

**THE CHARTER AND THE BYLAWS
OF THE
FLORIDA YOUNG DEMOCRATS**

As Adopted, January 26, 2013

THE CHARTER OF THE FLORIDA YOUNG DEMOCRATS

CHARTER
ARTICLE I
NAME

SECTION 1.1 Definition. The name of this organization shall be the Florida Young Democrats (hereinafter referred to in this charter as the FYD), affiliated with the Young Democrats of America (YDA) and affiliated with the Florida Democratic Party (FDP).

CHARTER
ARTICLE II
PURPOSE

SECTION 2.1 Definition. The purpose of the FYD is to stimulate in the youth of Florida an active interest in governmental affairs; to increase the efficiency of popular government; to foster and perpetuate the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party; to recruit the most promising material for leadership; to encourage statesmanship; to aid the Democratic Party; to provide through its administration the highest degree of justice and social welfare; and to serve as a voice for young people within the Democratic Party.

CHARTER
ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 3.1. Eligibility. Any person at least fourteen (14) years of age but less than forty (40) years of age who professes and demonstrates allegiance to the principles of the Democratic Party shall be eligible for active membership.

SECTION 3.2. Active Members. An Active Member shall be a member of a chartered chapter of FYD who is a resident or domiciliary in the state of Florida, or a student of a fully accredited high school, college, university or institution of higher learning in the state of Florida.

SECTION 3.3 Honorary Members. An Honorary Member is someone who has rendered service of outstanding character in the advancement of the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party and the FYD.

SECTION 3.4. Non-Discrimination Clause. Neither the FYD nor any chapter shall discriminate in any proceeding, charter, bylaws or vote on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or identity, disability or past political activity.

SECTION 3.5. Affirmative Action Directive. The FYD and all of its chapters shall make a good faith effort to recruit members and publicize events to all segments of the population.

SECTION 3.6. Liability. The members of the FYD shall not be liable for the debts or actions of the FYD, nor shall the FYD be liable for the unauthorized acts of any of its members unless so ratified by the FYD Executive Committee. Where gross misspending or unauthorized spending occurs, said officer or officers involved shall be personally liable for any and all debts incurred.

CHARTER
ARTICLE IV
ORGANIZATION

SECTION 4.1. FYD Chapters. Chapters may charter by submitting an application in accordance with the Bylaws.

SECTION 4.2 High School Democrats of Florida. High School Chapters may form an organization within the FYD known as the Florida High School Democrats (FHSD). FHSD shall have the ability to associate with the High School Democrats of America (HSDA).

CHARTER
ARTICLE V
CONVENTIONS

SECTION 5.1 State Conventions. The FYD shall assemble in state convention every year for the purpose of electing officers in the FYD, as required by the Charter and Bylaws; for considering charter amendments; for adopting resolutions; and the transacting of any other business that may properly come before the convention. The FYD State Convention shall be the highest authority of the Florida Young Democrats.

SECTION 5.2 Oversight. The Convention Oversight Committee shall assist and oversee the planning of the convention and shall make regular reports to the Executive Committee. The Convention Oversight Committee (COC) shall consist of the Chief Operating Officer who shall serve as Chair, the Executive Vice President, the Chief Financial Officer and the President (or a designated representative) of the chapter located in the County where the Convention will be held, and the immediate past chair or co-chair of the State Convention. In the event there is no Chief Operating Officer, the Executive Vice President shall serve as Chair of the COC.

SECTION 5.3 Site Selection. The State Convention shall be held at a place and date selected by the FYD Executive Committee in accordance with the site selection process set forth in the Bylaws.

SECTION 5.4 Notification. Convention notice shall be prior to the convening of the annual convention according to the Bylaws.

SECTION 5.5 Credentials. The basis for vote allocation shall be a list of officers and current members that is submitted to the Credentials Committee.

SECTION 5.6 Registration. Detailed in Bylaws.

SECTION 5.7 Voting. One Member shall represent the votes of others in his/her chapter pursuant to the Voting allocations prescribed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 5.8 Candidate Debates. Detailed in Bylaws.

SECTION 5.9 Convention Quorum. The quorum for all State Conventions shall be twenty-five (25) delegates representing at least five (5) chapters.

SECTION 5.10 Candidate Fundraising. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 5.11 National Conventions. The delegates and alternates for the YDA Convention shall be determined in accordance with the Bylaws.

SECTION 5.12 Special Conventions. Intentionally left blank.

CHARTER
ARTICLE VI
ELECTED OFFICERS

SECTION 6.1 Elected officers. The elected officers of the FYD shall be the President, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary, National Committeewoman, and National Committeeman, and Region Directors.

SECTION 6.2 Elections. The election of elected officers shall be held at the FYD State Convention. Elections for President, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary, National Committeewoman, and National Committeeman shall be by an alphabetical roll call of chapters. Candidates for President and Executive Vice President shall run together on a joint ticket. A majority of the delegates present shall elect. In the event that no candidate or ticket receives a majority, the two candidates or tickets receiving the highest number of votes shall enter a run-off election to be contested immediately.

Elections for Region Directors shall be held at the State Convention at a meeting of all members residing in a particular region as defined in the Bylaws. Only FYD members residing in a respective region may vote for a Region Director from that region. FYD Members who charter with a high school shall be bound to vote for a Region Director covering the location of that high school.

SECTION 6.3 Terms. The term of office for all elected officers shall be two (2) years or until a successor is named. All elected officers shall assume their duties upon the close of the State Convention.

SECTION 6.4 Nominations. Each person seeking elected office must declare for the position(s) as per the Bylaws.

SECTION 6.5 Qualifications. Each person seeking elected office must be qualified for the position(s) as per the Bylaws.

SECTION 6.6 Turnover of FYD Property. Officers shall turn over all FYD property to their successors as per the Bylaws.

SECTION 6.7 Vacancy. In the event of a vacancy in an elected office (except President), the President shall nominate and the FYD Executive Committee shall elect, by an absolute majority vote of the Executive Committee, a person to fill the unexpired term at the first possible meeting, or through the electronic process as defined in the Bylaws.

In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Executive Vice President shall assume the role of President. If the Executive Vice President is unwilling or unable to serve the unexpired term, or the office of Executive Vice President is also vacant, the FYD Executive Committee shall elect, by an absolute majority vote of the Executive Committee, a person to fill the unexpired term at the first possible meeting following notification to the Executive Committee of the existence of the vacancy.

SECTION 6.8 Removal from Office.

Section 6.8.1 Notice. The FYD Executive Committee may, after giving notice of intent to remove to an offending officer and to the Executive Committee, remove an elected officer for cause. In the event of Presidential removal, the Judicial Council shall appoint a presiding officer for the Executive Committee meeting. Notice shall be given to the offending officer by certified mail or electronic mail and to the entire Executive Committee by the normal means for providing notice of Executive Committee meetings.

Section 6.8.2 Cause. Cause shall include but not be limited to, excessive absences or failure to fulfill duties of one's office. What constitutes "just cause" shall be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Section 6.8.3 Procedure. At the Executive Committee meeting mentioned in the notice of intent to remove, the Executive Committee shall meet to determine whether or not to remove the officer. A three-quarters (3/4) vote of the Executive Committee is required to move an officer from him/her position. Any officer subject to removal from office shall have the opportunity to present all witnesses, documents, and arguments in support of their position.

Section 6.8.4 Attendance. All elected officers of the FYD shall attend all executive committee meetings of the FYD.

If the President is unable to attend a regular membership meeting, he or she shall so notify the Executive Vice President in writing prior to that meeting. Such notification shall include the President's officer report.

If an elected officer other than the President is unable to attend a regular membership meeting, they shall so notify the President and Secretary in writing prior to that meeting. Such written notification shall include such officer's report.

Any elected officer who is absent from a regular membership meeting without notification as described above may submit a written explanation for the absence to the President and Secretary, as appropriate, within one week following the meeting. The President or Executive Vice President, as appropriate, may, at their discretion, elect to excuse the officer's absence on the basis of such a written explanation. In all other cases, an absence without notification as described above shall be considered unexcused.

Any elected officer of FYD who accumulates two consecutive unexcused absences shall be considered to have resigned as of the date of the second absence without necessity for any further action on the part of either the dismissed officer or members of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 6.9 Duties. Detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER
ARTICLE VII
APPOINTED OFFICERS

SECTION 7 Appointed Officers. The President shall have the power to appoint members of the FYD to non-Executive Committee positions or ad-hoc committees at his/her discretion.

SECTION 7.1 Voting. Detailed in Bylaws.

SECTION 7.2 Confirmation. Detailed in Bylaws.

SECTION 7.3 Qualifications. Detailed in Bylaws

SECTION 7.4 Turnover. Detailed in Bylaws.

SECTION 7.5 Vacancy. Detailed in Bylaws.

SECTION 7.6 Removal. Detailed in Bylaws.

SECTION 7.7 Duties. Detailed in Bylaws.

CHARTER
ARTICLE VIII
EX-OFFICIO OFFICERS

SECTION 8.1 Ex-Officio Officers. The Ex-Officio Officers of the FYD shall be the immediate Past FYD President, the FHSD President and FYD members elected or appointed to national or regional positions in the YDA.

SECTION 8.2 Voting. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 8.3 President Emeritus. Detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER
ARTICLE IX
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 9.1 Composition.

Section 9.1(a) Voting Members. The President, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary, Treasurer, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman, and Region Directors shall be voting members of the Executive Committee.

Section 9.1(b) Region Directors. Each of the major geographical regions of Florida as defined in the Bylaws shall have representation on the Executive Committee. Region Directors shall be elected from their respective regions at state convention and must be FYD members in good standing. Upon resignation or death of a Region Director, the President shall appoint a replacement from that region, to be confirmed by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

9.1(c) Non Voting Members. The Chair of each Standing, Convention and Special Committee and Appointed Officers shall be non-voting members of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 9.2 Voting. No person shall be entitled to cast more than one vote on the Executive Committee by virtue of holding multiple offices. Secret ballot voting shall be prohibited. Unless otherwise restricted by this Charter or the Bylaws, any action required or permitted to be taken by the Executive Committee, except for an amendment to the Charter or Bylaws, may be taken electronically.

SECTION 9.3 Meetings. The FYD Executive Committee shall meet at least once every eight (8) calendar weeks unless otherwise scheduled or canceled at the call of the FYD President. One week calendar notice of the time and place of every meeting of the Executive Committee of the FYD must be given to all members of the Executive Committee. Said notice must be given by e-mail and/or by United States Mail with a written and printed copy of the e-mail which was sent being available in the event of any dispute as to proper notice. At least one (1) Executive Committee meeting per calendar year shall be held north of Tampa and Orlando and one (1) Executive Committee meeting shall be held south of Tampa and Orlando. Executive Committee meetings may also include conference calls. All other meeting requirements shall apply.

SECTION 9.4 Authority. Except for powers reserved to the State Convention, the governing body of the Florida Young Democrats shall be the Executive Committee. The FYD Executive Committee has the power to grant charters and may bestow honorary memberships. The Executive Committee has the option to choose the date and place of the State Convention, decide how the remaining delegates to the YDA Convention shall be chosen, fill officer vacancies (as described in the applicable sections), approve any bank in which FYD money is held, advise the National Committeewoman and National Committeeman on YDA matters and consider emergency resolutions. The Executive Committee may consider or act upon any business necessary and proper to the running of the FYD.

SECTION 9.5 Special Meetings. Special Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President or any five (5) members of the Executive Committee with seven (7) days notice to all members of the Executive Committee. Special Meetings of the Executive Committee shall not satisfy the requirement for Executive Committee meetings as provided for in SECTION 9.3 of this Article.

SECTION 9.6 Rules of Order. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 9.7 Quorum. Detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER
ARTICLE X
STATE COMMITTEE

SECTION 10.1 Composition.

SECTION 10.1.1 Voting Members. The voting members of the FYD State Committee shall be composed of the President of every chartered chapter, all elected officers, the chairs of the standing committees, the President of the Florida High School Democrats, and the President Emeritus of FYD.

SECTION 10.1.2 Non-Voting Members. The non-voting members of the FYD State Committee shall be composed of the Vice Chair and Secretary of each standing committee, the chair of each special committee, and all appointed officers and FYD Members who are elected or appointed to national or regional positions within the Young Democrats of America

SECTION 10.2 Voting. No person shall be entitled to cast more than one vote on the FYD State Committee by virtue of holding multiple offices. In the event an individual is both a voting member of the State Committee and the President of a chartered chapter, that individual may designate an individual to cast the chapter's vote on his or her behalf. Secret ballot voting shall be prohibited.

SECTION 10.3 Meetings. The FYD State Committee shall meet at least once every thirteen (13) calendar weeks unless otherwise scheduled or canceled, at the call of the FYD President. Two weeks calendar notice of the time and place of every meeting of the State Committee of the FYD must be given to all members of the State Committee. Said notice must be given by e-mail and/or by United States Mail with a written and printed copy of the e-mail which was sent being available in the event of any dispute as to proper notice. All other meeting requirements shall apply.

SECTION 10.4 Authority. The FYD State Committee has the power to approve the FYD Strategic Plan, have the final decision on the expulsion of a chapter, have the final decision on the appeal of a member who has been expelled from a chapter, have the final determination of any action taken by the Executive Committee up to two weeks prior to a duly called meeting of the State Committee, set annual dues and approve the FYD budget.

SECTION 10.5 Special Meetings. Special Meetings of the State Committee may be called by the President or any five (5) members of the Executive Committee with seven (7) days notice to all members of the State Committee. Special Meetings of the State Committee shall not satisfy the requirement for State Committee meetings as provided for in SECTION 10.3 of this Article.

SECTION 10.6 Rules of Order. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 10.7 Quorum. Detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER
ARTICLE XI
COMMITTEES

SECTION 11.1 Types. There shall be three types of committees: Standing, Convention, and Special.

SECTION 11.2 Standing Committees. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 11.3 Convention Committees. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 11.4 Special Committees. Detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER
ARTICLE XII
FINANCES

SECTION 12.1 Fiscal year. The FYD fiscal year runs January 1st through December 31st.

SECTION 12.2 Budget Committee. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 12.3 Financial Authority. No financial commitment may be made by any FYD officer or member without the prior budgetary approval of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 12.4 Spending Limits. On an annual basis, the Executive Committee shall set discretionary spending limits for all officers.

SECTION 12.5 Audits. The Treasurer's books shall be audited by a committee of three appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee. This audit should take place by the close of the fiscal year.

CHARTER
ARTICLE XIII
JUDICIAL COUNCIL

SECTION 13.1 Judicial Power. The judicial power of the FYD shall be vested in one Judicial Council. The Judicial Council shall serve to resolve disputes over the nature and interpretation of the FYD Charter and of the rules and regulations established by the FYD Executive Committee. The FYD Membership and the FYD Executive Committee shall be bound by the decision of the Judicial Council.

SECTION 13.2 Review. Detailed in the Bylaws

SECTION 13.3 Composition. The Judicial Council shall be composed of five (5) active members of the FYD.

Section 13.3.1 Chair. The Parliamentarian shall chair the Judicial Council and serve with four (4) members from chapters in attendance at the State Convention.

Section 13.3.2 Selection. At the State Convention, the Credentials Chair shall randomly select three chapters from the list of chapters that have been continuously chartered for at least three years. The final member shall be chosen from the remaining chapters that have chartered for that year's convention. Each of the chosen chapters will then select one member from that chapter to serve on the Judicial Council.

Section 13.3.3 Term. Members of the Judicial Council serve a term of one (1) year or until a successor is chosen.

SECTION 13.4 Quorum. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 13.5 Rules. Detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER
ARTICLE XIV
DISCIPLINE

SECTION 14.1 Member Expulsion. FYD may expel Members as per the Bylaws.

SECTION 14.2 Chapter Expulsion. FYD may expel Chapters as per the Bylaws.

SECTION 14.3 Officer Removal. The President has the power to remove any chapter officer with the approval of a majority of the Executive Committee. Alternatively, any chapter officer may be removed with the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the State Committee. Removal as a chapter officer shall not result in that individual's expulsion as a member of FYD. Following the removal of any officer, the subject chapter shall fill that vacancy in accordance with its own charter.

SECTION 14.4 At-Large Expulsion. Detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER
ARTICLE XV
STAFF

SECTION 15.1 Employees and Contractors. Detailed in the Bylaws.

BYLAWS

CHARTER
ARTICLE XVI
AMENDMENTS

SECTION 16.1 Charter Timeline. All proposed amendments to this Charter shall be submitted to the Executive Committee no later than seven (7) days prior to the convening of the State Convention.

SECTION 16.2 Charter Adoption. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the State Convention is required to adopt any charter amendment.

SECTION 16.3 Bylaws Timeline.

Section 16.3.1 Charter Amendments. Bylaws amendments may be proposed in the same manner as charter amendments under SECTION 16.1.

Section 16.3.2 Executive Committee. Bylaws amendments may also be considered at any Executive Committee meeting along with other proper business. For a Bylaws amendment to be considered at any Executive Committee meeting, the notice of the Executive Committee meeting given under section 9.3 must include details of the Bylaws amendments to be considered. No Bylaws amendment may be considered at any Executive Committee meeting that was rejected as a charter or Bylaws amendment at the last State Convention under sections 16.1 or 16.3.1.

SECTION 16.4 Bylaws Adoption

Section 16.4.1 Charter Amendments. Bylaws amendments proposed in the same manner as charter amendments under sections 16.3.1 and 16.1 may be adopted in the same manner as charter amendments under section 16.2.

Section 16.4.2 Executive Committee. A majority of an Executive Committee meeting is required to adopt any Bylaws amendment considered under Section 16.3.2.

SECTION 16.5 Bylaws Duration. Bylaws amendments considered under Section 16.3.2 remain in effect no longer than the next State Convention. At the next State Convention, the changes are to be submitted to the Executive Committee and then to the State Convention as per SECTION 16.1 for permanent adoption or rejection.

SECTION 16.6 Bylaws Power. Bylaws changes may not be considered under section 16.3.2 that would have the effect of removing a currently serving elected or appointed officer. Bylaws changes may not be considered under Section 16.3.2 that would have the effect of removing a currently chartered chapter.

SECTION 16.7 Chapter Ratification of a Charter Amendment. A proposed charter amendment may be sent for ratification to the Chapters and At-Large Members by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. Ratification may be recommended by the Charter Committee, or may be requested by the Active Member(s) submitting the amendment for consideration. Such recommendation or request is not binding on the Executive Committee.

Any amendment approved by the Executive Committee to be sent for ratification shall be submitted to each chapter by the Charter Committee not more than fourteen (14) days after the motion for ratification is adopted by the Executive Committee. Each chapter shall notify its Active Members in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which the ratification will be considered. A two-thirds (2/3) vote is required for a chapter to ratify any proposed charter amendment. Each chapter must notify the Executive Committee of the results of the ratification vote at the next regular Executive Committee meeting.

All At-Large Members shall receive a copy of the amendment from the Charter Committee not more than fourteen (14) days after the motion for ratification is adopted by the Executive Committee. At-Large Members shall submit their votes by mail to the Credentials Chair no more than thirty (30) days after the date of notification. The Credentials Chair shall bring the unopened ballots to the next regular Executive Committee meeting occurring after the deadline. The

President shall appoint a teller and the ballots shall be opened and counted at that meeting. A two-thirds (2/3) vote is required for At-Large Members to ratify any charter amendment.

Two-Thirds (2/3) of all FYD chapters must ratify the amendment in order for the amendment to be adopted. For the purposes of ratification, the At-Large Membership shall be considered a chapter.

CHARTER
ARTICLE XVII
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

SECTION 17.1 Parliamentary Authority. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern FYD in all cases in which such rules are applicable and in which such rules are consistent with this Charter and any special rules of order the FYD may adopt.

CHARTER
ARTICLE XVIII
DISSOLUTION

SECTION 18.1 Chapter Dissolution. In the event that a chapter dissolves, after all liabilities and obligations are satisfied, all funds in the chapter's treasury shall be transferred to the FYD treasury.

In the event that a chapter dissolves, all liabilities and obligations are the responsibility of that chapter and its President. FYD will not assume any debt incurred by the dissolving chapter.

SECTION 18.2 FYD Dissolution. In the event that the FYD dissolves, after all the liabilities and obligations are satisfied, all funds in the FYD treasury shall be transferred to the Florida Democratic Party.

CHARTER
ARTICLE XIX
APPENDIX

SECTION 19.1 Vote. Unless otherwise indicated, a reference to a vote means a majority of those present and eligible to vote, if the appropriate quorum has been met.

CERTIFICATION OF CHARTER

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of The Charter of the Florida Young Democrats, as adopted by the State Convention on January 26, 2013, in Lake Mary, Florida.

Justin E. Spiller, President
Florida Young Democrats

THE BYLAWS OF THE FLORIDA YOUNG DEMOCRATS

Adopted pursuant to The Charter of the Florida Young Democrats on January 26, 2013, by the State Committee in Lake Mary, Florida.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE I
NAME

SECTION 1.1. Intentionally left blank.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE II
PURPOSE

SECTION 2.1. Intentionally left blank.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 3.1. Eligibility. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 3.2. Active Members. Intentionally left blank.

Section 3.2.1. Voting. Only active members in good standing may vote in any meeting of the FYD.

Section 3.2.2. Proxy voting. Except as otherwise provided in the Charter, no proxy or mail votes are acceptable.

Section 3.2.3. Office eligibility. Only active members in good standing may hold office in the FYD.

SECTION 3.3. Honorary Members.

Section 3.3.1. Rights and duties. Honorary Members may attend meetings, may not make or second motions, may not participate in debate unless an active member yields time to him/her, and may not vote.

SECTION 3.4. Non-Discrimination Clause. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 3.5. Affirmative Action Directive. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 3.6. Liability. Intentionally left blank.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE IV
ORGANIZATION

SECTION 4.1. FYD Chapters.

Section 4.1.1. Applications. All applications for chartering shall be submitted to the Executive Committee through the Executive Vice President before the meeting at which the charter is to be considered. Approved charters must have the Chapter contact information posted on the FYD Web Site by the Webmaster.

So as not to penalize a potential chapter, in the event that the Executive Committee shall find a potential chapter's charter lacking in certain respects, or that chapter's charter conflicts with the Charter or Bylaws of the FYD, the Executive Committee shall have the right to issue a "conditional charter" to a chapter and said conditional charter must be indicated as such in the official minutes of the meeting in which the chapter's charter shall be considered. Those elements of the chapter's charter which are lacking or which are in conflict with the Charter or Bylaws of the FYD must be rectified by that chapter at the next officially noticed Executive Committee of the FYD or said "conditional charter" shall automatically lapse without the need for any action or vote by the Executive Committee of the FYD. A charter application must include the following:

1. List of at least five members (including name, address, phone and e-mail address [if available] and date of birth)
2. List of duly elected officers and date elected
3. Copy of governing document
4. Copy of minutes from a meeting
5. Copy of notice of meeting as evidence of compliance with Article III, section 5.
6. Check for \$50.00, or such other amount as determined by the Executive Committee, in payment of FYD's annual dues.

Section 4.1.2. Constitution or Charter: Elections. No charter shall be issued to any chapter whose constitution or charter conflicts with the Charter or Bylaws of the FYD or the YDA. Chapter constitutions must provide for meetings, yearly elections, dues (if any), quorum, amendments, and dissolution. Within fourteen days of the passage of any amendment to its governing charter or bylaws, the chapter must submit the amendment to the Secretary and President of FYD for compliance review. By April 1st of each year, each chapter must report the names of, and contact information for, its officers to the Secretary and President of FYD.

Section 4.1.3. Chapters per County. There shall be no more than one chapter per county, unless a high school, community college, state college, or university wishes to have a chapter of its own, or the Executive Committee has determined there is a substantial geographic barrier to warrant another chapter. If more than one chapter is chartered per county that is not affiliated with a high school, community college, state college, or university, no chapter should have the name of the county in its official name without approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 4.1.4. Review. The Executive Committee reserves the right to periodically review chapter constitutions or charters. Constitutions or charters that are found to be in conflict with the Charter or Bylaws of the FYD may be grounds for removal of a chapter's chartered status. If a chapter cannot produce a current Constitution or Charter, the Executive Committee may require that chapter to re-charter with FYD. The Executive Committee also reserves the right to review a chapter's compliance with its own Constitution or Charter.

Section 4.1.5. At Large Membership. If an eligible person prefers, that person may pay dues annually to the FYD Treasurer, at an amount to be determined by the Executive Committee, as an at large active member rather than join a chapter of FYD.

Section 4.1.6. High School Chapters. To be a member of a high school chapter, a member shall be a currently enrolled student of that same high school or be the advisor or faculty sponsor. Advisors and sponsors shall only be eligible for membership provided they meet the qualification for a regular member.

Section 4.1.7. College and University Chapters. To be a member of a college or university chapter, a member shall be a currently enrolled student of that same college or university. Members of chartered college or university chapters shall count towards the County Chapters memberships the school resides in for the purposes of FYD Officer elections and the State Committee. In the event that a County Chapter does not exist, the college or university chapter's membership shall be treated as the chapter for purposes of FYD Officer elections and the State Committee.

SECTION 4.2. Florida High School Democrats (FHSD)

Section 4.2.1. Affiliation. The FHSD shall be the official high school affiliate of the FYD. Members of the FHSD shall be active members of the FYD as defined in 3.2 of the charter.

Section 4.2.2. Advisors. Advisors of high school chapters shall also be full members of the FHSD if they are active members of the FYD. Advisors shall not be prohibited from holding the presidency of the FHSD so long as they also meet the membership requirements of FYD as defined in 3.2 of the charter.

Section 4.2.3. Constitution. The FHSD shall adopt a constitution which shall be consistent with the FYD charter and YDA constitution.

Section 4.2.4. Elections. The FHSD shall caucus to elect a President, Vice President, and Secretary from its membership at the annual FYD State Convention. The Vice President or the Secretary must be of the opposite gender of the President. Officers will be elected by a majority vote. In case no candidate receives a majority, the two top vote getters shall advance to a run-off. In case of a tie, the current FHSD officers shall vote to break the tie.

Section 4.2.4.1. President. The President shall serve as primary representative of the FHSD, shall organize and chair FHSD meetings, shall be responsible for preparing the FHSD budget, and shall implement the responsibilities of the FHSD as defined in this section.

Section 4.2.4.2. Vice President. The Vice President will assume the role of President in the President's absence and shall assist in preparing the FHSD budget. The Vice President will also serve as the principal FHSD officer in charge of membership, and shall work closely with the FYD Executive Vice President in chartering new chapters and communicating with existing chapters.

Section 4.2.4.3. Secretary. The Secretary will be the official record keeper of the FHSD and will maintain a list of the high school chapters in the FYD.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE V
CONVENTIONS

SECTION 5.1. State Convention

Section 5.1.1 Date. The FYD shall assemble in state convention once per year, at a time to be determined by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 5.2. Oversight.

Section 5.2.1 Reports. The Convention Oversight Committee shall make regular reports in writing to the Executive Committee at each Executive Committee Meeting between the award of Convention to a particular chapter and the opening of Convention itself and no later than one hundred and twenty (120) days before the opening of Convention, there shall be a written report from the host chapter to the Executive Committee detailing the accommodations for Convention, the agenda for the Convention, the program(s) for Convention and the speaker(s) who are committed to appear at the Convention.

SECTION 5.3. Site Selection

Section 5.3.1. Bid submission. Local chapters shall submit convention site bids on a standard form to the Executive Committee by a date set at the discretion of the Executive Committee, of each year for referral to the Convention Oversight Committee (COC).

Section 5.3.2. Bid review. The COC shall meet on or before February 15 to review the bids. The date, time, and place of this meeting shall be announced by February 1. The announcement shall include the details of the bidding process. The meeting shall be open to all FYD members. Each chapter that makes a bid to host the State Convention shall be given an opportunity to present its bid. At the regular meeting that next follows the COC's meeting, the Executive Committee shall be presented with each bid in standard form and a list of Pros and Cons from the COC, along with the COC's recommendations. The Executive Committee shall then select a site for convention.

Section 5.3.3. Fallback. Should no chapter submit a bid nor any submitted bid meet the approval of the COC, the COC is responsible for recommending a site to the Executive Committee by March 1 and, with three additional members appointed by the President, shall be responsible for planning the State Convention.

SECTION 5.4. Notification

Section 5.4.1 Days in advance. Convention notice shall be given at least sixty (60) days prior to the convening of the annual convention using all means necessary.

Section 5.4.2. Notification contents. This notice shall include date and location.

SECTION 5.5. Credentials

Section 5.5.1 Credentials list requirements. The list shall include name, address, birth date, phone numbers, e-mail addresses (if available) for all members, and for officers, also include the date elected.

Section 5.5.2. Credentials lists due date. Credentials lists are due before the adjournment of the Credentials Committee meeting as defined in Section 5.5.4.

Section 5.5.3 At-Large. At-Large members must submit their information individually to the Credentials Committee.

Section 5.5.4. Credentials meeting. The Credentials packets shall not be opened until a meeting held exactly three (3) days prior to the convening of the convention. On this date, the Credentials Committee meeting will be called to order. The Credentials Committee shall not adjourn before 12:00 PM (noon) on that day.

Section 5.5.5. Residence and age verification. The Credentials Committee shall check for proper Florida residence or school enrollment and date of birth showing proper age. Any person whose membership has not been accepted by the Credentials Committee shall be granted membership upon showing the following:

- a. Proper Residence--Florida Driver's License, Voter Registration card or a bill mailed to the person's residence within the last thirty days.
- b. Proper Enrollment--a current student identification, fees paid card (if applicable) or the equivalent from the corresponding institution.
- c. Proper Age--Birth Certificate or government-issued identification

Section 5.5.6. Challenges. All challenges to any membership must be sustained by a majority vote of the Credentials Committee members present. Challenges to the Credentials Committee's report must be registered in writing with the Credentials Committee Chair and the FYD President no later than three days prior to the convening of the Convention.

Section 5.5.7. Credentials Committee final report. Upon the close of delegate registration, the Credentials Committee shall meet to decide the final vote allocation using the member lists, those registered and employing the distance formula. The Credentials Committee will submit the final report to the State Convention for adoption.

Section 5.5.8. Dues. Dues in the amount of \$50.00, or such other amount as determined by the State Committee, shall be due at the time of credential lists are submitted.

SECTION 5.6. Registration. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 5.7. Voting. The number of votes to which a Chapter is entitled shall be the greater of the number of votes calculated using the following two methods:

Section 5.7.1. Membership Formula. The number of votes shall be based on the following formula using Membership figures, as confirmed by the Credentials Committee:

- 005-050 – one member may represent two votes
- 051-150 – one member may represent three votes

151-250 – one member may represent four votes
251-350 – one member may represent five votes
351+ - one member may represent six votes

Section 5.7.2. Distance Ratio. The distance shall be the distance between the convention city and the county seat of the chapter's county. Online distance tools based on the Global Positioning System may be used to determine mileage. The latest Florida Department of Transportation mileage charts shall be the final basis of determining the mileage in the event of a dispute. The vote allocation formula is as follows:

0-50 miles--One member may represent one vote
51-125 miles--One member may represent one and one half votes
126-200 miles--One member may represent two votes
201-275 miles--One member may represent two and one half votes
275+ miles--One member may represent three votes

SECTION 5.8. Candidate Debates

Section 5.8.1. The current Executive Committee of the FYD shall sponsor a debate between any and all duly-declared candidates for contested offices on the Executive Committee for the upcoming calendar year and it shall be the responsibility of the host chapter, person or body to make the proper arrangements for said debate. Any and all duly-declared candidates in contested elections for the Executive Committee shall have the right, but not the obligation, to participate in said debate and all such candidates shall have equal time and opportunity to speak for themselves. Any dispute as to the conduct of said debate shall be appealed to the Judicial Council at Convention and any decision of said Judicial Council shall be final.

SECTION 5.9. Convention Quorum. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 5.10. Candidate Fundraising. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 5.11 National Conventions

Section 5.11.1 National Committee representatives. The National Committeewoman, National Committeeman, FYD President and any member of the FYD on the YDA Executive Committees shall be delegates.

Section 5.11.2 Remaining places. The remaining places will be distributed among the chapters, as evenly as possible, by a plurality vote of the FYD Executive Committee. No delegate may be chosen who is now forty-one (41) years of age or who would become forty-one (41) years of age before the time of the National Convention.

Section 5.11.3 Affirmative Action. All YDA Affirmative Action Rules and Guidelines shall apply to the selection of delegates.

Section 5.11.4 Voting. The FYD President, National Committeewoman, National Committeeman and any member of the FYD on the YDA Executive Committees shall have one vote. All other delegates shall have one vote or a proportional vote thereof.

SECTION 5.12 Special Conventions. Intentionally left blank.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE VI
ELECTED OFFICERS

SECTION 6.1 Elected officers. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 6.2 Elections

Section 6.2.1 Order. The order of elections shall be as follows: President, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary, National Committeewoman, and National Committeeman. The election of Region Directors shall follow the conclusion of the officer elections.

SECTION 6.3 Terms. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 6.4 Nominations

Section 6.4.1 Prior to Convention. Each person seeking elected office must declare for the position(s) in writing to the Credentials Committee Chair and the FYD President at least fourteen (14) days prior to the convening of the State Convention.

Section 6.4.2 Open if Empty. If no one has declared for a particular office in advance, the floor is automatically open for nominations.

Section 6.4.3 Nominations from Floor. Nominations for each office may be opened from the floor by a one-third (1/3) vote of the entire convention.

SECTION 6.5 Qualifications.

Section 6.5.1 Government regulations. No person shall hold office in the FYD who is prohibited from holding office in a political organization by any government regulation. If a FYD officer takes employment covered by such regulations, that officer's resignation from office takes effect upon commencement of such employment.

Section 6.5.2 Age limits. No person shall be a candidate for FYD President, National Committeeman, or National Committeewoman who is now thirty-six (36) years of age or who would become thirty-six (36) years of age during their term of office.

Section 6.5.3 Public office. Intentionally left blank.

Section 6.5.4. Number of positions held. Any individual FYD member may only hold a single elected voting office on the Executive Committee at any single time.

SECTION 6.6 Turnover of FYD Property.

Section 6.6.1 Timeframe. Officers shall turn over all FYD property to their successors within two (2) weeks of their successors' election.

Section 6.6.2 Documents. The documents belonging to the FYD and which are deemed to be property of the FYD, shall include, but not be limited to, the FYD checkbook, the funds contained in said checking account, checks and monies received from outside donors or sources, cancelled checks, deposit slips, bank statements, spread sheets and audit reports. Failure to turn over any and all such documents as required by this Section shall give rise to a legal cause of action to be addressed by the Executive Committee.

Section 6.6.3 Deposits. Any and all monies received by the Treasurer must be deposited in the checking account of the FYD within two (2) calendar weeks of receipt, regardless of dollar amount or the means of receipt. All deposits prior to deposit, must be verified by both the Treasurer and either the President of the FYD or another member of the FYD authorized by the President. Any fees incurred by the FYD as a result of failure to comply with this provision shall lead to the personal liability of the Treasurer and must be re-paid to the FYD checking account.

SECTION 6.7 Vacancy. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 6.8 Removal from Office. Intentionally left blank.

Section 6.8.1 Notice. Intentionally left blank.

Section 6.8.2 Cause. Intentionally left blank.

Section 6.8.3 Procedure. Intentionally left blank.

Section 6.8.4 Attendance. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 6.9 Duties

Section 6.9.1 President. The President shall preside at Executive Committee meetings and Annual and Special Conventions. The President shall have the power to appoint with the approval of the Executive Committee all appointed officers and all special committees deemed desirable for the operation of the FYD. The President shall serve as a member of the YDA National Committee. The President shall serve as an Ex-officio voting member of all FYD Committees. During each state convention during the President's term, he/she shall provide an Annual Report to the General Session of the convention. The President shall not vote unless it is to make or break a tie. The President shall perform all duties assigned by the FYD Executive Committee.

Section 6.9.2 Executive Vice President (EVP). The EVP shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the President and shall assume the office of President if it becomes vacant. In the event that there is no Chief Operating Officer, the EVP shall serve as the chair of the Convention Oversight Committee. If there is a Chief Operating Officer, that individual shall serve as chair of that Committee with the EVP serving as a member of the Convention Oversight Committee. The EVP shall serve as the chair of the Membership Committee. The EVP is responsible for coordinating Legislative and Political Programs as directed by the President. The EVP shall assist the President in the execution of his/her duties. The EVP shall provide a report at every Executive Committee meeting of his/her activities since the previous Executive Committee meeting. The Executive Vice President or the Secretary must be of the opposite gender of the President.

Section 6.9.3 Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The CFO shall aid in the coordination of all financial matters pertaining to the raising and disbursement of FYD funds. The CFO, together with the President and Treasurer, shall prepare a budget prior to June 1 for submission to the FYD Executive Committee. The CFO shall serve on the convention oversight committee. The CFO, in coordination with the President, shall be responsible for the execution of not less than two (2) fundraisers during his/her term of office. The CFO shall serve as an Ex-officio voting member of the Finance Committee. The CFO shall provide a report at every Executive Committee meeting of his/her activities since the previous Executive Committee meeting. The CFO shall also be responsible for overseeing the duties of the Treasurer.

Section 6.9.4 Secretary. The Secretary shall record and preserve minutes of the Executive Committee meetings and all conventions. The Secretary shall make the minutes available within ten (10) days following the event via email or other electronic means (or regular mail if requested) to all Executive Committee members, elected and appointed, and all chapter presidents or designate. The Secretary shall see that the Executive Committee approves the minutes. The Secretary shall keep records of meeting place and times and shall handle all correspondence as assigned by the President or Executive Committee. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping a file of all Convention Programs. The Secretary shall transmit the minutes of each Executive Committee meeting to the Communications Director within ten (10) days of the meeting for distribution via email or other means to members of the Executive Committee and representatives of each chapter. The Secretary shall further oversee the Communications Committee and all of its activities.

Section 6.9.6 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be in charge of collecting dues from At-Large Members and annual dues from Chapters. The Treasurer shall have custody of all FYD funds and shall report at each meeting of the Executive Committee and at the State Convention on the amount of funds in the FYD treasury, debts outstanding, deposits received, and any expenditures made since the last report. If the Treasurer is unable to attend a meeting of the Executive Committee, he/she shall submit a written and detailed report no less than two (2) days prior to the meeting to

the President and CFO. Such report shall be read to the Executive Committee at that meeting. The Treasurer shall be a voting, Ex-officio member of the Finance Committee.

Section 6.9.7 National Committee. The National Committeewoman and National Committeeman shall represent the FYD at all YDA functions and shall report YDA activities and information to the FYD Executive Committee for discussion and input.

Section 6.9.8 Region Directors. The Region Directors shall be responsible for helping establish, maintain, and grow chapters within their respective regions under the direction of the Executive Vice President and in accordance with the Membership Plan. Region Directors shall keep in close contact with chapters in their respective regions keeping them apprised of state-level activities and providing feedback to the FYD Executive Committee of ongoing needs of chapters in their region. Region Directors shall provide a report at every Executive Committee meeting of their activities since the previous Executive Committee meeting.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE VII
APPOINTED OFFICERS

SECTION 7 Appointed Officers. The Appointed Officers of the FYD are the Treasurer, Chief Operating Officer, Political Director, Communications Director, Parliamentarian, Press Secretary, and Webmaster. Additional Appointed Officers may be appointed by the President as necessary, subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 7.1 Voting

Section 7.1.1. These appointed officers shall serve on the FYD Executive Committee as non-voting members.

SECTION 7.2 Confirmation

Section 7.2.1. The Appointed Officers shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee by majority vote following notification. If the President does not name appointments for each of the Appointed Officers by the second regular Executive Committee meeting, the Executive Committee shall endeavor to make and approve any such appointments that the President has not yet made.

SECTION 7.3 Qualifications

Section 7.3.1. Appointed officers must meet the same qualification requirements as the Elected Officers (see SECTION 6.5).

SECTION 7.4 Turnover

Section 7.4.1. Appointed Officers shall turn over all FYD property to their successors in the same way as the Elected Officers (see SECTION 6.6, replacing “elected” with “appointed” as appropriate).

SECTION 7.5 Vacancy

Section 7.5.1. In the event of a vacancy in an appointed office, the position shall be filled in the manner described in the Charter.

SECTION 7.6 Removal

Section 7.6.1. Upon written recommendation of the President, the Executive Committee by one third (1/3) vote shall remove any appointed officer.

SECTION 7.7 Duties

Section 7.7.1 Political Director. The Political Director of the FYD shall be responsible for maintaining any legislative internship program and shall be a liaison to the Florida Legislature and advocacy groups under the direction of the Executive Vice President. The Political Director shall provide a report at every Executive Committee meeting of his/her activities since the previous Executive Committee meeting. The Political Director shall also be responsible for preparing and enacting the FYD Legislative Plan.

Section 7.7.2 Communications Director. The Communications Director shall be the point person on external communications, be responsible for the creation, publication, and distribution of the FYD newsletter in coordination with the Secretary and any other external publications, and materials for use by the state and local chapters. The Communications Director shall also work with the Executive Committee to produce communication materials that compliment the organization's efforts including literature, template press releases and advisories and talking points. The Communications Director shall provide a report at every Executive Committee meeting of his/her activities since the previous Executive Committee meeting.

Section 7.7.3 Parliamentarian. The Parliamentarian shall assist the Executive Committee, its committees and its members in their compliance with this charter and all other charters under which the FYD operates and will assist in drafting legislative proposals. The Parliamentarian shall also assist the Executive Committee and its committees with respect to matters of parliamentary procedure.

Section 7.7.4 Press Secretary. The Press Secretary shall be responsible for issuing press releases for the organization, in conjunction with FYD Staff and under the direction of the Secretary and Communications Director, coordinating the sending of letters to publications on behalf of the organization, and serving as a media liaison for the organization with the Chief Operating Officer. The Press Secretary shall provide a report at every Executive Committee meeting of his/her activities since the previous Executive Committee meeting.

Section 7.7.5 Webmaster. The Webmaster shall be responsible for maintaining, updating, and developing the Florida Young Democrats website and general web presence. The Webmaster shall also be responsible for regularly updating social media outlets such as Facebook and Twitter with important information, as directed by the Communications Director and Secretary.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE VIII
EX-OFFICIO OFFICERS

SECTION 8.1 Ex-Officio Officers. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 8.2 Voting

Section 8.2.1. Ex-Officio Officers have the right to vote if active members in the FYD, as defined in the Charter. However, Ex-Officio Officers do not count toward quorum.

SECTION 8.3 President Emeritus

Section 8.3.1. The President Emeritus shall serve a term equal to that of his/her immediate successor. If the President Emeritus was removed from office, he/she forfeits the right to serve as an Ex-Officio Officer.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE IX
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 9.1 Composition. Intentionally left blank.

Section 9.1.1. Voting Members. Intentionally left blank.

Section 9.1.2. Regions.

The five (5) regions of Florida shall be defined as follows:

Section 9.1.2 (a). Northwest Florida Region shall be composed of the counties of Alachua, Bay, Calhoun, Columbia, Dixie, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hamilton, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Suwanee, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton and Washington.

Section 9.1.2 (b). Northeast Florida Region shall be composed of the counties of Baker, Bradford, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Lake, Marion, Nassau, Putnam, St Johns, Sumter, Union, and Volusia.

Section 9.1.2 (c). Tampa Bay Region shall be composed of the counties of Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, and Sarasota.

Section 9.1.2 (d). South Central Florida Region shall be composed of the counties of Brevard, Charlotte, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Indian River, Lee, Martin, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Seminole, and St Lucie.

Section 9.1.2(e). South Florida Region shall be composed of the counties of Broward, Collier, Miami- Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach.

SECTION 9.2 Voting. Intentionally left blank.

Section 9.2.1. Electronic Voting. The proposed resolution must be supported by at least three members of the Executive Committee, including the person making the motion, and shall be voted upon by e-mail. All members of the Executive Committee are required to maintain an e-mail account and to provide the Secretary with their current e-mail address. The Secretary shall send the proposed resolution by e-mail to each member of the Executive Committee. The subject heading of the e-mail shall state "FYD Exec Urgent Electronic Vote" or similar wording. In the e-mail, the Secretary shall clearly specify the numbers of votes necessary for the resolution to pass, and when the voting period begins and ends. Voting on the resolution shall begin immediately after the Secretary sends the resolution by e-mail to each member of the Executive Committee. Members of the Executive Committee shall have 48 hours to vote in favor or against the resolution. Amendments shall not be considered. Each member of the Executive Committee shall vote only one time in the 48 hour period permitted for voting. Passage of the resolution shall require at least an absolute majority of the Executive Committee voting in favor of the resolution, not just a majority of those casting votes. Members of the Executive Committee shall send their votes by e-mail to the Secretary with copies to all of the other members of the Executive Committee. The e-mail message must clearly indicate whether the vote is in favor or against the resolution. Within 24 hours of the close of voting, the Secretary shall send the results of the vote by e-mail to all members of the Executive Committee. The resolution and copies of the votes of the members of the Executive Committee shall be maintained by the Secretary and filed with the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 9.3 Meetings.

Section 9.3.1 Gavel Order. In the absence of the President and the EVP, the gavel order shall be set by the order in which the elected officers were elected at State Convention. In the absence of all elected officers, the Executive Committee members present shall elect a chair.

SECTION 9.4 Authority. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 9.5 Special Meetings. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 9.6 Rules of Order. Intentionally left blank.

Section 9.6.1. The FYD Executive Committee has the power to adopt Special Rules of Order and Standing Rules for Executive Committee meetings and activities.

SECTION 9.7 Quorum

Section 9.7.1. The quorum for the Florida Young Democrats Executive Committee shall constitute at least five (5) members.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE X
STATE COMMITTEE

SECTION 10.1 Composition. Intentionally left blank.

Section 10.1.1. Voting Members. Intentionally left blank.

Section 10.1.2. Non-Voting Members. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 10.2 Voting. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 10.3 Meetings. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 10.4 Authority. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 10.5 Special Meetings. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 10.6 Rules of Order. Intentionally left blank.

Section 9.6.1. The FYD State Committee has the power to adopt Special Rules of Order and Standing Rules for State Committee meetings and activities.

SECTION 9.7 Quorum

Section 9.7.1. The quorum for the Florida Young Democrats State Committee shall constitute representatives of at least five (5) chartered chapters.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XI
COMMITTEES

SECTION 11.1 Types. There shall be three types of committees: Standing, Convention, and Special.

SECTION 11.2 Standing Committees

Section 11.2.1. Standing Committees shall be Campaign, Charter and Bylaws, Platform, Membership, and Budget and Finance. Standing Committees shall be chaired by a member of the FYD appointed by the President subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. Standing Committees shall meet at the call of the Chair and in a manner defined by the chair. Each chartered chapter is eligible to have one (1) voting representative on each Standing Committee.

Section 11.2.2 Standing Committee on Campaign. The Standing Committee on Campaign shall meet at the call of its Chair and shall be responsible for the development, implementation, and submission to the Executive Committee for approval of a state campaign plan and shall assist in the development and implementation of individual campaign plans for each chartered chapter upon request. The Political Director shall serve as Chair of the Campaign Committee.

Section 11.2.3 Standing Committee on Charter and By-laws. The Standing Committee on Charter and By-Laws shall meet at the call of its Chair or the FYD President and shall review and recommend the adoption or deletion of rules governing the Executive Committee and/or amendments to this Charter and Bylaws. No rule change, Charter amendment or Bylaw amendment shall be submitted to the Executive Committee until it has been favorably reported out of this committee.

Section 11.2.4 Standing Committee on Platform. The Standing Committee on Platform shall plan and execute a bi-annual Platform convention to recommend to the State Convention a Platform for the FYD and shall consider any proper plank proposals submitted. A proper platform proposal is a statement of general principle that is generally timeless. Proposals that express support or opposition to a current piece of legislation, reference a specific person, provide a statement of gratitude for service, or sorrow about a specific death are out of order at Platform convention and should be referred the Resolutions Committee at State Convention.

Section 11.2.5 Standing Committee on Membership. The Standing Committee on Membership shall meet at call of its Chair and shall be responsible for the design, coordination, and implementation of state membership projects. The Committee shall be responsible for review, modification, implementation and submission to the Executive Committee for approval of the State Membership Plan. The Committee shall work with the officers, staff, and consultants engaged in fundraising on behalf of the FYD to effectively oversee these programs and ensure their successful implementation. The Standing Committee on Membership shall be overseen directly by the Executive Vice President.

Section 11.2.6 Standing Committee on Budget and Finance. The Standing Committee on Budget and Finance shall meet at the call of its Chair and shall be responsible for the design, coordination and implementation of state fundraising projects. The Committee shall be responsible for review, modification, implementation and submission to the Executive Committee for approval of the State Fundraising Plan. The Committee shall work with the officers, staff, and consultants engaged in fundraising on behalf of the FYD to effectively oversee these programs and ensure their successful implementation. The Standing Committee on Budget and Finance shall also draw up a budget to be presented for approval at the second Executive Committee meeting after the State Convention closes and before June 1 of that same calendar year. At this Executive Meeting, a balanced and final budget draft of the budget for the next YD fiscal year must be approved for recommendation to the State Committee. If the budget is not recommended by the adjournment of the second Executive Committee meeting following the closing of the state convention, then no money shall be appropriated from the FYD treasury except to resolve the debts outstanding until a budget is recommended. The Standing Committee on Budget and Finance shall be overseen directly by the Executive Vice President and President.

Section 11.2.7 Officers of Standing Committees. The President, within ninety (90) days of assuming office, shall appoint a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary for each Standing Committee. Standing Committee Chairs shall serve at the pleasure of the President conterminously with the appointing administration. Vice Chairs of Standing Committees shall preside at meetings in the absence of the Chair but not succeed in the event of the Chair's death, resignation, or removal.

Section 11.2.8 Voting in Standing Committees. Although a specific individual should be certified in writing to represent each chartered chapter in each Standing Committee, any unit member present may represent and cast the vote of his or her unit in any meeting of a Standing Committee when the certified representative is not present. The officers of the Standing Committee shall not be entitled to a vote because of their position as an officer. However, the Vice Chair and Secretary may cast the vote of the unit they represent provided they are not serving in the capacity of Chair at the time of the vote.

Section 11.2.9 Duties of Standing Committee Chairs. The Chair of each Standing Committee shall present a report to each meeting of the Executive Committee as to matters being reported out of committee for consideration by the Executive Committee. This report shall be in writing and, where feasible, copies should be distributed to all Executive Committee members.

SECTION 11.3 Convention Committees

Section 11.3.1. Convention Committees shall be Awards, Endorsement, Credentials, Rules, and Resolutions.

Section 11.3.2. The President shall appoint with approval of the Executive Committee the chairs, vice chairs, and secretaries of all Convention Committees.

Section 11.3.3. All Convention Committees shall be composed of a chair, vice chair, secretary and one representative from each chapter.

Section 11.3.4. Committee vacancies, other than the Chair, Vice Chair, or Secretary of any committee, shall be filled by appointment of the chapter president.

Section 11.3.5. The Awards committee shall be authorized to grant Honorary Memberships. Nominations for Honorary Membership may be submitted to the Awards Chair up to thirty (30) days prior to the State Convention. Recipients will be announced at the State Convention.

SECTION 11.3.6. Endorsement Committee.

Section 11.3.6.1. The Endorsement Committee shall be chaired by the President, shall be Vice Chaired by the Executive Vice President and consist of the Secretary and each Region Director.

Section 11.3.6.2. The duties of the Endorsement Committee shall be to conduct interviews, prepare and review questionnaires, research candidates, and perform any other tasks necessary to evaluate Democratic candidates for public office.

Section 11.3.6.3. In an uncontested primary, a recommendation from the Endorsement Committee to endorse shall require a simple majority of the members of the Committee.

Section 11.3.6.4. In a contested primary, a recommendation from the Endorsement Committee to endorse shall require a 2/3rds majority of the members of the Committee.

- a. In the case of non-statewide candidates, the regional director(s) from the district in which the candidate has filed must be in the majority vote in order for the recommendation to pass.

Section 11.3.6.5. The Endorsement Committee shall meet at least 30 days prior to the state convention during each calendar year.

- a. The Committee shall prepare a preliminary report of their activities, including recommendations for endorsement, and shall present the report for review at the state convention.
- b. The preliminary report may only include recommendations for endorsement of those individuals who have actively sought the endorsement of our organization. This policy may be waived in extreme circumstances at the discretion of the Endorsement Committee chair.
- c. The State Committee shall review the preliminary report as soon as possible after submission and shall consider the recommendations for endorsement contained within that report.
- d. No endorsement shall be made prior to the filing deadline for that election.

Section 11.3.6.6. The Endorsement Committee shall be empowered to meet at the call of the Chair after the State Convention to consider additional endorsements.

- a. A final report, including all recommendations relating to endorsements by the organization, shall be prepared and submitted to the State Committee for review no later than two weeks after the primary each year.
- b. Following the submission of the final report, the Endorsement Committee shall adjourn until the following calendar year.

Section 11.3.6.7. Any recommendation by the Endorsement Committee shall be approved by the State Committee upon a 2/3rd vote. No endorsement shall be issued on behalf of the organization except upon recommendation by the Endorsement Committee and approval by the State Committee.

Section 11.3.6.8. The State Committee shall be empowered to withdraw any endorsement issued upon a 3/4ths majority vote by the State Committee.

Section 11.3.6.9. Upon the issuance of an endorsement by the State Committee, a letter shall be sent to the candidate endorsed that shall be signed by the President and the Executive Vice President to certify our endorsement.

Section 11.3.6.10. Each chartered county shall have the authority to endorse or not endorse candidates as determined by their own governing documents. County Chapters may only endorse in local election within their own borders.

Section 11.3.6.11. Quorum shall constitute 2/3rd + 1 of the members of the Endorsement Committee.

Section 11.3.6.12. Tier System for Partisan and Nonpartisan Races

The Florida Young Democrats shall rank all partisan and nonpartisan races that it decides to consider making an endorsement in into three (3) tiers. The tiers are as follows: Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3.

a. Endorsement Tier Determination

The FYD Endorsement Committee shall determine what tier a race is. The Florida Young Democrats Endorsement Committee shall decide tier determination with a simple majority vote. The Executive Committee shall approve this determination by a simple majority vote of members present. The tier in which a race is considered can be altered by the Executive Committee upon a simple majority vote.

b. Endorsement in Races Classified as Tier 1

Any candidate who receives an endorsement from FYD in a race that is classified as Tier 1 is entitled to state that they are endorsed by the “Florida Young Democrats” or “FYD” and may use the same in their campaign literature, website, or other public media. The Florida Young Democrats may provide financial support, volunteer campaign assistance, and inclusion in FYD activities to any endorsed candidates in races classified as Tier 1.

c. Endorsement in Races Classified as Tier 2

Any candidate who receives an endorsement from FYD in a race that is classified as Tier 2 is entitled to state that they are endorsed by the “Florida Young Democrats” or “FYD” and may use the same in their campaign literature, website, or other public media. The Florida Young Democrats may provide volunteer campaign assistance, and inclusion in FYD activities to any endorsed candidates in races classified as Tier 2. The Florida Young Democrats will not provide financial support to any endorsed candidates in races classified as Tier 2.

d. Endorsement in Races Classified as Tier 3

Any candidate who receives an endorsement from FYD in a race that is classified as Tier 3 is entitled to state that they are endorsed by the “Florida Young Democrats” or “FYD” and may use the same in their campaign literature, website, or other public media. FYD may include endorsed candidates in FYD activities. The Florida Young Democrats will not provide financial support or volunteer campaign assistance in races classified as Tier 3.

Section 11.3.6.13. Conflicts of Interest

Any endorsement committee member must state any involvement with a particular candidate or campaign at the time of a consideration of endorsement for that candidate or campaign. Endorsement committee members who are candidates or paid staff of a campaign at the time of consideration will be allowed to participate in screenings and discussions but will not be allowed to vote on recommending the candidate for endorsement and will have their vote counted as an abstention. The abstention will not count against the total vote for endorsement.

SECTION 11.4 Special Committees

Section 11.4.1 The FYD President shall have the power to appoint with the approval of the Executive Committee any Special Committee (and its members) deemed necessary for the operation of the FYD. As soon as the Special Committee presents its final report, the Special Committee is automatically dismissed.

Section 11.4.2 Vacancies in Special Committees are filled by appointment by the President.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XII
FINANCES

SECTION 12.1 Fiscal year. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 12.2 Budget and Finance Committee

Section 12.2.1 Membership. Intentionally left blank

Section 12.2.2 Budget. Intentionally left blank

SECTION 12.3 Financial authority. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 12.4 Spending Limits. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 12.5 Audits. Intentionally left blank.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XIII
JUDICIAL COUNCIL

SECTION 13.1 Judicial Power. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 13.2 Review

Section 13.2.1. In order for the Judicial Council to review an issue, a forty percent (40%) vote of the Executive Committee present requesting such a review shall be required, unless the convention is in session, in which case a forty percent (40%) vote of the members of credentialed chapters shall be required.

SECTION 13.3 Composition. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 13.4 Quorum

Section 13.4.1. Quorum for the Judicial Council shall be five (5) members at least one of whom must include the Parliamentarian.

SECTION 13.5 Rules

Section 13.5.1. The Judicial Council shall set the rules by which it deliberates and is governed.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XIV
DISCIPLINE

SECTION 14.1 Member Expulsion

Section 14.1.1 Expulsion. Any member may be expelled by their chapter in accordance with the chapter's bylaws.

SECTION 14.2 Chapter Expulsion

Section 14.2.1 Expulsion. To expel a chapter for cause or for violation of the FYD Charter and Bylaws requires a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the State Committee.

Section 14.2.2 Appeal. The Chapter may appeal this decision at the next State Committee meeting. A two-third (2/3) vote of the State Committee is required to reverse the expulsion.

Section 14.2.3 Unified Appeal. This option shall consist of a comprehensive unified appeal and may only be utilized once.

SECTION 14.3 Officer Removal. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 14.4 At-Large Expulsion. An at-large member of FYD may be expelled in the same way as a chapter may be expelled (see Section 14.2).

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XV
STAFF

SECTION 15.1 Employees and Contractors

Section 15.1.1. Chief Operating Officer. The Chief Operating Officer, if any, shall serve as the administrator of the state office of the FYD. The Chief Operating Officer shall work under the day-to-day supervision of the President and shall be responsible for supervising staff and contractors and implementing programs and projects as assigned by the President and the Executive Committee. The Chief Operating Officer shall serve as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee and oversee the execution of all duties assigned to any Standing, Convention, or Special Committee.

Section 15.1.2. Other Staff and Contractors. Other staff and contractors shall be hired as necessary and as provided for in the budget to fulfill programs and projects as assigned by the President and the Executive Committee. These staff and contractors shall work under the day-to-day supervision of the Executive Director or an officer or staff member designated by the Executive Director.

Section 15.1.3. Employment, Contracting and Human Resources. The Executive Committee shall establish written policies and processes for all matters relating to hiring, bidding, managing and terminating of employees or contractors, specifically providing for the fair and equal opportunity of employment, evaluation and treatment of all employees and contractors.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XVI
AMENDMENTS

SECTION 16.1 Charter Timeline. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 16.2 Charter Adoption. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 16.3 Bylaws timeline

Section 16.3.1 Charter Amendments. Intentionally left blank.

Section 16.3.2 Executive Committee. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 16.4 Bylaws Adoption

Section 16.4.1 Charter Amendments. Intentionally left blank.

Section 16.4.2 Executive Committee. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 16.5 Bylaws Duration. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 16.6 Bylaws power. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 16.7 Chapter Ratification of a Charter Amendment. Intentionally left blank.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XVII
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Intentionally left blank.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XVIII
DISSOLUTION

SECTION 18.1 Chapter Dissolution. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 18.2 FYD Dissolution. Intentionally left blank.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XIX
APPENDIX

SECTION 19.1 Voting. Intentionally left blank.