

**RULES GOVERNING THE SELECTION OF DELEGATES  
TO THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION**

The New Jersey Republican State Committee hereby adopts the following rules governing the selection of delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention.

**RULE 1      Law Applicable to Allocation and/or Selection of Delegates**

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:24-2, these rules shall supersede the laws of the State of New Jersey regarding the allocation and/or selection of delegates to the Republican National Convention including such laws relating to the timing of the selection of delegates. Where these rules are silent, the laws of the State New Jersey shall govern.

**RULE 2      Number of Delegates**

The number of delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention shall be set by the Republican National Committee in accordance with Rule 13 of the Rules of the Republican National Committee. Nothing contained here shall authorize the election of more delegates and/or alternates to the Republican National Convention than shall be authorized by the Rules of the Republican National Committee.

**RULE 3      Timing of Election of Delegates – Compliance with Rules of Republican National Committee**

In accordance with Rule 15(b)(1)(i) of the Rules of the Republican National Committee, no delegates or alternates to the Republican National Convention shall be selected or allocated prior to the Tuesday next after the first Monday in February in any year in which the Republican National Convention is held. Nor shall the process for nominating such delegates begin prior to September 1 in the year preceding the year in which the Republican National Convention is to be held.

**RULE 4      Requirements to Appear on Ballot as Candidate Seeking Nomination at the Republican National Convention**

Any candidate who is qualified under the laws of the United States to hold the office of President of the United States and desires to appear on the ballot as a candidate for the nomination of the Republican Party at the Republican National Convention shall, not later than 4:00 p.m. on the 57<sup>th</sup> day prior to the Tuesday next after the first Monday in February, file a petition of nomination which complies with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 19:23-7. That petition shall be signed by no less than one thousand (1000) voters who are registered either as members of the Republican party or have not declared affiliation with any political party at the time the petition is signed. Any person who at the time of signing such a petition was not affiliated with any political party shall be deemed to be a member of the Republican Party and shall be eligible to vote in the Republican primary election. Nothing contained herein shall authorize any person who is affiliated with or is a member of any other political party to the sign the nominating petition of any candidate seeking the nomination of the Republican Party for the office of President of the United States at the Republican National Convention.

**RULE 5      Allocation and Election of Delegates**

The allocation and election of delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention shall be conducted in accordance with the following rules.

**RULE 5A      Timing of Election to Allocate and/or Commit Delegates and Alternates**

On the first Tuesday of February in the year of the Republican National Convention there shall be a primary election solely for the purpose of allocating delegates and alternates among those candidates seeking the Republican nomination for the office of President of the United States of America at the Republican National Convention.

**RULE 5A(1)      Primary Election to Allocate and/or Commit Delegates**

The name of each candidate seeking the Republican nomination for the office of President of the United States of America at the Republican National Convention who shall have complied with requirements of these rules regarding petitions of nomination to appear on the ballot shall be listed on the ballot for the Republican primary election to be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday of February in any year in which the Republican National Convention is to be held.

**RULE 5A(2) Method of Allocating and/or Committing Delegates**

All delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention shall be deemed allocated and/or committed to the candidate for nomination to the office of President of the United States at the Republican National Convention receiving the greatest number of legal votes calculated on a statewide basis at the Republican primary election held on the next Tuesday following the first Monday of February in any year in which the Republican National Convention is to be held. This process, commonly referred to as “winner take all” shall govern the allocation and/or commitment of all delegates elected at the June primary election. Delegates and alternates from each congressional district as well as the delegates and alternates elected as at-large delegates shall be allocated and/or committed according to the results of the statewide vote totals.

**RULE 5A(3) Length of Commitment of Delegates at National Convention**

All delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention once allocated and/or committed to a particular candidate by virtue of the February primary election shall be obligated and required to cast their vote for that candidate at each the first three votes to select the Republican Party’s nominee for the office of President of the United States at the Republican National Convention. In the event any candidate to whom New Jersey’s delegates and alternates

are allocated and/or committed declines to participate in the Republican National Convention or makes known publicly that he/she no longer seeks the nomination of the Republican Party for the office of President of the United States, New Jersey's delegates and alternates shall no longer be allocated and/or committed to any candidate. In the event of a dispute, the determination of whether a candidate shall have publicly made known their intention to no longer seek the nomination of the Republican Party shall be made by a vote of the Delegates elected pursuant to Rule 5B.

**RULE 5A(4) Censure of Delegates Who Fail to Abide by Commitment**

Any delegate or alternate allocated and/or committed to a particular candidate by virtue of the results of the February primary election who fails or refuses to act in accordance with their allocation and/or commitment to that candidate as set forth herein shall be subject to censure by the New Jersey Republican State Committee and/or the County Republican Committees. Censure may include, among other things, being permanently barred from acting as a delegate or alternate to any future National Convention of the Republican Party.

**RULE 5B Timing of Election to Select Delegates**

The selection of those persons who shall act as delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention shall take place at the primary election to be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday of June in the year in which the Republican National Convention is to be held

**RULE 5B(1) Election to Select Delegates – Nominating Petitions**

All persons desiring to appear as a candidate for delegate or alternate to the Republican National Convention on the ballot of the Republican primary election to be held on the first Tuesday next after the first Monday in June in any year in which the Republican National Convention is held shall file a petition or joint-petition in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:23-7 not

later than the 57<sup>th</sup> day prior to that election. In addition to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 19:23-7, any petition for a delegate or alternate shall state that the candidate identified therein is aware that they are allocated and/or committed to a particular candidate and shall set forth the name of the candidate having received the largest number of legal votes statewide at the February primary election. Any petition filed in accordance with these rules shall further provide that the all candidates appearing on the petition agree to abide by the rules of the New Jersey Republican State Committee regarding the allocation and/or commitment of delegates and alternates and their voting obligations imposed by these rules at the Republican National Convention.

**RULE 5B(2) Election to Select Congressional District Delegates**

Any candidate seeking to be elected as delegate or alternate representing a particular congressional district at the Republican National Convention must be a member of the Republican Party and a resident of the congressional district which they are seeking to represent and must submit a petition signed by one hundred (100) voters who are legally qualified to vote under the laws of the State of New Jersey, are residents of the congressional district in which the candidate or candidates are running and further, are registered either as members of the Republican party or have not declared affiliation with any political party at the time the petition is signed. Candidates filing a joint petition (a petition setting forth the names of two or three candidates ) need only obtain one hundred (100) signatures in total, irrespective of the number of candidates listed in the petition. Any person who at the time of signing such a petition was not affiliated with any political party shall be deemed to be a member of the Republican Party and shall be eligible to vote in the Republican primary election. Nothing contained herein shall authorize any person who is affiliated with or is a member of any other political party to the sign

the nominating petition of any candidate seeking to become a delegate or alternate to the Republican National Convention.

**RULE 5B(3) Election to Select At-Large Delegates**

Any candidate seeking to be elected as an at-large delegate or alternate must be a member of the Republican Party and must submit a petition or joint petition signed by two hundred and fifty (250) voters who are legally qualified to vote under the laws of the State of New Jersey and, are registered either as members of the Republican party or have not declared affiliation with any political party at the time the petition is signed. Candidates filing a joint petition (a petition setting forth the names of two or more candidates ) need only obtain two hundred and fifty (250) signatures in total irrespective of the number of candidates listed in the petition. Any person who at the time of signing such a petition was not affiliated with any political party shall be deemed to be a member of the Republican Party and shall be eligible to vote in the Republican primary election. Nothing contained herein shall authorize any person who is affiliated with or is a member of any other political party to the sign the nominating petition of any candidate seeking to become a delegate or alternate to the Republican National Convention.

**RULE 5C Persons Qualified to Allocate or Elect Delegates**

Delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention shall be elected by the members of the Republican Party qualified under laws of the State of New Jersey to vote in the Republican primary election. This shall include those persons who prior to the Republican primary election have not declared a party affiliation. Any person voting in either the February or June Republican primary election for the allocation or selection of delegates to the Republican National Committee who prior to such primary election was not affiliated with any political party

shall by virtue of casting a vote in the Republican primary be deemed to be a member of the Republican party and shall pledge to support the Republican nominee for President in the November general election. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to authorize any person who is affiliated with or is a member of any other political party to vote to allocate and/or elect delegates to the Republican National Convention.

**RULE 5C(1) Congressional District Delegates**

Delegates and alternates representing a congressional district shall be elected in accordance with these rules by the members of the Republican Party residing within that congressional district who are qualified to vote under the laws of the State New Jersey. No person residing outside of the congressional district shall be entitled to vote in the election to select delegates and alternates from that congressional district. The three (3) candidates for delegate and alternate receiving the highest number of votes, respectively, within any congressional district shall be the delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention from that congressional district.

**RULE 5C(2) At-Large Delegates**

At large delegates and alternates shall be elected in accordance with these rules by the members of the Republican Party residing anywhere within the State of New Jersey who are qualified to vote under these rules and the laws of the State of New Jersey. The ten (10) candidates for at-large delegate and alternate receiving the highest number of votes statewide shall be the at-large delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention.

**RULE 6 Endorsement of Delegates**

The Republican State Committee, in consultation with the Chairman/Chairwoman of each of the County Committees, the leaders of the legislative caucuses and the members of the

congressional delegation shall be entitled to endorse a slate of candidates to appear on the ballot as at-large delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention. Any such candidates so endorsed shall also be deemed to have received the endorsement of the County Committees and shall be entitled to bracket with the congressional district delegates and alternates endorsed by the respective County Committees. The County Committees shall be entitled to endorse candidates seeking election as congressional district delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention. Such endorsement may be granted in any manner traditionally employed within each respective county and nothing herein shall be deemed to require a vote of the County Committee in order to grant such endorsement. These delegates shall also be entitled to the endorsement of the Republican State Committee and shall be entitled to bracket with the at-large delegates and alternates endorsed by the Republican State Committee.

**RULE 7      Bracketing of Delegates and Ballot Position**

Candidates filing a joint petition and/or candidates who file individual petitions and whom desire to appear together on the ballot under a common slogan shall provide written notice of their desire to bracket to the County Clerk in each County where said candidate(s) are to appear on the ballot. Such notice shall contain the signature of each candidate expressing a desire to be bracketed and shall be provided not later than thirty-five (35) days prior to the date of the primary election. Upon receipt of timely notice, the County Clerk shall be required to group such candidates together in the same column or row of the ballot under the designated slogan. Candidates for delegate and alternate to the Republican National Convention endorsed by the Republican State Committee and the respective County Committee shall be bracketed with all other candidates appearing on the ballot who have received the endorsement of the respective County Committee.

**RULE 8      Vacancy - Congressional District Delegates**

In the event any congressional district delegate to the Republican National Convention shall be unable to attend, that delegate shall be replaced by the congressional district alternate whose name appeared first on the ballot at the June primary election. This process shall continue until any and all vacancies among delegates for that congressional district are filled. In the event any alternate to the Republican National Convention is unable to attend, the Chairpersons of those County Committees comprising the congressional district shall meet to select a person or persons to fill any such vacancy or vacancies among alternates.

**RULE 9      Vacancy - At-Large Delegates**

In the event any at-large delegate to the Republican National Committee shall be unable to attend, that delegate shall be replaced by the at-large alternate whose name appeared first on the ballot at the June primary election. This process shall continue until any and all vacancies among at-large delegates are filled. In the event any at-large alternate to the Republican National Convention is unable to attend, the Chairman/Chairwoman of the New Jersey Republican State Committee, in consultation with the members of the Republican State Committee, Chairpersons of the County Committees and the leaders of the legislative caucuses shall select a person or persons to fill any such vacancy or vacancies among alternates.

**RULE 10     Revision or Modification of Rules**

These rules may modified at any time prior to the deadline set by Rule 15(e)(1) of the Rules of the Republican National Committee for the submission of rules to the Secretary of the Republican National Committee. No meeting to amend these rules shall be held on less than

fourteen (14) calendar days to the members of the Republican State Committee. Any proposed amendments to these rules must be provided to the members of the Republican State Committee not later than five (5) calendar days prior to the scheduled meeting date. A quorum of as defined by the Rules of the Republican State Committee shall be necessary for any meeting to modify these rules. A vote by the majority of those members present at any meeting where a quorum exists shall be necessary to modify these rules.

**RULE 10A Revision of Rules to Comply With Court Order**

In the event these rules are deemed by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable as a result of a determination that these rules violate State or Federal law, the Republican State Committee shall meet within ten (10) calendar days of the date of entry of that order, if the Chairman of the Republican State Committee determines not appeal such a determination, to revise these rules to comply with the court's order. Notice of a meeting under this rule shall be provided as soon as practicable after the receipt of an order declaring any of these rules to violate State or Federal law. A quorum of fifteen (15) members of the Republican State Committee shall be necessary to hold a meeting to modify any rule to comply with an order of the courts. A vote of the majority of the members present at such a meeting shall be sufficient to modify the rule or rules subject to the order of the courts. These rules shall not be modified in any manner other than as necessary to comply with an order of the courts at any meeting held pursuant to this rule unless, such proposed changes also comply with the notice and quorum requirements necessary for amendment under these rule.