

BYLAWS OF THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY

Article I **Name.**

The legal name of this organization is the Progressive Party (hereinafter "PP" or "the Party").

Article II **Purpose and Mission Statement.**

The Progressive Party is dedicated to these principles:

All Americans will have access to a quality education to the full extent of their abilities and initiative.

All Americans will have access to employment and entrepreneurship development opportunities commensurate with their abilities, education, and initiative.

Our minimum wage laws will be adjusted to ensure that every full-time adult worker receives a living wage.

Trade policy will embrace workers' rights, environmental protection, and living wages around the world.

The United States shall seek the peaceful, non-military resolution of disputes, reduce spending on war planning, equipment, and personnel, and respect the sovereignty of other nations and peoples.

The military services will be retooled to serve civilian needs, including emergency response.

All Americans will have access to guaranteed quality health care, regardless of their financial means.

Present and future generations are entitled to a healthy environment; sustainability will be our guide.

Government will be funded by means of a fair tax system that accounts for the ability to pay and the benefits received from government.

Funding environmentally sound alternative energy sources will be a top priority.

Elections will be conducted free of the corrupting influence of campaign contributions and "independent expenditures" upon candidates, office-holders and government policy decisions.

Other parties will be afforded a fair opportunity to break the two-party duopoly that dominates American politics.

Article III Membership.

There shall be three categories of membership.

- A. Member: As defined in ORS 248.002(4), an individual who is registered as being affiliated with the OPP.
- B. Active Member: A Member who has participated in the OPP activities to an extent defined by rule by the State Council.
- C. Supporter: An individual who subscribes to the Mission Statement and has supported the OPP or efforts to implement its principles within the previous 4 years in a manner defined by rule by the State Council.

Article IV Organization.

The Party is established as a participatory institution to assure fair and open opportunities for all interested Members. All Members are encouraged to participate at all state and local meetings in accordance with the Bylaws and to become Supporters.

- A. Initial State Council.
 - 1. The initial State Council shall be 3 persons appointed by the Chief Sponsor of the OPP, who shall serve until they are replaced by Councilors by the method described below.
 - 2. If the initial State Council at any time has fewer than 3 Councilors, it shall continue to function, and the remaining members shall fill any vacancies as soon as practicable.
 - 3. When a vacancy occurs prior to expiration of a State Councilor's term, the initial State Council may appoint a replacement to serve the remaining portion of the term.

B. State Council.

A State Council shall be comprised of 5 State Councilors with voting authority, each of whom shall be an Active Member or a Supporter. The State Councilors shall serve 5-year staggered terms, with one Councilor elected each year.

C. Election of State Councilors.

1. Within 60 days of adoption of the bylaw amendments incorporating this section, the initial State Council shall announce on the OPP's Official Website that Members or Supporters may submit proposed nominations for the 5 State Councilor positions.
2. A nominee to the State Council must qualify as a Supporter or Active Member of OPP and must maintain that status throughout the term of office.
3. Persons who may vote in State Council elections are Supporters and Active Members of OPP.
4. Within 21 additional days, the initial State Council shall:
 - a. Publish on the Official OPP Website a list of the qualified nominees for the 5 seats; and
 - b. Announce the starting date and ending date for qualified voters vote on these nominees.
5. This election may be conducted in person, by mail, on the internet, or by a combination of methods.
 - a. Notice of the procedures for authenticating internet voting shall be provided on the Official OPP Website prior to the date that membership voting may occur.
 - b. Additional notice of internet nominating activity and elections shall, as deemed necessary by the State Council, be given by means reasonably calculated to reach Members and Supporters.
 - c. The State Council shall adopt a process for authenticating internet voting so that it is limited to persons who are actual Supporters or Active Members of the OPP at the time the election is announced and shall take other reasonable steps to assure the security and integrity of the process.

6. The first election shall elect one person to a term ending December 31 of the year of the election, one person to a term ending December 31 of the following year, one person to a term ending December 31 of the second following year, one person to a term ending December 31 of the third following year, and one person to a term ending December 31 of the fourth following year.
7. If the candidates in the first election do not agree which one is seeking which term, the candidates seeking the same term shall resolve the dispute by drawing straws or other method of chance upon which they mutually agree.
8. Thereafter, each year in September one person shall be elected to a 5-year term to fill the term expiring at the end of that year, using the same process described above.
9. When a vacancy occurs in the final 18 months of a State Councilor's term, the State Council may appoint a replacement to serve the remainder of the term.
10. When a vacancy occurs prior to the final 18 months of a State Councilor's term, the State Council may appoint a replacement to serve until a replacement for the remaining term is elected at the following September's election.
11. Upon the vote of any 4 State Councilors, the other State Councilor may be impeached. Notice of such impeachment shall be provided to Active Members and Supporters, who may, by majority vote taken within 30 days of the notice, remove the impeached Councilor from office. Removal of an impeached Councilor from office creates a vacancy in that office.

D. Duties of the State Council shall include:

1. Appointing officers and senior advisers;
2. Managing day-to-day activities of the operation of the Party;
3. Budgeting and finances, including seeking contributions and assisting candidate's fundraising efforts;
4. Maintaining compliance with state and federal election law requirements;
5. Scheduling and conducting voting for delegates to nominating caucuses;

6. Scheduling and conducting state conventions;
7. Representing statewide OPP interests;
8. Establishing procedures for considering endorsements of persons who are candidates for offices not sought by OPP candidates;
9. Establishing procedures for considering positions of support or opposition to state and local petitions and measures relating to the party principles;
10. Making binding interpretations of state organizational documents, including these Bylaws;
11. Appointing standing and ad hoc committees;
12. Adopting amendments to the Bylaws;
13. Exercising the Nominating and Endorsement Authorities set forth in Article V of these Bylaws;
14. Designating the directors of any political committee organized by the Party pursuant to ORS Chapter 260 or other state law pertaining to political party financial reporting.
15. Taking steps necessary to function as a state party committee within the meaning of 11 CFR 100.05, *et seq.*; and
16. Any other duties that may arise requiring statewide coordination and administration efforts.

E. Officers and Senior Advisers.

1. The officers to be appointed by the State Council and to serve at its pleasure shall be one or more Chairpersons, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. An officer may hold more than one office.
2. The initial officers shall be appointed by the Chief Sponsor, each to serve a 1-year term.
3. The State Council may appoint senior advisors, who may participate as non-voting members of the State Council.

F. Affiliated Chapters.

1. The State Council may grant charters to groups of PP Members seeking to establish affiliated party organizations within a subdivision of the State or within the geographic district.
2. Chapters are the primary grassroots organizations of the party and the primary forums for exchange of independent ideas and grassroots political change. The State Council shall supply chapters with information and expertise, upon request.
3. Any 10 Supporters and/or Members may apply to form a party chapter by providing the following information to the Party secretary:
 - a. The names of those 10 Supporters;
 - b. The name of the proposed chapter;
 - c. The geographic boundaries of the proposed chapter;
 - d. The name of a designated liaison to the State Council; and
 - e. Either the name of a designated treasurer or a statement that the chapter will not accept contributions or make expenditures.
4. The State Council shall either accept or reject the chapter application.
5. The State Council may revoke an existing chapter for cause, stated in writing and sent to the designated liaison by registered mail or delivery service which requires the recipient's signature.
6. The State Council may require chapters to register political committees with the appropriate filing officers prior to receiving contributions.
7. Chapters shall notify the PP secretary of any changes to the designated liaison within 3 days of the change.
8. A Member or Supporter may join as many PP chapters as desired.

9. Each chapter shall submit a roster of its members to the PP Secretary every 6 months.
10. In all state Party documents, references to non-state-level matters, such as chapters, shall be either explicit or immediately clear from context. All other references are understood to apply exclusively to state-level Party operations.
11. No chapter may endorse a candidate for election to public office, if the state Party has nominated or endorsed a different candidate for the same office. Nor shall any chapter take positions on other electoral matters (such as endorsing ballot measures or the associated signature drives) that are contrary to the positions of the state Party.

Article V Nominating Authority and Endorsement Authority.

A. Definitions.

1. "Nomination" means selection by the OPP of a candidate as defined by ORS 249.002(1) for a partisan political office under procedures set out in ORS 249.705 - .722 or other applicable law.
2. "Endorsement" means the official approval of the candidacy of a person for elective office who does not meet the criteria for nomination as an OPP candidate or who cannot lawfully be a candidate of the OPP.
3. "Biennial election cycle" means the period commencing the day after a November general election in Oregon and ending on the November general election day in Oregon two years later.

B. During the biennial election cycle during which the OPP is formed, and until changed by amendment to these Bylaws, the nominating and endorsement authority for all offices shall reside in the State Nominating Panel, which shall make decisions by a majority vote of the delegates serving on the Panel at the time of the vote.

C. Commencing with the election cycle in which the State Council has been elected by the Supporters and Active Members of OPP not less than one month prior to the deadline for nominating candidates for the general election, the nominating and endorsement authority for all offices shall reside in the State Council.

- D. If the State Nominating Panel has nominated candidates for the current election cycle, prior to the election of the State Council as noted in the previous subsection, the State Council shall not change those nominations.
- E. The State Council shall, during each biennial election cycle:
 - 1. Compile a list of suggested candidate nominees and invite suggestions for candidate nominees from all Members for a period ending 3 days before the date of a meeting;
 - 2. Take reasonable steps to contact candidate nominees and determine whether they are qualified for nomination as a candidate of the OPP and would accept such nomination;
 - 3. Conduct a nominating process to select OPP nominees, which may include a nominating election.
- F. Nominating Elections.
 - 1. Nominating elections may be conducted in person, by mail, on the internet, or by a combination of methods.
 - a. The method for each nomination election shall be selected by the State Council.
 - b. Those eligible to vote in nominating elections shall be Active Members or Supporters.
 - 2. Those eligible to be nominated shall be any person:
 - a. who has been a OPP member in good standing for at least one year at the time of applying to be a candidate for nomination; or
 - b. who demonstrates to the State Council that the person has convincingly supported the principles and policies of the OPP and will continue to do so.
 - 3. The nominee shall be the person receiving the most votes for that nomination.
 - 4. Notice to Members.
 - a. Notice of nominating elections shall, as deemed necessary by the State Council, be given by means reasonably calculated to reach Members and

Supporters, including postings on the OPP Official Website.

- b. Notice of the procedures for authenticating internet voting shall be provided on the OPP Website prior to the date that voting may occur.

5. Authentication of Voting Eligibility.

- a. The eligibility of each person to vote shall be verified by the State Council by:
 - (1) checking the state voter registration database;
 - (2) checking the minutes of prior OPP membership meetings; and
 - (3) checking the records of persons designated to be Active Members or Supporters.

- b. If the nominating election is conducted electronically, in whole or in part, the State Council shall:
 - (1) Adopt a process for authenticating the eligibility of each person voting so that it is limited to persons who are Active Members or Supporters of the OPP at the time the election is announced, which may include requiring each person to
 - (a) furnish a reliable form of identification; or
 - (b) correctly answer questions posed by a commercial identification verifier.
 - (2) Take other reasonable steps to assure the security and integrity of the process.

- G. The State Council may, by unanimous vote, delegate nominating authority for an office to a membership nominating convention for Active Members and Supporters eligible to vote for the candidate to be nominated.

- H. The State Council may endorse candidates for public office under procedures to be adopted by the State Council.

Article VI Conventions.

- A. Any convention at which for nominations for elective office are considered shall be publicized as required in ORS 248.009(3) for nominating conventions, and, if deemed necessary by the State Council, additional notice may be given by means reasonably calculated to reach Members.
- B. Convention rules shall be adopted and/or amended at any duly constituted state convention by a simple majority vote of the Supporters attending.
- C. Votes taken at a convention specific to candidate nominations and endorsements and ballot measure endorsements may be taken using absentee ballots. The State Council shall establish procedures using absentee voting at a convention.
- D. For the purpose of attendance at a convention, attendance by any interactive means which may be verified shall be sufficient, and a convention may be conducted by means of interactive technology.

Article VII Amendments.

The Bylaws may be amended by either the State Council or by two-thirds vote of Supporters attending a convention duly noticed for that purpose.

Article VIII Rules of Order.

- A. After full deliberation and attempt at consensus, the PP shall operate by majority vote.
- B. During open discussions all attendees are encouraged to participate in a respectful and constructive manner. The group may appoint a facilitator, process observer and/or timekeeper. The goal of a discussion is an open exchange of ideas without personal biases and criticism.
- C. Robert's Rules of Order shall be employed, if necessary.
- D. Unless otherwise specified in this document, all decisions by the PP at convention will be made by each Supporter in good standing present

casting one vote, with a majority of affirmative votes required for passage. A majority is defined as more than half the total votes cast.

- E. Amendments to the Constitution or Bylaws at a convention shall require an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Supporters eligible to vote and voting. There shall be no voting by mail or proxy on these items. All proposed changes must be received by the State Council 20 days before the convention or meeting. The State Council shall seek to disseminate the proposed changes as widely as possible.

Article IX Platform.

A Platform consistent with the Mission Statement may be adopted by the State Council or at convention. The Platform shall consist of a number of planks which shall state the Party position on specific issues. At convention, the Platform shall be considered plank by plank, and each plank must pass a majority of the Supporters present in order to be adopted.

Article XI Finances.

- A. All contributions and funds raised by the Party shall be handled through appropriate political finance committees.
- B. Decisions regarding finances are the responsibility of the State Council, in consultation with the officers.
- C. Party candidates shall form their own political committees, in accordance with law.
- D. Any statewide Party funds to be spent on salaries or other remuneration to individuals or entities must be approved by the State Council.
- E. Recognized chapters may raise funds as the "Oregon Progressive Party" if the State Council authorizes such fundraising in advance and the Chapter immediately sends all funds raised thereby to the PP treasurer to account for and deposit such funds.

Article XII State Outreach.

- A. An action or event may be called in the name of the "Progressive Party" or "Oregon Progressive Party" or "Progressive Party of Oregon" only with the approval of the State Council or the Members at a convention.

- B. Anything carrying the "Progressive Party" or "Oregon Progressive Party" or "Progressive Party of Oregon" name must be approved by the State Council before being distributed. Chapters must use the party name and symbol with their chapter designation (e.g., Eugene Chapter of the Oregon Progressive Party).
- C. All Members may identify themselves as Members of the "Progressive Party" or "Oregon Progressive Party" or "Progressive Party of Oregon" in any statement, commentary or expression they produce, but only designated spokespeople appointed by the State Council may speak on behalf of the Party or issue press materials in the name of the Progressive Party or the Oregon Progressive Party or the Progressive Party of Oregon.

I declare from my personal knowledge, and with the understanding that my declaration may if necessary, be used in any relevant legal proceeding, under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Oregon, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Bylaws of the Progressive Party adopted May 1, 2014.

Dated: _____

Portland, Oregon

Gregory Kafoury
Secretary