

2018 CHARTER AMENDMENTS

PROPOSITION 16A:

Amend Charter to Consider Voting Representative Gender If Imbalance is Statistically Significant

Sponsor: Ed Ungar, Canada

Co-Sponsor: Ken Sherman, Canada

Introduced: April 13, 2018

WHEREAS Democrats Abroad does not require gender/sex equity in its international executive or chapter administration excepting for the election of chair and vice chair;

WHEREAS country committees with more than four DPCA voting representatives while maintaining gender/sex equity/balance will present undue barriers to those country committees with larger representations to participate in the DPCA annual meetings;

WHEREAS given the time differentials in attending by Webex and expense and travel factors in attending DPCA meetings in person on other continents there are special challenges in gender/equity requirements in addition to election to country committee office with DPCA voting rights;

WHEREAS that when there are multiple voting representatives the odds are that by chance that there will be a 50 - 50 balanced outcome will be relatively rare;

WHEREAS the evidence for the above point can be readily had by tossing a coin ten times. The odds of getting five heads and five tails are low. Thus only when gender imbalance is statistically significance greater should gender/sex equity be considered;

WHEREAS DNC rules do not require 50 - 50 equity in all matters of voting;

BE IT RESOLVED that if a Country Committee has more than two Voting Representatives (Chair and Vice-Chair), gender balance shall not apply unless sex/gender unbalance exceeds statistical significance. Then gender will be taken into account.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Section 3.6 (f) of the Democrats Abroad Charter shall be amended by striking the phrase “If a Country Committee has more than one (1) Voting Representative, gender balance shall apply.”

“Section 3.6 (Voting)

- (f) Each Country Committee shall have the option to elect non-voting Representatives, and shall be required to elect at least the minimum number of Voting Representatives necessary to enable it to cast all its votes. Such election(s) shall be held at the same time as the election of a Country Committee's Chair and Vice Chair. ~~If a Country Committee has more than one (1) Voting Representative, gender balance shall apply.~~ The term of a Voting Representative shall be the same as for Officers of the Country Committee. All Voting Representatives shall be entitled to attend all Democrats Abroad meetings during the same two (2)-year term as for the Country Committee Chair and Vice Chair offices. If a Country Committee is entitled to less than five (5) votes, the Non-Voting Representative, if any, shall have the right to speak at DPCA meetings but not to vote, except under Section 3.7 below. If a Country Committee is entitled to five (5) or more votes, the distribution of votes among the Chair, Vice Chair, and Voting Representative(s) (if any) shall be determined by the Country Committee at the time of election, failing which by the Country Committee Chair; provided, however, that a Voting Representative shall have no less than one (1) vote nor more votes than the Country Committee Chair or Vice Chair.