

2019 CHARTER AMENDMENTS

PROPOSITION #13:

Amend the Charter so all Country Committees and Chapters have established definitions of quorums

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WHEREAS, certain Country Committees do not have in their bylaws established definitions of quorums for meetings of the Country Committee Executive Committee and/or of its subcommittees and/or of its general meetings of the membership;

WHEREAS, Country Committee Chapters that elect their officers should establish definitions of the size and composition of a quorum of meetings of its leadership, and general meetings of its membership;

WHEREAS, according to Robert's Rules of Order, such quorums should be established (e.g., see RRO 11th Edition, page 346, line 15);

WHEREAS, Country Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Voting Representatives (if applicable) are elected at Country Committee general meetings of the membership, and these representatives are members of the DPCA, and that such DPCA members should be elected by their respective Country Committee membership according to similar standards;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Democrats Abroad Charter be amended to include a new Section 5.5:

Section 5.5 (Country Committee and Chapter Quorums)

A Country Committee shall establish in its bylaws the definition of quorums, being of reasonable size and composition, for meetings of its Executive Committee, of subcommittees, and of General Meetings of its membership.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a new fourth paragraph be inserted in Section 5.6 (Chapters):

Section 5.6 (Chapters)

Any Country Committee may permit Chapters to be formed within local geographic areas, including by amendment of the Country Committee bylaws recognizing such Chapter(s). Chapters shall be recognized only for internal purposes of the Country Committee upon terms to be specified by the Country Committee. Recognized Chapters shall operate in compliance with the bylaws of the Country Committee (as may be modified in the judgment of the Country Committee from time to time), as well as the Charter and rules of Democrats Abroad.

The Chapter shall hold a meeting to elect a Chair and other officers defined in its Country Committee bylaws. The meeting shall be called upon reasonable notice and conducted in accordance with the bylaws of the Country Committee and this Charter, respectively. The minutes of the meeting and contact details of individuals so elected shall be promptly provided to the Chair of the Country Committee.

All financial matters concerning Chapters shall be under the review and supervision of the Chair and Treasurer of the Country Committee who shall take into consideration the budget, sources, and proposed uses of funds relating to any Chapter. In any event, Country Committees shall be ultimately responsible for ensuring compliance by their Chapters with all applicable laws in accordance with Section 5.1.

For Country Committees that have elected Chapter Chairs, the definition of quorums, being of reasonable size and composition, shall be established in the Country Committee bylaws and, if applicable, the bylaws of the Chapter, for meetings of the Chapter leadership, and for General Meetings of the Chapter membership.

Any dispute between a Chapter and its Country Committee may be brought before the DPCA Executive Committee for determination.