

2018 CHARTER AMENDMENTS

PROPOSITION 4 REVISED:

Amend Charter to adopt a mandatory One-Person-One-Vote allocation system – revised and clarified in response to 2018 SBC discussions – Sec. 3.6

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Revised: April 25, 2018*

Previously submitted as: 2017 Charter Resolution 4 (1P1V)

WHEREAS it is intrinsic to the nature of a democratic and deliberative organization that the value of a vote cast by one person must inherently be equal to a vote cast by any other member of the organization – one person = one vote, or 1P1V;

WHEREAS Democrats Abroad must be a model of democratic practice for our members, and no other State Democratic Party intrinsically allocates more than one vote to any participating members;

WHEREAS, this Amendment does not change any voting allocations or voting weights assigned to Country Committees;

WHEREAS, this Amendment does not alter the Proxy voting rules, allowing a representative to authorize another to act in his/her place;

WHEREAS, this Amendment aims to facilitate smooth transition in the event of vacancies by providing for a *sequential ranking* of all Voting and Non-Voting Alternate Representatives;

WHEREAS, this Amendment draws on, clarifies, and strengthens the consensus on previous 1P1V Amendments;

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

1. AMEND the title of Section 3.6 of the Charter as follows:

“Section 3.6 (Representation and Voting)”

2. ADDITIONALLY AMEND the beginning of Section 3.6(a) of the Charter as follows:

(a) Representation and votes shall be allocated to Country Committees annually, in accordance with the certification required under Section 5.4(e), calculated as follows:

[Section 3.6.a.i, ii, iii on voting calculation remain unchanged.]

3. ADDITIONALLY AMEND the beginning of **Section 3.6(c)** of the Charter as follows:

“(c) Each member of the Country Committee Voting Delegation (as defined below) of each Country Committee in compliance with Section 5.4 and represented at the meeting by attending in person, by proxy, or in accordance with Section 3.7 shall have the right to vote.”

4. ADDITIONALLY AMEND **Section 3.6(f)** of the Charter as follows:

“(f) Each Country Committee shall have the option to elect Non-voting Alternate Representatives, and shall be required to elect at least the minimum number of Voting Representatives necessary to enable it to cast all its votes. Election(s) for Voting Representatives 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 to that Country Committee's delegation of Voting Representatives. The term of each Voting Representative and Non-voting Alternate Representative shall be the same as for Officers of the Country Committee.

All Voting Representatives and Non-voting Alternate 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. Each Non-voting Alternate Representative shall have the right to speak at DPCA meetings but not to vote, except under Section 3.7 below.

Elected Voting Representatives (if any), and Non-voting Alternate Representatives shall be sequentially ranked in a manner to be determined by the Country Committee prior to, or at the time of, election. Such ranking shall be reported to the International Secretary at the time of reporting election results. In the event of an annual adjustment of votes allocated to a Country Committee, voting distribution will follow the sequential ranking previously defined by the Committee.

The distribution of votes among the Chair, Vice Chair, and Voting Representatives shall be such that each member of the Country Committee Voting Delegation shall have no less than one vote nor more votes than the Country Committee Chair or Vice Chair; and such allocation shall be subject to the rules set out in Section 3.6(h), below."

5. ADDITIONALLY INSERT the following new Subsections **(g)** and **(h)** at the end of Section 3.6 of the Charter:

"(g) A "Country Committee Voting Delegation" consists of those persons who have been selected to represent the members of a Country Committee within the DPCA and who hold the right to vote in the DPCA, and these persons are the Country Committee's Chair, Principal Vice Chair, and Voting Representative(s).

(h) With effect from the time of each Country Committee's 2019 leadership election, or March 31, 2019, whichever occurs first, and continuing thereafter:

(h.i) the total number of positions in the Country Committee Voting Delegation shall be equal to the number of votes allocated to that Country Committee pursuant to this Section (with the sole exception of a Country Committee allocated one vote, in which case the size of the delegation shall be two persons being the Chair and Vice Chair);

(h.ii) each member of the Country Committee Voting Delegation shall be allocated one (1) such vote (with the sole exception of a Country Committee that is allocated one vote, in which case this one vote is allocated as one half-vote each to the two members of the delegation);

(h.iii) each vote allocated to a member of the Country Committee Voting Delegation may be cast only by that person or that person's valid proxy holder; and

(h.iv) in the event of a vacancy of an Voting Representative, the position shall be filled by each lower ranked Voting Representative moving up the sequential ranking and the highest ranked Non-voting Alternate Representative becoming the lowest ranked At-Large Voting Representative.”

6) ADDITIONALLY AMEND the Schedule to the Charter by adding a new column entitled “Step 6-Revised”, which shall state the number of Voting Representatives for each Country Committee with effect from 2019.