

MCDEC BYLAWS, revised 07/20/23

Mobile County Democratic Executive Committee By-Laws

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Mobile County Democratic Executive Committee.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of this County Executive Committee shall be to foster Democratic ideals by stimulating active interest in the Democratic Party, to support the Democratic Party's National and State organizations and platform, to contribute to party leadership development and candidate recruitment/training, to accept responsibility for Party duties, to provide a constructive role for the volunteer in Democratic politics, and to promote an active base for the County Democratic Party.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1 – ELIGIBILITY

Anyone who is a Democrat or, has expressed intent to affiliate as a Democrat, and who resides in Mobile County shall be eligible to run for membership on the Executive Committee.

For the purpose of these rules, residence shall mean, "the place in which the person concerned maintains his/her permanent (and primary if they have more than one) dwelling place".

Committee composition. The membership should be 50% female and 50% male, and consist of twelve members (6 male, 6 female) from each of the three (3) Mobile county commission districts. Every effort should be made for minority representation to equal

to the Democratic electorate in the county. At least 30% of the committee membership should be under the age of 40.

There shall be "at-large" members equal to the 25% of the popularly elected members of the Mobile County Democratic Executive Committee. The State Chair of the Democratic Party shall calculate and notify the Mobile County Chair of the number of "at-large" seats assigned to each MCDEC district. All nominees for each "at-large" position will be voted on by the membership of the entire committee.

Any Mobile County registered voter who is a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee is considered a non-voting, ex-officio members of the MCDEC.

Section 2 – GOOD STANDING

Everyone elected to be a member of this Executive Committee whose qualifying fees were paid shall be a member in good standing.

Any member of the MCDEC who while a member seeks nomination for a political office in a primary or general election under the banner of a party or ticket other than the Democratic Party of Alabama, whether certified or not, shall immediately forfeit membership on the MCDEC.

Violations of moral turpitude shall result in immediate termination of committee membership upon a majority vote of the membership.

Section 3 – DUES

Qualifying fees in an amount set by the membership shall be due and payable upon qualifying for a seat on the County Executive Committee. Those approved for at-large positions shall also pay the set qualifying fee.

Section 4 – Voting

All members in good standing are eligible to vote. Proxy voting is not permitted.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

SECTION 1 - ELECTED OFFICERS

Elected officers of the MCDEC shall be the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Each shall be elected at the general meeting following the general election primary and shall hold office for four (4) years until reelected.

If a vacancy is created in one of the elected offices due to death, resignation, or failure to comply with MCDEC by-laws, the Chair can appoint a successor to that office to complete the expired term. Any such appointment shall be approved by the membership at the next general meeting. At that meeting, nominations can also be accepted from the floor. Voting shall be by hand, standing or signed ballot with a majority of those members present required to elect.

SECTION 2 – DUTIES

A. Chair

The Chair shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the County Executive Committee. He/she shall preside over all meetings of the MCDEC and the Executive Board; make appointments to other positions, create any special or sub committees as needed and appoint the members thereof. The Chair shall serve as ex-officio member of all special and sub committees; act as official spokesperson for the county committee and Mobile County democratic issues; contribute to effective leadership development and individual responsibility; promote harmony among Democratic organizations; stimulate interest in the political process and provide a constructive role for active volunteers.

B. Vice-Chair

The Vice Chair shall serve at the direction of the Chair. He/she shall preside over meetings if the Chair is unable to do so or is requested by the Chair to do so. The Vice Chair shall take over the duties of the Chair in the absence of that officer and will be responsible for the annual audit. The Chair and Vice Chair shall be of the opposite gender.

C. Secretary

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all Executive Committee meetings and Board meetings and special called meeting, conduct correspondence as directed by the Chair, maintain the MCDEC records (minutes, membership applications, etc.) and be responsible for internal correspondence except where the committee has an IT person responsible for communications as directed by the Chair. Meeting notices shall be sent by communication methods established by the Chair. Meeting notices shall be sent seven (7) days prior to the meeting date. A copy of the meeting minutes shall be sent to the State Democratic Executive Committee within fifteen (15) days of the meeting. A record of attendance of members shall be maintained by the Secretary.

D. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection, receipt, and deposits of all funds received; maintain an accurate record of receipts and expenditures; sign all checks as authorized by the Chair or the committee; make the record of receipts and expenditures available to members at meetings or upon request of the Chair; provide a summary report of the Executive Committees financial status at meetings or as requested by the Chair; provide an annual report and make the books available for audit each year. In addition, the Treasurer shall be responsible for filing appropriate Federal and State campaign disclosure reports.

SECTION 3 – OFFICER ELECTIONS

The election of officers shall be held in January every four years (after the State of Alabama elects its Governor. Members shall elect five members to serve on the nominating committee. The nominating committee shall nominate at least one candidate for each elective office and report their nominees' names at the next general meeting. At that meeting, the floor will be open for additional nominations. Those nominees who receive a majority vote of the members shall be declared elected. If no person receives a majority of votes cast, a run-off shall be held between those two people receiving the greatest number of votes. The person receiving the majority of votes cast shall be declared elected.

SECTION 4 -VACANCIES

If any officer resigns (or fails to attend 3 consecutive general meetings or Executive Board meetings without approval from the Chair), the County Executive Committee shall declare that office vacant and elect a successor to complete the unexpired term. At the general meeting following the vacancy declaration, nominations shall be accepted from the floor to fill the vacancy. Voting shall be by hand, standing or signed ballot with a majority of those members present required to elect.

SECTION 5 – APPOINTED OFFICERS

The Chair shall appoint a parliamentarian and any other officers (or Committees) not otherwise specified by these Bylaws as required for the General well-being of the organization.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

SECTION 1-GENERAL MEETINGS

There shall be a minimum of quarterly meetings held during non-election years and monthly meetings shall be held during election years. The Chair shall call meetings and notice shall be given 10 days prior to the date of the meeting. Meetings shall be held at a time and location determined by the Chair.

SECTION 2 – QUORUM

A quorum at any general meeting shall be twenty-five (25) percent (or whatever is determined by the Executive Committee) of the elected membership. A quorum of the Executive Board shall be a majority of its elected members.

SECTION 3 – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be the parliamentary authority for the Committee on all questions not covered by the By-laws.

SECTION 4 – NOTICES

At least ten (10) days prior to a general meeting, the Secretary shall mail or send by electronic communication notices to each member of the Committee. The following items shall be included for discussion and Vote:

- .Proposed resolutions
- .Endorsements of candidates and/or ballot measures
- .Filling of vacancies
- .Proposed amendments to these Bylaws

Such notice shall specify time, date and place of the general meeting.

ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1 - FUNCTION

The Executive Board of the County Executive Committee shall approve all expenditures and carry out the Committee's business between general meetings and perform any other duties provided by these Bylaws. The Chair shall approve any written correspondence on behalf of the Committee. The Chair shall be the sole spokesperson of the Committee and for Democratic issues in Mobile County.

SECTION 2 -MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the County Executive Committee's Executive Board shall include all of the currently elected Committee officers, and the current appointed officers and Committee Chairs.

SECTION 3 – MEETINGS

The Chair shall call, with advance notice, a meeting of the Executive Board as needed. Special called meetings may be called by a majority or the currently elected members of the Executive Board at any time. A majority of the currently elected members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII– STANDING COMMITTEES

The standing committees of the County Executive Committee may include: Fundraising, events, membership, communications, Public relations, speakers, PAC.

ARTICLE VIII – CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENTS

- A. All endorsements of candidate or resolutions concerning ballot Measures or public issues must be in accordance with the standards established by the State Party. It is also the tradition and stated goal of the County Committee not to make endorsements or to pass resolutions which will adversely affect the unity of the Democratic Party or its office holders.
- B. Only candidates who are well known, indisputable Democrats are eligible for Committee endorsement.

A motion to endorse a candidate or take a position on a proposition or public issue must receive a vote of the majority of Committee members present.

D. County Executive Committees are strongly discouraged from making endorsements in the Primary Election or Primary Runoff Election. The County Committee should strongly endorse and support each Democratic Nominee after the completion of Primary Election(s).

ARTICLE IX – AFFILIATION

Any County Democratic club or group shall affiliate as an associate Member of the State and County Democratic Executive Committees and pay any applicable fees.

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ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended by majority vote at a general meeting after such amendment has been presented at the preceding general meeting and notice has been provided as specified in Article V, Section 4 of these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XI – ADOPTION

These Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon their Adoption and shall be the governing document of the Mobile County Democratic Executive Committee.

MCDEC Bylaws originally adopted August 1934

MCDEC Bylaws Amended July 2023