent feasible, including, but not limited to, making available on a priority basis, the DPPR staff and volunteers, 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 **November 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 DPPR has determined the demographic composition of African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the state’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 State Party has determined the demographic composition of members of the LGBTQ+ community, people with disabilities, and youth in the state’s Democratic electorate. The DPPR has chosen to establish these percentages as goals for representation in the state’s convention delegation. *(Rule 7 & Reg. 4.8.C.iii)*
3. In the general elections held in Puerto Rico the Democratic Party nor any other national party are registered to participate in the territorial or local elections, nor do they slate candidates for local public office. Thus, it is impossible to determine the percentage of Democratic electorate. The method applied for determining the demographic composition of the Puerto Rico electorate is by using total population statistics provided by the U.S. Census Bureau and the Puerto Rico Planning Board (2017) and by the DNC Disability Outreach and DNC LGBTQ+ Outreach.
4. In respect to ethnic or minority representation, there is no distinguishable group of ethnic or minority representation, no distinguishable group of Asian/Pacific Americans nor Native Americans. Regarding African Americans, in Puerto Rico this distinction is inapt since Puerto Rico’s racial heritage includes African ancestry. Puerto Rico’s delegation to the National Convention will most likely be one hundred percent (100%) Hispanic.

| | Hispanics | Native Americans | Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders | LGBTQ+ Americans | People with Disabilities | Youth (18-36) | Seniors (65+) |
|------------------------------|-----------|------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Percent in Population | 100% | 0.5% | 0% | 10% | 15% | 22.% | 23% |
| Numeric Goals for Delegation | 56 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 12 | 13 |

5. 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 DPPR’s representation goals to achieve

an at-large selection process that helps to bring about a representative balance. *(Rule 11.A)*

6. Although the selection of the at-large delegation may be used to fulfill the affirmative action goals established by this Plan, the State Party 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 on **November 15, 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 1.E & Rule 1.F)*
2. A speaker's bureau of volunteers from the DPPR, including the Affirmative Action Committee, shall be comprised of individuals who are fully familiar with the process, will be organized to appear before groups, as needed, to provide information concerning the process.
3. The DPPR's education efforts will include outreach to community leaders within the Democratic Party's constituencies and making sure that information about the delegate selection process is available to Democratic clubs and Party caucuses representing specific constituencies.
4. The DPPR 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 DPPR shall also make available copies of its Rules, 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 the territory's delegate selection process will be prepared and the DPPR and Affirmative Action Committee will distribute them in the various delegate districts not later than **October 2, 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 DPPR 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 wish to register or to change their party enrollment status. *(Rule 2.C)*
7. The Affirmative Action Committee will develop a State Party strategy to be implemented beginning **November 15, 2023** that will 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)*

D. Efforts to Publicize the Delegate Selection Process

1. The DPPR 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 DPPR communications and on the DPPR's 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 DPPR shall have a Delegate Selection Media Plan 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 DPPR 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 the Democratic Presidential Primary and the delegate selection process, including the State Convention, Central Committee and Executive Committee meetings and Puerto Rico's National Convention Delegates' meetings, shall be effectively publicized, multilingually where necessary, to encourage the participation of minority groups. *(Rule 6.D)*

4. Not later than **November 15, 2023** the DPPR 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 DPPR'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 DPPR 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 DPPR Chair by **October 2, 2023** which indicates the specific steps they will take to encourage full participation by their supporters in Puerto Rico'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. 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. *(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 candidates who meet applicable equal division and affirmative action considerations to promote and achieve the Puerto Rico'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 DDP 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 DPP 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 DPP will make accommodations to facilitate greater participation by people with disabilities. This will involve making accommodations to facilitate greater participation by people with disabilities, ensuring public places have an accessible entrance and interior providing disability access to facilities in public places, for example wheelchair-accessible toilets, lift buttons within reach, and tactile and audible lift signals for people with vision impairment, ensuring that people with disability can access all public areas of a premises and not just a segregated area with a facility, providing any information available to users of premises in an accessible format, for example signage, labels, directions and instructions. including choosing sites/venues that are accessible such as being barrier-free meeting rooms and restrooms, provide handicap parking spaces. Also, procure sign language interpreter to be present at the site, if needed, at any point during delegate selection process or meetings.

4. In addition to the education, publicity and other steps described above, the DPPR will work with the Affirmative Action Committee to develop a list of specific steps that will be taken by the DPPR to reach out to and include the territory's various Democratic constituencies as part of the delegate selection process, in particular members of the LGBTQ+ community, people with disabilities and youth.

5. At the beginning of each stage of the delegate selection process, the chair or the acting chair of the meeting shall read the following statement in English and Spanish:

"All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party of Puerto Rico shall 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. In order 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 has been adopted by the Democratic Party of Puerto Rico. Discrimination on the basis of the aforementioned conditions in the conduct of the Democratic Party of Puerto Rico affairs is prohibited."

"Todas las reuniones públicas en todos los niveles del Partido Demócrata de Puerto Rico estarán abiertas a todos los miembros del Partido Demócrata sin importar raza, sexo, edad, color, credo, origen nacional, religión, identidad étnica, orientación sexual, identidad de género y expresión, posición económica o discapacidad. Para que el Partido Demócrata en todos los niveles sea un partido abierto, que incluye en vez de excluir la participación de la gente, se ha adoptado un programa eficaz de acción afirmativa por el Partido Demócrata de Puerto Rico. La discriminación por motivo de las condiciones anteriormente mencionados en la dirección de los asuntos del Partido Demócrata de Puerto Rico está prohibida."

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 State Party 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 State Party Committee as the body entitled to sponsor a delegation from that State 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 state’s Delegate Selection Plan shall be filed with the Chair of the State Democratic Party and the Co-Chairs of the Rules and Bylaws Committee within 15 calendar days after the adoption of the Plan by the State Party. (*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 State Party Committee and with the Rules and Bylaws Committee not later than 15 days after the alleged violation occurred. The State Party 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 State Party 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

Puerto Rico will use a proportional representation system based on the results of the Primary apportioning its delegates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention.

The “first determining step” of Puerto Rico’s delegate selection process will occur on **March 17, 2024** with a Primary.

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

| Type | Delegates | Alternates | Date of Selection | Selecting Body |
|--|-----------|------------|-------------------|---|
| | | | | Filing Requirements and Deadlines |
| District-Level Delegates | 33 | 0 | March 17, 2024 | Selecting Body: Puerto Rico Democratic Primary |
| District-Level Alternates | | | | File Statement of Candidacy and Pledge of Support online or mail by 5:00 pm on January 30, 2024 |
| Automatic Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates* | 5 | 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)* | 7 | ** | June 1, 2024 | Selecting Body: DPPR State Convention |
| | | | | File Statement of Candidacy and Pledge of Support online or mail by 5:00 p.m. on May 17, 2024 |
| At-Large Delegates | 11 | 5 | June 1, 2024 | Selecting Body: DPPR State Convention |
| At-Large Alternates | | | | File Statement of Candidacy and Pledge of Support online or mail by 5:00 p.m. on May 17, 2024 |
| TOTAL Delegates and Alternates | 56 | 5 | | |

* Automatic Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) delegates includes the following categories, if applicable, who legally reside in the state: 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 will be selected by the state’s National Convention delegates as summarized below:

| Members Per Committee | Total Members | Selection Date | Filing Requirements and Deadlines |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|---|
| Temporary | 6 | May 6, 2024 | Filing by 12:00 pm on May 2, 2020 - Selected by DPPR Executive Committee |

Puerto Rico 2024 Delegate Selection Plan

| Members Per Committee | Total Members | Selection Date | Filing Requirements and Deadlines |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|--|
| Permanent | 6 | June 1, 2024 | Nominated by Presidential candidates after the close of the DPPR State Convention on June 1, 2024 . |

C. Selection of Delegation Chair and Convention Pages

The Delegation Chair will be the DPPR Chair to be ratified by the National Convention Delegates on **June 1, 2024**.

The three (3) Convention Pages will be selected by the DPPR Chair no later than **June 1, 2023**.

D. Selection of Presidential Electors

Puerto Rico does not select persons to serve as Presidential Electors for the 2024 Presidential election because it is a territory and although Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens by birth they cannot vote for President while living in the territory.

E. Presidential Candidate Filing Deadline

Presidential candidates do not have to file in Puerto Rico in order to appear on the Democratic Presidential Primary ballot. However, if any of the candidates determines not to participate in the primary election, they must certify such determination in writing to the Secretary of State by **January 10, 2024**. (*Rule 15.D*)

Presidential candidates must certify the name of their authorized representative(s) to the DPPR Chair by **January 20, 2024**.

G. Timetable

| Date | Activity |
|-------------|--|
| 2023 | |
| February 1 | Delegate Selection Affirmative Action Committee members are appointed by the DPPR Chair. |
| March 1 | List of Affirmative Action Committee members submitted to DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee. |
| March 12 | Affirmative Action Committee meets to draft proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans. |
| April 1 | Proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program is tentatively approved for public comment by DPPR Executive Committee. |
| April 1 | 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. |
| May 1 | Period for public comment on State Plan is concluded. Responses are compiled for review by the DPPR Executive Committee. |
| May 2 | DPPR Executive Committee 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. |

Puerto Rico 2024 Delegate Selection Plan

| Date | Activity |
|-------------|--|
| May 3 | Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program is forwarded to the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee. |
| October 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. |
| October 2 | Last day for the DPPR and Affirmative Action Committee to distribute in various delegate districts copies of documents related to the delegate selection process. |
| November 15 | DPPR 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. |
| December 15 | Presidential Primary Commission begins to operate. |
| 2024 | |
| January 2 | No excuse absentee voting request begins. |
| January 5 | Closing date for the Secretary of State to prepare a list of the names of presidential hopefuls who will appear in the Democratic Presidential Primary ballot and notify each of them. |
| January 9 | Delegate and alternate candidates may obtain the statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms and filing instructions from DPPR's web site at www.prdems.org . |
| January 10 | Closing date for presidential candidates on the list to certify in writing to the Secretary of State their refusal to participate in the Primary. |
| January 15 | Secretary of State shall notify the DPPR Chair, the DNC Chair, and the Secretary of the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections the names of the persons who shall appear as presidential candidates on the ballot of the Democratic Presidential Primary. |
| January 15 | The DPPR Chair shall file with the Secretary of the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections a certification attesting to the number of delegates and alternate delegates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention which Puerto Rico is entitled to select. |
| January 20 | Presidential candidates' deadline to submit to the DPPR Chair and Secretary of the Puerto Rico State Commission on Elections their designated representative to the Presidential Primary Commission. |
| January 30 | District-level delegate deadline for filing with DPPR Chair the statement of candidacy and the pledge or updated pledge of support. |
| February 1 | No excuse absentee voting request ends. |
| February 2 | DPPR Chair provides list of district-level delegate candidates who have filed to the respective pledged Presidential candidates. |
| February 6 | Presidential candidates' deadline to provide a list of approved district-level delegate candidates to DPPR Chair. |
| February 16 | Last day to register to vote in the Democratic Presidential Primary. |
| March 6 | Secretary of the Democratic National Committee shall officially confirm the names of the automatic delegates residing in Puerto Rico. |
| March 9 | In-person early voting begins. |
| March 16 | In-person early voting ends. |
| March 17 | Democratic Presidential Primary. |
| April 1 | Last day for the Presidential Primary Commission to certify results of primary; pre-slated district-level delegates are allocated according to presidential preference. |
| April 10 | Last day for DPPR Chair to certify elected district-level delegates to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee. |
| May 2 | Deadline for persons wishing to become Temporary Standing Committee members to file online. |

Puerto Rico 2024 Delegate Selection Plan

| Date | Activity |
|---------|---|
| May 6 | Selection of Temporary Standing Committee members by the DPPR Executive Committee. Also, selection of the Convention Pages by DPPR Chair in consultation with the members. |
| May 17 | Pledged PLEO and at-large delegate or alternate candidate deadline for filing the statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms with the DPPR. |
| May 21 | DPPR Chair provides a list of PLEO and at-large delegate and alternate candidates who have filed to the respective Presidential candidates. |
| May 25 | Presidential candidates provide approved list of pledged PLEO delegate candidates to DPPR Chair. |
| June 1 | The DPPR State Convention convenes. Pledged PLEO delegates selected. Following selection of PLEO delegates, presidential candidates will provide an approved list of at-large delegate and alternate candidates to DPPR Chair. The DPPR State Convention selects at-large delegates and alternates among the approved lists. Presidential candidates submit lists of candidates for standing committee members to DPPR Chair. |
| June 1 | National Convention delegation meeting immediately after DPPR State Convention ends. Delegates select National Convention Standing Committee Members and ratifies or selects Delegation Chair. |
| June 10 | Last day for the DPPR Chair to certify remainder of elected delegates and alternates (PLEOs and at-large), along with standing committee members, and delegation chair. |
| June 10 | Last day for the DPPR Chair to certify in writing to the Secretary of the DNC the State's Delegation Chair and Standing Committee Members. |
| June 10 | Last day for DPPR Chair to certify in writing to the Secretary of the DNC the presidential preference of the state's Automatic Delegates. |

(Reg. 2.2.B)

Attachments

A. Affirmative Action Committee

1. List of Affirmative Action Committee Members

SIMON CARLO, in representation of Hispanics

CECILIA LA LUZ, in representation of the LGBTQ+ Community and Hispanics

JEAN PEÑA-PAYANO, in representation of Hispanics, Afro-descendants & Youth

MARÍA ELENA VAZQUEZ-GRAZIANI, in representation of Women & Hispanic

JEIRCA M. MEDINA-PAGAN, in representation of Youth, Women and Hispanics

LUIS I. CINTRON-VELAZQUEZ, in representation of Hispanics & Labor

SHALMARIE ARROYO-MERCADO, in representation of persons with disabilities

GABRIELA MEDINA-MARRERO, in representation of persons with disabilities, Youth and LGBTQ+ Community

PRELIMINARY

3. **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)*



PARTIDO DEMOCRATA DE PUERTO RICO / DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF PUERTO RICO

STATEMENT FROM THE STATE CHAIR

April 1, 2023

I hereby certify that the composition of Puerto Rico's Affirmative Action Committee complies with Rules 5.C, 6.A., and 7 of the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2024 Democratic National Convention 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).

Charles A. Rodriguez
DPPR Chair

PO Box 366229
San Juan PR 00936-6229

B. [As specified in Reg. 2.2, the following documentation must accompany the state's Delegate Selection Plan at the time it is formally submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee.]

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 incorporated in this Plan. See Section X, page 41. *(Reg. 2.2.A)*
2. A **timetable** is incorporated as part of the Puerto Rico's Delegate Selection Plan reflecting all significant dates in the territory's delegate selection process. See Section X, page 42. *(Reg. 2.2.B)*

PRELIMINARY

3. A **copy of the press release** distributed by DPPR announcing its adoption of the Plan and summarizing the major components of the Plan is forthcoming. *(Reg. 2.2.D)*



PARTIDO DEMOCRATA DE PUERTO RICO
ANTICIPAN FECHA DE PRIMARIA
PRESIDENCIAL DEMÓCRATA EN LA ISLA

Charlie Rodríguez revela Plan para la Selección de Delegados a la Convención Nacional Demócrata de 2024

SAN JUAN - La primaria presidencial demócrata se realizará el domingo 17 de marzo de 2024, según anticipó el licenciado Charlie Rodríguez, presidente del Partido Demócrata de Puerto Rico.

El anuncio es parte de la adopción preliminar del plan de selección de delegados a la Convención Nacional Demócrata de 2024.

“Estamos encaminados a asegurar un triunfo demócrata durante el próximo proceso electoral. Y que la Isla sea un factor determinante en el apoyo de los latinos para un segundo periodo para Joe Biden”, dijo.

Según explicó Rodríguez, el Código Electoral de Puerto Rico establece que la fecha para la celebración de las primarias presidenciales será la que recomienden los presidentes de las filiales de los partidos nacionales de Estados Unidos en Puerto Rico, al presidente de la Comisión Estatal de Elecciones.

El expresidente senatorial indicó que la primaria presidencial demócrata en la Isla será lo suficientemente temprano en el proceso de nominación presidencial, como para ejercer influencia política efectiva a favor de Puerto Rico entre los aspirantes presidenciales.

De solo presentarse el Presidente como único candidato, siguió diciendo Rodríguez, se haría innecesario celebrar la primaria a nivel local.

“Estoy convencido de que el presidente Biden buscará la reelección y que aquí en Puerto Rico, reconoceremos de manera contundente su apoyo e interés por

atender las necesidades de la Isla. Sin restar méritos a cualquier otro candidato que se presente, entiendo que la gratitud de nuestro pueblo hacia Biden se hará patente”, aseguró Rodríguez.

Destacó el líder demócrata que Puerto Rico tendrá 56 delegados a la Convención

Nacional Demócrata, mucho más delgados que 26 estados, Washington, DC, y los otros 4 territorios estadounidenses.

Rodríguez informó que el plan para la selección de delegados adoptado preliminarmente por el Comité Ejecutivo de dicho partido, está expuesto para la consideración y comentario público por treinta días a través de la página cibernética www.prdems.org.

Rodríguez expresó que el plan garantiza la oportunidad y participación para todo puertorriqueño que desee convertirse en delegado demócrata.

Exhortó a todos los simpatizantes demócratas a que accedan la página electrónica para obtener información sobre el proceso de selección de delegados y cómo participar del mismo.

Rodríguez resaltó el entusiasmo en las filas demócratas del patio para seguir adelantando una agenda de ese partido nacional, que redunde en beneficios para la Isla, como en la consecución de la igualdad como ciudadanos americanos.

“El Partido Demócrata Nacional ha demostrado su apoyo a los intereses de la Isla y a promover una solución al dilema de status. Nuestro Presidente Biden lleva a Puerto Rico como una de las causas de su administración. Que revalide a un nuevo término, asegura que nos posicionemos efectivamente en el ámbito de acción de las agencias federales, con un amigo sincero en Casa Blanca”, agregó Charlie Rodríguez.

1/abril/2023

4. **A statement from the DPPR Chair certifying the following is forthcoming:**
 - a. **The Plan** as submitted to the RBC was approved by the State Party Committee. *(Reg. 2.2.C)*
 - b. **The proposed Plan**, including all attachments and appendices, was placed on the State Party 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 State Party Committee, provided that the State Party has published specific guidance for the submission of public comments. *(Reg. 2.2.F)*

PRELIMINARY

5. A 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)*



PARTIDO DEMOCRATA DE PUERTO RICO / DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF PUERTO RICO

**STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR OF
THE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION
COMMITTEE**

April 1st, 2023

I hereby certify that the Affirmative Action Committee reviewed and approved the proposed Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program of the Puerto Rico Delegate Selection Plan for the 2024 Democratic National Convention, including any numerical goals established. I furthermore certify that this was done in compliance with Rule 6.F of the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2024 Democratic National Convention.

Simon
Carlo

Chair

PO Box 366229
San Juan PR 00936-6229

6. **A copy of all written public and online comments** submitted through the process provided above about the Plan is **forthcoming**. (*Rule 1.C & Reg. 2.2.G*)
7. **A blank copy of forms** to be filed with the state and the State Party by delegate and alternate candidates is **forthcoming**. (*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*)

Puerto Rico Election Code of 2020, Act 58-2020
16 L.P.R.A. §4641-§4658 Presidential Primary Elections
(Laws of Puerto Rico Annotated 2022 Edition)

§ 4641. Presidential primary elections

It is hereby directed that, in a general election year, presidential primary elections shall be held for each national party of the United States of America having more than one presidential candidate nominated.

This subchapter has the purpose of rendering feasible for and guaranteeing that voters and U.S. citizens domiciled in Puerto Rico are able to express their preference as to the hopefuls to be nominated as presidential candidates of the national parties. The result of each primary election shall determine the number of delegates pertaining to each presidential hopeful at the national conventions. These delegates shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of the regulations or the delegate selection rules of each national party or state national party.

Holding a presidential primary election constitutes a public purpose to ensure a rational, safe, and reliable voting system that allows such processes to be conducted with transparency, purity, accuracy, and security. To achieve such purpose, the use of public funds in accordance with Section 9 of Article VI of the Constitution of Puerto Rico is hereby authorized.

To participate in a presidential primary election, the national party or its affiliate the state national party are required to be duly registered in Puerto Rico and in all of the states of Union, as applicable.

§ 4642. Application of this subchapter

The presidential primary elections shall be governed by this subchapter. The provisions of this subtitle shall be applied to the extent necessary and to any matter which this subchapter does not provide for, insofar as it is not contrary to the regulations of the national party or its state national party.

Moreover, any rule agreed upon between a state national party in Puerto Rico and its national party, including the delegate selection plan, that is inconsistent with this subtitle shall prevail, except for the dates on which the presidential primaries shall be held as established in this subchapter, which shall prevail over any norm, rule, or plan of any state national party.

§ 4643. Definitions

For purposes of this subchapter, the following terms or phrases shall have the meaning stated hereinbelow:

(1) Presidential hopeful.- Any person who, having complied with the norms, rules, and regulations, and met the requirements of the national party to which they belong, as well as with the provisions of this subtitle, aspires to be nominated as a candidate for President of the United States of America for the national party concerned.

(2) National Nominating Convention.- An assembly or meeting held by a national party to nominate a person who shall be its candidate for President of the United States of America on the next presidential election.

(3) Congressional district.- The geographic demarcation that, for election purposes, has been established by law in Puerto Rico or by the Constitutional Board for the Revision of Senatorial and Representative Electoral Districts following the applicable federal guidelines.

(4) Ballot.- A printed or electronic ballot designed for the voter to express his preference for a presidential hopeful of the national party of his preference.

(5) National party.- A political party registered in all of the states of the United States of America and Puerto Rico, or that has an affiliate in the 50 states and Puerto Rico, and which nominates or participates in the election of candidates for President and Vice President of the United States of America.

(6) State national party.- A committee or an entity in Puerto Rico recognized by a national party as its affiliate and local representative.

(7) Presidential primary election.- The process whereby voters cast their votes to express their preference for the Presidential hopefuls of the United States of America for the national party they are affiliated with, the results of which shall be used as the basis for the selection of the delegates, alternate delegates, or both, to the national nominating convention of the national parties, in accordance with the delegate selection rules or regulations of each national party or state national party. The process of the Presidential Primary Elections is administered by the Presidential Primary Commission of each state national party.

§ 4644. Voters

Every active voter in the Puerto Rico General Voter Registry who also meets the affiliation requirement for the national party holding the primary election shall be entitled to vote in the Presidential Primary of the national party of his preference.

(1) The Presidential Primary shall be an internal voting process of the national party, its state national party and the affiliate members thereof. If an active voter does not appear in the Party Affiliation Registry at the time of casting his vote, they shall be entitled to be immediately registered before casting his vote. Every state national party shall be required to provide the mechanisms for said registration, whether through printed or electronic mechanisms.

(2) A state national party may prevent a person from exercising their right to vote if said person is not registered in the Party Affiliation Registry or refuses to fill out and sign the party affiliation form to be registered before voting. The state national party shall have discretion to decide whether to allow these voters to cast a vote through the challenge procedure or other procedure. Not being registered in the Party Affiliation Registry or refusing to register therein shall be sufficient grounds to prevent such voter from voting or to challenge said vote if they were allowed to vote.

(3) A party affiliate who, for any reason beyond their control, is not registered as an active voter in the General Voter Registry, but holds a voter identification card issued by the Commission shall be entitled to vote in a "provisional voting polling center." Said vote shall be evaluated, adjudicated, or rejected during the general canvass of the Presidential Primary Election.

(4) The voter shall be entitled to vote for only one Presidential hopeful.

(5) Every voter who wishes to exercise their right to vote under this subchapter, shall do it in the congressional district and electoral district under which they are registered in the General Voter Registry.

(6) If a voter casts their vote at a "provisional voting polling center" outside of their electoral district, but within their congressional district, their vote shall be adjudicated. If a voter casts their vote outside of their electoral district and congressional district, their vote shall not be adjudicated.

§ 4645. Voting events

All voters who meet the requirements provided in § 4644 of this title shall vote in the presidential primary election.

(1) During the eight (8) days prior to the date on which the presidential primary election must be held, "early voting" shall be available for any voter who so requests or prefers. "Early voting" shall be conducted at the offices of the Permanent Registration Boards (PRB) through the "provisional voting" method. In order to cast their vote using this method, the voter shall go to the Permanent Registration Board of the municipality or electoral district where they are registered.

(2) Every active voter who is domiciled in Puerto Rico and, for any reason, is outside of Puerto Rico on the date of the presidential primary election, shall be entitled to request "absentee voting."

(3) If the date of the presidential primary election of two (2) or more national parties fall on the same date, the opening of separate polling places shall be provided for, even if these are located in the same polling center. In this case, participating or voting in more than one nomination process for Presidential hopefuls of a national party is hereby prohibited.

§ 4646. Date to hold Presidential Primary Elections

Presidential primary elections shall be held on the following dates:

(1) Four-year Election Cycle of the 2020 General Election.- The presidential primary election of the Republican Party shall be held on the first Sunday of the month of June of the general election year, and the presidential primary election of the Democratic Party shall be held on the last Sunday of the month of March of the general election year. If another national party or state national party is formed and meets the requirements to participate in a presidential primary election in Puerto Rico, the president of said party shall notify the President of the Commission the date of the holding of said primary election, not later than March 1, 2020. In any case, said primary election shall be held during the 2020 General Election year.

(2) Four-year Election Cycle of the 2024 General Election.- From this cycle and thereafter, the presidential primary elections shall be held on the dates that the president of each of the state national parties notifies in writing to the President of the Commission, not later than December 1 of the year prior to the general election. The date set by the presidents of the state national parties shall always be within the same year of the next general election.

§ 4647. Registration of a state national party in Puerto Rico

(1) Any citizen group seeking to be certified by the Commission as a state national party by petition entitled to hold presidential primary elections to nominate candidates for President of the United States of America and to elect delegates and alternate delegates to

the national nominating conventions, and that prior to this subtitle, has not been certified nor has participated in said voting events, shall meet the following requirements:

(a) To include in its petition the name of the party to be certified, its emblem, a government platform or program describing its political approach or ideology, its regulations, as well as the full names, voter identification numbers, mailing addresses, electronic mail addresses, and telephones of the group of active voters that constitute the central governing body thereof, including their respective positions therein.

(b) The national party certification authorizing the citizen group to represent the party in Puerto Rico as a state national party.

(c) The filing of endorsement petitions with the Commission to be certified between January 15 of the year following the general election and December 30 of the year prior to the next general election. The minimum number of endorsement petitions to be validated by the Commission shall be equivalent to five percent (5%) of the total valid votes cast for the office of Governor of Puerto Rico in the most recent general election and may be filed by affiliated voters of any congressional district.

(d) The endorsement petitions shall be processed in accordance with the provisions of §§ 4611 - 4633 of this title.

(e) The Secretary of the Commission shall issue the certificate of registration as "state national party by petition", once the Commission determines that all requirements have been met and completed.

(f) Upon certification, the party by petition may nominate primary hopefuls or candidates, in accordance with the procedures provided in this subtitle.

(2) A state national party shall not be required to be subsequently certified upon meeting the certification requirement or while it maintains its status as state national party of the same national party.

(3) The state national party that has been certified or recognized as such by the Commission, and has participated in the Presidential Primary Election in Puerto Rico, prior to the effectiveness of this act, shall be deemed to be certified and exempt from meeting the certification requirement of this section.

§ 4648. Central executive body and regulation

Every state national party shall have an executive governing body that shall adopt and submit regulations to the Commission and to its respective Presidential Primary Commission not later than on the date on which its intention to be certified has been notified, or not later than December 1 of the year before the Presidential Primary Elections are held in the event that it has been amended.

§ 4649. State national party name and emblem

Every state national party certified in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter shall register its name and emblem with the Secretary of the Commission not later than December 1 of the year prior to the date of the holding of the presidential primary election. The name and emblem shall constitute the official distinctive thereof and shall be printed or placed on the ballots of the national party in any voting event where said party participates, in accordance with this subchapter. All that pertains to the registration, adoption, change, determination, or alteration of any name or emblem of a state national party shall be governed by the provisions of this subtitle.

§ 4650. Notification on the number of delegates

Not later than January 15 of the year in which the Presidential Primary Election shall be held, the president of each state national party shall file with the Secretary of the Commission a certification attesting to the number of delegates and alternate delegates to the national nominating convention which his state national party is entitled to elect at the Presidential Primary Election in Puerto Rico.

§ 4651. Presidential candidate hopefuls

(1) Not later than January 5 of the year in which the Presidential Primary Election shall be held, the Secretary of State of Puerto Rico shall prepare a list with the names of the hopefuls running for nomination to President of the United States for any of the national parties and shall notify each of them by regular mail, return receipt requested, and by electronic mail on the same day of their inclusion in said list. To fulfill this responsibility, the Secretary of State shall previously verify with the president of each state national party the names of the hopefuls recognized for presidential nomination, in accordance with the criteria and the bylaws of each national party represented by them.

(2) The name of each of the Presidential hopefuls included in this list shall appear on the Presidential Primary ballot as presidential candidate, unless said Presidential Hopeful certifies in writing to the Secretary of State after January 10 of the year in which the presidential primary elections must be held, that they have no intention to be a Hopeful in the Presidential Primary Election in Puerto Rico.

(3) Not later than January 15 of the year in which the Presidential Primary Elections shall be held, the Secretary of State shall notify by certified regular mail, return receipt requested, and by electronic mail on the same day, to the president of the State National Party, the President of the National Party, and the Secretary of the Commission the names of the persons who shall appear as Presidential Hopefuls on the ballot of its primary election.

§ 4652. Delegates to the national nominating conventions

The selection of delegates, alternate delegates, or both shall be governed by the rules and bylaws of national parties. On the national nominating convention, the delegates and

alternate delegates shall be required to endorse on the first voting event the Presidential hopeful for which they were elected or selected.

§ 4653. Alternate method for delegate selection

(1) In those cases where the Secretary of State certifies only one Presidential hopeful as candidate for President of the United States in the presidential primary election of a national party, their state national party may employ an alternate method in lieu of a primary election, such as an assembly, convention, or caucus to select the delegates to the national nominating convention of the national party. Said alternate method shall be carried out on or before the same date and shall begin at the same time that the Presidential Primary Election would have been held, and a record of all voters participating in the assembly, convention, or caucus shall be kept.

(2) When the president of the state national party certifies that, as of the deadline to file candidacies, there is only one group of delegates, whether pledged or not, then this shall be certified as a sole candidacy, and it shall not be necessary to hold a Presidential Primary Election or carry out an alternate method.

§ 4654. Powers of the President of the State Commission on Elections

The President shall be empowered to take any action, make any efforts, and discharge any duties as necessary to implement this subchapter, in accordance with the powers conferred unto the President under this subtitle. To such effect, the President shall adopt rules and regulations as necessary to implement this subchapter, as well as issue orders and adopt resolutions and determinations. Compliance therewith may be also delegated to their subordinates. However, any orders, rules, norms, or resolutions adopted to such effects shall be consistent with the applicable provisions of this subtitle, and the regulations of the national parties and their affiliated state national parties.

§ 4655. Presidential Primary Commission

(1) Not later than December 15 of the year prior to the date of the Presidential Primary Election, a separate Presidential Primary Commission shall be created for each state national party participating in a Presidential Primary Election. This Commission shall be composed of the President of the State Commission on Elections and an Election Commissioner of the concerned national party appointed by the president of the state national party. Said Commissioner shall be entitled to appoint the local election commissioners and the alternate election commissioners for each electoral district to conduct their election-related businesses.

(2) Each Presidential hopeful registered to participate in a Presidential Primary Election in Puerto Rico shall be entitled to have a representative who shall serve as an observer at the Presidential Primary Commission. Such designation shall be made through a letter and an electronic mail addressed to the President of the state national party and the Secretary of the Commission not later than January 20 of the year in which the Presidential Primary Election must be held. Registered Presidential hopefuls shall also be entitled to have

observers at each stage of the voting and canvass processes of the Presidential Primary Election.

(3) The Presidential Primary Commission shall direct and oversee the primary elections, and assist in the general canvass and recounts as are necessary. It shall be empowered to prescribe through regulations the rules to comply with its responsibility and implement the regulation or rules for the selection of delegates.

§ 4656. Ballots

The Presidential Primary Commission shall be responsible for designing every ballot and the President shall be responsible for the printing or conversion thereof to an electronic format. The ballot shall be prepared in such a manner so as to ensure full compliance with any criteria required under regulations, rules, or provisions of the national parties. The text of the ballot shall be in both English and Spanish.

If the Presidential Primary Election of two (2) or more national parties shall hold the Presidential Primary Election on the same date, separate ballots shall be prepared for each national party.

If any Presidential hopeful announces that they are withdrawing from the race at the national level prior to the deadline for designing and printing the ballot, the president of the concerned state national party shall notify it within twenty-four (24) hours after becoming aware of said fact and shall certify it in writing to the President of the Presidential Primary Commission and State Election Commissioner to remove the name and/or emblem of said Presidential hopeful from the ballot design.

§ 4657. Canvass

(1) Once the voting event concludes in accordance with this chapter, the Presidential Primary Commission of each national party shall conduct a general canvass or recount, as appropriate under this subtitle. Said general canvass or recount shall be completed not later than fifteen (15) days after the date of the primary election of each national party.

(2) Once the general canvass is completed, the Presidential Primary Commission shall notify the results for each candidacy in absolute numbers to the president of the state national party, the president of the national party, and all of the Presidential primary hopefuls who appeared on the ballot of their respective primary elections.

§ 4658. Fundraising limits and duty to report

When a state national party raises funds, incurs expenditures, or both to participate in a state election event for the election of candidates for elective offices in Puerto Rico, provided by law and under the administration of the Commission, other than a Presidential Primary Election, it shall be required to comply with the limits and obligations provided in §§621 et seq. of this title. In any other case not specifically provided for in this subtitle, the

financial activities of the state national parties shall be deemed to be for private, not for profit, and not subject in any manner to the provisions of §§621 et seq. of this title.

- b. The election of Presidential Electors is **non-applicable** to Puerto Rico because of our territorial status. *(Call VIII)*
9. A copy of all **presidential candidate qualifying forms** to be filed with the state and the State Party is **non-applicable** since presidential candidates do not have to file in Puerto Rico. *(Reg. 2.2.M)*
10. A copy of the **State Delegate Selection Media Plan**, describing how the DPPR will communicate information about the process to all available and appropriate sources, including social and specialty media directed toward Democratic constituency groups as described in the Affirmative Action Plan and Outreach and Inclusion Program, is **forthcoming**.