

BYLAWS

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF DEKALB COUNTY

PREAMBLE: The Democratic Party of DeKalb County aspires to be an effective grass-roots political organization and is open to all residents of DeKalb County who publicly declare that they believe in the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party.

ARTICLE I: County Committee.

Section A: Creation and Purpose. An organization known as the Democratic Party of DeKalb County, hereafter referred to as the “Committee”, shall have responsibility for and jurisdiction over Party affairs in DeKalb County.

Section B: Duties. The duties of the Committee are to promote development of Party organization and activities; seek and encourage qualified candidates for public office; support Democratic nominees; perform such election functions as are required by law; maintain appropriate records; promote and add logistical support to the State Affirmative Action Program; raise funds for the above purposes; and perform such other duties as may be required by the State Committee. The Committee shall remain neutral in all instances during primary and primary run-off elections where two or more candidates for the same office are Democrats, if these candidates have demonstrated their allegiance to the principals of the Democratic Party.

Section C: Governance. The Committee shall be governed by these bylaws and by the bylaws of the Georgia State Democratic Party, in particular Article VII of the State Party bylaws, “County Committees.” Where the Committee and State Party bylaws are in conflict, the State Party bylaws shall prevail.

Section D: Composition.

1. The DeKalb County Democratic Committee shall be organized by House Districts. Each single member district shall be allocated six (6) elective slots, numbered one (1) through (6). In the event of any multimember district exists within DeKalb County it will be allocated a number of slots equivalent to its representation in the county. Each member of the Committee, either elected or otherwise appointed, shall be a member of the applicable House District in which he or she resides.
2. Election of the Committee.
 - a. In a gubernatorial election year all even-number seats within each House District of the Committee shall be open for election. Election shall be by primary ballot; the same procedure and rules as those for other county elected officials shall prevail, except that the candidate receiving the

highest number of votes shall be elected without the necessity of a runoff. Notice shall be given as provided by law or by Democratic Party regulation.

- b. In national presidential election years all odd-numbered Seats within each house district of the Committee shall be open for election. Election shall be by a caucus (which may coincide with the county convention) of party members of each respective district within 45 days after the General Election at a time and place called for that purpose. Notice shall be given as provided by law or by Democratic Party regulation.
- c. Terms of County Committee members elected by primary ballot or caucus shall be 4 years, unless there is an intervening General Reapportionment. County Committee members elected by primary ballot or caucus shall take office on the first day of the first month following the General Election.
- d. In the event of an intervening General Reapportionment, all Committee members who are members by virtue of holding a house district seat will have their terms end on the first day of the first month following the next General Election. New members to fill the expired seats will be elected by caucus as in (b) above, except that (i) in gubernatorial election years, even seats will be elected for four year terms and odd for two year terms (ii) in presidential election years, even seats will be elected for two year terms and odd seats for four year terms.
- e. The Chairman of the Committee shall be empowered to ask the Georgia State Democratic Party for relief from (d) above. Should this relief be granted, all current members of the Committee shall serve out the terms to which they were originally elected.
- f. The President of the DeKalb County Democratic Breakfast Club, the President of the DeKalb County Chapter of the Stonewall Democrats, the President of the Democratic Women of DeKalb County, and the President of the DeKalb County Young Democrats or their designees shall be voting but non-quorum members of the Committee and shall serve until their successors are elected, appointed, or their positions abolished. All Democratic Party nominees for any office, chosen in the most recent Democratic Primary, who are residents of DeKalb County shall also be voting but non-quorum members of the Committee.
- g. In addition to Committee Members elected to House District Seats, the Committee shall be authorized to approve the addition of voting members-at-large, who reside anywhere in the County, for a term expiring at the next election for members of the Committee, in order to insure that the composition of the County Committee by race and gender shall reasonably reflect the population of the County. These members-at-large may count toward a quorum.

- h. Persons filling vacant Committee seats or offices shall fill out the complete term of the person vacating the seat, except where (d) above applies.

3. Organization of the Committee

- a. Within four (4) weeks after the newly elected members of take office, every even numbered calendar year, the members of the Committee shall meet within the county and proceed to organize the Committee. The date and time for such meeting shall be fixed by the retiring Chair. If the retiring Chair does not set the time and date for such a meeting within (1) week after newly elected members take office, three (3) members of the new Committee may call a meeting with at least five (5) days written notice to other members of the new Committee. The County Committee shall elect from among its members a Chair, First, Second, and Third Vice-Chairs, and Secretary and Treasurer.
- b. Immediately following the organizational meeting of the County Committee or within ten (10) days thereafter, members of each House District, either or otherwise holding membership on the Committee, shall caucus and elect from its membership a House District Chair. The caucus will be called by the retiring House Chair. Upon the failure of any of the House Districts to caucus, the Chair of the Committee will call the meeting. Each House District will provide for alternate members, not to exceed one-half (1/2) of its elected membership. Alternates shall be allowed to vote in the absence of members of their respective house district and may count towards a quorum.

Section D. Officers.

1. Election of Officers.

- a. Officers other than Past Chair shall be elected from among the membership of the Committee in even calendar year. All Officers shall then be members of the Committee by virtue of their Office at least until the term of that Office shall end or the Office is vacated. All Officers shall count toward a quorum. At least one Vice-Chair shall be of the opposite gender of the Chair.
- b. Any person receiving a majority of votes for election to any office shall be elected to that office. Should no candidate for a position receive a majority of votes, there shall be a runoff between the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

- c. All retiring officers shall deliver to their respective successors within (10) days after the election of the latter, all records, monies, and other materials pertaining to the Committee.

2. Term of Office of Officers

Officers shall take office on January 1 following their election and shall hold office for (2) years.

3. Officers and their Duties

- a. The Chair shall preside over all meetings of the Committee and the Committee Officers, call special meetings of the Committee Officers, perform all acts and duties usually performed by an executive and presiding officer, act as an ex-officio member of all regular and special committees, execute all duties and responsibilities as may be prescribed by the Charter or bylaws or by the Committee Officers, and jointly with the Secretary have legal authority to sign all written contracts and obligations of the Committee. The Chair shall also preside over the Steering Committee and Special Events sponsored by the County Party, and serve as chief spokesman of the DeKalb County Democratic Party. The Chair may sign checks in the absence of the Treasurer. Official statements as to the activities of the Committee or its Standing Committees shall be made by the Chair or the first Vice-Chair in the event of the Chair's absence, illness or disability, or at their respective direction by the Communication Chair. The following committees shall report to the Chair: Bylaws and Awards.
- b. The First Vice-Chair shall coordinate and supervise the activities of such committees as shall be assigned by the Chair, perform any duties assigned by the Committee Officers and in the absence, disability, or resignation of the Chair perform the duties of the Chairperson. The First Vice-Chair shall be charged with the primary responsibility for the organization and development of the Committee. The following subcommittees shall report to the First Vice-Chair: Policy and Legislative, Party Organization and Development, Candidate Development, and Communications.
- c. The Second Vice-Chair shall coordinate and supervise the activities of such committees as shall be assigned by the Chair, perform any duties assigned by the Committee Officers and in the absence or disability of the Chair or First Vice-Chair, perform the duties of the Chair. The Second-Vice Chair shall be charged with primary responsibility for the Party's role in the holding of elections, with the proviso that the Chair may assume some or all of that role as the Chair deems fit. The following subcommittees shall report to the Second Vice-Chair: Voter Registration, Campaign Research, and Election Procedures.

- d. The Third Vice-Chair shall coordinate and supervise the activities of such committees as shall be assigned by the Chair, perform any duties assigned by the Committee Officers and in the absence or disability of the Chair or First or Second Vice-Chair, perform the duties of the Chair. The Third Vice-Chair shall be charged with the primary responsibility for fund-raising and budget. The following subcommittees report to the Third Vice-Chair: Special Events, Budget and Finance, and Audit.
- e. The Secretary shall keep a complete record of all meetings of the Committee and shall have general charge and supervision of the books and records of the Committee, serve all notices required by the Charter and Bylaws of the Committee and shall make a full report of all matters and business pertaining to the office to the members at each general membership meeting, countersign with the Chair all written contracts and obligations of the Committee, perform other such duties as may be required by the Committee and upon the taking of office by a successor turn over all books and other property belonging to the Committee that may be in his/her possession. The Secretary is responsible for turning all candidate forms and fees to the Board of Elections, and posting candidate information at the Courthouse and Board of Elections for DeKalb County offices (i.e. School Board, County Commission.) If the Secretary is unable to turn in candidate forms, the Chair will assign a member of the Committee to turn in the candidate forms. The Secretary shall handle correspondence for the Party and shall maintain a roster of Committee members including addresses and where possible, phone numbers and email.
- f. The Treasurer shall have general supervision and custody of all Committee funds and securities, be responsible for the collection of all accounts receivable, be responsible for the payment of all debts after authorization by the Committee, maintain and adequate, modern set of books showing necessary information to the account for receipt and disposition of all fund and have the accounts audited at least once a year as determined by the Committee. The Treasurer is authorized to issue checks by his/her signature alone. The only other person with check-signing authority shall be the Chair, who is authorized to issue checks against the Party treasury only in the absence of the treasurer or his/her inability to act because of illness or disability.
- g. The Office of Past Chair shall be filled by the outgoing Chair so long as this is consistent with State Party rules and Georgia Code. The Past Chair shall hold office until he/she resigns, is removed, or declares for previously unheld partisan office, or there is a new outgoing Chair. The Past Chair shall perform any duties assigned by the Committee Officers.

4. Voluntary Removal of Officers

- a. When an officer of the party declares their candidacy for a previously unheld partisan office, they are deemed to have voluntarily resigned their position as an officer.
- b. The actions in (a) above will be reviewed at the next steering committee meeting, at which time the officer can be reinstated.

Section E. Members.

1. Members of the DeKalb Democratic Committee shall be defined to be those persons who were duly elected to the Committee in accordance with the Constitution, Charter, and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Georgia and the Bylaws of the DeKalb County Democratic Party, those persons appointed to fill vacancies in Committee posts as otherwise provided for in these bylaws, and any other person who may be specially elected or duly appointed in accordance with any other provisions thereof.
2. Duties of Members.
 - a. Members shall come to monthly meetings on a regular basis.
 - b. Members shall work for a support democratic candidates in election years.
 - c. Each Member shall be a member of the Executive Committee of their House District and help organize that district into an effective grassroots organization.
3. Removal and Replacement of Absent Members including Officers
 - a. Members who have three consecutive unexcused absences from regularly scheduled meetings of the Committee shall have his/her seat declared provisionally vacant by the Chair at the third such meeting.
 - b. The Secretary shall send a written notice to the absent Member that his/her seat has been vacated because of absences. The notice shall state that the absent Member may elect to be subjected to a formal removal procedure by responding to the Secretary in writing that that is his/her desire. The notice shall also state that the Member may be reinstated automatically by simply attending the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee.

- c. Within (10) days of the meeting at which the seat of the absent Member was declared vacant, the members of the House District to which the Member belonged will hold a caucus and nominate a new Member who is a resident of DeKalb County and that House District.
 - d. Should there be no response from the absent Member to the Secretary and he/she is again absent from the next meeting of the Committee, the Committee shall vote on the nomination of the House District caucus for his/her replacement. Should the nomination be rejected by the Committee, or should no nomination have been made, the Committee shall proceed to elect a replacement Member by nomination from the floor, provided the replacement is a resident of DeKalb County and the House District of the absent Member. Should the absent Member be an Officer, the Committee shall proceed to elect a replacement Officer from among the Members of the Committee.
4. Removal of Members including Officers for Cause.
- a. Cause sufficient to permit removal of Members shall be defined as follows:
 - (1) Failure to perform the designated duties of office.
 - (2) Malfeasance in office, which is defined as willful and intentional misconduct by the person to be removed in the performance of duties with the County Committee.
 - (3) Misfeasance in office, which is defined as the performance in the course of duties with the Committee of a lawful action in an illegal or improper manner and need not involve intentional or willful misconduct. Conduct may be considered misfeasance without involving a misdemeanor or felony under state or federal law.
 - (4) Public disclaimer of a member's affiliation with the Democratic Party of Georgia or the Democratic Party of DeKalb County.
 - (5) Violation of or failure to comply with duly adopted provisions of Charter and Bylaws, if done by the person to be removed, with intention to commit said violation.
 - (6) Other such grounds as may be added or deleted from time to time by amendment of these Bylaws.

- b. Any person to be removed under the above provision must receive in writing from a special subcommittee of three (3) persons appointed by the Chair notice of the reasons alleged for the person's removal. Should the person to be removed be the Chair the special subcommittee shall be appointed by a majority of the remaining Officers. Said subcommittee shall not submit said charges to such a person unless by a majority vote of its members present and voting at a duly held meeting, such majority to favor submission of the charges to the said person.
 - c. The person to be removed shall have the right to be informed of all persons who will be witnesses against him/her and who will testify in support of the charges, at least ten (10) days before a hearing on said charges before the full Committee.
 - d. The person to be removed shall have the right to counsel and to present all witnesses, documents, and arguments in support of his/her position. The Subcommittee which has tendered the charges may likewise have counsel and present all witnesses, documents, and arguments in support of its position.
 - e. No member of said subcommittee may vote on the charges at the time of voting by the full county committee.
 - f. Removal is accomplished when at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Committee (excluding members of the subcommittee) support said removal, provided forty percent (40%) of the Members excluding non-quorum members is present and voting.
 - g. No hearing before the Committee shall be held before thirty (30) days from the time charges have been received by the person to be removed.
5. Replacement of Members and Officers other than those removed for absence.
- a. Should a Member's seat or an Office become vacant due to death or resignation, that seat or Office shall be declared vacant by the Chair at the next meeting of the Committee, and the vacancy shall be filled at the next scheduled meeting of the Committee following the meeting at which the announcement is made.
 - b. Should a Member's seat or Office become vacant due to removal for cause, the vacancy shall be filled at the next scheduled meeting of the Committee after the meeting at which the removal was accomplished.

- c. Within ten (10) days after the Committee meeting at which a Member's seat becomes vacant by announcement or removal, the members of the House District to which the Member belonged will hold a caucus and nominate a new Member who is a resident of DeKalb County and that House District. At the meeting specified in (a) or (b) above, the Committee shall vote on the nomination of the House District caucus for his/her replacement. Should the nomination be rejected by the Committee, or should no nomination have been made, the Committee shall proceed to elect a replacement Member by nomination from the floor, provided the replacement is a resident of DeKalb County and the House District of the vacant Member seat. Should an Office be vacant, the Committee shall proceed to elect a replacement Officer from among the Members of the Committee.

6. Terms of replacement Members and Officers.

Replacements for Officers and Members shall fill out the terms of those Officers and Members they replace.

Section F. Affiliate Organizations.

The Committee may recognize and allow affiliation of such organizations the Committee deems appropriate as provided for in the State Party charter and bylaws.

Section G. Time and Place of Meetings.

1. Regular meetings of the Committee shall be held on the first Thursday of each month at Maloof Auditorium or the date, time, and place previously determined by the Committee or the Steering Committee.
2. In all meetings of the County Committee, reports and resolutions and motions shall be submitted in writing and filed with the Secretary of State.
3. Special meetings may be called by the Chair, provided notice is dispatched at least ten (10) days in advance of said special meetings to all members of the Committee.

Section H. Employees.

The Chair shall have the authority to hire and fire persons who work for the Committee, provided that any such decision in this regard may be overridden by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the Steering Committee present and voting at a regular or specially called meeting. Any employee who is terminated by the Chair may appear before the Steering Committee in a proceeding to contest any decision terminating his/her employment. Any such proceeding shall be informal and shall be conducted

pursuant to such procedures as the Steering Committee may wish to apply. Anything in these bylaws to the contrary notwithstanding, any employee of the Democratic Party of DeKalb may be terminated with or without cause pursuant to this procedure.

Section I. Quorum.

A quorum shall consist of twenty (20) members of the Committee not designated non-quorum members. The requirement of the quorum may be waived by the Chair if announced at the previous meeting or announced in writing mailed to the Committee members at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE II: Steering Committee.

Section A. Members of the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee shall be composed of the County Committee Officers plus the Chairs of each House District; the Chairs of the Standing Subcommittees; the Presidents of the Democratic Women of DeKalb, the Young Democrats, and the DeKalb Democratic Breakfast Club or their designees; the Chairs of the DeKalb Democratic delegations of the Georgia State House and Senate or their representatives; the most recent nominees for all Congressional Districts overlapping DeKalb County; and the most recent nominee for DeKalb County Chief Executive Officer.

Section B. Duties of the Steering Committee.

It shall be the duty and responsibility of the Steering Committee to be the long-range planning body of the DeKalb Democratic Party, and to carry out such activities as shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Initiate and recommend operating policies of the County Committee.
2. Review the recommendations of all Standing Subcommittees for consideration by the County Committee.
3. Assist the Chair in the preparation of the agenda for County Committee meetings.
4. Authorize the expenditure of any funds up to the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) which was not an expenditure in the budget adopted by the County Committee. Any expenditure greater than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) which is not in the adopted budget must be approved by the County Committee.
5. Oversee and supervise the expenditure of funds according to the budget adopted by the County Committee.

Article III. Standing Subcommittees

Section A. Designated Standing Subcommittees

The County Committee shall maintain the following Standing Subcommittees, members and chairs of which shall be designated by the Chair of the County Committee: Policy and Legislative, Party Organization and Development, Communications, Candidate Development and Speakers, Voter Registration, Campaign Research, Election Procedures, Audit, Budget and Finance, Special Events, By-Laws, Breakfast Club, Awards, and Affirmative Action.

Section B. Membership of the Standing Subcommittees

The original membership of Standing Subcommittees shall be constituted from the membership of the County Committee. The Chair of the County Committee may appoint any other person who is not a member of the County Committee as an additional member of a Standing Subcommittee, but not being a member of the County Committee, such person shall have no voting rights on the latter.

Section C. Functions of the Standing Committee

1. **Audit.** The Audit Subcommittee shall consist of not less than three (3) persons who shall be charged with the responsibility of inspecting the books and records of the DeKalb Democratic Party. Members of this subcommittee shall be appointed by the Chair and ratified by the County Committee. The subcommittee shall report its findings to the full County Committee.
2. **Budget and Finance.** The Budget and Finance Subcommittee shall assist and consult with the Chair in the preparation of an annual budget. The subcommittee shall assist the Chair in presenting the annual budget to the Steering Committee for approval in January of each year in addition to the plan or plans for financing said budget. After the adoption of the budget by the County Committee, the Budget and Finance Subcommittee shall pursue such course of action as may be necessary and proper for the raising of sufficient funds to support the DeKalb Democratic Party.
3. **By-Laws.** The By-Laws Subcommittee shall review and recommend to the Steering Committee and the County Committee such actions or revisions to the By-Laws, Rules, and Constitution of The DeKalb Democratic Party as are deemed necessary.
4. **Campaign Research.** The Campaign Research Subcommittee shall analyze election returns, monitor opposition candidates, officeholders, and parties, compile a record of the performance of the officeholders, and in other appropriate ways gather and analyze information of value to nominees and officeholders.
5. **Candidate Development and Speakers.** The Candidate Development and

Speakers Subcommittee shall seek out qualified people to run for public office on the Democratic ticket. The subcommittee shall hold candidate seminars to discuss campaign techniques, work with candidates in the area of issue development, and line up speaking engagements that will make the candidates better known in their respective areas.

6. Communications. The Communications Subcommittee shall prepare for release to the news media promptly after each meeting of the County Committee a statement of actions taken. The Chair of this subcommittee shall also be responsible for newsletter preparation and distribution, press and media relations, and promotion of special events.
7. Election Procedures. The Election Procedures Subcommittee shall report to the County Committee on all matters incidental to the holding of elections and shall work with the Democratic members of the Election Board to see that Democrats are represented in the conduct of elections at each precinct.
8. Party Organization and Development. The Party Organization and Development Subcommittee shall be responsible for the development of an extensive and effective grassroots organization. The subcommittee shall work closely with all House District Chairs and organizations to encourage effective coverage of DeKalb County by the Party and shall encourage Democrats throughout the County to join the Democratic Party.
9. Policy and Legislative. The Policy and Legislative Subcommittee shall be responsible for recommending and developing the overall public policy of the DeKalb Democratic Party. These positions must be submitted to the Steering Committee and then presented to the full County Committee for consideration and approval. Following adoption of policy positions by the County Committee, members of the Policy and Legislative Subcommittee may serve as the “action arm” of the Party to promote adoption of Party positions by appropriate governmental bodies. An additional function shall be to aid, when and where possible, elected DeKalb Democratic officials when they request assistance.
10. Special Events. The Special events Subcommittee shall organize and execute such fund-raising events as are scheduled and shall be in charge of arranging town hall meetings and other such issue-oriented events.
11. Voter Registration. The Voter Registration Subcommittee shall encourage all Democrats to register and vote. The Subcommittee shall conduct voter registration drives and shall review precinct boundaries and make recommendations as needed to assure convenient and speedy voting.
12. Awards. The Awards Subcommittee shall consist of seven (7) members, three (3) being recipients of special awards from the Party and one (1) representative each from the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, Board of Education, and

State Senate and House delegations. The function of the subcommittee is to select those persons to be singled out for special recognition by the DeKalb Democratic Party at a Banquet to be held at least biennially, or at any other time deemed appropriate by the Awards Subcommittee. The criteria and process of selection for the awards shall be subject to final approval by the County Committee.

13. Affirmative Action. The Affirmative Action Subcommittee shall perform those functions determined by the County Committee and the bylaws of the Georgia Democratic Party. The Subcommittee will report to whichever County Committee Vice-Chair that the County Committee determines.

Article IV. Rules and Procedures

Section A. Unless Otherwise specified by these rules, *Roberts Rules of Order Revised* shall govern the conduct of meetings of the County Committee, the Steering Committee, and the Standing Subcommittees.

Section B. A Parliamentarian, to be named by the Chair of his/her designee, shall be present at all meetings of the County Committee and be prepared to rule on all questions concerning procedures and points of order.

Section C. Except in the case of Section D below, any resolution or substantive motion which any member of the Committee may desire to present to the full Committee must first be submitted to the appropriate Standing Subcommittee for consideration as hereinafter provided. If any such resolution or motion is made by a member at any regularly scheduled or specially scheduled meeting of the Committee that has not been submitted to a Standing Subcommittee, and the Chair rules at the time of its submission that it is of a substantial nature or involves a substantive issue worthy of further study and consideration, the Chair shall refer said motion or resolution to the proper subcommittee for a report and recommendation to the new regular meeting of the Committee. However, the ruling by the Chair for a referral may be overruled by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members then present and voting. Otherwise, no resolution or motion other than on governed by Section D below shall be debated or voted upon except after it has been presented in writing by a Standing Subcommittee to either the Committee Chair or Secretary. Any such motion or resolution shall be presented to the Steering Committee at least fourteen (14) days in advance of the regularly scheduled or specially scheduled meeting of the Committee at which said resolution or motion is to be presented. Within said fourteen (14) days, the Steering Committee shall discuss and act upon all motions and resolutions presented to it and shall (a) recommend passage as it is; (b) recommend passage subject to amendment; (c) recommend against passage; or (d) adopt a position of no recommendation. Resolutions and motions shall be heard by the County Committee under the following conditions: (a) the sponsor shall have complied with the above provisions; (b) they are properly moved and seconded; and (c) discussion is limited to a total of five (5) minutes for proponents and five (5) minutes for opponents to said motion or resolution. This limitation of debate may be waived by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of

the County Committee members then present and voting. Any resolution or motion from the Steering Committee shall be posted at least fifteen (15) minutes before each meeting in a manner where those members present can read and review said resolution or motion.

Section D. A resolution of County Committee endorsement for a candidate in a nonpartisan election shall first be presented to the Steering Committee, and after approval by the Steering Committee may be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full County Committee. The Chair may waive the requirement for prior approval of such an endorsement resolution by the Steering Committee at his/her discretion.

Section E. All proposed changes to existing bylaws of the County Committee shall be voted upon and approved by the County Committee after consideration by the Steering Committee. The effectiveness of changes to the bylaws shall be upon adoption by the County Committee, except that any changes in the number of duties of the elected officers of the County Committee shall not become effective until the officers effected by said bylaw changes shall have served out the terms to the offices to which they were elected.

Section F. All proposed changes to the method of election of Committee members shall be made in the same manner that other changes in the Committee bylaws are made, except that such changes may be made only in odd number years unless necessitated by Georgia State Democratic Party rules.

SECTION G. Regulations for County Committee approved contributions to candidates.

1. Any contributions to a candidate for public office shall be accompanied by a cover letter which shall state in substance, "This contribution is made on the express condition that, after election, you remain a member of the Democratic Party. Your acceptance and/or use of this contribution is your personal acknowledgement and contract that should you win election yet at any time prior to the end of your term change parties or leave the Democratic Party, you will repay these amounts and any costs, including attorney's fees, associated with seeking such repayment."
2. The DeKalb County Democratic Party shall seek reimbursement of any contribution, whether real or in-kind, made to a candidate who qualifies for office as a Democrat and, after qualification, switches to another party.

Article V. County Convention

Section A. Within Presidential election years, after the Democratic Party Primary, the DeKalb Democratic Party shall hold a county convention, the time and place to be called by the Chair or by the County Committee upon the Chair's failure to do so, upon such notice as may be required by law or by Democratic Party regulation.

Section B. The Convention shall:

1. Consider any changes in the qualifications for any methods of election to membership on the County Committee;
2. Adopt a party platform;
3. At the discretion of the County Committee hold House District caucuses for the purpose of electing new County Committee members as provided for herein;
4. Undertake educational activities and workshops as may prove useful to the Democratic Party and its membership;
5. Undertake such other activities which in the discretion of the Chair of the County Committee are appropriate.

Section C. At least (30) days prior to the County Convention, the Chair shall appoint the following committees (or designate the corresponding committees of the County Committee) to plan for the Convention with the following responsibilities:

1. Bylaws Committee-to report to the convention any necessary changes in election of County Committee Membership or other constitutional or bylaw changes;
2. Platform Committee-to report to the convention a draft platform for discussion and adoption;
3. Education and Speaker Committee- to prepare educational forums and workshops and secure speakers for campaign research, candidate development, election procedures, party organization and development, policy and legislative matters, or such subjects as may be appropriate;
4. Arrangements Committee- to secure accommodations and necessary materials; and;
5. Credentials Committee- to report to the convention on qualifications for voting therein, running for Committee membership in a House District Caucus, and any other matter in which credentials may be an issue.

Section D. A County Convention may also be called by the County Committee, upon proper notice, at any other time that the Committee deems it appropriate.

Article VI. Membership Levels

The DeKalb Democratic Party, through the County Committee, may from time to time establish various membership levels including, but not limited to, contributing

membership, Breakfast Club membership, and corporate membership. The County Committee may establish dues structures and benefits of the various membership levels.

Article VII. Georgia Democratic Party State Committee members

Section A. The County Committee shall elect its apportioned number of members of the State Committee from among the residents of DeKalb County at a time specified by the Georgia Democratic Party.

Section B. So long as DeKalb County is apportioned nineteen (19) State Committee Members, and so long as there are five (5) regular county commission districts and two (2) County Commission super districts in DeKalb County, members of the State Committee from DeKalb County shall be elected as follows: County Committee members resident within each regular county commission district shall caucus and nominate three (3) candidates for State Committee, for a total of fifteen (15) nominations for the five regular districts. Then County Committee members resident within each super district shall caucus and nominate two (2) candidates for State Committee, for a total of four (4) nominations for the two super districts. The County Committee shall vote to approve or reject each of the nineteen (19) nominees in turn. Should any nominee be rejected by the full County Committee, the regular or super district which nominated him or her shall re-caucus and produce a new nominee for the full County Committee's consideration.

Section C. Should the apportionment of State Committee Members to DeKalb County or the number of regular or super commission districts in DeKalb County change, the County Committee shall decide upon a new method of election of State Committee members prior to the meeting at which they are elected.

Section D. The County Committee shall insure that the State Committee Delegation it elects is sex-balanced, and that the manner of sex-balanced selection conforms to State and National Democratic Party Rules.

Article VIII. Transition

During 2004 only, after adoption of this bylaws, the other Articles of these bylaws notwithstanding, the outgoing County Committee may elect officers for terms ending January 1, 2007, and State Committee members from DeKalb may be elected according to any plan submitted by the Chair of the County Committee to the Georgia State Democratic Party and approved by the state party prior to the election.

Approved December 2, 2004.

Revised February 3, 2005