

Proposed amendment to Article VII, Section 1.B of the Connecticut Democratic State Party Rules.

Purpose of Amendment: The intent of the proposed amendment is to authorize the town chair to expand the means of providing notice for the caucus to endorse candidates for town committee. The Connecticut General Statutes require that notice of such caucus must be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality. That statutory requirement remains.

ARTICLE VII RULES GOVERNING THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN ALL TOWNS

The following rules shall govern the activities of the Democratic Party in each town of the state, whether or not the local party has adopted its own rules, notwithstanding any local party rule to the contrary.

Section 1: Election of Town Committees

A. Candidates for town committee members shall be selected by the enrolled members of such party in caucus or via a direct primary held in accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes. Any candidates who are endorsed at the caucus in the circumstances where there is no primary shall be deemed elected as of the primary date. A town committee may be endorsed and elected on a district basis as such town committee may prescribe.

B. Caucus. At caucus meetings, any eligible person may be nominated from the floor, notwithstanding any notice or pre-registration requirements in the local rules. Notice of the time, place and purpose of said caucus shall be given to all enrolled Democratic voters of the municipality at least five (5) days, but not more than fifteen (15) days, in advance of the caucus by publication of the same in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality. The Town Chair also may post a notice of such caucus on the State Party website, the local town committee website, the local municipal website or other websites as the Town Chair deems appropriate. At any caucus duly called for the endorsement of members of a town committee, nominations for such town committee members may be made by (1) presentation to the caucus of a slate composed of a number of persons equal to or less than the number of town committee members to be elected as prescribed by local party rules or (2) by nomination of individual candidates. Voting by slate is only permissible when the election is between two or more slates of equal number. In the endorsement of such candidates, voting shall be in accordance with the local party rules, but in no event shall a member of the caucus vote for a greater number of candidates than those to be elected. In the event no endorsement is made by the above stated method, then there shall be no endorsement, and election to such town committee shall be made by direct primary as provided by law.

C. The payment of dues shall not be a requirement for the endorsement or election of a candidate for any local party or town committee position.

D. No person shall be eligible to serve on the town committee unless they are a registered member of the Democratic Party.