

## 2019 CHARTER AMENDMENTS

### PROPOSITION #15:

# **Charter Amendments Review, Certification, and Distribution**

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## **The Problem**

To ensure that any amendments to the DPCA Charter accurately reflect the votes and intention of the body, and to ensure that a correct version of the amended DPCA Charter is circulated to DPCA members in a timely fashion.

Also, to remove the confusing and contradictory language and examples provided in “Schedule A”, and to remove this from the Charter.

WHEREAS, trust in the integrity and accuracy of the DPCA Charter and Rules governing DA is essential to the effective functioning of the organization, and ensuring trust in the transparency and legitimacy of its democratic decision-making processes;

WHEREAS, Democrats Abroad must provide a transparent, clear, and accessible record of what changes have been made – and when those changes were made – to the DPCA Charter;

WHEREAS, at times there have been delays, confusion, and inaccuracy in the Charter record; and such inconsistencies have necessitated a “Charter Reconciliation Committee” to audit and compare Charter drafts over the previous several years, to root out inconsistencies; and it is better to improve our Charter Revision process so that this exercise is not necessary in the future;

WHEREAS, the International Secretary is tasked (in Section 4.8) with the responsibility of keeping the “minutes of DPCA meetings (taking particular note of all Standing Resolutions)”;

WHEREAS, peer review of the minutes and record of amendments by the Bylaws Committee, under the guidance of International Counsel, is the best guarantee that the Charter truly reflects the intent and decision of the body as reflected by the votes taken;

WHEREAS, any changes to the DPCA Charter should be circulated in a timely manner (within at least 60 days), after adoption;

WHEREAS, the DA Wiki has become the site of official archiving and creates a de-facto “Version of Record,” the International Counsel shall be responsible for posting and distributing a final certified copy of the Charter for DPCA.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: A new Section 11.2 (Review, Certification, and Distribution of Charter Amendments) shall be added to the charter to clarify the manner in which revisions to the Charter text shall be made and distributed.

**Section 11.2 (Review, Certification, and Distribution of Charter Amendments)**

Within 30-days of any amendment to this Charter that is duly passed by the DPCA according to Section 11.1, the International Secretary, or the secretary designated to record such amendments, shall submit the minutes and record of such amendments or changes to the International Counsel. Within 15-days of receipt, the International Counsel, in consultation with the Bylaws Committee (or other relevant committee as constituted at the time of such amendments), shall review, revise, and correct the text to accurately reflect the amendments as voted upon by the Members. The International Counsel shall then certify and provide a final, date-stamped, version of record of this Charter, shall post it in appropriate archives (such as the Democrats Abroad Wiki Documentation Archive), and shall circulate such to all DPCA members.

MOREOVER, WHEREAS the Charter Reconciliation Committee found that Schedule A had been misplaced from the Charter for several years on account of administrative error, and as such was not under consideration when more recent amendments were passed (such as 1P1V),

WHEREAS, Schedule A, as an Appendix to the Charter revisions of 2011 was intended to provide illustrative examples of possible allocations of additional voting allocations under the formula introduced in 2011;

WHEREAS, Schedule A, is not necessary for determining the voting allocations that are defined in the text of Section 3.6;

WHEREAS, the steps and instructions provided in Schedule A are merely examples, and do not reflect current voting allocations, and as such can easily lead to confusion about actual voting allocations;

WHEREAS, several references in Schedule A are archaic, confusing, and inconsistent with the Charter itself, and have since been obviated by the adoption of One-Person-One-Vote (1P1V) in 2018, contradicting the current language on voting allocation provided in Section 3.6;

WHEREAS, Schedule A is no longer an integral part of the Charter;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Schedule A be deleted from the DPCA Charter;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

The following sentence in Section 3.6 be deleted.

~~“A hypothetical example of the calculations is attached hereto as Schedule A, which is an integral part of this Charter.”~~