REPORT OF THE O'AHU COUNTY 2022 CONVENTION RULES COMMITTEE

Aloha O'ahu County Convention Delegates:

We submit the following Report of the Convention Rules Committee to the 2022 O'ahu County Democrats Convention.

Your Convention Rules Committee met on February 24, 2022 via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. and adjourned at 8:00 p.m.; on February 27, 2022 via Zoom at 12:00 p.m. and adjourned at 2:30 p.m.; and on March 1, 2022 via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. and adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

On February 24, 2022, members present at the OCC Rules Meeting were as listed below. Quorum was met with 19 members in attendance.

Elton Fukumoto Daniel Jacob Lei Learmont Ken Jacob

Della Au Belatti Marilyn Leimomi Khan

Jon Chinen Larry Meacham

Bart Dame Richard Oshiro (left early)

Phyllis Dendle Aileen Wada
Michael Golojuch, Jr. Matthew Weyer
Michael Golojuch, Sr. Cora Yamamoto
Thomas Helper Robert Zane

Elizabeth Holms

Members not in attendance:

Cory Chun Scott Matayoshi Blake Oshiro (excused)

Zoom Administrator: Jimmy Nguyen

On February 27, 2022, members present at the OCC Rules Meeting were as listed below. Quorum was met with 19 members in attendance.

Elton Fukumoto Ken Jacob

Lei Learmont Marilyn Leimomi Khan

Della Au Belatti
Jon Chinen
Blake Oshiro
Cory Chun
Richard Oshiro
Bart Dame
Aileen Wada
Michael Golojuch, Jr.
Michael Golojuch, Sr.
Cora Yamamoto
Thomas Helper
Robert Zane

Daniel Jacob

Members not in attendance: Guest:

Phyllis Dendle (resigned) Lorna Strand

Elizabeth Holmes Scott Matayoshi

Zoom Administrator: Jimmy Nguyen

On March 1, 2022, members present at the OCC Rules Meeting. Quorum was met with 17

members in attendance, who are listed below:

Elton Fukumoto Daniel Jacob Lei Learmont Ken Jacob

Della Au Belatti Marilyn Leimomi Khan

Jon ChinenLarry MeachamCory ChunBlake OshiroMichael Golojuch, Jr.Richard OshiroMichael Golojuch, Sr.Cora YamamotoThomas HelperRobert ZaneElizabeth HolmesScott Matayoshi

Members not in attendance:

Bart Dame Aileen Wada Matthew Weyer

Zoom Administrator: Jimmy Nguyen

Part I consists of all proposals recommended for adoption by the Committee.

Part II consists of proposals that the Committee considered and did not recommend for adoption Proposals that were submitted but not considered by the Committee were either implicitly or explicitly withdrawn and are not included in this report.

To clearly see how the proposed amendments will impact upon the current Constitution and Bylaws, we have included an Appendix to this report that shows the amendments made to those Articles and Sections impacted with added language underlined and deleted language struck out.

Lastly, we wish to note that if the proposal to delete precincts as the basic unit of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i is adopted, it will also mean that references to Precincts will be removed from the Constitution and Bylaws, where appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

Elton Fukumoto Lei Learmont Co-Chair Co-Chair

PART I

The Convention Rules Committee recommends that the O'ahu County Democrats adopt the following proposals for transmittal to the DPH Convention Rules Committee for consideration by delegates to the 2022 DPH Convention:

1. Amendment to DPH Constitution, Article VIII, Section 3 with Section 4 Added:

Every Democratic Party candidate for election to office, whether Federal, State or County, and every member of the Democratic Party of Hawaii should be expected to shall support, to the maximum extent possible, the Party Platform, Resolutions and the Constitution and Bylaws. Every member of the Democratic Party of Hawaii shall support candidates who are members of the Party and request the Party's support in the general, special or nonpartisan elections.

Add new Section 4: Party Support of Democratic Party Candidates. Every member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i shall support candidates who request the Party's support in the general, special, or nonpartisan elections. To be eligible for such support, the candidate must be a member in good standing and must have completed the DPH Candidate Statement.

In nonpartisan races in which there is no DPH supported member as defined above, DPH members may support any candidate they believe will best be able to carry out the DPH Platform, Constitution and Bylaws and adopted resolutions.

The Democratic Party of Hawaii or any unit thereof shall not endorse any candidate in any race in which more than one Democratic candidate is running.

2. Bylaws, Article IX, Section 1, Candidate Support of Platform, Resolutions, Constitution and Bylaws

Lines 31 to 33: A candidate who fails to abide by these requirements shall not be eligible for Party support endorsement by the respective County Committees or the State Central Committee [and is subject to reprimand by the Democratic Party of Hawai'i].

3. Constitution, Article I, Section 5: Disciplinary Action.

Section 5. Disciplinary Action.

A member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i shall be subject to expulsion, <u>suspension</u>, reprimand, <u>removal</u>, or censure for reasons and in keeping with procedures provided in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

4. Bylaws Article I Section 8: Expulsion, Reprimand, or Censure 8A(1) and part of 8A(2):

Section 8. Expulsion, Reprimand, or Censure 8A. Grounds for Expulsion, Suspension, or Reprimand [or Censure]:

- (1) Mandatory Expulsion. A member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i shall be automatically expelled from the Party for the following reasons:
 - (a) Membership with a political party other than the Democratic Party; or
 - (b) Filing as a candidate of a political party other than the Democratic Party.
- (2) Permissive Expulsion, <u>Suspension</u>, <u>or</u> Reprimand [and Censure.] A member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i may be expelled, <u>suspended</u>, <u>or</u> reprimanded [or censured] for the following reasons:

5. Bylaws Article I Section 8: Expulsion, Reprimand or Censure, 8A(2)(a):

(a) Active support or promotion of a political party or any candidate(s) of a political party other than the Democratic Party, except in nonpartisan races. Examples of

active support include, but are not limited to, making monetary or in kind contributions, accepting a position in an opposition campaign, sign waving, letter writing, appearance in campaign ads, resigning from the Democratic Party to support another political party and rejoining the Democratic Party.

6. Bylaws Article I Section 8A(2)(b) through (2)(f):

- (2) Permissive Expulsion, <u>Suspension</u>, <u>or</u> Reprimand {and Censure}. A member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i may be expelled, <u>suspended</u>, or reprimanded or censured for the following reasons:
 - (b) Failure of a candidate for an elective office or an elected official to follow and abide
 - by the Constitution <u>and Bylaws</u> of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and regulations of the Party campaign committees as approved by the State Central Committee or respective County Committee.
 - (c) Violation of the Constitution or Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and/or Platform of the Party.
 - (d) Violation of governmental ethics codes as adjudicated or determined by the State Ethics Commission, the County Ethics Commission, the Office of Disciplinary

Counsel, the State House, the State Senate, or the courts.

- (e) Conviction of criminal acts for which the member has been found guilty by a federal or state court of law.
- (f) Sexual Violation, Harassment, or Bullying

7. Bylaws, Article I Section 8B, Procedure, Part 8B(1) Limitations and 8B(2) Complaint:

8B. Procedure. The procedures for expulsion, <u>suspension</u>, <u>or reprimand [or censure]</u> are outlined below.

- (1) Limitations. Any complaint charging a member with cause for expulsion, <u>suspension</u>, or reprimand, [or censure] shall be made no later than one hundred and eighty (180) days after the discovery of the violation, <u>except for Sexual Violation</u>, <u>Harassment and Bullying complaints which has no time limitation</u>.
- (2) Complaint. Any member of the Party may file a complaint. The complaint shall be in writing. The complaint shall state the rule(s) which have been violated, <u>if applicable</u>; the activities alleged to have been committed, the date(s) of these activities. Each allegation shall be numbered. Each allegation shall be accompanied by evidence of such activities. The complaint shall be signed by one (1) Party member and endorsed by at least four (4) other Party members. The complaint shall be submitted to the County Secretary[.] <u>if the issue falls within the jurisdiction of the County and/or is made against an individual; otherwise, the complaint shall be filed with the Party Secretary.</u> It is the responsibility of the complainant to provide evidence to support the expulsion, <u>suspension</u>, <u>or reprimand [or censure.</u>] Attached to the complaint shall be a list of any witnesses and the evidence to which they can attest. Each witness will prepare an affidavit attesting to the evidence. <u>The State Central Committee or the County Executive Committee</u>, as applicable, may dismiss with prejudice any complaint submitted without the required evidence.
- (3) <u>Sexual Violation, Harassment, or Bullying Complaint</u>. <u>The procedures for filing a complaint based on Sexual Violation, Harassment, or Bullying shall be as specified in the DPH Policy Against Sexual Harassment & Bullying approved by the SCC on Sep 4, 2021.</u>

8. Bylaws Article I, Section 8B Procedure, 8B(3) Notice and 8B(4) Response

Added: (3) Sexual Violation, Harassment, or Bullying Complaint. The procedures for filing a complaint based on Sexual Violation, Harassment, or Bullying shall be as specified in the DPH Policy Against Sexual Harassment & Bullying approved by the SCC on Sep 4, 2021.

((3) (4) Notice. The accused member Written notice must be [notified in writing] sent to the accused member by the County Secretary or Party Secretary, as applicable, within ten (10) days of the receipt of a complaint.

(4) (5) Response. The accused member shall have thirty (30) days from the date [of notification] notice was mailed and/or sent electronically to prepare a response. The accused member must respond to each allegation: admitted, denied, or denied in part. If an allegation is denied in part or in whole, the accused member shall provide any evidence supporting the denial. Attached to the response shall be a list of any witnesses and the evidence to which they can attest. Each witness shall prepare an affidavit attesting to the evidence.

9. Bylaws Article I, Section 8B Procedure, 8B(5) Investigation:

(5) (6). Investigation. The County Chairperson shall refer each complaint to the County Rules Committee or a special committee to investigate the charges (the "Investigation Committee"). The State Party Secretary shall refer each complaint under the jurisdiction of the State Central Committee to the State Party Chair. Upon receipt of the complaint, the State Party Chair shall appoint an Investigation Committee. The referral of complaint shall be reported to the County Committee or State Central Committee, as applicable, at its next meeting and shall be recorded in the minutes. The Investigation Committee shall conduct a good faith investigation to determine [if a violation of the rules has occurred.] the validity or merits of the complaint. The Investigation Committee shall interview the accused member, the complainant, and any witnesses. The credibility of the complainant, the accused member or any witness may be challenged during the investigation. The Investigation Committee shall gather other facts as necessary for its finding, and shall, within thirty (30) days, submit a report and recommendation(s) to the County Chairperson.of or the State Central Committee, as applicable. The Report shall include the Investigation Committee's findings for each allegation; including any adverse findings regarding credibility; in addition the Investigation Committee may recommend specific sanctions.

1. Bylaws Article I, Section 8B Procedure, 8B(6) Committee's Report:

(6) (7) Investigation Committee's Report. A copy of the Committee Report shall be provided to the accused member and the complainant, and to the County Committee, or State Central Committee, as applicable. The report shall include the grounds upon which the expulsion, suspension, or reprimand [or censure] is sought, and the committee's findings and recommendations, [and a list of County Committee or State Central Committee members who are eligible to vote to accept, amend, or reject the committee's findings and recommendations.]

11. Bylaws Article I, Section 8B Procedure, 8B(7) Hearing:

(7) (8) Hearing. The County Committee, or State Central Committee, shall place the complaint on the agenda at its next meeting following receipt of the Investigation Committee Report or by agreement with the accused member at some other time. Notice of the meeting shall be given to the member, the complainant and the County Committee, or State Central Committee, as applicable, at least seven (7) days prior to the hearing. Members of the County Committee, or State Central Committee, shall be provided with a copy of the report at this time for their consideration-prior to the meeting. The Investigation Committee shall present its report in a meeting open to any interested Party member. The complainant, accused member, and any Party member shall be allowed to make a statement relating to the facts of the case or the

committee's recommendation. The County Committee, or State Central Committee, as applicable, shall decide by majority vote whether to accept, amend, or reject the Committee Report and any sanctions. The County Committee, or State Central Committee, as applicable, shall give notice in writing of its decision to the Secretary of the State Central Committee, with a copy to the member and complainant within seven (7) calendar days. A copy of the committee's report and the County Committee's, or State Central Committee's, decision shall be filed with the County Secretary and the Secretary of the State Central Committee and shall be available for inspection by Party members.

12. Bylaws Article I, Section 8B Procedure, 8B(8) Appeal:

(8) (9) Appeal of a County Committee Decision: A member expelled, suspended, or reprimanded, [or censured] may appeal the decision of the County Committee to the State Central Committee by filing a written request with the Secretary of the State Central Committee within ten (10) days of receiving the written decision of the County Committee. If no appeal is submitted within the ten (10) days, the decision of the County Committee shall be final. If an appeal is submitted, a hearing shall be granted in open meeting of the entire State Central Committee within thirty (30) days. The State Central Committee shall review the Committee Report and accept comments from the County Chair, the Investigation Committee, the accused member and members of the State Central Committee. The State Central Committee shall decide the appeal by majority vote and shall transmit to the member a written notice of its decision within ten (10) days. The decision of the State Central Committee shall be final.

(10) (Added). Appeal of a State Central Committee Decision: The decision on a complaint <u>filed with the SCC and acted upon</u> is not appealable. The decision of the State Central Committee shall be final.

13. Bylaws Article I Section 8 Procedure, 8C Sanctions and Enforcement:

8C. Sanctions and Enforcement for Expulsion, Suspension, or Reprimand

- (1) Mandatory Expulsion. Expulsion shall be automatic and implemented by the Secretary of the State Central Committee. After expulsion, the expelled member is barred from enrolling for membership for five (5) years. The Party shall take all reasonable action to prevent such person from running for office as a Democrat, serving in public office, or holding an office in the Party during the five-year period.
- (2) Permissive Expulsion. Expulsion shall be implemented by the Secretary of the State Central Committee. The Party shall take all reasonable action to prevent such person from participating in Party activities, running for public office as a Democrat, or serving in public office for the period provided in the decision of the County Committee or State Central Committee for at least three (3) years but not more than five (5) years.
- (3) <u>Suspension (Added)</u>. <u>Suspension shall be implemented by the Secretary of the State</u>

 <u>Central Committee</u>. <u>The individual shall be barred from participating in Party events or</u>

 from serving in their elected or appointed capacity with the Party for the duration of the

suspension. Any member who violates the terms of their suspension may face removal from their position or expulsion from the DPH.

14. Bylaws Article I Section 8C Sanctions and Enforcement 8C(4) Censure (delete):

- [3] (4) Reprimand. The Party shall take all reasonable action to prevent such member from holding an office in the Party for up to three (3) years.
- [[4] Censure. In the case of censure by a County, an official letter of censure shall be written by the County Chair. In the case of censure by the State Central Committee, an official letter of censure shall be written by the Party Chair. The letter shall be addressed to the accused member with a copy to the complainant and shall be available for inspection by Party members. No additional sanctions shall apply. No further action shall be taken on the complaint.
- (5) Voluntary Resignation. When a member has voluntarily resigned from the Democratic Party to engage in activities which are grounds for mandatory expulsion, the member shall be barred from re-enrolling for Party membership for at least three (3) years from the date of Resignation."

15. Bylaws Article I Section 8D, Censure and/or Removal (added section):

(1) Censure. A motion to censure the behavior and or remarks of a member of the Party or any of its County Committees or Caucuses to express consternation and disapproval may be adopted by two-thirds vote of the membership so long as the party member to be censured has been notified 10 days in advance of the meeting and shall have the opportunity at the meeting to speak in defense.

16. Bylaws Article I, Section 8D, Censure and/or Removal (second added section):

(2) Removal from a Meeting. Nothing in these Bylaws shall prevent or restrict a presiding officer of the State Central Committee, a County Committee, Caucus, District Council or Precinct Club from ejecting for the duration of that meeting or session anyone who has committed an egregious or repeated breach of decorum.

17. Bylaws, Article IX, General Provisions Section 1, Candidate Support of Platform, Resolutions, Constitution and Bylaws:

The <u>Secretary of</u> the State Central Committee and the <u>Secretary of</u> each county committee shall provide each Democratic candidate for elective office with a copy of the most recently approved State and County Party Platforms, Resolutions, Constitution, and the Bylaws [of the Democratic Party of Hawaii and the respective County Rules] within seven (7) days after the legally established filing deadline. Said candidates shall submit Candidate Statement Forms provided by the State Central Committee indicating their agreement, disagreement, and or reservations

with the Platform and Resolutions of the State and County party organizations within [seven (7) days] 14 calendar days after receipt of the blank forms to the State Central Committee.

Should the candidate draw or pull nomination papers prior to the biennial State Convention, then two (2) sets of Candidate Statement Forms shall be sent, filled out, returned and kept on file, one (1) set of forms relevant to the preceding biennial State Conventions Resolutions and Platform and one set of forms relevant to the current biennial State Conventions Resolutions and Platform.

18. Bylaws, Article IX, General Provisions Section 1, Candidate Support of Platform, Resolutions, Constitution and Bylaws (second amendment of this section):

The State Central Committee and each County Committee shall provide each Democratic candidate for elective office with a copy of the most recently approved State [and County] Party Platform[s], [Resolutions,] Constitution, and the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i [and the respective County Rules] within seven (7) days after the legally established filing deadline. Said candidates shall submit Candidate Statement Forms provided by the State Central Committee indicating their agreement, disagreement, and/or reservations with the Platform [and Resolutions] of the State [and County] Party organization[s] within [seven (7)] fourteen (14) days after receipt of the blank forms to the State Central Committee.

19. Bylaws, Article IX, General Provisions Section 1, Candidate Support of Platform, Resolutions, Constitution and Bylaws (third amendment of this section):

These candidate statement forms, in turn, will be kept for review by Democratic Party members at State Party Headquarters, and posted to the DPH website until the end of the general election. Further, relevant copies of the Candidates Statement Forms shall be made available to the four County Party Chairpersons so that each inhabited island with at least (1) active Precinct Club has one copy of the Candidate Statement Forms for review by Democratic Party members with the exception of Hawaii County, which shall have two, one (1) for East Hawaii and one (1) for West Hawaii. A candidate who is in agreement with the Platform and Resolutions of the State and Party organizations shall be eligible for Party support upon request. A candidate who fails to abide by these requirements shall not be eligible for Party support or endorsement by the respective County Committees or the State Central Committee and is subject to reprimand by the Democratic Party of Hawaii.

20. Bylaws, Article IX, General Provisions, Section 3, Availability of the Constitution and Bylaws:

[It shall be the responsibility of the newly elected State Central Committee to certify as official a complete copy of the newly amended Constitution and/or bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.] Each member of the State Central Committee and the respective County Committees shall be provided notified by the SCC secretary that they may access an updated copy of this the Constitution and or Bylaws on the DPH website when it is posted. The updated Constitution shall be posted on the DPH website within sixty (60) days of the conclusion of the State Convention, or in the case of an amendment within sixty (60) days of the date such amendment was adopted by the State Central Committee.

Any member may also receive a <u>hard</u> copy of this Constitution and Bylaws, upon requesting the same from the Secretary of the respective County Committee <u>and</u> upon payment of a reasonable fee to cover the cost of copies and postage.

21. Constitution Article II (New) Section 1:

Constitution Article II, Section 1 is deleted and replaced by a new Section 1:

ARTICLE HI II-DISTRICT COUNCIL

Article III, Section 1. Organization.

There shall be a District Council in each Representative District which shall consist of all the Precinct Presidents and District Councilpersons of each Precinct Club and the duly elected Chairperson. Counties may include the Precinct First Vice-President.

Article II, Section 1. Organization. [New]

The District, as defined by law, shall be the basic unit of the Party organization. There shall be one District Council in each Representative District.

22. Constitution Article II (New) Section 2:

Article III, Section 2. Officers.

Officers of a District Council shall be a District Chairperson, not more than three (3) ViceChairpersons, not more than two (2) Secretaries, and a Treasurer. The offices of the Secretary and Treasurer may be held by one (1) person. The officers of the District Council shall constitute the Executive Committee. Vacancies in any officer position shall be filled as provided in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

Article II, Section 2. Officers. [New]

Each District Council will be comprised of the following officers: a District Chairperson: a First Vice Chairperson; a Second Vice Chairperson; a Secretary; a Treasurer; and four District Councilmembers.

23. Constitution Article II (New) Section 3:

Article III. Section 3. Term of office.

The District Council, excepting the District Chairperson, shall take office no later than two weeks after the biennial District Council meeting and end at the time of the election of a successor but in no event past the two weeks after the biennial District Council meeting.

Article II, Section 3. Biennial Election of District Council Officers and Delegates to the State Convention.(borrowed from the existing Article II, Section 3A).

Democratic Party of Hawai'I members in a District shall meet to elect officers, delegates, and alternates a provided for herein and further provided for in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'I, on the first Wednesday of March in every even numbered year or at such other times

as may be determined by the State Central Committee ("the biennial election meeting"). Elections shall be by ballot if requested by any member present.

24. Constitution Article II (New) Section 4:

Article III, Section 4. Meetings.

Regular meetings of the District Council shall be held at least three (3) times a year at such time and place as the Chairperson designates.

Article II, Section 4. Election of the District Council

4A. At the biennial election meeting the members of the District shall elect the officers of the District Council, except for the District Chairperson, who shall be duly elected at a meeting of the District/'Ili Council immediately following the election meeting.

4B. District members seeking to become an officer of the District Council shall file a candidate declaration form with the appropriate County Committee two weeks prior to the election.

25. Constitution Article II (New) Section 5:

As amended in the new Article II:

Article II, Section 4. 5. Officers of Precinct Club. Terms of Office-

4A. The elected officers of the Precinct Club shall be a President, a First Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and the Precinct's District Councilperson. The Precinct Club may elect such other officers and alternates, including an Alternate District Councilperson for offices as it may deem necessary and may combine any two (2) offices except those of President, First Vice-President and the Precinct's District Councilperson. Precinct Club officers shall not be required to relinquish their positions if elected or appointed to the State Central Committee.

4B.5A, Each officer shall take office immediately upon election and shall hold office from the time of election until a successor is duly elected, or until said officer moves out of the precinct.

4C.5B. Vacancies in any officer position shall be filled as provided in the DPH Bylaws

26. Constitution Article II (New) Section 6:

Section 5. 6. Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention.

Each Precinct Club District shall elect delegates to the State Convention as contained in the official Call of the Party, subject to the composition requirements as provided for in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'I and the Democratic National Committee. Election of alternates should be subject to the composition requirements as provided for in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i. In the event the certified roster indicates insufficient membership

for an equal number of alternates, the Precinct Club shall decide the number of alternates to be elected. No person shall vote in a meeting of more than one (1) Precinct Club held for the purpose of electing delegates/alternates to the State Convention.

27. Constitution Article II (New) Section 7:

Section-4 7 Meetings of the District Council.

Regular meetings of the District Council shall be held at least three (3) times a year at such time and place as the Chairperson designates.

28. Constitution Article II (New) Section 8:

Section 5. 8. Duties and Responsibilities of the District/ Council.

5A. The District Council, at its first meeting on the first Tuesday in April, shall hear all challenges concerning the results of the biennial Precinct Club elections that may be brought before it by any Party member residing in the District. The District Council shall, not later than the second Tuesday in April, rule on every challenge concerning a Precinct Officer, or concerning the validity of a vote on, or the eligibility of a person voting on any question other than the election of State Convention Delegates.

- 5 8A. The District Council shall consider challenges concerning delegates to the State Convention as provided for in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.
- 5–8B. It shall be the duty of the District Council to establish and maintain an active and effective Party organization within its district to inform Democrats within the District of Party policy and activities, and to ensure as large a vote as possible for Party candidates in the election.
- 5 8C. To affect these ends, the District Council may adopt District platforms, consistent with the Party Platform adopted by the State Convention, and take such steps as are necessary to encourage officials of the District elected or appointed in the name of the Party to observe the Platform and Principles of the Party.

29. Constitution Article II (New) Section 8 (second part) and Section 9:

Article II Section 8:

8D. Also to effect these ends, District/'Ili Councils may organize areas within the District for the purposes of running effective campaigns for Party candidates.

Section 6 9. District Council Rules.

Each District Council may adopt rules for the proper conduct of its business not inconsistent or in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'I or the Bylaws and Rules of the applicable County Committee.

30. Constitution Article II (New) Section 10::

Section 6 10. Use of the Name of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

No Precinct Club or combination of Precinct Clubs, or members of clubs, or committees <u>District Council</u> shall be permitted to use the name of the Democratic Party of Hawai'I without first obtaining express and specific consent and authority of the appropriate County Committee or State Central Committee. [amending and moving Article II, section 6]

31. Constitution Article II (repealed):

DPH Constitution Article II is repealed except for those portions which have been incorporated into the new Article II detailed in the submissions in DPH Constitution Article II New Parts 1 through 10.

PART II

The Convention Rules Committee considered the following proposals for adoption but decided not to recommend them:

1. Bylaws, Article IX, General Provisions, Section 2 (Added) Party Support of Democratic Party of Hawai'i Members Who Run in Partisan and Nonpartisan Races:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Article IX, General Provisions, Section 2(Added) Party Support of Democratic Party of Hawaii Members Who Run in Partisan and Nonpartisan Races.

The Democratic Party of Hawaii and its entities may endorse a member who is a candidate in the primary and general election only when there is one Democratic Party candidate and the candidate requests such endorsement. The member must be in good standing and have completed the DPH candidate statement. "Member in good standing" means any member whose rights have not been suspended as a result of disciplinary action under Article I, Section 8. "Endorsement" means the Party or any of its entities gives public approval of the candidate in writing or orally, such as in ads, letters, TV, radio spots, etc., .

2. Bylaws, Article I Membership, Section 8, Expulsion, Reprimand, or Censure

- (2) Permissive Expulsion, Reprimand and Censure.. A member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i may be expelled, reprimanded or censured for the following reasons:
- (c) Violation of the Constitution or Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i [and/or Platform of the Party]

3. Bylaws Article I, Section 8, Part 8D (Added) Censure and/or Removal:

8D. Censure and/or Removal (Added).

Section 8D(1) was approved by the Committee (see Proposal 15 in Part I above.) Subsections (1)(a), (1)(b), and (1)(c) below were withdrawn by the maker of the proposal. Subsection 8D(2) was not adopted for referral to the convention for consideration.

- (1) Censure. A motion to censure the behavior and or remarks of a member of the Party or any of its County Committees or Caucuses to express consternation and disapproval may be adopted by two-thirds vote of the membership so long as the party member to be censured has been notified 10 days in advance of the meeting and shall have the opportunity at the meeting to speak in defense.
 - (a) The State Central Committee may censure any member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i whose behavior and or remarks have publicly embarrassed or otherwise brought shame upon the Party.
 - (b) A County Committee may censure any Democrat of that County whose behavior and or remarks have publicly embarrassed or otherwise brought shame upon the County Committee.
 - (c) A Certified Caucus may censure and, or remove from that Caucus any member of the Caucus whose behavior and or remarks have publicly embarrassed, violated its express purposes or otherwise brought shame upon the Caucus.
- (1) Removal from Office. A motion to remove from office an elected officer of a county committee or certified caucus may be adopted by two-thirds vote of the membership of that county committee or certified caucus so long as the officer to be removed has been notified 10 days in advance of the meeting and shall have the opportunity at the meeting to speak in defense.

APPENDIX TO 2022 CONVENTION RULES COMMITTEE REPORT

This Appendix shows the proposed amendments to the DPH Constitution dated May 27, 2018 and Bylaws dated May 27, 2018 and as last amended by the SCC on December 11, 2021. The sections affected show the recommended amendments in Ramseyer format with added language underlined and deleted language struck out.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAI'I AS PROPOSED TO BE AMENDED ON MAY 29, 2022

ARTICLE I-MEMBERSHIP

Section 5. Disciplinary Action.

A member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i shall be subject to expulsion, <u>suspension</u>, reprimand, <u>removal</u> or censure for reasons and in keeping with procedures provided in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

ARTICLE II - PRECINCT CLUB

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Section 1. Definition.

The Precinct Club shall be the basic unit of the Party organization. There shall be one Precinct Club in each precinct, as defined by law.

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Section 2. Organization.

Initial organization of a Precinct Club shall be under the jurisdiction of the District Council of the district within which the precinct is located. A Precinct Club, once organized and recognized by the District Council, shall be the constituted body having jurisdiction in the precinct. Thereafter, no other Precinct Club in the same precinct may be organized unless and until such time as the club of record shall be declared by the Executive Committee of the District Council to be inactive as defined in this section and as further provided in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

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Section 3. Biennial Election of Precinct Officers and Delegates to the State Convention.

3A. The Precinct Club shall meet to elect officers, delegates, and alternates as provided for herein and further provided for in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, on the first Wednesday of March in every even numbered year or at such other times as may be determined by the State Central Committee ("the biennial election meeting"). Elections shall be by ballot if requested by any member present.

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3B. Where no meeting is held because a quorum of one (1) person is not attained at the biennial election meeting, it shall be the duty of the members of that Precinct Club to attempt immediately a successful meeting. Where no officers have been elected in the current biennium, any member of the precinct may, by written petition to the respective District Council, request the initiation of precinct reorganization, as further described in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

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Section 4. Officers of Precinct Club.

4A. The elected officers of the Precinct Club shall be a President, a First Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and the Precinct's District Councilperson. The Precinct Club may elect such other officers and alternates, including an Alternate District Councilperson for offices as it may deem necessary and may combine any two (2) offices except those of President, First Vice-President and the Precinct's District Councilperson. Precinct Club officers shall not be required to relinquish their positions if elected or appointed to the State Central Committee.

4B. Each officer shall take office immediately upon election and shall hold office from the time of election until a successor is duly elected, or until said officer moves out of the precinct.

4C. Vacancies in any officer position shall be filled as provided in the DPH Bylaws.

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Section 5. Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention.

Each Precinct Club shall elect delegates to the State Convention as contained in the official Call of the Party, subject to the composition requirements as provided for in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i. Election of alternates should be subject to the composition requirements as provided for in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i. In the event the certified roster indicates insufficient membership for an equal number of alternates, the Precinct Club shall decide the number of alternates to be elected. No person shall vote in a meeting of more than one (1) Precinct Club held for the purpose of electing delegates/alternates to the State Convention.

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Section 6. Use of the Name of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

No Precinct Club or combination of Precinct Clubs, or members of clubs, or committees shall be permitted to use the name of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i without first obtaining express and specific consent and authority of the appropriate County Committee or State Central Committee.

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Section 7. Club Rules.

Each Precinct Club may adopt rules for the proper conduct of its business not inconsistent or in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i or the Bylaws and Rules of the applicable County Committee.

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ARTICLE II-DISTRICT COUNCIL

Section 1. Organization.

The District, as defined by law, shall be the basic unit of the Party organization. There shall be one District Council in each Representative District.

Section 2. Officers.

Each District Council will be comprised of the following officers: a District Chairperson: a First Vice Chairperson; a Second Vice Chairperson; a Secretary; a Treasurer; and four District Councilmembers.

Section 3. Biennial Election of District Council Officers and Delegates to the State Convention.

Democratic Party of Hawai'i members in a District shall meet to elect officers, delegates, and alternates a provided for herein and further provided for in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, on the first Wednesday of March in every even numbered year or at such other times as may be determined by the State Central Committee ("the biennial election meeting"). Elections shall be by ballot if requested by any member present.

Section 4. Election of the District Council

4A. At the biennial election meeting the members of the District shall elect the officers of the District Council, except for the District Chairperson, who shall be duly elected at a meeting of the District Council immediately following the election meeting.

4B. District members seeking to become an officer of the District Council shall file a candidate declaration form with the appropriate County Committee two weeks prior to the election.

Section 5. Term of Office.

5A. Each officer shall take office immediately upon election and shall hold office from the time of election until a successor is duly elected, or until said officer moves out of the precinct,

5B. Vacancies in any officer position shall be filled as provided in the DPH Bylaws.

Section 6. Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention.

Each District shall elect delegates to the State Convention as contained in the official Call of the Party, subject to the composition requirements as provided for in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and the Democratic National Committee.. Election of alternates should be subject to the composition requirements as provided for in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

Section 7. Meetings of the District Council.

Regular meetings of the District/'Ili Council shall be held at least three (3) times a year at such time and place as the Chairperson designates.

Section 8. Duties and Responsibilities of the District Council.

8A. The District/ Council shall consider challenges concerning delegates to the State Convention as provided for in the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

8B. It shall be the duty of the District Council to establish and maintain an active and effective Party organization within its district to inform Democrats within the District of Party policy and activities, and to ensure as large a vote as possible for Party candidates in the election.

8C. To effect these ends, the District Council may adopt District platforms, consistent with the Party Platform adopted by the State Convention, and take such steps as are necessary to encourage officials of the District elected or appointed in the name of the Party to observe the Platform and Principles of the Party.

8D. Also to effect these ends, District Councils may organize areas within the District for the purposes of running effective campaigns for Party candidates.

Section 9. District Council Rules.

Each District Council may adopt rules for the proper conduct of its business not inconsistent or in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i or the Bylaws and Rules of the applicable County Committee.

Section 10. Use of the Name of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

No District Council shall be permitted to use the name of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i without first obtaining express and specific consent and authority of the appropriate County Committee or State Central Committee.

ARTICLE VIII-GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 3. Candidate Support of Platform, Resolutions, Constitution and Bylaws
Every Democratic Party candidate for election to office, whether Federal, State or County, and
every member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i [shall] should be expected to support to the
maximum extent possible the Party Platform, Resolutions and the Constitution and Bylaws.
[Every member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i shall support candidates who are members
of the Party and request the Party's support in the general, special or nonpartisan elections.]

Section 4 (Added). <u>Party Support of Democratic Party Candidates</u>. <u>Every member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i shall support candidates who request the Party's support in the general, special, or nonpartisan elections</u>. To be eligible for such support, the candidate must be a member in good standing and must have completed the DPH Candidate Statement.

In nonpartisan races, in which there is no DPH supported candidate as defined above, DPH members may support any candidate they believe will best be able to carry out the DPH Platform, Constitution and Bylaws, and adopted resolutions.

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i or any unit thereof shall not endorse any candidate in any race in which more than one Democratic candidate is running.

THE BYLAWS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAI'I AS PROPOSED TO BE AMENDED ON MAY 29, 2022

DPH BYLAWS, ARTICLE I-MEMBERSHIP

Section 8. Expulsion, <u>Suspension</u>, Reprimand, or Censure. 8A. Grounds for Expulsion, <u>Suspension</u>, Reprimand or Censure:

- (1) Mandatory Expulsion. A member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i shall be automatically expelled from the Party for the following reasons:
 - (a) Membership with a political party other than the Democratic Party; or
 - (b) Filing as a candidate of a political party other than the Democratic Party.
- (1) Permissive Expulsion, <u>Suspension, or</u> Reprimand and Censure. A member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i may be expelled, <u>suspended</u>, <u>or</u> reprimanded [or censored] for the following reasons:
 - (a) Active support or promotion of a political party or any candidates of a political party other than the Democratic Party, except in nonpartisan races. Examples of active support include, but are not limited to, making monetary or in-kind contributions, accepting a position in an opposition campaign, sign waving, letter writing, appearance in campaign ads, resigning from the Democratic Party to support another political party and rejoining the Democratic Party.
 - (b) Failure of a candidate for an elective office or an elected official to follow and abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and regulations of the Party campaign committees as approved by the State Central Committee or respective County Committee.
 - (c) Violation of the Constitution or Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and/or Platform of the Party.
 - (d) Violation of governmental ethics codes as adjudicated or determined by the State Ethics Commission, the County Ethics Commission, the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, the State House, the State Senate, or the courts.
 - (e) Conviction of criminal acts for which the member has been found guilty by a federal or state court of law.
 - (f) Sexual Violation, Harassment, or Bullying.

8B. Procedure. The procedures for expulsion, <u>suspension</u>, <u>or</u> reprimand [or censure] are outlined below.

- (1) Limitations. Any complaint charging a member with cause for expulsion, suspension, or reprimand [or censure] shall be made no later than one hundred and eighty (180) days after the discovery of the violation, except for Sexual Violation, Harassment and Bullying complaints which have no time limitation.
- (2) Complaint. Any member of the Party may file a complaint. The complaint shall be in writing. The complaint shall state the rule(s) which have been violated, if applicable; the activities alleged to have been committed, the date(s) of these activities. Each allegation shall be numbered. Each allegation shall be accompanied by evidence of such activities. The complaint shall be signed by one (1) Party member and endorsed by at least four (4) other Party members. The complaint should be submitted to the County Secretary[.] if the issue falls within the jurisdiction of the County and/or is made against an individual; otherwise, the complaint shall be filed with the Party Secretary. It is the responsibility of the complainant to provide evidence to support the expulsion, suspension, or reprimand [or censure]. Attached to the complaint shall be a list of any witnesses and the evidence to which they can attest. Each witness will prepare an affidavit attesting to the evidence. The State Central Committee or the County Executive Committee, as applicable, may dismiss with prejudice any complaint submitted without the required evidence.
- (3) Sexual Violation, Harassment, or Bullying Complaint. The procedures for filing a complaint based on Sexual Violation, Harassment, or Bullying shall be as specified in the DPH Policy Against Sexual Harassment & Bullying approved by the SCC on Sep 4, 2021.
- (4) (3) Notice. The accused member Written notice must be [notified in writing] sent to the accused member by the County Secretary or Party Secretary, as applicable, within ten (10) days of the receipt of a complaint.
- (5) [(4)] Response. The accused member shall have thirty (30) days from the date of [notification] notice was mailed and/or sent electronically to prepare a response. The accused member must respond to each allegation: admitted, denied, or denied in part. If an allegation is denied in part or in whole, the accused member shall provide any evidence supporting the denial. Attached to the response should be a list of any witnesses and the evidence to which they can attest. Each witness shall prepare an affidavit attesting to the evidence.
- (6) [(5)] Investigation. The County Chairperson shall refer each complaint to the County Rules Committee or a special committee to investigate the charges ("the Investigation Committee"). The State Party Secretary shall refer each complaint under the jurisdiction of the State Central Committee to the State Party Chair.

 Upon receipt of the complaint, the State Party Chair shall appoint an Investigation Committee. The referral of complaint should be reported to the County Committee or State Central Committee, as applicable, at its next meeting and shall be recorded in the minutes. The Investigation Committee shall conduct a good

faith investigation to determine [if a violation of the rules has occurred.] the validity or merits of the complaint. The Investigation Committee shall interview the accused member, the complainant, and any witnesses. The credibility of the complainant, the accused member or any witness may be challenged during the investigation. The Investigation Committee shall gather other facts as necessary for its finding, and shall, within thirty (30) days, submit a report and recommendations to the County Chairperson[:] or the State Central Committee, as applicable. The report shall include, the Investigation Committee's findings for each allegation; including any adverse findings regarding credibility; in addition the investigation committee may recommend specific sanctions.

- (7) [(6)} Investigation Committee's Report. A copy of the Committee Report shall be provided to the accused member and the complainant, and to the County Committee, or State Central Committee, as applicable. The report shall include the grounds upon which the expulsion, suspension, or reprimand [or censure] is sought, and the committee's findings and recommendations [,]. and a list of County Committee members who are eligible to vote to accept, amend, or reject the committee's findings and recommendations.
- (8) [(7)] Hearing. The County Committee or State Central Committee shall place the complaint on the agenda at its next meeting following receipt of the Investigation Committee report or by agreement with the accused member at some other time. Notice of the meeting shall be given to the member, the complainant and the County Committee, or State Central Committee, as applicable, at least seven (7) days prior to the hearing. Members of the County Committee or State Central Committee, as applicable, shall be provided with a copy of the report at this time for their consideration prior to the meeting. The Investigation Committee shall present its report in a meeting open to any interested Party member. The complainant, accused member, and any Party member shall be allowed to make a statement relating to the facts of the case or the committee's recommendation. The County Committee, or State Central Committee, as applicable, shall decide by majority vote whether to accept, amend or reject the committee report and any sanctions. The County Committee or State Central Committee, as applicable, shall give notice in writing of its decision to the Secretary of the State Central Committee, with a copy to the member and complainant within seven (7) calender days. A copy of the committee's report and the County Committee's or State Central Committee's decision shall be filed with the County secretary and the Secretary of the State Central Committee and shall be available for inspection by Party members.
- (9) [(8)] Appeal [.] of a County Committee Decision: A member expelled, suspended, or reprimanded, or censured may appeal the decision of the County Committee to the State Central Committee by filing a written request with the Secretary of the State Central Committee within ten (10 days) of receiving the written notice of the County Committee. If no appeal is submitted within the ten (10 days) the decision of the County Committee shall be final. If an appeal is submitted, a hearing shall

be granted in open meeting of the entire State Central Committee within thirty (30) days. The State Central Committee shall review the Committee Report and accept comments from the County Chair, the Investigation Committee, the accused member and members of the State Central Committee. The State Central Committee shall decide the appeal by majority vote and shall transmit to the member a written notice of its decision within ten (10) days. The decision of the State Central Committee shall be final.

(10) Appeal of a State Central Committee Decision: The decision on a complaint filed with the SCC and acted upon is not appealable. The decision of the State Central Committee shall be final.

8C. Sanctions and Enforcement.

- (1) Mandatory Expulsion. Expulsion shall be automatic and implemented by the Secretary of the State Central Committee. After expulsion the expelled member is barred from enrolling for a membership for five years. The party shall take all reasonable action to prevent such person from running for office as a Democrat, serving in public office, or holding an office in the Party during the five-year period.
- (2) Permissive Expulsion. Expulsion shall be implemented by the Secretary of the State Central Committee. The Party shall take all reasonable action to prevent such person from participating in Party activities, running for public office as a democrat, or serving in public office for the period provided in the decision of the County Committee or State Central Committee for at least three years but not more than five years.
- (3) Suspension. Suspension shall be implemented by the Secretary of the State Central Committee. The individual shall be barred from participating in Party events or from serving in their elected or appointed capacity with the Party for the duration of the suspension. Any member who violates the terms of their suspension may face removal from their position or expulsion from the DPH.
- (4) [(3)] Reprimand. The party shall take all reasonable action to prevent such member from holding an office in the Party for up to three (3) years.
 - [(4)] Censure. In the case of censure by a County, an official letter of censure shall be written by the County Chair. In the case of censure by the State Central Committee, an official letter of censure shall be written by the Party Chair. The letter shall be addressed to the accused member with a copy to the complainant and shall be available for inspection by Party members. No additional sanctions shall apply. No further action shall be taken on the complaint.
- (5) Voluntary Resignation. When a member has voluntarily resigned from the Democratic Party to engage in activities which are grounds for mandatory expulsion

the member shall be barred from reenrolling for Party membership for at least three (3) years from the date of resignation.

8D. Censure and/or Removal

- (1) Censure. A motion to censure the behavior and/or remarks of a member of the Party or any of its Coounty Committees or Caucuses to express consternation and disapproval may be adopted by two-thirds vote of the membership so long as the Party member to be censured has been notified 10 days in advance of the meeting and shall have the opportunity at the meeting to speak in defense.
- (2) Removal from a Meeting. Nothing in these Bylaws shall prevent or restrict a presiding officer of the State Central Committee, a County Committee, Caucus, District Council or Precinct Club from ejecting for the duration of that meeting or session anyone who has committed an egregious or repeated breach of decorum.

DPH BYLAWS, ARTICLE IX-GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Candidate Support of Platform, Resolutions, Constitution and Bylaws The Secretary of the State Central Committee [and each county committee] shall provide each Democratic candidate for elective office with a copy of the most recently approved State [and County Platform[s], [Resolutions], Constitution, and the Bylaws [of the Democratic Party of Hawaii and the respective County Rules] within seven (7) days after the legally established filing deadline. Said candidates shall submit Candidate Statement Forms provided by the State Central Committee indicating their agreement, disagreement, and/or reservations with the Platform [and Resolutions] of the State [and County] Party organization[s] within [seven (7)] fourteen (14) calendar days after receipt of the blank forms to the State Central Committee. Should the candidate draw or pull nomination papers prior to the biennial State Convention, then two (2) sets of Candidate Statement Forms shall be sent, filled out, returned and kept on file, one (1) set of forms relevant to the preceding biennial State Convention's Resolutions and Platform and one (1) set of forms relevant to the current biennial State Convention's Resolutions and Platform. These Candidate Statement Forms, in turn, will be kept for review by Democratic Party members at State Party headquarters, and posted to the DPH website until the end of the general election. Further, relevant copies of the Candidate Statement Forms shall be made available to the four County Party Chairpersons so that each inhabited island with at least one (1) active Precinct Club, has one copy of the Candidate Statement Forms for review by Democratic Party members, with the exception of Hawai'i County, which shall have two (2), one (1) for East Hawai'i and one for West Hawaii. A candidate who is in agreement with the Platform of the State shall be eligible for Party support upon request. A candidate who fails to abide by these requirements shall not be eligible for party [endorsement] support by the respective County Committees or the State Central Committee. [and is subject to reprimand by the Democratic Party of Hawaii.]

Section 3. Availability of the Constitution and Bylaws.

[It shall be the responsibility of the newly elected State Central Committee to certify as official a complete copy of the newly amended Constitution and/or Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.] Each member of the State Central Committee and the respective County Committees shall be provided notified by the SCC Secretary that they may access an updated copy of with an updated copy of this the Constitution and/or Bylaws when it is posted. The updated Constitution and Bylaws shall be posted on the DPH website within sixty (60) days of the conclusion of the State Convention, or in the case of an amendment within sixty (60) days of the date such amendment was adopted by the State Central Committee. Any member may also receive a hard copy of this Constitution and Bylaws, upon requesting the same from the Secretary of the respective County Committee and upon payment of a recent wealthy to cover the cost of copies and postage.

AMENDMENTS THAT FAILED

DPH BYLAWS

ARTICLE I-MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 8A2(c) Permissive Expulsion, Suspension, or Reprimand. A member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i may be expelled, suspended, or reprimanded for the following reasons:

(c) Violation of the Constitution or Bylaws of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i {and/or platform of the Party}.

SECTION 8D(2) (Added). Removal from Office. A motion to remove from office an elected officer of a county committee or certified caucus may be adopted by two-thirds vote of the membership of that county committee or certified caucus so long as the officer to be removed has been notified 10 days in advance of the meeting and shall have the opportunity at the meeting to speak in defense.

ARTICLE IX-GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 2. (Added) Party Support of Democratic Party of Hawai'i Members Who Run in Partisan and Nonpartisan Races. The Democratic Party of Hawai'i and its entities may endorse a member who is a candidate in the primary and general election only when there is one Democratic Party candidate and the candidate requests such endorsement. The member must be in good standing and have completed the DPH candidate statement. "Member in good standing" means any member whose rights have not been suspended as a result of disciplinary action under Article I, Section 8. "Endorsement" means the Party or any of its entities gives public approval of the candidate in writing or orally, such as in ads, letters, TV, radio spots, etc.