

# YDA

Young Democrats of America 

**THE CHARTER AND THE BYLAWS  
OF THE  
YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA**

*As Adopted by the National Convention  
July 21, 2007, in Dallas, Texas*

David Hardt, President

---

---

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| <b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b> |
|--------------------------|

---

---

**THE CHARTER OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA**

**PREAMBLE**

**ARTICLE I - CHARTERED UNITS**

SECTION 105 Chartered Units.....1  
SECTION 145 Revocation of Unit Charters .....1  
**ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP**  
SECTION 205 Categories .....1

**ARTICLE III - NATIONAL CONVENTION**

SECTION 305 Authority.....2  
SECTION 310 Time, Place .....2  
SECTION 320 Convention Officers.....2  
SECTION 350 Convention Standing Committees .....2  
SECTION 360 Vote Allocation.....3  
SECTION 370 Voting of Delegates and Units.....4  
SECTION 380 Delegates and Alternates .....4  
SECTION 385 Delegation Chair .....4

**ARTICLE IV - NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

SECTION 405 Authority.....5  
SECTION 410 Composition.....5  
SECTION 420 Meetings .....5  
SECTION 430 Standing Committees of the National Committee .....5  
SECTION 440 Select Committees of the National Committee .....5

**ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

SECTION 505 Authority.....6  
SECTION 510 Composition.....5  
SECTION 515 Meetings .....6

**ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SECTION 603 Board of Directors .....6  
SECTION 605 Officers; Named.....6  
SECTION 606 Duties of Officers .....6  
SECTION 608 Duties of Board of Directors.....6  
SECTION 610 Eligibility .....6  
SECTION 615 Elections .....7  
SECTION 618 Selection of Stakeholder Board of Directors .....7  
SECTION 620 Attendance at Meetings .....7  
SECTION 650 Impeachment; Cause.....7

**ARTICLE VII - ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS**

SECTION 720 Non-Voting Officers Named .....7  
SECTION 730 Administrative Officers .....7  
SECTION 735 Terms .....7  
SECTION 740 Duties.....7

**ARTICLE VIII - JUDICIAL COUNCIL**

SECTION 805 Authority.....7  
SECTION 810 Composition.....8  
SECTION 820 Disqualification.....8

---

---

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| <b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b> |
|--------------------------|

---

---

**ARTICLE IX - REGIONAL CAUCUSES**

SECTION 905 Regional Caucuses ..... 8  
SECTION 910 Regional Directors ..... 8  
SECTION 915 Provisions ..... 8

**ARTICLE X - CAUCUSES**

SECTION 1005 Named..... 8  
SECTION 1010 Additional Caucuses ..... 8  
SECTION 1015 Provisions ..... 8

**ARTICLE XI - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

SECTION 1100 Meetings and Voting..... 9  
SECTION 1105 Quorum ..... 9  
SECTION 1110 Proxies. Authorized ..... 9  
SECTION 1115 Requirements; Restrictions ..... 10  
SECTION 1120 Open Meeting Policy ..... 10  
SECTION 1125 Definitions ..... 10  
SECTION 1130 Parliamentary Authority ..... 10  
SECTION 1140 Rules ..... 10  
SECTION 1150 Procedural Guarantees ..... 10  
SECTION 1160 Accessibility for Conventions, Meetings, and official functions ..... 11  
SECTION 1170 Labor Preference for Conventions and Meetings..... 11

**ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENT AND BYLAWS**

SECTION 1205 Amendment..... 11  
SECTION 1210 Bylaws. .... 11  
CERTIFICATION OF CHARTER ..... 11

**THE BYLAWS OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA**

**ARTICLE I - CHARTERED UNITS**

SECTION 110 Application for Unit Charters; Contents. .... 12  
SECTION 115 Time period for Filing Unit Charter Applications. .... 12  
SECTION 120 Office of Receipt for Unit Charter Applications..... 12  
SECTION 125 Penalties for Late or Defective Unit Charter Application..... 13  
SECTION 130 Fees for Unit Charter Applications. .... 13  
SECTION 135 Interim Charter Application..... 14  
SECTION 140 Fees for Interim Charter Applications. .... 14

**ARTICLE II - REMOVED**

**ARTICLE III - NATIONAL CONVENTION**

SECTION 300 Site Selection Committee..... 14  
SECTION 305 Site Selection ..... 14  
SECTION 307 Convention Management Committee ..... 15  
SECTION 310 Committee on Convention Procedures ..... 15  
SECTION 315 Election of Officers..... 15  
SECTION 350 Convention Standing Committees. .... 16  
SECTION 360 Credentials Report. .... 16

**ARTICLE IV - NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

SECTION 405 Selection of Chartered Unit Representation. .... 16  
SECTION 410 Credentials Certification. .... 17  
SECTION 415 Agenda. .... 17  
SECTION 420 Minutes. .... 17

---

---

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| <b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b> |
|--------------------------|

---

---

|  |    |
|--|----|
| SECTION 425 Notices. ....                                      | 17 |
| SECTION 430 Use of Membership Lists. ....                      | 17 |
| SECTION 435 Select Committees. ....                            | 17 |
| SECTION 440 Standing Committees. ....                          | 18 |
| SECTION 445 Officers of Standing Committees. ....              | 19 |
| SECTION 450 Voting in Standing Committees. ....                | 19 |
| SECTION 455 Duties of Standing Committee Chairs. ....          | 19 |
| <br><b>ARTICLE V – REMOVED</b>                                 |    |
| <br><b>ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>        |    |
| SECTION 605 Elected Officers Duties. ....                      | 19 |
| SECTION 640 Vacancies. ....                                    | 20 |
| SECTION 655 Impeachment. ....                                  | 20 |
| SECTION 660 Removal from Office. ....                          | 21 |
| <br><b>ARTICLE VII - EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS</b>             |    |
| SECTION 700 Executive Director. ....                           | 21 |
| SECTION 705 Other Staff and Contractors. ....                  | 21 |
| SECTION 710. Employment, Contracting and Human Resources. .... | 21 |
| SECTION 720. International Affairs Liaison. ....               | 21 |
| <br><b>ARTICLE VIII - JUDICIAL COUNCIL</b>                     |    |
| SECTION 810 Officers. ....                                     | 22 |
| SECTION 815 Term of Office. ....                               | 22 |
| SECTION 820 Filling Vacancies. ....                            | 22 |
| SECTION 825 Rules of Procedure and Records. ....               | 22 |
| SECTION 830 Referral of Matters to Judicial Council. ....      | 22 |
| SECTION 840 Notice of Meeting. ....                            | 22 |
| <br><b>ARTICLE IX - REGIONAL CAUCUSES</b>                      |    |
| SECTION 905 Composition. ....                                  | 22 |
| SECTION 910 Directors of Regional Caucuses. ....               | 23 |
| SECTION 915 Regional Conferences. ....                         | 23 |
| SECTION 920 Voting at Regional Conferences. ....               | 23 |
| SECTION 925 Regional Bylaws. ....                              | 23 |
| <br><b>ARTICLE X - REMOVED</b>                                 |    |
| <br><b>ARTICLE XI - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS</b>               |    |
| SECTION 1110 Proxies. ....                                     | 23 |
| SECTION 1120 Standards for Accessibility. ....                 | 24 |
| SECTION 1110 Standards for Labor Preference. ....              | 24 |
| <br><b>ARTICLE XII - GENERAL PROVISIONS</b>                    |    |
| SECTION 1205 Endorsements. ....                                | 24 |
| SECTION 1210 Contributions. ....                               | 24 |
| <br><b>ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENTS</b>                           |    |
| SECTION 1305 Amendments. ....                                  | 24 |

---

---

|         |
|---------|
| CHARTER |
|---------|

---

---

**THE CHARTER OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA**

PREAMBLE

We, the Young Democrats of America, in order to stimulate in young people an active interest in governmental affairs and promote their involvement in the political process, to promote the acquisition of political power by young people, to promote the policies and practices which are consistent with the highest principles, to increase the efficiency of popular government and to provide the highest degree of justice and social welfare for the citizens of our country, do associate ourselves together and establish this Charter.

CHARTER  
ARTICLE I  
CHARTERED UNITS

SECTION 105 Chartered Units.

Section 105(a) Definition. This organization shall be composed of chartered units representing all Young Democrats within that unit's territorial boundary. Territories shall be defined as each of the fifty United States; the District of Columbia; Guam; Puerto Rico; the Virgin Islands; American Samoa; and Young Democrats Abroad. There may be no more than one (1) chartered unit in any State or Territory.

Section 105(b) Issuance of Unit Charters. Unit charters shall be issued by the National Convention, in accordance with the Charter and the Bylaws and are subject to renewal by each succeeding biennial National Convention. Interim unit charters shall be issued by the National Committee, in accordance with the Charter and the Bylaws between National Conventions, subject to renewal by the next and all succeeding National Conventions. All unit charters that have not been renewed by the close of the National Convention shall be terminated at that time.

SECTION 145 Revocation of Unit Charters.

Section 145(a) Revocation of Unit Charter; Cause. Unit Charters may be revoked for inactivity, non-compliance with this Charter or violation of any law or rule of the Democratic Party.

Section 145(b) Consideration; Notice. The revocation of a unit Charter shall be considered by the Standing Committee on Credentials. Said committee may not consider such a revocation unless the subject unit shall have been notified in writing at least thirty (30) days prior thereto. Said notice shall contain the grounds for revocation and the date, time, and place of the first consideration thereof by the said committee.

CHARTER  
ARTICLE II  
MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 205 Categories.

Section 205(a) Regular Member. Any person who has not yet reached the age of thirty-six (36) may be accorded regular membership in this organization by and through a chartered unit. Each unit shall have the primary responsibility for setting requirements for membership in that unit. If a person selected or elected to a position on the National Committee, Executive Committee, or any Standing or Select Committee is not a regular member, the person holding that position shall be able to participate in the committee, but shall not be entitled to cast a vote on the committee.

---

---

# CHARTER

---

---

Section 205(b) Honorary Member. Any person who has reached the age of thirty-six (36) may be elected to honorary membership in this organization upon nomination of the President and by an affirmative vote of three fourths (3/4) of the National Convention. Prior to nomination and election to honorary membership, candidates shall have demonstrated a commitment to the highest ideals of the Democratic Party and shall have performed extraordinary service to the Young Democrats of America. Honorary members shall be accorded full, non-voting, floor privileges at any meeting of the Young Democrats of America.

## CHARTER ARTICLE III NATIONAL CONVENTION

SECTION 305 Authority.

The National Convention shall be the highest authority of the Young Democrats of America, subject to the provisions of the Charter and the Bylaws.

SECTION 310 Time, Place.

A National Convention shall be held in July or August of each odd-numbered year at a time and place so designated by the National Committee, pursuant to bids received from interested localities.

SECTION 320 Convention Officers.

Not less than sixty (60) days prior to each National Convention the President shall appoint at least one (1) Convention Chair, Secretary, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-At-Arms, and other such officers as may be necessary or required to conduct the affairs of the National Convention.

SECTION 350 Convention Standing Committees.

Section 350(a) Named.

At each National Convention, there shall be established Convention Standing Committees on Credentials, Charter and Rules, and Platform.

Section 350(b) Officers.

The President shall appoint at least one Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary of each Convention Committee and shall give notice, thereof, to the National Committee, not less than sixty (60) days prior to the opening general session of the Convention.

Section 350(c) Voting.

Every unit chartered by the previous National Convention or issued an interim charter by the National Committee, and all new units that have applied for a charter, shall be entitled to one vote on each Convention Standing Committee, unless a credentials challenge is raised against that unit. If a dispute arises the following procedure will be followed:

- (i) As to a unit that was not chartered for the previous term, or has not applied to re-charter in accordance with the rules, then that unit, if its credentials are challenged, will not be permitted to vote in any Convention Standing Committee unless and until the credentials challenge is settled by the Convention.
- (ii) As to a unit that had chartered for the prior term and has applied to re-charter, if for some reason challenged, could vote in any Convention Standing Committee unless and until the challenge is settled by the Convention.

Section 350(d) Committee Delegates and Alternates.

Unit delegations are encouraged to designate a specific delegate or alternate to serve on each Committee and to certify such persons to the Convention Secretary no later than seven (7) days prior to the opening of the general session. Nevertheless, any delegate or alternate may cast his or her unit's vote in committee. Chartered units shall be authorized to restrict participation only to their appointed delegate or alternate, by filing that instruction, in writing, with the Convention Secretary. A person serving in the capacity of chair may not cast his or her own chartered unit's vote. No committee officers shall cast a separate vote merely because of their positions as officers.

---

---

## CHARTER

---

---

### Section 350(e) Quorum Requirements.

Each Convention Standing Committee shall meet at the call of its Chair but in any event not later than the day proceeding the opening general session of the Convention. A quorum in any such Convention Committee shall be representatives for one third (1/3) of those units entitled to cast a vote.

### SECTION 360 Unit Vote Allocation.

Chartered units shall be eligible for votes at the National Convention based on the following formula: Population Votes (maximum of 50) + Participation votes (maximum of 56) + Charter Votes (maximum of 4) = Number of Votes (maximum 110) Under no circumstance shall any chartered unit be allowed to cast more votes than one-half (1/2) the number of age qualified members in the unit, as shown on the unit's membership list.

### Section 360(a) Population Votes.

Each territory shall receive ten (10), twenty (20), thirty (30), forty (40) or fifty (50) votes for population regardless of the territories number of members. The populations of territories shall be ranked so that the ten (10) territories with the highest population shall receive fifty (50) votes, the next ten (10) territories shall receive forty (40) votes, the next ten (10) territories shall receive thirty (30) votes, the next ten (10) territories shall receive twenty (20) votes, and the final fifteen (15) territories shall receive ten (10) votes. Young Democrats Abroad shall receive ten (10) votes. The population figures shall be based on the most recent decennial census figures issued by the United States Census Bureau.

### Section 360(b) Participation Votes.

A unit shall receive up to fifty-six (56) participation votes based on the following formula:

a) National participation (maximum 28 votes)

- (i) Meeting Participation. A chartered unit is eligible for up to twenty-four (24) votes for attendance of National Committee members to National Committee meetings as follows: (the number of meetings that at least one member of the National Committee from a chartered unit attended a national committee meetings subsequent to the previous national convention, divided by the total number of National Committee meetings held, taken as a percentage of the total twenty-four (24) votes). Proxies held by National Committee members of chartered units for other chartered units will be counted as one-half (1/2) attendance by the unit sending the proxy.
- (ii) Newsletter submissions. A chartered unit shall be eligible for up to four (4) votes for submission of articles to the national newsletter, and shall receive two (2) votes per submission with copies of the articles submitted included with the Application for Charter.

b) Regional participation (maximum 4 votes) - A chartered unit is eligible for up to four (4) votes for attendance at official regional meetings based proportionally on the ratio of meetings attended and meetings held as reflected within the official minutes of the regional meetings as verified by the Director of the Regional Caucus.

c) Campaign participation (maximum 4 votes) - A chartered unit shall receive four (4) votes for participation in at least two (2) Democratic candidate or issue campaigns, and shall receive two (2) votes per campaign, with written verification by the candidates, or campaign coordinators, including their names, addresses, and phone numbers included with the Application for Charter.

d) Online Membership Management Participation (20 votes) - A chartered unit shall receive twenty (20) votes for the submission of their official membership list through the national membership management tool.

### Section 360(c) Charter Votes.

A state may receive up to four (4) votes for chartering at prior conventions. A state will receive two (2) votes for each of the two (2) most recent prior National Conventions in which it was chartered.

---

---

## CHARTER

---

---

### SECTION 370 Voting of Delegates and Units.

#### Section 370(a) Delegate Vote Allocation

The total votes that a unit is entitled to shall be equally divided among the registered Delegates present in person at the convention. The final votes for the unit shall be cast in whole numbers rounded as closely as possible to the expressed vote of its individual Delegates.

#### Section 370(b) Minimum Unit Delegation to Vote Ratio; Mileage Formula.

Chartered units shall be permitted to cast votes allocated under the provisions of the Charter and the Bylaws provided that each unit is represented by registered delegates, present in person, whose aggregate number does not fall below the votes per delegate ratio established according to statute driving mileage from each unit's territorial capitol to the site of the National Convention as follows: One (1) to five hundred (500) miles, one (1) delegate for every two (2) votes; five hundred one (501) to one thousand (1000) miles, one (1) delegate for every three (3) votes; one thousand one (1001) to one thousand five hundred (1500) miles, one (1) delegate for every four (4) votes; one thousand five hundred one (1501) to two thousand five hundred (2500) miles, one (1) delegate for every five (5) votes; any distance in excess of two thousand five hundred (2500) miles, one (1) delegate for every six (6) votes. Not less than sixty (60) days prior to each National Convention, the Chair of the Standing Committee on Credentials shall prepare a chart derived by the mileage indicated in the current Rand McNally Atlas, of each chartered unit's driving mileage from territorial capitol to convention site, along with the delegate to vote ratio derived therefrom.

#### Section 370(c) Voting Preference.

No Delegate shall be forced to cast a vote against their expressed preference on any issue, candidate, or questions that comes before the National Convention. Each Delegation Chair shall ensure that each Delegates vote is correctly recorded and cast.

### SECTION 380 Delegates and Alternates.

Delegates shall be voting members of a chartered unit's delegation, and Alternates shall be non-voting members of a chartered unit's delegation. Alternates may be seated as Delegates in the event that a Delegate is not present pursuant to rules adopted by the National Convention. Each unit shall be responsible for selecting its own delegates and alternates and for setting the rules and procedures for said selection with the following limitations:

#### Section 380(a) Eligibility.

Regular members that reside within the territorial boundary of a unit, whether appearing on the membership list or not, and any other regular members that are listed on the membership list submitted with a unit's charter application, are eligible to serve as delegates to the National Convention representing that unit.

#### Section 380(b) Selection Process.

Each unit shall adopt rules to govern the process for the selection of Delegates and Alternates that shall encourage the full participation of all members of the unit, especially historically under-represented groups in the Young Democrats of America. These rules shall be filed with the unit's application for charter, and shall be made public on the national website, and the convention website and shall be provided upon request by the national office. Unless provided for in the unit's rules for selection of Delegates and Alternates, no Delegate or Alternate present at the convention that has registered shall be removed.

#### Section 380(c) Filing.

Each unit shall file the name and contact information for each Delegate and Alternate with the convention secretary no later than seven (7) days prior to the first general session of the National Convention. If the names of the Delegates and Alternates have not been filed by this deadline, all members from a chartered unit registered and present at the convention will be voting Delegates.

### SECTION 385 Delegation Chair

Delegation Chairs shall be appointed by the Unit President and filed with the Convention Secretary no less than seven (7) days prior to the first general session of the National Convention. If the Unit President has not filed the Delegation Chair by that deadline, all delegates from that unit shall have the right to caucus and select a Delegation Chair immediately prior to the opening general session of the Convention.

---

---

# CHARTER

---

---

CHARTER  
ARTICLE IV  
NATIONAL COMMITTEE

SECTION 405 Authority. Except for powers reserved to the National Convention, the governing body of the Young Democrats of America shall be the National Committee.

SECTION 410 Composition.

Section 410(a) Voting Members. All elected National Officers, the Chair of each Caucus, the President Emeritus of the Young Democrats of America, the Director of each Regional Caucus, the Chair of the Judicial Council, the Chair of each Standing Committee, the Chair of each Select Committee, the chair of the State Presidents Association, and the President, National Committeeman, and National Committeewoman of each Chartered Unit shall be voting members of the National Committee. No person shall be entitled to cast more than one vote on the National Committee by virtue of holding multiple offices.

Section 410(b) Non-Voting Members. Each Administrative Officer, as specified in the Charter and the Bylaws, shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of the National Committee.

SECTION 420 Meetings. The National Committee of the Young Democrats of America shall meet at least three (3) times a year at the call of the President, with approval of the Board of Directors. The number of meetings held on the East and West sides of the Mississippi River between biennia conventions shall be equal within one meeting. Subsequent meetings of the National Committee may be called at the direction of the President or upon the written request of twenty percent (20%) of the current membership of the Executive Committee of the Young Democrats of America. At the direction of the President or upon receipt of the requests of the requisite number of Committee members, the Secretary shall send written notice to all members of the National Committee specifying the location, date, and time of the meeting, said date shall not be less than thirty (30) days nor more than sixty (60) days from the date of said notice.

SECTION 430 Standing Committees of the National Committee.

Section 430(a) Named. The National Committee shall have Standing Committees on Credentials, Rules and Charter, and Resolutions.

Section 430(b) Membership. Each Standing Committee shall consist of one representative from each Chartered unit. Said unit representative need not be a member of the National Committee. Members of each Standing Committee shall be chosen in accordance with procedures established by the unit they represent and may be certified in writing to the Secretary of the Young Democrats of America.

Section 430(c) Meetings. Standing Committees shall meet at each meeting of the National Committee of the Young Democrats of America and at other times as called by the Chair or by the President. Meetings that are not held in conjunction with a National Committee meeting shall require thirty (30) days written notice to each committee officer, member, and chartered unit president.

SECTION 440 Select Committees of the National Committee.

Section 440(a) Named and Establishment. The National Committee shall have Select Committees on Affirmative Action, Budget, Finance, Campaign, Chapter Building, and Communications and Outreach. The President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, shall have the discretion to establish and instruct additional Select Committees, however the chairs of any additional Select Committees shall not have voting membership on the Executive Committee solely based on their position as Chair.

Section 440(b) Membership. Each Select Committee shall consist of one (1) representative selected by each Regional Caucus and up to three (3) at-large members appointed by the President. The President shall designate a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary from among the members of each Select Committee.

---

---

## CHARTER

---

---

Section 440(c) Meetings. Select Committees shall meet at each meeting of the National Committee of the Young Democrats of America and at other times as called by the Chair or by the President. Meetings that are not held in conjunction with a National Committee meeting shall require fifteen (15) days written notice to each committee member and must offer the potential for involvement without physical attendance.

### CHARTER ARTICLE V EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 505 Authority. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the conduct of the affairs of the Young Democrats of America in the interim between meetings of the National Committee.

SECTION 510 Composition.

Section 510(a) Voting Members. All elected National Officers, the Chair of each Caucus, the President Emeritus of the Young Democrats of America, the Director of each Regional Caucus, the Chair of the Judicial Council, the Chair of each Standing Committee, the Chair of each Select Committee as referenced in the Charter, Article IV, Section 440(a), the chair of the State Presidents Association, shall be voting members of the Executive Committee. No person shall be entitled to cast more than one vote on the Executive Committee by virtue of holding multiple offices.

Section 510(b) Non-Voting Members. Each Administrative Officer, as specified in the Charter and the Bylaws, shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Executive Committee

SECTION 515 Meetings. The Executive Committee shall meet at least four (4) times per year at the call of the President or upon petition of six (6) members thereof, provided that twenty-five (25) days written notice shall be required to convene a meeting.

### CHARTER ARTICLE VI OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 603 Board of Directors. There shall be a board of directors for the Young Democrats of America, comprising of the National Officers of the Young Democrats of America and six (6) members representing stakeholder communities. The President of the Young Democrats of America shall serve as chair of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 605 Officers; Named. The officers of the Young Democrats of America shall be a President, an Executive Vice President, a Democratic National Committeeman, a Democratic National Committeewoman, two (2) Vice Presidents, a Vice President for Programs, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

SECTION 606 Duties of Officers. The officers of the Young Democrats of America shall perform such duties as required by the Bylaws, the President and the National Committee, as well as serving as Directors on the Board.

SECTION 608 Duties of Board of Directors. The Board shall be responsible for the hiring and firing of the Executive Director, reviewing staff performance, awarding raises and bonuses, and adopting human resources staff management policies. In addition, the Board will review and approve major contracts as needed, as well as performing other ongoing management decisions. The Board shall meet on at least a quarterly basis, either in person or via conference call.

SECTION 610 Eligibility. Regular members who have not yet reached the age of thirty-four (34) years shall be eligible for elected national office. Persons who are not members of a Party other than the Democratic Party shall be eligible for selection as Stakeholder members of the Board of Directors.

---

---

## CHARTER

---

---

SECTION 615 Elections. Officers other than the Democratic National Committeeman and Democratic National Committeewoman shall be elected by a majority vote of the National Convention for a term of two years or until their successors are elected. The Democratic National Committeeman and Democratic National Committeewoman shall be elected in even numbered years at a National Committee Meeting held in June, July or August to be seated either immediately in non-Presidential years or at the conclusion of the Democratic National Convention in Presidential years.

SECTION 618 Selection of Stakeholder Board of Directors. The six stake-holder positions shall be nominated by the existing board, with approval by the National Committee. Three stake-holder directors shall be selected in each even number year, serving four year terms at the same meeting in which the Democratic National Committeeman and Committeewoman are elected.

SECTION 620 Attendance at Meetings. Officers shall be required to attend all meetings of the National Committee and Executive Committee. Meetings of the National Committee and Executive Committee convened within a period of three (3) days shall be construed as one (1) meeting for the purpose of this section. Officers who fail to attend two successive meetings of the National Committee or Executive Committee, or any combination thereof, shall be deemed ipso facto; guilty of nonfeasance of assigned duties, and to have been removed from office. Vacancies created as a result of this section shall be filled as prescribed the Charter and the Bylaws. Persons who have been removed from elected office, pursuant to this section shall be ineligible for election or appointment to any office in the Young Democrats of America. For the purposes of this section, any officer with an excused absence, as approved by the Executive Committee no later than the adjournment of the second missed meeting shall not be considered to have failed to attend a meeting.

SECTION 650 Impeachment; Cause. Officers and Board members of the Young Democrats of America are subject to impeachment and removal from office for misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance of assigned duties or for violation of any law or rule of the Young Democrats of America, the Democratic Party, or for the commission of high crimes and misdemeanors.

### CHARTER ARTICLE VII ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

SECTION 720 Non-Voting Officers Named. There shall be appointed by the President and confirmed by the National Committee the following non-voting administrative officers: International Affairs Liaison. This officer shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the National Committee and the Executive Committee.

SECTION 730 Administrative Officers. Administrative Officers, including a Parliamentarian, shall be appointed by the President as necessary, subject to confirmation by the National Committee. These officers shall not, by virtue of their Administrative Office, become members of the National Committee or the Executive Committee.

SECTION 735 Terms. Administrative officers serve at the pleasure of the President.

SECTION 740 Duties. The Administrative Officers shall perform such duties as required by the Charter and the Bylaws and the National Committee.

### CHARTER ARTICLE VIII JUDICIAL COUNCIL

SECTION 805 Authority. The Judicial Council shall hear impeachment proceedings against National Officers and shall investigate, arbitrate, resolve and report on serious disputes which do not fall within the jurisdiction of the Rules and Charter, Credentials, or Resolutions Committees prior to their final resolution by the National Committee.

---

---

|         |
|---------|
| CHARTER |
|---------|

---

---

SECTION 810 Composition. The Judicial Council shall be composed of eight (8) elected members, one from each Regional Caucus; and three (3) at-large members appointed by the President.

SECTION 820 Disqualification. No person who is a party in a dispute raised before the judicial council shall sit in judgment or cast a vote on the Judicial Council's consideration of that dispute, regardless of that person's membership on the Judicial council or possession of a proxy vote of a Judicial Council member. A replacement may be designated by a vote of the National Committee members who are members of chartered units within that affected Region, the affected region's director or by the president.

CHARTER  
ARTICLE IX  
REGIONAL CAUCUSES

SECTION 905 Regional Caucuses. There shall be eight (8) Regional Caucuses of the Young Democrats of America.

Section 905(a) Composition. Each Regional Caucus shall be composed of all chartered units within the region as provided for in the Bylaws.

Section 905(b) Officers. Each Regional Caucus shall elect a Regional Director as provided for in the Bylaws.

SECTION 910 Regional Directors. Each Regional Director shall serve as ex-officio voting member of the National Committee and Executive Committee.

SECTION 915 Provisions. Each Regional Caucus shall establish bylaws and rules necessary for operation, not in conflict with this charter, and subject to the approval of the National Committee. The bylaws and rules must contain provisions for procedures for election of officers, duties of officers and procedures for removal of officers. A copy of the bylaws or amendments must be submitted to the National Office within thirty (30) days of approval and be available to any member of the National Committee upon request.

CHARTER  
ARTICLE X  
CAUCUSES

SECTION 1005 Named. There shall be established the following constituency caucuses: Women, Minority, Labor, Gay-Lesbian- Bisexual-Transgendered, Disability Issues, Jewish, Rural, College, and High School. The Chairs of each of these caucuses shall serve as ex-officio, voting members of the National Committee and Executive Committee.

SECTION 1010 Additional Caucuses. There may be additional caucuses created at the pleasure of the National Committee. The Chairs of these caucuses shall serve as ex-officio, non-voting members of the National Committee and Executive Committee.

SECTION 1015 Provisions. Each caucus shall establish bylaws and rules necessary for operation, not in conflict with this charter, and subject to the approval of the National Committee. The bylaws and rules must contain provisions for definition of membership, definitions of voting privileges, procedures for election of officers, duties of officers and procedures for removal of officers. A copy of the bylaws or amendments must be submitted to the National Office within thirty (30) days of approval and be available to any member of the National Committee upon request.

---

---

# CHARTER

## CHARTER ARTICLE XI MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

### SECTION 1100 Meetings and Voting.

Section 1100(a). Meeting by Videoconference, Teleconference, or Online Conference. Official meetings of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Standing Committees, Select Committees, and Judicial Council may be held by videoconference, teleconference, or online conference, provided that the following provisions apply:

- a) Members shall be allowed full participation in un-muted and un-censored real-time discussion and all members must be able to hear or see the communication from all other members.
- b) Attendance by members participating can be accurately recorded.
- c) Roll call votes shall be taken on any vote upon the request of one member.

Section 1100(b). Vote By Mail or Internet. The Executive Committee shall be able to refer matters normally handled at meetings of the National Committee to the members of the National Committee through the mail, or by means of electronic voting, provided that the following provisions apply:

- a) Members shall have at least twenty-one (21) days to return their ballot, and within five (5) days after the close of balloting, the list of members voting, and their vote cast shall be distributed to the National Committee.
- b) Quorum necessary for measures submitted through this method shall be the return of ballots from a majority of the membership of the National Committee.
- c) Voting must be made available through regular mail or fax to any member upon request to the Secretary.
- d) Voting must be done in a manner to ensure that all votes cast bear the signature, or an electronic signature of the member who cast the vote.
- e) Should 25% of the members National Committee vote to postpone the matter under consideration until the next in-person meeting of the National Committee, the matter shall be considered tabled until that time. The option to postpone shall be listed on any matter referred in this matter as an option to vote.
- f) The election of National Officers shall not occur through the means of this section.

Section 1100(c). Regional Caucuses and Caucuses. Regional Caucuses and Caucuses may conduct meetings and voting pursuant to these methods if it is specifically provided for in their rules.

### SECTION 1105 Quorum.

Section 1105(a) National Committee. A quorum of the National Committee shall be not less than twenty-five (25) members representing not less than twenty five percent (25%) of chartered units.

Section 1105(b) Standing Committees of the National Committee. A quorum of a Standing Committee shall be not less than representatives from twenty five percent (25%) of chartered units.

Section 1105(c) Board of Directors, Executive Committee; Judicial Council; Select Committees. The quorum required in the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Judicial Council, and Select Committees shall be forty percent (40%) of the voting membership. For meetings of the Board of Directors, a majority of the members in attendance must be officers of the Young Democrats of America as opposed to Stakeholder members.

SECTION 1110 Proxies. Authorized. Proxy voting shall be permitted as specified in the Charter and the Bylaws at in-person meetings of the National Committee, Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Judicial Council, Standing Committee and Select Committees. Proxies shall be carried only by regular members, and shall be general, uninstructed, and transferable, unless otherwise specified. Under no circumstances may any Young Democrat carry more than two (2) proxies. Proxies for officers of the Young Democrats of America in the Board of Directors must be help by a member of National Committee of the Young Democrats of America.

---

---

## CHARTER

---

---

SECTION 1115 Requirements; Restrictions. No law or rule of any chartered unit may conflict with this Charter and any provision which does so conflict shall be null and void. Every unit shall be required to hold a general convention not less than biennially. The National Committee shall have authority to revoke the Charter of any unit for violation of any law or rule of the Democratic Party, at any level. Restrictions on voting commonly referred to as "unit rule" are prohibited. Units shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, religion, national origin, economic status, gender or sexual orientation.

SECTION 1120 Open Meeting Policy. All meetings of the Young Democrats of America shall be open to the public, and votes shall not be taken by secret ballot. Meetings shall be publicized on the public website of the Young Democrats of America no later than the notification date required for membership and minutes shall be taken and made accessible.

SECTION 1125 Definitions.

Section 1125(a) National Committee. National Committee means the National Committee of the Young Democrats of America.

Section 1125(b) Executive Committee. Executive Committee means the Executive Committee of the Young Democrats of America.

Section 1125(c) Board of Directors. Board of Directors means the Board of the Directors of the Young Democrats of America including the National Officers and Stakeholder Members of the Young Democrats of America.

Section 1125(d) Charter and Bylaws. The Charter and the Bylaws shall refer to the current version of the Charter and the Bylaws of the Young Democrats of America.

SECTION 1130 Parliamentary Authority. The Rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Young Democrats of America in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Charter and any special rules of order the Young Democrats of America may adopt.

SECTION 1140 Rules. Each official body of the Young Democrats of America created under the authority of this Charter shall adopt and conduct its affairs in accordance with written rules, which rules shall be consistent with the Charter and the Bylaws and other provisions adopted pursuant to authority of the Charter, including resolutions or other actions of the National Convention or National Committee. The National Committee shall maintain copies of all such rules and shall make them available upon request.

SECTION 1150 Procedural Guarantees. The Young Democrats of America shall implement the following guarantees to members:

Section 1150(a) Open Meetings. All public meetings and official functions at all levels of the Young Democrats of America shall be open to all members of the Young Democrats of America regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, age (except as provided in Section 205(a)), color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, economic status, physical disability, or philosophical persuasion.

Section 1150(b) Membership Test. No test for membership in, nor any oath of loyalty to, the Young Democrats of America shall be required or used which has the effect of requiring prospective or current members of the Young Democrats of America to acquiesce in, condone or support discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, sexual orientation, age (except as provided in Section 205(a)), color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, economic status or physical disability.

Section 1150(d) Registration. The Young Democrats of America, on all levels, shall support the broadest possible registration without discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, sexual orientation, age (except as provided in Section 205(a)), color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, economic status, or physical disability.

---

---

## CHARTER

---

---

Section 1150(e) Selection of Officers. The Young Democrats of America shall publicize fully and in such manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the practical procedures for selection of YDA Officers and Representatives on all levels. Publication of these procedures shall be done in such fashion that all prospective and current members of the YDA will be fully and adequately informed of the pertinent procedures in time to participate in each selection procedure at all levels of the Young Democrats of America.

Section 1150(f) Qualifications for Officers. The Young Democrats of America shall publicize fully and in such manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a complete description of the practical qualifications of all Officers and Representatives of the Young Democrats of America. Such publication shall be done in a timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected or appointed position within the Young Democrats of America will have full and adequate opportunity to compete for office. It is the intention of the Young Democrats of America to ensure a full opportunity for all minority group members to participate in these electoral processes.

Section 1150(g). Sexual Harassment Policy. The Young Democrats of America shall adopt a policy providing an environment that is free from all forms of discrimination and conduct that can be considered harassing, coercive, or disruptive, including sexual harassment. This policy shall include, but not be limited to stating that actions, words, jokes, or comments based on an individual's sex, race, color, national origin, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected characteristic will not be tolerated, and shall provide a process for complaints and resolution.

SECTION 1160 Accessibility for Conventions, Meetings, and official functions. National Conventions, National Committee Meetings, and all official functions of the Young Democrats of America, or any Caucus or Regional Caucus, shall be held only at facilities which are accessible to persons with disabilities as defined by the American with Disabilities Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG).

SECTION 1170 Labor Preference for Conventions and Meetings. National Conventions and National Committee Meetings shall be held only at facilities organized by a duly recognized labor organization, should they exist in the location selected.

CHARTER  
ARTICLE XII  
AMENDMENT AND BYLAWS

SECTION 1205 Amendment. This Charter may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates to the National Convention or by a four-fifths (4/5) vote of the National Committee.

SECTION 1210 Bylaws. Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the National Committee or the National Convention. Bylaws may not conflict with Charter.

CERTIFICATION OF CHARTER

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of The Charter of the Young Democrats of America as amended including amendments certified by the Secretary of the National Convention, as adopted by the National Convention, July 21, 2007, in Dallas, Texas.

Chris Gallaway, President  
Young Democrats of America

Derron Parks, Chair  
Convention Standing Committee on Charter and Rules

---

---

# BYLAWS

---

---

## THE BYLAWS OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA

Adopted pursuant to The Charter of the Young Democrats of America on July 21, 2007,  
by the National Convention in Dallas, Texas.

### BYLAWS ARTICLE I CHARTERED UNITS

#### SECTION 110 Application for Unit Charters; Contents.

- a) Name of the unit.
- b) Territory of unit representation.
- c) Date of last unit convention.
- d) Compilation of unit officers, including names, addresses, phone numbers, date of election, date of term expiration, and date of birth.
- e) A copy of the unit Constitution, Charter, Bylaws, Certification of Incorporation and/or any other such prevailing organic document.
- f) Certification by no less than one (1) member of the Democratic National Committee representing the applying unit's territory that the unit is recognized, sanctioned or authorized by the Democratic Party of that territory as that territory's official organization of Young Democrats and that the unit's officers were elected not prior to the last National Convention, with the exception of the host unit of the National Convention which shall be allowed to schedule their unit convention no later than thirty (30) days after the close of the National Convention.
- g) The chartering fee submitted by certified check, cashier's check, money order, credit card, or cash.
- h) A list of the members of the unit, which shall include the following information: name, address, city, state, zip code, date of birth (including month, day and year), and the phone number and email address of at least each member of the unit subsequent to the last National Convention.
- i) Certifications signed by each of the unit President, National Committeewoman, and National Committeeman, acknowledged or sworn to be said officers, and attested to by a notary public or other officer authorized by law to so attest in the jurisdiction where executed. Each certification shall state that to the best of the signer's knowledge all documents submitted are current, complete, and in every respect accurate; that the membership list submitted consists of actual members of the unit subsequent to the last National Convention who currently satisfy the age requirements of the Charter and the Bylaws; that the unit has most recently held a convention and elected officers not prior to the last National Convention.
- j) Rules for the selection of Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention.
- k) Supporting materials for Participation Votes pursuant to the Charter and the Bylaws, if requested.

#### SECTION 115 Time period for Filing Unit Charter Applications.

##### Section 115 (a)..

All component documents of unit charter applications shall be filed not earlier than sixty (60) days nor later than thirty (30) days preceding the day on which the first General Session of the National Convention is scheduled to be convened.

##### Section 115 (b)..

The Young Democrats of America shall provide notice to all members of the National Committee of the Charter application requirements not fewer than sixty (60) days prior to the day on with the first General Session of the National Convention is scheduled to be convened.

#### SECTION 120 Office of Receipt for Unit Charter Applications.

##### Section 120(a).

Applications shall be filed in the National Office of the Young Democrats of America. Each unit shall bear sole and complete responsibility for ensuring that all component documents of its charter application are filed in a timely manner.

---

---

## BYLAWS

---

---

### Section 120(b).

All charter applications shall be opened and examined by the Chair of the Credentials Committee of the National Convention at the National Office, at 12:00 noon on the first Saturday immediately following the deadline for receipt of charter applications. Any member of any unit shall be allowed to attend, observe, and make records of the opening and examination of the charter applications, but no observer may interfere or raise challenges at this time.

### Section 120(c).

Units shall be notified of the status of their application by email and certified mail to the unit President and by email to the unit's National Committeeman and National Committeewoman at the addresses shown on the charter application no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the initial opening of packets. The notification shall include preliminary votes to be allocated to the unit, specifics of any defects, penalties to be assessed, and the procedure to follow to correct defects.

### Section 120(d).

Amendments or late applications shall be sent to the National Office to be forwarded to the Chair of the Credentials Committee. The arrival date at the National Office shall govern assessment of penalties. All late materials and amendments are to be opened and examined within five (5) days of receipt by the National Office, and notification sent to the Unit within seven (7) days of receipt by the National Office.

### SECTION 125 Penalties for Late or Defective Unit Charter Application.

Units which file charter applications past the deadline established in the Charter and the Bylaws or that do not comply with the requirements of the Charter and Bylaws shall be penalized a cumulative percentage of their votes as set out below. If penalties total one hundred percent (100%) or more, the unit charter application shall be rejected and the fee returned. Amendments to an application may be submitted at any time and amended applications shall be treated as late applications with penalties calculated based on the date the amendments are received at the National Office. In no case shall an amendment act to increase to number of pre-penalty votes a unit may cast as calculated under Section 360 of the Charter. Penalties shall be rounded to the nearest whole vote, except the minimum total penalty shall be one (1) vote, and the minimum numbers of votes remaining after penalties shall be five (5) votes.

a) Incomplete or inaccurate officer lists or governing documents, except changes in officers or governing documents due to elections or amendments subsequent to submission of application shall not result in any penalty.

(i) Officer list defective: twenty percent (20%) penalty

(ii) Governing documents defective: twenty percent (20%) penalty

b) Membership lists improper. Individual names with defects shall not be counted towards determining the number of members in the unit. Omitting required information on all members shall result in the following penalties:

(i) Missing ZIP codes: ten percent (10%) penalty

(ii) Incomplete birth dates (other than day, month, year): twenty percent (20%) penalty

(iii) Missing birth dates: forty percent (40%) penalty

(iv) Missing addresses: one hundred percent (100%) penalty

c) Excessive invalid members. If more than ten percent (10%) of the names on a unit's membership list are invalid because of age, then there shall be a twenty-five percent (25%) penalty.

d) Applications received at the National Office after the submission deadline or amended after that date.

Penalty shall be computed as follows:

(i) After deadline but before opening: five percent (5%) penalty

(ii) After opening: three percent (3%) per day after opening until application is received

### SECTION 130 Fees for Unit Charter Applications.

Each unit application for charter issuance or charter renewal shall include the payment of five dollars (\$5.00) for every vote that the unit is eligible to cast at the National Convention after penalties have been applied. A unit may cast less than its total allowed votes by paying a lesser amount. In such event, the unit shall be allowed to cast one vote for every five dollars (\$5.00) that is paid; provided that no chartered unit shall be allowed to cast more votes than are authorized by the Charter and the Bylaws.

---

---

## BYLAWS

---

---

### SECTION 135 Interim Charter Application.

All applications for interim unit charter issuance shall conform to the requirements of Section 110 except that units applying for interim charter may have held their convention subsequent to the most recent National Convention, and they are not required to submit materials for Participation Votes or the rules governing the selection of their Delegates and Alternates to the convention.

### SECTION 140 Fees for Interim Charter Applications.

The fee for issuance of an interim unit charter shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00)

### BYLAWS ARTICLE II

REMOVED BY ACTION OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA  
NATIONAL CONVENTION

### BYLAWS ARTICLE III NATIONAL CONVENTION

### SECTION 300 Site Selection Committee.

The Site Selection Committee shall convene immediately following the adjournment of each National Convention for the purpose of reviewing bids from cities to host the next National Convention and shall adjourn sine die following the submission of their report to the National Committee. The Committee shall consist of a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, appointed by the National President, the Chair of the State Presidents' Association, and one member appointed by each Regional Director. The Committee shall seek the advice and counsel of experts in event planning and disability access.

### SECTION 305 Site Selection.

#### Section 305(a) Bidding Application and Deadline.

Prior to the first day of October following a National Convention, the National Office shall prepare a list of information which prospective bidders must submit with their bids to host the next National Convention. The Site Selection Committee may subsequently require further information but the initial requirements must be available and sent to the National Committee by December 1<sup>st</sup>. In order to be considered by the Site Selection Committee, bids from interested localities must be received by the National Office on or before the first day of February of even numbered years.

#### Section 305(b) Bid Review and Site Visitation.

The Site Selection Committee shall adopt procedures for review of each submitted bid, and for selections of sites for visitation to the potential host cities.

#### Section 305(c) Committee Report.

The Site Selection Committee shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations, including a ranking of bids from most desirable to least desirable, to the President no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the National Committee meeting which is to consider site selection. A copy of the report shall be provided to every member of the National Committee not less than ten (10) days prior to the National Committee meeting which is to consider site selection.

#### Section 305(d) Consideration by National Committee.

When the report of the Site Selection Committee is presented to the National Committee, consideration of the three (3) bids ranked most desirable by the report shall automatically become the question before the National Committee. Prior to any presentations or debate thereon the President shall ask for a motion to consider additional sites. Such a motion may only be made at that time and may only move consideration of a site which submitted a written proposal to the National Office by the February 1st deadline for submitting bids. Such a motion shall require a majority vote for passage. A fifteen (15) minute presentation may then be given by each site under consideration. Following the presentations, debate will proceed in regular order. At the close of debate, the question shall be put to all bids under

---

---

## BYLAWS

---

---

consideration with each National Committee member voting for only one bid. If no bid receives a majority, a second vote shall be taken without debate on the two bids which received together the greatest number of votes. On this second vote, the site receiving the majority shall be designated the National Convention site and the site receiving the minority shall be the alternate site. If any of the bids receive a majority on the first ballot, said site shall be designated the National Convention site and balloting shall proceed in the same fashion to determine an alternate site.

### SECTION 307 Convention Management Committee

There shall be a Convention Management Committee consisting of three (3) members appointed by the President and three (3) members appointed by the Chair of the Host Committee. The Chair of the Committee shall be one of the members appointed by the President, and the Vice Chair of the Committee shall be one of the members appointed by the Host Committee Chair. The Management Committee shall be responsible for the management and implementation of the National Convention, including scheduling, budget and fundraising, logistics, and other matters. The committee shall hire and supervise staff and vendors as needed. The committee shall exist as a legal entity solely for the purpose of putting on the National Convention, separate from both the Young Democrats of America and the Host Committee.

### SECTION 310 Committee on Convention Procedures.

There shall be a Convention Procedures Committee composed of the President, Executive Vice President, the Chair of the Convention Host Committee, the Convention Secretary, the Chair or Chairs of each Convention Standing Committees, Convention Parliamentarian, and the Chair of the Judicial Council. Any of these persons may designate a representative to take his or her place on said committee. If any of these persons are running for national office during the Convention, they must designate a representative to take his or her place on said committee. The President shall call the initial meeting of the Committee not less than sixty (60) days prior to each National Convention. At the initial meeting a Chair shall be elected by the Committee who shall be empowered to select times, dates, and places for such further meetings as may be appropriate. Within fourteen (14) days of the meeting, minutes and copies of the Rules of the National Convention as adopted by the National Committee shall be mailed to each member of the National Committee. Said Committee shall be responsible for incurring that the Rules of the National Convention are observed and complied with. It shall be further responsibility of this Committee to ensure the efficient scheduling of Convention meetings and activities and to provide adequate administrative, legal and clerical facilities for the delegations and committees.

### SECTION 315 Election of Officers.

Officers shall be elected in the same order in which the offices are listed in the Charter and the Bylaws.

#### Section 315(a) Declaration of Candidacy.

At or before 12:00 noon of the day on which the second session of the National Convention is convened, persons seeking election to national office shall file with the Convention Secretary a Declaration of Candidacy for a specific office. Persons who have not timely filed declarations of candidacy shall be ineligible for election to national office.

#### Section 315(b) Disclosure of Campaign Finances.

At or before 12:00 noon of the day on which the second session of the National Convention is convened, candidates shall file with the Convention Secretary a statement of all expenditures made, and sources of all funds utilized relating to their campaign for national office. Such statements shall be attested to by the signature of the candidate and sworn before a notary public or another officer authorized by law to so attest in the jurisdiction where executed. Persons who have failed to timely file disclosures of campaign finances, or who make a materially false statement in connection thereto, shall be ineligible for election to the National Convention. Within one (1) hour of their having been filed, the Secretary shall forward to the General Counsel or his designee, copies of the documents submitted pursuant to this Section, who shall review them for compliance with this Section. The General Counsel or his or her designee shall be authorized to call a special session of the Judicial Council, at any time prior to the General Session at which elections will be conducted, which shall be authorized to adjudicate alleged violations of this Section. The Judicial Council shall be further authorized to compel candidates, alleged in violation of this Section, to appear before it, subject to its summary Judgment of Ineligibility for Election. Persons accused subject to this Section, shall have the right to be accompanied by counsel, to present and cross examine witnesses, and to present evidence in their own defense.

---

---

## BYLAWS

---

---

### SECTION 350 Convention Standing Committees.

#### Section 350(a) Charter and Rules.

The Convention Standing Committee on Charter and Rules shall recommend rules to govern the conduct of the National Convention and shall review and propose amendments to the Charter. No rule, special rule, standing rule, rule amendment or amendment to the Charter or the Bylaws shall be considered by the National Convention until and unless it has been reported favorably out of this committee. No later than ninety (90) days prior to the National Convention, the National Committee shall adopt temporary Convention Rules which shall govern the National Convention until the National Convention has adopted its own rules.

#### Section 350(b) Credentials.

The Convention Standing Committee on Credentials shall review and recommend action on unit charter applications, new and renewal, to the National Convention. No other committee shall conduct business until the Credentials Committee has given its Convention Report to said other committees. The preliminary report of Credentials shall be determinative of voting rights until the report of the Credentials Committee is adopted.

#### Section 350(c) Platform.

The Convention Standing Committee on Platform shall recommend to the National Convention a biennial Platform for the Young Democrats of America and shall consider any resolutions submitted.

### SECTION 360 Credentials Report.

- (i) The Chair of the Credentials Committee of the National Convention shall prepare and distribute to the National Committee a complete preliminary credentials report not less than twenty (20) days prior to the day on which the first General Session of the National Convention is scheduled to convene. The report shall show all units that have submitted or attempted to submit charter applications, whether the application is accepted or denied, the date of original filing, the date of each subsequent amendment, the status of each required item under the Charter and Bylaws, the total amount of charter fees paid, number of votes allocated under the Charter and Bylaws, including penalties and delegate ratios.
- (ii) The Chair of the Credentials Committee of the National Convention shall make available all original documents submitted by units in the charter applications for inspection by the Credentials Committee of the National Convention at the National Convention, except the Chair shall provide a copy of the check. These documents must be present at the location in which the National Convention is being conducted.
- (iii) The Chair of the Credentials Committee of the National Convention shall prepare a Credentials Committee Report upon completion of the business of the Credentials Committee for submission to the National Convention, reflecting all actions of the Credentials Committee. This report shall be in the same form as the preliminary credentials report and shall govern voting until further action is taken by the National Convention. This report shall be available to all delegates and distributed to the chair of each Convention Committee, all convention officers, and the chair of each unit delegation. A Final Credentials Report in the same format shall be submitted to the first National Committee meeting following the National Convention reflecting the final actions by the National Convention.

BYLAWS  
ARTICLE IV  
NATIONAL COMMITTEE

SECTION 405 Selection of Chartered Unit Representation. Each chartered unit shall provide for the selection and, where vacancies occur, the replacement of its representatives on the National Committee. Each unit shall provide certification to the Secretary of their representatives, and such certification shall be made by the presiding officer of the chartered unit they represent provided, however, that such certification may be waived by the National Committee by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

---

---

## BYLAWS

---

---

SECTION 410 Credentials Certification. Prior to the opening session of each National Committee Meeting, the Chairperson of the Credentials Committee shall present its report to the President. Pending final approval said report shall be determinative of member voting rights. Amendments to the Credentials Committee Report which enfranchise or disenfranchise National Committee members shall be effective immediately upon approval, pending adoption of the complete report.

SECTION 415 Agenda. Not less than thirty (30) days prior to any meeting of the National Committee the President shall prepare, and the Secretary shall distribute to all National Committee members, a written agenda for said meeting. The first order of business at every National Committee meeting shall be the report of the Standing Committee on Credentials. Thereafter, business shall proceed in regular order as designated by the agenda.

SECTION 420 Minutes.

Section 420(a) Preparation; Responsibility. The Secretary shall ensure that accurate minutes are taken, prepared, and maintained of each and every meeting, session, or workshop of the National Convention, the National Committee, or the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall ensure that summary reports of all such meetings are included in all Young Democrats of America publications and such other national publications as may be appropriate.

Section 420(b) Delivery; Mailing. A copy of the minutes of each Executive Committee meeting shall be delivered or mailed to each member thereof not more than fourteen (14) days subsequent thereto. A copy of the minutes of each meeting of the National Committee shall be delivered or mailed to each member thereof not more than thirty (30) days subsequent thereto. A copy of the minutes of each public meeting shall be made electronically available within thirty (30) days subsequent thereto.

SECTION 425 Notices. It shall be the responsibility of each member of the National Committee to ensure that his or her contact information and preferred method of notification is on file with the Secretary. In the absence of a request for notification through United States mail or fax, email notification shall be sufficient for all requirements for notice or mailing required by the Charter or the Bylaws.

SECTION 430 Use of Membership Lists. The National Records of membership in the chartered units shall be public record and open to inspection by any person at reasonable times and places, and copies of said lists shall be supplied at cost to any democratic party official, democratic office holder, or democratic candidate for office. The Finance Committee may make lists available to issue advocacy groups at a cost determined by the discretion of the Finance Committee.

SECTION 435 Select Committees.

Section 435(a) Select Committee on Affirmative Action. The Select Committee on Affirmative Action shall meet at the call of its Chair and shall undertake to implement a policy and program of affirmative action at every level of the Young Democrats of America. Said committee shall establish guidelines for the selection of delegates which will encourage participation by groups heretofore under-represented in Democratic politics. Said committee shall also work to make available tools and resources to assist every level of the Young Democrats of America in accomplishing its affirmative action and outreach efforts. Said committee shall propose and administer such programs as it deems advisable to ensure future participation in Democratic politics of all persons regardless of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, or age.

Section 435(b) Select Committee on Budget. The Select Committee on Budget shall meet at the call of its Chair and shall be responsible for review, modification, and submission of the Presidential Executive Budget to the National Committee for approval. The Committee will regularly report on the status of income and expenditures compared to the budget and shall approve any expenditure in excess of the approved budget. The Budget Committee is empowered to recommend to the National Committee the investment on assets, the purchase or sale of real estate, and all other fiduciary arrangements, and shall serve as the Committee on Audit. The Treasurer shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of this committee.

---

---

## BYLAWS

---

---

Section 435(c) Select Committee on Finance. The Select Committee on Finance shall meet at the call of its Chair and shall be responsible for the design, coordination and implementation of national fundraising projects. The Committee shall be responsible for review, modification, implementation and submission to the National Committee for approval of the National Fundraising Plan. The Committee shall work with the officers, staff, and consultants engaged in fundraising on behalf of the Young Democrats of America to effectively oversee these programs and ensure their successful implementation. The Vice President for Development shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of this committee.

Section 435(d) Select Committee on Campaign. The Select Committee on Campaign shall meet at the call of its Chair and shall be responsible for the development, implementation, and submission to the National Committee for approval of a national campaign plan and shall assist in the development and implementation of individual campaign plans for each chartered unit.

Section 435(e) Select Committee on Chapter Building. The Select Committee on Chapter Building shall meet upon the call of its chair and shall be responsible for the review and approval of plans and programs for chapter building submitted by chartered units and local chapters. The committee shall set the overall guidelines for programs that the national organization will partner with both unit and local chapters and recommend chapters that meet the criteria to the national staff for implementation and completion of the programs.

Section 435(f) Select Committee on Communications and Outreach. The Select Committee on Communications and Outreach shall advise oversee programs related to internal and external communications and message development and outreach.

### SECTION 440 Standing Committees.

Section 440(a) Standing Committee on Credentials. The Credentials Committee shall review the credentials of all members of the National Committee at each meeting thereof. Said committee may establish administrative guidelines to promote a more efficient accreditation of National Committee members and units. All matters pertaining to the issuance or revocation of unit Charters shall be considered by the Credentials Committee prior to their consideration by the National Committee.

Section 440(b) Standing Committee on Rules and Charter. The Standing Committee on Rules and Charter shall meet in conjunction with every sitting of the National Committee and shall review and recommend the adoption or deletion of rules governing the National Committee and/or amendments to this Charter and Bylaws. No rule change, Charter amendment or Bylaw amendment shall be submitted to the National Committee until it has been favorably reported out of this committee. Proposed amendments to the Charter or the Bylaws shall be submitted by a member of the National Committee to the Secretary of the Young Democrats of America no later than thirty-five (35) days prior to the National Committee meeting for which they are to be considered. The Secretary of the Young Democrats of America shall then submit all proposed amendments to the National Committee no later than thirty (30) days prior to the National Committee meeting for which they are to be considered.

Section 440(c) Standing Committee on Resolutions. The Standing Committee on Resolutions shall meet in conjunction with every sitting of the National Committee and shall review every resolution on matters of policy and program, which does not fall within the jurisdiction of any other Standing or Select Committee, prior to action by the National Committee. No policy resolution, as above described, may be submitted to the National Committee until it has been favorably reported out of this committee. Proposed resolutions shall be submitted by a member of the National Committee to the Secretary of the Young Democrats of America no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the National Committee meeting for which they are to be considered. The Secretary of the Young Democrats of America shall then submit all proposed resolutions to the National Committee no later than ten (10) days prior to the National Committee meeting for which they are to be considered. Resolutions deemed urgent and timely by the Executive Committee, or by being presented to the Standing Committee on Resolutions prior to the adjournment of its meeting with the signatures of the fifteen (15) members of the National Committee, shall be eligible for consideration by the National Committee regardless of the time of submission or consideration by the Resolutions Committee.

---

---

## BYLAWS

---

---

SECTION 445 Officers of Standing Committees. The President, within ninety (90) days of assuming office, shall appoint a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary for each Standing Committee. Standing Committee Chairs shall serve at the pleasure of the President conterminously with the appointing administration. Chairs of the Standing Committees shall be ex-officio, voting members of the National Committee and Executive Committee. Vice Chairs of Standing Committees shall preside at meetings in the absence of the Chair but not succeed in the event of the Chair's death, resignation, or removal.

SECTION 450 Voting in Standing Committees. Although a specific individual should be certified in writing to represent each unit in each Standing Committee, any unit member present may represent and cast the vote of his or her unit in any meeting of a Standing Committee when the certified representative is not present. The officers of the Standing Committee shall not be entitled to a vote because of their position as an officer. However, the Vice Chair and Secretary may cast the vote of the unit they represent provided they are not serving in the capacity of Chair at the time of the vote.

SECTION 455 Duties of Standing Committee Chairs. The Chair of each Standing Committee shall present a report to each meeting of the National Committee as to matters being reported out of committee for consideration by the National Committee. This report shall be in writing and, where feasible, copies should be distributed to all National Committee members.

### BYLAWS ARTICLE V

REMOVED BY ACTION OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA

### BYLAWS ARTICLE VI OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 600 Board of Directors Duties. The National Officers of the Young Democrats of America, the President Emeritus of the Young Democrats of America, and six (6) Board members representing stake-holder communities, when convened as the Board of Directors, shall be responsible for the hiring and firing of the Executive Director, reviewing staff performance, awarding raises and bonuses, and adopting human resources staff management policies. In addition, the Board will review and approve major contracts as needed, as well as performing other ongoing management decisions. The Board shall prepare by October 15 of each year a Budget to be submitted to the Budget Committee, and a Fundraising Plan to be submitted to the Finance Committee.

SECTION 605 Elected Officers Duties.

Section 605(a) President. The President shall be the principle administrative officer of the Young Democrats of America and shall chair meetings of the Board of Directors, National Committee and Executive Committee. The President, except as may otherwise be provided, shall appoint all administrative officers, committee officers, and select committees, subject to confirmation by the National Committee, as may be provided for in the Charter and Bylaws, at its first meeting subsequent to said appointment.

Section 605(b) Executive Vice President. The Executive Vice President shall assist the President in the performance of the President's duties and shall act as President during the President's absence and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors and the National Committee.

Section 605(c) Democratic National Committeeman and Committeewoman. The Democratic National Committee Members shall lobby and vote on behalf of the Young Democrats of America at every meeting of the Democratic National Committee. They shall coordinate the participation of the Young Democrats of America in the Democratic National Convention and any other conferences of committees of the Democratic National Committee.

---

---

## BYLAWS

---

---

Section 605(d) Vice Presidents. The two (2) Vice Presidents shall develop and administer programs on behalf of the Young Democrats of America, and shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors and the National Committee.

Section 605(e) Secretary. The Secretary shall be responsible for non-financial records of the Young Democrats of America, including but not limited to; the minutes of all meetings of the National Committee and the Executive Committee, the Charter and the Bylaws, the Standing Rules, and copies of the formal reports of National Officers, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors and the National Committee.

Section 605(f) Treasurer. The Treasurer shall oversee the receipt and disbursement of all funds of the organization, which shall be administered in full compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, and which shall be deposited in a Federally Chartered Banking Institution. The Treasurer shall file all necessary reports as required by law, and keep a record of receipts and disbursements which shall be audited biannually and upon demand of the National Committee. The treasurer shall publish and distribute a Finance Report to the National Committee meeting not less than (10) days prior thereto, and shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors and the National Committee or are customarily performed by a treasurer. Within ninety (90) days after election, the Treasurer shall obtain bond for satisfactory performance of his or her duties in an amount not less than forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) and shall submit proof thereof to the Secretary. Payment of the premium thereon is authorized out of the National Treasury.

### SECTION 640 Vacancies.

Section 640(a) Office of the President. In the event of the death, resignation or removal of the President, the resultant vacancy shall be filled at a special meeting for the National Committee called for that purpose not less than thirty (30) days nor more than forty five (45) days from such occurrence, provided, that no special meeting shall be called within sixty (60) days prior to the National Convention. The call to meeting shall be issued by the Secretary, and a majority vote of the National Committee will elect the Presidential successor who shall serve for the balance of the current unexpired term.

Section 640(b) Officer other than the President. In the event of the death, resignation or removal of a National Officer other than the President, the President shall appoint an interim officer to fill the resultant vacancy until the next meeting of the National Committee, occurring at least thirty (30) days subsequent to written notice of the vacancy being provided to the members thereof. The National Committee shall fill the vacancy for the balance of the current unexpired term upon its majority vote.

Section 640(d) Initial Appointment for Newly Created Officers. In the event of the creation of a new office between National Conventions, the President shall appoint the initial holder of the office, subject to confirmation by the National Committee, as soon as practical after adoption of the Charter amendment creating the office. The term of the appointed officer shall be from confirmation until their successor is elected at the next National Convention, or that National Convention adjourns without ratifying the amendment creating the office.

Section 640(e) Board of Directors Stake-holder Members. Vacancies in the Stake-holder members of the Board of Directors shall be filled at the National Committee Meeting immediately following the vacancy in the same manner in which Board Members are originally chosen.

### SECTION 655 Impeachment.

Section 655(a) Impeachment, Initiation. Impeachment proceedings may be initiated upon majority vote of the Judicial Council, which shall serve its resolution and a Bill of Particulars to the accused and the Executive Director by registered mail within ten (10) days of its action.

---

---

## BYLAWS

---

---

Section 655(b) Impeachment, Hearing. Not less than twenty (20) days nor more than sixty (60) days subsequent to service of the Impeachment Resolution and Bill of Particulars upon the accused, the Chair of the Judicial Council shall convene an open hearing in Washington, DC, to hear evidence of the impeachment and the defense of the accused. The accused shall have the right to be accompanied by Counsel and to present and cross-examine witnesses and present evidence in his or her defense. The Judicial Council may upon majority vote dismiss the impeachment or recommend to the National Committee removal from office of the accused, such recommendation shall be accompanied with its findings of fact and conclusions of law. The notice of dismissal or recommendation for removal shall be served upon the accused and the Executive Director by registered mail within five (5) calendar days.

SECTION 660 Removal from Office. Upon receipt of an affirmative recommendation for removal of a National Officer, the National Committee, meeting not less than thirty days after such notice, shall consider said removal as a special order. The National Committee shall be empowered to remove National Officers and Board Members it adjudges guilty of stated charges upon its majority vote.

### BYLAWS ARTICLE VII EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS

SECTION 700. Executive Director. The Executive Director shall serve as the administrator of the national office of the Young Democrats of America. The Executive Director shall work under the day-to-day supervision of the President and the Board of Directors and shall be responsible for supervising staff and contractors and implementing programs and projects as assigned by the President and the Board of Directors.

SECTION 705. Other Staff and Contractors. Other staff and contractors shall be hired as necessary and as provided for in the executive budget to fulfill programs and projects as assigned by the President and the Board of Directors. These staff and contractors shall work under the day-to-day supervision of the Executive Director or an officer or staff member designated by the Executive Director.

SECTION 710. Employment, Contracting and Human Resources. The Executive Committee shall establish written policies and processes for all matters relating to hiring, bidding, managing and terminating of employees or contractors, specifically providing for the fair and equal opportunity of employment, evaluation and treatment of all employees and contractors.

SECTION 720 International Affairs Liaison. The International Affairs Liaison shall be responsible for initiating and coordinating contact between the YDA and youth political organizations outside the United States, shall organize joint programs and activities, shall recommend to the National Committee international organizations for formal affiliation, and shall educate members of the YDA about international issues and the political process in other countries. The International Affairs liaison shall also work with Young Democrats Abroad on getting ballots to and from those living abroad.

---

---

## BYLAWS

### BYLAWS ARTICLE VIII JUDICIAL COUNCIL

SECTION 810 Officers. The President shall appoint from the membership of the Judicial Council, a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary within thirty (30) days after assuming office. The Chair of the Judicial Council shall be an ex-officio, voting member of the National Committee and the Executive Committee.

SECTION 815 Term of Office. Members elected from each of the Regional Caucuses shall be elected at a regional conference or meeting convened prior to, or during each National Convention. Members of the Judicial Council shall serve a term of two years or until their successors are elected or appointed.

SECTION 820 Filling Vacancies.

Section 820(a) Officers of the Judicial Council. The Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the President and in the event of their death, resignation, or removal, the President shall appoint their successors.

Section 820(b) Eight Regional Members. In the event of a vacancy among the eight (8) members elected to the Judicial Council by Regional Caucuses, the Director of the Regional Caucus of the vacant member's region shall appoint a successor to fill the unexpired term.

SECTION 825 Rules of Procedure and Records. The Judicial Council may adopt its own rules of procedure, and shall keep a record of its proceedings and make the same available to the National Committee.

SECTION 830 Referral of Matters to Judicial Council. Matters may be referred to the Judicial Council by the President, by a majority vote of the National Committee, by a majority vote of the Executive Committee, upon receipt of a petition signed by twenty-five (25) members of the National Committee, or upon receipt of a petition signed by six (6) members of the Judicial Council submitted to the Chair of the Judicial Council and the President.

SECTION 840 Notice of Meeting. Upon proper notice of a matter being referred to the Judicial Council, the Chair shall call a meeting and shall provide no less than ten (10) days notice to the members.

### BYLAWS ARTICLE IX REGIONAL CAUCUSES

SECTION 905 Composition. There shall be eight (8) Regional Caucuses designated as follows:

Section 905(a) Northeast. Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont

Section 905(b) Mid-Atlantic. Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Young Democrats Abroad

Section 905(c) Southeast. Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virgin Islands

Section 905(d) Great Lakes. Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio

Section 905(e) Midwest. Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin

Section 905(f) Southcentral. Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas

Section 905(g) Southwest. Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming

Section 905(h) Pacific. Alaska, America Samoa, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington

---

---

## BYLAWS

---

---

SECTION 910 Directors of Regional Caucuses. Directors for each Regional Caucus shall be elected to two (2) year terms at Regional Conferences held between sixty (60) and one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the opening general session of each National Convention and shall serve until their successors are elected. Each Director shall serve as Chair of any Regional Conference which may be called during said Director's tenure. Regional Directors may be removed for misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance by a majority vote of the members of the National Committee members who are members of chartered units within that Director's Region. A vacancy in the office of Regional Director may be filled by a majority vote of the members of the National Committee who are members of chartered units within that Region at the next National Committee meeting or by the delegates to the next Regional Conference.

SECTION 915 Regional Conferences. Regional Conferences may be called by the Director of the Regional Caucus upon thirty (30) days written notice to all National Committee members who are members of chartered units within that Region, or upon the failure of the Director to do so, by the President of the Young Democrats of America upon twenty-five (25) days written notice.

SECTION 920 Voting at Regional Conferences. Each chartered unit shall cast a vote at Regional Conferences equal to that chartered unit's total votes cast at convention. This shall include limitations on the final vote totals imposed pursuant to the ratio of votes to delegates present, as indicated in the final report of the Credentials Committee at the previous National Convention. However, no chartered unit, including interim chartered units, shall be allocated less than five (5) votes. This section will not apply, if a Regional Caucus has adopted its own voting procedures within its Regional Bylaws.

SECTION 925 Regional Bylaws. Regional Caucuses may adopt bylaws and rules which shall not conflict with the Charter and the Bylaws, or any standing rules of the Young Democrats of America.

### BYLAWS ARTICLE X

REMOVED BY ACTION OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA

### BYLAWS ARTICLE XI MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SECTION 1110 Proxies.

Section 1110(a) Form. All proxies shall be written and shall include the name and position of the person executing the proxy, the name of the regular member to whom the proxy is given and the period of time for which the proxy is valid and instructions, if any, on the voting of the proxy. Every proxy and such acknowledgment or swearing shall be attested to by a notary public or other officer authorized by law to so attest in the jurisdiction where executed.

Section 1110(b) Approval. Proxies shall be presented to the Chair of the Standing Committee on Credentials of the National Committee who shall determine whether they are in proper order. Proxies approved by the Chair are immediately entitled to a vote. A majority vote upon appropriate motions shall be sufficient to reject a proxy approved by the Chair or approve a proxy rejected by the Chair.

Section 1110(c) Instructions. Proxies may not be voted inconsistent with instructions at any time. Should the Chair or any member discover that a member has voted a proxy in violation of this Section, that proxy shall be discarded and cannot be used for any purpose other than recording the attendance of the person who executed the proxy. On any vote, violated proxies shall be indicated as having voted 'present.'

---

---

## BYLAWS

SECTION 1120 Standards for Accessibility.

No officer or staff member of the Young Democrats of America, or any Caucus or Regional Caucus, shall sign any contract or make any financial obligation to hold an official function in a facility without receiving written certification that said facility is compliant with the accessibility requirements of the Charter.

SECTION 1140 Standards for Labor Preference.

The receipt of a letter from a duly recognized labor union certifying the requirements of the Charter have been met in relation to labor preference shall be considered adequate for compliance with the Charter.

BYLAWS  
ARTICLE XII  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1205 Endorsements. It shall be the policy of the Young Democrats of America National Officers, National Committee, Convention, Committees, Regional Caucuses and Caucuses, not to provide official endorsements to any candidate in a contested primary election. Unit and local organizations are not bound by this policy, but are urged to carefully consider the possible organizational risks of such an endorsement.

SECTION 1210 Contributions. It shall be the policy of the Young Democrats of America National Committee, or any Committee, Regional Caucus, or Caucus, to not make direct financial contributions to candidates. Unit and local organizations are not bound by this policy.

BYLAWS  
ARTICLE XIII  
AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1305 Amendments. Bylaws may be adopted or amended by a majority vote of the National Committee or the National Convention; and must comply with all procedural requirements for charter amendments as to notice and committee approval, as provided for in the Charter and Bylaws. Bylaws may not conflict with the Charter.