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## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** All LULAC Councils

From: Luis R. Vera, Amendments Committee Chair

**Date:** June 12, 2019

**Subject:** Proposed Constitutional Amendments

The following amendments to the LULAC National Constitution have been submitted in accordance to Article XIV, Section 2 for consideration and vote at the 2019 LULAC National Convention to be held July 09-13, 2019 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Please bring the proposed amendments to the attention of all your members.

If you have any questions please call the LULAC National Office at (202) 833-6130. Thank you.

#### Amendment No. 1

#### ARTICLE VIII

#### **National Officers**

Section 4—Qualifications: All National Officers, whether elected or appointed, must:

- a. Be twenty-one years of age or older and must have been an Active Member of a Local or Young Adult Council in good standing for at least three consecutive years at the time of his or her election or appointment;
- b. Have held an administrative office for one year at the Local, District or State level within three years of his or her appointment. In the case of the Legal Advisor, the person must possess a law degree and be a practicing attorney in good standing;
- c. Be of good moral character and possess some demonstrated administrative ability necessary for the discharge of the duties pertaining to the office;
- d. Not have served in the same office, whether intermittently or consecutively, for more than four years;
- e. Have the approval and endorsement of his or her Local Council.
- f. Not hold an elective or appointive political office at the time of his or her election or appointment or at any time during their tenure of LULAC Office. School Board or those positions where no wage compensation or enumeration is received shall not be deemed a political office.
- g. Members deriving employment wages from any organization owned by or that bears the LULAC name are ineligible to run for or hold a LULAC office, elective or appointive. A complete year must elapse from the last employment date before they are eligible to run for a LULAC office.

## Amend Article VIII, Section 4 by adding the following

h. Members serving in positions specifically targeted to work with "Youth" under the age of 18 must submit a criminal background check to the National Executive Committee for review within 30 days of election or appointment. The criminal background check will be reviewed to ensure "good moral character" as defined in Article VIII, Section 4c. An officer found deficient may be removed from office by vote of the Executive Committee.

Respectfully Submitted by: LULAC Council 313-Chicago, Illinois

#### Amendment No. 2

# THE NATIONAL LULAC CONSTITUTION ARTICLE VI (page 10) ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

#### SECTION 1 – THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

- a. Remains the same
- b. Remains the same
- c. Sessions: The National Assembly shall convene annually in the month of June at the convention site which it shall select by majority vote in accordance with the method of selection established in the Bylaws.

Amend: Add second paragraph to section c to read:

Starting in the year 2024, and continuing every Presidential Election Year thereafter, the National Assembly shall meet in Washington, D.C. during the month of June or July. All local proceeds will be donated to LNESC Scholarships

d. Third paragraph remains the same.

## Submitted by the District of Columbia State Director, Patricio Provitina

## Amendment No. 3

#### **ARTICLE VIII**

#### **Section 5—Election of National Officers:**

- d. Voting in National elections shall be by roll call, a show of hands or secret ballot, as the Rules Committee may recommend and the National Assembly may approve.
- e. Candidates for National Vice President for a geographical region must belong to a council within the region. The six LULAC regional areas are listed below.

## Amend with the following changes:

- d. Voting in National elections shall be by *electronic ballot, voice vote, stand up vote*, and roll call or as the Rules Committee may recommend and the National Assembly may approve.
- e. Candidates for National Vice President for a *specific* geographical region *shall be elected only by the delegates of that geographical region and the candidate* must *reside and* belong to a council within the region. The six LULAC regional areas are listed below.

#### Amendment No. 4

#### **ARTICLE VI**

#### **Section 8-Local Council:**

#### Subsection b (4)

b. Organization: A local Council may be organized under the sponsorship of an active Council and/or of any District, State Council National Executive Board officer or any combination of these according to the procedures set forth below:

(4) Upon approval of the application by the National Board of Directors, a Charter will be issued by the National Office and sent to the Council in addition to the Director of the District and State Director in which the Council is to be located or the State Director if no District exists.

## Amend with the following changes:

(4) Upon approval of the application by a simple majority vote of the National Board of Directors, a Charter will be issued by the National Office and sent to the Council in addition to the Director of the District and State Director in which the Council is to be located or the State Director if no District exists.

#### Amendment No. 5

## ARTICLE V Associates

**Section 1—National Associate:** Individuals who wish to support the organization may become National Associates of LULAC by contributing a minimum of \$50 annually to the National Office and approval by National Board of Directors or the National Executive Committee.

## Amend and add the following:

Section 1—National Associate: Individuals who wish to support the organization may become National Associates of LULAC by contributing a minimum of \$20 annually to the National Office and approval by National Board of Directors or the National Executive Committee.

c. An Associate may transfer to a LULAC Council in good standing by requesting and acceptance of the Council. The Associate shall pay all National, State, District and Council dues, if any, to change their status from Associate to regular member and be entitled to all rights and privileges of a regular member.

Section 4. – eMembers: Individuals who support LULAC's mission and philosophy, may apply online as an "eMember" at no cost. eMembers are entitled to receive electronic issues of the LULAC News, press releases and action alerts from LULAC and receive via email an eMember LULAC card. eMembers may apply to join a LULAC Council in good standing by requesting and acceptance of the Council. The eMember shall be pay all National, State, District and Council dues, if any, to change their status from eMember to regular member and be entitled to all rights and privileges of a regular member.

#### Amendment No. 6

By-Laws of the League of United Latin American Citizens Article I Conventions

**Section 3—Installation of Officers:** The Installation Ceremony, herein set shall be used in installing all National, State, District, and Local Council Officers, both elected and appointed. No person may assume the duties of an office until he has been officially installed. The officers to be installed shall take their place in front of the installing Officers with all officers to the left of the President Elect. All members shall rise and remain standing while the oath of office is administered.

#### Amend with the following changes:

Section 3—Installation of Officers: The Installation Ceremony, herein set shall be used in installing all National, State, District, and Local Council Officers, both elected and appointed. The officers to be installed shall take their place in front of the installing Officers with all officers to the left of the President Elect. All members shall rise and remain standing while the oath of office is administered.

## Amendments 3 to 6 Submitted by LULAC Council 4875-El Paso, Texas

#### Amendment No. 7

By-Laws of the League of United Latin American Citizens Article II Conventions

#### Section 4

c. The Council Secretary shall certify the delegates to the National, State or District Secretaries in writing with a copy to the head of the delegation thirty days before the convention date. The delegation shall present its certification letter to the National, State, or District Treasurer at the time of registration. Any delegate that is uncertified shall not be allowed to vote. Such a provision may not be set aside by the Assembly.

#### **Section 6—Convention Committees:**

- a. The following Convention Committees shall be nominated by National President with the approval of the National Board of Directors or National Executive Committee:
  - (1) Rules Committee—Shall propose the rules for the conduct of business at the convention. They shall report at the first instance to the National Board of Directors during the February meeting at which time the rules will be adopted by majority vote of the Board. Convention Rules thus adopted may be changed by the Convention only by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the assembly;

## Amend with the following changes:

#### Section 4

c. The Council Secretary or any officer shall certify the delegates to the National, State or District Convention in writing with a copy to the head of the delegation. The delegation shall present its certification letter to the National, State, or District Treasurer at the time of registration. Any delegate that is uncertified shall not be allowed to vote. Such a provision may not be set aside by the Assembly.

#### Section 6

(1) Rules Committee—Shall propose the rules for the conduct of business at the convention. They shall report at the first instance to the National Board of Directors during the February meeting at which time the rules will be approved by majority vote of the Board. Convention Rules thus approved shall be adopted or amended by a simple majority of the assembly. After adoption of rules by the assembly any changes thereafter shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the assembly:

#### **Amendment 8:**

## Article VI Organizational Structure

Section 1(d) — Quorum: The certified delegates from one-third (1/3) of the active councils at the time of the annual convention or special-called session of the National Assembly shall constitute a quorum without reference to the number of District, State or National Officers who have a vote in said sessions. No council that has been in existence less than thirty days or whose application for charter has not been officially approved by the National Board of Directors thirty days or more before a session of the National Assembly shall be considered in determining a quorum. However, such Councils may send delegations as observers without vote.

## Amend with the following changes:

1(d) by deleting it and replacing it with the following: The certified delegates from one-third (1/3) of the active councils chartered according to the financial provisions outlined in Article XIII, Section 1 of this Constitution shall constitute a quorum without reference to the number of District, State or National Officers who have a vote in said sessions.

#### **Amendment 9:**

## Article VI Organizational Structure

Section 8 (b) (3) —The Local Council:

The application, accompanied by a roster of the officers and members of the group, complete with mailing addresses, a \$75.00 charter fee and a \$6.00 initiation fee and the dues payable for each member on the roster, shall be forwarded to the National Office. All councils chartered 30 days prior to the National Convention will be allowed to have voting privileges;

## Amend with the following changes:

8(b) (3) by deleting the following: All councils chartered 30 days prior to the National Convention will be allowed to have voting privileges;

#### And replace it with:

All councils chartered according to the financial provisions outlined in Article XIII, Section 1 of this Constitution shall be allowed voting privileges at the District, State and National Conventions;

Article VI, Section 8(b) (3) as Amended, to be read as follows:

The application, accompanied by a roster of the officers and members of the group, complete with mailing addresses, a \$75.00 charter fee and a \$6.00 initiation fee and the dues payable for each member on the roster, shall be forwarded to the National Office. All councils chartered according to the financial provisions outlined in Article XIII, Section 1 of this Constitution shall be allowed voting privileges at the District, State and National Conventions;

#### **Amendment 10:**

#### **Article VI**

## **Organizational Structure**

Section 8(d) (3) — Limitations:

A Local Council organized less than thirty days prior to a District, State or National Convention or one whose charter has not been presented officially, may send delegations but may not have the right to cast votes.

Amend with the following changes:

Amend Article VI, Section 8(d) (3) by deleting it in its entirety.

#### **Amendment 11:**

## Article VIII National Officers

Section 1—Elective Officers: The following positions will be filled by majority vote of the General Assembly each year:

- a. National President;
- b. National Vice President for Women;
- c. National Vice President for Youth;
- d. National Vice President for Young Adults;
- e. National Vice President for the Elderly;
- f. National Treasurer:

- g. National Vice President Southwest;
- h. National Vice President Midwest;
- i. National Vice President Far west;
- j. National Vice President Southeast:
- k. National Vice President Northeast
- 1. National Vice President Northwest.

## Amend with the following changes:

Article VIII, Section 1 by deleting the following offices:

g. National Vice President Southwest;
h. National Vice President Midwest;
i. National Vice President Far west;
j. National Vice President Southeast;
k. National Vice President Northwest.

Article VIII, Section 1 as Amended to be read as follows:

Section 1—Elective Officers: The following positions will be filled by majority vote of the General Assembly each year:

- a. National President;
- b. National Vice President for Women;
- c. National Vice President for Youth;
- d. National Vice President for Young Adults;
- e. National Vice President for the Elderly;
- f. National Treasurer;

#### **Amendment 12:**

Article VIII National Officers

Amend with the following changes:

Amend Article VIII by adding a new Section 2 to be read as follows:

Section 2—Election of Regional National Vice Presidents: The following offices shall be elected by majority vote of their respective regional delegation at the National Convention each year:

- a. National Vice President Southwest;
- b. National Vice President Midwest;
- c. National Vice President Far west;
- d. National Vice President Southeast;
- e. National Vice President Northeast f. National Vice President Northwest.

(Upon adoption, all subsequent sections shall be renumbered

#### **Amendment 13:**

## ARTICLE VIII National Officers

Section 5(c) — Election of National Officers:

All elective National Officers, with the exception of State Directors who are elected by their respective State Assemblies, shall be elected by a majority vote of the accredited delegates to the National Assembly. For those unusual but possible instances where the balloting does not give a clear cut majority vote to any candidate, the following procedures shall prevail:

Amend with the following changes:

Section 5(c) — Election of National Officers:

All elective National Officers, with the exception of State Directors and Regional Vice Presidents who are elected by their respective Assemblies, shall be elected by a majority vote of the accredited delegates to the National Assembly. For those unusual but possible instances where the balloting does not give a clear cut majority vote to any candidate, the following procedures shall prevail:

## **Amendment 14:**

ARTICLE VIII National Officers

Section 6 (c) - Tenure of Elected Office:

A National Officer may serve in the same office for four terms, consecutively or intermittently, if duly elected to such office, but in no case may an officer be elected to the same office for more than four one-year terms. Any move to draft or otherwise impose on the League a person who has exhausted his eligibility to hold the same office for more than the stipulated terms shall be deemed a gross violation of this Constitution.

Amend with the following changes:

Amend Article VIII Section 6 (c)

by adding a Sub-Section (c) (1) to be read as follows:

*Section 6 (c) (1)* 

No member may serve as an elected officer to the National Board for more than ten years.

**Amendment 15:** 

ARTICLE VIII National Officers

## **Section 9 - Duties and Responsibilities of the National Officers**

(g) Legal Advisor

(2) To interpret and render an opinion on matters arising with regard to the LULAC Constitution and Bylaws, Resolutions and/or Policies when requested by any member, Council, or officer of the League. The National Assembly may by a two-thirds majority reverse an opinion of the Legal Advisor in those cases wherein it is believed that he/she has acted in a biased manner or contrary to the spirit of the provision in question;

Amend with the following changes:

Amend Article VIII, Section 9(g) (2) by deleting this subsection and replacing it with the following:

(2)To issue an interpretation on matters arising with regard to the LULAC Constitution and Bylaws, Resolutions and/or policies when an ambiguity exists and when requested by any member, Council or officer of the League. The National Assembly, as the Supreme Authority of the League with all legislative, judicial and executive powers, may adopt the issued interpretation by a simple majority vote.

**Amendment 16:** 

**ARTICLE X District Officers** 

**Section 5 - Tenure of Office** 

All provisions in Article VIII, Section 6 of this Constitution shall apply to District Officers, substituting District designations for the National designations. A person cannot seek the position of District Director if he or she has held this position for four years intermittently or consecutively.

Amend with the following changes:

Article X, Section 5 by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

The term of office for all elected District Officers shall be for one year starting and ending at the close of the District Convention and the term limitation shall be four (4), one-year terms, consecutively or intermittently. In cases where no candidate seeks an elective District office, a Past District Officer whose terms has expired is eligible to seek the office.

**Amendment 17:** 

ARTICLE XI Council Officers

#### **Section 5 - Tenure of Office**

All terms of office of Local Council Officers and any limitation thereto shall be in keeping with the provisions set in Article VIII, Section 6, except that all situations are limited to the Local Council scope and all references to appointed officers shall not apply since all offices of the Local Council are elective with the exception of Council Committees.

Amend with the following changes:

Article XI, Section 5 by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

The term of office for all elected Local Council Officers shall be for one year starting and ending at the close of Council Elections and the term limitation shall be four (4), one-year terms, consecutively or intermittently. In cases where no candidate seeks an elective Council office, a Past Council Officer whose terms has expired is eligible to seek the office.

Amendments 7 to 17 Submitted by LULAC Council 60-Houston, Texas