

BYLAWS OF THE CONNECTICUT REPUBLICAN ASSEMBLY

ARTICLE I

Name and Jurisdiction

SECTION 1.01. Name. The name of the organization shall be the Connecticut Republican Assembly (CTRA).

SECTION 1.02. Jurisdiction. The jurisdiction of the Connecticut Republican Assembly shall be within the state of Connecticut.

ARTICLE II

Powers

SECTION 2.01. The powers of the Connecticut Republican Assembly shall be:

(a) To be a Chapter of the National Federation of Republican Assemblies (NFRA) with all the powers thereof.

(b) To direct, manage, supervise and control its business, property and funds, and to carry out its objectives.

(c) To create and charter local Republican Assemblies throughout Connecticut, and to supervise and coordinate them.

ARTICLE III

Objectives

SECTION 3.01. The objectives of the Connecticut Republican Assembly are:

(a) To advance true conservatism and elect true conservatives at all levels of the Republican Party and all levels of government throughout the state of Connecticut.

(b) To provide through this organization a practical program for the betterment of the Republican Party within the state of Connecticut and of the various political subdivisions of the state of Connecticut.

(c) To advance the Principles, Beliefs and Objectives of the National Federation of Republican Assemblies, and

(d) To provide a legal umbrella for members of the state's various tax-exempt conservative groups who cannot adequately express themselves politically within their existing structures.

ARTICLE IV

Composition

SECTION 4.01. The Connecticut Republican Assembly shall consist of at-large members of the statewide Republican Assembly; and also of local Republican Assemblies which have been chartered by the Board of Directors of the CTRA in the manner provided in these Bylaws which continue to comply with the Bylaws of the CTRA and of the NFRA as adopted or amended. A local chapter may petition the CTRA Board of Directors to subdivide its geographical area into smaller local chapters at need.

ARTICLE V

Officers and Directors

SECTION 5.01. Elective Officers. The elective officers of the Connecticut Republican Assembly shall be a President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer; as well as two National Directors who, along with the President, shall represent the CTRA on the NFRA's National Board of Directors. These elected officers shall comprise the Board of Directors of the CTRA.

SECTION 5.02. Additional Officers. The President shall appoint a General Counsel, who shall be a member of the Connecticut state bar; a Chaplain; a Parliamentarian; and a Sergeant-at-Arms. He shall also have power to appoint an Executive Director and Regional or Congressional District chairmen at his discretion, who shall be subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors. He shall also have power to appoint other specialized officers and representatives of the CTRA, at his discretion as needs arise. If the President should determine that there is a need for paid staff, including any of the offices herein named, the Board of Directors shall have power to authorize and determine said compensation. Appointed officers shall not be voting members of the Board of Directors. These appointed officers, together with the Board of Directors, shall comprise the Executive Committee of the CTRA.

SECTION 5.03. Qualifications.

(a) Officers of the Connecticut Republican Assembly and of all local chapters must be members in good standing of the CTRA, and Republicans by voter registration.

(b) The office of any officer or director of the CTRA who misses two consecutive meetings of the Board of Directors between the Annual Convention shall automatically terminate, unless such non-attendance is excused by a vote of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5.04. Election of Officers. The elective officers shall be elected at the Annual Convention in the first quarter of every odd numbered years in accordance with these Bylaws and shall serve for the period of two (2) years and until their successors are elected and qualified.

SECTION 5.05. Nomination and Voting for Officers.

(a) Any Regular Member of CTRA or a local Chapter in good standing may be nominated for any office, subject to the provisions on Section 5.05 (b), but no person shall be submitted as a candidate without their consent. Voting for officers shall be by secret ballot only, except in the case of an unopposed candidate a "yea" or "nay" vote is allowed. Each candidate for office must be permitted to have an observer present during the vote count. The Secretary of CTRA will announce the results of each election immediately after the vote count of each election has been calculated and verified, and no other ballots shall be cast for other positions until such time as the previous election has been verified and announced.

(b) Once CTRA has been an official charter of the NFRA for two years, no person may serve as Director-at-Large or member of the Board of Directors excluding the offices of President and Vice-President, who has not been a Regular Member of CTRA for one year, and no person may serve as President or Vice President who has not been a member of the Board of Directors for a period of two years in the previous six years.

SECTION 5.06. Outgoing Officers. At the conclusion of each Annual Convention, outgoing officers shall be empowered to continue to perform their duties only on matters which were initiated and approved prior to the close of the Convention. Outgoing officers shall turn over all documents, bank accounts, or other property of the Connecticut Republican Assembly to their successors immediately, but in no case more than fifteen (15) days following the close of the Convention at which their successors are elected.

SECTION 5.07. Vacancies. In the event a vacancy in the Office of President happens between conventions because the President has died, resigned, changed party enrollment, or refuses to serve the Vice-President shall perform the duties and have all the powers of President until such time a successor is elected and qualified. In the event a vacancy in one or more of the other elected offices of CTRA happens between conventions, the Board of Directors shall elect a qualified member to fill the office. Any vacancy will be announced to the general membership through the Chapters no less than 15 days in advance of any vote to fill the vacancy. Candidates wishing to be nominated to fill the vacancy must be sponsored by and nominated by a member of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5.08. Liability of Officers. No officer or director shall be held personally liable for any debts or obligations of the Connecticut Republican Assembly except those personally guaranteed by that officer or director, and the Connecticut Republican Assembly shall indemnify each officer or director against claims made by them arising from their legitimate and proper service to the CTRA.

SECTION 5.09. Duties of Elected Officers. The duties and responsibilities of the officers elected by the Connecticut Republican Assembly are as follows:

- (a) **President:** The President shall: (1) Preside at all CTRA Conventions and Meetings of the CTRA Board of Directors, the CTRA Executive Committee and CTRA General Membership Meetings; (2) Act as the chief executive officer of the CTRA and shall exercise general supervision over the work and activities of the CTRA; (3) Perform such duties as usually pertain to the office of President; (4) Act as the official spokesperson for the CTRA and the NFRA in the state of Connecticut; (5) Designate special committees as deemed necessary; and (6) Act as an ex-officio (voting) member of all committees and sub-committees of the CTRA.
- (b) **First and Second Vice Presidents:** The First ~~and Second~~ Vice-Presidents shall: (1) Perform the duties of, and have the same authority as, the President in the event of the inability of the President to perform his duties; (2) Perform such duties as usually pertain to the office of Vice-President or as may be assigned to him by the President of the CTRA Board of Directors; and (3) Set the date, time, and place of the meeting to elect a new President within 30 days when a vacancy for President occurs. The Second Vice-President shall assist the First Vice-President and perform specific duties in case of temporary absence or incapacity of the President.

- (c) **National Directors:** The two National Directors shall: (1) Assist the President and the CTRA Board of Directors in conducting the business of the CTRA as specified or implied in the By-Laws or as assigned to him by the President or the CTRA Board of Directors; (2) shall represent CTRA on the NFRA's Board of Directors and attend the Convention of the NFRA; and (3) Perform such other duties as are specified or implied in the By-Laws or as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors. The National Directors, in accordance with the CTRA Code of Conduct, will review any and all complaints prior to presentation to the entire Board of Directors and recommend a course of further action.
- (d) **Secretary:** The Secretary shall: (1) Assist the President and the CTRA Board of Directors in conducting the business of the CTRA as specified or implied in the By-Laws or as assigned to him by the President or the CTRA Board of Directors; (2) Maintain current and accurate lists of contact information of all members of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, and the officers and members of the CTRA and our local Republican Assembly charters; (3) Send and receive all mail and electronic ballots as specified under our By-Laws; (4) Sign, witness, and attest all documents issued by the CTRA, including our local Republican Assembly charters; (5) Act as the custodian of the formative documents of the CTRA and the records pertaining thereto, including the By-Laws of the NFRA and CTRA; the minutes of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and General Membership Meetings; the Code of Administrative Provisions if any; and the charters of the local Republican Assemblies; (6) Receive all correspondence on behalf of the CTRA and shall maintain a permanent file of all communications sent or received by the CTRA; (7) Report of all correspondence received from the NFRA; (8) Make available within ten days to any member of the Board of Directors or officer of a local Republican Assembly a copy of the formative documents, the By-Laws, the Minutes of any Convention or meeting of the Board of Directors and its Executive Committee, or the names and contact information of the current members of the Board of Directors; (8) Act as historian and archivist of the CTRA including printed attendance and Minutes to be passed along to each subsequent Secretary; (9) Give notice of all meetings of the CTRA to all CTRA members at least seven days before general membership meetings and at least five days for special meetings, whenever possible, including the Agenda for the meeting and the Minutes of the prior meeting and all special meetings held since the last regular meeting, unless previously distributed; and (10) Take attendance and keep the Minutes of each meeting and sees to it that the Minutes are presented and acted upon at each membership meeting. The Secretary shall perform all other duties required by law, assigned by the President, or otherwise herein provided. The Board of Directors may elect a member of the Board of Directors to serve as an Assistant Secretary; however, the Secretary will remain responsible to see that work is done properly and expeditiously and shall have the legal responsibilities that go with the office.

- (e) **Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall: (1) Receive from each local Republican Assembly all membership monies paid to the CTRA or NFRA, giving receipts therefor, and shall keep membership accounts in the manner prescribed by the Board of Directors; (2) Receive Membership Reports from local Republican Assemblies; (3) Give notice of failure to timely pay membership dues, failure to make timely Membership Reports, and shall certify the number of members of the CTRA as of the 30th day of June preceding each Convention of the NFRA under Section 2.08 of its By-Laws; (4) Receive all monies paid to the CTRA as stipulated in our By-Laws; (5) Deposit all monies in such bank or banks as shall have been designated by the Board of Directors and shall disburse said monies upon order of the Board of Directors; (6) Receive from any local Republican Assembly whose charter is terminated in accordance with the By-Laws of CTRA or the NFRA any and all documents, records, emblems, insignias, funds, or other devices or properties of any nature whatsoever; (7) Attend all meetings of the CTRA Board of Directors and its Executive Committee, all CTRA Conventions, and all CTRA membership meetings; (8) Make financial report to the Board of Directors at each Convention or more often if required by the Board of Directors and at each general membership meeting of the CTRA; (9) Hold the records information regarding the institution of depository of each local Republican Assembly as should be required for the purposes of securing that proper assigns of such property as are deposited therein be permitted the proper access thereof and inform such institutions of depository and all local Republican Assemblies of his status under this section; (10) Perform such other duties as are specified or implied in the By-Laws or as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors; (11) Give bond for the faithful discharge of his duties in such sum as may be required by the Board of Directors, the cost of such bond to be borne by the CTRA; (12) Lead the Finance Committee in discharging its duties and responsibilities; (13) Keep an inventory of the capital assets of the CTRA or designates someone to do so; and (14) Fulfills all other responsibilities as required under the By-Laws of the NFRA and all applicable laws and regulations of the State of Connecticut.

SECTION 5.10. Duties of Appointed Officers. The duties and responsibilities of the officers appointed by the Executive Committee of the Connecticut Republican Assembly are as follows:

- (a) **General Counsel:** The General Counsel shall: (1) Advise the President, the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, and the Convention of the CTRA, in consultation with the members of the Legal Committee, concerning matters of law in the United States and the State of Connecticut; (2) Assist in the representation of the CTRA or NFRA in any legal action; (3) shall perform such other and further duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors; (4) Act as Chairman of the Legal Committee; (5) Attend all meetings of the Board of Directors, its Executive Committee, all Conventions of the CTRA, and any general membership meeting where his presence is requested by the President or the Board of Directors.

- (b) **Chaplain:** The Chaplain shall: (1) Invoke the guidance of God at the beginning of each meeting of the CTRA; (2) Beg the blessings of God at the close of all such meetings; (3) Pray daily for the CTRA, its officers, and its members; (4) Be responsible for organizing any religious functions of the CTRA; (5) Provide godly counsel to its officers, appointees, directors, and members; and (6) Attend all meetings of the Board of Directors, its Executive Committee, all Conventions of the CTRA, and all general membership meetings.
- (c) **Parliamentarian:** The Parliamentarian shall: (1) Privately advise the President, the chairman of any committee, or the presiding officer of any committee or meeting on the proper interpretation of the By-Laws of CTRA or the NFRA; (2) Collect, assemble, and preserve from the Minutes record of motions and rulings as relate to the interpretation of the By-Laws; (3) Maintain model local Republican Assembly By-Laws; (4) Report inconsistencies between local By-Laws and CTRA or NFRA By-Laws; (5) Perform such other and further duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors; (6) Attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and its Executive Committee, all Conventions of the CTRA, and any membership meeting where his presence is requested by the President or the Board of Directors; (7) Be a member in good standing of the CT Bar Association; and (8) Be a member of the CTRA Legal Committee.
- (d) **Sergeant-at-Arms:** The Sergeant-at-Arms shall: (1) Perform the duty of keeping order at all meetings and Conventions of the CTRA, taking direction from the President and the Board of Directors; (2) Act as door keeper and escort at the meetings and Conventions of the CTRA and be responsible for the properties of CTRA; (3) Appoint Deputy Sergeants-at-Arms as he shall deem necessary for the performance of his duties; (4) Convey messages and communications from the President and the Board of Directors to members at meeting or Conventions; (5) Attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and its Executive Committee, all CTRA Conventions, and all CTRA membership meetings; and (6) Be licensed to conceal carry in the State of Connecticut. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall assist in determining the legitimacy of any persons seeking to attend and participate at any meetings or conventions of the CTRA.
- (e) **Congressional District Chairs:** The five Congressional District Chairs shall: (1) Call Congressional District meetings of local Republican Assemblies from their district when deemed necessary or when requested by any officer of the local RAs in that district; (2) Notifies the officers and all members of the local Republican Assemblies at least one week before any district meeting of the date, time, and location of the meeting; (3) Coordinate the activities of the members in their districts and assist all Republican candidates endorsed by CTRA or the local Republican Assemblies in their district; (4) Report to the President and the CTRA Board of Directors what took place at such meetings; and (5) Attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and its Executive Committee, all Conventions of the CTRA, and any membership meeting where his presence is requested by the President or the Board of Directors

ARTICLE VI

Executive Committee

SECTION 6.01. Purpose. There shall be an Executive Committee which shall exercise the delegated authority of the State Board of Directors to govern the CTRA, except where such authority is expressly reserved herein to the Board or where the Board takes specific action to restrict the Executive Committee's authority.

SECTION 6.02. Composition. The Executive Committee shall consist of the elective officers of the CTRA, as well as the Executive Director if such exists. The General Counsel shall serve as a non-voting member; and other appointive officers may serve as non-voting members at the discretion of the President, or as voting members by consent of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 6.03. Meetings. The Executive Committee shall hold regular meetings, in no case less often than once per quarter. With the unanimous consent of all members, it may choose to vote in appropriate situations by telephone conference call, FAX machine, electronic mail or other means of telecommunication.

SECTION 6.04. Quorum. A quorum for Executive Committee meetings shall consist of at least two-thirds (2/3) of its voting members.

ARTICLE VII

Board of Directors

SECTION 7.01. Composition. The Board of Directors of the Connecticut Republican Assembly shall consist of the Executive Committee (including the non-voting members, unless disallowed by the Board), and the President and two elected State Directors from each local chapter.

SECTION 7.02. Powers.

- (a) The Board of Directors shall have the control and management of all the affairs, properties, and funds of the Connecticut Republican Assembly, and shall have full power to introduce, approve and implement all actions and activities necessary and proper for the functioning of the CTRA, subject to the authority of these Bylaws.
- (b) The Board of Directors may, for good cause and after a hearing, remove any officer or director by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board of Directors; provided such officer or director shall have been sent by the Secretary of the CTRA, by Certified Mail, a notice containing a copy of the charges against him or her at least fifteen (15) days prior to the hearing thereon; said notice specifying the time and place of the meeting, and that the officer or director shall be provided the opportunity to present a full defense.
- (c) The Board of Directors may pass resolutions concerning legislations and policies, except those excluded in this article, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any meeting.

SECTION 7.03. Meetings. The Board of Directors shall meet at such times and places as may be determined by action of the Board, by call of the President, or by written request of one-third of the members of the Board, provided that there shall be at least two meetings each year. A written notice of the time and place of all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be sent to each Board member not less than fifteen (15) days prior to said meetings.

SECTION 7.04. Special Meetings. The Board of Directors may, without meeting together, transact business by mail, e-mail, facsimile, or by conference call of a majority of the Board, by voting on questions submitted to them by or with the approval of the President.

SECTION 7.05. Appeal. Any action taken by the Board of Directors may be appealed to a convention of the Connecticut Republican Assembly.

SECTION 7.06. Resolution and Endorsements. Any candidate proposed to be voted upon by the electorate shall not be endorsed by the Board of Directors unless (1) there is no Republican Assembly in the district in which an election is being held, or (2) if the Republican Assemblies within such district do not hold a convention to consider endorsing in such election. Statewide and Congressional candidates shall be endorsed only at a regular or special Convention of the CTRA. Endorsements regarding public initiatives and referenda as well as Republican Party questions shall be made in the same manner as candidate endorsements.

ARTICLE VIII

Local Republican Assemblies

SECTION 8.01. Governing Authority. The Connecticut Republican Assembly shall be the sole body of authority over, recognition of, and representation for Republican Assemblies within the State of Connecticut. Groups purporting to be “Republican Assemblies” which are not recognized and chartered by the CTRA shall have no representation on any body of the CTRA; shall not use the terms “Republican Assembly,” “RA,” or “Republican Wing of the Republican Party;” and shall not be entitled to any representation on any committees of the Republican Party of Connecticut (should such representation become available) or at any NFRA Convention.

SECTION 8.02. Location. Republican Assemblies may be formed and chartered, as the Bylaws hereinafter provide, in any geographical entity of the state of Connecticut.

SECTION 8.03. Ratification of Bylaws. Every local Republican Assembly shall ratify and agree to be bound in all things by the Bylaws of the Connecticut Republican Assembly and of the NFRA, as well as amendments thereto. Acceptance of a charter from the CTRA by any local Republican Assembly shall constitute a binding contract in this regard.

SECTION 8.04. Structure.

(a) A local Republican Assembly shall have jurisdiction within the boundaries of a fixed geographical area, approved by CTRA Board of Directors at the time of the local chapter’s chartering, and shall be the only such Republican Assembly in that territory. Such territory may be divided into additional Republican Assemblies by the CTRA Board of directors upon petition by the local chapter.

(b) The preferred geographical area of a local Republican Assembly shall be a county. Unlike Congressional, state senatorial and state representative districts, county borders are not subject to change every ten years. Also, county borders are not gerrymandered, which minimizes average driving time to a central meeting location compared to local organization at Congressional District level. Also, a span of control which does not exceed eight counties is more manageable for the state Board of Directors than one organized on a smaller scale. This preference shall not preclude more than one contiguous county from combining into one local assembly, until such membership numbers are sufficient to form at the single county level.

SECTION 8.05. Bylaws. Each Republican Assembly shall adopt its own bylaws, which shall be in conformance with CTRA and NFRA Bylaws, and shall be subject to review by the Board of Directors of the CTRA and of the NFRA.

SECTION 8.06. Qualifications for Membership. Members of each local Republican Assembly shall be those American citizens of good moral character who are Republicans by voter registration and who agree to uphold all of the Principles of the National Federation of Republican Assemblies.

SECTION 8.07. Action on Applications. The Board of Directors of a local Republican Assembly shall take action on all applications for membership within its geographical jurisdiction within thirty (30) days or at a regular meeting; otherwise any application shall be automatically approved and the new member shall be accepted with the right to vote. Any duly rejected application shall be reported with ten (10) days to the Secretary of the Connecticut Republican Assembly. The Board of Directors of the Connecticut Republican Assembly may review any rejected application and determine whatever action is deemed appropriate.

SECTION 8.08. Transfer of Membership. Any active member may transfer his membership from one local Republican Assembly to another, at any time. Acceptance of the transferred member immediately terminates his membership in his former local Republican Assembly. The member shall pay the difference, if any, between the membership dues of the two local Republican Assemblies involved.

SECTION 8.09. Initial Organization. The CTRA Board of Directors shall have the power to approve the formal application of a new Republican Assembly for chartering if and when its application includes the following:

- (1) Ratification of the Bylaws of the Connecticut Republican Assembly and NFRA;
- (2) Bylaws consistent with the CTRA and NFRA Bylaws;
- (3) A list of at least ten dues-paid members containing their names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses and chapter office titles; and
- (4) Dues for each RA member at the rate set by the State Board of Directors (which shall include such dues as are required by the NFRA).

SECTION 8.10. Continuing Requirements. Each chapter shall submit a current list of the names of its officers and members (with addresses, phone and e-mail addresses), and pay appropriate annual dues therefor, not later than April 30 of each year, and shall submit a separate, current list of its officers and members not later than two weeks prior to any State Convention, if such Convention should fall more than three months before or after April 30. Each chapter shall submit the names (with address, phone number and e-mail address) of new chapter officers within two weeks of their election. Failure to comply with this provision shall empower the CTRA Board of Directors to suspend or terminate the chapter's charter. Any chapter losing its charter under this provision may apply for reinstatement at the next meeting of the CTRA Board of Directors by submitting the missing items to the President at or before such meeting.

SECTION 8.11. State Membership. Any person qualified to become a member of a local Republican Assembly by residing in a geographical area without a local Assembly, may join the Connecticut Republican Assembly without holding membership in a local Assembly, if they otherwise fulfill all conditions of membership in the CTRA. The CTRA Board of Directors shall directly act on such membership applications. Upon the chartering of a local Assembly, members of the CTRA residing within the area served by that local Assembly shall automatically become members of that Republican Assembly.

ARTICLE IX Conventions

SECTION 9.01. Time and Place. A Convention of the Connecticut Republican Assembly shall be held annually at a location and a time determined by the President of the CTRA within the months of June through August inclusive. If the President has not set the time and location for a Convention ten (10) months after the previous year's Convention, the CTRA Board of Directors shall have power to do so in his place; and the Board shall have power to require that the location of the annual Conventions shall rotate around the state.

SECTION 9.02. Special Conventions. In case of an emergency, special conventions may be called by the President or one-third (1/3) of the members of the Board of Directors. The call for a special Convention shall specify the subjects to be considered, and no subjects shall be considered that are not specified.

SECTION 9.03. Call. The Secretary of the CTRA shall mail to the President and Secretary of each chartered Republican Assembly an official call to the Annual Convention and e-mail said call to every Connecticut Republican Assembly member for whom an e-mail address has been submitted.

SECTION 9.04. Officers. The officers of each Convention shall be the officers of the CTRA. At or prior to any Convention, the President may appoint a Recording Secretary of the Convention to assist the President and the Secretary.

SECTION 9.05. Convention Committees. At each duly called Convention, or prior thereto, the President shall appoint a Committee on Credentials with power to enforce this Article, and may appoint a Committee on Resolutions, a Committee on Bylaws, a Committee on Nominations and such other committees as he may deem proper.

SECTION 9.06. Elected Delegates. Each chapter which is in the good standing of the CTRA at the time of the State Convention shall be entitled to one Delegate for each five (5) members in good standing carried on the chapter's active membership roll whose name and dues were included in the requirements of Section 8.10.

SECTION 9.07. Delegates-at-Large. All members of the CTRA Board of Directors, and all Past Presidents of the CTRA who remain members in good standing, shall be Delegates-at-Large at all State Conventions, and shall not be counted in the number of Delegates accorded their chapter by Section 9.06.

SECTION 9.08. Noncompliant Chapters. Notwithstanding Section 9.06 above, a chapter which remains recognized by the CTRA but fails to comply with the credentialing provisions of Section 8.10 above shall be entitled only to Delegates-at-Large at the State Convention.

SECTION 9.09. Election of Delegates and Alternates. Each Delegate and Alternate shall be elected by the membership of his or her local chapter. Any Republican Assembly in good standing, at the time of electing its Delegates for a Convention as herein specified, may elect one Alternate for each Delegate. Said Delegates, Alternates, and all Delegates-at-Large shall be active members in good standing of the Republican Assemblies they represent.

SECTION 9.10. Registration Fee. The Board of Directors shall establish the registration fee to be paid to the CTRA by all members attending any state Convention. No Delegate, Delegate-at-Large, nor Alternate shall be entitled to vote in a Convention unless and until his registration fee has been paid. The profit or loss accruing from any Convention shall be borne by the CTRA.

SECTION 9.11. Voting.

- (a) In all voting, a majority shall rule, unless otherwise provided in the Bylaws.
- (b) In all Conventions of the Connecticut Republican Assembly, each accredited Delegate and Delegate-at-Large shall be entitled to cast one vote.
- (c) There shall be no voting by proxy at any meeting.
- (d) There shall be no cumulative voting nor shall any person vote as both a Delegate-at-Large and as a Delegate for Alternate.
- (e) A quorum shall consist of one-third (1/3) of Delegates and Delegates-at-Large attending the Convention.

SECTION 9.12. Endorsement of Candidates. Endorsement of candidates shall be made only by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of those present and voting at a regular or special Convention of the Connecticut Republican Assembly. Only one person may be endorsed for a particular office. Endorsement may be for candidates for public office, for or against recall, constitutional amendments, initiatives for referenda, or for Republican Party offices.

ARTICLE X

Nomination and Election of Officers

SECTION 10.01. Eligibility. Any active member in good standing of the Connecticut Republican Assembly shall be eligible to any elective office., provided the person is qualified under Section 5.03; but no person shall be submitted as a candidate for office without his or her consent.

SECTION 10.02. Accredited Voters. Before the opening of polls, the Secretary shall provide a list of the Delegates and Delegates-at-Large as shown by the report of the Committee on Credentials. No Delegate-at-Large shall be allowed to vote unless his name appears on the list.

SECTION 10.03. Ballots. Voting on endorsements or for officers of the CTRA shall be by ballot only, unless there is, in the opinion of the Convention Chairman, a motion to hold the vote by standing agreed to by two-thirds of the voting Delegates or if the election is unopposed.

SECTION 10.04. Election of National Convention Delegates and Alternates. Any active member in good standing of the Connecticut Republican Assembly shall be eligible to be elected a Delegate or Alternate to the NFRA National Convention, provided that the person is qualified under Section 5.03; but no person shall be submitted as a candidate without his consent.

ARTICLE XI

Endorsement of Local Candidates

SECTION 11.01. Two-thirds Vote of an Endorsing Convention. Endorsements of local candidates for public office may be made only by a two-thirds vote of an endorsing convention, at a physical meeting composed of equal representation of all Republican Assemblies within the district (in whole or in part) from which the candidate proposed for endorsement is to be elected, or the official proposed to be recalled is an elected official. The temporary chairman shall be the ranking state officer in the particular district within which the candidate is to be elected or the officer is to be recalled. Where the particular district has officers of equal rank, lot shall determine the temporary chairman. Endorsement may be for candidates for public office, for or against recall, initiative or referendum, or for Republican party office.

SECTION 11.02. Limitations on Endorsing.

(a) Neither CTRA nor any local Republican Assembly shall endorse any candidate for any public office, whether partisan or non-partisan, unless such candidate is clearly affiliated with the Republican Party.

(b) The CTRA President, upon being notified prior to an election, or between elections, of any alleged infraction of the Bylaws concerning endorsements shall immediately conduct an investigation of the alleged infraction and take whatever action is deemed necessary to protect the endorsement privilege and good name of the CTRA.

SECTION 11.03. Effect of Endorsement. Endorsements by a local endorsing convention shall convey the endorsement of the Connecticut Republican Assembly and the National Federation of Republican Assemblies.

ARTICLE XII

Vacancies in Office Between Conventions

SECTION 12.01. President. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President occurring between annual Conventions, the First Vice President shall become President for the remainder of his predecessor's term. However, if for any reason the vacancy should persist for 60 days, the President of the NFRA may appoint a replacement from among the membership of the CTRA or any member of the NFRA Board of Directors to serve until a qualified successor may be chosen by a state Convention.

SECTION 12.02. Other Officers. In the event of a vacancy in one or more of the other elected offices of the CTRA occurring between annual Conventions, the Board of Directors shall elect a qualified member to fill the office until the next annual Convention, at which time the Convention shall fill the remaining term in office. Should the majority of known officers become unable or unwilling to fulfill their roles as officers of the CTRA, the President of the NFRA is authorized to appoint temporary officers and to call a Convention for the selection of permanent officers and for the general reorganization of the CTRA.

ARTICLE XIII

Termination of Charter and Membership

SECTION 13.01. Non-payment. Any local Republican Assembly more than sixty (60) days in arrears for any indebtedness to the CTRA shall be considered not-in-good-standing and may be suspended by action of the Board of Directors, if at least thirty (30) days before such action, notice of said indebtedness shall have been duly sent by Certified Mail by the Secretary of the CTRA to the last reported President and Secretary of such local Republican Assembly. The Board of Directors may restore such local Republican Assembly to full membership in the CTRA upon payment of its indebtedness.

SECTION 13.02. Non-attendance. Any local Republican Assembly that fails for two consecutive years to present a Delegate to the Annual Convention of the CTRA shall be considered not-in-good standing and may have its Charter revoked by action of the Board of Directors, provided that at least thirty (30) days before such action, notice of such intended action be sent by Certified Mail by the Secretary of the CTRA to the last reported President and Secretary of such local Republican Assembly. The Board of Directors may restore such local Republican Assembly to full membership in the CTRA upon showing good and sufficient cause.

SECTION 13.03. Discipline. Any local Republican Assembly which fails to conform to the Bylaws of the CTRA and the NFRA may have its charter suspended or revoked, or may otherwise be disciplined, by a two-thirds vote for the entire Board of Directors; provided that at least thirty (30) days before such action, notice of such intended action be sent by Certified Mail by the Secretary of the CTRA to the last reported President and Secretary of such local Republican Assembly.

SECTION 13.04. Appeal. If the Board of Directors shall suspend or revoke the charter of any local Republican Assembly or shall otherwise discipline it, the Secretary of the CTRA shall send a notice of such action within fifteen (15) days by Certified Mail to the last reported President and Secretary of said local Republican Assembly. The said local Republican Assembly, within thirty (30) days from the date of mailing of such notice and not less than ten (10) days before the next Convention of the CTRA, may file with the Secretary of the CTRA written notice of appeal. This appeal shall be considered at the next Convention of the CTRA, unless filed less than ten (10) days prior thereto; in the latter instance, said appeal shall be considered and decided by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors at the next Board of Directors Meeting following the Convention.

SECTION 13.05. Effect. Any local Republican Assembly that shall for any cause cease to be a member of NFRA of Connecticut shall relinquish the name "Republican Assembly," and shall not thereafter use the name, emblem or insignia of "Republican Assembly," "Republican Wing of the Republican Party" or "NFRA of Connecticut" in any manner whatsoever. Officers of a local Republican Assembly whose charter has been revoked shall turn over all moneys and documents properly belonging to said chapter to a duly authorized representative of the CTRA Board of Directors at a time and place designated by said representative.

SECTION 13.06. Termination and Discipline of Individual Members.

- (a) Any individual member of the Connecticut Republican Assembly may have his membership terminated, or may otherwise be disciplined, after a hearing, by two-thirds (2/3) vote at a meeting of the Board of Directors where a quorum is present, provided that at least thirty (30) days before such action, notice of such intended action shall have been duly sent by Certified Mail by the Secretary of the CTRA to said member, whenever the Board has determined that the named member has:
- (1) publicly supported or registered as a member of a political party other than the Republican Party;
 - (2) used his name and title as a member of the CTRA or any Republican Assembly in publicly advocating that the electorate should not vote for the Republican nominee for any elected office;
 - (3) used his name and title as a member of the CTRA to give support to or encourage the election of a candidate of another party to an elected public office where said candidate is opposed by a duly-nominated Republican candidate;
 - (4) used his name and title as a member of the CTRA to prematurely endorse (prior to a proper act of endorsement by the CTRA) candidates running for office in the Connecticut Republican Party;
 - (5) opposed all or part of the Principles of the National Federation of the Republican Assemblies; or

- (6) otherwise brought discredit or disrepute upon the CTRA or the NFRA.
- (b) If the Board of Directors shall terminate membership or shall otherwise discipline any such member, the Secretary of the CTRA shall send notice of such action within fifteen (15) days by Certified Mail to said member. The said member, within thirty (30) days from the date of mailing such notice, and not less than ten (10) days before the date of the first session of the next Convention of the CTRA, may file with the Secretary of the CTRA written notice of appeal. This appeal shall be considered at the next Convention of the CTRA, unless filed less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the first session thereof; in the latter instance said appeal shall be considered and decided by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors following that Convention.
- (c) Any individual member so terminated from membership in the CTRA shall immediately upon such termination cease to claim membership in, or holding office in or official relationship with the CTRA or any local Republican Assembly, and shall also immediately surrender to the Secretary of the CTRA or his designated representative any and all documents, records, emblems, insignia or other devices or properties of any nature whatsoever belonging to the CTRA or any local Republican Assembly. Said terminated member shall not thereafter use the name, emblem, or insignia of “Republican Assembly,” “Republican Wing of the Republican Party,” “CTRA” or “Connecticut Republican Assembly” in any manner whatsoever.

ARTICLE XIV **Parliamentary Authority**

SECTION 14.01. The latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically addressed in the Bylaws of the Connecticut Republican Assembly or of the NFRA.

ARTICLE XV **Amendments to Bylaws**

SECTION 15.01. Place and Vote Needed. Amendments to these Bylaws shall be made only at a regular or special Convention of the Connecticut Republican Assembly by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Delegates and Delegates-at-Large present and voting. Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the CTRA Secretary not less than fifty (50) days prior to said Convention, and shall be referred to a Committee on Bylaws for consideration.

SECTION 15.02. Provisional Use. During any period herein that CTRA’s charter has not yet been granted or has been suspended or revoked; or during any reorganization under Section 12.02; the CTRA shall operate under the Model State Bylaws adopted by the NFRA Board of Directors, until and unless it has formally adopted bylaws which are certified as consistent with the Bylaws of the NFRA by the NFRA President. During such a provisional period, an organizing Convention of the CTRA shall have power to adopt or amend such bylaws without reference to the normal procedure contemplated in this article.

SECTION 15.03. Severability. If any part, article, section or subsection of these Bylaws shall be held invalid, contrary to state or federal laws, contrary to the Bylaws of the National Federation of Republican Assemblies, or contrary to the rules of the state or national Republican Party for any reason, such holding shall not be construed to impair or invalidate the remainder of said Bylaws, notwithstanding such holding.

SECTION 15.04. Publication. At the conclusion of each Convention where any amendments are made to the Bylaws, the Bylaws Committee shall cause and supervise the printing of the Bylaws as in effect at the end of that Convention. Such amended Bylaws shall be submitted to the Secretary of the NFRA within (15) fifteen days of the Convention amending and thereafter made available to the Connecticut Republican Assembly membership.

*As passed by the Connecticut Republican Assembly on August 14, 2017.
Respectfully submitted by Mark R. Mnich, CTRA Secretary.*