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**BY-LAWS OF THE CONSTITUTION PARTY OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**As Adopted for 2016 - 2020**

Article I  
NAME

The name of this organization shall be the "Constitution Party of South Dakota," hereinafter referred to as the Party.

Article II  
PURPOSE

The purpose of the Party is to develop an informed, energetic, and effective statewide political organization in order to support the principles, based on the founder's original intent, of the Constitution of the United States, the Declaration of Independence, and the Bill of Rights and to secure the election of all duly nominated candidates and electors thereof.

Article III  
POLICY

All applicable provisions of the South Dakota code Annotated shall be part of these by-laws.

Article IV  
MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Party shall consist of all persons who are registered voters under the laws of the State of South Dakota who have declared their affiliation with the Party.

**Article V**  
**STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

**Section A: Membership**

The membership of the State Central Committee shall be composed of the State Chairman, State Vice Chairman, State Secretary, and the State Treasurer; the Chairman of each of the County Central Committees (if organized); and the members of the Constitution Party National Committee that are from South Dakota. All members of the State Central Committee shall be registered voters affiliated with the Constitution Party of South Dakota as shown on their affidavit of voter registration.

**Section B: Election and Terms**

1. The State Chairman, State Vice Chairman, State Secretary, State Treasurer, and the National Committee members shall be elected by the State Convention for a term of four years or until his successor is elected.
2. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary of each organized County Central Committee shall be elected in accordance with the rules and by-laws of the respective county organizations.

**Section C: Vacancies**

1. A vacancy in the office of the State Chairman shall be filled by the vice Chairman who shall serve the remaining unexpired term of the vacating State Chairman.
2. A vacancy in the office of State Vice Chairman shall be filled by appointment of the State Chairman. The nominee shall serve the remaining unexpired term of the vacating State Vice Chairman.
3. If offices of both the State Chairman and State vice Chairman become vacant, a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be called by the next ranking office to choose successors.
4. A vacancy in the office of State Secretary shall be filled by appointment by the State Chairman and serve the unexpired term of the vacating Secretary.
5. A vacancy in the office of State Treasurer shall be filled by appointment by the State Chairman and serve the unexpired term of the vacating Treasurer.

## Section D: Duties

1. **State Central Committee**
  - a. The State Central Committee shall formulate and provide for the execution of such policies, plans, and measures as it may deem conducive to the best interest of the Party, and in conformity with the state Party By-laws.
  - b. It shall call all regular and special State Conventions and make arrangements therefore, including the basis of representation, the time and place.
  
2. **State Chairman**
  - a. The State Chairman shall be the chief executive officer of the Party and Chairman of the State Central Committee.
  - b. The State Chairman shall issue the call and preside at all meetings of the Party.
  - c. The State chairman shall observe and enforce the by-laws and rules of the Party.
  - d. The State Chairman shall appoint necessary staff members and all standing and special committees.
  - e. The State chairman shall be ex officio a member of all committees.
  - f. The State Chairman shall act as necessary to promote the functions of the Party.
  
3. **State Vice Chairman**
  - a. The State vice chairman shall become the State Chairman in the event of a vacancy in that office.
  - b. The State vice chairman shall perform other duties the State chairman may prescribe.
  
4. **State Secretary**
  - a. The State Secretary shall be the chief clerical officer of the Party.
  - b. The State Secretary shall record all proceedings of the State Central Committee and the State convention, which shall be the property of the committee.
  - c. The State Secretary shall perform other duties the State Chairman may prescribe.
  
5. **State Treasurer**
  - a. The State Treasurer shall keep the financial records of the Party.
  - b. The State Treasurer shall be responsible for fulfilling federal, state and local financial disclosure requirements, if applicable.
  - c. The State Treasurer shall, at the direction of the State chairman, issue all checks in payment of Party obligations.

**Article VI  
VOTING**

**Voting, with the exception of the election of officers and nominees for public office, shall be by voice. A person holding multiple offices shall not be entitled to more than one vote, excluding proxies. Any voting member who wants to vote by proxy shall designate his proxy on a written form which shall be dated and signed.**

**Article VII  
STATE CONVENTION**

- 1. The Call for the State Convention, to be held in election years no later than 60 days following the South Dakota Primary elections, shall be issued by the duly elected Chairman of the State Central Committee.**
- 2. Notice of the State Convention shall be published by the State Chairman in a newspaper of general circulation at least fourteen days prior to the Convention. Such notice shall specify the time, date, and place for holding the Convention. Notice shall be mailed to all members of the State Central Committee.**
- 3. Robert's rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the proceedings of the State convention, and the rulings of the Chairman of the State convention shall be the decision on the question before the body.**
- 4. Nominees for state, federal, county and legislative offices will be chosen by majority vote by Constitution Party members either voting in person or by proxy at the State Convention.**
- 5. The affirmative vote of the majority of the delegates present and voting at the State Convention shall be the act of the Convention.**
- 6. The Chairman of the State Central Committee pro-tem shall preside at the opening of the State Convention until a State Chairman is elected.**
- 7. The State Chairman or the State Secretary shall certify the names of the duly elected delegates and alternate delegates to the National Convention of the Constitution Party and promptly forward said names to the Executive Director of the Constitution Party.**
- 8. Members of the party and its Officers reserve the right to vote "none of the above" if there is not a candidate running for a particular office that is in strict compliance with party's platform and principles. This voting option shall be necessary in order to protect the integrity of the Constitution Party name.**

**Article VII**  
**SELECTION OF DELEGATES TO COUNTY, STATE, AND NATIONAL CONVENTIONS**

1. Delegates to county, state, and national conventions of the Party will be appointed by the State Chairman, subject to confirmation by majority vote of the Central committee.
2. Electors for Presidential Candidates shall be chosen by the State Chairman, subject to confirmation by majority vote of the Central Committee. If the Chairman shall fail to act, the next ranking officer shall fulfill the responsibility.

**Article IX**  
**RULES FOR COUNTIES**

Counties and districts may adopt their own rules and by-laws, subject to approval by the State Central Committee. In the absence of such by-laws, these by-laws shall govern.

**Article X**  
**USE OF THE PARTY NAME**

No person, group of persons, or organization shall use the name, address, or emblem of the Party in any manner, unless the State Chairman grants permission.

**Article XI**  
**PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The then current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the party whenever they are applicable and not inconsistent with these by-laws and the South Dakota Election Laws.

**Article XII**  
**INITIAL ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY**


Due to the necessities of organization, the State Chairman shall have broad powers to appoint members to the State Central Committee and act in the interest of the Party to comply with the laws of the United States and the State of South Dakota. At such time as these broad powers are no longer needed, they may be rescinded by majority vote of the State Central Committee.

**Article XIII**  
**TIE VOTES**

Votes that end in a tie shall be decided by vote of the State Chairman or senior member of that unit.

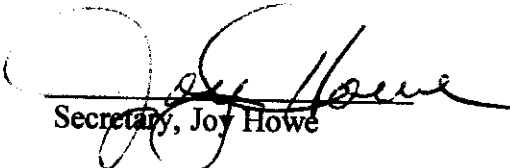
Article XIV  
AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

These by-laws shall take effect and be in force from and after the 2nd day of April 2016, and may be amended at any meeting by a three-fourths vote of the State Central Committee or by a two-thirds vote of the State Convention.

  
State Chairman, Lori Stacey  
Constitution Party of South Dakota

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that, after motion made and duly seconded, on this date, April 2, 2016, the above and foregoing by-laws were duly adopted by a majority vote of the members of the state executive committee pro tem of the Constitution Party of South Dakota, a quorum as required by these by-laws being present.

  
Secretary, Joy Howe