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2 **Amendment #1**
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4 **Signatures for Removals and Appeals**
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6 **Amend Article II by adding a new paragraph 27, as follows:**
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9 27. *“Signed by” shall mean, for purposes of Article VII, Section C, and Article X, Section*
10 *B, accompanied by one or more pages of original signatures in ink, or evidence of*
11 *electronic signatures consistent with the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, Code of*
12 *Virginia, section 59.1-479 et seq.*
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16 **Amend Article VII, Section C, as follows:**
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18 SECTION C. Removal

19 Any Chairman, except the State Chairman, or any other member of an Official
20 Committee may be removed from office by the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the other
21 members of the Committee, after being furnished with notice that such removal will be
22 sought, with the charges, in writing, signed by not less than one-third (1/3) of the
23 members of the Committee; and allowing him thirty (30) days within which to appear and
24 defend himself. *A copy of the original signatures in ink or evidence of the electronic*
25 *signatures may be furnished in lieu of the original signatures.* The State Chairman may
26 be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a State Convention or by the three-fourths (3/4)
27 vote of the State Central Committee, the action of said Convention or Committee being
28 subject to the foregoing as to notice and opportunity for defense.
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30 EXPLANATION
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32 Two provisions in the Party Plan include requirements for multiple signatures for a specific
33 action—removal of members of an official committee in Article VII, Section C, and contests and
34 appeals in Article X, Section B. This update would amend the Plan to explicitly allow for
35 electronic signatures. It would also clarify that, in the case of a removal petition, a copy of the
36 original signatures (or a copy of evidence of electronic signatures) is sufficient to meet the
37 requirement of what must be provided to the individual whose removal is being sought.
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39 Because e-signature technology is a growing field and there are a number of technological
40 solutions to provide e-signatures, the amendment refers to the Virginia law that governs e-
41 signatures, the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (UETA) rather than specifying a particular
42 solution. Examples of current solutions could be included in the Chairman’s handbook, the State
43 Central Committee Appeal Checklist, and other documents that can be edited without an
44 amendment to the Plan.

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Amendment # 2

Model Calls

Amend Article VIII, Section A. paragraph 8 as follows:

Strike out the existing paragraph and insert in its place

The State Central Committee shall adopt, and from time to time amend, recommended call forms, including all required provisions and identifying optional provisions. Recommended call forms shall be appended to the Party Plan but shall not be a part of the Plan.

EXPLANATION

The model calls and rules made part of the party plan have often fallen out of date as other parts of the plan are amended. Additionally, some appropriate non-controversial changes have not been made because of the notice and vote threshold required for a party plan amendment. This proposed amendment remedies that problem.

Having a single up-to-date call for use by units would reduce the burden of writing calls and the need for calls to be extensively reviewed. It would also decrease controversy over errors in calls or provisions that aren't widely used.

This model calls remain recommended for use (not mandatory) and the Official Committee calling the mass meeting, party canvass or convention retains its authority to deviate from the model calls, as long as any provisions are in accord with the State Party Plan.

88 **Amendment #3 (Version 1)**

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90 **Changing a Method of Nomination 100**

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92 **Amend Article VIII, Section A. by adding a new paragraph 11 as**
93 **follows:**

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95 *Once a call has been issued, the method of nomination may only be changed until the*
96 *deadline to notify the State Board of Elections of the selection of a primary pursuant to*
97 *section 24.2-516, or its successor provision.*

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99 EXPLANATION: In order to avoid late changes to the method of nomination that may
100 advantage or disadvantage particular candidates or participants, this new provision would
101 require that the method of nomination could not be changed after the 105th day prior to
102 primary day (the current deadline for notifying the state if a primary has been selected). If
103 a method of nomination were not called until after that deadline, the method of
104 nomination could not be changed once the call has been issued.

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107 **Amendment #3 (Version 2)**

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109 **Changing a Method of Nomination**

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111 **Amend Article VIII, Section A. by adding a new paragraph 11 as**
112 **follows:**

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114 *Once a call has been published, the method of nomination may not be changed.*

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116 EXPLANATION: Alternative to Version 1. This amendment sets the publication of a call
117 as the point in time after which an Official Committee may not change a method of
118 nomination.

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Amendment #4

Combined Units

Amend Article VI, Section F. as follows:

SECTION F. Combined Units

The Party organization of ~~a city of the second class~~ **one or more cities** and an adjoining county may be combined whenever the respective committees, ~~by a majority vote of each,~~ **each** vote to combine into one organization. Thereafter, such city **or cities** and county shall be considered as one Unit for all purposes except in nominations for elective offices which serve solely ~~the a~~ city or the county. A combined organization may be dissolved by ~~the majority vote of~~ a Mass Meeting of either the city or the county, provided notice of such proposal is included in the Call of the Mass Meeting.

EXPLANATION: This amendment removes an outdated designation (city of the second class) and updates other language. The amendment does not change the method currently in place for forming or dissolving combined units.

Amendment #5

Contests and Appeals

Amend Article X, Sections B and C as follows:

SECTION B. Contests

1. Each Unit Committee shall decide all controversies and contests arising within its jurisdiction. ***A Unit Committee's decision may be appealed by***, ~~but those persons deemed any Party member~~ adversely affected ~~by any such decision shall have the right of appeal~~ to the appropriate District Committee. In the case of a split Unit, if the controversy or contest specifically relates to the operations or affairs of a particular Congressional or Legislative District, an appeal shall be taken to that particular Congressional or Legislative District Committee; if not, an appeal shall be taken to the District Committee of the District wherein the person appealing resides.

- 169 2. Each Legislative District Committee shall decide all controversies and contests
170 arising within its jurisdiction. ~~Persons deemed adversely affected by a decision~~
171 ~~of the A~~ Legislative District Committee's **decision may be appealed by any**
172 **Party member adversely affected** shall have the right of appeal to the
173 appropriate Congressional District Committee. In the case of a legislative
174 district that is located in more than one congressional district, the appropriate
175 Congressional District Committee shall be the District wherein the person
176 appealing resides.
177
- 178 3. Each District Committee shall decide all controversies and contests arising within
179 its jurisdiction. It shall also hear and decide all timely appeals taken from units
180 and legislative districts within the District. **A District Committee's decision may**
181 **be appealed by any Party member** ~~Persons deemed adversely affected by a~~
182 ~~decision of the District Committee shall have the right of appeal to the State~~
183 Central Committee.
- 184 4. All ~~appeals~~ **Contests and Appeals**, under sub-sections 1, 2 and 3 of this section
185 must be made in writing within thirty (30) days after the decision appealed from
186 and the appeal must be accompanied by a petition signed by at least twenty-five
187 (25) Party members (except as provided below) of the respective Unit, Legislative
188 District or Congressional District affected. When an appeal involves a mass
189 meeting, party canvass or convention, then for purposes of this paragraph the term
190 "Party members" shall mean mass meeting participants in the case of a mass
191 meeting; canvass voters in the case of a party canvass; or delegates in the case of a
192 convention. If fewer than one hundred twenty-five (125) persons voted in such
193 mass meeting, party canvass or convention, then the petition shall be signed by at
194 least twenty percent (20%) of the voters at such mass meeting, party canvass or
195 convention. **A subsequent appeal by the same party does not require an**
196 **additional petition (e.g., if a petition accompanies an appeal to a Unit**
197 **Committee, an appeal of the Unit Committee's decision made by the same party**
198 **does not require a second petition).**
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- 200 5. All Contests and Appeals under sub-sections 1, 2 and 3 of this section, except for
201 an appeal to the State Central Committee, shall be heard and a decision rendered
202 by the committee to which the appeal was made within ~~fourteen (14)~~ **twenty-one**
203 **(21)** days of receipt of the appeal. If no decision has been rendered in writing at
204 the end of ~~thirty~~ **twenty-one (21)** days, the appeal or contest may be made directly
205 to the next level of appeal as if an adverse decision had been rendered. A timely
206 appeal made to the State Central Committee will be heard at the next regular
207 meeting of the Committee unless the Chairman or 1/3 of the members call for a
208 special meeting.
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210 6. If the Contest or Appeal arises from an action during a Mass Meeting, Party
211 Canvass or Convention held less than ~~fourteen (14)~~ *twenty-one (21)* days prior to
212 the deadline for the official committee chairman to certify a nominee, a contest
213 or appeal may be made directly to the appropriate Congressional District
214 Committee.
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216 **SECTION C. Finality**

217 The State Central Committee shall make the final decision, upon timely appeal, on all
218 Party controversies and contests in any Election District of the State, rulings of the
219 General Counsel and on all other matters ~~deemed to~~ *affecting* the efficiency of the Party
220 organization or the success of the Party.
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223 **EXPLANATION**

224 This amendment makes a number of changes to the handling of appeals. The changes are:
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226 **Contests and Appeals**

- 227 • The time allowed within which to make an original appeal remains 30 days.
- 228 • The deadline for a committee to consider and take action appeal is set at 21
229 days. In the past, there was some confusion between a 14-day rule and a 30-
230 day rule.
- 231 • Subsequent appeals do not require additional petitions signatures. In the
232 past, there has been some confusion about whether signatures were required
233 to accompany subsequent appeals.
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235 Additional non-substantive changes are made to improve clarity.
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252 **Amendment #6**

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254 **Qualifications for Certain Appointments**

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256 **Amend Article I, Section B as follows:**

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260 **SECTION B. Participation**

261 All Chairmen and members of Official Committees, delegates to Conventions, and voters
262 in Mass Meetings or Party Canvasses provided for in the State Party Plan shall be
263 members of the Republican Party of Virginia as stated in this Article and must be legally
264 qualified voters of the respective Units or election Districts which they represent as
265 Chairmen, members, delegates or voters.

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267 *In order to be eligible for appointment or designation to an Official Committee or any*
268 *subcommittee that establishes or recommends rules governing any Official Committee,*
269 *an individual must be a member of a unit committee or one of the organizations*
270 *granted representation on the State Central Committee. This requirement shall not*
271 *apply to the State Finance Chairman or to the members of the State Finance*
272 *Committee, or its equivalent of any Official Committee.*

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274 **EXPLANATION**

275 This amendment adds membership in a unit committee, the Virginia Federation of
276 Republican Women, the Young Republican Federation of Virginia, or the College
277 Republican Federation of Virginia as a qualification to be appointed or designated a
278 member of any Official Committee, or any subcommittee that makes or proposes rules
279 for the Republican Party of Virginia. An exception to this is made for the State Finance
280 Chairman, members of the State Finance Committee or their equivalent District and unit
281 committees.

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