

To: Jeff Bierer, President  
North Carolina Democratic Party Jewish Caucus

From: Kenneth Schorr, Chair, NCDPJC Bylaws Committee  
Harry Perlstadt, Sarah Fuerst, Joel Rosch and Bob Deutsch  
Members of the Bylaws Committee

Re: Report of the Bylaws Committee  
Summary of Recommended Changes to the NCDPJC Bylaws

Date: December 23, 2024

### **Summary of Recommended Changes.**

1. **Associate Members.** The existing bylaws limit Associate Members to non-Jewish NC registered Democrats. The revisions include two additional categories of Associate members:
  - a. Unaffiliated NC registered voters who are Jewish as defined in the bylaws, and
  - b. Any Democrat registered in a state other than North Carolina who is Jewish as defined in the bylaws.

We also propose to allow Associate Members to serve on committees or as appointed officers, other than as Committee Chairs or Chapter Presidents, with the approval of the Committee Chair.

2. **Executive Committee.** We propose the following technical changes:
  - a. Limit proxies for Standing Committee Chairs to members of that committee, and proxies for Chapter Presidents to members of that chapter.
  - b. Make the most recent Immediate Past President a voting member but leave the second most recent Immediate Past President as a non-voting member.
  - c. In the section on Notice of Meetings of the Executive Committee, add “documents relating to the items on the agenda.”

3. **Leadership Team.** We propose to clarify the role and authority of the Leadership Team by adding specificity to the provisions regarding communication between the Leadership Team and the Executive Committee.

4. **Endorsement and Government Outreach Committee.** We propose to create a new Endorsements and Government Outreach Committee to conduct the endorsement and governmental advocacy functions of the Caucus, subject to Executive Committee approval.

5. **Policy Committee.** We propose adding the Policy Committee as a standing committee.

## Text of Proposed Changes.

### Bylaws of the North Carolina Democratic Party Jewish Caucus Changes proposed by Bylaws Committee December 23, 2024

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#### Article I: Organization

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##### 2. Membership.

- a. Voting Members. A “Voting Member” of the Caucus shall be any Democrat registered in the State of North Carolina who
  - i. Is a Jew or the spouse, partner, parent, stepparent, child, or stepchild of a Jew, or is in the process of converting, and is not currently practicing another religion.
  - ii. Is current on required annual Caucus dues, and
  - iii. Opposes any attempt to hurt or delegitimize any person or any group of people on the basis of race, religion, color, ethnicity, national identity, sexual orientation, gender, employment, disability, or other protected classes.
- b. Associate Members. **The following people** may join the Caucus as a non-voting “Associate Member” upon the payment of required annual Caucus dues:
  - i. Any Democrat registered in the State of North Carolina who is neither a Jew, nor the spouse, partner, parent, stepparent, child, or stepchild of a Jew; or
  - ii. Any unaffiliated voter registered in the State of North Carolina who is a Jew as defined in section 2(a)(i) above; or**
  - iii. Any Democrat registered in a state other than North Carolina who is a Jew as defined in section 2(a)(i) above.**

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- e. Member Privileges.
  - i. Privileges Held by Both Voting Members and Associate Members:
    - 1. Speaking at Caucus meetings, as appropriate.
    - 2. Volunteering and participating in Caucus activities.
  - ii. ~~Other~~ Privileges Held by Voting Members:
    - 1. Voting in their local Caucus chapter meetings, and at state Caucus meetings, as provided in these Bylaws.
    - 2. Serving as Caucus officers and on Caucus committees.
  - iii. ~~Other~~ Privileges Held by Associate Members:
    - 1. Serving in appointed offices, **other than as Committee Chairs or Chapter Presidents**, as provided in these Bylaws.
    - 2. Serving and voting on Caucus committees **with the approval of the Committee Chair or Chapter President**, as required in connection with the performance of their duties in any appointed office.

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## Article II: Executive Committee

1. Members of the Executive Committee. The members of the Executive Committee are:
  - a. The President, three (3) Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer of the **Executive Committee Caucus**.
  - b. The immediate ~~two past president(s) as nonvoting ex-officio members~~ **Past President as a voting member, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> most recent immediate Past President as a non-voting ex-officio member.**
  - c. The President of each duly certified chapter of this Caucus, or their proxy, **who must be a member of that chapter, as voting members.**
  - d. Standing Committee Chairs or their proxies, **who must be a member of that committee,** as non-voting, ex-officio members.
  - e. The Congressional District Executive Committee Representatives or their proxies as non-voting, ex-officio members.
2. The Leadership Team.

**a. The Leadership Team is a subgroup of the Executive Committee that meets to handle day-to-day decision making in between meetings of the Executive Committee.**

- i. **The leadership team may conduct other time sensitive business when it is impractical to call an emergency meeting of the Executive Committee.**
- ii. **The Leadership Team may conduct the business of the Caucus on routine matters and other non-policy issues, but final authority on all matters resides with the Executive Committee.**
- iii. **Decisions of the Leadership Team should be communicated to the Executive Committee and when approved, communicated to the officers of chapters and the district representatives and then to the general membership.**
- iv. **The leadership team should seek frequent input from Chapter Presidents.**
- v. **The minutes of Leadership Team meetings shall be transmitted by email within 7 calendar days to Executive Committee members.**

**ab.** Elected Officers. The elected Officers of the Executive Committee shall consist of a President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, and Secretary. The Leadership Team consists of these Elected Officers, and the 2 immediate Past President(s), **with the 2<sup>nd</sup> immediate Past President** as a non-voting ex-officio members. Elected officers shall be elected by Voting Members at the Caucus Convention held in each odd-numbered year and shall serve for two-year terms until the election of officers at the next Caucus Convention, or until they resign or are otherwise removed pursuant to the terms of these Bylaws.

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3. Meetings of the Executive Committee.
  - a. Number of Meetings Annually. The Executive Committee shall meet at least ~~four (4) times each year~~ **quarterly** to consider the business of the Executive Committee.
  - b. Calling of Meetings. Executive Committee Meetings may be called by the President of the Executive Committee or by a call of forty percent (40%) of the voting members of the Executive Committee.

c. Notice. Notice of all Executive Committee meetings except for emergency meetings shall be given by text, email, or US mail at least fourteen (14) days before the meeting and shall include a proposed agenda, ~~and~~ rules for the meeting, **and documents relating to the items on the agenda**. Notice of emergency meetings shall require at least five (5) days' notice unless the President and a majority of the members of the Executive Committee (in good standing) consent to the meeting due to exigent circumstances.

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#### 4. Meetings of the Leadership Team

a. Number of Meetings Annually. The Leadership Team shall meet at least quarterly ~~and conduct the business of the Caucus when the Executive Committee is not in session.~~

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### Article III: Standing Committees

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#### **8. Endorsements and Government Outreach Committee.**

- a. **Members. The members of the Endorsements and Government Outreach Committee shall consist of a chair, a secretary, and other members as appointed by the Committee Chair. The President and the Chair of the Resolutions Committee shall be ex-officio members of the committee.**
- b. **Duties. The duties of the Endorsements and Government Outreach Committee are to:**
  - i. **Develop a process for evaluating candidates for endorsement during the primary and general elections.**
  - ii. **Lead the engagement and education of elected members of the local, state and federal governments.**

#### **9. Policy Committee.**

- a. **Members. The Policy Committee shall consist of a chair, secretary, and other members.**
- b. **Duties. The duties of the Policy Committee shall be to:**
  - i. **Draft position statements on issues of public policy appropriate for the Caucus, subject to approval by the Executive Committee.**
  - ii. **Draft comments or position statements on proposed state and federal legislation relevant to the work of the caucus, subject to approval by the Executive Committee.**
  - iii. **Perform such other policy-related tasks as may be assigned by the Caucus Leadership Team or Executive Committee.**

### Article V: Caucus Conventions

2. **Quorum.** Quorum shall be at least ~~25~~ **20** percent (~~25~~ **20**%) of membership in good standing.