



CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE KANSAS YOUNG DEMOCRATS

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CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE KANSAS YOUNG DEMOCRATS

This Constitution was adopted at the Kansas Young Democrats Demofest meeting of 2014 and amended at the Washington Days meeting of 2016 and 2017.

PREAMBLE

In order to create an organization dedicated to the principles of the Democratic Party, capable of aiding in the election of Democratic candidates to public office, and committed to promoting equality, diversity, and inclusion of all Kansans, we, the membership of the Kansas Young Democrats, do ordain and establish this constitution.

ARTICLE I

Name and National Affiliation

- Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the “KANSAS YOUNG DEMOCRATS”.
- Section 2. The official logo and seal of the organization shall match the one on the front page of this constitution and shall be on all official documents and communications of this organization including but not limited to postal mail and electronic correspondence.
- Section 3. This organization shall affiliate with and become a caucus of the Kansas Democratic Party and shall affiliate with the Young Democrats of America.
- Section 4. Affiliation with the Kansas Democratic Party is the primary goal of this organization whilst affiliation with the Young Democrats of America is secondary.

ARTICLE II

Policy

- Section 1. The policy of this organization shall be determined by the State Committee of this organization.
- Section 2. This organization shall seek in all of its operations, the advice and cooperation of the Kansas Democratic Party; and shall be influenced and guided by the policies of the Democratic National Committee and Kansas Democratic Party.
- Section 3. This organization shall aggressively and actively support on a statewide basis, and by proper means, the nominees of the Democratic National Committee and Kansas Democratic Party. This organization shall endeavor to maintain contact

with Young Democrats throughout the country, and shall continuously promote the growth and influence of the Democratic Party.

Section 4. This organization shall be empowered to endorse any Democratic or independent candidate approved by the Campaign and Elections Committee of this organization. Endorsements may occur during the primary and general elections. Priority for endorsements shall be given to candidates who qualify for membership within this organization. The procedures for endorsement shall be established and enforced by the Campaign and Elections Committee of this organization provided they do not conflict with this constitution and these bylaws.

ARTICLE III

Chartered Units

- Section 1. This organization shall be composed of duly organized and chartered local chapters, be they county, collegiate, or high school.
- a) County Young Democrat Chapters may be organized in the several counties of the State of Kansas.
 - b) Collegiate Young Democrat Chapters may be organized on the campuses of all accredited colleges, universities, and community college campuses in the State of Kansas.
 - c) High School Young Democrat Chapters may be organized in the various accredited high schools in the State of Kansas.
- Section 2. No more than one (1) chapter may be chartered in any one (1) county, excepting a collegiate or high school chapter, but each chapter may create sub-divisions. No more than one (1) chapter shall be organized on any one (1) college, university, community college, or high school campus. However, the graduate schools of the various universities may create a sub-division of the university chapter.
- Section 3. For any local chapter of this organization to be eligible for charter by this organization, the chapter requesting or being granted a charter must ratify this constitution, have its own constitution, submit its entire active membership list as defined in *Article IV, Section 2a* of this constitution. On forms provided by the Credentials Committee of this organization with a minimum of five (5) members which shall be signed by the President and Secretary of the local chapter, submit a list of officers, and pay all chartering fees in accordance with this constitution. The forms must then be submitted to the Chair or Vice-Chair of the County Democratic Central Committee in the county in which the chapter is located for

approval. All forms must be submitted to the chairperson of the Credentials Committee of this organization twenty-four (24) hours before the convening of the Washington Days meeting of this organization in odd-numbered years.

- Section 4. A local chapter of this organization not chartered at the meeting listed in *Section 3*, may charter in the interim by submitting the required information to the State Committee of this organization for approval.
- Section 5. The names of each local chapter of this organization must include the words “Young Democrats”, “College Democrats”, “University Democrats”, or “High School Democrats”.
- Section 6. Membership forms for each local chapter of this organization shall be distributed under the direction of the Secretary of this organization to all chapter presidents, other appropriate personnel, and to the Chair of County Democratic Central Committees where no chapter exists for the registration of members on a local basis. The membership form shall contain the following information for all proposed members: full name, mailing address, telephone number (if available), birth date, and signature. These forms shall be submitted with the chartering paperwork to the Credentials Committee of this organization.
- Section 7. Each local chapter of this organization shall pay dues of twenty-five (25) dollars to the Kansas Young Democrats. However, no new chapter shall be required to pay dues. A new chapter is defined as one that has not chartered with the state organization for two (2) years previous. The exempt status of chapters will be determined by the Executive Board of this organization if in dispute. These dues shall be submitted with the chartering paperwork to the Credentials Committee of this organization which shall then send them to the Treasurer of this organization.
- Section 8. The charter of any local chapter of this organization may be revoked by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the State Committee of this organization for the following causes: non-conformance with the ratified constitution of this organization, non-conformance with the ratified local constitution, provided formal notice of intention to revoke the charter is served on the chapter’s officers, constructive and actual, within thirty (30) days before formal action to suspend is taken. This is subject to other provisions of this constitution.

ARTICLE IV

Individual Membership

- Section 1. Membership throughout this constitution is defined as an individual in good standing with a chartered local chapter of the Kansas Young Democrats.
- Section 2. There shall be three (3) classes of membership: Active, Associate, and Honorary:
- a) Any legal resident of Kansas, or any non-resident attending school in the State of Kansas, between the ages of thirteen (13) and thirty-five (35) inclusive, shall be eligible for active membership in this organization provided that person a registered member of the Democratic Party or a foreign national attending school in the State of Kansas.
 - b) Any chartered Young Democrat chapter may sell associate memberships to those persons over age thirty-five (35). Associate members shall not be allowed to vote, hold office, or be a delegate to the Kansas Young Democrats or Young Democrats of America Conventions. These members shall not be counted for the purpose of determining delegate votes. An associate membership shall be effective from January 1 through December 31 of each year and they must be a registered member of the Democratic Party.
 - c) Honorary memberships for any set determined amount of time can be bestowed upon any person approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board of this organization. Any local chapters may submit names for consideration by the Executive Board of this organization. Honorary members shall not be allowed to vote or hold office; however, they can serve as delegates to the Kansas Young Democrats or Young Democrats of America Conventions provided they are registered members of the Democratic Party. Honorary members shall not be counted for the purpose of determining delegate votes. An honorary member shall not be paid for.
- Section 3. No individual shall be counted as a member of more than one (1) chapter for the purpose of awarding votes for membership in *Article IX, Section 3b* of this constitution. If a member is listed on more than one (1) chapter's membership list only the most recent signature shall be considered valid. Honorary members may be a member of more than one (1) chapter but shall only serve as a delegate for one (1) chapter.
- Section 4. Any member found guilty of actions contrary to the best interests of the Democratic Party or of actions in violations of this constitution, may be liable to suspension of their membership by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the

governing body of their local chapter or the chapter may submit their complaint to the Rules Committee of this organization, and it can recommend action to the State Committee of this organization who can then accept or reject the Rules Committee of this organization's recommendation by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

ARTICLE V

State Officers

- Section 1. All officers of this organization at all levels, must be between the ages of thirteen (13) and thirty-four (34) inclusive, at the time of their election, and must be members in good standing of a chartered local chapter.
- Section 2. The elected state officers of this organization shall consist of the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, National Committee Delegates, and State Committeeman and Committeewoman.
- a) It shall be the duty of the President to be the Chief Executive Officer of this organization and to supervise the affairs and activities of the organization and to make an annual report to the members. The President shall appoint any ad hoc committees and members thereof subject to the approval of the Executive Board of this organization. The president shall preside at all meetings of this organization except where specified otherwise in this constitution, shall represent this organization on the Kansas Democratic Party Executive Committee and on the National Committee of the Young Democrats of America, and shall perform, in addition such duties as stated elsewhere in the constitution and duties customarily performed.
 - b) It shall be the duty of the First Vice-President to preside over all meetings of this organization in the absence of the President. The First Vice-President shall also assume charge of special projects as assigned by the President and/or the Executive Board of this organization. The First Vice-President shall also serve Chair of the Credentials Committee of this organization and as Vice-Chair of the Convention Committee of this organization.
 - c) It shall be the duty of the Second Vice-President to preside over all meetings of this organization in the absence of the President and the First Vice-President. The Second Vice-President shall also assume charge of special projects as assigned by the President and/or Executive Board of this organization. The Second Vice-President shall serve as Chair of the Campaign and Elections Committee and as Vice-Chair of the Finance Committee of this organization.

- d) It shall be the duty of the Secretary to be the Chief Operating Officer of this organization and to keep all records and minutes of stated meetings of this organization. Additionally, the Secretary shall be responsible for correspondence approved by the Executive Board of this organization to the local chapters and other officers within this organization; to keep the official membership roster of this organization; and to perform other duties as directed by the President and/or Executive Board of this organization. The Secretary shall serve as Vice-Chair of the Credentials Committee of this organization.
- e) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to serve as the Chief Financial Officer of this organization and to report at all Executive Board and State Committee meetings of this organization, on the condition of the organization's finances. The Treasurer will oversee the collection of dues and shall pay all valid and approved bills. The Treasurer shall also assume charge of special projects as assigned by the President and/or Executive Board of this organization. The Treasurer may be bonded in an amount determined by the Executive Board of this organization. The Treasurer shall serve as Chair of the Finance Committee and as a member-at-large of the Campaigns and Elections Committee of this organization.
- f) It shall be the duty of the National Committee Delegates to serve as the official representatives of the organization to the Young Democrats of America. It shall be the duty of these representatives to inform the membership of this organization of the activities of the Young Democrats of America. The National Committee Delegates shall assume charge of special projects as assigned by the President and/or Executive Board of this organization. Should this organization fail to charter with the Young Democrats of America, these positions shall automatically be vacated until chartering does occur.
- g) It shall be the duty of the State Committeeman and Committeewoman to serve as the official representatives of the organization to the Kansas Democratic Party State Committee. It shall be the duty of these representatives to inform the membership of this organization of the goings on of the Kansas Democratic Party State Committee. The State Committeeman and Committeewoman shall assume charge of special projects as assigned by the President and/or Executive Board of this organization.
- h) It shall be the duty of the Communications Director to maintain a strong presence on this Organization's current social media, including but not limited to, Twitter and Facebook. The Communications Director is expected to be a point of contact for press inquiries into this organization. Additionally, they serve as a point of contact for anyone who would like to promote anything on this organization's social media outlets. The Communications Director shall serve as this organization's Public Information Officer. The Communications Director shall assume charge of special projects as assigned by the President and/or Executive

Board of this organization. The Communications Director shall serve as the Vice-Chair of the Campaigns and Elections Committee of this organization.

Section 3. All elected State Officers shall each be elected to a one (1) year term beginning at the adjournment of the general session of this organization's Washington Days meeting, by a majority of votes cast at that meeting.

Section 4. The non-elected state officers of this organization shall be the Immediate Past President, the Communications Director, and any member of the Young Democrats of America Executive Board from Kansas who is not otherwise a state officer as described in *Section 2* of this article.

- a) It shall be the duty of the Immediate Past President to preside over the election of officers during the annual Washington Days meeting of this organization and to assume other duties as assigned by the President and/or the Executive Board of this organization. In the absence of the Immediate Past President, the Parliamentarian of this organization shall preside over the election of officers. Such position is to be filled automatically with the most Immediate Past President upon the election of a new President. The Immediate Past President shall serve on the Executive Board and State Committee of this organization, but shall only have the ability to vote in the case of a tie.
- b) It shall be the duty of the members of this organization who serve on the Executive Board of the Young Democrats of America, and who are not otherwise a state officer as described in *Section 2*, to inform the organization of the national activities and programs of the Young Democrats of America. These members do not represent this organization in any official capacity to the Young Democrats of America as this duty is reserved for the President and National Committee Delegates. These members shall assume other duties as assigned by the President and/or the Executive Board of this organization. These members shall serve on the Executive Board and State Committee of this organization but they shall only have the ability to vote on the Executive Board of this organization. Should this organization fail to charter with the Young Democrats of America, these members shall automatically vacate their seats on the Executive Board and State Committee of this organization until chartering does occur.

Section 5. All state officers shall be obligated to attend all meetings of the Executive Board, State Committee, and the Convention of this organization. Furthermore, persons assuming the positions of a state officer shall be aware of the personal expenses that go with their responsibilities.

Section 6. All state officers shall endeavor to complete one (1) hour of fundraising call-time every two (2) weeks whilst serving in their respective positions. The implementation and record keeping of this process shall be the responsibility of the President of this organization.

Section 7. A vacancy in any state office shall exist when:

- a) An officer dies during their term.
- b) An officer resigns during from office.
- c) An officer moves permanently outside of the state.
- d) The State Committee of this organization, by a two-thirds (2/3) roll call majority of votes cast, through the process of impeachment, declares the office vacant for any reason. In the case of members who are members of the Executive Board of the Young Democrats of America, the State Committee of this organization has the authority to remove from the Executive Board and State Committee of this organization but not to remove them from their positions within the Young Democrats of America.
- e) An officer has failed to attend two (2) consecutive duly called meetings of the Executive Board and/or the State Committee of this organization without just cause or valid excuse.
- f) The State Committee of this organization, by a two-thirds (2/3) roll call majority of votes cast, through the process of impeachment, may declare that either and/or both positions of National Committee Delegate vacant for the reason that either such officer has failed to attend two (2) consecutive National Committee meetings of the Young Democrats of America without just cause or valid excuse and failed to make the necessary arrangements to address an absence from such meeting.
- g) The State Committee of this organization, by a two-thirds (2/3) roll call majority of votes cast, through the process of impeachment, may declare the offices of State Committeeman and Committeewoman vacant by the reason that either such officer has failed to attend two (2) consecutive meetings of the Kansas Democratic Party State Committee without just cause or valid excuse.

Section 8. The State Committee of this organization shall be the only authority empowered to conduct impeachment proceedings against any of its members. The State Committee of this organization shall conduct impeachment proceedings against any member upon the occurrence of any of the following:

- a) Receipt of a petition signed by a majority of the local chapter presidents of this organization after a majority vote of their respective chapters, which lists the

specific charges and the sections of the constitution or other governing document that were violated.

- b) A call for impeachment proceedings by a majority vote of a duly called quorum of the Executive Board of this organization, which lists specific charges and the sections of this constitution or other governing document that were violated.

Section 9. The proceedings conducted in the case of impeachment shall be held at the next regular or special meeting of the State Committee of this organization immediately following the meeting of the Executive Board or State Committee of this organization in which the petition was received or the call for impeachment was made.

Section 10. The proceedings shall be handled according to rules adopted by the Executive Board of this organization, provided that the following provisions are included:

- a) The person up for impeachment shall be given ten (10) days notice by registered mail and the official e-mail account of this organization of such impending action prior to proceedings.
- b) The proceedings shall be held at a duly called meeting of the State Committee of this organization with a quorum present.
- c) The officer up for impeachment shall be given an opportunity to respond to the charges before the State Committee of this organization during the proceedings.
- d) A two-thirds (2/3) roll call majority vote of a duly called quorum of the State Committee of this organization shall be required to remove and officer from their respective position.

Section 11. When a state office, except the office of President, or National Committee Delegates, or State Committeeman and Committeewoman is vacated, the President shall appoint a successor who shall fill the un-expired term of the vacant office. However, the position of Immediate Past President and the positions of the members on the Executive Board of the Young Democrats of America shall not be filled. Appointments shall be made with the majority approval of the Executive Board of this organization.

Section 12. When a vacancy occurs in the office of the President, the First Vice-President shall assume the office of President for the remainder of the un-expired term.

Section 13. When a vacancy occurs in either and/or both positions of National Committee Delegate, the president shall appoint a successor with the majority approval of the Executive Board of this organization, to hold the office until the next Washington

Days meeting of this organization at which time a successor will be elected by a majority of votes cast, to serve the remainder of the un-expired term.

- Section 14. When a vacancy occurs in the office of State Committeeman or Committeewoman, the President shall appoint a successor with the majority approval of the Executive Board of this organization, to hold the office until the next Washington Days meeting of this organization at which time a successor will be elected by a majority of votes cast, to serve the remainder of the un-expired term.

ARTICLE VI

District Representatives

- Section 1. The local chapters of this organization located within each Congressional District in the State of Kansas shall comprise a district organization within the geographical boundaries of such district, provided that a county chapter of that district shall be considered a member chapter of the district in which a majority of that county's population lies.
- Section 2. Each district shall elect a District Representative.
- a) It shall be the duty of the District Representative to coordinate and to represent that district on the State Committee of this organization. The representative shall also coordinate membership drives throughout their district and aid in the organization of new chapters. Each District Representative shall serve as members-at-large of the Campaign and Elections Committee, the Rules Committee, the Credentials Committee, and the Finance Committee of this organization.
- Section 3. District Representatives shall be elected at the general session of the Washington Days meeting of this organization by a majority of the votes cast by the representatives entitled to vote from the chapters within the district. The number of votes that each chapter is entitled to cast in the district election, shall be the number certified at the Washington Days meeting of this organization, with no one (1) person voting more than three (3) times.
- Section 4. District Representatives shall hold office for a term of one (1) year immediately following their election at the general session of the Washington Days meeting of this organization.

Section 5. When a vacancy occurs in the office of District Representative, the President of this organization shall appoint a successor with the approval of the Local Chapter Presidents of this organization in the district in which the vacancy exists, to serve the remainder of the un-expired term.

Section 6. District Representatives can be removed from office by the same means as those listed in *Article V* for the removal of state officers with the exception of those methods reserved solely for the National Committee Delegates and the State Committeeman and Committeewoman of this organization.

ARTICLE VII

Caucuses

Section 1. State Committee of this organization may adopt a resolution creating certain caucuses to represent special interests in this organization. The Chairs of each of these caucuses shall serve as voting members of the State Committee of this organization.

Section 2. There may be additional caucuses created at the pleasure of the State Committee of this organization. The Chairs of these caucuses shall serve as ex-officio members of the State Committee of this organization.

Section 3. Each caucus shall establish bylaws and rules necessary for operation, not in conflict with this constitution, and subject to the approval of the Rules Committee of this organization. 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.

Section 4. A copy of the bylaws or amendments to said bylaws must be submitted to the Chair of the Rules Committee of this organization within thirty (30) days of approval and be available to any member of this organization upon request.

ARTICLE VIII

Executive Board

Section 1. The Executive Board of this organization shall consist of the following officers with these stated number of votes:

- a) The President with one (1) vote.
- b) The First Vice-President with one (1) vote.

- c) The Second Vice-President with one (1) vote.
- d) The Secretary with one (1) vote.
- e) The Treasurer with one (1) vote.
- f) The National Committee Delegates each with one (1) vote.
- g) The State Committeeman with one (1) vote.
- h) The State Committeewoman with one (1) vote.
- i) The Immediate Past President with a tie-breaking vote.
- j) The Communications Director with one (1) vote.
- k) Kansas members of the Executive Board of the Young Democrats of America each with one (1) vote.

Section 2. The Executive Board of this organization shall meet at least six (6) times a year at specific dates, times, and places as the President of this organization may call. Meetings shall be open to any member of this organization.

Section 3. Forty (40) percent of the members of the Executive Board of this organization present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4. Voting shall be by simple majority unless otherwise stated in this constitution. Majority, be it simple, two-thirds (2/3), or three-fourths (3/4) shall refer to a simple, two-thirds (2/3), or three-fourths (3/4) majority of those members of the Executive Board of this organization present and voting during a meeting at which a quorum is present.

Section 5. The Executive Board of this organization may make such rules as are reasonable and necessary to conduct the activities of this organization, in cases where the same are not covered by this constitution, or by the action of the State Committee of this organization. All rules set forth by the Executive Board of this organization must be approved by the Rules Committee of this organization before they shall become enforceable.

Section 6. No person, simultaneously, shall hold more than one (1) position on the Executive Board of this organization, except that of a person holding the position of Immediate Past President may hold another position. However, that person shall only have one (1) vote and shall only be counted one (1) time for the purpose of a quorum.

ARTICLE IX

State Committee

Section 1. The State Committee of this organization shall consist of the following members with the state number of votes:

- a) All members of the Executive Board of this organization each with one (1) vote. With the exception of the Immediate Past President with a tie-breaking vote and members of the Executive Board of the Young Democrats of America who shall not have a vote.
- b) Each of the four (4) District Representatives of this organization, each with one (1) vote and each of the Caucus Chairs of this organization, each with one (1) vote.
- c) All appointed Chairs of the Standing Committees of this organization who are not already members of the Executive Board of this organization each with one (1) vote.
- d) The President of each of the chartered local chapters of this organization, or if the President is already a member of the State Committee of this organization, the President's designee, each with one (1) vote.

Section 2. At no time shall any member vote more than one (1) time on the State Committee of this organization. Should a member hold more than one (1) position that entitles that member to vote on the State Committee of this organization, they shall forfeit their extra vote or votes.

Section 3. The State Committee of this organization shall be the only body, other than the Washington Days meeting of this organization when it is specifically empowered, that shall be empowered to pass resolutions, adopt amendments to this constitution, conduct impeachment proceedings, and expel members and officers of this organization.

Section 4. The State Committee of this organization shall also be able to exercise any powers not specifically empowered and/or reserved to the Convention, Executive Board, or to the membership of this organization

Section 5. The State Committee of this organization shall meet at a minimum, three (3) times per year, two (2) meetings in conjunction with the two (2) meetings of the Kansas Democratic Party State Committee at Washington Days and Demofest, and at one (1) other time as called by the President of this organization.

Section 6. Forty (40) percent of the total membership of the State Committee of this organization shall constitute a quorum.

Section 7. Voting shall be by simple majority unless otherwise stated in this constitution. Majority, be it simple, one-third (1/3), or two-thirds (2/3) shall refer to a simple, one-third (1/3), or two-thirds (2/3) majority of those members of the State Committee of this organization present and voting during a meeting at which a quorum is present.

ARTICLE X

Standing Committees

Section 1. The following shall be Standing Committees of this organization:

- a) Convention Committee, whose Chair shall be appointed by the President of this organization, whose Vice-Chair shall be the current First Vice-President of this organization, and whose members-at-large shall be appointed by the Chair of the committee, one from each of the congressional districts in the State of Kansas with the approval of the Executive Board of this organization. The Convention Committee of this organization shall be in charge of scheduling, planning, and implementing the annual Convention of this organization with approval of the Executive Board of this organization. The Chair of the committee shall serve as Chair of all parts of the Convention of this organization with the exception of the State Committee meeting.
- b) Rules Committee, whose Chair and Vice-Chair shall be appointed by the President of this organization with the approval of the Executive Board of this organization and whose members-at-large shall be the four (4) District Representatives of this organization or their designees. The Rules Committee of this organization shall review and report on all proposed amendments to this constitution, shall set the rules governing the election of officers at the Washington Days meeting of this organization, providing those rules are not contrary or in derogation to this constitution, and shall decide on any question presented to it by the Chair of the meeting of the Executive Board and State Committee of this organization regarding the rules, parliamentary procedure, balloting, or other questions excluding the challenging of credentials. The rulings of this committee are final. The Chair of the Rules Committee of this organization shall serve as the Parliamentarian of this organization and shall represent this organization on the Rules Committee of the Young Democrats of America if in attendance at the meeting. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Rules Committee shall be from separate local chapters of this organization and identify as different

genders. The chair may appoint a Secretary for this committee in order to maintain records necessary for the operation of this committee. The secretary of this committee shall not have a vote and shall not be counted for the purposes of a quorum and cannot be a current member of the Executive Board or State Committee of this organization. The rule for appointment of a secretary for this committee shall only apply if the secretary-designate cannot hold a position on this committee by virtue of other qualifications or offices held.

- c) Platform and Policy Committee, whose Chair and Vice-Chair shall be appointed by the President of this organization with the approval of the Executive Board of this organization and whose members-at-large shall be the Presidents of the chartered local chapters of this organization or their designees. The Platform and Policy Committee of this organization shall present to the State Committee of this organization at this organization's Demofest meeting in even-numbered years a platform of this organization. This platform must be approved by the State Committee by a majority vote. The committee shall at times through resolutions, promote to the Executive Board, State Committee, and the chartered local chapters of this organization, the issues and policies that concern members of this organization. The Chair of the Platform and Policy Committee if in attendance at the meeting, shall represent this organization on the Resolutions Committee of the Young Democrats of America. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Platform and Policy Committee of this organization must be members of separate local chapters of this organization and identify as different genders.
- d) Credentials Committee, whose Chair shall be the First Vice-President of this organization, and whose Vice-Chair shall be the Secretary of this organization, and whose members-at-large shall be the four (4) District Representatives of this organization or their designees. The committee shall have jurisdiction over the credentialing and chartering of local chapters of this organization, and number of delegates to the State Committee of this organization at this organization's Washington Days meeting. The maximum number of votes allowed per chapter shall be twenty-five (25). The Chair of the Credentials Committee of this organization if in attendance at the meeting, shall represent this organization on the Credentials Committee of the Young Democrats of America.
- e) Campaign and Elections Committee, whose Chair shall be the Second Vice-President of this organization, and whose Vice-Chair shall be the Communications Director of this organization, and whose members-at-large shall be the four (4) District Representatives or their designees and the Treasurer of this organization. The Campaign and Elections Committee of this organization shall submit to the State Committee of this organization for approval in even-numbered years a campaign plan for the organization. This committee shall maintain a dialogue between the membership of this organization and the Kansas Democratic

Party. Additionally, this committee shall be in charge of this organization's endorsements of Democratic or independent candidates for federal, state, and local office with priority given to candidates who qualify for membership within this organization and establish procedures for the endorsement process provided it does not violate this constitution. This committee shall conduct an intensive voter registration campaign on an annual basis. The Chair of the Campaign and Elections Committee if attendance at the meeting, shall represent this organization on the Elections Committee of the Young Democrats of America.

- f) Finance Committee, whose chair shall be the Treasurer of this Organization, and whose Vice-Chair shall be the Second Vice-President of this Organization, and whose members-at-large shall be the four (4) district representatives or their designees. The Finance Committee shall be responsible for the preparation of the budget of this organization and shall create the call-lists to be used for the fundraising of this organization. The committee does not have disciplinary powers if fundraising goals are not met as those are reserved to the President and State Committee of this organization respectfully. The committee shall have power to recommend a member for disciplinary action provided such recommendation does not violate other rules set out in this Constitution. The rules for formulation of the budget shall be those that are set out in this Constitution and shall only be changed by a majority vote of the State Committee of this organization. The budget proposed by this committee shall be presented by the Treasurer by the time and date set out in this Constitution it shall be the valid operating budget after it is approved by a simple majority vote of the State Committee of the this organization. All actions by this committee must be approved by simple majority vote. All budgets plans submitted by this committee can be amended from the floor of a duly called State Committee meeting in which a quorum is present.

Section 2. The President of this organization shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of each committee created by this article.

Section 3. Unless otherwise prescribed for in this constitution, the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the parliamentary procedure of all committees created under this article.

Section 4. Each committee shall meet at the discretion of the Chair of the committee or at times mandated by the Executive Board of this organization provided that notice is given to all members of the committee at least one (1) week prior to such a meeting.

- Section 5. In cases where the Chair, or Vice-Chair, or members-at-large of the committees created under this article require the approval of the Executive Board of this organization, the appointments must be presented for approval no later than the second meeting of the Executive Board of this organization following the adjournment of the Washington Days meeting of this organization.
- Section 6. Vacated appointed positions on the committees created under this article shall be filled in the same manner in which the position was originally chosen, and the nominee to fill the vacancy must be presented for approval to the Executive Board of this organization no later than the second meeting of the Executive Board of this organization following the creation of the vacancy. Should the Executive Board of this organization fail to meet, the vacancy will be filled by the President of this organization without the approval of the Executive Board of this organization.
- Section 7. All members of the committees created under this article, including the Chair and Vice-Chair, shall have only one (1) vote, with the exception of those listed above.
- Section 8. Proxy voting on the committees created under this article is permitted for only the members-at-large provided the proxy provides written notification to the Chair of the committee and the proxy be a member in good standing of this organization and must be in the same unit of jurisdiction, be it a chapter or congressional district depending on how the members-at-large of the committee are appointed. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the committee shall not have proxies.
- Section 9. Forty (40) percent of the members present of a Standing Committee of this organization shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 10. Voting shall be by simple majority unless otherwise stated in this constitution. Majority, be it simple or two-thirds (2/3), shall refer to a simple or two-thirds (2/3) majority of those members of the Standing Committees of this organization present and voting during a meeting at which a quorum is present.

ARTICLE XI

Annual State Convention

- Section 1. This organization shall hold a general State Convention for the purpose of training members, formulating policy, and amending this constitution, and other appropriate matters by July 1 of each year, the date of which is to be determined by the Convention Committee of this organization with the approval of the of

Executive Board of this organization, this shall be determined at the first meeting of the Convention Committee of this organization following the adjournment of this organization's Washington Days meeting. The location of said convention to be determined by the Convention Committee of this organization at a later date.

Section 2. Should the Convention of this organization fail to be called by the proper time, any member of the Executive Board of this organization can call for the Convention with approval of a majority of the Executive Board of this organization.

ARTICLE XII

Annual Washington Days Meeting

Section 1. This organization shall hold a meeting at the annual Washington Days event run by the Kansas Democratic Party for the purpose of electing officers, amending the constitution, formulating policy, and other appropriate matters. The date, time, and place of which shall be determined in the agenda put forth by the Kansas Democratic Party.

Section 2. Credentials for the Washington Days meeting of this organization will be done as follows:

- a) Each local chapter shall submit all monies, affidavits, and other necessary forms as required by the Credentials Committee of this organization in accordance with *Article III, Section 3* of this constitution, to the Credentials Committee in session, or the Chair of the Credentials Committee of this organization by such time as required by the Credentials Committee of this organization to avoid vote penalties. The deadline, which shall be no later than two (2) weeks before the opening of the Washington Days meeting of this organization, nor earlier than six (6) weeks before the opening of said meeting, shall be made known to the President of each chartered and interim local chapter of this organization, along with a packet including forms necessary for chartering at least thirty (30) days prior to the deadline.
- b) The Credentials Committee of this organization will meet, review, and award applicable votes to chapters for all submitted credentials. The time of such meetings will be publicize to the President of each chartered and interim local chapters and to each of Presidents of each chapter seeking to charter with this organization. Chapters not having proper credentials may not participate in the Washington Days meeting of this organization in any form except as an observer. Any remarks complaints or rejections shall be submitted by any local chapter

officer to the Executive Board of this organization, which shall determine if such action was arbitrary. Such decisions of the Executive Board of this organization shall be reported to the State Committee of this organization as a whole at this organizations Washington Days meeting.

- c) Within two (2) days following the meeting of the Credentials Committee of this organization, the Chair shall notify, in writing, the President of each local chapter submitting materials, the number of votes they are eligible to have, and shall inform them of any problems in their packet.
- d) Any local chapter or member of this organization having an overdue account shall be excluded from any activities until said account is paid in full.

Section 3. Votes awarded to chapters at the Washington Days meeting of this organization will be based on three (3) areas: Chartering, Membership, and Participation and will be done as follows:

- a) Chartering votes are awarded as follows:
 - I. Two (2) votes for each of the two (2) previous Washington Days Meetings in which the chapter was chartered.
 - II. One (1) vote for having adopted this constitution and having adopted and presented to the Credentials Committee of this organization, a copy to the local chapter's constitution (*Article III, Section 3*).
- b) Membership votes are awarded as follows:
 - I. Three (3) votes for having a membership of five (5) or more (*Article III, Section 3*), with signatures from the President and Secretary of the chapter certifying the membership.
 - II. One (1) additional vote for each additional ten (10) members.
 - III. One (1) to three (3) votes for increases in recruitment above the membership that was chartered at the previous Washington Days meeting of this organization. For a one (1) to ten (10) percent increase, one (1) vote, for an eleven (11) to twenty (20) percent increase, two (2) votes, for a twenty-one (21) or above percent increase, three (3) votes. Chapters not chartered at the previous Washington Days meeting of this organization shall be entitled to the three (3) votes.
- c) Participation votes are awarded as follows:
 - I. One (1) vote for having held officer elections since the last Washington Days meeting of this organization, with an officer list submitted, with verification from the Chair or Vice-Chair of the County Democratic Central Committee (*Article III, Section 3*).
 - II. One (1) vote for participation in a Congressional District or County Democratic Party grassroots activity, voter registration, or advance voter drive, with written verification from a party official or grassroots organizer.

- III. One (1) to two (2) votes for participation in every two (2) Democratic or issue campaigns, with written verification by the candidates or campaign coordinators. One (1) vote for two (2) campaigns, two (2) votes for four (4) campaigns.
 - IV. One (1) vote for participation in a local community service activity, with written verification from the community service representative.
 - V. One (1) vote for having fundraising activities, including a major fundraiser or a sustaining club, with written verification including submission of deposit slips.
 - VI. One (1) to three (3) votes for being a recognized sponsor of this organization's annual Convention. One (1) vote for bronze level, two (2) votes for silver level, three (3) votes for gold level. With written verification from the Chair of the Convention Committee and the Treasurer of this organization.
- Section 4. The total number of votes a chapter is entitled to shall be penalized by the fifteen (15) percent for each week the local chapter is late submitting the chartering materials after the deadline in *Article XII, Section 2a*. The Chair of the Credentials Committee of this organization has the power to enforce this rule as they judge prudent.
- Section 5. Delegates to this organization's Washington Days meeting from chartered chapters shall be subject to the following rules:
- a) No delegate may cast more than three (3) votes.
 - b) No person may be a delegate from more than one (1) local chapter of this organization.
 - c) Any member or honorary member of a local chapter of this organization may attend the Washington Days meeting of this organization as a delegate, the total vote of a chapter shall be divided equally among the members in attendance.
 - d) All voting delegates must be credentialed at the Washington Days meeting of this organization.
- Section 6. The order of business for the Washington Days meeting of this organization shall be decided by the President. The rules of this organization's Washington Days meeting shall be set forth by the Rules Committee of this organization.
- Section 7. All dues and chartering fees must be paid by money order, check, certified check, or cashier's check except when circumstances deem it necessary as determined by the Credentials Committee or the Executive Board of this organization.
- Section 8. The membership of the State Committee of this organization can be expanded to include an additional twenty-five (25) voting members for the Washington Days

meeting of this organization only. This shall only occur with the approval by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the Executive Board of this organization.

- Section 9. Should the organization fail to meet during the Kansas Democratic Party Washington Days event, the President of the organization will call for a meeting solely for the election of State Officers and District Representatives of this organization no later than fourteen (14) days after the Washington Days event at a date, time, and place approved by the Executive Board of this organization.

ARTICLE XIII

Annual Demofest Meeting

- Section 1. This organization shall hold a meeting at the annual Demofest event run by the Kansas Democratic Party for the purpose of amending the constitution, formulating policy, adopting the official platform of this organization, and other appropriate matters. The date, time, and place of which shall be determined in the agenda put forth by the Kansas Democratic Party.
- Section 2. Should the organization fail to meet during the Kansas Democratic Party Demofest event, the President of the organization will call for a meeting solely for the adoption of the official platform of this organization no later than fourteen (14) days after the Demofest event at a date, time, and place approved by the Executive Board of this organization.

ARTICLE XIV

Bylaws, Rules, and Procedures

- Section 1. Notice of any regular or special meeting of the Executive Board of this organization shall be sent at least ten (10) days prior to such meeting to all members of the Executive Board of this organization.
- Section 2. Notice of any special meeting of the State Committee of this organization shall be sent at least fourteen (14) days prior to such meeting to all members of the Executive Board, to each President and Vice-President of the chartered local chapters, and to all members of the State Committee of this organization.
- Section 3. The Executive Board and State Committee of this organization may conduct business meetings by way of in-person meetings or electronically including but not limited to teleconferences and conference calls. However, the Washington

Days, Demofest, and Convention meetings of the State Committee of this organization must be in-person.

- Section 4. Written notices provided by this organization as well as correspondence may be conducted electronically through means including but not limited to social media and e-mail. All impeachment notices must be sent by way of the United States Postal Service or other parcel service.
- Section 5. Notice of the Washington Days, Demofest, or Convention meeting of this organization shall be given in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to such meeting to all members of the Executive Board, to each President and Vice-President of the chartered local chapters, and to all members of the State Committee of this organization.
- Section 6. Unless otherwise provided for in this constitution, the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the parliamentary procedure of all meetings of the Executive Board, the State Committee, the Convention, and the chartered local chapters of this organization.
- Section 7. This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members of the State Committee of this organization. Amendments must be referred to and approved by the Rules Committee of this organization before being presented to the State Committee of this organization. All amendments must be submitted a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the stated meeting of the State Committee of this organization. The Chair of the Rules Committee of this organization must then send copies of all proposed amendments to all members of the State Committee of this organization no later than one (1) week prior to the stated meeting of the State Committee of this organization. Amendments to this constitution take effect immediately upon adjournment of the State Committee meeting of this organization in which the amendment is adopted, unless specifically provided for.
- Section 8. No amendment to this constitution may be offered from the floor of a stated State Committee meeting of this organization
- Section 9. No proxies shall be allowed at any meeting of the Executive Board, of this organization. However, the Parliamentarian of this organization can approve a proxy for a vote on the State Committee of this organization. Vice-Chair of a Standing Committee in which that position is appointed may vote in the absence of the Chair of said committee without the approval of the Parliamentarian.

- Section 10. The annual budget of this organization shall be proposed by the Treasurer or designated member of the Finance Committee of this organization at the first meeting of the State Committee of this organization following the election of officers. The State Committee of this organization may then amend, adopt, or veto the budget. The fiscal year of this organization shall run from April 1 to March 31 of each year.
- Section 11. The Executive Board of this organization may approve payment of all bills provided they are within the budget passed by the State Committee of this organization. The State Committee of this organization must approve bills that are in excess of the budgeted amounts.
- Section 12. This organization shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, gender or gender identity, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or any other protected status provided for by the Democratic National Committee, Kansas Democratic Party, or Young Democrats of America.
- Section 13. The President, First Vice-President, and Treasurer of this organization shall be signatories on all of this organization's accounts with at least two signatures required to make expenses as approved by the Executive Board or State Committee of this organization.
- Section 14. Following the election of an office, a vote of one-third (1/3) of the State Committee may overturn the election in the event that the body feels that gender parity is not being upheld.

ARTICLE XV

Ratification of Constitution

- Section 1. This constitution shall be ratified by a majority of the members of the Executive Board of this organization. After approval by the Executive Board established under the previous constitution of this organization, a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those present and voting members of the State Committee established by the previous constitution of this organization shall be required for this constitution to become valid.
- Section 2. This constitution shall take effect immediately following the adjournment of the State Committee meeting of this organization in which it was ratified.

Section 3. All currently elected and appointed State Officers, District Officers, and Standing Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs of this organization shall serve the remainder of their terms as provided for under the previous constitution of this organization.

CERTIFICATION OF CONSTITUTION

We the undersigned do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Kansas Young Democrats as amended at the 2017 Washington Days meeting of this organization held in Topeka, Kansas on February 25, 2017.

President
Kansas Young Democrats

Rules Committee Chair
Kansas Young Democrats

Attest:

Secretary
Kansas Young Democrats