

Amendment 8. To: Article V, Section 4, Subsections c & d; Article VIII, Section 2, Subsection f

Submitted by: Carl Olsen

Amend the Article V, Section 4, subsection c:

Members of the above District Convention Committees shall be elected by county conventions; ~~the right to elect District Convention Committee members being apportioned to preference groups within county conventions that divide into preference groups, else~~ election shall be by the convention as a whole.

Amend the Article V, Section 4, Subsection d:

Each District Convention Committee shall nominate to the District Convention those members of the committee which it recommends be elected to serve on the corresponding permanent Committee of the State Convention; ~~election being apportioned to preference groups within District Conventions which divide into preference groups, else~~ election shall be by the convention as a whole.

Strike Article VIII, Section 2, Subsection f :

~~“When convention delegates and alternates are elected by preference group, and more than six (6) representatives of the convention's committees are to be elected, those committee members and alternate members shall be apportioned to the preference groups in the same manner as the delegates.”~~

Rationale: Preference groups are created at county and district conventions for selecting delegates. There are several reasons for this, including, but not limited to: (1) electing national delegates in a presidential election year where more than one Democrat is running; (2) a general showing of strength; and (3) if no candidate obtains thirty-five percent in a primary election, convention delegates may be reconvened for purposes of a nominating convention. See Iowa Code § 43.65 (2018) and Iowa Code § 43.78 (2018).

Any Democrat can serve on a convention committee without being a delegate or an alternate to a convention, so there is no real reason to elect them by preference group. It also defeats the purpose of two provisions in the IDP Constitution intended to make the convention process more efficient: **Article III, Section 3, Subsection c** and **Article V, Section 3, Subsection b**

Convention committees are essential to the success of our conventions at every level. Convention committee members are often folks with great skill and experience such as long-time platform and rules committee members. In addition, committees often work as teams. Electing convention committees by preference groups makes it much more difficult to elect the best, most

experienced convention committee members, making it more difficult and time-consuming for the committees to perform their tasks. We should lock in the process of electing them by the convention as a whole at every level. Doing so will make it much more likely that the individuals our convention committee members nominate to serve at the next level will be elected to do so, leading to more effective and efficient work by our convention committees, regardless who they may or may not support for a given office.