

North Carolina Democratic Party Proposed Amendment to the Plan of Organization

Short Title: Protocol #3 – Policy-making
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Policy-Making

The following policy-making procedures shall supersede all conflicting provisions otherwise set forth in the State Plan of Organization:

THE RESOLUTION PROCESS

State Policy Council

- Council:** There is established a State Policy Council consisting of the first vice chairman of the State Democratic Party and the first vice chairman of each of the congressional districts.
- Chairman:** Upon the election of the first vice chairmen of the congressional districts, these members of the State Policy Council shall elect from their number a chairman to serve until the following election of first vice chairmen of the congressional districts.
- Meetings:** The Council shall meet on a day certain every two months to consider and act upon whatever resolutions have been forwarded to it by any of the four regional Policy-Making Councils.
- Attendance:** A. Attendance at the meetings of the Council is mandatory for the first vice chairmen from the congressional districts or their elected alternates.
- B. The absence of both the first vice chairman and the elected alternate from a particular congressional district twice during a calendar year shall automatically unseat the first vice chairman from office.
- Business:** A. The proponents of any resolution shall have a minimum of five minutes to explain each resolution to the Council.
- B. Any other registered Democrat wishing to be heard by the Council shall be given three minutes to state a position.
- C. The Council members may discuss each resolution as long as they desire and may perfect each resolution as they see fit.
- Adoption:** A. Any resolution receiving at least 7 votes of the State Policy Council shall be declared adopted and shall become the policy or position of the North Carolina State Democratic Party.
- B. Any resolution receiving only 5 or 6 votes shall automatically be referred to the next meeting of the State Executive Committee for consideration, amendment, and action.

Four Regional Policy Councils

- Councils:**
- A. There are established four regional Policy Councils consisting of the first vice chairman of each of the twenty-five counties in the region.
 - B. The Asheville Regional Council shall consist of the following counties: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancey.
 - C. The Greensboro Regional Council shall consist of the following counties: Alamance, Anson, Cabarrus, Caswell, Catawba, Davidson, Davie, Durham, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanley, Stokes, Surry, Union, Wake, and Yadkin.
 - D. The Greenville Regional Council shall consist of the following counties: Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Granville, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde, Martin, Nash, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Person, Pitt, Tyrrell, Vance, Warren, Washington, and Wilson.
 - E. The Fayetteville Regional Council shall consist of the following counties: Bladen, Brunswick, Carteret, Chatham, Columbus, Craven, Cumberland, Duplin, Greene, Harnett, Hoke, Johnston, Jones, Lee, Lenoir, Moore, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender, Richmond, Robeson, Sampson, Scotland, and Wayne.
- Chairman:** Each council shall upon the election of the first vice chairmen of the counties elect from their number a chairman to serve until the following election of first vice chairmen of the counties.
- Meetings:** The councils shall meet on a day certain every month to consider and act upon whatever resolutions have been sent to it at least two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting by any registered Democrat in their region.
- Attendance:**
- A. Attendance at the meetings of each Council is mandatory for the first vice chairmen from the member counties or their elected alternates.
 - B. The absence of both the first vice chairman and the elected alternate from a particular county three times during a calendar year shall automatically unseat the first vice chairman from office.
- Business:**
- A. At the first meeting at which a resolution is considered, the sponsor of any resolution shall have a minimum of five minutes to explain the resolution to the Council.
 - B. No vote shall be taken by a council on any resolution considered at the first meeting after the resolution has been timely received.
 - C. Introduced resolutions will be posted on the internet by the state headquarters following the meeting at which they have been introduced both to inform all Democrats of their submission and to provide all Democrats an opportunity for their consideration.

D. At the second meeting of a regional council following the timely submission of a resolution, an opportunity of at least three minutes will be provided the sponsor to again present the resolution. Thereafter the council will give any registered Democrat in North Carolina who wishes to be heard at least three minutes to state a position.
E. The council members may discuss each resolution as long as they desire and may perfect each resolution as they see fit.

Adoption: A vote shall be taken on each resolution at the second meeting after its timely submission. Any resolution receiving at least 10 favorable votes shall be forwarded to the State Policy Council.

THE PLATFORM PROCESS

The Platform process shall be the same as that for the adoption of resolutions except that the State Policy Council shall be charged with the duty of combining the planks adopted by the State Policy Council into a platform for consideration and adoption by the State Convention. The State Convention may discuss the proposed platform pursuant to its own rules as long as it desires and may perfect it as it sees fit. The Executive Committee shall be excluded from any and all authority to act upon the platform.

THE PROCESS FOR AMENDING THE STATE PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

The process for amending the State Plan of Organization shall be the same as that for adoption of resolutions except that the State Policy Council shall forward those proposals receiving 7 or more votes to the State Convention for its consideration and action. The State Executive Committee shall be excluded from any and all authority to act upon amendments to the State Plan of Organization.

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