

Rules of Procedure

A. Resolutions Committee of the 2019 State Democratic Convention

1. Not later than September 1, 2019, the State Chair shall appoint a Resolutions Committee for the 2019 State Convention. Membership shall be composed of members of the State Democratic Executive Committee, or other elected, automatic or appointed 2019 Convention delegates. Membership shall include, but not be limited to, persons representing the following issues: jobs, schools, criminal justice, health, environment, voting rights, good government, and immigration.
2. The Resolutions Committee shall receive and consider all resolutions proposed by a delegate to the State Convention on matters of policy or principles that are consistent with the Democratic Party's National Platform as adopted by the 2016 Democratic National Convention.
3. This committee has authority to recommend, reject, or amend all such resolutions prior to referral to the State Convention.
4. Resolutions must be either (1) issue based—a general statement of principle on a single issue, or (2) commemorative—to honor the life of a recently deceased prominent Democrat. Resolutions that are highly technical or detailed policy recommendations may not be considered by the Committee. Resolutions should not reference or take positions on specific bill numbers, legislation, or ballot initiatives. The resolving body of the resolution must be the Florida Democratic Party.
5. The Committee will not consider any resolution calling for a change in the FDP Charter and/or Bylaws; nor stating the endorsement or support of a candidate for public Office, nor opposition to a candidate who is a registered Democrat; nor mandating or restricting the spending of money by the FDP. Further, a resolution must not call for action by a local Democratic organization or county Democratic Executive Committee. This prohibition may not be suspended.
6. The Resolutions Committee shall prioritize and send to the floor of the State Convention no more than 15 issue-based resolutions for consideration by the Convention delegates. There is no limit on the number of commemorative resolutions sent to the floor by the committee.

B. Authority and Interpretation

1. These Rules shall govern the conduct of the business of the Resolutions Committee.
2. These Rules shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the Charter and Bylaws of the Florida Democratic Party, the Rules of Procedure of the State Democratic Convention, and the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, so as to promote the fair, expedient and efficient conduct of the business of the Resolutions Committee.

C. Submission of Resolutions

1. For a resolution to be considered it must be submitted via the online submission form not later than 12:00 noon EST on Wednesday, October 2, 2019. In the case of a resolution about a matter that could not have been submitted prior to the deadline, the committee may, by unanimous consent, decide to consider the Resolution, in which case, it will be treated in the same way as if it had been submitted as a timely resolution.
2. A resolution, when initially submitted, must fit on a single page (8 1/2 x 11 inches.) A resolution shall contain a title, no more than three "whereas" clauses, and no more than two "resolve" clauses, and shall be no longer than 400 words.
3. One delegate must be indicated as the main sponsor of a resolution and will serve as the contact person for the resolution. Along with a proposed resolution, the main sponsor must provide his/her name, email address, and mobile or home telephone number. The main sponsor will have full authority to negotiate with the Committee Co-Chair(s) regarding amendments to or the disposition of the resolution.
4. In the days between the submission deadline and the beginning of the Convention, FDP shall send out an electronic survey asking delegates to vote on which resolutions they would like to see included in the final statement. This vote will serve to help inform the Committee as they hear deliberations and present a final list of resolutions to the General Session.

D. Powers and Duties of the Co-Chairs

1. The Committee will be presided over by three Co-Chairs appointed by the FDP Chair. At least one Co-Chair shall be present in order for The Resolutions Committee to transact business.
2. The Resolutions Committee may transact business in the absence of one or more Co-Chairs, provided that all Co-Chairs consent to such an arrangement.
3. On all matters of Resolutions Committee business, the decision-making power of the Co-Chairs shall be co-equal with respect to one another. Any motion, amendment, point of order, or like matter relating to Resolutions Committee business that requires a decision of the Co-Chairs will be considered denied if the Co-Chairs do not reach a unanimous decision.
4. The Co-Chairs shall conduct and expedite the business of the Resolutions Committee, including reporting on the Committee's work to the State Convention.

E. Actions by the Committee

1. Once a resolution is submitted to the Committee, it becomes the property of the Committee. The Committee shall have authority to take any action or no action with respect to a submitted resolution.
2. A majority vote of the members present and voting is required for Resolutions Committee action on all substantive matters.
3. The Committee shall prioritize and send to the floor of the State Convention no more than 15 issue-based resolutions for consideration on general statements of principle. There is no limit on the number of commemorative resolutions that may be sent to the floor by the committee.

F. Meetings

1. The Resolutions Committee shall meet upon the call of the Co-Chairs.
2. Meetings of the Resolutions Committee may be held with electronic notice to Members. All official meetings of the Resolutions Committee shall be open to the public.
3. Committee Meeting: Committee members will meet on the first morning of the Convention. This meeting will include time for Committee Welcome, Committee member introductions, and a statement of the resolution each member is submitting to be heard at the hearing. Members are capped at 1 resolution to submit for hearing.
4. Resolutions Hearing: The Committee will convene a hearing of submitted resolutions which all delegates may attend to give input. In order of issue area designation, the Committee will put forward the proposed resolutions for hearing by the body.

One at a time, the title, sponsor and resolution description will be read to the body, by the designated FDP staff or Committee Co-Chair. The Committee member presenting the proposed resolution will have up to 2.5 minutes to discuss the proposed resolution, why they selected it, their thoughts on any modifications which may be necessary, and to urge their support for the proposed resolution.

At the conclusion of the committee members presentation, the floor will be opened for a 5-minute public input period. In this 5-minute period, speakers for and against the proposed resolution will be permitted to speak on the resolution. Speakers order will begin with those who rise to speak in favor and continue in a for-and-against order until the allotted time has expired. Individual speakers' times will be capped at 45 seconds. Time will be kept by the resolution reader. When time has expired, the resolution reader will announce that time has expired and present the next proposed resolutions for consideration.

When the hearing of all proposed resolutions has concluded, any remaining time will be left to the discretion of the committee. The committee may at its discretion adjourn the hearing or recall any proposed resolutions for additional hearing by a majority vote of the committee. When all outstanding time has expired the committee will adjourn.

G. Publication

1. The Committee shall establish and publish on the FDP website not later than September 6, 2019 its rules of procedure and the procedures for submitting proposed Resolutions for consideration by the Committee.
2. The Report of the Resolutions Committee shall be distributed to all delegates in writing via email as soon as practicable after its adoption. Upon the request of members representing at least 40% of the total votes of the Resolutions Committee, a minority report on an issue-based resolution shall be prepared for distribution to Convention delegates as part of the Report of the Resolutions Committee.
3. Resolutions adopted at the State Convention will be posted on the FDP website.