

Hawaii Republican Party Caucus Rules

PART D. DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

SECTION 214. ELECTION

In each presidential election year, the Hawai'i Republican Party shall conduct Hawai'i Republican Presidential Caucuses. The result of the caucus voting statewide shall determine the proportional allocation among the competing Presidential Candidates of the Republican National Convention delegates and alternates to which Hawai'i is entitled under the Rules of the National Republican Party and the Call for the Republican National Convention.

The result of the caucus voting in each of Hawai'i's Congressional Districts shall determine the proportional allocation among the competing campaigns of the Republican National Convention delegates and alternates to which each Congressional District is entitled under the Rules of the National Republican Party and the Call for the Republican National Convention. Hawai'i Republican caucuses shall be held on the second Tuesday in March of each Presidential Election Year. Voting shall be open between 6PM and 8PM and any additional hours designated by the Hawai'i Republican Party. Caucus hours must be uniform throughout the State and shall be designated by the Hawai'i Republican Party and posted on the Hawai'i Republican Party website at least 60 days prior to Caucus Day. There shall be at least one Caucus location within each County and at least five Caucus locations within any County over 500,000 population.

SECTION 215. ELECTION PROCEDURE

The Hawai'i Republican Party shall publish the caucus rules, locations, and schedule on the Hawai'i Republican Party website at least 60 days prior to the caucus date.

A. **PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE DELEGATE SELECTION.** To be placed on the Hawai'i Republican Presidential Caucus ballot, a candidate must be registered as a Republican Presidential candidate with the Federal Election Commission and pay a \$10,000 filing fee to the Hawai'i Republican Party before 5PM HST on the first business day in December in the year before a Presidential Election Year. The candidate must, by the second Tuesday in January, name a Hawai'i Leadership Committee of no fewer than three Hawai'i Republican Party members who will be responsible to select Hawai'i Republican Party members to fill any National Delegate and Alternate positions won by the campaign. Upon filing and the execution of the Party's confidentiality agreement for data, the candidate shall receive a list of Hawai'i Republican Party members, not including email addresses, and an unofficial Hawai'i voter database. Late filings may be accepted, subject to the discretion of the Hawai'i Republican Party, from Presidential candidates who announce their candidacy and register with the FEC on or after November 1st of the year before a Presidential Election Year. Presidential Candidates who, prior to 5PM HST on the fourth Tuesday in February of a Presidential Election Year, announce they are formally withdrawing their candidacy shall be removed from the Hawai'i Republican Presidential Caucus ballot. Presidential Candidates who suspend their campaign but do not formally withdraw shall remain on the ballot.

B. **VOTING.** All voting at Republican Presidential caucuses shall be by secret ballot. Each voter shall vote for only one Presidential candidate.

There shall be no voting for individual delegates. Voters shall use only ballots approved by the Hawai'i Republican Party. All ballots shall indicate the Congressional District of the voter. The names of Presidential delegates shall not be listed on the ballot.

There shall be designated no-electioneering zone 50 feet from the entrance. The Hawai'i Republican Presidential Caucuses shall take the form of a party-run election and shall not feature debates or speeches. While balloting is open, Precinct, District, and County Republican organizations, Republican candidates, and recognized Republican auxiliary

organizations may meet or conduct other party business with those who have already cast ballots and exited the no-electioneering zone. Presidential campaign electioneering must be conducted more than 50 feet from the entrance door to the caucus site.

C. ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE. Only Hawai'i Republican Party members who are registered to vote in Hawai'i are eligible to vote. Voters may sign a Hawai'i Republican Party card to join the Republican Party at the Caucus site on Caucus Day in order to establish eligibility. Hawai'i Residents may register to vote in Hawai'i at the Caucus site on Caucus Day in order to establish eligibility.

Hawai'i Driver's License, Hawai'i State ID, or other government-issued photo ID must be shown to poll workers by all voters in order to confirm residency and identity. All voters-- including current members of the Hawai'i Republican Party-- must complete a new Party Card before voting.

A Caucus site shall be designated for each precinct. Caucus workers and poll observers shall be authorized to vote at the polling station they are working. Provisional ballots may be cast in the event of a dispute or by voters unable to attend their own precinct caucus. Such ballots shall be set aside in a sealed envelope along with a filled-out party card and a short explanation of the dispute, if any.

D. VOTE TALLY. The Hawai'i Leadership Committee for each campaign may designate official observers for each caucus site in writing to the Hawai'i Republican Party no later than 5PM HST on the first Tuesday in March. Designated observers must be members of the Hawai'i Republican Party. Immediately after voting is concluded, ballots shall be counted by caucus officials designated by the Hawai'i Republican Party in the presence of observers designated by the Hawai'i Leadership Committee for each campaign. Tallies shall be promptly reported to the State Executive Committee for quick tabulation of the statewide provisional results. Caucus ballots shall be sealed after counting and immediately forwarded to the State Executive Committee by car on Oahu and by Express Mail from all other locations. Included with the ballots shall be a complete party card for each voter and a polling station report confirming the vote tally signed by all designated poll workers and by any observers designated by the presidential campaigns. Signature does not indicate an absence of protest or dispute.

Any informal protests or disputes by poll workers or observers shall be made in writing and shipped with the ballots. Whether originating with an informal protest or not, any protests must be formalized by the Campaign of a Presidential Candidate and formally filed with the State Executive Committee by 5PM HST on the Friday following the Caucus date in order to be considered by the State Executive Committee. In the absence of any protests, final caucus results and delegate allocations shall be released at 5PM HST on the Friday following the Caucus date and promptly posted on the Hawai'i Republican Party website.

If protests are filed, the State Executive Committee must rule on the disposition of the ballots in question within 14 days of the protest formalization. State Executive Committee rulings are final.

E. APPORTIONMENT OF DELEGATES. The Hawai'i Republican Party shall apportion Republican National Convention delegates proportionally based on the Caucus vote tally for each Presidential Candidate within each Congressional District and within the state as a whole. For the purposes of apportionment, blank votes, spoiled ballots, over votes, and write-in votes cast for an individual not registered with the FEC as a Republican Presidential Candidate, shall be deemed invalid.

For delegate allocation purposes invalid ballots shall not be considered. The votes received by each Presidential Candidate shall be divided by the total number of valid votes cast for all Presidential Candidates. The percentage of votes received by each Presidential Candidate with respect to the total valid votes cast for all Presidential Candidates shall be rounded up to the next whole number to produce a Delegate Allocation Percentage. This process shall be conducted for the State as a whole and for each Congressional District.

Delegates shall be apportioned by the following formula:

For each Congressional District, starting with the highest vote-getter in that Congressional District, multiply the Delegate Allocation Percentage for the District by the number of delegates allocated to that Congressional District under the Call for the Convention and National Republican Party rules. Round that product up to the next whole number and assign that whole number of full delegates and that whole number of alternate delegates. Repeat this allocation process with each of the remaining Presidential Candidates in descending order of their Congressional District totals until all available delegates and alternates are allocated.

For Statewide delegates, starting with the highest statewide vote getter, multiply the Delegation Allocation Percentage for the State by the number of statewide delegates allocated under the Call for the Convention and National Republican Party rules. Round that product up to the next whole number and assign that whole number of full delegates and that whole number of alternate delegates. Repeat this allocation process with each of the remaining Presidential Candidates in descending order of their statewide totals until all available delegates and alternates are allocated.

If a write-in candidate registered with the FEC as a Republican Presidential Candidate is allocated delegates, the candidate must designate a leadership team of three or more Hawai'i Republican Party members to select his or her delegates and alternates.

In accord with RNC Rule 16(a)(l) Hawai'i's three automatic delegates will be allocated by the following formula: For automatic delegates, starting with the highest statewide vote getter, multiply the candidate's statewide Delegate Allocation Percentage by three and round up to the next whole number to determine allocation. Repeat this allocation process with each of the remaining Presidential candidates in descending order of their statewide totals until all three automatic delegates are allocated. When possible, each of the three individual automatic delegates will be assigned to fill the candidate allocation of their choice. Remaining automatic delegates will each be assigned to fill candidates' allocations by lottery.

F. APPOINTING COMMITTED PRESIDENTIAL DELEGATES. Upon certification of the Election Results by the Republican State Executive Committee, the Hawai'i Leadership Committee of each Presidential Campaign shall appoint eligible Hawai'i Republican Party members to fill the full and alternate delegate positions apportioned to their candidate under bylaw 215E.

Each appointed delegate and alternate must sign a statement affirming their participation in, vote commitment, and eligibility for the delegation. For every five delegates and alternates named by a campaign, at least one must be from a county with a population below 500,000. All candidate delegations, individual delegates, and alternates, and the Hawai'i RNC delegation as a whole must be in compliance with the Bylaws of the State Republican Party, National Republican Party and the Call for the Republican National Convention. All delegates must be members of the Hawai'i Republican Party and registered voters in Hawai'i.

No language in Section 214 or 215 shall be construed to remove or alter the authority of the State Convention to elect National Committee members and/or the State Chair. The full and alternate delegates must be named in time to be announced at the State Republican Party Convention. The Convention shall not vote on the delegation, the allocation, or the individual delegates.

G. ORGANIZATION OF STATE DELEGATION. Following the State Convention, the State Chair shall convene a meeting of the National Delegates and Alternates to elect the Chair of the Delegation and members of the Committees or Resolutions, Credentials, Rules and Order of Business, and Permanent Organization of the convention consisting of one man and one woman for each committee in accord with RNC rule 4(a).

SECTION 216. CANDIDATE COMMITMENTS

Except by their own commitments, National Delegates and Alternates shall not be required to support any particular candidate for the Republican nomination for President or Vice President. Provided the candidate the delegate or alternate is supporting has not withdrawn prior to the

first ballot at the National Convention, the commitment to that candidate shall be binding, but only through the first ballot.