

## UCRP CBC Voter Information Guide

### Bylaw Change B-128-A – State Central Committee elected by Senate Caucus

Constitution & Bylaws Committee Recommends Adoption (Adoption-4, Rejection-0)

Executive Committee Recommends Adoption (Adoption-16, Rejection-6)

#### Purpose

*The State Central Committee (SCC) is the governing body of the State Party, and fills the same important role at the state level as our Central Committee does here in Utah County. We currently have 20 delegates to elect at our next county convention, and can easily have 50 candidates or more. Because there are so many candidates there is not time at the convention for them to speak. Rather someone calls their names and they walk across the stage like a “beauty pageant”.*

*This proposal allows each senate district to elect a portion of the delegates to the SCC in their own meeting. There would probably only be 5-10 candidates per senate district.*

*Bylaw 3 B 2 A Provides that the County Chair and Vice Chair are also State Central Committee members, and this would not change.*

*The number of delegates would be based on the Republican strength calculation used to allocate the state delegates we elect at the caucus meetings. Based on current numbers, this would be the senate allocation:*

Senate District	Republican Strength	Committee Members to Elect	Republican Strength Per Committee Member
11	66062	3	22021
13	160322	6	26720
14	77809	3	25936
15	87510	3	29170
16	60532	3	20177
27	39501	2	19751

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

#### Bylaw 3 B 2

B. The remaining number of State Central Committee members allocated to represent Utah County on the State Central Committee shall all be apportioned to the Senate Districts according to relative Republican strength of the Utah County Precincts within the District, and elected by majority vote of the delegates of each respective Senate Caucus held in conjunction with ~~to~~ the Utah County Republican Party Organizing Convention ~~in the same manner as other county party positions are elected at said convention,~~ said elections to be under the direction of the Steering Committee which may approve the use of preferential voting.

C. Vacancies. Vacancies arising from death, resignation, or any other cause, shall be filled by the next highest eligible vote recipient from the list of candidates who ran for a seat on the State Central Committee and received a majority vote in the same Senate District at the previous County Organizing Convention. In the case of a tie, a coin toss will decide the one to whom the seat will be offered. If the list of candidates who received a majority vote has been exhausted, the vacancy will be filled by the County Executive Committee. Names for consideration shall include anyone who in writing prior to the next Executive Committee meeting indicates interest in serving , and nominations from any member of the Executive Committee ~~may present a name for consideration.~~ All nominees shall reside in the Senate District in which the vacancy occurs. The Executive Committee shall approve a replacement ~~at the regularly scheduled Executive Committee meeting to select the replacement for~~ who shall fill the unexpired term. The selected person shall serve ~~without ratification~~ pending ratification by the County Central Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

## **Arguments FOR**

In the average election a county delegate may have a dozen or so candidates to vote on. Learning about each of those candidates to make an informed decision is a big job.

It is not practical or reasonable to expect every county delegate to talk to and get the views of 50 or more candidates for State Central Committee.

This proposal would allow for a better informed election of our SCC delegates. By dividing the election by Senate Caucus, not only would there be more time to have contact with the candidates in advance but also to hear them speak during the meeting.

Also the Senate Caucus would be voting on people from their own area, so they are more likely to know the reputation of the candidates. Those in the public eye would run on equal footing with other candidates, based on discussion and an informed vote, rather than only name recognition.

Another effect is that each geographic area of our county would be represented proportionally.

Although the calculation rounding does create a discrepancy between the highest and lowest Republican-Strength-Per-Committee-Member, most of the districts are within a few thousand of each other, and this is a small price to pay for a much improved election process.

Preferential Voting is described in Robert's Rules, and provides the best way of electing several people to similar positions in a way that guarantees election by majority vote. (Voters are allowed to rank all candidates they want to elect in order of preference- only those who get a majority are elected.)

After changes, the bylaw would read as this: Bylaw 3 B 2

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## **Arguments AGAINST**

Convention Delegates should work harder to get to know all of the candidates. Committee candidates could start their campaigns several months in advance and give people plenty of time to get to know them.

There is a disadvantage in that, due to rounding, there would be some variance in the number of voters represented by each SCC member. In the allocation given above, each committee member of one senate district represents Republican strength of 29170 while in another it is 19751. This is quite a discrepancy.

In our current system each county delegate gets 20 votes and this proposal deprives delegates of the opportunity to cast all of those votes. Having every delegate cast all of those 20 votes means that our SCC better represents the interests of the entire county.

Electing SCC members in a meeting smaller than the entire convention may allow some people to have an undue influence on the voting. For example, because a state senators or state representatives are so well known in their area, then he or she could likely win such an election more easily than someone else. Having the election with the whole convention gives everyone a fair chance.

SCC members should represent the entire county, not just a senate district. If the committee members start to think of themselves as only representing a certain district, this may lead to internal fighting within the party.

Preferential Voting is too complicated. In the past we have just been electing SCC members by plurality (by highest voter getter even if not a majority) and that method is fine.