

UCRP CBC Voter Information Guide

B-135 Mid Term Replacement of County Elected Officials

Constitution & Bylaws Committee – Recommends Adoption (5-0)
Executive Committee- Recommends Adoption (12 -1)

Purpose

A change in Utah state law requires us to have provisions for filling vacancies among County Elected Officials.

The law, which becomes effective 1/1/12 reads in part (in the section regarding filling vacancies):

20A-1-508 2 b (ii) That party liaison shall, within 30 days, submit the name of the person selected in accordance with the party constitution or bylaws as described in Section 20A-8-401 for the interim replacement to the county legislative body.

(Changes in **bold**, additions are underlined, removed text is ~~in strikethrough~~)

Bylaw 7 A

- i In the case of a mid-term vacancy of a Republican in the Utah State Senate or House of Representatives for a district entirely within Utah County, the Party shall call a convention of county delegates residing in the precincts comprising the district having the vacancy for the purpose of electing a replacement.
- ii **In the case of a mid-term vacancy in any Utah County Office, as provided in Utah Code 20A-1-508, the Central Committee shall elect a replacement.**

Arguments FOR

Some method of selecting a replacement must be specified or we may lose the chance to select the replacement.

This method is similar to that specified by law for replacing candidates for pre-election vacancies.

The only other option would be to call another county convention which is a large expense. Delegates must be notified by mail, and there are expenses to rent the location, print and counting ballots, etc.

Arguments AGAINST

The expense of holding a county convention is small compared to the value of allowing all county delegates to participate in selecting replacement county officials.

County candidates are selected by the convention, and the delegates of the convention should be the ones to fill any mid term vacancies.