

2019 CHARTER AMENDMENTS

PROPOSITION #5:

Amend Charter to set time of DPCA Annual General Meeting in May; and place in DC in Odd-Numbered Years

Author: David S. Miller, DA Denmark

Previously submitted as: 2018 Charter Amendment Proposition 15 (DPCA AGM in May; DC in Odd Years)

WHEREAS, it is convenient to hold the Annual DPCA Meeting during the month of May, which follows many of the Country Committees' Annual General Meetings in the first quarter of the year, particularly the Country Committee's Annual General Meetings in odd-numbered years, where the Country Committees' Executive Committees are in most cases elected;

WHEREAS, there are many advantages of holding the Annual DPCA Meeting in the Washington, DC area, in odd-numbered years;

WHEREAS, it was decided by resolution at the Annual DPCA Meeting in Seoul, Korea in 2011 that the DPCA should hold its Annual DPCA Meeting in the Washington, DC area, in odd-numbered years;

WHEREAS, at the Annual DPCA Meeting in even-numbered years, bids have been made to hold the following Annual DPCA Meeting, which takes place in an odd-numbered year, in countries outside the United States, often leading to time-consuming discussions at the Annual DPCA Meeting in even-numbered years about the advantages of holding the following meeting in the Washington, DC area, and that the Annual DPCA Meeting often ends up deciding to hold the following Annual DPCA Meeting, in the Washington, DC area;

WHEREAS, at the Annual DPCA Meeting in presidential election years (which are even-numbered years), Democrats Abroad delegates are elected to the Democratic National Convention, and that discussions of where to hold the following Annual DPCA Meeting in an odd-numbered year takes up time when the election of delegates and other important matters, including discussing the Democrats Abroad Party Platform, are on the agenda;

WHEREAS, by amending the Democrats Abroad Charter to include a provision that the Annual DPCA Meeting will be held in the Washington, DC area in odd-numbered years will provide clarity and allow Country Committees bidding to host an Annual DPCA Meeting in even-numbered years more time to prepare their bids;

WHEREAS, holding the Annual DPCA Meeting in the Washington, DC area in odd-numbered years allows DPCA members and other Democrats Abroad members the

opportunity to participate in Congressional Door Knocks, when Representatives and Senators are generally in Washington, and not campaigning in their home districts as they do in even-numbered years;

WHEREAS, holding the Annual DPCA Meeting every other year in the Washington, DC area allows DPCA members and other Democrats Abroad members the opportunity to speak to Administration officials at various Departments of the Executive Branch about issues affecting Americans living abroad;

WHEREAS, holding the DPCA Global Meeting every other year in the Washington, DC area allows the Democratic National Committee and other Democrats in the United States to get to know DPCA members and other Democrats Abroad members and vice versa;

WHEREAS, there may be unforeseen circumstances that preclude the possibility of holding the Annual DPCA Meeting in the Washington, DC area in odd-numbered years, and/or during the month of May in any year, and therefore there should be a provision for the International Executive Committee to hold the Annual DPCA Meeting in odd-numbered years in another place, and/or during another month other than the month of May;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Section 3.2 of the Democrats Abroad Charter shall be amended as follows:

“Section 3.2 (Date and Place)

(a) The annual DPCA meeting shall take place during the month of May. In odd-numbered years, the place of the meeting shall be in the Washington, DC area. In even-numbered years, upon proposal of the International Chair at a duly constituted DPCA meeting, and after having invited all Country Committees to submit non-binding bids, the date, time, and place of the annual DPCA meeting required under the previous Section shall be determined by majority vote of the Country Committees, DPCA officers, and DNC members present or represented at the meeting or participating by electronic vote (see Section 3.7). The Executive Committee may vote to change the date, time, or place for reasons it deems important.

(b) If the Executive Committee deems that circumstances preclude that the annual DPCA meeting can take place during the month of May, and/or that it can take place in Washington, DC during an odd-numbered year or the determined venue in an even-numbered year, the Executive Committee may vote by a two-thirds majority to change the date, time, and/or place (including to outside the United

States in odd-numbered years). If in such circumstances the date of the meeting is not the month of May, then to the extent possible as deemed by the Executive Committee, the meeting should be held in a month later than May.