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ALASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY
PARTY PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

Adopted May 15, 2016

at the

Alaska Democratic State Party Convention

In

Anchorage, Alaska

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ARTICLE I: PREAMBLE

The Alaska Democratic Party (ADP), an entity recognized under Alaska State Statute and Federal law and by the Democratic National Committee (DNC), adopts this Plan of Organization in order to secure the passage of legislation representative of the basic principles of Democratic government, and to elect representatives pledged to Democratic Party principles.

ARTICLE II: PARTICIPATION

Section 1) Participation in the Alaska Democratic Party (ADP) is open to all Democrats registered with the State of Alaska.

Section 2) Discrimination on the basis of gender, race, age, religion or lack thereof, economic status, sexual orientation, ethnic identity, national origin, disability, or color in the conduct of Alaska Democratic Party affairs is prohibited.

Section 3) Meetings of the Alaska Democratic Party are open to all members of the Party and will be held in locations accessible to Party members. No meeting may be held in any building owned or operated by an organization or individual that discriminates against individuals on the basis of any grounds in Section 2. All reasonable efforts will be made to ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Section 4) The time, place, and purpose for all meetings are publicized in a way that ensures timely and reasonable notice to all interested persons.

Section 5) All meetings of the committees authorized by the Party Plan may be held by teleconference.

Section 6) Any person holding office in the Alaska Democratic Party must be a registered Democrat in the State of Alaska or a member of the Alaska Young Democrats.

Section 7) The Alaska Democratic Party will publish procedures for selection of Party officers and representatives at all levels. The publication shall be done in such fashion that prospective and current members of the ADP have the opportunity to be fully informed of the pertinent procedures in time to participate in each selection procedure at all levels of the ADP.

Section 8) Proxies are recognized at all meetings of Party Committees, provided that in no event a person casts more than four (4) votes, including their own.

Section 9) Party Officers will take affirmative steps to encourage members of underrepresented groups to seek election as Party Officers and Delegates to State Conventions, to the end that such groups are represented in reasonable relationship to their presence in the State.

Section 10) The Alaska Democratic Party strives to achieve gender, age, ethnic, geographic, and kinship balance in leadership positions and activities.

Section 11) The Alaska Democratic Party's primary election is open to all Alaska registered voters. For Democratic Primary Elections, any Alaska voter who is registered as a Democrat, Undeclared, or Non Partisan may file for office and appear on the Democratic Party's Primary Ballot. Undeclared and Non Partisan candidates may be listed using the category in which they are registered (U or N), or they may be listed as "Independent" or "Non Affiliated". The Democrat or non-affiliated candidate receiving the most votes in the Democratic Primary will advance to the General Election ballot as the party's nominee, where he/she will be listed with the same identifier used in the Primary.

Section 12) The Alaska Democratic Party may not make an endorsement, monetary contribution or non-monetary contribution in a contested Democratic primary, except the State Central Committee may suspend the rules by a three-quarters (3/4) vote of those present and entitled to vote to make an early endorsement.

ARTICLE III: PRECINCT ORGANIZATION

Section 1) Precinct organization within each House District is voluntary; the District Chair must be notified if a Precinct chooses to organize.

Section 2) A voting Precinct, as identified by the State of Alaska Division of Elections, is a subdivision of the Alaska Democratic Party.

Section 3) To be recognized as an organized Precinct, registered Democrats living within that Precinct must elect a Precinct Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer (Secretary/Treasurer may be one person.) The Treasurer is required only if the Precinct raises money.

Section 4) Any person registered as a Democrat with the State of Alaska or Alaska Young Democrat and living within a voting Precinct is eligible to participate in Precinct meetings. Any person who is registered with the State of Alaska as a Democrat, Undeclared, or Non-Partisan and living within a voting Precinct may be eligible to participate in Precinct meetings.

Section 5) Duties of Precinct Officers are outlined in Appendix B.

Section 6) In communities with a single voting Precinct, or where the Precinct is not connected by road to other communities in the District, qualified voters in the Precinct may participate remotely in a House District Caucus by teleconference, internet broadcast or other media. In the event that a Precinct desires to participate remotely in a House District Caucus, the Precinct Chair will notify the District Chair by the first day of February prior to the convening of the next biennial House District Caucus.

Section 7) Policies adopted by a Precinct will be consistent with policies of the Alaska Democratic Party and the Democratic National Committee.

ARTICLE IV: DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Section 1) Each State House District is a Tier Three Political Subdivision of the Alaska Democratic Party. There are forty (40) House Districts, as identified by the State of Alaska, Division of Elections.

Section 2) To be recognized as an organized House District, registered Democrats living within that House District must elect officers: a District Chair, State Central Committee (SCC) member, Vice Chair (SCC member and Vice Chair may be same person), Secretary, and Treasurer (Secretary/Treasurer may be same person.) The Treasurer is required only if the District raises money. Districts also elect a Young Democrat as a member on the SCC.

Section 3) Any person registered as a Democrat with the State of Alaska or Alaska Young Democrat and living within a House District is eligible to participate in House District Caucuses and House District meetings. Any person eligible to vote in the next general election who is registered with the State of Alaska as a Democrat, Undeclared, or Non-Partisan and living within a voting District may be eligible to participate in District meetings.

Section 4) The State Chair will appoint a Democrat from any unorganized House District to call a special meeting of Democrats who live in that House District for the purpose of organizing the House District and electing officers.

Section 5) Policies adopted by a House District will be consistent with policies of the Alaska Democratic Party and the Democratic National Committee.

Section 6) A House District promotes and carries out Democratic Party principles and programs; conducts fund-raising activities for the House District; and has general supervision over Democratic affairs within the House District.

Section 7) House Districts are encouraged to meet regularly.

Article IV (a): OFFICERS

Section 8) House District officer duties are outlined in Appendix C.

Section 9) Officers elected at a biennial House District Caucus take office immediately and serve for two (2) years or until their successors are chosen.

Section 10) A vacancy in the position of a House District officer shall be filled by election at a called meeting of the House District.

Article IV (b): SUCCESSION

Section 11) All Party records and the authority to manage all assets and liabilities will be transferred to the new officers within five (5) working days. Should a District violate the principles of the Alaska Democratic Party in the succession of Party officers, the State Chair, with the approval of the Executive Committee, is authorized to act and to take all steps

necessary to ensure that the succession is complete.

Article IV (c): BYLAWS

Section 12) A House District may adopt Bylaws at a House District Caucus. Adopted Bylaws are provided to the ADP. Any District making an endorsement in a contested primary must have Bylaws covering such endorsements on file with the ADP.

Article IV (d): CONSOLIDATION

Section 13) House Districts may choose to consolidate in a UNIFIED DISTRICT or a REGIONAL ORGANIZATION. This consolidation does not alter, in any manner, House District allocation of delegate seats at the State Convention.

Section 14) UNIFIED DISTRICT

- Two (2) or more House Districts may consolidate to organize, elect officers, and hold meetings if consolidation is approved by simple majority vote of the assembled Democrats of each House District, meeting either jointly or separately;
- A Unified District shares all governance officers and activities; and
- A Unified District is a Tier Two Political Subdivision of the Alaska Democratic Party and holds two votes on the State Central Committee.

Section 15) REGIONAL ORGANIZATION

- Two (2) or more House Districts within a region may consolidate to organize, elect officers, meet, and coordinate efforts;
- In a Regional Organization, House Districts retain autonomy; and
- The Regional Organization is a Tier Two Political Subdivision of the Alaska Democratic Party and holds two votes on the State Central Committee.

Section 16) A House District may withdraw from a consolidated arrangement with a two-thirds vote of the members present at a meeting of the District.

Article IV (e): DISTRICT CAUCUS

Section 17) A Democratic House District Caucus is held biennially in each House District no fewer than twenty-seven (27) days prior to the State Convention. The date of the District Caucuses may be determined by the national Delegate Selection Plan or by the State Central Committee. A House District Caucus is called by the House District Chair to elect officers, amend/adopt bylaws, and conduct other business. House Districts within a Regional Organization may hold their biennial Caucuses at the same time and place as other House Districts in their region, if feasible.

Section 18) Arrangements for the House District Caucus are the responsibility of the House District Chair, and, if applicable, the regional organization. Any registration fees collected for the House District Caucus are retained by the organizing entity.

Section 19) Only those delegates duly credentialed at the District Caucus will be eligible to vote at the Caucus.

Section 20) District Caucuses operate as a committee of the whole, with each at large member entitled to cast one vote.

Section 21) At the House District Caucus, each House District shall elect the following:

- Officers listed in Section 2 of this Article who shall take office immediately and serve for two years or until successors are chosen;
- Their allotted delegates and alternates to the State Convention; and
- One (1) delegate to each of the following State Convention committees: State Convention Credentials Committee; State Convention Platform Committee; State Party Plan of Organization Committee.

Section 22) The State Secretary will inform the District Chair of the apportioned number of delegates from each District allotted to attend the State Convention. Delegates must reside in the House Election District upon which the apportionment is based.

Section 23) Any Democrat not able to be present at a District Caucus may stand for election as a delegate to the State Convention by submitting their name to the District Chair at least five days prior to the caucus.

Section 24) Should a District be unable to fill its delegation to the State Convention from members present at the District Caucus, that District may choose delegates from District Democrats to fill their allotment. In National Convention years, those chosen delegates shall reflect the Presidential Caucus vote of that House District.

Section 25) A House District Caucus may nominate the following officers who will be elected at the State Convention: Convention Chair; Convention Secretary; State Secretary; State Treasurer; and Regional Vice-Chairs. The National Committeeman; National Committeewoman; and, delegates and alternates to the National Convention are nominated in Presidential years. The State Chair is nominated in non-Presidential years.

Section 26) In Presidential years, the Caucus will fan out pursuant to the DNC-approved Delegate Selection Plan.

Section 27) Each House District may formulate and advance for action at the State Convention: 1) proposed changes to the Party Plan of Organization; and, 2) proposed changes to the Party Platform.

Section 28) The House District Chair shall certify the election or appointment of delegates and alternates to the State Convention and State Convention committees, District officers, and any proposed changes to the Plan or Platform advanced for action at the State Convention.

Section 29) Minutes of the House District Caucus are submitted to the State Party Chair no later than fifteen (15) days after the Caucus. The minutes include the date, time, and location of the Caucus; Officers, delegates and alternates elected; and other actions taken. In a Presidential year, minutes shall also include copies of ads or notices used to publicize the Caucus.

Article IV(f): DISTRICT CAUCUS PROCEDURES

Section 30) Ten percent (10%) of the participants at a House District Caucus may demand a secret ballot or a roll call vote on any issue. The House District Chair shall designate two (2) or more tellers, one (1) of whom shall be from the ten percent (10%) demanding the secret ballot or roll call vote, to count the vote.

Section 31) The candidate receiving a majority of the votes of the Caucus shall be declared elected. In the event no candidate receives a simple (>50%) majority, a second vote shall be taken. If there are more than two (2) candidates, the candidate receiving the lowest vote shall be dropped and the election process continued until one candidate has received a majority. In the event two or more candidates tie for the lowest number of votes, that vote shall be retaken.

Section 32) Following redistricting of House District boundaries, the State Chair will set a time and date for District Caucuses in those districts where boundaries have been redrawn. This special call to Caucus will follow the same procedure as regularly scheduled District Caucuses.

Article IV (g): PROCEDURES FOR FILLING A VACANCY OF A STATE HOUSE OR STATE SENATE MEMBER

Section 33) In the event of a vacancy of a State House Representative or State Senator, the Chair(s) of the local District or Districts will work with the ADP to organize the selection replacement process. The local District will solicit applications, conduct interviews, and select at least three (3) nominees to be forwarded to the Governor no later than 21 days following the vacancy.

ARTICLE V: STATE PARTY ORGANIZATION

Article V(a): PARTY PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

Section 1) The Party Plan of Organization is the governing document of the Alaska Democratic Party.

Section 2) Rules of procedure may be suspended as necessary by a two-thirds vote of the State Central Committee.

Section 3) Fundamental governing principles that guarantee participation may not be suspended.

Article V(b): STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Section 4) The State Central Committee (SCC) is the governing body of the Alaska Democratic Party between biennial State Conventions. The SCC has authority to take all appropriate actions to promote the principles and programs of the Alaska Democratic Party between conventions.

Section 5) SCC duties include the following:

- Promote, aid, and assist in the election of Democratic candidates for public office;
- Approve a biennial plan of action and annual budget;

- Adopt resolutions on issues of interest or concern;
- Ratify members of the Finance Committee;
- Act on recommendations from the Grievance Committee;
- Recognize interim Subdivisions and Adjuncts;
- In the event that gender balance is not achieved after State Central Committee elections are held, the SCC will elect at large members in order to achieve gender balance with due regard for regional representation; and
- Select the Democratic nominee in the event of a vacancy in the U.S. House or U.S. Senate.

Article V(c): MEETINGS

Section 6) The State Central Committee will meet at least twice a year. Additional meetings may be called by the State Chair or upon petition of one fourth (1/4) of the members. The ADP will make every effort to make SCC meetings available electronically to provide access to those who are unable to attend in person.

Article V(d): MEMBERSHIP

Section 7) Membership on the State Central Committee is open to all qualified Democrats.

Section 8) A quorum for the State Central Committee is comprised of sixteen (16) House Districts represented, with at least one (1) House District from four (4) Regions.

Section 9) The State Central Committee consists of the following members:

- State Chair
- Immediate Past Chair
- Regional Vice-Chairs (14)
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Finance Committee Chair
- National Committeeman & National Committeewoman (2)
- Three representatives from each Tier Three Political Subdivision: House District Chairs (40), District SCC members (40), and District Young Democrats (40);
- Two representatives from each Tier Two Political Subdivision;
- One representative from each Tier One Adjunct Organization; and
- At large members, if needed to achieve gender balance.

Article V(e): SUCCESSION

Section 10) A vacancy in the office of State Chair will be filled by the First Vice-Chair.

Section 11) Should the First Vice-Chair decline, the State Central Committee, at a duly noticed meeting, will from its membership elect a new State Chair by a majority vote, without regard to gender. If necessary, the State Central Committee shall reorder the seating of the Vice-Chairs.

Section 12) A vacancy in the office of other Party Officers will be filled by a vote of the State Central Committee or by the original appointing agency.

Article V(f): REGIONS BY ELECTION DISTRICTS

Section 13) There will be (14) Regional Vice-Chairs, each carrying one (1) vote. One (1) man and one (1) woman will be elected from each of the following Regions, except Region C, Anchorage, which will elect two (2) men and two (2) women:

Region A	Districts	1-6	Interior
Region B	Districts	7-12	Mat-Su
Region C	Districts	13-28	Anchorage
Region D	Districts	29-32	North Gulf
Region E	Districts	33-36	Southeast
Region F	Districts	37-40	Rural

Article V(g): TIER ONE ORGANIZATIONS

Section 14) Adjunct groups that meet to discuss issues related to their interests may be recognized as Tier One Adjunct Organizations. They do not raise and spend money. These Adjuncts may be asked to advise the SCC on relevant issues. Each recognized Adjunct group has one (1) vote on the SCC.

Article V(h): TIER TWO ORGANIZATIONS

Section 15) Unified Districts, Regional Organizations and Election/Constituency Groups that raise money for the Alaska Democratic Party may be recognized Tier Two organizations. These organizations are approved by the SCC and have two (2) votes on the SCC.

Article V(i): TIER THREE ORGANIZATIONS

Section 16) House Districts form the foundation of the State Central Committee. Each House District shall have three (3) votes on the SCC. One (1) District Chair; one (1) State Central Committee member; and, one Alaska Young Democrat, each carrying one (1) vote, will be elected from each of the forty (40) House Districts at the biennial House District Caucus.

Article V(j): ADDITIONAL TIER 1,2, & 3 REQUIREMENTS

Section 17) To maintain status as a recognized subdivision of the Alaska Democratic Party, Tier One, Two, and Three Organizations will keep a) a copy of bylaws and b) a list of current officers, including names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses on file with the ADP. Copies of any changes or amendments will be filed with the Alaska Democratic Party within thirty (30) days following adoption. The Alaska Democratic Party will make this information available upon request.

Section 18) Each official Adjunct or Political Subdivision of the Democratic Party recognized under the authority of this Party Plan of Organization will adopt and conduct its affairs in accordance with written rules that are consistent with this Plan.

Section 19) Additional requirements of Tier Two, Tier Three, and Precinct Organizations that raise and spend money:

- a. Elect Officers, including a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer (or Secretary- Treasurer);
- b. Maintain a bank account;
- c. Register as a "group" with APOC;
- d. File required APOC reports in a timely manner;
- e. Provide the State Treasurer a copy of all APOC registration and reports at the time they are filed;
- f. File required IRS tax return in a timely manner (on interest income, gaming proceeds, if any); file IRS 1099 reports, if applicable;
- g. Notify the ADP (Executive Director) immediately when a contribution is made to a candidate (amount and name of candidate);
- h. Notify the ADP (Executive Director) when a contribution is received from an out-of- state individual (non-Alaska resident), including amount, name and address of individual.

Section 20) Organizations that raise money are required to pay the ADP annually 15% of net proceeds of all funds raised, with some exceptions.

- a. "Net proceeds" means the amount remaining after all costs and expenses directly related to fundraising or operations are deducted from the total amount received from an event or solicitation.
- b. The 15% of net proceeds payment from an event or one-time solicitation shall be paid to ADP within 60 days after funds are received.
 - 1) For example, an event raised \$1000; expenses (room rental, food, drink, invitations) were \$500; net proceeds are \$500; \$75 = balance owed to ADP (15% of net proceeds).
- c. For funds received that are not received as part of an event or one-time solicitation, subdivisions shall calculate all monies received and expenses of operations for the year and pay 15% of the profit to the ADP. Donations to candidates do not count as expenses.
- d. These profits shall be paid by March 1 for the prior year.
- e. During the two years prior to a specified State Convention, monies earned by the host district are exempt from the 15% rule; however, net proceeds from any state convention are subject to the 15 % rule.

Article V(k): APPLYING FOR STATUS AS A RECOGNIZED SUBDIVISION

Section 21) A club or organization may be recognized as an official Adjunct or Political Subdivision of the Alaska Democratic Party upon application to, and approval by, the biennial State Convention. During the interim between state conventions, the State Central Committee may recognize a group as an Adjunct or Subdivision; provided, however, that his action is ratified at the next State Convention.

Section 22) Entities that wish to be newly recognized as an Adjunct or Subdivision or change status shall file the application with the ADP Executive Director not less than thirty (30) days

prior to the biennial State Convention. Application is Appendix H.

Article V(l): EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 23) The Executive Committee of the Alaska Democratic Party is responsible to advise the State Chair and staff on matters related to operation of the organization between meetings of the State Central Committee.

Section 24) The Executive Committee is composed of: State Chair, Immediate Past Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman, Regional Vice-Chairs (14), President of the Alaska Young Democrats or designee, one (1) At-large Representative chosen by and from the State Central Committee, and two members of the Alaska Legislature chosen by the Democratic Caucuses.

Section 25) Each member of the Executive Committee has one (1) vote. Upon the resignation of a member, a successor will be selected by the original authority to serve the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 26) Nine (9) members constitute a quorum.

Section 27) Minutes of the Executive Committee and all activities will be available to State Central Committee members.

Section 28) The Executive Committee will meet at the call of the State Chair or at the request of one-third (1/3) of the membership of the Executive Committee.

Section 29) Actions taken by the Executive Committee are binding unless overturned by the State Central Committee at the next meeting.

Section 30) When it becomes necessary to hire an Executive Director, the Executive Committee will create a hiring committee, consisting of one Regional Vice-Chair from each region and the State Chair. A majority of the Hiring Committee will make the final decision.

Article V (m): STATE PARTY OFFICERS

Section 31) The State Chair is elected at the State Convention in non-Presidential years and serves for four years. The Chair takes office immediately following the Convention at which they are elected.

Section 32) The State Secretary and Treasurer are elected at the biennial State Convention. Regional Vice Chairs may be elected at the State Convention or at Regional Caucuses. These officers serve two (2) years or until a successor is chosen. They take office immediately following the convention at which they are elected.

Section 33) The National Committeeman and National Committeewoman are elected at the State Convention during Presidential years and serve four (4) years.

Section 34) The State Chair serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the ADP.

Section 35) Vice Chairs are ranked by majority vote of the first meeting of the SCC following the State Convention. The First Vice-Chair will be a member of the opposite gender from the current State Chair. Ranking may be adjusted after the election of the State Chair to ensure that the First Vice-Chair is a member of the opposite gender from the State Chair.

Section 36) The State Secretary serves as principal recorder at meetings of the State Central Committee and its Executive Committee.

Section 37) The State Treasurer oversees the party's finances and compliance with state and federal reporting requirements.

Section 38) There are no term limits for Party Officers.

Section 39) Officer duties are listed in Appendix D.

Article V(n): FINANCE COMMITTEE

Section 40) There is Finance Committee of the Alaska Democratic Party. The Finance Committee Chair and members are appointed by the State Chair and ratified by the State Central Committee.

Section 41) The Finance Committee has the primary responsibility for raising funds for the Alaska Democratic Party and may advise the State Central Committee on matters of financial management.

Article V(o): GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

Section 42) The State Grievance Committee consists of one member from each region, who is elected at the biennial State Convention. The Committee meets upon the call of the State Chair or the membership of the State Central Committee to hear grievances from the House Districts, to hear appeals from Precincts that are not satisfied with House District actions, or any other matters referred to Grievance Committee. The Committee makes a recommendation to the State Central Committee after hearing both sides of the grievance.

Section 43) The State Central Committee makes the final decision on all matters coming before it, subject to the right of further appeal to the Democratic National Committee.

Section 44) The Grievance Committee will present to the SCC a recommended process for dealing with grievances annually.

Article V(p): RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Section 45) The State Resolutions Committee consists of one member from each region elected at the biennial State Convention. The Committee meets upon the call of the State Chair or the membership from the State Central Committee to hear proposed resolutions from House Districts. After debating the resolution, the Resolutions Committee makes a recommendation to the State Central Committee.

Section 46) The State Central Committee or biennial State Convention Delegates make the final decision on all resolutions coming before it.

Section 47) The Resolutions Committee will present to the SCC a recommended process for dealing with resolutions.

Article V(q): PARTY PLAN COMMITTEE

Section 48) The State Party Plan Committee consists of at least one member from each region and up to a total of eleven members, including the committee chair. The Committee will review the Party Plan on an ongoing basis between State Party Conventions and recommend any revisions to the State Central Committee. The Committee shall give a report to the State Central Committee at least annually.

Article V(r): PARTY PLATFORM COMMITTEE

Section 49) The State Party Platform Committee consists of at least one member from each region and up to a total of eleven members, including the committee chair. The Committee will review the Party Platform on an ongoing basis between State Party Conventions and will recommend any revisions to the State Central Committee. The Committee shall give a report to the State Central Committee at least annually.

**Article V(s): COMMITTEE TO REFORM DNC PRESIDENTIAL
NOMINATION RULES**

Section 50) A standing committee shall be formed consisting of Alaska's Democratic National Committee members and an additional representative from each region. The committee shall advocate reform of the national presidential nomination rules regarding Unpledged Delegates to either eliminate Unpledged Delegates or to direct them to vote in the same proportion as their states' popular vote in caucuses and primaries. The committee shall work with other states' Democratic parties and officers to build a coalition in support of this goal.

Article V(t): REDISTRICTING

Section 51) The Alaska Democratic Party will establish and maintain a permanent redistricting account. Each year, the Party will forward fund to this account no less than SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$7,500). Each year's budget will reflect this revenue and expense component.

Article V(u): PROCEDURES FOR U.S. HOUSE OR SENATE VACANCY

Section 52) Upon a vacancy of a U.S. Senate or U.S. House seat from Alaska, when an election for the replacement will be held not less than sixty (60), but not more than ninety (90) days following the declaration of a vacancy, the State Central Committee of the Alaska Democratic Party will convene within nine (9) days of the vacancy announcement to select the Democratic nominee.

Section 53) Notice of the date, time, and place of the special election meeting, along with all

other relevant information, will be e-mailed to those eligible to vote. Those persons without access to e-mail will be notified by telephone. The same information will be posted on the Alaska Democratic Party website (alaskademocrats.org) no later than 48 hours before the meeting.

Section 54) Prior to the vote, candidates will have an opportunity to address the State Central Committee.

Section 55) Elections may be held via teleconference.

Section 56) The presence in person or by teleconference of sixty (60%) percent of the SCC members registered in person or by proxy; and Representation by no fewer than twenty-one (21) Districts will represent a Quorum.

Section 57) Proxies must be sent in writing by letter, fax, or e-mail to the State Secretary.

Section 58) The State Chair will appoint a committee to count ballots. The State Secretary will serve as Chair of the balloting committee.

Section 59) The candidate receiving the majority of the votes shall be declared the nominee. In the event no candidate receives a majority, a second vote shall be taken. Should there be more than two (2) candidates, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped, and the election process continued until one candidate has received a majority.

Section 60) The State Central Committee members eligible to vote are those persons serving in the positions when the vacancy occurs.

ARTICLE VI: STATE CONVENTION

Section 1) A Democratic State Convention shall be held in Alaska in each even numbered year.

Section 2) A Convention Site Committee recommends sites for future State Conventions. The Regional Vice Chairs are the committee members and the First Vice Chair serves as Committee Chair. Each Region will have one vote on the committee.

Section 3) The Convention Site Committee recommends a site for the State Democratic Convention to be held in four years. The Convention decides the location.

Section 4) No later than ninety (90) days prior to the State Convention, the State Chair ensures that State Central Committee members receive information specifying the date, time, and place.

Section 5) Prior to the convening of the State Convention, the State Chair appoints a Chair or Co-Chairs and calls into session the following committees:

- Platform
- Party Plan of Organization
- Credentials

Section 6) All arrangements for the State Convention are made by the State Chair and the host House District or Regional Organization. Any profits from the Convention accrue to

the organizing entity.

Section 7) A registration fee may be charged for all delegates and alternates present at any State Convention. Only those persons present pay registration. No person will be excluded from any stage of the delegate selection process if a person is unable to pay.

Article VI(a): CERTIFICATION OF DELEGATES

Section 8) The Credentials Committee certifies delegates at the State Convention from Minutes of the House District Caucuses.

Section 9) The Committee also makes recommendation to the Convention on challenges from House District Caucuses that are presented in writing to the State Convention Credentials Committee. Challenges must be filed with the State Chair within fifteen (15) days after the adjournment of the House District Caucus. Copies must be sent to the State Chair, House District Chair, and those individuals who have been challenged within fifteen (15) days after adjournment of the House District Caucus.

Section 10) Contests over delegate seats in any Convention and contests concerning voting at the Convention are decided by the Convention itself.

Article VI(b): DELEGATES & VOTING PROCEDURES

Section 11) A person elected as a delegate or alternate to a State Convention will be registered upon presenting themselves in person.

Section 12) Delegates to the State Convention come from elections held at the preceding House District Caucuses and hold office with the authority to be seated at reconvened Conventions or until their successors are elected and qualified.

Section 13) The National Committeeman and National Committeewoman, the State Chair, and any elected *Democratic Governor, Democratic United States Senator, and Democratic United States Representative* shall be entitled to voting seats in any State Convention as Super Delegates. These votes are in addition to the delegates allotted to each subdivision. Super Delegates are not precluded from being elected as regular delegates to the State Convention or National Convention.

Section 14) The number of delegates to be seated at the State Convention is determined on the basis of one delegate for each two hundred and fifty (250) votes, or fraction thereof, cast for the Democratic nominee for statewide office receiving the most votes statewide in the previous election, provided the State Central Committee has not changed the divisor. Apportionment is computed and assigned on the basis of House Districts. Incumbent Democratic State House Representatives and State Senators are automatically added to their district's delegate allocation to serve as delegates to the State Convention. Delegates must reside within the House Election District upon which the apportionment is based.

Section 15) If the full delegation from any House District is not present, those delegates or alternates elected from that House District who are present may cast the full vote to which the House District is entitled. If there is a division on any issue within the delegation, the House District's vote shall be cast proportionately on the vote of those present from said House District on the issue.

Section 16) Any delegate may challenge the poll of the delegation when it is announced. Such challenge must be made before the roll call is completed and the results announced. In the event of such a challenge, the Convention Secretary shall call the roll of such delegation, or may designate a subcommittee of the Convention Credentials Committee to poll the delegation.

Section 17) Ten percent (10%) of the delegates represented from any House District may demand a secret ballot on any issue from their delegation. In the event sufficient delegates demand a secret ballot, ballots shall be distributed to each member of the delegation and provision made for secret balloting.

Section 18) The Chair of the delegation shall designate two (2) or more tellers, one (1) of whom shall be from the ten percent (10%) demanding the vote, to count the vote, and deliver the ballots to the Convention Secretary at the time of announcing the delegation vote.

Section 19) Each duly elected delegate to the State Convention is entitled to one vote upon any questions coming before the Convention. If a delegate is absent from the Convention or from the floor, that delegate is represented by the person heading the list of alternates.

Section 20) The candidate receiving a majority of the votes of the Convention is declared elected. In the event no candidate receives a majority, a second roll call shall be taken, but if there are more than two (2) candidates, the candidate receiving the lowest vote shall be dropped and the election process continued until one candidate has received a majority.

Section 21) The presence in person of forty percent (40%) of the delegates registered in person (including alternates seated as delegates) constitutes a quorum at the State Convention. If after thirty (30) minutes notification by the Chair, through a designated representative or the sergeant-at-arms, forty percent (40%) of the delegates are not present, those absent without excuse are deemed to have not registered. Additional alternates will be seated as appropriate and a quorum designated as appropriate of the then-current list of registered delegates, including alternates seated as delegates.

Section 22) Delegates and alternates may be temporarily excused by the Chair or designee provided that if such absence endangers the presence of a quorum, such excuse may only be granted by consent of the Convention.

Section 23) Ten percent (10 %) of all the delegates present at any Convention held pursuant to this Plan may demand a roll call vote on any question.

Section 24) In the event a roll call is demanded, the delegates from each of the House Districts represented delegations have been polled, the Convention Chair shall call the Convention to order and the roll call shall be called by House District. The delegation Chair shall announce the vote when the Secretary of the Convention calls the House District.

Section 25) Minority reports to any Convention report are in order when they are submitted in writing to the Convention Chair prior to or during the report in question. Such reports must be signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the members of the Committee in question.

Article VI(c): PROCEEDINGS

Section 26) The State Convention is called to order by the State Chair at the time and place specified in the call. The Convention shall thereupon proceed to the business of the Convention.

Section 27) The Convention will elect a Convention Chair and Convention Secretary.

Section 28) The Convention will elect a State Secretary, a State Treasurer, and Regional Vice Chairs, except that Regional Vice-Chairs may be elected at a consolidated regional caucus.

Section 29) Officers named in Section 28 will take office immediately following the Convention at which they are elected and shall serve for two (2) years or until successors are chosen. There shall be no term limits for these party officers.

Section 30) The National Committeeman and National Committeewoman are elected in years of a Presidential election and serve four years or until a successor is chosen. The National Committeeman and National Committeewoman take office on the day the National Convention adjourns. Their terms end on the day the next National Convention adjourns. A vacancy in either office will be temporarily filled by a vote at the next State Central Committee meeting until the next State Convention.

Section 31) In years of a Presidential election, the Convention will elect delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention; the number is prescribed by the Democratic National Committee or its designee.

Section 32) In years of a Presidential election, the Convention will elect the Party's State Electors for the National Electoral College.

Section 33) The officers of the State Convention shall sign and issue suitable credentials for Party officers and delegates selected to attend the Democratic National Convention and the Electoral College.

Article VI(d): ADOPTION OF STATE PLATFORM AND PARTY PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

Section 34) Each regular State Convention shall formulate and adopt a State Platform that reflects the values and principles of the Alaska Democratic Party.

Section 35) House District Caucuses will submit proposed changes to the Party Platform at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Convention. However, This shall not restrict the committee from taking up issues they deem appropriate, with priority given to those submitted before the fourteen (14) days. Proposed changes from individuals will be treated if they came from a district if they have at least 50 signatures from Democrats registered with the State of Alaska.

Section 36) The Party Platform Committee will review proposed revisions to the Party Platform as submitted by Districts and make recommendation to the Convention.

Section 37) House District Caucuses will submit proposed changes to the Party Plan of Organization at least fourteen (14) days prior to the convening of the State Convention. The Party Plan Committee chairs may accept amendments received after this deadline. Proposed changes from individuals will be treated if they came from a district if they have at least 50

signatures from Democrats registered with the State of Alaska.

Section 38) The Party Plan Committee will review proposed revisions to the PPO as submitted by Districts and make recommendation to the Convention.

ARTICLE VII: SANCTIONS

Section 1) Between the date of the primary and the general election, an officer of the Alaska Democratic Party may not publicly endorse or support the election of a candidate from another political party against a Democratic candidate in a partisan race, or publicly denounce a Democratic Party nominee. Violation of this provision shall constitute the officer's automatic removal from office.

Section 2) Between the date of the primary and the general election, a candidate running for election as a Democrat, or an elected government official on the state or federal level, may not publicly endorse or support the election of a candidate from another political party against a Democratic candidate in a partisan race, or publicly denounce a Democratic Party nominee. Violation of this provision shall make the person ineligible to receive any funds or campaign services from the Democratic Party until after the next State Convention.

Section 3) An elected government official on the state or federal level may not join a legislative organization not approved by the Democratic Party caucus (a majority of Democrats) in that legislative body. Violation of this provision shall make the person ineligible to receive any funds or campaign services from the Democratic Party while participating in the non-approved organization

Section 4) Except for reasons set forth in Sections 1, 2 and 3 of this article, no person's right to participate in Alaska Democratic Party can be taken away without a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the State Central Committee.

Section 5) The Executive Committee may impose appropriate sanctions if a Party Subdivision or Adjunct fails to comply with the requirements of the Party Plan.

Section 6) Should an Adjunct of the Alaska Democratic Party violate the principles of the Alaska Democratic Party in the succession of Party officers, the State Chair with the approval of the Executive Committee is authorized to act and to take all steps necessary to ensure that the succession is completed.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENT

Section 1) The Party Plan of Organization shall be effective upon its adoption by the Democratic State Convention and may be amended by a majority vote of the State Convention.

Section 2) Amendments to the Party Plan of Organization adopted at any State Convention shall take effect upon adjournment of the Convention at which they are adopted.

APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS

Agenda: A list or program of things to be done or considered.

Alaska Democrat: A person registered as a member of the Democratic Party with the Alaska Division of elections or a person too young to register to vote but is a member of the Alaska Young Democrats.

Alaska Democratic Party (ADP): Throughout this document, the **Alaska Democratic Party (ADP)** includes its Districts, Subdivisions, and Adjunct organizations.

APOC: The Alaska Public Offices Commission regulates political organizations and candidates.

Biennial: Occurring every two years.

Caucus: (a) A meeting of House District Democrats to select delegates to a convention or register preferences for a candidate running for office; (b) A meeting of party members within a legislative body to decide on questions of policy or leadership; or (c) A group within a legislative or decision-making body seeking to represent a specific interest or influence a particular area of policy.

Democratic National Committee (DNC): The Democratic Party's national governing body.

District Caucus: A biennial meeting to elect officers and prepare for the Democratic State Convention.

Executive Session: A session of a meeting closed to non-voting members of body to take up personnel, legal, or strategic issues. No votes may be taken in Executive Session except to end Executive Session. Non-voting members may be present if approved by the voting body prior to entering executive session.

Net Proceeds/Profit: The amount remaining after all costs and expenses directly related to fundraising or operations are deducted from the total amount received by a subdivision from all sources.

Platform: A document stating the aims and principles of a political party.

Presidential Fan Out: The process used to show support for, and allocate delegates for, presidential candidates. Fan out procedures are specified in the DNC-approved Delegate Selection Plan.

Proxy: A person who is given the power or authority to do something (such as vote) for someone else. A proxy may be given to any Democrat registered in the Region of the committee member who needs another to act in their stead. The person carrying the proxy of the committee member is authorized to act as if s/he is the identified member of the committee.

Quorum: The smallest number of people who must be present at a meeting in order for decisions to be made.

Robert's Rules of Order: Common rules and procedures for deliberation and debate. Unless otherwise provided in the Party Plan of Organization, the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of business of the ADP.
<http://www.robertsrules.org>

State Central Committee (SCC): The governing body for the Alaska Democratic Party (ADP).

State Convention: The biennial meeting of the Alaska Democratic Party.

APPENDIX B: PRECINCT OFFICER DUTIES

Section 1) **Precinct Chairs** organize and preside over the activities of a Precinct.

Precinct Chair:

- Calls and presides at meetings of the Precinct;
- Represents the Precinct at House District meetings;
- Works with other Precinct officers to ensure that all ADP rules and state and federal laws are followed;
- Encourages people to become volunteers for ADP and local and statewide Democratic campaigns;
- In the event a Precinct desires to participate remotely in a House District Caucus by teleconference, notifies the District Chair by the first day of February prior to the convening of the next biennial House District Caucus; and
- Ensures that the treasurer complies with requirements for Party subdivisions that raise and spend money.

Section 2) **Precinct Vice Chair:**

- In the temporary absence of the Precinct Chair, the Vice Chair carries out the duties of the Chair; and
- Assists the Precinct Chair in performing their duties.

Section 3) **Precinct Secretary:**

- Services as the principal recorder at Precinct meetings and distributes minutes of the proceedings in an appropriate manner; and
- Maintains Precinct files.

Section 4) **Precinct Treasurer (when a Precinct raises and spends money):**

- Administers the Precinct bank account;
- Keeps a detailed account of all contributions, other receipts, and disbursements;
- Submits all necessary APOC reports with a copy to the State Treasurer; and
- Complies with requirements for Party subdivisions that raise and spend money.

APPENDIX C: DISTRICT OFFICER DUTIES

Section 1) **District Chairs** are the Chief Executive Officers of their House Districts, with authority to exercise the powers provided in the Party Plan of Organization.

District Chair:

- Represents the District on the SCC;
- Calls and presides at meetings of the House District;
- If the district is within a Regional Organization, represents the District at regional meetings;
- Works with other District officers to ensure that all ADP rules and state and federal laws are followed;
- Encourages people to become volunteers for ADP and local and statewide Democratic campaigns;
- Supports the campaigns of Democratic candidates running in the District;
- Works with the ADP to organize the nomination process for the replacement of a State Senate or House member who resigns or dies; and
- Organizes and publicizes a House District Caucus every other year, at which District officers are elected or assists in organizing Caucuses within a Regional Organization.

As the leader of a local District, the District Chair organizes volunteers to:

- Raise funds;
- Engage and organize voters in the district through voter outreach;
- Become proficient in Votebuilder;
- Help spread the Democratic message through traditional and social media; and
- Recruit candidates and encourage Democrats to run at all levels, including community councils, civic organizations, Boards and Commissions, School Board, Assembly, City Council, State Representative and Senator, Statewide offices, and federal offices.

Section 2) House District Vice Chair:

- In the temporary absence of the District Chair, the Vice Chair carries out the duties of the Chair; and
- The Vice Chair assists the District Chair in performing ~~his/her~~ their duties.

Section 3) State Central Committee Member:

- Represents the District at State Central Committee meetings;
- Assists the District Chair in performing ~~his/her~~ their duties; and
- Reports information to District members at regular meetings.

Section 4) House District Secretary:

- Serves as the principal recorder at House District meetings and distributes minutes of the proceedings; and
- Maintains district files.

Section 5) House District Treasurer (when a District raises and spends money):

- Administers the District bank account; distributes funds as directed by actions of the House District;
- Keeps a detailed account of all contributions, other receipts, and disbursements;
- Submits District financial reports to District meetings;
- Submits all necessary APOC reports with a copy to the State Treasurer; and
- Complies with all requirements for Tier Three Organizations

Section 6) Young Democrat member of the SCC:

- Attends meetings of the SCC;
- Reports to local chapter of the Young Democrats; and
- Assists in recruiting Young Democrats into District and Regional activities.

APPENDIX D: STATE OFFICER DUTIES

Section 1) The **State Chair** is the Chief Executive Officer of the ADP. The State Chair, with the approval of the Executive Committee, shall exercise authority to ensure that the business of the ADP is conducted in a manner consistent with the Party Plan of Organization and sound business practices.

The State Chair:

- Calls and presides at meetings of the State Central Committee and Executive Committee;
- Calls meetings of the Grievance Committee, as needed;
- Oversees the Executive Director;
- When it becomes necessary to hire an Executive Director, participates on a hiring committee with Regional Vice Chairs appointed by the Executive Committee;
- Represents the ADP at meetings of the DNC and the Association of State Democratic Chairs (ASDC);
- Raises funds;
- Appoints members of the Finance Committee, and submits their names to the SCC for ratification;
- Submits to SCC for approval biennial plans of action and annual budgets;
- Represents the ADP to the public and media;
- Appoints a Democrat from any unorganized House District to call a special meeting to organize the District and elect officers;
- Ensures that succession of party officers does not violate the principles of the ADP in the succession of party officers, and that all party records and assets, and the authority to manage assets and liabilities, is transferred to the newly elected officers within five (5) working days;
- Makes arrangements for the State Convention in conjunction with the Host District or Regional Organization;
- Prior to convening of the State Convention, appoints Convention committee chairs;
- Ensures that State Central Committee members and delegates receive information specifying the date, time and place of the Convention;
- Following redistricting of House District boundaries, sets a time and date for District Caucuses in those districts where boundaries have been redrawn; and
- In the event of a vacancy of a US Senate or US House seat from Alaska, appoints a committee to count ballots in the in the SCC voting

- for the Democratic nominee;
- Ensures institutional memory by maintaining a public wall of honor that includes past award winners and officers and shall invite past award winners and officers to events; and
- Maintains standing Resolutions, Party Platform, and Party Plan committees.

Section 2) Regional Vice Chairs serve as liaisons between their regions and the Alaska Democratic Party, providing information and support to both.

First Vice Chair:

- Serves as Chair of the Convention Site Selection Committee;
- Represents the ADP at meetings of the DNC and the Association of State Democratic Chairs (ASDC);
- Provides updated information to the SCC members on National Democratic issues;
- Becomes State Chair if the office becomes vacant. Regional Vice Chairs:
- Communicate with their districts, especially with District Chairs, regarding actions of the SCC and its committees, the ADP and its staff;
- Serve as members of the Executive Committee;
- Participate as members of Executive Director hiring committee;
- Organize and support the Districts within their Regions and throughout the state;
- Lend help, support and information Districts may require; and
- Assist and advise the State Chair.

Section 3) The **State Secretary** is the chief recorder of meetings of the SCC and Executive Committee.

The State Secretary:

- Establishes quorum and prepares and distributes minutes of meetings of the SCC and Executive Committee;
- Maintains a current list of State Central Committee members; and
- Calculates number of State Convention delegates and alternates to be elected by each District at the biennial District Caucus.

Section 4) The **State Treasurer** oversees the Party's finances and ensures compliance with state and federal reporting requirements.

The State Treasurer:

- Provides oversight of the financial operations of the ADP, and ensures that assets are properly maintained;
- Ensures that compliance reports are timely filed with the Alaska Public Offices; Commission (APOC), the Federal Election Commission, the IRS and any other applicable local, state or federal authorities;

Works closely with the Executive Director, monitors income and expenses and ensures that proper accounting procedures are followed;

- Organizes a committee of up to three (3) people approved by the Executive Committee to perform, in non-election years, an internal audit of the Party's books and records, and furnish a report of the results to the SCC;
- Monitors APOC filings of Party subdivisions to ensure timely compliance; and
- Monitors the "15% of net proceeds" payments by party subdivisions to ensure timely compliance;

Section 5) The **National Committeeman and National Committeewoman** represent the Alaska Democratic Party at the national level, attending meetings of the Democratic National Committee and its sub-groups

National Committeeman and National Committeewoman:

- Are members of the Democratic National Committee (DNC);
- Attend DNC meetings and follow DNC rules;
- Report to the SCC and the State Convention on DNC activities;
- Consult with the State Chair and other officers and members of the State Central Committee on matters important to the effective functions of the Alaska Democratic Party.

APPENDIX E: AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Awards Committee - The State Chair will appoint an Awards Committee of no fewer than three (3) persons, and will also appoint a chair of this committee. The Awards Committee will identify each year's awardees and oversee the presentation of awards at the State Convention.

The James (Jim) Doogan Lifetime Achievement Award

Purpose: The James (Jim) Doogan Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to no fewer than two individuals at each convention based on merits of service provided to advancing the values and principles of the Alaska Democratic Party and the Democratic National Committee. Awardee must have been an active member of the Alaska Democratic Party with fifteen (15) or more years' participation in party activities over the past twenty (20) years. Awardee must be at least 60 years of age. Each recipient shall be presented with a plaque. A plaque identifying the recipients will be maintained at Party Headquarters and updated following each convention.

Who was Jim Doogan? Jim Doogan was a long-time Democratic leader and leader of the Alaska State Constitutional Convention that convened in Fairbanks in 1955 to prepare for Alaska statehood in 1959. An activist in both Territorial and statehood years, Jim exemplified the essence of the Democratic Party. He was a progressive thinker who kept Alaska and its people always first in his heart. Those who knew him said he was tough when it was necessary but always a most gentle spirit. Doogan was born on Douglas Island in 1914 and died in Fairbanks in 1997.

The Queen Bess Award

Purpose: The Queen Bess Award is given to honor a Democratic woman who has selflessly given her time and energy to the success of the Alaska Democratic Party. The award is given to one recipient at each convention and can be won only once. This award is not awarded to women serving in public office, as the purpose is to acknowledge non-elected service to the Party.

Who was Queen Bess? The award is given in memory of Elizabeth Chamberlin Cross who was a volunteer for the Democratic Party during her many years in Alaska. She came to Alaska in 1916 and left just before her death in 1970. She earned the nickname "Queen Bess" when she was living in Kotzebue with her husband John Cross. Bess operated the radio and was the first contact as planes flew into the community. She served in the 1945 legislature and headed the committee that created the Alaska Department of Health. She also voted in favor of the creation of the Alaska Human Rights Commission. After leaving office, she was the Clerk of the House in Juneau and worked on campaigns for such notable Democrats as Bill Egan and Ernest Gruening.

Hugh Malone Award

Purpose: The Hugh Malone Award is presented to a current or former Alaska legislator for exemplary public service as a Senator or Representative in the Alaska Legislature.

Who was Hugh Malone? Hugh Malone served as a leader in the Alaska House from 1972-1984. Malone came to Alaska in 1958 when he was 14. He became a land surveyor in Kenai and served on both the Kenai City Council and the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly. In 1972 he was elected to the State House where he served until 1984. He chaired the House Finance Committee and was House Speaker in 1977-78. He also served as Commissioner of Revenue under Governor Cowper. As a legislator, he fought to make sure Alaska was being fairly compensated for its natural resources and was instrumental in creating the Alaska Permanent Fund.

**APPENDIX F: APPLICATION FOR STATUS OF A
RECOGNIZED SUBDIVISION OR ADJUNCT
GROUP OF THE ALASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

Name of Group _____

Date _____

Purpose _____

Our Group is seeking:

- New recognition
- Change of status

Type of Group as identified in Party Plan:

- (select one): Precinct
- House District (Tier Three Political Subdivision)
- Tier Two Political Subdivision (groups that raise money)
 - Unified District
 - Regional Organization
 - Election/Constituency Group
- Tier One Adjunct Organization (groups that meet to discuss issues to their interests; they do not raise money)

OFFICERS

CHAIR _____

E-MAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____

MOBILE _____

VICE CHAIR _____

E-MAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____

MOBILE _____

SECRETARY _____

E-MAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____

MOBILE _____

TREASURER* _____

E-MAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____

MOBILE _____

* If your group raises/spends money, you **MUST** have a Treasurer.

FUNDRAISING STATUS: Our group will () will not () raise/spend money.

If your group will raise/spend money, name of **Bank or Credit Union** where you have an account:

BY-LAWS: A copy of the Group's By-Laws are attached to this application. () YES Or, they may be found at (web address): _____

Submitted by

_____, Chair

_____, Treasurer

Date: _____

APPENDIX G: ADP ADJUNCT ORGANIZATIONS & SUBDIVISIONS

TIER ONE ADJUNCT ORGANIZATIONS

- Alaska Democratic Native Caucus
- LGBT Caucus
- Veterans and Military Families Caucus

TIER TWO ORGANIZATIONS

- House Democratic Campaign Committee
- Senate Democratic Campaign Committee
- Anchorage Democrats
- Mat Su Democrats
- Interior Democrats
- Tongass Democrats
- Alaska Democratic Labor Caucus
- Alaska Democratic Progressive Caucus
- Alaska Young Democrats
- Mary McKinnon Fund
- Alaska Climate Caucus
- Alaska Progressive Action Network

TIER THREE ORGANIZATIONS

All House Districts are Tier Three Organizations.

**APPENDIX H:
PROPOSED PLATFORM PLANK BY DISTRICT # _____**

SUBJECT/TITLE: _____

IS THIS:

A NEW PLANK

AN AMENDMENT TO EXISTING PLANK:

TEXT OF PROPOSED PLANK:

I certify that the preceding Platform Plank was adopted by House District # ____ in
in an open and public meeting held on ____ (date) according to the Party Plan of
Organization and Robert's Rules of Order.

District Chair

Printed Name _____ Signature _____

For Committee use only: Assign proposed change to section _____
Combine proposed change into section _____
Transfer proposed change to the Party Plan Committee _____

**APPENDIX I:
PROPOSED PLATFORM PLANK BY INDIVIDUALS**

SUBJECT/TITLE: _____

IS THIS:

A NEW PLANK

AN AMENDMENT TO EXISTING PLANK:

TEXT OF PROPOSED PLANK:

We certify that the preceding proposed Platform Plank was adopted by no fewer than 50 Democrats registered in Alaska in an open and public meeting held on ____ (date) according to the Party Plan of Organization and Robert's Rules of Order.

Attach names, signatures, and voting addresses of 50 or more Democrats registered in Alaska.

For Committee use only: Assign proposed change to section _____
Combine proposed change into section _____
Transfer proposed change to the Party Plan Committee _____

**APPENDIX J:
PROPOSED CHANGE TO PARTY PLAN OF ORGANIZATION
BY DISTRICT # _____**

Change proposed by District: _____

Subject: _____

Is this an addition to the plan? _____ or an amendment to an existing section? _____

Cite Article and proposed Section _____

Text of proposed changes to Party Plan: _____

I certify that the preceding proposed change/addition to the Party Plan of Organization was adopted by the House District # _____ in an open and public meeting held on _____ (date) according to the Party Plan of Organization and Robert's Rules of Order.

District Chair

Printed Name _____ Signature _____

**APPENDIX K:
PROPOSED CHANGE TO PARTY PLAN OF ORGANIZATION
BY INDIVIDUALS**

Subject: _____

Is this an addition to the plan? _____ or an amendment to an existing section? _____

Cite Article and proposed Section _____

Text of proposed changes to Party Plan: _____

We certify that the preceding proposed Platform Plank was adopted by no fewer than 50 Democrats registered in Alaska in an open and public meeting held on _____ (date) according to the Party Plan of Organization and Robert's Rules of Order.

Attach names, signatures, and voting addresses of 50 or more Democrats registered in Alaska.

Mark Clayton Choate, Esq., AK #8011070
Jon Michael Choate, Esq., AK #1311093
CHOATE LAW FIRM LLC
424 N. Franklin Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Telephone: (907) 586-4490
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Email: lawyers@choatelawfirm.com

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Attorneys for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT JUNEAU

ALASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY,

Plaintiff,

vs.

STATE OF ALASKA,

Defendant.

Case No. 1JU-17-563CI

CHOATE LAW FIRM LLC
424 North Franklin Street | Juneau, Alaska 99801
Phone: (907) 586-4490 | Fax: (888) 856-3894
Email: lawyers@choatelawfirm.com

COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

(Dated: February 22, 2017)

Plaintiff ALASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY, complains by its attorneys, Choate Law Firm LLC, as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Plaintiff Alaska Democratic Party ("ADP") is a political party "recognized" under AS 15.80.008 with more than 75,000 registered members.
2. The ADP's governing document is the Party Plan of Organization ("PPO").

COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

Alaska Democratic Party v. State, Case No. 1JU-17-____CI

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3. On May 15, 2016, at the ADP's State Party Convention, the ADP adopted a Party Plan of Organization that, among other things, allows for participation by "Undeclared" and "Non Partisan" candidates (hereinafter "independent candidates") in Democratic Primary Elections without a requirement that such candidates become members of the Alaska Democratic Party.

4. On December 12, 2016, Kay Brown, the Executive Director of the Alaska Democratic Party, formally petitioned in writing that the State of Alaska, Division of Elections adopt a regulation allowing independent candidates to run in subsequent Democratic Party primary elections pursuant to the May 15, 2016 PPO.

5. On January 18, 2016, Josie Bahnke, Director of the State of Alaska, Division of Elections, provided written notice that the Division of Elections had denied the Alaska Democratic Party's petition because it conflicted with AS 15.25.030(a)(16) and would enforce the party membership rule as required by that statute.

6. AS 15.25.030(a)(16) states:

- (a) A member of a political party who seeks to become a candidate of the party in the primary election shall execute and file a declaration of candidacy. The declaration shall be executed under oath before an officer authorized to take acknowledgments and must state in substance . . . (16) that the candidate is registered to vote as a member of the political party whose nomination is being sought.¹

7. The Alaska Democratic Party's rule, which allows independent candidates to run in its primary election for selection as the Alaska Democratic Party's candidate for a particular elected office, is in direct conflict with AS 15.25.030(a)(16), which restricts candidates in the Alaska Democratic Party's primary election to registered members of the

¹ Emphasis added.

Alaska Democratic Party by requiring that a candidate a) be a member of a political party whose nomination is being sought and b) requiring that candidate to declare under oath that the candidate is a registered member of such political party.

8. AS 15.25.030(a)(16) unconstitutionally interferes with the Alaska Democratic Party's associational rights under the Alaska and United States constitutions. For this reason, Plaintiff seeks a judgment declaring that AS 15.25.030(a)(16) is unconstitutional to the extent that it limits primary election candidates to registered members of a political party even when such political party allows non-members to run in its primary elections.

9. Plaintiff further seeks a permanent injunction to prevent the State of Alaska, Division of Elections from attempting to enforce AS 15.25.030(a)(16) to the extent that it is unconstitutional in the 2018 primary and subsequent elections.

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

10. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference all preceding paragraphs of this complaint as if fully set forth herein.

11. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to Alaska Const., art. IV, §1 and AS 22.10.020(a), AS 22.10.020(c), and AS 22.10.020(g).

12. Venue is proper in the First Judicial District under Rule 3(c).

13. Defendant is subject to personal jurisdiction pursuant to AS 09.05.015 and AS 09.50.250. More specifically, the State of Alaska can be served through the Attorney General located in Juneau, Alaska.

III. REQUEST FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

14. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference all preceding paragraphs of this complaint as if fully set forth herein.

15. Alaska Const. Art. 1 § 5² and the First Amendment of the United States Constitution as applied to the States by the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause guarantee the right of freedom of association for the advancement of political objectives.³

16. In *State v. Green Party of Alaska*, 118 P.3d 1054 (Alaska 2005), the Alaska Supreme Court held that "the Alaska Constitution protects a political party's right to determine for itself who will participate in crystallizing the political party's political positions into acceptable candidates."

17. Correspondingly, just as a political party should be able to choose who will participate in crystallizing the party's political positions into acceptable candidates in its primary election, a political party must also be able to determine for itself whether such candidates must be registered members of the political party.

18. AS 15.25.030(a)(16) unconstitutionally burden the Alaska Democratic Party's associational right to determine who may participate as a candidate in its primary elections by limiting participation to registered members of the Alaska Democratic Party despite the Alaska Democratic Party's decision to open its primary election to independent candidates.

² See *State v. Green Party of Alaska*, 118 P.3d 1054, 1061-62 (Alaska 2005).

³ See, e.g., *Tashjian v. Republican Party*, 479 U.S. 208, 214 (1986) ("It is beyond debate that freedom to engage in association for the advancement of beliefs and ideas is an inseparable aspect of the liberty assured by the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, which embraces freedom of speech.") (quoting *NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Patterson*, 357 U.S. 449, 460 (1958), internal quotation marks omitted).

19. Therefore, the Alaska Democratic Party requests that the Court, pursuant to its jurisdiction under AS 22.10.020(g), enter a declaratory judgment that AS 15.25.030(a)(16) is unconstitutional to the extent that it restricts participation as a candidate in a political party's primary election to members to members of that political party when such political party allows participation as a candidate by non-members.

IV. REQUEST FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

18. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference all preceding paragraphs of this complaint as if fully set forth herein.

19. AS 22.10.020(c) provides that this Court may issue injunctions as necessary or proper to complete exercise of its jurisdiction.

20. The Alaska Democratic Party requests that the Court, concurrent with entering the declaratory judgment requested, permanently enjoin the State of Alaska, Division of Elections, from enforcing the party membership requirements of AS 15.25.030(a)(16) to the extent that it restricts participation as a candidate in a political party's primary election to registered members of that political party when such political party allows participation as a candidate by non-members.

V. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests the following relief:

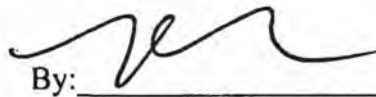
- a. Declaratory judgment that AS 15.25.030(a)(16) is unconstitutional to the extent that it restricts participation as a candidate in a political party's primary election to registered members of that political party when such political party allows participation as a candidate by non-members.

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- b. An order permanently enjoining the State of Alaska, Division of Elections from enforcing AS 15.25.030(a)(16) in the 2018 primary election and subsequent elections to the extent that it restricts participation as a candidate in a political party's primary election to registered members of that political party when such political party allows participation as a candidate by non-members.
- c. Reasonable attorney's fees and costs.
- d. For other and further relief as this Court deems appropriate.

DATED: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at Juneau, Alaska.

CHOATE LAW FIRM LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff

By: 

Mark Choate, 8011070
Jon Choate, 1311093

THIS CASE HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO
JUDGE [Name] BY [Name] JUDGE