

# **Standing Rules**

## **For the**

# **2008 Missouri Republican State Convention**

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### **Section 1: Authority**

The state convention of the Missouri Republican Party is to be held once every four years on the call of the Missouri Republican State Committee. The Convention is the highest authority of the Missouri Republican Party, and it authorizes the State Committee to function with all authority between conventions. The State Committee may appoint or establish procedures for appointing committees for future conventions, publishing the requirements therefore in the Call to Convention. Such committees shall include but not be limited to the following:

- Rules
- Credentials
- Platform

Reports by those committees must be ratified by the next convention before taking effect. Before the next convention is called to order, the Credentials Committee shall meet to certify a temporary roll of delegates and alternates for the convention and to set the order of business.

### **Section 2: Rules of Order**

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern this Convention unless they are in conflict with the rules of the Republican National Convention, the Missouri Republican State Convention, or the Call of the Missouri Republican State Committee or of the Republican National Committee. All decisions by the parliamentarian are final.

### **Section 3: Officers**

The permanent convention officers shall consist of a Chairman and a Secretary. The Chairman shall appoint the Parliamentarian and Sergeant-at-Arms. The Chairman may appoint such other officers and pages as deemed necessary to administer the business of the Convention. No officers, whether permanent or appointed, need be delegates to the Missouri Republican State Convention.

Nominations for permanent convention officers shall be accepted from the Convention floor. Voting shall continue until a candidate has received a majority of the votes from the delegates seated.

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#### Section 4: Order of Business

The convention shall proceed to conduct business in the order determined by the Missouri Republican State Committee. At a minimum, the Convention agenda must include the following items:

- Call to Order by the Chairman of the Missouri Republican Party or a designee;
- Report of the Credentials Committee;
- Elections of permanent convention officers;
- Appointment of other convention officers and committees;
- Report of the Rules Committee;
- Report of the Nominating Committee;
- Election of one man and one woman to represent Missouri on the Republican National Committee;
- Election of at-large delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention;
- Selection of two at-large Presidential Electors;
- Ratification of nine Presidential Electors selected at the Congressional District Conventions;
- Report of the Platform Committee;
- Adoption of a Platform.

#### Section 5:

The Chairman of the Missouri Republican State Committee, prior to the convening of the Convention, or the Convention Chairman upon election, shall restrict access to certain designated areas. No other persons except Convention delegates, alternates, news media representatives with approved credentials, officers and pages of the Convention shall be admitted to the delegate section of the convention hall unless authorized by the Chair. In particular, sections shall be designated as follows:

- Delegate Section: to which only delegates, alternates bearing delegate credentials, convention officers, pages and a limited number of media representatives shall have access.
- Alternate Section: to which only delegates, alternates, pages, convention officers and media representatives shall be admitted.
- Media Section: to which only members of the media, convention officers and pages shall have access.
- Other areas designated as the Chairman sees fit.

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#### **Section 6: Seating of Delegates**

The method by which alternates will serve as delegates will be the method approved at each local caucus. In the absence of any locally adopted rule, the Congressional District Convention Chairman shall select an alternate to serve in place of the delegate. In the case of a permanent replacement of a delegate, the Congressional District Convention Chairman shall notify the credentials desk in writing of the names of the alternate and of the delegate being replaced.

Any locally adopted rule to the contrary notwithstanding, a delegate arriving late to the Convention shall be seated. Any time a delegate must leave the convention floor, the delegate's credentials will be given to the alternate. The alternate will keep both sets of credentials on his or her person at all times. When the delegate returns to the convention floor, he or she must notify the Sergeant-at-Arms, who will notify the Congressional District Convention Chairman to send the alternate to the back of the convention hall, where the delegate's credentials will be returned, allowing him or her to re-enter the delegate section.

Delegates shall be seated by congressional district.

#### **Section 7: Challenges or Contests**

Challenges or Contests of delegates or alternates to the Missouri Republican Convention must be in accordance with the official Call from the Missouri Republican State Committee. In the case of any challenges or contested delegates, they shall not be permitted to vote or participate in any business of the Convention unless and until they have been declared elected as delegates by the majority vote of the uncontested delegates duly certified to vote. All challenges or contests shall be resolved prior to the election of any National At-large Delegates and Alternates, or Presidential Electors.

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### **Section 8: Voting**

Each delegate shall be entitled to 1 vote, which may be cast by his or her alternate in the absence of the delegate. Proxies of delegates will not be recognized.

### **Section 9: Roll Calls**

Each Congressional District delegation shall organize by the selection of a District Caucus Chairman, who shall be recognized by the Convention Chairman for reporting the votes of that Congressional District. This District Caucus Chairman may be selected by the majority vote at the respective Congressional District Convention or by the State Chairman if the Congressional District Convention fails to do so. The District Caucus Chairman shall subdivide the district delegation into reporting units for convenience in counting votes.

### **Section 10: Unit Rule**

In accordance with the Republican National Committee, no delegate or alternate shall be bound by any attempt of any Congressional District to impose the unit rule. All votes cast by delegates or properly seated alternates shall be counted and reported by the District Caucus Chairman.

### **Section 11: Call of the Roll - Congressional Districts**

In balloting, the vote of the Congressional District shall be announced by the District Caucus Chairman of the respective delegations. If any five delegates take exception to the correctness of such announcements by the Chairman of that delegation, the Chairman of the Convention shall direct the roll of members of such delegation to be called by the Secretary and the result shall be recorded in accordance with the vote of the several delegates in such delegation. In addition, the Convention Chairman can order the roll of the members of any delegation to be called and the result to be recorded in accordance with the vote of the several delegates in such delegation.

### **Section 12: Nomination and Election Procedure**

The Chair of the Convention will appoint a Nominating Committee to perform the duties listed in this section. State convention delegates wishing to offer a National at-large delegate and alternate slate for consideration shall do so in writing with the Nominating Committee. Only full and complete slates will be considered. To be considered full and complete, a proposed slate must include 28 names for At-large Delegates and 28 names for At-large Alternates. No person shall be listed on any slate without his or her prior approval, nor shall any person appear on more than one slate. All

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persons agreeing to be listed on a slate of delegates and alternates must pledge to vote for the winner of Missouri's Presidential Primary on the first ballot at the Republican National Convention. This Nominating Committee shall consider all nominations and report to the Convention which full and complete slates are in proper order. If any slate presented by the Nominating Committee fails to win the approval of a majority of the Convention delegates, the Convention Chairman shall place before the Convention the two full and complete slates that received the most votes. The slate receiving the most votes in the second round of voting shall be elected. Voting shall be by slate only, not by individuals, except for the election of the Chairman, Secretary, National Committeeman and National Committeewoman.

The Nominating Committee shall also receive individual names for nomination to the positions of National Committeeman and National Committeewoman and slates for two At-large Presidential Electors. The Nominating Committee shall report to the full Convention those names and slates found to be in proper order. The same voting rules used for National At-large Delegate and Alternate slates apply to these positions.

Deadlines for submitting nominations to the nominating committee shall be 10 a.m., Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008, unless otherwise noted by the Chairman.

#### **Section 13: Platform**

The Chairman of the Platform Committee, or his or her designee, shall present to the Convention the report of the Platform Committee, which shall contain a final draft of the Missouri Republican Party Platform. Copies of the final draft shall be made available to the delegates and alternates prior to the presentation of the Committee's report.

Upon completion of the Platform Committee's report, the Convention shall vote to accept or reject the Platform as submitted in the final draft. If the final draft is rejected by a vote of the Convention, it shall be in order to offer amendments to the final draft before seeking a second vote for approval. Motions to amend the Platform shall be in order only if submitted in writing and distributed to all delegates and alternates prior to the presentation of the report of the Platform Committee.

Additional items of interest may be considered in the form of Platform Resolutions presented to the Convention. Platform Resolutions must be submitted in writing to the Chairman prior to being offered for consideration. Upon a seconded motion to adopt a properly submitted Platform Resolutions, the Chairman shall direct the Platform Resolution to be read. The Platform Resolution shall then be debated in accordance with the rules and a vote shall be taken.

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### **Section 14: Time Limits**

A speech on any question or nomination shall be limited to a period of no more than 3 minutes. The seconding speech for any nomination shall be limited to a period of no more than 1 minute. The debate on any proposition shall be limited to a total of 10 minutes, divided equally by those supporting and opposing the proposition. Those proposing an item shall open the debate, and debate shall alternate with the side proposing the item given the option to close the debate.

### **Section 15: Presidential Electors**

No person shall be nominated as a Presidential Elector who is not a strong and faithful Republican, a resident and legally qualified voter of his or her Congressional District, or who is a member of the Congress of the United States or is holding any office of trust or profit, civil or military, under the United States.

In the event that a duly chosen Presidential Elector is unable to fulfill the duties of the office of Presidential Elector, the Chairman of the Missouri Republican State Committee shall appoint a qualified replacement.

### **Section 16: Designation of Alternates at the National Convention**

If any delegate to the Republican National Convention is unable to attend a session, the National Delegation Chairperson or his or her designee shall designate the alternate to serve.

### **Section 17: Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the Convention shall be in order at any time after the necessary business of the Convention has been concluded as noted in Section 4 of these rules.