

## **DEMOCRATS ABROAD NEW ZEALAND BYLAWS**

Adopted by a vote of the Membership on 12 May 2022

### **ARTICLE I. NAME**

These Bylaws govern a voluntary, non-profit organization having as its name Democrats Abroad New Zealand.

### **ARTICLE II. PURPOSE AND RELATIONSHIP TO DEMOCRATS ABROAD**

- 2.1 The organization has been admitted to and continues its involvement with the Democratic Party Committee Abroad (the “DPCA”) as a Country Committee within Democrats Abroad.
- 2.2 The purposes of the organization shall be to advance the interests and ideals of the Democratic Party of the United States (the “Democratic Party”) and of Democrats Abroad, as stated in the Charter of the Democratic Party (designated as Section 17 at the time these bylaws came into force) and the Bylaws of Democrats Abroad and to provide for appropriate governance by and on behalf of its supporters residing in New Zealand.

### **ARTICLE III. MEMBERS**

- 3.1 Members must be citizens of the United States, be of voting age, subscribe to the principles of the Democratic Party of the United States and of Democrats Abroad and be normally resident in New Zealand. A member who by her or his actions demonstrates that she or he no longer subscribes to the principles of the Democratic Party of the United States and of Democrats Abroad may be excluded from membership by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Executive Committee; provided however that such vote may only be taken after the member has had

reasonable notice (no less than 30 days) of the Executive Committee's intention to exclude the member and has had reasonable opportunity to contest the proposed action by the Executive Committee.

- 3.2 To the greatest extent possible, all the political viewpoints of the Democratic Party and of the Democratic Party community in New Zealand shall be embraced by the organization.
- 3.3 The current list of members as maintained by the Secretary-Treasurer pursuant to Article VIII shall be delivered to the appropriate officers of the DPCA no later than January 31 of each year in such form and format as the DPCA shall from time to time require.
- 3.4 To join Democrats Abroad New Zealand, a prospective member must complete a membership form using such paper or other medium (e.g., on-line form) as the Executive Committee shall from time to time make available including the member's name, mail and email addresses, telephone and fax numbers and U.S. voting district State and other information contained on the membership form.
- 3.5 By becoming a member of Democrats Abroad New Zealand, the member consents to the delivery of his/her name, mail and e-mail addresses, telephone and fax numbers and U.S. voting district/State and other information contained on the membership list of the organization to the DPCA and also consents to such lawful use thereof as the DPCA shall make from time to time. Subject to all relevant privacy, electronic communications and other legislation or regular in force at the time in both the United States and New Zealand. In the specific case of New Zealand, the member shall have the option of opting out of the receipt of any electronic communications from DANZ or the DPCA. Furthermore, Democrats Abroad New Zealand and the DPCA agree that New Zealand law is applicable to the extent that Membership in Democrats Abroad New Zealand automatically results in membership in Democrats Abroad, Democrats Abroad New Zealand and the DPCA also agree that New Zealand law is applicable to the extent that any personal data is created in New Zealand or crosses New Zealand borders.
- 3.6 Each member has the right to inspect and correct their data in the membership records. Membership records shall otherwise not be open to inspection except by the Executive Committee and persons authorized by it (generally, the database manager). The membership records shall be maintained by the Secretary-Treasurer in such a manner in order to protect the

information therein, pursuant to applicable data protection rules. No use of the membership database is permitted for purposes other than those related to the activities of the Democratic Party, of Democrats Abroad or of Democrats Abroad New Zealand except as required by United States or New Zealand law. No candidate for any office may use or access the membership database directly for the purposes of campaigning for office or soliciting votes or proxies.

#### **ARTICLE IV. CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

4.1 Any member shall cease to be a member if he/she no longer meets the qualifications of a member. Any such former member may be reinstated on the same conditions as a new member.

#### **ARTICLE V. OFFICERS**

5.1 The Officers of the organization shall be the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary-Treasurer and Counsel to the Committee. The Vice-Chairperson shall be of a different gender from the Chairperson.

#### **ARTICLE VI. CHAIRPERSON**

6.1 The Chairperson shall have executive authority and shall call and preside at all meetings of members and of the Executive Committee, establish the agenda of such meetings, and have responsibility for all activities approved by the organization. The Democrats Abroad New Zealand Chairperson shall sit *ex officio* on all committees and subcommittees of the organization including Standing Committees, with full voting privileges.

#### **ARTICLE VII. VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

7.1 In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall call and preside at meetings of members and of the Executive Committee. The Vice-Chairperson shall have such other duties as defined by the Chairperson.

## **ARTICLE VIII. SECRETARY-TREASURER**

- 8.1 The Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain a current list of members of the organization (containing the name, mail and e-mail addresses, telephone and fax numbers and U.S. voting district/State and such other information as the DPCA may from time to time require), minutes of all meetings, and all files and administrative records of the organization. The minutes books shall be open for inspection by members. The Secretary-Treasurer shall also manage the finances of the organization, maintain clear and accurate financial records and make financial reports as required. All financial records shall be open for inspection by members.

## **ARTICLE IX. COUNSEL**

- 9.1 The Counsel (who may or may not be legally qualified) shall be available for consultation by the Committee or its officers on legal and procedural questions relating to Democrats Abroad New Zealand and its activities. The Counsel shall consult with the International Counsel from time to time on emergent matters, including notably questions on voting issues and financial record keeping.

## **ARTICLE X. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- 10.1 The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary-Treasurer and Counsel to the Committee, all Chapter Chairpersons (if applicable), and two (2) Members-at-Large elected from among the eligible members of the organization. The chairpersons of the Standing Committees (if any) shall be *ex officio* members of the Executive Committee with full voting privileges.
- 10.2 The Executive Committee shall meet at regular intervals upon call by the Chairperson, for the purpose of consulting with and advising the Chairperson in the administration of the organization. A meeting of the Executive Committee may be called by one-third of the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE XI. COMMITTEES**

- 11.1 The Executive Committee may appoint and remove standing and *ad hoc* committees from among the members as the Executive Committee determines from time to time are necessary or desirable to conduct and coordinate the affairs of the organization.
- 11.2 The Chairperson shall appoint or remove the chairpersons of the committees, subject to ratification by the members of the Executive Committee at the meeting of the Executive Committee next following such appointments or revocation. The membership of each such committee shall be selected by the committee chairperson after consultation with the Chairperson.
- 11.3 Meetings of all committees shall be open to all members of the organization.

## **ARTICLE XII. CHAPTERS**

- 12.1 Chapters may be duly recognized from time to time by the Executive Committee of Democrats Abroad New Zealand in accordance with Section 12.7.
- 12.2 From time to time the Executive Committee shall adopt Standing Resolutions for the governance of the Chapters.
- 12.3 Membership in a recognized Chapter is open to any American citizen of voting age who has joined Democrats Abroad New Zealand in accordance with Section 3.1 and is resident in the Chapter city or its region. Members of Democrats Abroad New Zealand not residing in the city or region of a recognized Chapter may elect to join the Chapter geographically nearest to their place of residence by submitting a paper or electronic membership form to the Chairperson.
- 12.4 Each Chapter shall be headed by a Chapter Chairperson, with the assistance of a Chapter Secretary-Treasurer, elected from amongst the membership of the Chapter at a meeting of the Chapter held in accordance herewith. The Chapter officers shall be elected at the same time as the Chapter Representatives to the Executive Committee.
- 12.5 The Chapters shall be recognized only for the internal purposes of Democrats Abroad New

Zealand. Their activities shall be considered to be an integral and integrated part of Democrats Abroad New Zealand. They shall be subject to and operate solely in accordance with these Bylaws and such Standing Resolutions as the Executive Committee shall from time to time adopt, as well as the Bylaws of Democrats Abroad and its Standing Resolutions. They shall have no bylaws of their own. They shall not operate any separate bank accounts. All funds raised by a Chapter, after payment of expenses related to the event at which such funds were raised, shall be the property of Democrats Abroad New Zealand.

- 12.6 The Chapter Secretary/Treasurer shall be subject to the supervision of the Secretary/Treasurer, Democrats Abroad New Zealand. Treasurer and the Chapter Chairperson and shall at all times abide by these Bylaws, the bylaws of Democrats Abroad, and those of the Democratic Party and all applicable US Federal laws governing campaign finance. The use and expenditures of funds shall be determined pursuant to prior *ad hoc* agreements reached between the Chapter and the Executive Committee (or the Chairperson if a decision is required prior to the next Executive Committee meeting as to each event or publication and subject to approval by the Executive Committee) and/or Standing Resolutions. In no event shall the expenditure of funds be agreed to or any funds be disbursed by the Chapter without the prior consent of the Secretary- Treasurer and the Chapter Chairperson.
- 12.7 To qualify as a Chapter a group must have at least thirty (30) members all of whom shall be resident in a given city and the contiguous area immediately surrounding it. Chapters consisting of members of Democrats Abroad New Zealand may be recognized or dissolved by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee present and voting.
- 12.8 A meeting of a Chapter shall be quorum if at least one-third members are present in person, other than election meetings, where a quorum shall consist of the lesser of 15 members or one-third of the Chapter members.

### **ARTICLE XIII. OTHER OFFICERS**

- 13.1 Voting Representative and Voting Representative (alternate)  
Pursuant to the requirements of Section 3.6, subsection (g) of the DPCA Charter, the Voting Representative(s) shall attend the DPCA annual general meeting in person, by proxy, or remotely by voice, video or phone link and exercise their votes, after consideration, of candidates for regional and international offices, of any amendments to the DPCA Charter or other matters as

they occur. The total number of positions in the voting delegation is equal to the number of votes allocated to the Country Committee, also pursuant to Section 3.6, subsection (g) of the DPCA Charter and is subject to change. As such, there will be one Voting Representatives and one alternate elected biennially.

- 13.2 The Chairperson may appoint and remove such assistant Officers or honorary Officers, having such duties as he/she shall designate, subject to ratification by the members of the Executive Committee at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

#### **ARTICLE XIV. TERMS**

- 14.1 The Officers and Members-at-Large of the Executive Committee, Voting Representative and Voting Representative (alternate) shall be elected every two years at the annual meeting of the organization (which meeting shall be held no later than June 30). They shall be elected for a term expiring upon the election of their successor. No Officer can serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office. However, a person can be elected for the same office in the future (subject to all rules found in these Bylaws), following the expiration of one or more intervening terms.
- 14.2 The terms of all incumbent assistant Officers and committee chairpersons shall automatically expire upon the election of new Officers in accordance with the foregoing paragraph.
- 14.3 Any Officer or Member-at-Large who misses three consecutive regularly called meetings of the Executive Committee may be removed from office by a three-fourths vote of the entire Executive Committee at a regularly called and quorate meeting at which the question of such removal is on the agenda sent out in advance and at which the Officer or Member-at-Large is given due opportunity to explain the reasons for her or his absence.

#### **ARTICLE XV. NOMINATIONS**

- 15.1 At least two months prior to the annual meeting, a committee to nominate candidates (the "Nominations Committee") for election to office shall be named by the Chairperson with the approval of the Executive Committee.
- 15.2 At the meeting approving the appointment of the Nominations Committee, the Executive Committee shall decide, in view of local circumstances and to promote the greatest

participation, whether the elections shall be conducted (i) by mail ballot (to be counted at the annual meeting); or (ii) by vote (electronically, in person or by proxy) held at the annual meeting and shall adopt the rules with respect to the election.

- 15.3 The Nominations Committee shall notify its nominations to the membership no less than 30 days prior to the annual meeting.
- 15.4 If the elections are to be conducted by mail or by electronic means (e.g. email, web), any member of the organization wishing to run for office as an Officer or a Member-at-Large of the Executive Committee and not nominated by the Nominations Committee shall declare his/her candidacy at least 14 days before the annual meeting by a letter, fax or email addressed to the Chairperson of the Nominations Committee. The Secretary/Treasurer shall send ballots by mail, fax or email to the membership of the organization no earlier than 13 days before the annual meeting and no later than 10 days before such meeting.
- 15.5 If the elections are to be held by mail, fax or email ballot, no nominations may be made from the floor except when there is no declared candidate for an office to be filled. If the elections are to be conducted by vote (in person or by proxy), nominations for all positions to be filled may be made from the floor of the annual meeting.
- 15.6 Nominations for positions becoming vacant shall follow the procedures set out in Article XVII, below.

## **ARTICLE XVI. ELECTIONS AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

- 16.1 The Officers and Members-at-Large of the Executive Committee shall be elected by a majority of votes of (i) the members voting (in person or by proxy) at the annual meeting (or in the case of a vacancy, at the general meeting at which the election is held) or (ii) by mail, fax or electronic ballot (e.g. email, web) counted at the annual meeting (or in the case of a vacancy, at the general meeting at which the election is held). In the event of an election to be held by mail ballot, ballots received by mail shall be kept unopened and delivered to tellers appointed by the meeting to count the votes.

- 16.2 Any Officer or Member-at-Large of the Executive Committee may be removed from office by a vote of two-thirds of (i) those present at a duly convened meeting of the membership or (ii) those voting in a duly organized vote by mail or electronic ballot (e.g. email, web) on the question. Notice of any meeting under this Section must be given in writing to the membership at least 30 days in advance.
- 16.3 If the position of Chairperson becomes vacant for whatever reason, the Vice- Chairperson shall succeed to the office of Chairperson and elections shall be held to fill the office of Vice- Chairperson in accordance with Article XV.

## **ARTICLE XVII. VACANCIES**

- 17.1 Any vacancy among the Officers or the Members-at-Large of the Executive Committee shall be filled by an eligible person (as defined in paragraph 3.1 of these Bylaws and any other relevant provision contained herein).
- 17.2 Candidates for any vacant position (as set out in paragraph 17.1, above) may be nominated by any member of the Executive Committee.
- 17.3 Members of the full Executive Committee shall hold a vote on the nominated candidates, such vote to take place at a special meeting to be convened by the Chairperson (or in the Chairperson's absence, the next most senior Executive Committee member), no more than 20 days from the date of the vacancy.
- 17.4 The vacant position shall be filled by the candidate who gains the most votes, as long as those votes represent a majority of the available votes. If more than one candidate is vying for any given position, resulting in no majority, the candidate(s) with the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated from successive rounds of voting until one candidate has gained a majority vote.
- 17.5 Until such vacancy is filled, the Chairperson may appoint in his or her discretion a member to fill the vacancy on a temporary basis. Any Officer or Member-at-Large elected under the terms of this Article XVII shall serve only until the next regular election.

## ARTICLE XVIII. NOTICE

18.1 Notice of (i) annual meetings, (ii) meetings at which elections and removals from office will be held and (iii) meetings to amend these Bylaws shall be sent to members at least 30 days before the meeting. Notice of other meetings of members (with no less than 14 days written notice) and of the Executive Committee (with reasonable notice under the circumstances) shall be given by such method as the Chairperson shall from time to time reasonably prescribe.

## ARTICLE XIX. MEETINGS

19.1 An annual meeting of members shall be held no later than June 30 of each year and shall act upon the following: (i) approval of the accounts and the report of the Chairperson and the Secretary-Treasurer for the preceding calendar year, (ii) in election years, the election of the Officers and Members-at-Large of the Executive Committee, and (iii) such other business as the Chairperson shall deem appropriate.

19.2 Other meetings of the membership may be held from time to time upon call by (i) the Chairperson, (ii) one-third of the Executive Committee or (iii) 10% of the membership who require the holding of a meeting.

19.3 All meetings of the membership, the Executive Committee, the Standing Committees (if any) and *ad hoc* committees (if any) shall be open to the membership and conducted in accordance with these Bylaws (including the provisions on notice).

19.4 Meetings of Democrats Abroad New Zealand may be held in person, by telephone, videoconference, or such electronic means and in all events shall be open and may not be secret. If in written format, ballots must be signed (either physically or electronically).

19.5 For the purposes hereof, a quorum shall be determined as follows:

- (i) for meetings of the membership, no fewer than 15 members;
- (ii) for meetings of the Executive Committee and any Standing or *ad hoc* Committee, one-third of the members of such committee.

- 19.6 If the Chairperson fails to call a meeting in a timely manner for whatever reason, the Secretary/Treasurer or another Officer shall call the meeting.
- 19.7 The agenda of a meeting of the membership shall include any item of business submitted in writing to the Chairperson in advance by ten percent (10%) of the membership. The agenda of any meeting of the Executive Committee or of a subcommittee shall include any item of business submitted in writing to the Chairperson in advance by two (2) members of the Executive Committee or of the subcommittee, as the case may be.
- 19.8 All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of Roberts Rules of Order.

#### **ARTICLE XX. RULES APPLICABLE TO THE COMMITTEE**

- 20.1 The functioning of the Committee shall be governed by (i) these Bylaws and such rules as the Executive Committee may from time to time adopt; and (ii) the Bylaws of Democrats Abroad and the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States and such rules and regulations as Democrats Abroad and/or the Democratic Party of the United States shall adopt from time to time. In the event of a conflict between (A) these Bylaws and the rules referred to in sub-clause (i) of the previous sentence and (B) the documents, rules and regulations referred to in sub-clause (ii) of the previous sentence, the documents, rules and regulations of such sub-clause (ii) shall prevail.