2019 CHARTER AMENDMENTS

PROPOSITION #3:

Establishment of Standing Committees

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Previously submitted as: 2018 Charter Amendment Proposition 13 (Establish Standing Committees)

WHEREAS, there are certain areas of activities that require continual attention by the DPCA leadership;

WHEREAS, the Officers of the International Executive Committee have tasks relating to their individual officer positions that preclude them from continually attending to these areas of activities;

WHEREAS, these areas of activities include Information Technology ("IT"), Membership/Voter Registration, Issues, Events, Fundraising, Affirmative Action, and Newsletter/Communications ("Communications");

WHEREAS, the IT Standing Committee may include tasks relating to the technical, legal, and content aspects of information technology, and other relevant tasks and activities, covering areas that are pertinent to among others the International Secretary, International Counsel, and International Treasurer;

WHEREAS, the Membership/Voter Registration Standing Committee may include tasks such as growing membership, maintaining the membership database in cooperation with the International Secretary, voter registration, getting out the vote, and other relevant tasks and activities;

WHEREAS, the Issues Standing Committee may include tasks relating to issues such taxation of American citizens abroad, gun safety, healthcare, etc., and other relevant tasks and activities; and liaise with caucuses such as the Progressive Caucus and the Women's Caucus;

WHEREAS, the Events Standing Committee may include tasks relating to rallies, fundraising events, commemorations, election night celebrations, voter registration, getting out the vote events, and other relevant tasks and activities;

WHEREAS, the Fundraising Standing Committee may include tasks relating to raising funds for Democrats Abroad, including through on-site fundraising and auctions, and other relevant tasks and activities;

WHEREAS, the Affirmative Action Standing Committee may include tasks relating to affirmative action issues within Democrats Abroad as well as the broader American

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society, and other relevant tasks and activities; and liaise with caucuses such as the LGBT Caucus, the Black Caucus, the Hispanic Caucus, the Youth Caucus, etc.;

WHEREAS, the Communications Standing Committee may include tasks relating to framing messages, information to the membership, social media, media appearances, and other relevant tasks and activities;

WHEREAS, Standing Committees relating to these areas of activities should be created by the International Chair and approved by the elected members of the International Executive Committee;

WHEREAS, the chairs of these Standing Committees should be appointed by the International Chair with approval by a majority of the elected members of the International Executive Committee;

WHEREAS, the chairs of these Standing Committees should ex officio be non-voting members of the Executive Committee;

WHEREAS, similar standing committees should be established at the regional level;

WHEREAS, with the exception of the IT Standing Committee, Country Committees should be encouraged to establish similar standing committees;

WHEREAS, by doing so, Democrats Abroad will become a more effective organization with improved internal communications throughout the organization, allowing communication regarding these areas of activities to extend from the international level to the regional and Country Committee level and vice versa, as well as lateral communication between Country Committees;

WHEREAS, Sections 3.4 (Quorum), 4.6 (Responsibilities of the International Chair), and 6.3 (Duties of Regional Vice Chair) of the Democrats Abroad Charter should be amended to include standing committees in the Charter;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 3.4 of the Democrats Abroad Charter be modified as follows:

"**Section 3.4 (Quorum)**

A quorum for a meeting shall require the presence in person or on-line of:

(a) the International Chair or Vice Chair of the DPCA; and

(b) 40% of DPCA members; and

(c) for meetings of Standing Committees, including Regional Standing Committees, or ad hoc committees, the Chair and/or the Vice Chair of that committee and one other committee member.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the case of annual meetings under Section 3.1, a quorum shall require the physical presence

or presence by proxy to a member physically present of at least 20% of DPCA members as well as the physical presence of either the International Chair or Vice Chair. In addition, for quorum purposes, the individuals referred to in paragraph (b) must include members resident in at least four (4) different countries and two (2) Regions."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 4.6 of the Democrats Abroad Charter shall be amended as follows:

"**Section 4.6 (Responsibilities of the International Chair)**

(a) The International Chair shall be responsible for the carrying out of the programs and policies of the Democratic Party and Democrats Abroad. The International Chair shall preside at all meetings of the DPCA, establishing its agenda meeting agendas, and implementing its decisions taken during DPCA meetings. Following consultation with the Executive Committee, the International Chair may appoint deputies or assistant officers (such appointments shall be promptly notified to the DPCA) and conduct the day-to-day business of Democrats Abroad. The International Chair shall be the chief spokesperson for the organization. The International Chair may, after consultation with the Executive Committee, create or terminate committees and determine their composition and purpose. The International Chair shall *ex officio* be a non-voting member of all committees.

(b) The International Chair shall appoint the following Standing Committees: Information Technology ("IT"), Membership/Voter Registration, Issues, Events, Fundraising, Affirmative Action, and Newsletter/Communications ("Communications").

(c) The International Chair shall appoint or remove the chairs of the Standing Committees subject to ratification by the elected members of the Executive Committee at its next meeting following such appointments or revocation. Standing Committee chairs shall ex officio be non-voting members of the Executive Committee. The membership of each Standing Committee shall be selected by the respective committee chair after consultation with the International Chair."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 6.3 of the Democrats Abroad Charter shall be amended as follows:

"**Section 6.3 (Duties of Regional Vice Chairs)**

(a) The Regional Vice Chairs shall, under the direction of the International Chair, promote cooperation among the Country Committees in the respective Regions and implement any

Regional programs or plans adopted by the Regional Committees, provided such programs or plans have been approved by the International Chair in consultation with the Executive Committee.

(b) The Regional Vice Chairs shall appoint the following Regional Standing Committees: Information Technology ("IT"), Membership/Voter Registration, Issues, Events, Fundraising, Affirmative Action, and Newsletter/Communications ("Communications").

(c) The Regional Vice Chairs shall appoint or remove the chairs of the Regional Standing Committees in consultation with the International Chair. Regional Standing Committee chairs shall be appointed from among members in the respective region who have the required knowledge and/or skills required to chair the respective Regional Standing Committee. The membership of each Standing Committee shall be selected by the respective Regional Standing Committee chair after consultation with the Regional Vice Chair. Regional Vice Chairs shall *ex officio* be non-voting members of the respective Regional Standing Committees.

(d) The Regional Vice Chairs shall consult with the the individual Country Committee Chairs in their respective regions to encourage the respective Country Committees, in accordance with the respective Country Committee bylaws, to establish separate standing committees corresponding to the following Regional Standing Committees: Membership/Voter Registration, Issues, Events, Fundraising, Affirmative Action, and Newsletter/Communications ("Communications").