

2018 CHARTER AMENDMENTS

PROPOSITION 17:

**Amend Charter to facilitate DPCA removal and a “Fresh Start”  
for perpetually out of compliance Country Committees**

*Sponsor: Merrill Oates, Vice Chair, DA Hungary*

*Introduced: April 14, 2017*

*To clarify and expedite process of removing chronically non-compliant and defunct Country Committees who have not been active for years and yet remain in DPCA voting calculations. To modify the amendment adopted during the online DPCA meeting in July 2017.*

WHEREAS, there are some few DPCA Country Committees that came into activity in 2008 and prior years, which have ceased to function as active committees in compliance with the DPCA Charter, or demonstrate any immediate likelihood of soon coming back into compliance, despite extensive encouragement and outreach from the Regional RVCs;

WHEREAS, these Country Committees remain on the DPCA CC lists and voting allocations, but have not had any voting representation for several years;

WHEREAS, the Charter Amendment adopted in 2017 to allow for removal of such defunct Committees, will only come into effect in January 2019, and still provides for an excessive period of inactivity before a CC can be removed;

WHEREAS, prolonged inactivity and failure to meet compliance requirements over a period longer than a full Federal election cycle, indicates that intervention and a “Fresh Start” approach may be the best way of re-juvenating an inactive Committee;

WHEREAS, members in any Country who seek to organize can initiate the process of Country Committee formation at any time;

BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 5.10 of the Democrats Abroad Charter shall be amended and replaced as follows:

**“Section 5.10 (Removal of Out of Compliance Country  
Committees)**

[Effective January 1, 2019]

- (a) If a Country Committee (i) fails to fully comply with the requirements of Section 5.4 over the two (2) previous years ~~for four (4) consecutive years~~ or (ii) is suspended pursuant to Section 5.9 and fails to take the steps necessary to have such suspension overturned during the two (2) years ~~four (4) years~~ after being suspended, then on the third year of failing to comply with Section 5.4, or failure to resolve their suspension, such Country Committee shall automatically be removed from the DPCA without any additional notice or action being required on the part of the DPCA unless the DPCA Executive Committee votes by a seven- eighths (7/8ths) vote to delay dissolution and removal for a period of one (1) year. If the DPCA Executive Committee votes to delay removal and the Country Committee fails to fully comply with the requirements of Section 5.4 or to take the steps necessary to have their suspension overturned within the 12 (twelve) months following the vote, then on the first anniversary of the vote to delay, the Country Committee shall automatically be removed from the DPCA without any additional notice or action being required on the part of the DPCA. Members of a removed Country Committee become members-at-large of Democrats Abroad.