

# THE CONSTITUTION OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI

LAST AMENDED: APRIL 5, 2014, IN STATE CONVENTION

## PREAMBLE

*WE THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI, IN ORDER TO STIMULATE IN YOUNG PEOPLE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND PROMOTE THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS, TO PROMOTE THE ACQUISITION OF POLITICAL POWER BY YOUNG PEOPLE, TO PROMOTE THE POLICIES AND PRACTICES WHICH ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE HIGHEST PRINCIPLES OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, TO INCREASE THE EFFICIENCY OF POPULAR GOVERNMENT, AND TO PROVIDE THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF JUSTICE AND SOCIAL WELFARE FOR THE CITIZENS OF OUR COUNTRY, DO ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER AND ESTABLISH THIS CONSTITUTION.*

## ARTICLE I UNIT

**SECTION 101.** THIS ORGANIZATION SHALL BE THE CHARTERED UNIT OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

**SECTION 102.** THIS UNIT SHALL BE INCORPORATED AS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION UNDER THE NAME YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI.

## ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

### SECTION 201. REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

**A.** REGULAR MEMBERSHIP IN THIS UNIT SHALL BE OPEN TO ANY PERSON LIVING, WORKING, OR STUDYING IN MISSISSIPPI NOT YOUNGER THAN FIFTEEN AND WHO HAS NOT REACHED THE AGE OF THIRTY-SIX.

**B.** REGULAR MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AN APPLICATION THAT SUPPLIES THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: NAME, PERMANENT ADDRESS (INCLUDING CITY, STATE, AND ZIP CODE), DATE OF BIRTH, CELL PHONE NUMBER IF AVAILABLE, AND EMAIL IF AVAILABLE.

**C.** REGULAR MEMBERS SHALL HAVE FULL MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO REGISTER FOR THE STATE CONVENTION, TO ATTEND AND BE RECOGNIZED TO SPEAK AT ANY MEETING AND TO SERVE AS AN OFFICER OF THIS UNIT.

**D.** REGULAR MEMBERSHIP SHALL EXPIRE AT THE CONVENING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE CONVENTION AS IS DEFINED IN ARTICLE IV, UNLESS RENEWED BY SUCH A PROCESS AS MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

### SECTION 202. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

**A.** HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN THIS UNIT MAY BE AWARDED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO ANY PERSON WHO HAS RENDERED DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

**B.** HONORARY MEMBERS SHALL BE ACCORDED FULL, NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES AT ANY MEETING OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI.

## ARTICLE III

### OFFICERS

### SECTION 301. EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

**A.** EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ELECTED AT THE STATE CONVENTION SHALL BE THE STATE PRESIDENT, STATE EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT, STATE SECRETARY, STATE TREASURER, STATE NATIONAL COMMITTEEMAN AND STATE NATIONAL COMMITTEEWOMAN, AND ONE DIRECTOR FROM EACH DISTRICT AS SHALL BE DEFINED BY THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. ELECTED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS SHALL SERVE A TERM OF TWO (2) YEARS OR UNTIL THEIR SUCCESSORS ARE CHOSEN.

**B. DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT SHALL BE:**

1. THE STATE PRESIDENT SHALL BE THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI:
2. \* SHALL DIRECT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES ADOPTED AND AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE CONVENTION AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:
3. \* SHALL CHAIR MEETINGS OF THE STATE CONVENTION, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE;
4. \* SHALL REPRESENT THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI AT MEETINGS OF THE STATE DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE AND YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA. SHOULD THE PRESIDENT BE UNABLE TO ATTEND ANY MEETING OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA THEN HE MAY DEFER TO THE VICE-PRESIDENT, OR TO ANY AVAILABLE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO ATTEND IN HIS STEAD WITH HIS PROXY.
5. \* SHALL APPOINT, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SUCH OFFICERS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE DUTIES OF THIS UNIT AND OFFICERS THAT THIS DOCUMENT REQUIRES THAT THE STATE PRESIDENT APPOINT.
6. \* SHALL APPOINT WITH APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA; AND
7. \* SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND STATE CONVENTION;
8. \* SHALL HAVE AUTHORITY TO AUDIT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S FINANCIAL RECORDS.
9. \* SHALL APPOINT FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8 SUBSECTION I.

**C. STATE EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT SHALL ASSIST THE PRESIDENT IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PRESIDENT'S DUTIES AND SHALL HAVE THE SAME DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESIDENT. THE VICE PRESIDENT SHALL SERVE AS AN EX-OFFICIO MEMBER OF ALL STANDING COMMITTEES AND MAY BE A SIGNATORY ON THE ORGANIZATION'S CHECKING ACCOUNT.**

**D. STATE SECRETARY SHALL RECORD AND DISTRIBUTE THE MINUTES OF ALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS; SHALL NOTIFY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF ALL MEETINGS, FORMS, AND FEES; SHALL TURN OVER ALL MONEYS TO THE. STATE SECRETARY; SHALL MAINTAIN AND UPDATE ALL LIST OF MEMBERS, COMPUTER FILES AND RECORDS; AND SHALL SERVE ON THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE.**

**E. STATE TREASURER SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL STATE UNIT FUNDS AND MONEYS; SHALL AT ALL TIMES MAINTAIN AN ORDERLY AND CURRENT FINANCIAL RECORD OF THE UNIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL LAWS AND REGULATIONS; SHALL SIGN ALL AUTHORIZED CHECKS OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI.**

**F. STATE NATIONAL COMMITTEEWOMAN AND NATIONAL COMMITTEEMAN SHALL ALONG WITH THE STATE PRESIDENT, ATTEND ALL MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE AND SHALL REPRESENT THE STATE UNIT AT APPROPRIATE REGIONAL AND NATIONAL FUNCTIONS.**

**G. DISTRICT DIRECTORS**

1. SHALL CALL AND PRESIDE AT ALL MEETINGS OF THEIR DISTRICT COMMITTEE;
2. SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ORGANIZING AND COORDINATING ACTIVITIES AT THE LOCAL LEVEL;
3. SHALL RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS;
4. SHALL CHAIR THEIR DISTRICT CAUCUSES AT CONVENTION; AND

5. SHALL APPOINT MEMBERS TO SUB-COMMITTEES TO CARRY-OUT ACTIVITIES IN THEIR DISTRICT.

**H. PRESIDENT EMERITUS**

THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT SHALL BE AN EX OFFICIO NON-VOTING MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF IMPEACHMENT.

- I.** EXECUTIVE OFFICERS SHALL SUBMIT A WRITTEN REPORT OF THEIR ACTIVITIES TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND STATE CONVENTION TO COVER THE PERIOD SINCE THE LAST SUCH REPORT.
- J.** EXECUTIVE OFFICERS WHO MISS TWO CONSECUTIVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS SHALL BE CONSIDERED RESIGNED, UNLESS THEY ARE ABLE TO SHOW CAUSE AT THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AS TO WHY THEIR EXPULSION SHOULD NOT BE EFFECTUATED. UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, NO EXPULSION SHALL BE EFFECTUATED WITHOUT THE VOTES OF A MAJORITY OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT AT THAT MEETING.
- K.** VACANCIES OF ELECTED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS SHALL BE FILLED BY PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. THE APPOINTEE SHALL SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM.
- L.** EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ARE SUBJECT TO IMPEACHMENT AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE FOR MISFEASANCE, MALFEASANCE, OR NONFEASANCE OF ASSIGNED DUTIES OR VIOLATION OF ANY LAW OR RULE OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA OR THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY. A TWO-THIRDS (2/3) VOTE OF THE ENTIRE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL BE NECESSARY FOR RECALL. UPON PRESENTATION TO THE STATE SECRETARY OF WRITTEN MEMORANDUM SIGNED BY (3) OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, THE STATE SECRETARY OR ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY SHALL NOTIFY ALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF A SPECIAL HEARING. SUCH HEARING SHALL BE HELD NOT LESS THAN TEN (10) DAYS FROM PRESENTATION TO THE STATE SECRETARY, AND NOT LATER THAN FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS FROM PRESENTATION. A COPY OF THE MEMORANDUM SHALL BE INCLUDED WITH THE NOTICE TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS. THE OFFICER CHARGED SHALL BE ENTITLED TO BE HEARD AND TO CALL ANY WITNESSES. THE DECISION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL BE FINAL, AND THE OFFICER CHARGED SHALL BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING OF THE COMMITTEE'S DECISION. IF THE DECISION IS THAT THE OFFICER BE IMPEACHED THEN THAT OFFICER WILL LOOSE ALL RIGHTS TO BE AN OFFICER OF THIS UNIT.
- M.** THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MAY ESTABLISH A PAC AND FINANCE COUNCIL. THE PRESIDENT SHALL APPOINT MEMBERS OF THE PAC AND FINANCE COUNCIL.

**SECTION 302. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS**

**A.** ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF ELECTION AND CONFIRMED BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE; SHALL SERVE AT THE WILL AND PLEASURE OF THE STATE PRESIDENT; SHALL SERVE AS VOTING MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE; AND SHALL SERVE AS EX-OFFICIO AND NON-VOTING MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

**B.** DUTIES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS SHALL BE:

1. GENERAL COUNSEL MUST BE AN ATTORNEY LICENSED TO PRACTICE IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI AND MUST BE ADMITTED TO PRACTICE IN (1) OR MORE OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURTS OR MUST SECURE SUCH ADMISSION WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE APPOINTMENT BY THE PRESIDENT. THE GENERAL COUNSEL SHOULD GIVE LEGAL OPINIONS TO THE STATE OFFICERS, ADVISE THE STATE OFFICERS AS TO THEIR DUTIES AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE STATE CONSTITUTION AND ANY BY-LAWS, AND REPRESENT THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI AS MAYBE REQUIRED TO APPEAR.
2. PARLIAMENTARIAN SHALL ASSIST THE MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES IN THEIR COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS; SHALL ASSIST IN THE DRAFTING AND CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS; AND SHALL ADVISE THE MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES WITH RESPECT TO MATTERS OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE BEING GOVERNED BY THE MOST RECENT EDITION OF ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY SHALL ASSIST THE STATE SECRETARY AND PERFORM OTHER DUTIES AS MAY BE ASSIGNED BY THE STATE PRESIDENT.
4. COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATING, PRINTING AND MAINTENANCE OF A NEWSLETTER OR WEBSITE WHICH SHALL BE PUBLISHED AS FUNDS ALLOW AND DISTRIBUTED TO ALL SUBSCRIBERS; SHALL ASSIST THE DISTRICT DIRECTORS IN PUBLIC RELATION MATTERS; AND SHALL PERFORM OTHER DUTIES AS MAY BE ASSIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT.
5. FINANCE COORDINATOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATING REVENUE ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS; SHALL ASSIST THE DISTRICT DIRECTORS IN FUND RAISING EVENTS; SHALL PROVIDE INPUT INTO THE BUDGETARY PROCESS; AND SHALL PERFORM OTHER DUTIES AS MAY BE ASSIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT.

#### **ARTICLE IV STATE CONVENTION**

**SECTION 401.** THE STATE CONVENTION SHALL BE THE HIGHEST AUTHORITY OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI, AND SHALL FUNCTION SUBJECT TO PROVISIONS OF THIS CONSTITUTION OR ANY BY-LAWS HEREAFTER ADOPTED UNLESS OTHERWISE .

**SECTION 402.** AN OFFICIAL STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION CALL SHALL BE SENT TO ALL REGULAR MEMBERS AND HONORARY MEMBERS NOT LESS THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE STATE CONVENTION.

**SECTION 403.** THE STATE CONVENTION SHALL MEET BIANNUALLY, AT A TIME AND PLACE DETERMINED BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI.

**SECTION 404.** AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SHALL BE HELD NOT LESS THAN (30) DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE STATE CONVENTION TO ESTABLISH RULES FOR THE OPERATION AN CONDUCT OF THE STATE CONVENTION AND PREPARE A REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE CONVENTION.

**SECTION 405.** THE STATE PRESIDENT SHALL APPOINT AND HAVE CONFIRMED BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE A CHAIR AND MAY APPOINT A VICE-CHAIR FOR EACH CONVENTION COMMITTEE NOT LESS THAN (30) DAYS PRIOR TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE CONVENTION.

**SECTION 406.** STATE CONVENTION STANDING COMMITTEES

- A. AT EACH STATE CONVENTION THE FOLLOWING STANDING COMMITTEES SHALL BE ESTABLISHED: CONSTITUTION; CREDENTIALS; AND PLATFORM.
- B. THE DISTRICT DIRECTORS SHALL ASSIGN REGISTERED REGULAR MEMBERS TO STANDING COMMITTEES, PROVIDING PROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION ON EACH OF THE COMMITTEES.
- C. EACH STANDING COMMITTEE SHALL CONVENE NO MORE THAN ONE DAY PRECEDING THE OPENING GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE CONVENTION. A QUORUM IN ANY SUCH COMMITTEE SHALL BE ONE THIRD (1/3) OF THE DELEGATES REGISTERED THE DAY OF THE MEETING.
- D. RESPONSIBILITIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES SHALL BE:
  1. CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE SHALL CONDUCT A THOROUGH REVIEW OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION AND ANY BY-LAWS AND PREPARE ANY PROPOSED CHANGES TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE CONVENTION. THE COMMITTEE SHOULD CONSIDER ANY PROPOSALS TO REMOVE UNNECESSARY SECTIONS, ADD NEW SECTIONS, TO IMPROVE CLARITY AND STRENGTHEN UNIT ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE.
  2. CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE SHALL DETERMINE THE ELIGIBILITY OF REGISTERED MEMBERS AT THE STATE CONVENTION, AND PREPARE A REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE CONVENTION. THE COMMITTEE SHOULD CONSIDER HOW DELEGATES ARE TO BE REGISTERED, WHAT RECORDS MUST BE KEPT, AND HOW VOTING ELIGIBILITY WILL BE

DETERMINED. EACH CHARTERED CHAPTER MAY HAVE A MINIMUM OF THREE DELEGATES. ADDITION RULES OF DELEGATE SELECTION WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE."

3. PLATFORM COMMITTEE SHALL DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENT DESCRIBING THE POSITION OF THE MAJORITY OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI ON A WIDE VARIETY OF ISSUES AND PREPARE A PLATFORM TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE CONVENTION. THE COMMITTEE SHOULD REVIEW THE PREVIOUS PLATFORM AND CONSIDER ANY ISSUE OF IMPORTANCE TO YOUNG PEOPLE.
4. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE CONVENTION SHALL TAKE ACTION ON THE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS OR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS, OR BOTH. ALL ACTION TAKEN SHALL BE FINAL.

**SECTION 407.** ALL REGULAR MEMBERS REGISTERED AT THE STATE CONVENTION SHALL CAUCUS ACCORDING TO THEIR DISTRICT IN WHICH THEY RESIDE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING DISTRICT DIRECTORS ACCORDING TO THE RULES PROMULGATED BY THE RULES COMMITTEE.

**SECTION 408.** A QUORUM OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE CONVENTION SHALL BE COMPOSED OF FIFTY (50) PERCENT PLUS ONE OF THOSE REGULAR MEMBERS OFFICIALLY REGISTERED AT THE CONVENING OF THE SAID GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE CONVENTION, AS REPORTED BY THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE.

**SECTION 409.** PROXY VOTES SHALL NOT BE ALLOWED AT THE STATE CONVENTION.

**SECTION 410.** A SIMPLE MAJORITY OF VOTES CAST SHALL BE REQUIRED TO TAKE ACTION ON ANY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS OR ELECTION OF OFFICERS. BALLOTING SHALL CONTINUE UNTIL A CANDIDATE RECEIVES A MAJORITY, CONSISTENT WITH THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI PRIMARY ELECTION PROCESS.

## **ARTICLE V EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**SECTION 501.** THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL BE THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI BETWEEN STATE CONVENTIONS AND SHALL SET UNIT POLICY IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- A. OVERSEE AND APPROVE ALL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNIT;
- B. APPROVE FUNDING AND EXPENDITURES OF ALL UNIT ACTIVITIES, BOTH SPECIFIC AND DISCRETIONARY;
- C. CHARTER ALL COUNTY, COLLEGE, HIGH SCHOOL, DISTRICT, ETC. CHAPTERS
- D. REMOVE STATE OFFICERS FOR JUST CAUSE.

**SECTION 502.** THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS: ALL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AS VOTING MEMBERS. THE ALL-ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS, AND ANY MEMBER OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI HOLDING AN OFFICE WITH THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA SHALL SERVE AS EX-OFFICIO, NON-VOTING MEMBERS. FURTHER PURSUANT TO SECTION 301 (H), THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT SHALL SERVE AS A NON-VOTING, EX OFFICIO MEMBER.

**SECTION 503.** THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL MEET AT LEAST QUARTERLY AND UPON THE CALL OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI OR A MAJORITY OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS. NOT LESS THAN TEN (10) DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE OF ANY MEETING SHALL BE PROVIDED TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. EACH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SHALL HOST AT LEAST ONE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING EACH YEAR.

**SECTION 504.** A QUORUM OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL CONSIST OF NOT LESS THAN THIRTY- FIVE (35) PERCENT PLUS ONE OF THE VOTING MEMBERS, AND THE STATE SECRETARY SHALL CALL THE ROLL AT THE SCHEDULED BEGINNING OF EACH MEETING.

- A. ANY MEETING AT WHICH A QUORUM IS NOT PRESENT SHALL BE DEEMED A COMMITTEE-OF- THE-WHOLE.

- B.** DECISIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE SHALL BE NON-BINDING AND SHALL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT OFFICIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AT WHICH A QUORUM IS PRESENT. DECISIONS MADE BY A COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE NOTICE OF THE NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

**SECTION 505.** A SIMPLE MAJORITY OF VOTES CAST SHALL BE REQUIRED TO TAKE ACTION ON ANY MATTER BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

## **ARTICLE VI ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

**SECTION 601.** THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE SHALL CONSTITUTE A PLANNING AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE, WHICH SHALL BE EMPOWERED TO IMPLEMENT YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI POLICY BETWEEN MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

**SECTION 602.** THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE SHALL BE COMPRISED OF THE STATE PRESIDENT AND ALL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS. THE STATE PRESIDENT MAY DEFER TO THE VICE-PRESIDENT TO PRESIDE IN HIS STEAD AT ANY PARTICULAR MEETING OR MEETINGS.

**SECTION 603.** THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS SHALL BE HELD AT SUCH TIMES AND PLACES AS THE STATE PRESIDENT OR A MAJORITY OF MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MAY SPECIFY. THE PRESIDENT SHALL PROVIDE NOT LESS THAN TEN (10) DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE OF ANY SUCH MEETING TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

## **ARTICLE VII CHAPTERS**

**SECTION 801.** THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL CHARTER COUNTY, COLLEGE, HIGH SCHOOL, DISTRICTS, OR OTHER YOUNG DEMOCRATIC CHAPTERS IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

**SECTION 802.** TEN (10) OR MORE REGULAR MEMBERS MAY SEEK TO CHARTER A CHAPTER WITH THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI.

**SECTION 803.** REGULAR MEMBERS MUST MEET THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA AND YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI (ARTICLE II SECTION 202) AND ANY BY-LAWS.

**SECTION 804.** ALL COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL CHAPTER OFFICERS AND/ OR MEMBERS SHALL BE REGISTERED STUDENTS, FACULTY OR STAFF OF THE SCHOOLS WHERE THEY ARE A MEMBER.

**SECTION 805.** CHAPTERS MAY ADOPT CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS, WHICH SHALL NOT CONFLICT WITH THIS CONSTITUTION AND ANY BY-LAWS OR ANY STANDING RULES OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA.

**SECTION 806.** ONE COPY OF PROPER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS AND CHAPTER CONSTITUTION AND ANY BY-LAWS SHALL BE FILED, ALONG WITH A \$25.00 FILING FEE, WITH THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OR YDMS CONVENTION PRIOR TO A CHARTER BEING APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OR YDMS CONVENTION.

**SECTION 807.** CHAPTERS SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY MEMBERSHIP DUES THAT EXCEED \$30.00 ANNUALLY AS A CONDITION FOR MEMBERSHIP, BUT MAY ASSESS FEES AND SOLICIT CONTRIBUTIONS.

**SECTION 808.** A CHAPTER SHALL HAVE ITS CHARTER REVOKED IF SAID CHAPTER FAILS TO UPHOLD THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN THE CONSTITUTION OR BY-LAWS OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI, OR THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA.

**SECTION 809.** A CHAPTER MAY BE DUALY CHARTERED WITH THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI AND THE COLLEGE DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA. CHARTERING WITH COLLEGE DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA ALSO AFFORDS THE CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP WITH THE MISSISSIPPI FEDERATION OF COLLEGE DEMOCRATS.

## **ARTICLE IX FINANCES**

**SECTION 901.** DUES SHALL NOT BE A REQUIREMENT FOR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP IN THIS UNIT, BUT FEES MAY BE ACCESSED TO COVER BUDGETED OPERATING EXPENSES, NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION, NATIONAL AND STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEE. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MAY WAIVE OR CHANGE THESE FEES.

**SECTION 902.** A FINANCE DRIVE PROGRAM SHALL BE HELD ANNUALLY TO COVER OTHER BUDGETED EXPENSES.

**SECTION 903.** AN ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET MAY BE APPROVED AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AND NO UNIT FUNDS SHALL BE EXPENDED FOR ANY PURPOSE NOT PROVIDED FOR IN SAID BUDGET EXCEPT WITH APPROVAL IN ADVANCE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

**SECTION 904.** NO DEBTS OR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS SHALL BE INCURRED IN THE NAME OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI BY ANYONE EXCEPT AS AUTHORIZED BY THE BUDGET OR APPROPRIATE RESOLUTION.

**SECTION 905.** AN AUDIT OF ALL FINANCIAL RECORDS AND TRANSACTIONS OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI SHALL BE MADE AT LEAST ANNUALLY AND AT SUCH TIMES AS MAY BE REQUIRED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

**SECTION 906.** NO FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES SHALL BE CARRIED OUT IN THE NAME OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI WITHOUT THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. BEFORE ANY UNIT FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY IS AUTHORIZED, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL APPOINT A PERSON OR PERSONS TO BE IN CHARGE OF THE RECEIPT AND DISBURSEMENT OF MONEYS IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH EVENT, AND TO ENSURE A PROPER FULL AND ACCURATE ACCOUNTING OF MONEYS RECEIVED AND EXPENDED FOR SUCH EVENT. THE FINANCE COORDINATOR SHALL PREPARE A BUDGET FOR THE EVENT, BUT NO EXPENDITURES CAN BE MADE WHEN THE REGULAR YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI ACCOUNT HAS LESS THAN FIFTY DOLLARS OR NO SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO COVER THE EXPENDITURE. THE PERSON OR PERSONS IN CHARGE OF THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE SAID EVENT SHALL PROVIDE THE TREASURER WITH COMPLETE AND ACCURATE RECORDS FOR INSPECTION BY ANY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER AND SHALL MAKE A FINANCIAL REPORT TO THE NEXT MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, ON THE SAID ACTIVITY OR EVENT.

#### **ARTICLE X AMENDMENT**

**SECTION 1001.** THIS CONSTITUTION MAY BE AMENDED BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE OF THE STATE CONVENTION.

**SECTION 1002.** THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MAY BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, AT THE NEXT MEETING AFTER ORIGINAL NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT, AMEND AND MAKE TECHNICAL OR GRAMMATICAL CHANGES TO THIS CONSTITUTION.

**SECTION 1003** ANY PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY PRIOR THE CONVENING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE CONVENTION.

**SECTION 1004.** THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF MISSISSIPPI MAY ADOPT AND/OR AMEND ANY BY-LAWS NOT IN CONFLICT WITH THIS CONSTITUTION. A VOTE OF TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY OF THOSE MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING IS REQUIRED FOR ADOPTION OR AMENDMENT OF ANY BY-LAWS.

**SECTION 1005.** AMENDMENTS TO THIS CONSTITUTION SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AFTER ADJOURNMENT OF THE STATE CONVENTION.

#### **ARTICLE XI ENACTMENT**

**SECTION 1100.** THIS CONSTITUTION SHALL BE IN EFFECT IMMEDIATELY AFTER ADOPTION ON APRIL TWENTY-SEVENTH, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, NINETEEN HUNDRED NINETY-SIX.