

Section 1: Grounds for Removal

Officers of the State Central Committee or the County Central Committees may be removed from office only for cause. "Cause" shall be defined as conduct that materially and adversely affects the integrity, reputation, or effective functioning of the Party. These removal provisions of the bylaws shall govern removal of officers of both the State Central Committee and the County Central Committees.

Examples of cause include, but are not limited to:

- a. Willful misconduct or illegal activity in the performance of official duties.
- b. Persistent failure to perform the responsibilities of the office.
- c. Misuse or misappropriation of Party funds or resources.
- d. Repeated or egregious breaches of the Party's bylaws or platform.
- e. Actions that bring disrepute to the Party or undermine its mission.
- f. Failure to disclose or appropriately manage personal interests that conflict with Party duties.

Request for Removal:

Calling a meeting for removal:

At least 20% of the organized Counties of the State Central Committee, or 20% of the full membership of a County Central Committee shall make a request in writing, filed with the Secretary of the State Central Committee or County Central Committee where removal is sought. The request shall state the grounds for such removal. The duty of the State or County Secretary shall be to send notice out to the entire State Central Committee, or County Central Committee by mail or email.

Section 2: Due Process

No officer shall be removed without being afforded full and fair due process, which shall include:

- A. Convening a minimum of two-thirds (2/3) of the full governing body of the State or County Central Committee in person. Because of travel expenses for State Central Committee members who may have to travel half way across the State, a commitment by RSVP of two-thirds of the State Central Committee to attend a meeting in person is required before a meeting can be scheduled.
- B. A detailed statement of the alleged charges and grounds for removal, sent from the Secretary of the body by mail, or email, to the officer who is the subject of the removal request and all State or County Central Committee members at least 30 days prior to any hearing and/or vote.
- C. The officer shall have the right to submit a written response and/or appear before the State or County Central Committee to address the charges. They may have any advocate or legal representative at their own expense.

D. A formal hearing shall be conducted by the State Central Committee for State officers or the County Central Committee for County officers, with procedures ensuring fairness and impartiality. Such meeting shall be closed to the public. If the officer sought to be removed is the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall preside. For all other officers who may be the subject of removal, the Chair shall preside.

E. Only members of the central committee may be present for the hearing and voting. A written or audio record of the proceedings shall be maintained by the Secretary or their proxy.

F. Both sides may present evidence and make arguments on removal for cause at the meeting.

Section 3: Voting Requirement

Following the conclusion of the due process procedures, a vote to remove an officer shall require:

A. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full membership from the governing body authorized to elect or appoint the officer. If only two-thirds (2/3) of the full body is convened and voting (minimum requirement), the vote must be unanimous to represent two-thirds (2/3) of the full membership of the governing body.

B. The vote on removal shall be conducted by secret ballot.

C. The thresholds of this process are high enough that there are no appeals on the decisions made.