

2018 CHARTER AMENDMENTS

PROPOSITION 10:

Confirmation Procedures to Fill Regional Vice Chair Vacancies

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Introduced: April 20, 2018*

WHEREAS, the current procedures to fill vacancies at the position of Regional Vice Chair (RVC) have caused confusion among DPCA leadership and should be clarified, particularly in reference to the meaning of the term “next regular meeting” of a region;

WHEREAS, upon the occurrence of a vacancy, the interests of Democrats Abroad are best served by filling the vacant position as soon as possible but with the assent of the impacted region;

WHEREAS, the confirmation procedure for replacing an RVC should be resolved expeditiously and in no case beyond 90 days after the new RVC’s election by the Executive Committee of Democrats Abroad;

WHEREAS, the “one country, one vote” principle established under Section 6.2 should be maintained for elections of RVCs and should be expressly extended to confirmation votes to fill RVC vacancies;

WHEREAS, proxy voting is unnecessary under the “one country, one vote” principle” and should be applied to elections of RVCs or confirmation votes for RVCs;

WHEREAS, the Charter should expressly permit confirmation votes to be held during meetings conducted solely by electronic means;

WHEREAS, to be eligible for office, candidates for RVC should be required to be members of Democrats Abroad;

BE IT RESOLVED that Section 4.2 of the Democrats Abroad Charter shall be amended as follows:

Section 4.2 (Election)

- a) The officers other than the Regional Vice Chairs shall be elected at the first meeting of the DPCA held in odd-numbered years, to serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successors have been elected. Election shall be by majority of the votes cast by the DPCA Country Committees and the members of the DNC

~~representing Democrats Abroad, subject to the provisions of Section 3.6 Article 3.~~

- b) The Regional Vice Chairs shall be elected and replaced pursuant to Section 6.2.
- c) No officer, including Regional Vice Chairs, ~~person~~ may serve in the same office for more than two (2) consecutive full terms. In the event that there is no candidate for a DPCA Executive Committee office, an officer who has served two (2) consecutive terms in that office may be elected to a third term of that office by a two-thirds (2/3rds) majority vote pursuant to Section 4.1.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Section 4.5 of the Democrats Abroad Charter shall be amended as follows:

Section 4.5 (Replacement)

- a) In the event of a vacancy of an office established under Section 4.1(i), including the resignation or removal of such an officer in accordance with Section 2.4, the Executive Committee of the DPCA shall proceed immediately with the ~~election~~ nomination of a replacement, subject to confirmation at the next meeting of the DPCA ~~where nominations shall be taken from the floor. If the replacement fails to be confirmed, nominations shall be taken from the floor, and an immediate election shall be conducted with votes cast by those in attendance.~~ If the Regional Vice Chair is being replaced, then the replacement shall be confirmed by the region at their next regular meeting. The person elected shall serve out the balance of the term. For the purposes of ~~the last sentence of the first paragraph of~~ Section 4.2(c), a person elected to serve out the balance of a term for a period of less than 365 days shall not be deemed to have served a full term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Section 4.5 of the Democrats Abroad Charter shall be amended as follows:

Section 6.2 (Regional Vice Chairs)

- a) Each Region shall elect a Regional Vice Chair at a meeting of the Region held in ~~the~~ the odd-numbered years. Election shall be by simple majority of the votes cast by the Chairs (or Vice Chairs) of the Country Committees in the Region in attendance. Each Country Committee will be allocated one (1) vote in electing the Regional Vice Chair, to be cast by the Chair or the Vice Chair. If both the Chair and the Vice-Chair are in attendance, then the single Country Committee vote will be divided into two (2) one-half (1/2) votes. Voting shall be in person ~~by proxy,~~ or electronically. The term of office of a Regional Vice Chair shall be

for a two (2) year period or until the election of a successor at the next Regional meeting during an odd-numbered year.

- b) In the event of a vacancy of the office of Regional Vice Chair, including the resignation or removal of a Regional Vice Chair in accordance with Section 2.4, the Executive Committee of the DPCA shall proceed immediately with the nomination of a replacement, subject to confirmation at the next meeting of region, where nominations from the floor shall be permitted. If the Regional Vice Chair is being replaced, then the replacement shall be confirmed by the region at their next regular meeting. A meeting to confirm a Regional Vice Chair shall be held within ninety (90) days of the nomination of the replacement by the Executive Committee of the DPCA, provided that 30 days' notice, including the date, time, location, and purpose of the meeting, is sent to all regional electors. The meeting may be held solely by, or in conjunction with, electronic participation, provided that, at a minimum, the technology used to conduct the meeting enables simultaneous aural communication (i.e., audio conference). The confirmation vote shall follow the same election procedures as set forth in Section 6.2(a). If the replacement fails to be confirmed, a DPCA officer shall serve as chair pro-tem of the meeting, take nominations from the floor, and conduct an immediate election with votes cast by those in attendance. The person elected shall serve out the balance of the term. For the purposes of Section 4.2(c), a person elected to serve out the balance of a term for a period of less than 365 days shall not be deemed to have served a full term.
- c) Regional Vice Chairs must be members of Democrats Abroad and must have their principal residence in the Region for which they are elected.