## **WHY IS CHANGE NEEDED?**

# TO STRENGTHEN IOWA'S FIRST IN THE NATION STATUS, PROTECT THE INTEGRITY OF IOWA'S CAUCUS TO CONVENTION PROCESS AND BETTER REPRESENT THE DISTRICTS

PROPOSAL FROM THE ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE FOR THE **DISTRICT CONVENTION ELECTION**OF NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE DELEGATES

DISTRICT DELGATES AND ALTERNATE DELGATES MUST BE ELECTED AT THE DISTRICT CONVENTION PER RNC RULE AND RPI CONSTITUION AND THE NUMBER ELECTED IS DICTATED BY RNC RULES

### DISTRICT PROPOSAL

1. Those interested in running to serve as either a delegate or alternate delegate must complete a "Declaration of Candidacy" (DOC) form prior to the District convention to be included in the tabloid for delegates to review before election. The DOC could be available at the caucus, county convention, on the RPI website and RPI will also email County Chairs with information about the process including the DOC. Can also utilize the DEC's to get the word out about the DOC and make it available to counties. County Chairs can also send the DOC to all of their County, District and State Delegates detailing the process to run.

RPI will have to determine the appropriate due date depending on the date of the District Convention and their deadline to include the DOC's in the tabloid.

The due date for the DOC will also be the final date for submission of interest in running.

- Candidates must have been elected and have attended one of the following conventions;county, district or state.
- 3.In the case that the elected delegate/alternate did not attend one of said conventions, that seat will be given to the next highest vote getter.

## STATE CONVENTION AT AT LARGE PROCESS

PROPOSAL FROM THE ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE FOR THE <u>STATE CONVENTION ELECTION</u> OF AT LARGE NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE DELEGATES

AT LARGE DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES MUST BE VOTED ON AT THE STATE CONVENTION PER RNC RULES AND RPI CONSTITUTION

- Replace the Nominating Committee with 8 members, 2 from each district in the current SCC along with one either of the National Committeewoman and National Committeeman for a total of 9. Members shall determine amongst themselves who their representatives shall be.
- Candidates must complete the same DOC that the District Delegates and Alternate delegates must complete. The due date for the DOC will also be the final date for submission of interest in running.
- Candidates must have been elected and have attended one of the following conventions; county, district or state.
- In the case that the elected delegate/alternate did not attend one of said conventions, the seat will be given to the next highest vote getter.
- 5. A "courtesy invitation" to serve as a delegate would be extended to the Governor, Lt. Governor, U.S. Senators and U.S Representatives. These elected officials have been elected by the largest body of voters in lowa, thereby representing the grassroots at its most fundamental level. These elected officials shall be exempt from the attendance to convention requirement rule.

Benefits of moving at large delegate election from the nominating committee to the SCC are:

- Nominating committee members ARE NOT HELD ACCOUNTABLE after they meet, they
  meet one time and go away. SCC members ARE HELD ACCOUNTABLE for their decision.
- The SCC members who will be recommending at large delegates are elected the
  previous year so it is less likely that they will be politically motivated by an individual
  campaign as compared to the Nominating Committee who IS elected during the
  Presidential year so they are MORE likely to be motivated by an individual campaign.

- 3. SCC members who travel their districts will have the opportunity to discuss the process, the national convention and even meet those who are interested in running for a delegate/alternate seat. Nominating committee members may never have even met the people for which they are asked to make a decision.
- 4. Those who are interested in running for a national delegate/alternate will know in advance who their district SCC members are as well as the other SCC members and they will have an opportunity to advocate on their behalf to them.
- State convention delegates WILL STILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY to vote for or against those at large delegates/alternates recommended by the SCC, just as they have had with the Nomination Committee recommendation.
- 6. A Position Description for SCC members will be formulated by the Organization Committee which will be included in the District Convention tabloid. Document will list the responsibly of making a recommendation of at large national delegates/alternates at the State Convention. This is to ensure that District delegates understand the many roles of a SCC member before they cast their vote.
- 7. By virtue of serving on the SCC for 2 years, members have acquired an institutional knowledge about the details and ramifications for those delegates who attend the national convention, i.e what is necessary to serve as a delegate, attend the convention and represent lowa Republicans. In some instances, Nominating Committee members are brand new to the process and/or political involvement and do not understand the ramifications of serving as a national delegate.
- 8. Neither the RPI Constitution nor By laws state that there be a Nominating Committee who recommends the at large delegates to be voted upon at the State Convention.
- 9. Further accountability will remain with the grassroots as it is ultimately, the grassroots who elect the SCC AND the at large delegates at the state convention.

#### PROCESS BACKGROUND

- Throughout the last year it was made known that the Organization Committee will be working on the national delegate/alternate election process. Feedback was requested from SCC members at each meeting asking members to talk with counties they represent (with the exception of the first meeting). Throughout the year, no feedback was received until emails were sent this summer.
- Steve provided Organization Committee members with print outs of the delegate/alternate election process of all the other states. The Organization Committee Chair requested that members review these processes for future discussion.
- 3. During the June SCC conference call, members were notified that there will be a subcommittee of the Organization Committee working on the development of a proposal. This process was actually requested by one of the members of the Organization Committee. Another request for feedback from SCC members about the process was requested.

- Two emails were sent to the full committee again seeking feedback. The Chair of the Organization Committee received 2 responses to her email. Another came in 48 hours prior to this meeting.
- The Organization Committee has discussed options for changing the process at most of their meetings. Feedback was continuously requested from the Organization Committee members as they travel and communicate with the counties in their district.
- 6. Sub committee developed a proposal.
- This proposal was sent to Organization Committee with the intent of discussing said proposal on a conference call; making changes, deletions or tweeking it in any way the Committee decided.
- 8. Response from 6 of the 7 members indicating that they would be on the call.
- 9. Five of the seven Organization Committee members were on the call. A few slight changes were adopted. A vote was taken on each aspect of the proposal. The vote was unanimous for all aspects with the exception of the convention requirement where one of the members had some concerns but that aspect still passed.
- 10. Two new aspects of the proposal were discussed and voted on during the Organization Committee meeting along with the total proposal.
- 11. Organization Committee met Sept 16 to discuss options for the proposal and motions were passed to bring forth to the full SCC.
- 12. Proposal brought forth to the full SCC as part of the Organization Committee report.

#### FINAL THOUGHTS

lowa's First in the Nation is at risk if we do not strengthen the national delegate/alternate election process in some definitive way.

In 2012, lowa's national delegates put our FIN status at risk with their vote against Governor Romney. In 2016, lowa's national delegates put our FIN status at risk again with floor issues during the convention. We know this process isn't perfect, nothing is, but it IS a step in the right direction. Without making improvements to this process, problems will continue and we are at risk at losing our FIN status and we will never see another Presidential candidate visit lowa again.

This is a strong proposal, in a positive direction which not only strengthens lowa's FIN status, but preserves the integrity of the caucus and continues to involve the grassroots. At the end of

the day, those who vote to approve this proposal will know that they voted to help strengthen our First in the Nation status. Those who vote against it are putting it in jeopardy.

I also ask that your decision be based on statements of facts that are presented here today, NOT on inaccurate speculations and social media gossip.

## DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY TO RUN FOR DELEGATE OR ALTERNATE DELEGATE TO THE 2020 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

# COMPLETION OF THIS FORM IN ITS ENTIREITY AND SUBMISSION BY THE DUE DATE IS A REQUIREMENT FOR RUNNING TO SERVE AS A NATIONAL DELEGATE OR ALTERNATE DELEGATE

To be elegibbe to run one must have been elected and have attended one of the following conventions; county district or state in the case where the elected delegate letter

county, district or state. In the case where the elected delegate/alternate did not attend one of these		
conventions, the next highest vote getter will take assume that seat.		
THIS FORM WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE DISTRICT CONVENTION TABLOID		
DUE NO LATER THAN ???? Can be mailed via USPS to RPI at or submitted electronically to:		
Name: Address:		
Congressional District:		
Are you interested in serving as a <b>DELEGATE</b> , <b>ALTERNATE DELEGATE OR EITHER</b> ? Circle one.		
Are you a registered Republican?		
Why are you interested in serving as a delegate/alternate delegate?		
Please list previous county, district and state conventions that you have attended as a delegate or alternate delegate.		
Please list any party volunteer leadership positions you have held at the county, district or state level?		
In what ways have you contributed to the election of Republican candidates i.e. making calls, door knocking, donating or volunteering in other ways? Please be specific.		
Have you ever run for political office, if so, which office and for which party?		
Who did you support at the 2020 caucuses?		
If elected to serve as a delegate and/or alternate delegate I understand that I am subject to the rules and regulations set forth by the Republican Party of Iowa and the Republican National Committee and I agree to abide by the following binding agreement. Failure to abide by these rules will be cause for removal of delegate/alternate status. I also understand that all expenses to the convention are to be paid for by the delegate/alternate delegate and that there is no compensation for expenses		

"The binding agreement in its entirety would be included here."

Signature	Date