



NEVADA FORWARD PARTY BYLAWS

PREAMBLE

The Nevada Forward Party recognizes that the political duopoly affecting our system at large is a negative force within the daily lives of the people and lawmakers of this country and the State of Nevada, and that the solution is neither through a right-wing nor left-wing approach, but a forward-thinking and open tent policy that unites all spectrums of creed, religion, and race under a unified banner for the purposes of benefiting the political system and disbanding the monopoly on political power. To that end, the Nevada Forward Party is committed to breaking the political duopoly held by the Democratic and Republican parties.

ARTICLE 1 THE NEVADA FORWARD PARTY

- 1.1 The Nevada Forward Party shall be known as the Forward Party.
- 1.2 The Nevada Forward Party shall be governed by the Executive Committee as provided herein.
- 1.3 The purpose of the Nevada Forward Party shall be, in a manner consistent with applicable law, to:
 - (A) Achieve the status of a minor political party with ballot access in the State of Nevada and then achieve the status of a major political party in the State of Nevada;
 - (B) Assist in the election of local, state, and national candidates for public elective office in the State of Nevada;
 - (C) Adopt and support policies and educate voters in the State of Nevada;
 - (D) Assist local Forward Party organizations in the State of Nevada; and
 - (E) Establish standards and rules of procedure to afford all members full and equal opportunities to participate in the affairs of the Nevada Forward Party.
- 1.4 The Nevada Forward Party shall be organized and operated at all times in a manner that is consistent with applicable law and any agreement entered into between the Nevada Forward Party and the national Forward Party. If there is any conflict between an agreement entered into between the Nevada Forward Party and the national Forward Party, applicable law shall control but the remainder of the agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

ARTICLE 2 MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING

- 2.1 The Nevada Forward Party shall be open to all persons residing in the State of Nevada who desire to support the Forward Party and ascribe to its principles.

- 2.2 Any person who is eligible and duly registered to vote in Nevada may participate in the State Convention and vote for candidates for partisan public elective office seeking the nomination of the Nevada Forward Party regardless of the person's political party affiliation or lack thereof
- 2.3 In order to be an "Affiliated Member" of the Nevada Forward Party, an individual must be eligible and duly registered to vote in Nevada and affiliated with the Nevada Forward Party as indicated on their most recently-submitted voter registration application
- 2.4 To the extent practicable and as allowed by law, all elections held by the Nevada Forward Party provided for in these Bylaws shall be conducted using ranked choice voting, star voting, approval voting, or other instant or multiple run-off system that allows each person entitled to vote to express support for more than one candidate rather than restricting them to expressing support for only one candidate.

ARTICLE 3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The Executive Committee shall consist of no fewer than five (5) members, including a Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer serving as members of the Executive Committee *ex officio*.
- 3.2 The initial Executive Committee shall consist of Kee Choi, Valessa Nantona, Cesar Marquez (*ex officio*), Benjamin Pennington (*ex officio*), and Mario Arias (*ex officio*), who shall serve until the first State Convention held in 2024 or until their earlier death, resignation, or removal.
- 3.3 Additional members may be added to the initial Executive Committee by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Executive Committee members then in office.
- 3.4 Beginning at the State Convention held in 2024, members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at the State Convention by the Affiliated Members as provided in these Bylaws.
- 3.5 In order to be eligible to be elected or otherwise selected to serve on the Executive Committee, except in the case of initial members of the Executive Committee and *ex officio* members, an individual must be and must have been an Affiliated Member of the Nevada Forward Party for at least 120 consecutive days immediately preceding their election or selection.

- 3.6 Each member of the Executive Committee holds office until their successor has been duly elected and qualified or until their earlier death, resignation, or removal.
- 3.7 Executive Committee members may serve an indefinite number of terms.
- 3.8 An Executive Committee member may resign at any time by giving written notice of their resignation to the Executive Committee, Chair, or Secretary.
- 3.9 An Executive Committee member may be removed, with or without cause, by a two-thirds vote of the entire Executive Committee or by a two-thirds vote of the Affiliated Members.
- 3.10 Vacancies on the Executive Committee resulting from the death, resignation, or removal of an Executive Committee member or an increase in the authorized number of Executive Committee members may be filled by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Executive Committee members then in office.
- 3.11 The Executive Committee shall:
 - (A) Supervise, manage, and support all of the lawful activities of the Nevada Forward Party;
 - (B) Act by majority vote of the Executive Committee members present at a meeting at which a majority of the Executive Committee members then in office are present except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws;
 - (C) Ensure that the Nevada Forward Party operates in compliance with applicable laws, these Bylaws, and any agreement entered into with the national Forward Party; and
 - (D) Fill any vacancy that occurs in a nomination for a partisan public elective office.

ARTICLE 4 OFFICERS

- 4.1 The officers of the Nevada Forward Party are a Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- 4.2 The officers shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.

- 4.3 The initial officers are Cesar Marquez (Chair), Benjamin Pennington (Secretary), and Mario Arias (Treasurer), who shall serve until the first State Convention held in 2024 or until their earlier death, resignation, or removal.
- 4.4 In order to be eligible to be appointed to an officer position, except in the case of initial officers, an individual must be and must have been an Affiliated Member of the Nevada Forward Party for at least 120 consecutive days immediately preceding their appointment.
- 4.5 The term of office of all officers is two years, except that the initial officers shall serve until the first State Convention held in 2024 or until their earlier death, resignation, or removal.
- 4.6 Officers may serve an indefinite number of terms.
- 4.7 An officer may resign at any time by giving written notice of their resignation to the Executive Committee, Chair, or Secretary.
- 4.8 An officer may be removed, with or without cause, by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee.
- 4.9 A vacancy in any officer position must be filled by the Executive Committee as soon as practicable.
- 4.10 **Chair.**
- (A) The Chair shall:
- (i) Assist in conducting the affairs of the Nevada Forward Party, subject to the direction and control of the Executive Committee, and shall see that the resolutions and directives of the Executive Committee are carried into effect;
 - (ii) Preside over meetings of the Executive Committee unless the duty to preside has been assigned to another individual by the Executive Committee;
 - (iii) Preside over the State Convention unless the duty to preside has been assigned to another individual by the Executive Committee;

- (iv) Ensure that a current Certificate of Existence is properly maintained on file with the Nevada Secretary of State at all times;
- (v) Ensure that any required Notice of Continued Existence is properly filed in a timely manner with the Nevada Secretary of State;
- (vi) Ensure that a list of the Nevada Forward Party's nominated candidates is properly filed with the Nevada Secretary of State in a timely manner;
- (vii) Execute on behalf of the Nevada Forward Party any contracts or other instruments which the Executive Committee has authorized to be executed; and
- (viii) Perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee.

4.11 Secretary.

- (A) The Secretary shall:
 - (i) Attend all meetings of the Executive Committee and record all votes and the minutes of all proceedings; and
 - (ii) Perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee.

4.12 Treasurer.

- (A) The Treasurer shall:
 - (i) Have custody of the funds, if any, of the Nevada Forward Party;
 - (ii) Keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in financial books of the Nevada Forward Party;
 - (iii) Deposit all monies and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the Nevada Forward Party in such banks or depositories as are designated by the Executive Committee;

- (iv) Disburse funds in furtherance of the purposes of the Nevada Forward Party as prescribed by the Executive Committee;
- (v) Provide to the Chair and to the Executive Committee an account of all of the transactions and of the financial condition of the Nevada Forward Party whenever they request it;
- (vi) Ensure compliance with federal and Nevada campaign finance laws, including any registration and reporting requirements; and
- (vii) Perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 5 STATE CONVENTION AND MEETINGS

- 5.1 The Nevada Forward Party shall hold a State Convention in each even-numbered year beginning in 2024.
- 5.2 The date, time, and location of the State Convention shall be determined by the Executive Committee and shall be announced to the public, including by publicizing the date, time, and location on the Nevada Forward Party's website and on its social media account(s), no later than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the State Convention.
- 5.3 The agenda for the State Convention shall be published by the Executive Committee no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the State Convention on the Nevada Forward Party's website and on its social media account(s). Any change to the agenda for the State Convention made in the fourteen (14) days preceding the Convention must be either approved by at least two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee or a majority vote of the Affiliated Members in attendance at the State Convention.
- 5.4 To the extent practicable, the Executive Committee shall make all public proceedings of the State Convention accessible and available to the general public, including by livestreaming such proceedings online. To the extent practicable, all public proceedings of the State Convention shall also be recorded in audio and video format and such recordings shall be made available on a Nevada Forward Party website or social media account(s).
- 5.5 The purpose of the State Convention shall be to:

- (A) Nominate candidates for partisan public elective office in the State of Nevada;
 - (B) Elect members of the Executive Committee;
 - (C) Adopt and revise a party platform;
 - (D) Elect delegates to any national convention held by the national Forward Party;
 - (E) Consider amendments to these Bylaws;
 - (F) Consider such other lawful business upon a motion and a majority vote of the Affiliated Members in attendance; and
 - (G) Conduct such other lawful business as the Executive Committee deems appropriate.
- 5.6 The Nevada Forward Party may hold additional meetings on such dates, times, and at such locations and for such lawful purposes as determined by the Executive Committee.
- 5.7 (A) A member of the executive board may appoint a proxy to attend and vote on their behalf at any executive board meeting.
- (B) The proxy must be a member of the Nevada Forward Party and shall be authorized to act on behalf of the absent member only for the specific meeting for which the proxy is designated.
- (C) The appointment of a proxy shall be made in writing and delivered to the board secretary prior to the commencement of the meeting. The proxy appointment shall include the name of the absent member only for the specific meeting for which the proxy is designated.
- (D) A member may not serve as a proxy for more than one absent member at the same executive board meeting.
- (E) Proxy voting shall not be permitted for elections or removal of executive board officers or any matters requiring a secret ballot.

- 5.8 The Executive Committee shall hold a meeting of the Affiliated Members of the Nevada Forward Party within thirty (30) days) if the Chairman, Secretary, or the Executive Committee receives a request in writing signed by at least one hundred (100) Affiliated Members.
- 5.9 In the absence of other provisions, American Institute of Parliamentarians' The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, 2012 edition, as most recently revised, shall govern the conduct of all Nevada Forward Party meetings and the State Convention.

ARTICLE 6 NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

- 6.1 In order to be eligible to be nominated or selected as a nominee for partisan public elective office by the Nevada Forward Party at a State Convention or in any other nomination or selection process, an individual must be eligible to hold the office which they seek and must be eligible and duly registered to vote in Nevada and affiliated with the Nevada Forward Party as indicated on their most recently-submitted voter registration application. This requirement shall not apply to any candidate for President or Vice President of the United States.
- 6.2 Candidates for partisan public elective office shall be nominated at the State Convention held in even-numbered years beginning in 2024 by those individuals in attendance eligible to vote for that candidate in the general election if they become the nominee. Such individuals may vote regardless of their affiliation or lack thereof with the Nevada Forward Party.
- 6.3 The nomination of candidates for partisan public elective office shall be conducted in such a manner that only one candidate may be nominated for each office.
- 6.4 If only one candidate seeks the Nevada Forward Party's nomination for a partisan public elective office, that person shall be nominated upon a majority vote of those in attendance eligible to vote for that candidate in the general election if they become the nominee.

ARTICLE 7 NATIONAL DELEGATES

- 7.1 In order to be eligible to be elected or otherwise selected as a delegate to any national convention held by the national Forward Party at a State Convention or in any other selection process, an individual must be an Affiliated Member.

- 7.2 Vacancies in national delegate positions may be filled by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Executive Committee members then in office.

ARTICLE 8 AMENDMENT

- 8.1 These Bylaws, including the name of the Nevada Forward Party, may be amended by either the affirmative vote of a majority of all members of the Executive Committee or by a majority vote of the Affiliated Members at a State Convention.
- 8.2 If these Bylaws are amended, it shall be the responsibility of the:
- (A) Chair to ensure that an Amended Certificate of Existence and a copy of the Bylaws, as amended, is filed with the Secretary of State within five (5) days of the amendment; and
 - (B) Secretary to ensure that a copy of the Bylaws, as amended, is immediately provided to the national Forward Party.

{Certification on next page.}

I certify that the foregoing Bylaws of the Nevada Forward Party were adopted by the Executive Committee and that they are currently in effect as of the date provided below.

Benjamin Pennington
Secretary

Date of Adoption