

Proposal 1: Amend LPMN Bylaws 6.10.2 notice period required for Executive Committee special meeting

Rationale

This amendment improves LPMN's ability to respond to urgent matters, e.g. MN special elections, while preserving the assurance that all Executive Committee members receive notice of the special meeting.

Current Wording

6.10.2 Special meetings may be needed from time to time to handle urgent matters. Special meetings may be called by the Chair or Vice-Chair, and shall be announced and matters acted upon shall be limited to those announced at least four days in advance of the meeting. If two or more executives object to the holding of a special meeting, the meeting shall not be held and matters shall be deferred to the next regular meeting.

Mark-up Copy of Proposal 1

6.10.2 Special meetings may be needed from time to time to handle urgent matters. Special meetings may be called by the Chair or Vice-Chair, and shall be announced and matters acted upon shall be limited to those announced at least ~~four days~~ **24 hours** in advance of the meeting. If two or more executives object to the holding of a special meeting, the meeting shall not be held and matters shall be deferred to the next regular meeting.

Wording if Proposal 1 is Adopted

6.10.2 Special meetings may be needed from time to time to handle urgent matters. Special meetings may be called by the Chair or Vice-Chair, and shall be announced and matters acted upon shall be limited to those announced at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. If two or more executives object to the holding of a special meeting, the meeting shall not be held and matters shall be deferred to the next regular meeting.

Proposal 2: Amend Platform 1 and Bylaws 2 Statement of Principles to align with LP National

Rationale

This proposal brings the LPMN Platform Statement of Principles in line with the LP National Platform Statement of Principles, which are in line with the 'Dallas Accord' adopted at the 1974 LP National Convention. The proposal also, again consistent with LP National, eliminates duplication of the Statement of Principles text in the LPMN Bylaws - i.e. the Statement of Principles wording is reserved to Platform; the Bylaws reference the Statement of Principles and set forth the rules to change them.

The Dallas Accord in 1974 specifically removed the notion that Government has "one legitimate function," which is a vestige left in the current LPMN Statement of Principles. Notably, this removes "Governments should exist" and replaces it with text declaring powers governments must not have. From LPedia regarding the 'Dallas Accord': "The formal agreement involved amending the Statement of Principles in order to expressly allow for anarchist thought within the Party and changing the **role of any existing state from a positive duty to a negative one** and officially adopting a position of **agnosticism on the ultimate existence of the state.**"

Current LPMN Bylaws 2 includes a full restatement of Statement of Principles from LPMN Platform I, along with a summary of the higher voting threshold required to change the Statement of Principles. It is bad practice to write the same thing twice in different places since that carries a risk that any future change may not be consistent in both places. The proposal eliminates this duplication, reserving the text of the Statement of Principles to the Platform document, and the rules to change the Statement of Principles to the Bylaws document.

Current Wording **Party Platform**

I. Statement of Principles

We, the members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota, hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and oppose the initiation of force or fraud as a means of achieving political or social goals. We are dedicated to the right of all individuals to live in whatever manner they choose, as long as they do not forcibly interfere with the right of others to live as they choose.

Governments throughout history, including our own, have operated on the principle that the state has the right to control the lives of individuals and confiscate the fruits of their labor. All other political parties in this country grant government these powers. We, however, hold that governments, when instituted, have only one legitimate function: to protect the rights of the individual.

We challenge the concept that governments have the right to become involved in any activity not directly related to the protection of individual rights. Governments should exist only to ensure the right to free speech and action, the right to own property, and the right to engage in voluntary contractual arrangements with other individuals. No individual should be forced by the State, or another person, to relinquish any portion of his or her life or property for the benefit of another person.

Constitution and Bylaws

2. Statement of Principles

We, the members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota, hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and oppose the initiation of force or fraud as a means of achieving political or social goals. We are dedicated to the right of all individuals to live in whatever manner they choose, as long as they do not forcibly interfere with the right of others to live as they choose. Governments throughout history, including our own, have operated on the principle that the state has the right to control the lives of individuals and confiscate the fruits of their labor. All other political parties in this country grant government these powers. We, however, hold that governments, when instituted, have only one legitimate function: to protect the rights of the individual.

We challenge the concept that governments have the right to become involved in any activity not directly related to the protection of individual rights. Governments should exist only to ensure the right to free speech and action, the right to own property, and the right to engage in voluntary contractual arrangements with other

individuals. No individual should be forced by the State, or another person, to relinquish any portion of his or her life or property for the benefit of another person.

2.1. Conditional Existence: In recognition of the importance of the foregoing Statement of Principles the duration of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota shall be conditional upon its adherence to the Statement of Principles.

2.2. Change Approval: The Statement of Principles shall not be changed without the approval of more than 80% of the membership and 80% of the Executive Committee and if challenged, 80% of the Judicial Committee.

2.3. Platform: The Statement of Principles shall head the Libertarian Party of Minnesota platform and all planks in the platform must be consistent with it.

2.4 Changes to Bylaws 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4 require an 80% vote of the registered delegates to the convention. Changes to all other Bylaws require two-thirds of the vote of the registered delegates present and voting at the convention.

Mark-up Copy of Proposal 2 **Party Platform**

I. Statement of Principles

We, the members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota, **challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual.** We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, ~~and oppose the initiation of force or fraud as a means of achieving political or social goals.~~ We are dedicated to ~~and have~~ the right of all individuals to live in whatever manner they choose, **so as long** as they do not forcibly interfere with the **equal** right of others to **live in whatever manner** as they choose.

Governments throughout history, ~~including our own,~~ have **regularly** operated on the **opposite** principle, that the ~~s~~State has the right to **dispose of** ~~control~~ the lives of individuals and ~~confiscate~~ the fruits of their labor. **Even within the United States,** ~~a~~All other political parties in this country **other than our own** grant to government **the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent.** these powers. We, however, hold that governments, when instituted, have only one legitimate function: to protect the rights of the individual.

We, **on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual: namely, (1) the right to life — accordingly we support the prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action — accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property — accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation.** ~~challenge the concept that governments have the right to become involved in any activity not directly related to the protection of individual rights. Governments should exist only to ensure the right to free speech and action, the right to own property, and the right to engage in voluntary contractual arrangements with other individuals. No individual~~

~~should be forced by the State, or another person, to relinquish any portion of his or her life or property for the benefit of another person.~~

Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by governments in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders; and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

Constitution and Bylaws

2. Statement of Principles

~~We, the members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota, hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and oppose the initiation of force or fraud as a means of achieving political or social goals. We are dedicated to the right of all individuals to live in whatever manner they choose, as long as they do not forcibly interfere with the right of others to live as they choose. Governments throughout history, including our own, have operated on the principle that the state has the right to control the lives of individuals and confiscate the fruits of their labor. All other political parties in this country grant government these powers. We, however, hold that governments, when instituted, have only one legitimate function: to protect the rights of the individual.~~

~~We challenge the concept that governments have the right to become involved in any activity not directly related to the protection of individual rights. Governments should exist only to ensure the right to free speech and action, the right to own property, and the right to engage in voluntary contractual arrangements with other individuals. No individual should be forced by the State, or another person, to relinquish any portion of his or her life or property for the benefit of another person.~~

2.1. Conditional Existence: In recognition of the importance of the foregoing Statement of Principles ***in the LPMN Party Platform***, the duration of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota shall be conditional upon its adherence to the Statement of Principles.

2.2. Change Approval: The Statement of Principles shall not be changed without the approval of more than 80% of the membership and 80% of the Executive Committee and if challenged, 80% of the Judicial Committee.

2.3. Platform: The Statement of Principles shall head the Libertarian Party of Minnesota platform and all planks in the platform must be consistent with it.

2.4 Changes to Bylaws 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4 require an 80% vote of the registered delegates to the convention. Changes to all other Bylaws require two-thirds of the vote of the registered delegates present and voting at the convention.

Wording if Proposal 2 is Adopted **Party Platform**

I. Statement of Principles

We, the members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual. We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose.

Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent.

We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual: namely, (1) the right to life — accordingly we support the prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action — accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property — accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation.

Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by governments in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders; and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

Constitution and Bylaws

2. Statement of Principles

2.1. Conditional Existence: In recognition of the importance of the Statement of Principles in the LPMN Party Platform, the duration of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota shall be conditional upon its adherence to the Statement of Principles.

2.2. Change Approval: The Statement of Principles shall not be changed without the approval of more than 80% of the membership and 80% of the Executive Committee and if challenged, 80% of the Judicial Committee.

2.3. Platform: The Statement of Principles shall head the Libertarian Party of Minnesota platform and all planks in the platform must be consistent with it.

2.4 Changes to Bylaws 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4 require an 80% vote of the registered delegates to the convention. Changes to all other Bylaws require two-thirds of the vote of the registered delegates present and voting at the convention.

Proposal 3: Amend Bylaws 6.4 and 6.5 Treasurer and Secretary to 2-year terms**Rationale**

This amendment would align the election of Treasurer and Secretary positions with current procedures for Chair and Vice-chair positions, i.e., transition to elect Treasurer and Secretary to two-year terms in odd-numbered years. This change provides for improved stability within these offices and enables the convention body in even years to focus its time on candidate endorsements. This amendment preserves one-year terms for At Large positions.

Current Wording

6.4. Term of Office: the Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected for a term of two years. Remaining officers and executives shall be elected for a term of 1 year.

6.5. Nomination and Election: Executives shall be nominated from the floor at convention and shall be elected by majority vote of the delegates, with votes conducted by secret ballot.. The election of the Chair and Vice-chair shall take place every two years during conventions held in odd-numbered years. Elections for remaining officers and the Executive Committee shall be held every year. All candidates wishing to have their name placed in nomination, shall file notice of their intent by the time established by the Convention Committee. Candidates for Executive Committee shall be current members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota and shall not hold a leadership position in another party's name. All candidates for the Executive Committee shall be required to have been a member of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota at least 45 days prior to the convention. None of the above (NOTA) shall automatically be an option on all ballots.

Mark-up Copy of Proposal 3

~~**6.4.** Term of Office: the Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected for a term of two years. Remaining officers and executives shall be elected for a term of 1 year.~~

1. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected for a term of two years in odd years.

2. The Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected for a term of two years in odd years, except that the Treasurer and Secretary elected in Convention years 2025 and 2026 shall be for a term of one year.

3. At Large members of the Executive Committee shall be elected for a term of 1 year.

6.5. Nomination and Election: Executives shall be nominated from the floor at convention and shall be elected by majority vote of the delegates, with votes conducted by secret ballot..~~The election of the Chair and Vice-chair shall take place every two years during conventions held in odd-numbered years.~~ Elections for remaining officers and the Executive Committee shall be held every year. All candidates wishing to have their name placed in nomination, shall file notice of their intent by the time established by the Convention Committee. Candidates for Executive Committee shall be current members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota and shall not hold a leadership position in another party's name. All candidates for the Executive Committee shall be required to have been a member of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota at least 45 days prior to the convention. None of the above (NOTA) shall automatically be an option on all ballots.

Wording if Proposal 3 is Adopted

6.4. Term of Office:

1. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected for a term of two years in odd years.
2. The Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected for a term of two years in odd years, except that the Treasurer and Secretary elected in Convention years 2025 and 2026 shall be for a term of one year.
3. At Large members of the Executive Committee shall be elected for a term of 1 year.

6.5. Nomination and Election: Executives shall be nominated from the floor at convention and shall be elected by majority vote of the delegates, with votes conducted by secret ballot. All candidates wishing to have their name placed in nomination, shall file notice of their intent by the time established by the Convention Committee. Candidates for Executive Committee shall be current members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota and shall not hold a leadership position in another party's name. All candidates for the Executive Committee shall be required to have been a member of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota at least 45 days prior to the convention. None of the above (NOTA) shall automatically be an option on all ballots.

Proposal 4: Amend Bylaws 6.5 and 6.11 Executive Committee Officer and Executives Seasoning Requirement

Rationale

This amendment would lengthen the LPMN membership seasoning requirement to be elected to the Executive Committee from 45 days to six months. This additional time would help ensure committee members are versed in and familiar with party governing documents and operations.

Current Wording

6.5. Nomination and Election: Executives shall be nominated from the floor at convention and shall be elected by majority vote of the delegates, with votes conducted by secret ballot.. The election of the Chair and Vice-chair shall take place every two years during conventions held in odd-numbered years. Elections for remaining officers and the Executive Committee shall be held every year. All candidates wishing to have their name placed in nomination, shall file notice of their intent by the time established by the Convention Committee. Candidates for Executive Committee shall be current members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota and shall not hold a leadership position in another party's name. All candidates for the Executive Committee shall be required to have been a member of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota at least 45 days prior to the convention. None of the above (NOTA) shall automatically be an option on all ballots.

6.11. Vacancy and Succession on the Executive Committee shall be decided by the Executive Committee.

Mark-up Copy of Proposal 4

6.5. Nomination and Election: Executives shall be nominated from the floor at convention and shall be elected by majority vote of the delegates, with votes conducted by secret ballot.. The election of the Chair and Vice-chair shall take place every two years during conventions held in odd-numbered years. Elections for remaining officers and the Executive Committee shall be held every year. All

candidates wishing to have their name placed in nomination, shall file notice of their intent by the time established by the Convention Committee. Candidates for Executive Committee shall be current members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota and shall not hold a leadership position in another party's name. All candidates for the Executive Committee shall be required to have been a member of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota at least ~~45 days~~ **six months** prior to the convention. None of the above (NOTA) shall automatically be an option on all ballots.

6.11. Vacancy and Succession on the Executive Committee shall be decided by the Executive Committee, ***except that those appointed to fill vacancies in the Executive Committee must be LPMN members for at least six months to be eligible for appointment.***

Wording if Proposal 4 is Adopted

6.5. Nomination and Election: Executives shall be nominated from the floor at convention and shall be elected by majority vote of the delegates, with votes conducted by secret ballot.. The election of the Chair and Vice-chair shall take place every two years during conventions held in odd-numbered years. Elections for remaining officers and the Executive Committee shall be held every year. All candidates wishing to have their name placed in nomination, shall file notice of their intent by the time established by the Convention Committee. Candidates for Executive Committee shall be current members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota and shall not hold a leadership position in another party's name. All candidates for the Executive Committee shall be required to have been a member of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota at least six months prior to the convention. None of the above (NOTA) shall automatically be an option on all ballots.

6.11. Vacancy and Succession on the Executive Committee shall be decided by the Executive Committee, except that those appointed to fill vacancies in the Executive Committee must be LPMN members for at least six months to be eligible for appointment.

Proposal 5: Amend Bylaws 6.5 and 10.3 to remove requirements for candidates that are not enforced

Rationale

This amendment would strike several requirements applicable to candidates seeking party endorsement that have routinely gone unenforced by past convention bodies.

Current Wording

6.5. Nomination and Election: Executives shall be nominated from the floor at convention and shall be elected by majority vote of the delegates, with votes conducted by secret ballot. The election of the Chair and Vice-chair shall take place every two years during conventions held in odd-numbered years. Elections for remaining officers and the Executive Committee shall be held every year. All candidates wishing to have their name placed in nomination, shall file notice of their intent by the time established by the Convention Committee. Candidates for Executive Committee shall be current members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota and shall not hold a leadership position in another party's name. All candidates for the Executive Committee shall be required to have been a member of the Libertarian

Party of Minnesota at least 45 days prior to the convention. None of the above (NOTA) shall automatically be an option on all ballots.

10.3. Candidates may be nominated or endorsed at the annual convention under the following conditions:

1. Nomination or endorsement of candidates for federal or state offices which appear on the ballot statewide may be made only in the year of the corresponding general election.
2. All candidates seeking nomination or endorsement, shall file notice of their intent by the time established by the Convention Committee.
3. Candidates shall provide a notice of intent and written information on their qualifications, background, campaign positions, and any other information they deem relevant. The candidate shall provide a minimum of 25 copies of this information to be made available to the convention delegates. Candidates seeking nomination may be required to provide proof that they are members and a signed and dated written statement that they will support the platform.
4. Candidates or their designee shall have five minutes to address the convention before balloting takes place. No vote to nominate or endorse shall be binding unless all members of the Executive Committee have been provided with basic information on the candidate, which may include campaign literature, a campaign website, or a summary of their positions and principles, at least seven days prior to the convention.
5. Delegates shall have five minutes, or such longer time as the Chair determines, to ask questions of the candidates prior to the first ballot.
6. A paper ballot shall be prepared for the offices for which candidates have provided a notice of intent.
7. None of the above (NOTA) shall automatically be an option on all ballots for public office. The convention may decline to nominate or endorse any candidate for public office, even if there are persons seeking nomination or endorsement for that office. Any candidate who sought endorsement at the convention and failed to achieve it, is ineligible to be nominated or endorsed by the Executive Committee, for that office in the current election cycle.
8. When two or more candidates are on the ballot for an office, and if after two ballots none of the candidates have achieved the required votes for nomination or endorsement, the candidate with the fewest votes shall be removed from the ballot. The candidates eliminated shall be offered one minute to address the convention prior to the next ballot. In case of a tie, candidates with the fewest votes shall draw straws to determine who is eliminated. This procedure shall continue for all subsequent ballots. The option of NOTA shall remain on all ballots.
9. If no candidate (or NOTA) has achieved the required votes for nomination or endorsement anytime after 10 ballots, any delegate may make a motion to end the balloting. If a majority of the delegates vote to end balloting, balloting shall cease.

Mark-up Copy of Proposal 5

6.5. Nomination and Election: Executives shall be nominated from the floor at convention and shall be elected by majority vote of the delegates, with votes conducted by secret ballot. The election of the Chair and Vice-chair shall take place every two years during conventions held in odd-numbered years. Elections for remaining officers and the Executive Committee shall be held every year. All

~~candidates wishing to have their name placed in nomination, shall file notice of their intent by the time established by the Convention Committee.~~ Candidates for Executive Committee shall be current members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota and shall not hold a leadership position in another party's name. All candidates for the Executive Committee shall be required to have been a member of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota at least 45 days prior to the convention. None of the above (NOTA) shall automatically be an option on all ballots.

10.3. Candidates may be nominated or endorsed at the annual convention under the following conditions:

1. Nomination or endorsement of candidates for federal or state offices which appear on the ballot statewide may be made only in the year of the corresponding general election.

~~**2.** All candidates seeking nomination or endorsement, shall file notice of their intent by the time established by the Convention Committee.~~

~~**23.** Candidates shall provide a notice of intent and written information on their qualifications, background, campaign positions, and any other information they deem relevant. The candidate shall provide a minimum of 25 copies of this information to be made available to the convention delegates.~~ Candidates seeking nomination may be required to provide proof that they are members and a signed and dated written statement that they will support the platform.

~~**34.** Candidates or their designee shall have five minutes to address the convention before balloting takes place. No vote to nominate or endorse shall be binding unless all members of the Executive Committee have been provided with basic information on the candidate, which may include campaign literature, a campaign website, or a summary of their positions and principles, at least seven days prior to the convention.~~

~~**45.** Delegates shall have five minutes, or such longer time as the Chair determines, to ask questions of the candidates prior to the first ballot.~~

~~**56.** A paper ballot shall be prepared for the offices for which candidates have provided a notice of intent.~~

~~**67.** None of the above (NOTA) shall automatically be an option on all ballots for public office. The convention may decline to nominate or endorse any candidate for public office, even if there are persons seeking nomination or endorsement for that office. Any candidate who sought endorsement at the convention and failed to achieve it, is ineligible to be nominated or endorsed by the Executive Committee, for that office in the current election cycle.~~

~~**78.** When two or more candidates are on the ballot for an office, and if after two ballots none of the candidates have achieved the required votes for nomination or endorsement, the candidate with the fewest votes shall be removed from the ballot. The candidates eliminated shall be offered one minute to address the convention prior to the next ballot. In case of a tie, candidates with the fewest votes shall draw straws to determine who is eliminated. This procedure shall continue for all subsequent ballots. The option of NOTA shall remain on all ballots.~~

~~**89.** If no candidate (or NOTA) has achieved the required votes for nomination or endorsement anytime after 10 ballots, any delegate may make a motion to end the balloting. If a majority of the delegates vote to end balloting, balloting shall cease.~~

Wording if Proposal 5 is Adopted

6.5. Nomination and Election: Executives shall be nominated from the floor at convention and shall be elected by majority vote of the delegates, with votes conducted by secret ballot. The election of the Chair and Vice-chair shall take place every two years during conventions held in odd-numbered years. Elections for remaining officers and the Executive Committee shall be held every year. Candidates for Executive Committee shall be current members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota and shall not hold a leadership position in another party's name. All candidates for the Executive Committee shall be required to have been a member of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota at least 45 days prior to the convention. None of the above (NOTA) shall automatically be an option on all ballots.

10.3. Candidates may be nominated or endorsed at the annual convention under the following conditions:

- 1.** Nomination or endorsement of candidates for federal or state offices which appear on the ballot statewide may be made only in the year of the corresponding general election.
- 2.** Candidates seeking nomination may be required to provide proof that they are members and a signed and dated written statement that they will support the platform.
- 3.** Candidates or their designee shall have five minutes to address the convention before balloting takes place
- 4.** Delegates shall have five minutes, or such longer time as the Chair determines, to ask questions of the candidates prior to the first ballot.
- 5.** A paper ballot shall be prepared for the offices for which candidates have provided a notice of intent.
- 6.** None of the above (NOTA) shall automatically be an option on all ballots for public office. The convention may decline to nominate or endorse any candidate for public office, even if there are persons seeking nomination or endorsement for that office. Any candidate who sought endorsement at the convention and failed to achieve it, is ineligible to be nominated or endorsed by the Executive Committee, for that office in the current election cycle.
- 7.** When two or more candidates are on the ballot for an office, and if after two ballots none of the candidates have achieved the required votes for nomination or endorsement, the candidate with the fewest votes shall be removed from the ballot. The candidates eliminated shall be offered one minute to address the convention prior to the next ballot. In case of a tie, candidates with the fewest votes shall draw straws to determine who is eliminated. This procedure shall continue for all subsequent ballots. The option of NOTA shall remain on all ballots.
- 8.** If no candidate (or NOTA) has achieved the required votes for nomination or endorsement anytime after 10 ballots, any delegate may make a motion to end the balloting. If a majority of the delegates vote to end balloting, balloting shall cease.

Proposal 6: Amend Bylaws 9.2 to 12 months membership renewable at Convention with delegate eligibility

Rationale

State convention delegates must be LPMN members, but our current bylaws allow lapsed memberships to be remedied at registration. This amendment would reduce the grace period from 18 months to one year.

Current Wording

9.2. All members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota who meet residency requirements to be eligible to vote in the State of Minnesota shall be eligible to register to be delegates to the state convention. Unless renewing their membership after an expired period of less than 18 months, no one joining the party less than 45 days before the convention may be a delegate until the next convention.

Mark-up Copy of Proposal 6

9.2. All members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota who meet residency requirements to be eligible to vote in the State of Minnesota shall be eligible to register to be delegates to the state convention. Unless renewing their membership after an expired period of less than ~~18~~ **12** months, no one joining the party less than 45 days before the convention may be a delegate until the next convention.

Wording if Proposal 6 is Adopted

9.2. All members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota who meet residency requirements to be eligible to vote in the State of Minnesota shall be eligible to register to be delegates to the state convention. Unless renewing their membership after an expired period of less than 12 months, no one joining the party less than 45 days before the convention may be a delegate until the next convention.

Proposal 7: Amend Bylaws 9.2 to add back dues fee for delegates renewing LPMN membership at Convention

Rationale

This amendment clarifies the amount of back dues needed to remedy a lapsed membership. This will ensure consistency and facilitate efficient credentialing at convention.

Current Wording

9.2. All members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota who meet residency requirements to be eligible to vote in the State of Minnesota shall be eligible to register to be delegates to the state convention. Unless renewing their membership after an expired period of less than 18 months, no one joining the party less than 45 days before the convention may be a delegate until the next convention.

Mark-up Copy of Proposal 7

9.2. All members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota who meet residency requirements to be eligible to vote in the State of Minnesota shall be eligible to register to be delegates to the state convention. Unless renewing their membership after an expired period of less than 18 months, no one joining the party less than 45 days before the convention may be a delegate until the next convention. **Those whose memberships are no longer current but are within the window for renewal shall pay sufficient back dues to cover the lesser of the Annual Basic Membership cost or the value of their outstanding unpaid dues.**

Wording if Proposal 7 is Adopted

9.2. All members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota who meet residency requirements to be eligible to vote in the State of Minnesota shall be eligible to register to be delegates to the state convention. Unless renewing their membership after an expired period of less than 18 months, no one joining the party less than 45 days before the convention may be a delegate until the next convention. Those whose memberships are no longer current but are within the window for renewal shall pay sufficient back dues to cover the lesser of the Annual Basic Membership cost or the value of their outstanding unpaid dues.

Proposal 8: Amend Bylaws 6.3 designating Affiliate Representatives on the Executive Committee**Rationale**

This amendment would change “Acting Executives” to “Affiliate Representatives.” It also would clarify that the representative shall be the affiliate’s chair unless the affiliate chooses a different representative at its convention. The effect of these changes would prohibit ad-hoc substitutions at Executive Committee meetings, which is the same limitation applied to all other Executive Committee members who miss meetings.

Current Wording

6.3. Acting Executives: Each registered affiliate, as defined elsewhere in these bylaws, shall be eligible to represent their affiliate on the Executive Committee in a manner chosen by the affiliate. The affiliate’s Acting Executive may participate in Executive Committee votes if they are present in person, or through remote interactive teleconferencing in a manner approved by the Executive Committee.

Mark-up Copy of Proposal 8

6.3. *Affiliate Representatives* ~~Acting Executives:~~ Each registered affiliate, as defined elsewhere in these bylaws, shall be eligible to represent their affiliate on the Executive Committee ~~in a manner chosen by the affiliate.~~ The affiliate’s Acting Executive ***representative shall be the affiliate Chair unless another affiliate member is elected at the Affiliate’s Convention*** ~~may to~~ participate in Executive Committee votes if they are present in person, or through remote interactive teleconferencing in a manner approved by the Executive Committee.

Wording if Proposal 8 is Adopted

6.3. Affiliate Representatives: Each registered affiliate, as defined elsewhere in these bylaws, shall be eligible to represent their affiliate on the Executive Committee. The

affiliate's representative shall be the affiliate Chair unless another affiliate member is elected at the Affiliate's Convention to participate in votes if they are present in person, or through remote interactive teleconferencing in a manner approved by the Executive Committee.

Proposal 9: Delete redundant reference in Bylaws 6.3 regarding LPMN EC remote participation for Affiliates

Rationale

Bylaws 6.10 was revised at LPMN 2024 Convention to allow remote participation for all EC members, making redundant the Bylaws 6.3 mention of remote participation specifically for Affiliate representatives to EC.

Current Wording

6.3. Acting Executives: Each registered affiliate, as defined elsewhere in these bylaws, shall be eligible to represent their affiliate on the Executive Committee in a manner chosen by the affiliate. The affiliate's Acting Executive may participate in Executive Committee votes if they are present in person, or through remote interactive teleconferencing in a manner approved by the Executive Committee.

6.10. The Meeting Dates and Agenda shall be decided by the Executive Committee. Executive Committee meetings shall be run according to Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, the most recent edition, unless noted otherwise within these bylaws. Executive Committee meetings may be held with remote participation and shall be open to Party members.

Mark-up Copy of Proposal 9

6.3. Acting Executives: Each registered affiliate, as defined elsewhere in these bylaws, shall be eligible to represent their affiliate on the Executive Committee in a manner chosen by the affiliate. The affiliate's Acting Executive may participate in Executive Committee votes ~~if they are present in person, or through remote interactive teleconferencing in a manner approved by the Executive Committee.~~

6.10. The Meeting Dates and Agenda shall be decided by the Executive Committee. Executive Committee meetings shall be run according to Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, the most recent edition, unless noted otherwise within these bylaws. Executive Committee meetings may be held with remote participation and shall be open to Party members.

Wording if Proposal 9 is Adopted

6.3. Acting Executives: Each registered affiliate, as defined elsewhere in these bylaws, shall be eligible to represent their affiliate on the Executive Committee in a manner chosen by the affiliate. The affiliate's Acting Executive may participate in Executive Committee votes.

6.10. The Meeting Dates and Agenda shall be decided by the Executive Committee. Executive Committee meetings shall be run according to Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, the most recent edition, unless noted otherwise within these bylaws. Executive Committee meetings may be held with remote participation and shall be open to Party members.

Proposal 10: Amend Bylaws 10.3 to remove the explicit number of minutes from the description of time granted to candidates at convention

Rationale

By replacing "five minutes" in 10.3.4 with "time" and replacing "five minutes, or such longer time as the Chair determines," in 10.3.5 with "time," we are granting the convention body more authority to determine how much or how little time candidates should be given to speak before the convention body.

Current Wording

10.3. Candidates may be nominated or endorsed at the annual convention under the following conditions:

- 4.** Candidates or their designee shall have five minutes to address the convention before balloting takes place. No vote to nominate or endorse shall be binding unless all members of the Executive Committee have been provided with basic information on the candidate, which may include campaign literature, a campaign website, or a summary of their positions and principles, at least seven days prior to the convention.
- 5.** Delegates shall have five minutes, or such longer time as the Chair determines, to ask questions of the candidates prior to the first ballot.

Mark-up Copy of Proposal 10

10.3. Candidates may be nominated or endorsed at the annual convention under the following conditions:

- 4.** Candidates or their designee shall have ~~five minutes~~ **time** to address the convention before balloting takes place. No vote to nominate or endorse shall be binding unless all members of the Executive Committee have been provided with basic information on the candidate, which may include campaign literature, a campaign website, or a summary of their positions and principles, at least seven days prior to the convention.
- 5.** Delegates shall have ~~five minutes, or such longer time as the Chair determines,~~ **time** to ask questions of the candidates prior to the first ballot.

Wording if Proposal 10 is Adopted

10.3. Candidates may be nominated or endorsed at the annual convention under the following conditions:

- 4.** Candidates or their designee shall have time to address the convention before balloting takes place. No vote to nominate or endorse shall be binding unless all members of the Executive Committee have been provided with basic information on the candidate, which may include campaign literature, a campaign website, or a summary of their positions and principles, at least seven days prior to the convention.
- 5.** Delegates shall have time to ask questions of the candidates prior to the first ballot.

Proposal 11: Amend Bylaws 7.4 so the Platform and Bylaws Committees may elect any committee member as chair.

Rationale

Per bylaw 7.3, the LPMN Chair and Vice Chair serve on the Platform and Bylaws Committees by virtue of their office, and therefore they are not “elected at convention” to these committees. This has the unintended effect of precluding them from serving as the chair of these committees. This amendment clarifies that any member of these committees can serve as chair.

Current Wording

7.4. Each committee shall select its Chair among the members elected at convention.

Mark-up Copy of Proposal 11

7.4. Each committee shall select its Chair among the members elected at convention **of that committee.**

Wording if Proposal 11 is Adopted

7.4. Each committee shall select its Chair among the members of that committee.

Proposal 12: Amend Bylaws 6.6 to delete stray reference to Communications Director and Political Director

Rationale

Amendment deletes a stray reference to Communications Director and Political Director elections that should have been deleted at the 2024 Convention when Bylaws were amended to make the Director positions non-voting. This current amendment has no impact on EC voting.

Current Wording

6.6. Election of Officers and Directors: When two or more candidates are on the ballot for Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Political Director, or Communications Director, and if after two ballots none of the candidates has achieved the required votes for election to the office, the candidate with the fewest votes shall be removed from the ballot. The candidates eliminated shall be offered one minute to address the convention prior to the next ballot. In case of a tie, candidates with the fewest votes shall draw straws to determine who is eliminated. This procedure will continue for all subsequent ballots. The option of NOTA shall remain on all ballots.

Mark-up Copy of Proposal 12

6.6. Election of Officers and Directors: When two or more candidates are on the ballot for Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, **or** Treasurer, ~~Political Director, or Communications Director,~~ and if after two ballots none of the candidates has achieved the required votes for election to the office, the candidate with the fewest votes shall be removed from the ballot. The candidates eliminated shall be offered one minute to address the convention prior to the next ballot. In case of a tie, candidates with the fewest votes shall draw straws to determine who is eliminated. This procedure will continue for all subsequent ballots. The option of NOTA shall remain on all ballots.

Wording if Proposal 12 is Adopted

6.6. Election of Officers: When two or more candidates are on the ballot for Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer, and if after two ballots none of the candidates has achieved the required votes for election to the office, the candidate with the fewest votes shall be removed from the ballot. The candidates eliminated shall be offered one minute to address the convention prior to the next ballot. In case of a tie, candidates with the fewest votes shall draw straws to determine who is eliminated. This procedure will continue for all subsequent ballots. The option of NOTA shall remain on all ballots.

Proposal 13: Amend Bylaws 9.1 to delete obsolete wording about committee appointments

Rationale

This amendment deletes obsolete wording. All issues included under “platform, bylaws, and issues” are already covered under existing platform, bylaws, and convention committees. This does not disturb the Executive Committee’s ability to create subordinate committees.

Current Wording

9.1. The specific date, location and agenda of Libertarian Party of Minnesota conventions shall be set by the Executive Committee or a convention committee designated by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may designate platform, bylaws, and issues committees to prepare and prioritize items for convention consideration.

Mark-up Copy of Proposal 13

9.1. The specific date, location and agenda of Libertarian Party of Minnesota conventions shall be set by the Executive Committee or a convention committee designated by the Executive Committee. ~~The Executive Committee may designate platform, bylaws, and issues committees to prepare and prioritize items for convention consideration.~~

Wording if Proposal 13 is Adopted

9.1. The specific date, location and agenda of Libertarian Party of Minnesota conventions shall be set by the Executive Committee or a convention committee designated by the Executive Committee.

Proposal 14: Revise Platform (except Statement of Principles) to General Issues vs. Specific

Rationale

The Libertarian Party of Minnesota Platform has become voluminous, thus diluting and distracting focus from our core principles. This proposal restores focus by eliminating unnecessary specificity.

Note that this Proposal does not change the Statement of Principles present in Section I of the Platform.

Current Wording

II. Preface

What does the Libertarian Party stand for?

Positions taken by the Libertarian Party of Minnesota are based on the inviolate principle that your life is your own. This means that you may provide for and enjoy your life in any way you wish as long as you do not forcibly interfere with anyone else's equal right to do the same.

Members of the Libertarian Party do not necessarily advocate or approve of any of the practices our policies would make legal. Our exclusion of moral approval and disapproval is deliberate. Individual rights must be recognized; the wisdom of any course of peaceful action is a matter for the acting individual(s) to decide. Personal responsibility is discouraged by government when people are denied the opportunity to exercise it. Libertarian policies will create a society in which people are free to make, and learn from, their own decisions.

Throughout history, governments have operated on the opposite principle: that the State may dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all non-libertarian political parties and organizations assume that government bodies and agencies may initiate force against you and seize what you have produced without your consent through taxation and regulation.

Your primary right is your right to your own life. In order for this to be realized, you must have the final say over how your life is to be lived. No other person or group of persons can justify forcibly interfering with your life.

From this basic right derives all others, such as:

Your right to property; that is, what you produce or trade for.

Your right to pursue happiness; that is, the reason you choose to live, what makes life worthwhile for you.

This means, for example, you have the right:

to make arrangements with anyone else to exchange services and property, and to carry out those exchanges free from outside interference;

to save your property for future enjoyment or trade;

to be free from invasions of your privacy; and

to defend yourself and your property; but only as long as you do not forcibly interfere with another person's equal right to do the same.

III. Platform

A. Individual Rights and Civil Order

No conflict exists between civil order and individual rights. Both concepts are based on the same fundamental principle: that no individual, group, or government may initiate force against any other individual, group, or government.

1. Property Rights

The most basic property one has is one's own body and one's own life. If one chooses to use one's life to acquire honestly and peacefully other property by industry, gift or trade, such acquisition represents that part of one's life. Therefore property rights are part of individual rights.

We hold that the owners of property have the full right to control, use, dispose of, or in any manner enjoy their property without interference, until and unless the exercise of their control infringes the valid rights of others. We specifically condemn current government efforts to regulate or ban the use of property in the name of aesthetic values, riskiness, moral standards, cost-benefit estimates, or the promotion or restriction of economic growth.

We demand an end to the taxation of privately owned real property, which actually makes the State the owner of all lands and forces individuals to rent their homes and places of business from the State.

Where property, including land, has been taken from its rightful owners by government or private action in violation of individual rights, we favor restitution to the rightful owners.

Freedom of privacy, speech, press, and religion are conditions of property rights.

2. Protection of Privacy

The individual's privacy, property, and right to speak or not to speak should not be infringed by the government. The government should not use electronic or other means of covert surveillance of an individual's actions or private property except in the case of known criminal activity. Correspondence, bank and other financial transactions and records, doctors' and lawyers' communications, employment records, and the like should not be open to review by government without the consent of all parties involved in those actions. As long as the National Census and all federal, state, and other government agencies' compilations of data on an individual continue to exist, they should be conducted only with the consent of the individual about whom the data are sought.

We oppose the mandatory issuance by the government of an identity card to be required for any purpose, such as for employment or border crossings. We support the right of individuals to use encryption and we oppose restrictions on its use or export.

3. Freedom of Speech

Freedom of speech and communication is essential to a free society. Any attempt by government to control communications, whatever the medium, is an attack on freedom of speech. We oppose any attempt by government to regulate film, recording, the Internet, other electronic media, or publishing industries, including the press. We oppose all forms of censorship, including the laws and regulations on adult-oriented materials, broadcast programming and content, and advertising. We propose that ownership of broadcast rights be based on the principle of property rights rather than license regulations. We advocate that the cable communications industry be free from government regulation or ownership.

4. Freedom of Expression

We defend the right of individuals to use their own property to express their own beliefs, no matter how repugnant to others; but not to infringe upon the property of others in that expression.

5. Freedom of Religion

We defend the rights of individuals to engage in or abstain from any religious activities that do not violate the rights of others. In order to defend religious freedom, we advocate a strict separation of church and state. We oppose government actions that either aid or attack any religion. We oppose taxation of church property for the same reason that we oppose all taxation.

6. Family Planning and Population Control

We oppose all government actions that compel, prohibit, regulate, or subsidize sterilization, any form of birth control, or population control.

We do not take a position on personal decisions regarding family planning, and we oppose government laws and policies that seek to influence the decisions regarding family planning.

7. "Victimless Crime"

We hold that any action that does not infringe upon the rights of others cannot properly be termed a crime, therefore we favor the repeal of all federal, state and local laws creating "crimes" without victims.

In particular we are opposed to all regulation of activities such as gambling, prostitution, juvenile "status offenses," use or possession of medicines, drugs, drug paraphernalia, vitamins and firearms, and mandatory usage of seat belts and helmets.

We call for the repeal of all laws regarding consensual sexual acts, recognizing that minors are unable to consent to adults. The state has no right to proscribe any lifestyle that is freely chosen.

We call for an end to the "War on Drugs," which is in reality a war by the federal, state and local government on the people. Until such time as the prohibition of drugs is repealed, we call for an end to the denial of pain relieving drugs such as marijuana and heroin to those who are suffering.

8. Children's and Dependents' Rights

Children and others who are dependent have the same right to be free of coercion as all other people. We accordingly call for the repeal of all juvenile status offenses such as truancy, under age smoking, curfews, etc.

We support the efforts of parents or guardians to protect their dependents from force or fraud.

Parents, or other guardians, have the right to raise their children according to their own standards and beliefs, provided that the rights of children to be free from abuse and neglect are also protected.

9. Government and "Mental Health"

We support the right of people to the control of their own minds. The involuntary commitment of an individual not convicted of a crime, but merely asserted to be different or incompetent, is a violation of liberty. We further advocate:

the repeal of all laws permitting involuntary psychiatric treatment of any persons, including those incarcerated in prisons or mental institutions;
an end to the spending of tax money for any program of psychiatric or psychological research or treatment;
an end to all involuntary treatment of prisoners in such areas as psycho-surgery, drug therapy, and aversion therapy;
an end to tax supported "mental health" propaganda campaigns and community "mental health" centers and programs.

10. Secession

We recognize the right to political secession. This includes the right of secession by political entities, private groups, or individuals.

11. The Right to Keep and Bear Arms

In recognition of the fact that individuals are their own last source of self-defense, and the fact that arms are property, we support the right of individuals to keep and bear arms. We oppose compulsory arms registration and regulation.

Minnesota is one of only seven states whose Constitution does not contain the right of individuals to keep and bear arms. We call for an amendment guaranteeing this right.

12. Due Process for the Criminally Accused

We defend the premise of "innocent until proven guilty," therefore we oppose current "no knock" laws, preventative detention, and all similar measures which destroy liberty.

We also call for a repeal and elimination of all laws, rules, regulations and interpretations thereof as well as civil actions by the government which deprive individuals of their property (asset forfeiture) without being found guilty of any crime.

13. Restitution for the Falsely Accused

We support full restitution for all losses suffered by persons arrested, indicted, imprisoned, tried or otherwise injured in the course of criminal proceedings against them that do not result in their conviction or which is later overturned. Funding of restitution will be the responsibility of those persons initiating criminal action against the falsely accused if it can be proven the action was intentionally false.

Because life cannot be restored to a person who is wrongly executed, we oppose the death penalty in all cases.

14. Restitution for Victims of Crimes

We support restitution for the victim to the fullest degree possible at the expense of the criminal or wrongdoer. We accordingly oppose “no fault” insurance laws, which deprive the victim of the right to recover damages from those responsible.

15. Restoration of Criminals’ Liberty

A criminal, having paid for the crime, should be accorded full restoration of liberty.

16. Juries

We advocate replacing mandatory jury duty with voluntary juries and private arbitration.

We support the Fully Informed Jury Amendment, which would require judges to inform juries of their traditional right to decide the rightness or wrongness of the law in the given case, as well as the guilt or innocence of a person relative to the law.

17. Freedom of Association

We support the right of individuals to peacefully assemble for any purpose. Private associations and establishments should be free from government interference on questions of association and disassociation.

18. Equal Protection Under the Law

No individual’s freedom should be denied or abridged by the laws of the State of Minnesota or any locality. Protective labor laws and other laws which violate rights selectively should be repealed entirely rather than be extended to all groups.

19. Native American Indians and the State

We deplore the Federal and State governments’ continued paternalistic and exploitative policies toward the Native American. We call for the abolition of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which throughout its history has sought forcibly to make Native Americans wards of the State by destroying their individuality and traditional culture. We call for an end to Federal, State, and local interference in the property rights and civil liberties of Native Americans. We call on the State and Federal governments to honor all current treaty obligations.

20. Nullification and Subsidiarity

We recognize the important role of state legislatures and local units of government, as long as they exist, to declare null and void any federal law which infringes upon the rights of the individual. We recognize the obligation of law enforcement officials

and courts, in particular county sheriffs and district attorneys, to refuse enforcement of and conviction under any rights-violating legislation or regulation.

B. Trade and Society

People are the sole owners of their own lives. What people produce in life we call property. It is right that people be free to keep or trade what they produce with others. We oppose government intervention in production and trade through taxation, regulation, licensing, inflation, etc. The proper role of government in the economic realm is to protect life, property, and honest trade, not restrict it. Efforts to forcibly redistribute wealth or forcibly restrict honest trade is slavery by other names.

1. Taxation

Taxation, the taking of people's wealth by force and threat of force, is an act of theft and extortion. We support spending reductions in all areas of government and eliminating all tax withholding.

2. Subsidies

In order to achieve a free economy in which government victimizes no one for the benefit of anyone else, we oppose all government subsidies, special interest laws, tariffs or quotas for anyone for any reason.

3. Money and Inflation

We recognize that government control over money and banking is the major cause of inflation, depression and distortion of relative prices and production. In order to have a free market and its relative stability, we advocate replacing legal tender laws, the Federal Reserve central bank, and the maze of banking, monetary, and securities regulations, with standards set in the free market. Until a free market monetary system is established, we support voluntary exchange using gold, silver, or other commodities in exchange for goods and services.

4. Employment and Licensing

We seek the elimination of protectionist occupation licensing and mandatory certification laws, which prevent individuals from working in whatever trade they wish. Such special interest laws serve to prevent competition and mobility and give a semi-monopoly to those already licensed, at the expense of the consumer and those who are trying to get started in a protected profession.

We advocate privatizing the current government licensing bureaucracies, removing their monopoly status, and letting them compete in the free market.

5. Welfare, Poverty and Unemployment

We advocate replacing the current counter-productive political welfare system with private charitable efforts. As an interim measure we advocate a dollar-for-dollar tax credit for all charitable contributions.

We ask "Why are people poor and unemployed?" The answer is government intervention in the marketplace, (i.e., taxation, inflation, regulation, licensing, minimum wage laws, retirement laws, etc.) which destroys opportunity, mobility, hope, independence, and wealth.

Welfare and unemployment programs appease those whom government has oppressed, and keeps them dependent. Truly free markets in which people are allowed to keep the fruits of their labor and produce a surplus with which to help others is the rational moral answer to helping the unfortunate. Free markets typically generate more jobs than there are job seekers.

6. Unions and Collective Bargaining

We support the right of free persons voluntarily to establish, associate in, or not associate in labor unions. An employer should have the right to recognize, or refuse to recognize, a union.

We oppose government interference in bargaining, such as compulsory arbitration and right to work laws. Therefore we urge the repeal of the National Labor Relations Act, the Taft-Hartley Act, and all similar laws which prohibit employers from making voluntary contracts with unions.

Strikes or boycotts do not justify the initiation of violence against other workers, employers, strike-breakers, or anyone's property.

7. Business

We advocate freedom and responsibility for all with special interest laws for none. Therefore we call for the repeal of all laws which help or hinder business, such as corporation laws, corporate limited liability laws, corporation taxation, tariffs, quotas, anti-trust laws, bankruptcy laws, and all similar laws.

On principle, Libertarians call for the eventual complete separation of business and government.

8. Counter-Economics

We explicitly acknowledge the right of individuals to subvert state regulation, taxation, and executive orders through black and gray market activity, as defined by Samuel Edward Konkin, so long as such activity does not violate individual rights and liberties.

9. Consumer Protection

Individuals and organizations that engage in fraud or misrepresentation are obliged to provide restitution to victims of these actions. We oppose government interference in consumer choice and government price-fixing schemes.

10. Health and Medicine

In order to ensure the best possible health care, we advocate the deregulation of the healthcare industry. Government intervention, restriction, coercion and protectionism in the healthcare industry has driven up costs and decreased the supply of doctors, nurses, technicians, hospitals, and medical insurance. We advocate replacing compulsory or tax supported plans to supply health services or insurance with voluntarily supported efforts.

We affirm the individual right to make one's own decisions regarding health, medicine, and safety (including, but not limited to, herbal, natural, and traditional medicine) is absolute and not subject to government restriction or mandate.

11. Right to Die

Because all individuals should have full responsibility and control over their own lives, anyone, including terminally or hopelessly ill persons should have the right to die at the time and place and under the conditions of their own choosing. We support the concept of living wills in which individuals declare the manner in which they are to be treated and the procedures for disposal of their remains. In the absence of such wills and the ability of the individual to choose (e.g., coma) the matter should be decided by the family or such person or persons the individual may have clearly preferred with whatever guidance they may desire. In keeping with the principle of non-coercion, no individual shall be forced either to continue or terminate life sustaining care.

12. Transportation

We advocate a true free market in transportation; accordingly we support systematic privatization of all forms of transportation including, but not limited to: Amtrak, all airports, taxicab and bus services. We support elimination of all state and federal transportation regulations and regulatory agencies.

13. Postal Service

We propose the privatization of the monopolistic governmental Postal Service. Pending privatization we call for allowing free competition in all aspects of postal service.

14. Public Utilities and Energy

We advocate bringing the positive benefits of free market competition to utilities; accordingly we call for privatization and deregulation of all government monopolies, such as garbage collection, electric, gas, or communication utilities, the Public Utilities Commission, fire departments, water and sewer departments, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Price Anderson Act, the Minnesota Energy Agency, and all similar regulatory agencies.

15. Freedom of Marriage

We hold that unions between adults are a private matter, and should not be the subject of government licensing, regardless of sex. We call for the State of Minnesota to not restrict or give preferential treatment to private contracts between adults.

16. Government-Influenced Organizations

Any organization which is funded by, directly answerable to, or works in cooperation with the US Congress, state legislatures, or federal or state bureaucracies cannot rightly be considered "private". These corporations, nonprofits, and institutions are subsidiaries of the state. We therefore oppose any attempts by such entities to censor individual expression, violate health privacy, promote armed conflict, or otherwise through corporate policy, political lobbying, or regulatory capture infringe upon individual liberty.

17. Agriculture

The state has no authority, pursuant to natural rights and the Minnesota Constitution, article 13, section 7, to stand between the exchange of goods between two consenting adults with respect to agricultural and cottage food sales. Accordingly,

the LPMN calls on the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to cease all licensing and regulation of such sales.

C. Domestic Ills

Current problems in such areas as crime, pollution, health care, decaying cities, and poverty are not solved, but are primarily caused, by government. The welfare state, supposedly designed to aid the poor, is in reality a growing and parasitic burden on all productive people, and on balance, injures rather than benefits the poor themselves.

“Public good” is the mask behind which various bureaucracies or pressure groups hide while using the government police powers to their own ends. We oppose any government action, acquisition of property, or violation of freedom in the name of the “public good.”

1. Land Use

The role of planning is properly the responsibility and right of the owners of the land. Accordingly we oppose all government intervention against this right such as zoning laws, building codes, urban renewal, regional planning, subdivision laws, rent controls, and eminent domain. We advocate free market methods of land use control by means of private land use covenants. We call for the repeal of laws which allow the state and local governments legally to steal private property through eminent domain or condemnation proceedings, regardless of “compensation.”

2. Pollution

Pollution of other people’s property is wrong. Strict liability, not government agencies and arbitrary standards, should regulate pollution. We advocate repeal of the laws that prevent full ownership of the air and water above and below land, thus denying individuals protection under the law against polluters. Private property rights must replace public property.

We further advocate repeal of corporate limited liability laws protecting the individuals who own or manage corporations from the personal liability of pollution.

We further advocate the repeal of sovereign immunity laws, which protect those in charge of government property, utilities and military installations from the personal liability of pollution.

3. Public Entertainment Facilities

We advocate a free market in entertainment; accordingly we call for the privatization and deregulation of all government ownership, financing or involvement in stadiums, fairs, malls, convention centers, racetracks, etc.

4. Education

In order to achieve the best possible opportunity of education we advocate bringing the positive benefits of competition to the monopolistic government schools. Therefore we call for the privatization and deregulation of schools. Also we call for the repeal of compulsory education laws, truancy laws, school and teacher certification and licensing laws, and taxpayer financing of education.

5. Campaign Laws

We call for the repeal of restrictive state laws that effectively prevent new parties and independent candidates from being on the ballot. We urge the repeal of federal and state campaign finance laws, which repress the voluntary support of candidates and parties, compel taxpayers to subsidize politicians and political views they do not wish to support, and entrench the two major political parties.

6. “Sunset Laws”

We advocate a constitutional amendment requiring an automatic end to all government offices, departments, bureaucracies, laws, regulations, and expenditures every year. And unless individually voted on they would cease to exist as such.

7. Sovereign Immunity

We call for an immediate end to the doctrine of “sovereign immunity,” which implies that the state can do no wrong and which holds that the state may not be held accountable without its permission.

8. None of the Above

We propose the addition of the alternative “none of the above is acceptable” to all ballots. In the event that “none of the above” wins, the elective office for that term will remain unfilled and unfunded.

9. Citizens Initiative and Referendum

We support a constitutional amendment recognizing the people’s right to Initiative and Referendum.

10. Government Accounting Practices

We support requiring government to follow generally accepted accounting principles and require the elimination of off-budget items.

11. Rotation of Legislative Committee Chairs

We support requiring the rotation of committee chairpersons and limiting their chairship to four years.

D. Foreign Policy**1. Non-Intervention**

The principle of non-initiation of force should guide the relationships between governments. We call for a non-interventionist foreign policy of avoiding entangling alliances, quarrels and treaties, and recognizing the right to unrestricted travel, trade and immigration. We advocate the negotiated withdrawal from current treaties that bind us to military commitments around the world. We favor the rapid resolution of all boundary disputes based on the existing treaty law. As fishing rights disputes are the most pressing of these questions, we propose these to be resolved first.

2. Veterans Affairs

We call on the U.S. Government to uphold its commitment to veterans by privatizing healthcare, by compensating veterans for physical and mental injuries incurred, and by ending continuous foreign military actions which have led to veterans becoming disabled.

3. Specific Planks

Specific planks on foreign policy can be found in the National Party platform.

IV. Omissions

Our silence about any other particular government law, regulation, ordinance, directive, edict, control, restriction, regulatory agency, activity, or machination should not be construed to imply approval.

V. Conclusion

It is disappointing that in the third century following the signing of the Declaration of Independence, we find ourselves having to fight against those same things from which our forefathers declared their independence. Those principles of human freedom and dignity we support in this platform are similar to those our government was originally created to protect. Remembering what in fact constitutes a crime leads us to the inevitable and sad conclusion that presently government is the greatest criminal of all. The Libertarian Party's goal is to gain recognition for that freedom and dignity to which each individual has a right.

Markup Copy of Proposal 14

Delete existing Platform Planks II through V and replace with the wording in "Platform if Proposal 14 is Adopted."

Platform if Proposal 14 is Adopted

II. Self-ownership

We affirm that individuals own their bodies and have rights over them that other individuals, groups, and governments may not violate.

III. Nonaggression

We affirm that no lawful right exists which allows one person to initiate force against another, and we defend the right of any person to resist oppression in any form.

IV. Individual Responsibility

We affirm that each individual is responsible for his/her actions and the results and rewards thereof, that freedom does not exist without personal responsibility.

V. Individual Rights

We affirm that rights are neither collective nor additive. No individual or group of individuals has more rights than any one individual.

We therefore affirm that government, when instituted, must not violate the right to life, liberty and property.

Our silence about any other particular government law, regulation, ordinance, directive, edict, control, regulatory agency, activity or machination should not be construed as to imply approval.