

PROPOSAL TO AMEND ARTICLE 8 OF ILGP BYLAWS

PRESENTER: Phil Huckelberry

APPROVED BY: Coordinating Committee

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

For years, whenever there has been a perceived need to modify the charge of a committee, create a new committee, or eliminate an existing committee, it has required an amendment to the ILGP Bylaws. This has made it very hard to adjust to the realities of what committees are and aren't working. In effect, over time, as the entire committee system collapsed on itself, there was no real way to correct the problem, because it was too cumbersome to try and deal with such changes at Membership Meetings, where increasingly people did not want to sit through extended business discussions.

This proposal would empower the Coordinating Committee, making it the primary body responsible for the creation of standing committees; and also empower the Executive Committee, making it the primary body responsible for the oversight thereof. In turn, the moribund committee structure could be shaken up, hopefully allowing for more successfully getting new people involved in the organization. The proposal also allows for the Executive Committee to establish limited-scope Working Groups, which will further allow for a shakeup of how things are getting done.

The second operative section of the proposal reconfirms 9 of the 11 standing committees under their existing committee rules documents, and eliminates two committees which are not functioning, the Locals Support Committee and the Nominating Committee. Locals Support has never worked because the charge has always been confusing and the entire concept of support locals is contingent on the work of other bodies anyway. Nominating was always somewhat confusing to people, and that particular role is largely a function of the Executive Committee at this point.

The third operative section merely reconfirms the people who are the current chairs of the 9 remaining committees. The section is included largely as a housekeeping measure and as a point of information so that people can see who the current chairs are and that there are vacancies which need to be filled.

Proposal

* Operative 1: New Article 8

Existing Article 8 of the ILGP Bylaws is struck in its entirety and replaced by the following new Article 8:

ARTICLE 8 – Standing Committees, Ad Hoc Committees, and Working Groups

8-A. Standing Committees.

8-A-1. Definition. A Standing Committee is an official committee of the Illinois Green Party, operating under a committee rules document which has been approved by the Coordinating Committee or Membership.

8-A-2. Purpose. Standing Committees are intended to be the primary bodies within the ILGP structure for the development of action items, including but not limited to formal proposals, press releases, and position papers.

8-A-3. Chairs. Except as otherwise specified in these Bylaws, or in a committee rules document, Standing Committees shall have a chair or two co-chairs, approved by the Coordinating Committee or Membership, who

are responsible for reporting the activities of the committee to the Executive Committee, Coordinating Committee, and Membership. No one person may be a chair or co-chair of more than two Standing Committees at the same time, nor may a person be a chair or co-chair of more than one Standing Committee at the same time that he or she is a member of the Executive Committee. Any Standing Committee chair can be removed from their position by a 2/3 vote of the Membership or a 2/3 vote of the Coordinating Committee, or by a process specified in the committee's rules document.

8-A-4. Reports. Each Standing Committee will submit a report on its actions at Membership Meetings. Between Membership Meetings, the Executive Committee or Coordinating Committee can require that reports be submitted.

8-A-5. Oversight. Primary oversight of Standing Committees is a function of the Executive Committee.

8-A-6. Financial Commitments. No standing committee shall make any financial commitment on behalf of the ILGP without the prior consent of the Executive Committee, Coordinating Committee, or Membership, unless financial powers have been specifically delegated to it, or unless specific arrangements have been made for the committee's independent financial responsibility.

8-A-7. Committee Membership. Except as otherwise specified in these Bylaws, or in a committee rules document, membership on Standing Committees shall be open to all ILGP members in good standing. A member may be removed from a Standing Committee by a 2/3 vote of the Membership or a 2/3 vote of the Coordinating Committee, or by a process specified in the committee's rules document.

8-B. Ad Hoc Committees. An Ad Hoc Committee is an official committee of the Illinois Green Party, operating under a committee rules document which has been approved by the Coordinating Committee or Membership, which is not intended to be permanent. All rules within these Bylaws that apply to Standing Committees shall also apply to Ad Hoc Committees. Ad Hoc Committees may include Project Committees designed to work on specific issues.

8-C. Working Groups. A Working Group is a semi-official body of the Illinois Green Party which can be created by an action of the Executive Committee or any Standing Committee. Working Groups do not require full rules documents. Working Groups have no authority except those specified in their creation, and may not be given any authority specifically reserved to a higher body.

* Operative 2: Designation and Elimination of Standing Committees

The following committees shall continue to operate under their existing Committee Rules documents:

- Finance
- Fundraising
- Government and Elections
- Information Technology
- Media
- Meetings
- Membership
- Platform

The following committees are eliminated:

- Bylaws

Locals Support
Nominating

* Operative 3: Confirmation of Chairs

The following Committee Chairs are Confirmed:

Finance – Sheldon Schafer
Fundraising – vacant
Government and Elections – Phil Huckelberry
Information Technology – vacant
Media – Patrick Kelly
Meetings – Charlie Howe
Membership – AJ Segneri
Platform – Rich Whitney

TIME LINE: Immediate implementation.

RESOURCES: Changes will need to be made to the ILGP Bylaws as published on ilgp.org, and anywhere else the bylaws may be published or kept.

REFERENCES: ILGP Bylaws, Article 8; Standing Committee Rules Documents.