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REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

CONVENTION COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

Cleveland, Ohio

Thursday, July 14, 2016



1	Susan Wiles	Florida
2	Randy Evans	Georgia
3	Linda Herron	Georgia
4	Jon James Rojas	Guam
5	Donna Jones	Guam
6	Nathan Paikai	Hawaii
7	Miriam Hellreich	Hawaii
8	Lora Gervais	Idaho
9	Norm Semanko	Idaho
10	John Cabello	Illinois
11	Demetra DeMonte	Illinois
12	John Hammond	Indiana
13	Beth Boyce	Indiana
14	Marlys Popma	Iowa
15	Steve Scheffler	Iowa
16	Kelly Arnold	Kansas
17	Beverly Caley	Kansas
18	Ralph Alvarado	Kentucky
19	Kelly Knight Craft	Kentucky
20	Gwen Bowen	Louisiana
21	Ross Little	Louisiana
22	Alex Willette	Maine

1	MaryAnne Kinney	Maine
2	Nicolee Ambrose	Maryland
3	Jim Crawford	Maryland
4	James Fogarty	Massachusetts
5	Vincent DeVito	Massachusetts
6	Judi Schwalbach	Michigan
7	Matt Hall	Michigan
8	Cindy Pugh	Minnesota
9	David Asp	Minnesota
10	Henry Barbour	Mississippi
11	Nell Frisbie	Mississippi
12	Harvey Tettlebaum	Missouri
13	Patricia Thomas	Missouri
14	Anita Milanovich	Montana
15	Arthur Wittich	Montana
16	Joyce Simmons	Nebraska
17	J.L. Spray	Nebraska
18	Diana Orrock	Nevada
19	Jordan Ross	Nevada
20	Ellen Suprunowicz	New Hampshire
21	Steve Duprey	New Hampshire
22	William Palatucci	New Jersey

1	Christine Serrano-Glassner	New Jersey
2	Steve Pearce	New Mexico
3	Rosie Tripp	New Mexico
4	Ralph Mohr	New York
5	Jennifer Rich	New York
6	Zandstra Bunn	North Carolina
7	Thomas Stark	North Carolina
8	Curly Haugland	North Dakota
9	Sandra Boehler	North Dakota
10	Ralph Torres	Northern Mariana Islands
11	Vicky Villagomez	Northern Mariana Islands
12	Donald Thibaut	Ohio
13	Jo Ann Davidson	Ohio
14	Gary Jones	Oklahoma
15	Megan Winburn	Oklahoma
16	Solomon Yue	Oregon
17	Chris Barreto	Oregon
18	Joyce Haas	Pennsylvania
19	Lawrence Tabas	Pennsylvania
20	John Regis	Puerto Rico
21	Zori Fonalledas	Puerto Rico
22	Steve Frias	Rhode Island

1	Eileen Grossman	Rhode Island
2	Cindy Costa	South Carolina
3	Matt Moore	South Carolina
4	David Wheeler	South Dakota
5	Sandy Kading	South Dakota
6	John Ryder	Tennessee
7	Betty Cannon	Tennessee
8	Stephen (Steve) Munisteri	Texas
9	Toni Anne Dashiell	Texas
10	Mike Lee	Utah
11	Sharon Lee	Utah
12	Janssen Willhoit	Vermont
13	Susan Hudson	Vermont
14	Valerie Stiles	Virgin Islands
15	Robert Max Schanfarber	Virgin Islands
16	Anne Gentry	Virginia
17	Morton Blackwell	Virginia
18	Graham Hunt	Washington
19	Gina Blanchard-Reed	Washington
20	Betsy Andreini	West Virginia
21	Mike Stuart	West Virginia
22	Steven King	Wisconsin

1	Army Buestrin	Wisconsin
2	Matt Micheli	Wyoming
3	Harriet Hageman	Wyoming

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P R O C E E D I N G S

[8:05 a.m.]

CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I see we have a few more people finding their way in, so we'll wait.

If we could have Linda Herren and John Hammond come down to the podium, please.

All right, ladies and gentlemen, welcome back to the Rules Committee. We're going to begin this morning with John Hammond, from Indiana, the National Committeeman and Delegate, giving us an invocation.

MR. HAMMOND: Members of the Committee, join with me in prayer.

[Invocation.]

CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, John.

Next, Linda Herren, the National Committeewoman and Delegate from the State of Georgia, will lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MS. HERREN: Please join me in this pledge. And, when we do, let's remember our men and women in uniform that, every day, are allowing us to do this.



1 [Pledge of Allegiance.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Linda.

3 Now, we're going to start with an  
4 introduction of the head table. I know we did this  
5 yesterday, but some of you weren't able to join us  
6 yesterday, and we want to make certain that all of  
7 you know who to go to for help or information.

8 So, let me begin with the introduction of  
9 the head table. To my immediate right is Ron  
10 Kauffman. He is the Co-Chairman of the Convention  
11 Committee on Rules and Order of Business, and  
12 National Committeeman and Delegate from  
13 Massachusetts.

14 Next to Ron will be, when he gets back,  
15 John Phillippe, who is the chief counsel of the  
16 Republican National Committee.

17 To my immediate left is Kerry Dickson and  
18 Al Gage, who are the two parliamentarians for the  
19 Committee on Rules and Order of Business.

20 Also with us is Alec Poitevant and David  
21 Norcross, who are serving as counsel to the  
22 Committee on Rules and Order of Business.

1                   Our staff is being led by Cooper Hawley.  
2 Cooper, you want to raise -- he's back here, in case  
3 you need to ask any questions of Cooper. Cooper is  
4 the -- is associate counsel with the RNC Counsel's  
5 Office.

6                   And, since we will be conducting business  
7 today that will need to be timed, over here to my  
8 far left, gentlemen, if you'll wave your hands so  
9 everyone knows where you are, we have Dana Dickson  
10 and Charlie Tuggle, who will be the timekeepers.

11                   And, Dana, if you would show them what  
12 they can expect, there you have 1 minute remaining,  
13 30 seconds remaining, and stop. If you don't stop,  
14 we might start singing God Bless America until you  
15 sit down. Or Ron suggests Happy Birthday, since  
16 we're all up on that from yesterday.

17                   All right. At this time, I would like to  
18 call on Co-Chairman Ron Kauffman to act as Secretary  
19 for purposes of calling the roll.

20                   CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Thank you, Chair.  
21 Good morning, all.

22                   [The roll was called.]

1 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: We have a quorum.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Ron.

3 Now, let me just go through a quick  
4 process review for those of you who were unable to  
5 join us yesterday, and a few housekeeping matters.

6 First of all, I know some of you were  
7 having a very difficult time reading in the glare of  
8 the lights. We have had the lights adjusted, as  
9 requested, so hopefully you won't get such a glare.  
10 You won't be quite as clear for the television  
11 cameras, but I think you'll be able to read better.

12 Are all of the monitors on? And can all  
13 of you see? Wonderful.

14 All right. We also had a little bit of  
15 confusion this morning as you tried to find your  
16 places. Our seating chart had originally begun with  
17 Alabama in the back corner and then serpentine back  
18 and forth, across the front and back up. The reason  
19 for that is, the lovely designers who designed this  
20 room, if you look around, did not realize that  
21 delegations were seated two by two, and we have odd-  
22 numbered seats on either side of the aisle. So, in

1 the Platform Committee, we had members from each  
2 State who sometimes were divided by the entire  
3 length of a row. So, if you look around, even if  
4 you are not sitting right next to your delegation  
5 seatmate, you should be right in front or in back of  
6 each other. We did that so you'd be able to  
7 communicate.

8           The other thing that happened this morning  
9 is that Gordon James, which is the company that put  
10 all of this together and came in last night and made  
11 sure the lights were right and the monitors were  
12 right, in cleaning up, apparently flipped the front  
13 table. And I don't know if any of the rest of you  
14 are in a different order. We apologize for that.  
15 We know it was probably a little confusing this  
16 morning. But, that's what happened. And hopefully  
17 all of you have found your seat, obviously, and  
18 we're ready to proceed.

19           All right. Let me just go through a few  
20 procedural issues to remind you of how we're going  
21 to proceed this morning.

22           The first thing that we will do is, I will

1 read through the rule numbers and their titles. I  
2 will ask if anyone has an amendment to that rule.  
3 And, if you do, please say yes and raise your hand.  
4 We will set that rule aside until we have gone  
5 through that first section of rules, Rules 1 through  
6 12.

7           When it is time to consider your  
8 amendment, please rise, be recognized by the Chair,  
9 and please say your name and State, which has been  
10 reemphasized to me again by the court reporter, who  
11 wants to be able to keep an accurate record of our  
12 proceedings.

13           Your motion will need a second to debate  
14 it and vote on it. Please don't begin to present  
15 your amendment until it has been seconded.

16           As for the order of debate, the person  
17 moving the amendment has the first opportunity to  
18 speak. Each person may speak for up to 2 minutes  
19 per member, per amendment. And each member may  
20 speak no more than twice on any single amendment.

21           On conclusion of the debate, the Chair  
22 will restate the motion. We will put it to a voice

1 vote. And, on simple amendments, a majority is  
2 needed to adopt the amendment. If it is too close  
3 to call or a member requests a standing vote, the  
4 member should declare "Division," and then we will  
5 conduct a standing vote. We will also do that if  
6 the Chair is in doubt as to the correct ruling.

7           The staff tells me that our goal is to  
8 finish considering all amendments today. Hope  
9 springs eternal in the young. And I want you to  
10 know that, while we will do our best to expedite  
11 things, we will go over to tomorrow if anyone has  
12 concern that their amendment has not yet been heard.

13       So, I know that they are anxious, but we're going  
14 to make sure that you have all the time necessary to  
15 bring forth all the amendments that you desire.

16           Next, amending motions. Amendments are  
17 made by offering an amendment to the motion. They  
18 must be seconded, and we will have debate about the  
19 amendment. Only the language of the amendment may  
20 be debated. So, if you have a particular issue that  
21 you wish to address, don't do it unless it is  
22 pertinent to that single amendment. You'll get a

1 chance at another time.

2           The vote on amendments is conducted just  
3 like the main motion, and require a majority to  
4 pass. And we will vote on every amendment, even  
5 including the so-called "friendly amendments." We  
6 do that so that we have a complete record of the  
7 proceedings.

8           Members may make a point of order to call  
9 on other Chairman for a ruling or for clarification  
10 on the rules of order. Points of order take  
11 precedence over any pending question. However,  
12 points of order are not a time to make an additional  
13 speech. So, please raise your point of order.  
14 We'll act up on it, as appropriate.

15           Point of information. A member may make a  
16 point of information. If you are unsure of exactly  
17 where we are in the vote or what the effect of the  
18 vote would be, once again, a point of information  
19 allows you to ask for information, not to provide  
20 it.

21           Next, a motion for the previous question.  
22 The motion will end debate immediately. It

1 requires a second and then a two-thirds affirmative  
2 vote to adopt it. It is nondebatable. And if the  
3 motion for previous question passes, it brings the  
4 Committee to an immediate vote.

5 I will simply remind our guests -- we  
6 waved yesterday, hello guests -- we're thrilled to  
7 have you here. You are welcome to sit through all  
8 of our proceedings. The only caveat is that if you  
9 do decide to be disruptive or try to obstruct our  
10 business, we will invite you to leave. If you  
11 choose not to, you will be persuaded to leave by  
12 people who have the authority to remove you. I am  
13 sure that will not become necessary. We're glad to  
14 have you here with us this morning.

15 All right. Let's begin the business that  
16 we have come here to do.

17 In front of you today you will find two  
18 copies of the Rules of the Republican Party. One is  
19 a final blacklined working copy of the rules, which  
20 means that recent changes are shown underlined and  
21 with information struck out where it has been  
22 removed. That illustrates all of the changes that



1 the Republic National Committee adopted yesterday,  
2 based on the work of the Republic National  
3 Committee's Standing Rules Committee, the committee  
4 that has been working on these rules since the last  
5 Convention, made up of one Republican National  
6 Committee member from each State and territory. The  
7 other copy is a clean version of the rules that has  
8 line numbers down the left side. So, we will be  
9 working off the clean version today. If there is  
10 any language in the clean version that you wish to  
11 have -- or see amended, regardless of what the  
12 blackline says, you will need to offer an amendment  
13 to change that language.

14           Now, when you refer to a certain passage  
15 in the rules, please refer to the page number and  
16 the line number in order to allow us an easier  
17 understanding of the discussion and know exactly  
18 where your proposed amendment falls.

19           Are there any questions on our procedure?

20           [No response.]

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we'll  
22 now proceed to reading through the Rules of the

1 Republican Party, rule by rule, starting with the  
2 first section. We will consider all of the  
3 amendments at the end of the initial readthrough of  
4 each section.

5           So, if you wish to submit an amendment,  
6 use the amendment proposal form at your desk, list  
7 the rule number, line number, page number, and  
8 proposed text, and bring it to Counsel's Office  
9 staff, to your left. Can we get someone from the  
10 Submissions Desk to raise your hand? All right.  
11 So, you can see this is where you need to come to  
12 submit your amendments, and they will walk you  
13 through the procedure.

14           A unique amendment number will be assigned  
15 to your amendment. Counsel's Office will give you a  
16 version with that number, and it is that number that  
17 will let you know the order in which we will debate  
18 your amendments.

19           Changes to amendments. If someone offers  
20 an amendment to the amendment, that will be  
21 displayed upon your screen as quickly as our staff  
22 can type it in. And we ask you to use the four

1 microphones situated throughout the room to address  
2 the Committee.

3           If someone during -- if, during the course  
4 of our proceedings, you realize that someone else  
5 has submitted an amendment that makes the same  
6 change as an amendment that you have submitted,  
7 would you please approach the sponsor of that  
8 amendment and work with them to try to combine your  
9 efforts? Otherwise, please go see the Counsel  
10 Office's Help Desk and withdraw your amendment, in  
11 keeping with the procedural rule that we adopted not  
12 to allow duplicative amendments.

13           All right. With all of that as preamble,  
14 let's move forward.

15           We are now going -- and let me remind you  
16 that we voted, yesterday, to dispense with the  
17 reading of the full text of the rule.

18           All right. We'll begin with Section 1,  
19 Rules Pertaining to the Republican National  
20 Committee. As I said yesterday, the first section  
21 of the rules, Rules 1 through 12, relates to the  
22 governance of the Republican National Committee.

1 So, let's begin.

2 Rule number 1, Organization of the  
3 Republican National Committee. Are there any  
4 amendments to Rule number 1?

5 [No response.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No amendments to  
7 Rule number 1.

8 Rule number 2, Method of Election for the  
9 National Committeeman and National Committeewoman.  
10 Are there any amendments to number 2? Any  
11 amendments to number 2?

12 [No response.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Rule number 3, Term  
14 of Office for National Committee Members. Are there  
15 any amendments to Rule number 3?

16 Yes, ma'am.

17 VOICE: Chair, I have an amendment to Rule  
18 number 3.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. We will  
20 set aside Rule number 3 and come back to it.

21 Rule number 4, Vacancies of Members and  
22 Officers. Are there any amendments to Rule number

1 4? Any amendments to Rule number 4?

2 [No response.]

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, Rule  
4 number 5, Officers of the Republican National  
5 Committee. Are there any amendments to Rule number  
6 5?

7 Yes.

8 VOICE: I have an amendment.

9 VOICE: I have an amendment.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. Two  
11 amendments have been offered. We will set aside  
12 Rule number 5. Are there any others? I'm sorry?

13 VOICE: I will have one.

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you very  
15 much. All right. We've set aside Rule number 5.

16 Rule number 6, Executive Committee of the  
17 Republican National Committee. Are there any  
18 amendments to Rule number 6?

19 [No response.]

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we  
21 will move forward.

22 Rule number -- oh, excuse me. Is there

1 one at the back? All right. We will set aside Rule  
2 number 6.

3 I'm sorry, folks, it's a little hard for  
4 me to see, because of the lights, so I would invite  
5 you, if you have an amendment, to stand and call out  
6 so that I don't miss you.

7 All right, we have set aside Rule number  
8 6.

9 Moving on to -- yes, ma'am.

10 MS. KINNEY: I'll come to the mic. I'm  
11 MaryAnne Kinney, from Maine, and -- this went so  
12 fast. I do have an amendment to Rule number 1 that  
13 I would like to pass the amendment -- pass on the  
14 amendment for now and set it aside at the end of the  
15 section.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We will do that,  
17 without objection.

18 MS. KINNEY: Thank you.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

20 All right. We are back to Rule number 7,  
21 I believe, the Rules of Order.

22 Yes, sir, at the microphone.

1                   MR. ASH: Madam Chairman, Bruce Ash, State  
2 of Arizona.

3                   If I could -- we're moving a little fast -  
4 - on Rule 4, I do have an amendment to offer on Rule  
5 4 -- 4(d).

6                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We will  
7 set that aside.

8                   MR. ASH: Thank you, ma'am.

9                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Sorry, folks. If  
10 I'm going a little too fast, I apologize.

11                   All right. Back to Rule number 7, to make  
12 sure I haven't missed anybody.

13                   Yes.

14                   MS. AMBROSE: Nicolee Ambrose, Maryland.

15                   I have an amendment.

16                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Ms.

17 Ambrose, we'll set aside Rule number 7.

18                   You'll notice I'm going a little slower.

19                   All right. Rule number 9 -- excuse me --

20 Rule number 8, Meetings of the Republican National  
21 Committee.

22                   MS. AMBROSE: Nicolee Ambrose, Maryland.

1 I have an amendment.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We will set aside  
3 Rule number 8.

4 Rule number 9, Filling of Vacancies in  
5 Nominations. Are there any amendments to Rule  
6 number 9?

7 MR. LITTLE: Madam Chairman, Ross Little,  
8 Junior, Louisiana.

9 I'd like you to set aside Rule number 5.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. We will set  
11 aside Rule number 5, without objection.

12 We're working on number 9, Filling  
13 Vacancies in Nominations. Any additional amendments  
14 -- or any amendments to Rule number 9?

15 [No response.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

17 We will move forward to Rule number 10,  
18 Committees of the Republican National Committee.

19 VOICE: Madam Chair, I have an amendment.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We will set aside  
21 Rule number 10.

22 It -- if you have an amendment to Rule



1 number 10, it's not necessary, once we've set aside  
2 Rule number 10, for you to list additional  
3 amendments. We will get to your amendments when we  
4 get to the proper time to debate Rule number 10.

5 Rule number 11, Candidate Support. Are  
6 there any amendments to Rule number 11 regarding  
7 Candidate Support?

8 [No response.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Next, Rule number  
10 12, Nominations. Are there any amendments to Rule  
11 number 12? Any amendments to Rule number 12? I see  
12 someone heading toward the microphone.

13 MS. BOWEN: Gwen Bowen, Louisiana.

14 I have an amendment.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We will  
16 set number 12 aside.

17 Any further amendments to Rules 1 through  
18 12 on rules that have not already been set aside?

19 [No response.]

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. In this  
21 case, we will now recess for only 15 minutes.  
22 That's to allow the staff for drafting, uploading,

1 making copies, et cetera. So, we will stand at east  
2 for 15 minutes and then resume.

3 Thank you.

4 [Recess.]

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Our wonderful staff  
6 is trying diligently to catch up with the  
7 amendments, but they need a little bit more time.

8 Let me share with you the rules that have  
9 been set aside, so that you can start to circle  
10 them, or however you'd like to mark them, so that  
11 you know what we have coming up.

12 The rules in Sections 1 through 12 that we  
13 will be taking up are as follows: Rule 1, Rule 3,  
14 Rule 4, Rule 5, Rule 6, Rule 7, Rule 8, Rule 10, and  
15 Rule 12.

16 We will take them up in that order, but  
17 we're going to give the staff a few more minutes to  
18 be able to catch up.

19 If you have an amendment to either the  
20 preamble or a proposal for a new rule that does not  
21 come in the form of an amendment to one of the  
22 existing rules, you can also presubmit that at this

1 time.

2           In addition, you don't have to wait until  
3 we bring up Sections 2 and 3 to presubmit your  
4 amendments. The reason I'm giving you this now is  
5 because our staff has had a number of amendments  
6 that just now came in, and they are working very,  
7 very diligently to try to get them loaded into the  
8 system and also print out copies of those rules that  
9 will not fit on the video screens.

10           So, please continue to just stand at ease.

11 And, as soon as the staff has got us caught up to  
12 the point where we can move forward in order, we'll  
13 let you know.

14           [Recess.]

15           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right, ladies  
16 and gentlemen, I have an idea on how we can proceed  
17 and get some other work done while we're waiting for  
18 the staff, if this is how you would like to proceed.

19 It would take things out of order just a little  
20 bit. And so, I'm going to ask for unanimous consent  
21 to do the following. We're simply going to read  
22 through the Rules numbers, 13 through 25, just as we

1 just did through 1 -- for 1 through 4, and simply  
2 find out which rules we have amendments to.

3           Is there anyone who objects to doing that?  
4     Anyone who objects?

5           [No response.]

6           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Well,  
7 then let's go ahead and simply call out Rules 12 --  
8 excuse me -- 13 through 25, and see which ones we  
9 will have amendments on.

10           All right. Rule number 13, Call of the  
11 Next Convention. Rule number 13, Call of the Next  
12 Convention.

13           [No response.]

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I see no  
15 amendments.

16           Rule number 14, Membership in the  
17 Convention.

18           MR. LITTLE: Madam Chairman, I'd like to  
19 reserve that.

20           Ross Little, Junior, Louisiana.

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
22 Little. We will set aside Rule number 14.

1           Rule number 15, Participation in the  
2 Delegate Selection Process. Are there any  
3 amendments to Rule number 15?

4           [No response.]

5           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. I see  
6 none.

7           Rule number 16, Election, Selection,  
8 Allocation, or Binding of Delegates and Alternate  
9 Delegates.

10          Yes, ma'am.

11          VOICE: I have an amendment.

12          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We will  
13 set aside number 16.

14          Rule number 17, Enforcement of Rules.

15 Rule number 17, Enforcement of Rules.

16          [No response.]

17          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I see no changes --  
18 or, rather, no amendments to be offered to Rule 17.

19          Rule number 18, Vacancies in a State  
20 Delegation. Vacancies in a State Delegation.

21          [No response.]

22          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I see none.

1                   Rule number 19, Excess Delegates and  
2 Alternate Delegates. Excess Delegates and Alternate  
3 Delegates.

4                   [No response.]

5                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I see no amendments  
6 to be offered on Rule 19.

7                   Rule number 20, Certification of Election  
8 or Selection of Delegates. Certification of  
9 Election or Selection of Delegates.

10                  Mr. Ryder.

11                  MR. RYDER: I have an amendment to Rule  
12 20.

13                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Rule  
14 number 20 will be set aside. And, because there is  
15 a command -- companion amendment, Rule number 18  
16 will be set aside, as well.

17                  Rule number 21, Contests, Resolution by  
18 States.

19                  VOICE: I have an amendment.

20                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We will  
21 set aside Rule number 21.

22                  Rule number 22, Temporary Role of the

1 Republican National Convention.

2 Mr. Ryder.

3 MR. RYDER: I have an amendment.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We will set aside  
5 number 22.

6 Rule number 23, Contest Filing. Rule  
7 number 23 --

8 Mr. Ryder.

9 MR. RYDER: I have an amendment.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We will set aside  
11 number 23.

12 Rule number 24, Contest Procedure.

13 Mr. Ryder.

14 MR. RYDER: I have an amendment.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We will set aside  
16 Rule number 24.

17 Having just been through the contest  
18 procedure, I have a feeling that our General Counsel  
19 has some suggestions to make.

20 All right. Rule number 25, Convention  
21 Committee on Credentials. Convention Committee on  
22 Credentials.

1 [No response.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I see no amendments  
3 to be offered on Rule number 25.

4 All right. That completes that section.

5 Let me encourage you -- because, as you  
6 see, we're having a little bit of a logjam, as we  
7 have all of these particular amendments coming in  
8 just this morning. You're welcome to submit the  
9 amendments, if you already know what you'd like your  
10 amendment to be, or you're welcome to go to the Help  
11 Desk for drafting for amendments to any rule -- you  
12 do not have to wait for Section 2 or for Section 3  
13 to be able to submit them -- so that they can be  
14 preloaded into the system or to go and ask for help  
15 to get them drafted.

16 All right, ladies and gentlemen, we are  
17 ready to proceed.

18 The first rule that we will take up -- or  
19 amendment that we will take up is Amendment number  
20 1.1. Have you all received it at the table? No,  
21 you have not received it.

22 Staff, are we getting -- or is this one



1 that will fit on the -- all right, this one is going  
2 to fit on the screen. Ah, there it is. All right.

3 Yes, Miriam.

4 MS. HELLREICH: Madam Chair, I'm unable to  
5 read it. Oh, okay. Better. Thank you.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is that better?  
7 Okay.

8 All right. Can everyone read the text on  
9 the screen? It's not -- your monitor's not on.

10 All right. At the risk of angering the  
11 press, we're going to move forward while I ask the  
12 audiovisual people to fix their monitor. Can we  
13 have someone come over and fix the press monitor?  
14 Okay.

15 All right. This has been submitted by  
16 MaryAnne Kinney and Cindy Pugh. Is there a motion?

17 Okay, we need to have you come to the  
18 microphone, identify your name and State, and make  
19 it in the form of a motion.

20 MS. BOWEN: I'd like a motion to second.

21 Gwen Bowen, Louisiana.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. All right.

1 First, we need to have her make the motion.

2 MS. BOWEN: Oh, I'm sorry.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That's all right.  
4 This is the first one of the day. We'll all get  
5 into a rhythm, here, in just a minute.

6 All right. We're going to take this  
7 motion, and then I'm told we need a recess. I don't  
8 know if it's technical problems. And I apologize.

9 But, the gentlelady is recognized for the  
10 purpose of making a motion.

11 MS. KINNEY: Thank you. MaryAnne Kinney,  
12 from Maine.

13 I'd like to pass on this until the end of  
14 Section 1. But, do I motion it now and then pass?  
15 How would you like that done?

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That would require  
17 a suspension of the rules and a two-thirds vote in  
18 affirmative.

19 MS. KINNEY: Because we've already --  
20 we've gone through Section 1, is that correct?

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, we are -- we've  
22 gone through and set aside those rules that will

1 require discussion.

2 MS. KINNEY: Okay.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: So, now we're  
4 beginning on any amendment to Rule 1.

5 MS. KINNEY: Okay. My motion is to  
6 propose language to add, after line 15, to be  
7 determined, "A person who is registered with any  
8 governmental entity as a paid lobbyist for an entity  
9 other than a nonprofit organization or who is  
10 employed by any entity whose Primary purpose is  
11 providing lobbying services to others shall be  
12 ineligible to serve as a member of the Republican  
13 National Committee or as a proxy for a member to the  
14 Republican National Committee."

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. The  
16 motion has been made. Is there a second?

17 MR. BOWEN: Second.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Motion has been  
19 made and seconded.

20 I'm told that we need to recess  
21 temporarily. Ladies and gentlemen, I apologize. We  
22 will come back as soon as we possibly can. I

1 understand we have some technical issues.

2 We will stand at recess.

3 [Recess.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Ladies and  
5 gentlemen, I understand that the problem is one that  
6 most of you have probably experienced, and that is  
7 that the printer jammed.

8 [Laughter.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: And so, they will  
10 remedy the problem as quickly as possible. This is  
11 why we tried to move to screens. All right.

12 [Recess.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Ladies and  
14 gentlemen, rather than have you wait while we see if  
15 it's the next 5 minutes or the next 5 minutes, we  
16 are going to recess until 10:00 a.m., at which point  
17 I promise you we will move forward expeditiously.

18 We will stand in recess until 10:00 a.m.

19 [Recess.]

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Ladies and  
21 gentlemen, you've been incredibly patient, and I  
22 appreciate your goodwill as we deal with these

1 issues.

2           I have been conferring with our staff and  
3 with officers of the Convention, and we have come to  
4 the conclusion that it would be best if we recess  
5 until 1:00 o'clock, at which point -- I know, I'm  
6 not happy either -- but, we will recess until 1:00  
7 o'clock, and, at that point, we will come back and  
8 be able to move through things without these  
9 constant interruptions.

10           So, we will stand at recess until 1:00  
11 o'clock.

12           [Recess.]

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1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. At this  
2 point, we have a motion on the floor, that has been  
3 seconded, dealing with Rule number 1. The Chair  
4 recognizes the Gentleman from New York.

5                   MR. DeVITO: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'd  
6 like to move to postpone this motion until after  
7 consideration of --

8                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Name and State,  
9 please.

10                  MR. DeVITO: Oh, Vincent DeVito,  
11 Massachusetts.

12                  I'd like to move to -- excuse me -- to  
13 postpone this motion until after consideration of  
14 Rule 12, and to make the motion a general order. I  
15 do believe the Gentlelady, when she introduced this  
16 motion, also asked it to be postponed later.

17                  VOICE: Second.

18                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I believe she --  
19 there is a motion and a second to postpone this  
20 until after consideration of the other items in  
21 Rules -- well, 1 through 12. Is there any debate?

22                  [No response.]

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Hearing none, all  
2 those in favor, say aye.

3                   [A chorus of ayes.]

4                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

5                   [No response.]

6                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. The  
7 motion has been tabled. Excuse me, postponed.

8 That's why I have parliamentarians.

9                   All right. Next, because we had no  
10 additional amendments to Rule 1 and no amendments to  
11 Rule 2, we will move forward to the amendments to  
12 Rule 3.

13                   We have two amendments that have been  
14 submitted regarding Rule 3. The first is Amendment  
15 3.1. Do we have a motion?

16                   VOICE: Yes, Madam Chair. I would like to  
17 make a motion.

18                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Name and State,  
19 please. We'll get used to it.

20                   MS. HUDSON: Susie Hudson, from Vermont.

21                   I'd like to make a motion to amend Rule  
22 number 3(a), which you'll find on page number 4,



1 line 17. I would like to strike "and until their  
2 successors shall have been elected and ratified,"  
3 and insert the following at the beginning of the  
4 second sentence, "while newly elected members may be  
5 ratified simultaneously," and insert the word  
6 "considered" immediately before the word "ratified."

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We have a motion.  
8 Is there a second?

9 VOICE: Second.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We have a second.  
11 Would you like to speak to your motion?

12 MS. HUDSON: Yes, Madam Chair, thank you.

13 Basically, this is a -- this is just a  
14 simple cleanup amendment. It get rids -- gets rid  
15 of some confusing and unnecessary language, and  
16 clarifies that ratification for multiple members can  
17 happen at the same time. But, for seniority  
18 purposes, they are considered ratified when elected.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Right. Is there  
20 anyone who wishes to speak in opposition to this  
21 amendment? Anyone who likes to speak in opposition?

22 [No response.]

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Seeing none, we  
2 will move to a vote on the amendment to strike "and  
3 until their successors shall have been elected and  
4 ratified," and insert at the beginning of the second  
5 sentence, "while newly elected members may be  
6 ratified simultaneously," and insert the word  
7 "considered" immediately before the word "ratified."

8                   All those in favor, say aye.

9                   [A chorus of ayes.]

10                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Any opposed, nay.

11                  [No response.]

12                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  The motion carries.

13                  We just did our first amendment.

14                  [Applause.]

15                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  All right.  The  
16 next amendment to come before the body is Amendment  
17 3.2.

18                  I see the Gentleman approaching the  
19 microphone.  Would the Gentleman like to make a  
20 motion?

21                  MR. JONES:  Yes.  Gary Jones, from  
22 Oklahoma.

1                   And what I proposed is striking the  
2 language that says "shall serve from adjournment of  
3 the National Convention until adjournment of the  
4 following National Convention until their successors  
5 have been elected and ratified," and substitute  
6 "shall serve from July of the year prior to the  
7 National Convention until July of the year of the  
8 prior following Convention."

9                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. There  
10 has been a motion. Is there a second?

11                  VOICE: Second.

12                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Motion has been  
13 seconded.

14                  Sir, would you like to speak to your  
15 amendment?

16                  MR. JONES: Yes. You know, all the RNC  
17 members are very much involved in campaigns. And  
18 so, basically, what we have is, an RNC member serves  
19 up until this Convention and then now the new people  
20 come on board. It's changing horses in the middle  
21 of the stream at the worst possible time.

22                  What I propose is, this would allow them

1 to be on the Committee to understand and move  
2 forward through the election cycle, so we have  
3 seamless leadership within the State parties during  
4 this time, also that, when you bring people in at  
5 the time you're bringing them in, they're fairly new  
6 to the process when we elect a new National  
7 Chairman. This would allow individuals to be on the  
8 Committee for a while to understand what's going on  
9 before they pick the next Chairman for the next 2  
10 years.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
12 there anyone who wishes to speak in opposition to  
13 this motion? Anyone who wishes to speak in  
14 opposition to this motion.

15 I see the Gentleman from Virginia moving  
16 toward the microphone. Mr. Blackwell, would you  
17 like to speak in opposition?

18 MR. BLACKWELL: Yes, I would. I happen to  
19 have on good authority that part of the negotiations  
20 that are going on are in respect of starting and  
21 stopping terms of members of the National Committee.  
22 And I believe that it is premature to consider this

1 until those negotiations which we have already  
2 waited a good while to be complete -- until they be  
3 complete. So, I move that we postpone the --  
4 postpone indefinitely this proposal. I'm -- I know  
5 that a specific item relating to this is subject to  
6 the negotiations going on elsewhere.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. There  
8 has been a motion to postpone indefinitely. Is  
9 there a second?

10 VOICE: Second.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Hearing a second,  
12 is there any debate?

13 MR. LITTLE: Well, Madam Chairman, Ross  
14 Little, Louisiana.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes. Mr. Little.

16 MR. LITTLE: I would like to ask Mr.  
17 Blackwell if he intended to have a motion  
18 indefinitely or a motion to a definite time after  
19 consideration of Rule 12.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Blackwell?

21 MR. BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

22 A motion to postpone indefinitely could be

1 reconsidered, could it not?

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That is correct.

3 MR. BLACKWELL: Then I think it's -- I  
4 made the proper motion, because a motion to a time  
5 specific seems to me to indicate somebody has a  
6 greater sense than I do as to when those  
7 negotiations will be completed. So, I'd -- I would  
8 ask you that -- to support my motion to postpone  
9 indefinitely.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Blackwell, I  
11 would have been stunned had you made a procedural  
12 error.

13 [Laughter.]

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Mr.  
15 Blackwell stands by his motion, and there has been a  
16 second. Is there any additional discussion on the  
17 motion?

18 [No response.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Hearing none, we  
20 will move --

21 Mr. Ryder, from Tennessee.

22 MR. RYDER: Madam Chairman, I think Mr.

1 Little's inquiry was quite appropriate. It seems to  
2 me that if what Mr. Blackwell suggests is correct  
3 and there are continuing discussions, it would be  
4 more appropriate to postpone consideration of this  
5 amendment until a definite time, as we did with  
6 Amendment 1.1 on Rule number 1. And so, I would  
7 urge opposition, voting no on Mr. Blackwell's  
8 motion, and then we'll take -- then I will make a  
9 motion to postpone until we get to the end of Rule  
10 12.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right, Mr.  
12 Ryder.

13 Mr. Ryder urges opposition. He's  
14 explained to you why. I see the Gentleman from  
15 Georgia approaching the microphone.

16 MR. EVANS: Madam Chair, Randy Evans, from  
17 Georgia.

18 I would like to echo Mr. Ryder's comments,  
19 only because if we don't create these speed-breaks  
20 where we put things to bed at the -- for example,  
21 the end of Rules 1 through 12, then we could  
22 literally be here indefinitely. And so, much like

1 the very first motion to postpone, it set a very  
2 clear, definitive deadline.

3           Now, if we reach that and Mr. Blackwell  
4 says, "I'd like to now move to postpone again," we  
5 can take that up. But, it does set very clear  
6 targets for us to get our work done. And we're  
7 already pretty far behind schedule. And so, I think  
8 it's critically important that we keep these  
9 deadlines in place. And I thought the Chair did a  
10 great job of saying, "One way to do that is  
11 eliminate that which is not in dispute, break it  
12 into three groups, and then, at the end of the first  
13 group, once we're finished with that, let's push  
14 that aside so that we don't then tie the rest of the  
15 meeting up with other words."

16           So, I would urge everyone to vote against  
17 Mr. Blackwell, vote no to Mr. Blackwell's motion, so  
18 that we can hear Mr. Ryder's motion.

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Ash, from  
20 Arizona.

21           MR. ASH: Madam Chairman, Bruce Ash,  
22 Arizona.



1           Mr. Blackwell's motion was completely in  
2 order. I think you concurred. Irrespective of Mr.  
3 Little's concern and the others, this is unnecessary  
4 blather. Let's have the vote on this. We ought to  
5 vote for it in the affirmative. And when the  
6 negotiations, if they're still going on, are  
7 completed, we'll take care of this at that point in  
8 time. This isn't any kind of a dilatory delay at  
9 all.

10           Thank you, ma'am.

11           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.  
12 Although I suppose that "unnecessary blather" is in  
13 the eye of the beholder.

14           [Laughter.]

15           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We have  
16 had a motion made.

17           VOICE: I have a question. Parliamentary  
18 inquiry.

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Parliamentary  
20 inquiry.

21           MR. DUPREY: Madam Chairman, Steve Duprey,  
22 from New Hampshire.

1                   Do I understand that a motion to  
2 indefinitely postpone, if passed, would mean that  
3 we're done with debate on this? Indefinite --

4                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That is correct.

5                   MR. DUPREY: So, if we, in fact, vote in  
6 favor of indefinite postponement, we won't be  
7 dealing with this amendment anymore.

8                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That is correct.

9                   MR. DUPREY: Okay. So, if I want to be  
10 done with this amendment, I would vote in favor of  
11 indefinite postponement.

12                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That is correct.

13                   MR. DUPREY: Thank you. I'm getting --

14                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

15                   Mr. Blackwell.

16                   MR. BLACKWELL: Madam Chairman, as I think  
17 we established when I was up here earlier, the -- a  
18 motion to reconsider the motion to -- that I have  
19 made would be in order, so we would not necessarily  
20 be quit of this motion. It's subject to a motion to  
21 reconsider. Is that correct?

22                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It is, Mr.

1 Blackwell.

2 MR. BLACKWELL: It's still correct. Thank  
3 you.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It is still  
5 correct.

6 All right. The Chair senses that we have  
7 exhausted debate on this issue. And so, we will  
8 move to a vote on Mr. Blackwell's motion to postpone  
9 indefinitely consideration of Amendment 3.2. As Mr.  
10 Blackwell said, it will still be subject to  
11 reconsideration, should the body wishes to do so.

12 All of those in favor --

13 Mr. Ryder, you almost missed your chance,  
14 but please go ahead.

15 MR. RYDER: Madam Chair, I move to amend  
16 the motion before the body to postpone definitely  
17 until the conclusion of the business under Rule 12.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Mr.  
19 Ryder, the parliamentarians have advised me that  
20 your motion is not in order because you cannot  
21 revise Mr. Blackwell's motion. However, you may  
22 bring a motion, should -- after the vote on this

1 particular matter. Oh, you may do it now, I  
2 understand.

3 MR. RYDER: I so move.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?

5 VOICE: Second.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
7 seconded to postpone indefinitely -- excuse me -- to  
8 postpone to a definite time at the end of the  
9 amendments that we take up from Rule 1 through 12.  
10 And it would be considered at that time. That is  
11 the motion before the body. Is there anyone who is  
12 confused about it, besides me?

13 [Laughter.]

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. If you  
15 vote in favor of Mr. Ryder's motion, we will be  
16 postponing consideration of this item until after we  
17 have finished the other amendments to Rule 1 through  
18 12. All those in favor, please say aye.

19 [A chorus of ayes.]

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

21 [A chorus of nays.]

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

1 Thank you, Mr. Ryder.

2 At this point, we will move forward to  
3 amendments to Rule 4. Rule 4 deals with vacancies  
4 of members and officers of the Republican National  
5 Committee. The first amendment that we will take up  
6 is Amendment number 4.1.

7 I see Mr. Ash approaching the microphone.

8 Mr. Ash, do you have a motion?

9 MR. ASH: No, ma'am. I got a little ahead  
10 of myself. I'm -- I made an amendment on 4(d) and  
11 4(c), so I'll just stand by the mic.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, we are taking  
13 up Amendment 4.1, which is your amendment on 4(d).

14 MR. ASH: Okay. So -- I can't really see  
15 the board from here -- so, this is on 4(d)?

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

17 MR. ASH: Okay.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: If you look down in  
19 the bottom left-hand corner, you should see --

20 MR. ASH: Right. Right.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- Amendment 4.1.

22 MR. ASH: Perfect. Now I understand your

1 coding. Thank you very much.

2 Bruce Ash, Arizona.

3 Madam Chairman, if I can make an inquiry  
4 at this time. With the changes that are still in  
5 limbo on Rule number 1, these two amendments really  
6 don't make any sense to take up at this time,  
7 because they deal with the other amendment under  
8 Rule 1. Is it possible to defer discussion on this  
9 until we're through with Rule 12?

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes. Let me  
11 suggest that you may wish to make a motion to  
12 postpone until a definite time following the time  
13 that we have taken up Rules 1 through 12.

14 MR. ASH: So moved.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?

16 VOICE: Second.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any discussion?

18 [No response.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those in favor  
20 of postponing consideration of this motion to amend  
21 until after we have taken up Rules 1 through 12,  
22 please say aye.

1 [A chorus of ayes.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed?

3 [No response.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

5 MR. ASH: Thank you.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We're going to be  
7 busy at the end of 12, aren't we?

8 All right. The next item that we will  
9 take up is Amendment 4.2. Mr. Ash, I believe that  
10 is also your amendment. It impacts Rule 4(c) and is  
11 designated Amendment 4.2.

12 MR. ASH: Right. My apologies, Madam  
13 Chairman. I thought we were handling both at the  
14 same time.

15 I'd like to make a motion to postpone  
16 indefinitely until we are finished with our Rule 12,  
17 in the same fashion we did on the last amendment  
18 request.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Somehow I suspected  
20 as much.

21 MR. ASH: Thank you.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?

1 VOICE: Second.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It has been moved  
3 and seconded. Is there any discussion?

4 [No response.]

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Hearing none, we  
6 will move -- we will vote on Mr. Ash's motion to  
7 delay consideration until after we have completed  
8 Rule 12. All those in favor, say aye.

9 [A chorus of ayes.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, say  
11 nay.

12 [No response.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

14 Next --

15 VOICE: Madam Chairman?

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, ma'am.

17 MS. UNRUH: Kendal Unruh, from Colorado.

18 I have a parliamentary inquiry. Under  
19 Rule 41(c), what is going to be the procedure to  
20 demonstrate that 20 percent of the Committee members  
21 demand a recorded vote? What is that going to look  
22 like?



1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  If there is a call  
2  for a recorded vote, I will ask all those in favor  
3  of a recorded vote to stand, at which point we will  
4  count the standing members.

5           MS. UNRUH:  Thank you, Madam Chairman.

6           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Thank you.

7           Next, we move to Amendment number 4.3.  
8  This impacts Rule number 4(b).  And the Chair  
9  recognizes the Gentleman from Maine.

10          VOICE:  Point of inquiry, Madam Chair.

11          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Oh, pardon me, sir.  
12  Yes, of course.

13          MR. PROTO:  Benjamin Proto, from  
14  Connecticut.

15          You may have dealt with this yesterday,  
16  and I apologize if you did, Madam Chair.

17          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  It's all right.

18          MR. PROTO:  Rule 4 is the first rule we  
19  come upon where there is a change proposed by the  
20  RNC Standing Rules Committee.  How are we dealing  
21  with those changes, or proposed changes?

22          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Sir, that is

1 something we discussed yesterday. I'm not trying to  
2 say that you can't bring it up again. But, just so  
3 that everyone understands, the changes that were  
4 recommended by the RNC Standing Committee on Rules  
5 are included in your rules that are currently before  
6 you. If you wish to change any of the language  
7 included in the rules before you, including those  
8 changes recommended by the Standing Rules Committee  
9 of the RNC, you need to offer an amendment to do so.

10 All right. Now, Amendment number 4.3,  
11 submitted by Alex Willette, from Maine.

12 MR. WILLETTE: Madam Chair, I make a  
13 motion to postpone indefinitely until after the  
14 consideration of Rule 12, as a general rule of  
15 order.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There has been a  
17 motion. Is there a second?

18 VOICE: Second.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
20 seconded. Is there any discussion?

21 [No response.]

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. You all

1 know what this motion means by this time. All those  
2 in favor, say aye.

3 [A chorus of ayes.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

5 [No response.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Motion passes.

7 That takes care of all of the amendments  
8 that we have to Rule 4. So, now we will move on to  
9 Rule 5, Officers of the Republican National  
10 Committee. We have five different amendments that  
11 have been submitted on this.

12 The first one that we will take up is Rule  
13 -- is Amendment number 5.3. Amendment number 5.3.  
14 And the reason that's -- occasionally, we'll skip  
15 5.1 or 5.2, is that you'll find out that sometimes  
16 when there have been duplicative amendments  
17 submitted, some of those will have been withdrawn.  
18 So, we're not skipping out of order, we're simply  
19 going to the first one that is still in for  
20 consideration.

21 All right. The Chair recognizes the Lady  
22 from Montana.

1 MS. MILANOVICH: Thank you, Madam Chair.  
2 Anita Milanovich, Montana.

3 I move to insert the sentence, quote, "The  
4 Co-Chairman shall perform such duties as are  
5 assigned by the Chairman," end quote, and to strike  
6 the term "entire" and replace with, quote, "member  
7 of the," end quote, so that the entire paragraph  
8 shall read, "The Chairman shall be the chief  
9 executive officer of the Republican National  
10 Committee. The Co-Chair shall perform such duties  
11 as are assigned by the Chairman. The Chairman or  
12 Co-Chairman may be removed from office only by a  
13 two-thirds vote of the members of the Republican  
14 National Committee."

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. There  
16 has been a motion. Is there a second?

17 VOICE: Second.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
19 seconded. Would you like to address the substance  
20 of your motion?

21 MS. MILANOVICH: Thank you, Madam Chair.  
22 The purpose of this amendment is just to

1 make explicit the rule -- the role and duties of the  
2 Co-Chair. The Co-Chair -- Chairman position is a  
3 paid position, and it seems appropriate that the  
4 position should be expressly delineated in the  
5 rules. And as regards to the change from "entire"  
6 to "members of the," is just a -- to make clear that  
7 it's two-thirds of the voting membership that is  
8 required for this -- for that vote.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
10 you.

11 Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
12 opposition? Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
13 opposition?

14 [No response.]

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Are there any  
16 members who would like to speak in support?

17 Mr. Evans, I see you approaching the  
18 microphone.

19 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

20 Randy Evans, from Georgia.

21 I rise in support of this amendment. I  
22 think it accurately reflects, in fact, how the RNC

1 has operated, but also it clarifies it in such a way  
2 so that we can eliminate any overlap that might  
3 otherwise exist. In other words, by having a  
4 Delegated power, you can then segregate out and say,  
5 "This is what the Chair will do. These are the  
6 assigned responsibilities that I'd like the Co-Chair  
7 to do." And it just clarifies the lines of  
8 authority, which makes the operation move a lot more  
9 efficiently and operate better.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Little.

11 MR. LITTLE: Madam Chairman, Ross Little,  
12 Junior, Louisiana.

13 We attempted to do something like this in  
14 the Standing Committee on Rules of the RNC for the  
15 last couple of years. I think this effectively  
16 solves the problem that we were thinking of. And  
17 I'm in support of it.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

19 Mr. Ash.

20 MR. ASH: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

21 Bruce Ash, Arizona.

22 This is an elegant solution to something

1 we've talked about a lot of times at Standing  
2 Committee. Without going into some of the glass-  
3 ceiling issues that we seem to have constantly  
4 gotten bogged down in, I completely endorse this  
5 solution.

6 Thank you, ma'am.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

8 Is there anyone else who wishes to speak  
9 to this amendment? Anyone else?

10 Yes, sir.

11 MR. ROSS: Jordan Ross, Nevada.

12 This is a -- was new to me, but I want to  
13 point out that part and parcel of the rules process,  
14 in general, at the National, State, or county level,  
15 is one of, many times, not so much great, radical  
16 change and reform, but a fine-tuning, a lot of what  
17 I call housekeeping elements. This is precisely the  
18 type of thing that we're talking about. And it's --  
19 these kind of things, they don't sound interesting,  
20 they sound dull sometimes, but these are frequently  
21 the really important things that need to be done  
22 when you're working with rules. You need to

1 maintain the machine. It's like changing the oil  
2 and getting tuneups. I stand in support of the  
3 amendment.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

5 VOICE: Call the question.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. The --  
7 I assume you meant previous question.

8 VOICE: Yes.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. Previous  
10 question has been called. All those in favor of  
11 closing debate on this matter, please say aye.

12 [A chorus of ayes.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

14 [No response.]

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It is unanimous.

16 We now move to a vote on this proposed  
17 amendment to insert the sentence "The Co-Chairman  
18 shall perform such duties as are assigned by the  
19 Chairman," to strike the term "entire" and replace  
20 with "members of the." In this language, "The  
21 Chairman shall be the chief executive officer of the  
22 Republican National Committee. The Co-Chairman



1 shall perform such duties as are assigned by the  
2 Chairman. The Chairman or Co-Chairman may be  
3 removed from office only by a two-thirds vote of the  
4 members of the Republican National Committee."

5 All those in favor of this amendment,  
6 please say aye.

7 [A chorus of ayes.]

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, please  
9 say nay.

10 [No response.]

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

12 Next, we will move to Amendment 5.4. 5.4  
13 impacts Rule number 5(a)(2). And the Chair  
14 recognizes the Lady from Montana.

15 MS. MILANOVICH: Thank you, Madam Chair.

16 Anita Milanovich, Montana.

17 I move to add the sentence, quote, "The  
18 Vice-Chairmen shall preside at all meetings of their  
19 region and shall serve as chief executive officers  
20 for any activities of the region," end quote. So  
21 that in its entirety it shall read, "The election of  
22 Vice Chairmen shall not require confirmation by the

1 Republican National Committee. The Vice Chairmen  
2 shall preside at all meetings of their region and  
3 shall serve as chief executive officers for any  
4 activity of the region. The Vice Chairmen shall be  
5 comprised of one man and one woman from each of the  
6 following regions."

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Could  
8 we stop you there? My copy seems to have slightly  
9 different language.

10 Can you check that for me, please?

11 We'll just stand at ease just for a  
12 moment. We're going to make certain that I've got  
13 the correct language, or the incorrect language, as  
14 may be, but we'll get the same language between us.

15 [Pause.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. I  
17 understand that we have the correct language up on  
18 the monitors. Is that correct? Would you please  
19 look at that and see if that's what you intended?

20 MS. MILANOVICH: That is, Madam Chair.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: And now I have the  
22 same language. So, thank you.

1            Would you -- we've -- you've made the  
2 motion. Do we have a second?

3            VOICE: Second.

4            CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We have a second.  
5            Now, would you like to address your  
6 motion?

7            MS. MILANOVICH: Thank you, Madam Chair.

8            The purpose of the -- this amendment is  
9 much like the prior amendment that I just offered.  
10 The Vice Chairmen hold position -- a position  
11 created under the rules that ought to have specific  
12 duties delineated so that expectations for the  
13 position are known.

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

15           Are there any who would like to speak in  
16 opposition to this amendment? Any who would like to  
17 speak in opposition?

18           [No response.]

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I see no members  
20 who would like to speak in opposition.

21           Mr. Evans, I see you approaching the  
22 microphone.

1           MR. EVANS:  Actually, I was, first, going  
2  to raise just a question, which is the word  
3  "activities," which is the one thing that concerns  
4  me a little bit.

5           The way the regions actually operate is  
6  that we have -- each region meets, and we take --  
7  conduct business within the context of the region.  
8  I'm a little bit concerned that the word  
9  "activities" here seems to expand the powers of the  
10 vice chairman beyond the region, or beyond that  
11 region, acting beyond what its limited powers are  
12 under the RNC rules.

13           So, I'm a little bit torn, because, on the  
14 one hand, I agree with "The Vice Chairman shall  
15 preside at all sessions of the region and serve as  
16 the chief executive officer for the region."  I'm  
17 not so sure that I can agree with the "activities."

18          So, with the word "activities" in there, I would  
19 have to vote no.

20           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Can you tell he's a  
21 lawyer?

22           Mr. Barbour, you're approaching.  The

1 Chair recognizes the Gentleman from Mississippi.

2 MR. BARBOUR: Yes, ma'am.

3 Henry Barbour, from Mississippi.

4 I appreciate this amendment. However, I  
5 believe that the idea of -- that the volunteer Vice  
6 Chairmen of the regions really -- to say that they  
7 would be serving as a chief executive officer, I  
8 don't think it's accurate, as far as what they  
9 actually do in normal RNC activities. And I think,  
10 being from the Southern region, we have the Southern  
11 Regional Political Conference every few years, and,  
12 you know, normally -- you know, that is certainly an  
13 activity in our region, but never have we had our  
14 Vice Chair be the head of it, because that is  
15 normally led by a State Party Chairman in the State  
16 Party where that might be, if it's in Tennessee or  
17 South Carolina, or wherever.

18 So, while I think the intent of this is  
19 good, I believe it, in the details, fails what is  
20 the practical reality.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We've  
22 had members speak in opposition. Is there an

1 additional member who would like to speak in favor?

2 The Gentleman from Idaho.

3 MR. SEMANKO: Madam Chair, Norm Semanko,  
4 from Idaho.

5 I rise in favor of this amendment. As a  
6 past member of the Republican National Committee, I  
7 understand, from the Western Region, the importance  
8 of autonomy amongst the regions when we have those  
9 States meet. And this is, in my view, nothing more  
10 than a recognition that, as to the activities of the  
11 region -- not the RNC as a whole, but in the region  
12 -- that the Vice Chairman is our number-one  
13 officer. And we need that. Whether it's organizing  
14 a luncheon or whatever activity there is in that  
15 region, this is a needed clarification and gives  
16 greater autonomy -- recognizes greater autonomy in  
17 the region. So, I am very strongly in support of  
18 this amendment.

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

21 Is there another member who wishes to  
22 speak in opposition?

1           Gentlelady from Hawaii.

2           MS. HELLREICH: Madam Chair, I am Miriam  
3 Hellreich.

4           I am the Vice Chairman of the Western  
5 Region. And I agree with Mr. Barbour's comments.  
6 While we do serve these roles, I think to call us  
7 the chief executive officers and to imply activities  
8 that are really not well defined -- they're pretty  
9 well defined in our -- we do reports from our  
10 regions, we do some training -- but, it's pretty  
11 prescribed stuff. So, I think that to go beyond  
12 those borders is a little bit disingenuous, in terms  
13 of what the job is really about. So, I would, for  
14 that reason, speak in opposition to it.

15           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

16           Are there any other members who wish to  
17 speak in favor of the motion?

18           Mr. Ash.

19           MR. ASH: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

20           Bruce Ash, Arizona.

21           You know, perhaps we're getting a little  
22 bit sidetracked by the word "activities." I've been

1 in the Western Region. The officers of that region  
2 conduct elections. They conduct different talks  
3 during our meetings. From time to time, they've  
4 even been in charge of, you know, handling member  
5 activities for the region. I don't think it's  
6 unusual. There's no appropriations that are made  
7 into any of the regions. It's just sort of  
8 recognizing their autonomy and the traditions and  
9 the practices that are taken care of in each of the  
10 four regions that are part of the RNC.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

12 Are there other members who wish to rise  
13 in opposition?

14 MR. HAMMOND: Madam Chair?

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes. Mr. Hammond.

16 MR. HAMMOND: John Hammond, National  
17 Committeeman for Indiana.

18 I would just add one quick comment, which  
19 is that, to me, besides creating an additional layer  
20 of something in a chief executive officer for  
21 activities, a CEO of sorts, to me it potentially  
22 usurps the State authority, meaning our State Party



1 leadership, those that assemble in a region, that  
2 vote. You know, we do have a treasury in each of  
3 these regions. It's not much. But, I'm not sure  
4 what this implies, in terms of control over such  
5 things. I urge your opposition.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

7 Are there any other members who wish to  
8 speak in support?

9 Mr. Little.

10 MR. LITTLE: Madam Chairman, I'd like to  
11 offer an amendment for this to strike out the  
12 language dealing with "chief executive officer and  
13 those activities," that it was -- it would end at --  
14 where the "presiding over the meetings."

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. There  
16 has been a motion made to strike "and shall serve as  
17 chief executive officers for any activities of the  
18 region," so that the inserted language would simply  
19 be "The Vice Chairmen shall preside at all meetings  
20 of their region," period. Is that correct?

21 MR. LITTLE: Yes, Madam Chair.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

1           That has been moved. Is there a second?

2           VOICE: Second.

3           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a second  
4 from Mr. Ryder, of Tennessee.

5           Any discussion? Mr. Little, would you  
6 like to speak to your amendment?

7           MR. LITTLE: Is it possible that I could  
8 request the sponsor accept this as a friendly  
9 amendment?

10          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is really no  
11 such thing. We would have to take a vote on it,  
12 regardless of her acceptance or rejection of it.

13          MR. LITTLE: Thank you, Madam -- I'll --

14          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

15          MR. LITTLE: -- Madam Chair. I think it's  
16 self-explanatory.

17          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay.

18          Are there any other members who wish to  
19 speak to Mr. Little's amendment? Anyone who wishes  
20 to speak to Mr. Little's amendment?

21          I see Mr. Ryder, from Tennessee.

22          MR. RYDER: John Ryder, Tennessee.

1           I think that's a great idea. I appreciate  
2 Mr. Little clarifying that. And, you know, the --  
3 one of the points is, all of these people who serve  
4 as the Vice Chairmen are volunteers. And you don't  
5 want to impose a lot of things on them that they  
6 have to do. You know, they serve at their own  
7 expense. So, adding the other duties, if there were  
8 any other duties, if there were any activities,  
9 would be an undue burden on people who are serving  
10 their Party and their country.

11           Thank you.

12           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
13 Ryder.

14           Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
15 opposition? Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
16 opposition to Mr. Little's motion?

17           I see two other Gentlemen at the  
18 microphone. Mr. --

19           MR. EVANS: Evans.

20           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- Evans. I'm just  
21 trying to see which one of you decided to speak.  
22 Yes. Mr. Evans, you're --

1 MR. EVANS: We were --

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- recognized.

3 MR. EVANS: We were flipping a coin, and I  
4 lost. So -- and I rise to speak in support of the  
5 motion to amend, and to note that it addresses the  
6 concerns that I have. I do think that it is  
7 important that our Southern Region vice president --  
8 or Vice Chairmen have power, because we are the one  
9 region that insists that grits be served at each  
10 regional breakfast.

11 [Laughter.]

12 MR. EVANS: And this is of critical  
13 importance to us. And we do not want anything that  
14 would undermine that ability to regulate the  
15 Southern Region. And I think the rule, as amended,  
16 would preserve both.

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

19 Is there anyone else who wishes to speak  
20 to this amendment?

21 [No response.]

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we

1 will move to the question.

2           The motion has been made that we strike  
3 the language "and shall serve as chief executive  
4 officers for any activities of the region." All of  
5 those in favor of striking this language, please say  
6 aye.

7           [A chorus of ayes.]

8           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All opposed, nay.

9           [No response.]

10          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

11          Now we move back to the main motion. The  
12 main motion would allow us to insert the language  
13 "The Vice Chairmen shall preside at all meetings of  
14 their region," period.

15          Is there anyone else who wishes to speak  
16 to this amendment?

17          [No response.]

18          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we'll  
19 move to a vote on the amendment.

20          All those in favor of adopting this  
21 amendment, please say aye.

22          [A chorus of ayes.]

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed?

2 [No response.]

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The amendment is  
4 passed, as amended.

5 Next, we will move to Amendment number  
6 5.5. This amendment deals with Rule number 5(b) and  
7 has been submitted by the Gentleman from Arizona.  
8 Please proceed for the purpose of a motion.

9 MR. ASH: Thank you, Madam Chairman.  
10 Bruce Ash, Arizona.

11 This is not going to be controversial.  
12 And I'm very happy that Miriam has been our Western  
13 Region Chair for years. We also get grits in the  
14 Western Region. I'm very happy with that, because I  
15 get to continue my grits breakfasts even if I'm here  
16 at the RNC meetings.

17 All this would do was add the words "Vice  
18 Chairman" after the word "Co-Chairman," so that, if  
19 adopted, the subsection would read, "The Chairmen,  
20 Co-Chairmen, and Vice Chairmen and all other  
21 officers shall be elected in January of the odd-  
22 number year." All this is is cleanup to make sure

1 that the regional officers are elected at that same  
2 January meeting.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. There  
4 has been a motion. Is there a second?

5 VOICE: Second.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a second.

7 Mr. Ash -- well, I let you go out of order  
8 to make your point. My apologies. It was my  
9 mistake.

10 So, we have now had one person speak in  
11 favor of the motion. Is there anyone who would like  
12 to speak in opposition?

13 Mr. Ryder.

14 MR. RYDER: Madam Chairman, John Ryder, of  
15 Tennessee.

16 And if you look at Rule 5(a)(2), it says,  
17 "eight Vice Chairmen, who shall be elected at  
18 regional Caucuses by the Republican National  
19 Committee members of the four regions, and shall be  
20 residents," so on. "The election shall take place  
21 in January of each odd-numbered year." So, what  
22 would be the point of inserting this language again

1 in Section 5(b)? I guess it's really an inquiry as  
2 much as it is a statement. But, if there's no good  
3 reason to do it, why do we want to add words to the  
4 rules? So, unless there -- unless Mr. Ash can give  
5 us a good reason, I would say vote no on the  
6 proposed amendment.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

8 Mr. Ash, would you like to address that?

9 MR. ASH: Madam Chairman, Bruce Ash,  
10 Arizona.

11 That's a great point, Mr. Ryder. And we -  
12 - I think we overlooked that. And I apologize for  
13 taking the time of the -- on the Committee. It was  
14 merely to make sure that those officers were elected  
15 at the same time. We just missed it. Okay?

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Would  
17 you --

18 MR. ASH: A little over- --

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- like to withdraw  
20 it? All right.

21 MR. ASH: And I'd like to withdraw the  
22 motion at this time.



1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Ash.

2 The amendment is withdrawn.

3 Next, we will go to Amendment number 5.6.

4 This deals with Rule number 5(a)(2) and has been

5 submitted by the Gentleman from Louisiana, Mr.

6 Little.

7 MR. LITTLE: Well, Madam Chairman, we

8 refer to our groupings not as associations, but as

9 regions, as we've already been discussing. So, I'm

10 proposing that we delete the word "association" and

11 insert the word "region" in those areas set forth.

12 That would be my motion.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right, Mr.

14 Little.

15 Is there a second?

16 VOICE: Second.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There's been a

18 motion and a second.

19 Would you like to address it further, Mr.

20 Little?

21 MR. LITTLE: I believe it's self-

22 explanatory.

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
2 you.

3                   Is there anyone else who wishes to be  
4 heard on this amendment? Is there anyone else who  
5 wishes to be heard on this amendment?

6                   Mr. Evans.

7                   MR. EVANS: Madam Chair, I rise in support  
8 of the amendment. I think it's a good  
9 clarification. We do refer to them as regions, and  
10 we treat them as regions.

11                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

12                  Is there anyone else who wishes to be  
13 heard on this amendment?

14                  [No response.]

15                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we'll  
16 move directly to a vote.

17                  All those in favor of adopting Mr.  
18 Little's amendment that will strike the word  
19 "association" and insert the word "region" in the  
20 four instances you see on your screen, please say  
21 aye.

22                  [A chorus of ayes.]

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

2 [No response.]

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The motion passes.

4 Next, we will move to Amendment 5.7.

5 Amendment 5.7 deals with the language of Rule 5(c)  
6 and has been submitted by the Gentleman from Idaho.

7

8 Sir, please proceed.

9 MR. SEMANKO: Madam Chair, Norm Semanko,  
10 from Idaho.

11 I understand and believe that this  
12 particular amendment is directly implicated by the  
13 negotiations that are going on. So, I would like to  
14 move to table Amendment 5.7 to a time certain, that  
15 time being upon the conclusion of consideration of  
16 Rules 1 through 12.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. You  
18 have heard the motion. Is there a second?

19 VOICE: Second.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Second. Is there  
21 any discussion?

22 [No response.]

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Hearing none, we'll  
2 move to a vote.

3                   All those in favor, please say aye.

4                   [A chorus of ayes.]

5                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Any opposed, nay.

6                   [No response.]

7                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  The amendment  
8 passes.  Excuse me.  The motion passes to postpone  
9 until after we have deal with Rules 1 through 12.

10                  All right, ladies and Gentlemen, that  
11 completes our work on Rule 5.

12                  So, now we move to Rule 6.  The first  
13 amendment that we will deal with on Rule 6 is  
14 Amendment 6.1, dealing with Rule number 6(a).  It's  
15 been submitted by the Gentleman from Arkansas.

16                  Mr. Barnett.

17                  MR. BARNETT:  Thank you, Madam Chairman.

18                  Jonathan Barnett, from Arkansas, not Tom  
19 Lundstrum, as the roll call indicated.

20                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  And we apologize  
21 for that, Mr. Barnett.  I do know the difference.  
22 And we'll try to make certain it's correct on the

1 roll in the morning.

2 MR. BARNETT: He did serve 4 years ago,  
3 though, so -- just a matter of information.

4 I propose that immediately after words  
5 "Republican State Chairman's Advisory Committee"  
6 that we insert the following language, and that is,  
7 "the Chairman of the Standing Committee on  
8 Presidential Primary Debates." And I'll proceed  
9 with the logic if you -- whenever you're ready.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay.

11 Is there a second?

12 VOICE: Second.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There has been a  
14 second.

15 Now please proceed, Mr. Barnett.

16 MR. BARNETT: Okay. As you all know that  
17 the RNC has created a Standing Committee on  
18 Presidential Primary Debates, and this is to help  
19 take back control over the Party's debates. It --  
20 we had about 22 debates, 4 years ago. And this  
21 time, you know we had 12, and we had much more  
22 control on it, not just any network commentator

1 could make any comments that they wanted. And,  
2 obviously, this Committee was a huge success. And  
3 it's kind of -- really kind of become part of the  
4 RNC now.

5           So, presently, the Chairman of the Rules  
6 Committee, the Resolutions Committee, the Budget  
7 Committee, and the State Chairman's Advisory  
8 Committee, they're already members of the Executive  
9 Committee. So, this amendment just simply adds the  
10 Chairman of that Committee to the Executive  
11 Committee. And the Chairman that we had this last  
12 time probably would appreciate it if he got a little  
13 more recognition anyhow. I think he was from New  
14 Hampshire, or something like that.

15           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
16 you, Mr. Barnett.

17           There has been a motion and a second, and  
18 we have had someone speak in favor of the motion.

19 Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
20 opposition to the motion? Anyone who would like to  
21 speak in opposition to the motion?

22           Well, Jonathan, you must have been very,

1 very persuasive.

2 VOICE: One second. One second.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I see they're  
4 working out some kind of textural --

5 MR. MOORE: Yes. Madam Chair, Matt Moore,  
6 from South Carolina.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

8 MR. MOORE: I believe this motion needs an  
9 additional amendment, which would be to change, on  
10 line 8, Rule 6, to -- from "29 officers" to "30  
11 officers." So, I would offer that as an amendment  
12 to the amendment.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

14 VOICE: Second.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
16 seconded. Is there someone who would like to speak  
17 in favor of Mr. Moore's amendment?

18 Randy Evans.

19 MR. EVANS: Madam Chair, basically, this  
20 just makes the proposed language consistent with the  
21 numbering of the number of officers of the RNC. So,  
22 if we add an officer -- even though I graduated from

1 a team -- a college with a great football team, we  
2 can still add. And 29 plus 1 equals 30. So, then  
3 we put 30 in. That solves the problem.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: You have to get how  
5 many football players together to add that high, Mr.  
6 Evans?

7 [Laughter.]

8 MR. EVANS: Well, it depends on how many  
9 national championships you have.

10 [Laughter.]

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Okay.  
12 You have heard the motion, and it has been  
13 seconded. Is there any further debate?

14 [No response.]

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those in favor,  
16 please say aye.

17 [A chorus of ayes.]

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

19 [No response.]

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. The  
21 motion passes.

22 So, now we are back to the main motion,



1 which is to insert the following language, "the  
2 Chairman of the Standing Committee on Presidential  
3 Primary Debates," and further in the rule we have  
4 already amended to include "30" rather than "29."  
5 Is there anyone else who wishes to speak regarding  
6 this motion?

7 Mr. Evans.

8 MR. EVANS: Yes.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I'm not going to  
10 try anymore football jokes.

11 [Laughter.]

12 MR. EVANS: Well, first of all, my hat's  
13 off to Steve Duprey, who did a phenomenal job with  
14 our Debates Committee. For those who don't  
15 remember, when we were last up, in 2012, it was just  
16 a disaster. We had, you know, Candy Crowley, Steve  
17 -- George Stephanopoulos asking questions that are  
18 out of left field that had nothing to do -- and it  
19 became clear in our -- today's media world, that  
20 debates are an integral part of the process. And,  
21 being an integral part of the process, we took the  
22 advantages of Rule 12 to create a Debate Committee

1 that permitted us to have a lot more control over  
2 the debates, themselves, both in terms of the  
3 number, the location, and even, to some degree, the  
4 panelists.

5           Many of you may remember that, when MSNBC  
6 misbehaved, the reaction was swift, and the reaction  
7 was severe. And that illustrated to us just how  
8 important the Debate Committee had become in today's  
9 media world. And it seemed appropriate that the  
10 person in charge of that Committee needed to report  
11 directly and as an officer on equal footing with  
12 other officers to make sure that the full complement  
13 of the Executive Committee at -- of the RNC, as  
14 well, would get a -- the benefit of exactly what was  
15 being done, why it was being done, and how it was  
16 being done. And the best way to do that would be to  
17 pass this amendment.

18           So, I rise in support of the amendment, in  
19 recognition that we don't live in the 1900s anymore,  
20 we live in a new millennia. And in the new  
21 millennia, we have to deal with media, and we have  
22 to deal with cable news, and exercise that control

1 through an officer who, in fact, is an officer of  
2 the RNC.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
4 Evans.

5 Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
6 opposition? Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
7 opposition?

8 [No response.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Are there  
10 additional members who would like to speak in  
11 support?

12 Mr. Little.

13 MR. LITTLE: Well, one thing Mr. Evans  
14 didn't mention is that the viewership of these  
15 debates was huge. And the effect on them was  
16 enormous. And certainly, it's appropriate to put  
17 the Chairman of this Committee on the Executive  
18 Committee.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
20 Little.

21 Is there any further debate on this  
22 motion?

1 [No response.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we  
3 will move directly to a vote.

4 All of those in favor of inserting the  
5 language "the Chairman of the Standing Committee on  
6 Presidential Primary Debates," along with changing  
7 numeral "29" to numeral "30" in the body of the  
8 rule, please say aye.

9 [A chorus of ayes.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Are there any  
11 opposed?

12 [No response.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

14 All right. As I understand it, there are  
15 no further amendments on Rule 6. And so, we will  
16 move to Rule 7.

17 Rule 7 deals with the Rules of Order. We  
18 have one amendment, Amendment 7.1, that impacts Rule  
19 7(b), that has been submitted by the Lady from  
20 Maryland, Mrs. Ambrose.

21 MS. AMBROSE: Good afternoon.

22 Nicolee Ambrose, Maryland.

1           Madam Chair, I am moving to reinsert the  
2 language which was -- came out pretty recently from  
3 our documents. Essentially, I think, as you have  
4 very ably demonstrated today, there's a lovely  
5 benefit to have registered parliamentarians ready to  
6 assist at all meetings. It certainly aids with our  
7 credibility and our transparency to have that extra  
8 layer of attention.

9           And I also firmly believe the RNC should  
10 be setting the gold standard for State and local GOP  
11 organizations, and also for our auxiliaries, that we  
12 really do need to look to the guidance of registered  
13 parliamentarians.

14           On a personal note, I have to say, I used  
15 to be Chairman of the Young Republican National  
16 Federation, and it was a -- as you were, Madam Chair  
17 -- and it made --

18           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: In the Dark Ages,  
19 yes.

20           MS. AMBROSE: -- there -- oh, you're --  
21 nonsense -- it made a night-and-day difference when  
22 we moved to having that requirement of increasing

1 our credibility, and just the general operations of  
2 the organization in our General Sessions.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. There  
5 has been a motion. Is there a second?

6 VOICE: Second.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
8 there anyone who wishes to speak in opposition to  
9 this motion? And it certainly won't be me today, as  
10 they're sitting right next to me.

11 All right. Mr. Evans.

12 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

13 I recall when this particular issue came  
14 up and we had a lively debate. The real question  
15 was whether or not at every single General Session  
16 we needed to have a registered parliamentarian, with  
17 the accompanying expense that went with that. And  
18 what we discovered was -- is that, at virtually  
19 every meeting, we had people -- more people in the  
20 room that knew the parliamentary rules than most  
21 parliamentarians do. No offense to my colleagues on  
22 the stage, who I'm assuming are quite the best. And

1 so, the conclusion was that certainly the Party  
2 makes available as a resource a registered  
3 parliamentarian, which, at any time, any Committee  
4 or session can call upon. It's not necessary, in  
5 every single session, to have a registered  
6 parliamentarian available there to render on-the-  
7 spot opinions, because it is, (a) so infrequent, and  
8 (b) because we have so many people on the Committee  
9 that already know the rules so well.

10           And so, as a matter of just efficiency, we  
11 adopted this rule as both a matter of expense, but  
12 also a matter of convenience of trying to make sure  
13 that we could keep our meetings moving when there  
14 are no real issues at play.

15           And so, I would urge a vote of no to the  
16 repeal -- what it would be, which is the repeal of  
17 an amendment that had already been adopted at -- by  
18 the Republican National Committee.

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
20 you, Mr. Evans.

21           Is there anyone else who would speak --  
22 like to speak in support of the amendment? Support.

1           Mr. Ash.

2           MR. ASH: Good morning, Madam -- or, good  
3 afternoon, Madam Chairman. Bruce Ash, Arizona.

4           As somebody who has worked with the aid of  
5 parliamentarians, chairing the Standing Committee on  
6 Rules, and being a knucklehead myself, and having  
7 done stupid things from time to time, I found having  
8 a parliamentarian to be very helpful. I realize  
9 we're talking about General Session.

10           If this is a matter of expense, they're  
11 there already. I've utilized Mr. Gage, Mr.  
12 Handshaw, and a number of other registered  
13 parliamentarians, Sharon Giese, who's a -- who's  
14 been a member of the RNC for many years, served as a  
15 kind of an ex officio parliamentarian at the General  
16 Sessions for many, many years. It does give us, as  
17 Nicolee pointed out, a greater sense of fairness and  
18 propriety. I don't believe that we've had much of a  
19 problem at General Session, but there's no  
20 additional expense. It doesn't cost us anything to  
21 look like a more professional organization and be  
22 able to handle parliamentary inquiries when they do



1 come up.

2 I thank you for your consideration.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

4 Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
5 opposition?

6 Mr. Ryder.

7 MR. RYDER: John Ryder, Tennessee.

8 Over the past 3 years, I've had the  
9 privilege of serving as General Counsel for the  
10 Republican National Committee. And during those 3  
11 years, we -- the Counsel's Office has provided a  
12 registered parliamentarian at every General Session.  
13 During those 3 years, I cannot recall but maybe two  
14 occasions where there has been a request for a  
15 ruling made from -- by the Chairman to the  
16 parliamentarian.

17 But, more importantly, the question is, Is  
18 this the kind of thing you put in a rule and say you  
19 have to do it, or should this be left to the  
20 judgment of the Chairman and the Counsel's Office?  
21 We ordinarily furnish both lawyers and  
22 parliamentarians for all the meetings and make those

1 services available through the chief counsel and his  
2 staff.

3           So, my question is, Do we want to burn  
4 this into the rules and have a requirement you've  
5 got to have these people on the platform at every  
6 meeting, or is this something that can be a judgment  
7 call, as it is at the Committee level, and we  
8 furnish those services?

9           I don't think this is a necessary  
10 amendment, and I would urge that you vote against  
11 it.

12           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

13           If there are any other individuals who  
14 rise to speak in support --

15           Gentleman from Idaho. Oh, I'm sorry --  
16 the Gentleman from Nevada.

17           MR. ROSS: Jordan Ross, Nevada.

18           I move to amend the proposal to insert the  
19 -- after the word "registered," to insert the words  
20 "or certified." The reason I'm doing this, if we  
21 can expand the base of parliamentarians who are  
22 available -- and the difference between registered

1 and certified simply has to deal with the certifying  
2 authority -- Mr. Gage could address that, if you  
3 wish, but -- you know, there's the American  
4 Institute of Parliamentarians, the National  
5 Association of Parliamentarians -- it increases the  
6 likelihood of being able to get a volunteer. And I  
7 would also point out that many attorneys are  
8 certified, but not registered, parliamentarians.  
9 And that could have perhaps saved some money, allow  
10 some double duty and a little more flexibility.

11           If this is to be adopted, I urge the  
12 adoption of this amendment.

13           Thank you.

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

15           There has been a motion. Is there a  
16 second?

17           VOICE: Second.

18           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. It has  
19 been moved and seconded.

20           Are there others who wish to speak with  
21 regard to this amendment? Are there others who wish  
22 to speak with regard to this amendment?

1 [No response.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we  
3 will move to a vote on this amendment to insert the  
4 words "or certified" following the word "registered"  
5 parliamentarian.

6 All those in favor of this amendment,  
7 please say aye.

8 [A chorus of ayes.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, say  
10 nay.

11 [A chorus of nays.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Chair's in  
13 doubt. All of those in favor, please raise your  
14 hand.

15 [A show of hands.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All of those  
17 opposed, please raise your hand.

18 [A show of hands.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I'm sorry, we're  
20 going to have to call for a standing vote.

21 All of those in favor, please stand. And  
22 could we have the legal staff count, please?

1 [Members standing.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Please remain  
3 standing until they tell me that they've gotten the  
4 count. You can see, they're still doing this.

5 All right. If we completed the count --  
6 no, no, they're still going. All right, please be  
7 seated.

8 All of those who are opposed, please rise.

9 [Members standing.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Would you please be  
11 seated. Thank you.

12 The vote tally is as follows: in favor of  
13 the amendment, 39 votes; against the amendment, 58  
14 votes. The amendment fails.

15 Now we are back to the main motion. And  
16 are there any members who wish to speak on this  
17 particular amendment?

18 The Gentleman from Idaho.

19 MR. SEMANKO: Madam Chair, Norm Semanko,  
20 from Idaho.

21 I rise in support of the -- this  
22 particular amendment. As a former General Counsel

1 of the RNC, myself -- I think Mr. Philippe fully  
2 recognizes it -- not all of us have been as fully  
3 capable as Mr. Ryder, or have had, perhaps, as much  
4 training. And I guess what I'd like to say is that,  
5 regardless of who the officer -- the presiding  
6 person is at a meeting, there are certain  
7 institutional safeguards that you want to have in  
8 place. And it's not just for the benefit of the  
9 Chairman, it's for the benefit of the organization,  
10 as a whole. And a parliamentarian is one of those.

11 That's why we have parliamentarians required at our  
12 proceedings in the State of Idaho at our Central  
13 Committee meetings and why I think it's a great idea  
14 for us to ingrain that in the rule here. It is  
15 still the responsibility of the presiding officer to  
16 make a decision that is then subject to appeal by  
17 the group. But, to have this advice of a  
18 professional is very important.

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
21 Semanko.

22 Is there anyone who wishes to speak in

1 opposition? In opposition?

2 I'm going to get your State right before  
3 we do this. The Gentleman from Massachusetts.

4 MR. DeVITO: Thank you, Madam Chairman.  
5 Vincent DeVito, from Massachusetts.

6 I rise in opposition to this particular  
7 amendment. It's based on my experience, having been  
8 involved in many of these meetings, as well, that  
9 this particular language just simply reeks of  
10 overkill. A parliamentarian is not required at  
11 every single meeting. In fact, it could lend itself  
12 to a less cooperative meeting, in terms of folks  
13 always turning to a parliamentarian to resolve any  
14 simple disagreement. But, not all meetings do have  
15 contentious issues to resolve, so a parliamentarian  
16 should be reserved for those that are chairing the  
17 meeting, as their option.

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

20 Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
21 support of the motion?

22 Yes. This Gentleman.

1           MR. ASP: David Asp, from Minnesota.

2           I'd like to offer an outsider's  
3 perspective on this. I understand that, and believe  
4 that, there are many issues that don't require a  
5 registered parliamentarian at these meetings, but,  
6 as a matter of perception for other Republicans who  
7 are not in the RNC, it is important for them to be  
8 able to have assurance that these matters are  
9 handled appropriately, according to the Rules of  
10 Order. So, I think, as a matter of perception, it  
11 makes sense to adopt this amendment. And I plan to  
12 support it.

13           Thank you.

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

15           Is there anyone else who wishes to speak  
16 in support of the amendment? Anyone else who wishes  
17 to speak in support of the amendment?

18           [No response.]

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who  
20 wishes to speak in opposition to the amendment?

21           MR. BLACKWELL: I would like to speak in  
22 support of the amendment.



1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Oh, certainly, Mr.  
2 Blackwell. Please go ahead.

3                   MR. BLACKWELL: Morton Blackwell,  
4 Virginia.

5                   Fellow members of the Committee, we have  
6 heard debate from, among others, two General  
7 Counsels of the Republican National Committee. One  
8 of them says he doesn't think that this is  
9 necessary. Another distinguished former General  
10 Counsel says he thinks it is necessary. It would  
11 seem to me that it would be the appropriate and  
12 prudent thing for us to have a rule that a General  
13 Counsel could reasonably think is a good rule. And  
14 we have a former General Counsel who says it -- says  
15 that he favors it. So, therefore, the prudent thing  
16 for us to do is to provide this as a safeguard,  
17 since we know that there are distinguished people  
18 who are experts in these matters who think that it  
19 is a good idea. Let's be safe and vote yes.

20                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
21 Blackwell.

22                   Is there anyone else who wishes to speak

1 in opposition?

2 Mr. Evans.

3 MR. EVANS: I offer a motion to amend  
4 which I think will address, actually, Mr.  
5 Blackwell's concerns, as well as some of the other  
6 concerns.

7 At the -- as you all know, as we all know,  
8 not every meeting is a full-blown meeting.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Evans, we first  
10 need to have the amendment moved and seconded.

11 MR. EVANS: Absolutely. And so, my  
12 proposed amendment is "a registered parliamentarian  
13 available, upon the request of the Chair" so that --

14 VOICE: Voice.

15 MR. EVANS: So that what would do is, if  
16 you're having a real meeting, not -- no offense to  
17 those perfunctory meetings, where we're simply  
18 ratifying Delegates or we're ratifying something,  
19 and literally the meeting lasts a grand total of 7  
20 minutes -- rather than requiring a parliamentarian  
21 for every single meeting, anytime a Chair felt as  
22 though having a parliamentarian would be helpful or

1 would add to the perception or anything else, that  
2 would certainly be in the discretion of the Chair to  
3 do that. And I have great confidence in our Chairs.  
4 We've had great Chairs, including Mr. Nash, who  
5 fully appreciate the significance.

6 So, I would urge that we simply add to  
7 that, "upon the request of the Chair," and if that  
8 request is made, then it's automatic and you have a  
9 parliamentarian.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. It has  
11 been moved and seconded that we insert, after the  
12 word "available," "upon the request of the Chair."  
13 Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
14 opposition to this motion?

15 Sir.

16 MR. WILLHOIT: Thank you, Madam Chair.  
17 Janssen Willhoit, Vermont.

18 Actually, it's neither, if I may. I have  
19 a -- I just have a question for clarification, to  
20 the presenter of the amendment.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Certainly.

22 MR. WILLHOIT: Is that in order?

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That is in order.

2                   MR. WILLHOIT: My question is, with  
3 respect to being the "upon the request of the Chair"  
4 -- I'm just -- I'm thinking of -- if you are in a  
5 meeting, then, without one available, and then there  
6 is the request made, just procedurally, is that  
7 going to pose a difficulty? I mean, unlike -- are  
8 they going to have to hold the meeting for a day to  
9 find one and bring him there? I'm just wondering,  
10 practically speaking, is this going to be a  
11 difficult fix?

12                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Mr.  
13 Evans, I'll let you respond to that directly.

14                   MR. EVANS: Thank you so much.

15                   Well, as a practical matter, any Chair,  
16 when they're going to have a full-blown meeting, is  
17 going to have a parliamentarian. What they don't  
18 want to do is have a parliamentarian whenever it's a  
19 perfunctory matter of ratification of a new member.

20                   It really doesn't involve any points of order. And  
21 so, the way it gets solve is, we have Chairmen with  
22 -- who have enormous knowledge and expertise,

1 they're really talented. Most of them have been  
2 Chairs before. And, as a result, we are relying on  
3 the people who we have put our confidence in to know  
4 when they need a parliamentarian. And when they do,  
5 they ask for it in advance, and they're there.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
7 there anyone who would like to speak in opposition?

8 VOICE: Yes.

9 MS. AMBROSE: I would like to speak in  
10 opposition to the kind Gentlemen from Georgia.

11 Nicolee Ambrose, from Maryland.

12 Let's be clear. When we say "all General  
13 Sessions," we have three General Sessions a year.  
14 We are looking to employ a registered  
15 parliamentarian for 1 to 2 hours three times a year.

16 The RNC, as you can tell, has a phenomenal  
17 fundraising operation. We can afford 6 hours of a  
18 registered parliamentarian in the course of 1 year.

19

20 Moreover, I cannot put a pricetag on the  
21 value of our credibility and our integrity.

22 Registered parliamentarians have to go through

1 tremendous training. They have certification. They  
2 are unbiased. We are Republicans. We believe in  
3 rule of law. They are calling it like it is.

4           So, I'm happy -- happy for the Budget  
5 Committee to authorize 6 hours of a registered  
6 parliamentarian for our three General Sessions a  
7 year.

8           Thank you.

9           VOICE: Call the question.

10           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There has been call  
11 for the question. We'll move directly to a vote on  
12 previous question.

13           All of those in favor of closing debate on  
14 this issue, please say aye.

15           [A chorus of ayes.]

16           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, please  
17 say nay.

18           [A chorus of nays.]

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.  
20 We will move directly to a vote on this amendment to  
21 the amendment.

22           The current amendment to this amendment

1 would insert the words "upon the request of the  
2 Chair." All of those in favor of adopting this  
3 change, please say aye.

4 [A chorus of ayes.]

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, say  
6 nay.

7 [A chorus of nays.]

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

9 Now we will move back to the main motion.  
10 The main motion -- is there anyone else who wishes  
11 to speak to this motion?

12 The Gentleman from New Hampshire.

13 MR. DUPREY: Steve Duprey, from New  
14 Hampshire.

15 With all due respect -- and I understand  
16 the intent -- I think the Republican National  
17 Committee, in every one of its meetings that I have  
18 been the privilege of attending since 1992, our  
19 Chairman has done a fine job. We -- they put  
20 together a team. And I just think this is  
21 tremendous -- while I understand the spirit of  
22 openness and everything else, I think we have a long

1 history of doing it well, and that this is  
2 overmanagement of our Chairman and completely  
3 unnecessary. Chairs who don't feel experienced in  
4 parliamentary procedure call on parliamentarians.  
5 But, this is a complete overdoing, and it's  
6 unnecessary. And I hope we oppose this.

7 VOICE: Call the question.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There's been  
9 previous question called, in the back. We will move  
10 to a vote on the previous question.

11 All those in favor, say aye.

12 [A chorus of ayes.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, say  
14 nay.

15 [No response.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We will move to a  
17 vote.

18 All of those in favor of adoption of the  
19 amendment sponsored by the Lady from Maryland,  
20 please say aye.

21 [A chorus of ayes.]

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, say



1     nay.

2                     [A chorus of nays.]

3                     CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  The nays clearly  
4     have it.

5                     I'm -- believe that that is the only  
6     amendment that we have on Rule number 7.

7                     MR. LITTLE:  Madam Chairman?

8                     CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Yes.  Mr. Little.

9                     MR. LITTLE:  I guess I have a  
10    parliamentary inquiry.  We've had a couple of  
11    instances of someone calls for the question, but it  
12    was my impression that, to be -- you should -- the  
13    person should be recognized to call the question,  
14    not just shouting it out.  I'd like to know how  
15    we're going to handle that --

16                    CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Mr. Little, you are  
17    correct, and I stand corrected.  And, from now on,  
18    when -- if you want to seek previous question, you  
19    need to approach the microphone and be recognized by  
20    the Chair.

21                    Thank you for reminding me.

22                    All right.  Now we will move to Amendment

1 8.1.

2 Pardon me. We have a Gentleman who is  
3 seeking recognition.

4 MR. STUART: No, I was just simply going  
5 to apologize for calling the question.

6 Mike Stuart, West Virginia.

7 And I will certainly recognize that,  
8 moving forward.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

10 All right. Amendment 8.1 deals with Rule  
11 number 8. Rule number 8 deals with meetings of the  
12 Republican National Committee. So, Rule number 8.1  
13 -- Rule number 8.1 has been submitted by the Lady  
14 from Maryland.

15 MS. AMBROSE: Good afternoon. Nicolee  
16 Ambrose, from Maryland.

17 Since we're on such a streak. Okay, let's  
18 -- I am proposing, based on my experience as an RNC  
19 Committee member for the past 4 years, we have this  
20 incredibly weighty, fantastic honor that we are  
21 entrusted with. We have the rules that will --

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Nicolee, I'm sorry.

1 I'm reminded that you need to make a motion first  
2 and have it seconded before --

3 MS. AMBROSE: My motion is that -- to add  
4 a new section under 8, Section C, "Any item for  
5 consideration at a meeting of the Republican  
6 National Committee shall be presented to the  
7 membership no less than 24 hours prior to a vote."

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a motion.  
9 Is there a second?

10 VOICE: Second.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a second.  
12 Now please proceed to make your argument.

13 MS. AMBROSE: So, the reason for this is,  
14 we have this -- we are entrusted to alter, under the  
15 current rules, the rules we conduct ourselves by  
16 affecting things like how we are nominating,  
17 hopefully, the next President of the United States.

18 And there have been times, occasionally --  
19 everyone's very busy working -- where our General  
20 Session will start at 10:00 a.m., and we have had  
21 new rules, that you can read almost for the first  
22 time at 10:00 a.m., on our chairs. And I would just

1 suggest -- I'd like a little more time to review it,  
2 because this -- we are the world's superpower, this  
3 impacts a whole lot of stuff. And I think we should  
4 all have 24 hours of consideration before we  
5 consider altering our process as RNC Committee  
6 members.

7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
9 there anyone who wishes to speak in opposition to  
10 this motion?

11 MR. DUPREY: Madam Chair, I do.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We'll  
13 start over here with Mr. Duprey.

14 MR. DUPREY: I'm Steve Duprey, from New  
15 Hampshire.

16 I rise in opposition, for the same reasons  
17 on the previous matter. This is completely  
18 unnecessary. Sometimes there are votes and matters  
19 that come up that we couldn't honor that 24-hour  
20 rule. I think, when we elect our Chairmen, we have  
21 to give them some wide latitude to do the best they  
22 can. So, I rise in opposition to this motion.

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
2 else who wishes to speak in support of this  
3 proposal? Anyone else who wishes to speak in  
4 support?

5                   [No response.]

6                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
7 else who wishes to speak in opposition?

8                   Mr. Ryder.

9                   MR. RYDER: John Ryder, Tennessee.

10                  I am opposed to this motion. As a  
11 practical matter, it would be impossible to  
12 implement, given the schedule that we normally  
13 follow at RNC meetings. We usually have Committee  
14 meetings the day before we have the General Session,  
15 so that the report of the Rules Committee, the  
16 report of the Committee on Resolutions, the report  
17 of the Budget Committee, and other items that might  
18 require action at the General Session are not  
19 completed until less than 24 hours prior to the  
20 General Session.

21                  So, it's an impractical rule, and I would  
22 urge the members to vote against the proposed

1 amendment.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
3 else who wishes to speak in support?

4 Mr. Frias.

5 MR. FRIAS: How're you doing, there?

6 Steve Frias, Rhode Island.

7 I don't usually speak, and I won't be  
8 speaking very much at these things, but, when I do  
9 speak, I'll tell you why.

10 Basically, this is -- in my home State, we  
11 have these legislators who get together and they  
12 just pass everything at the last minute. Nobody has  
13 any notice of what's going on. And when -- I think  
14 we do a good job here at the RNC letting everybody  
15 know what's going on. But, I see there's no real  
16 problem with letting people know ahead of time what  
17 they're going to vote on.

18 Now, Mr. Ryder, General Counsel, says 24  
19 hours is impractical. Okay, it's impractical. Then  
20 give me something that's practical. Twelve hours?  
21 Fourteen? Something. I see no problem with giving  
22 notice to people, before they vote on something,

1 before the meeting. I don't see why we're so afraid  
2 of doing that. And, in my opinion, I am always  
3 going to err on the side of transparency. And, you  
4 know, it's nothing about the Chairman, our current  
5 Chairman. We will have a different Chairman  
6 someday. And when I make rules, I make rules based  
7 on what could happen and based on what may happen.

8           So, with that, thank you. Vote to give  
9 notice to the RNC members before they vote on  
10 something. There's nothing wrong with it. It won't  
11 hurt anybody.

12           Thank you.

13           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
14 Frias.

15           Is there a member that wishes to speak in  
16 support -- excuse me -- in opposition? Is there  
17 anyone who wishes to speak in opposition?

18           The Gentlemen at this microphone.

19           MR. DeVITO: Vincent DeVito,  
20 Massachusetts.

21           I rise in opposition to this particular  
22 amendment. It's difficult to get into the minutia

1 of trying to anticipate every single action that's  
2 going to happen at a meeting preceding another  
3 meeting. So, the folks that are running the  
4 preceding meeting need the flexibility to do what  
5 they have to do. They cannot be under artificial  
6 time constraints.

7           So, this motion, it's not only impractical  
8 and also, to respond to the prior Gentleman that  
9 just spoke, it does not say "no notice." So, I'm in  
10 opposition to this.

11           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
12 there anyone who would like to speak in support? Is  
13 there anyone who would like to speak in support?

14           This Gentleman at the front microphone.

15           MR. CRAWFORD: Yes. My name's Jim  
16 Crawford, from Maryland.

17           I'd like to make a motion that we amend  
18 this to -- a period from "24 hours" to "12 hours."  
19 I think it's -- none of us -- all of us have been at  
20 a meeting at some time or other when you get handed  
21 something instantly, and you're supposed to vote on  
22 it without any real time to consider it. So, if we



1 just change it to "12 hours," perhaps that would  
2 satisfy Mr. Ryder's concern.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. There's been  
5 a motion. Is there a second?

6 VOICE: Second.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There's been a  
8 motion and a second to change this from "24 hours"  
9 to "12 hours." Is there anyone who would like to  
10 speak in opposition?

11 Mr. Evans.

12 MR. EVANS: Madam Chair. Yes. So, I  
13 think maybe it would just be helpful to talk a  
14 little bit about how our RNC meetings work, because  
15 I think there are many who aren't on the RNC. It is  
16 the most open process you could possibly imagine.  
17 We have meetings constantly. We have a members-only  
18 breakfast, where we talk about any issue that's  
19 going to come up. All of the various resolutions  
20 and rules meetings are open. The Rules Committee  
21 meets the Thursday before the Friday morning  
22 session. And, as you can see just how long it took

1 us this morning to get all of our ducks in a row on  
2 getting rules together, it's not the kind of thing  
3 that you can just snap your finger and make it  
4 happen.

5           Now, fortunately, technology has enabled  
6 us to make sure that, when folks come in on Friday  
7 morning -- remember, the meeting -- the RNC meeting  
8 starts, typically, at 10:00 a.m. -- when folks come  
9 in on Friday morning, there's a stack that's put  
10 right there in front of them, and they have the  
11 opportunity to take a look at them. We -- there's  
12 only 168 of us, and we know each other. And so,  
13 literally if I have a question about resolutions,  
14 I'll go over to Carolyn, or if I've got a question  
15 about rules, I'll go over to Bruce. It's a very  
16 collegial, collaborative process.

17           And so, the idea that you would try to  
18 analogize this to the U.S. Congress, which is that  
19 you must vote for it before you receive it, we are a  
20 far different creature than that. We are a creature  
21 where we talk it to death, everybody knows well in  
22 advance, and then you get a copy when you walk in,

1 long before you're asked to vote for it.

2           And then, on top of that, we now have  
3 these beautiful devices called iPhones and Androids,  
4 which permit us to then send it out, as well. So,  
5 all of that happens.

6           Now, to -- if we then impose an hour limit  
7 or a minute limit, all we've done is introduce a  
8 whole nother layer of bureaucracy, which is the one  
9 thing that we need less of. We actually need more  
10 of what we do. We talk to each other. And we need  
11 less of what this is, which is rules saying, "You  
12 must do this by then." As long as everybody's  
13 comfortable -- and I've never heard anyone say they  
14 were asked to vote at an RNC meeting on something  
15 that they were completely blind-sided by. And the  
16 reason is because the meetings are so open.

17           Thank -- so, I would urge opposition to  
18 both the motion to amend and the main motion.

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
20 there anyone who would like to speak in support of  
21 the motion to amend?

22           Mr. Ash.

1 MR. ASH: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

2 Bruce Ash, Arizona, speaking in support of  
3 the amendment, because it is a reasonable variation  
4 on the original proposal. There seems to be some  
5 concern -- let me restate that.

6 There seems to be some chatter that this  
7 is somehow tied to our current Chairman. Our  
8 current Chairman is doing a great job. The staff  
9 does a great job. They work hard. This is a  
10 members Chairman. And we all recognize that.

11 But, I think those of you who have been  
12 around for a few years remember, it wasn't always  
13 so. In fact, we had to pass a motion for a  
14 resolution for good governance -- and it wasn't that  
15 long ago, it was 2012 -- when things weren't going  
16 so well, when things weren't being presented to  
17 members of the Committee, and when things were  
18 happening that blind-sided our members.

19 This is not about the current Chairman,  
20 because the current Chairman may or may not be the  
21 Chairman in the future. We need to protect the  
22 members of the RNC. This is a membership

1 protection. And, for my fellow members of the RNC  
2 who are here today, just think back about 2011, and  
3 think about the constant problems that we had with  
4 the Chairman's office and getting the information  
5 and the tirades that we received. This is meant to  
6 be as good governance for our Committee, to keep us  
7 running the right way.

8           And I am thankful that we have the great  
9 Chairman that we've enjoyed now for almost 6 years.

10 I want to make sure that all Chairmen live up to  
11 that same standard.

12           Thank you very much for your  
13 consideration.

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

15           Is there anyone else who rises to speak in  
16 opposition?

17           Mr. Duprey.

18           MR. DUPREY: Madam Chair, Steve Duprey,  
19 from New Hampshire.

20           Just as with the underlying fundamental  
21 motion, I don't think we need 12 hours or 24 hours.

22 We elect our Chairman. I urge everyone to vote no.

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
2 else who wishes to be heard?

3 VOICE: Madam Chairman --

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: You have not moved  
5 to a microphone and gotten recognition.

6 Mr. Hammond.

7 MR. HAMMOND: Madam Chair, John Hammond,  
8 National Committeeman from Indiana.

9 I call for the previous question.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There has been a  
11 call for the previous question, and we will move  
12 directly to a vote.

13 All of those in favor of closing debate on  
14 this amendment to the amendment, please say aye.

15 [A chorus of ayes.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

17 [No response.]

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

19 We will now move toward -- move to voting  
20 on this amendment to the amendment to alter the  
21 words -- the numerals "24" and insert "12."

22 All of those in favor of this, please say

1 aye.

2 [A chorus of ayes.]

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Anyone opposed,  
4 please say nay.

5 [A chorus of nays.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

7 Now we are back to the main motion. Is  
8 there anyone else who wishes to speak in recognition  
9 -- be recognized to speak on this amendment?

10 [No response.]

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we  
12 will move to the vote.

13 All of those in favor of adoption of  
14 Amendment 8.1, please say aye.

15 [A chorus of ayes.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Anyone opposed,  
17 please say no.

18 [A chorus of nays.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The noes have it.

20 All right. Do we have an additional  
21 amendment on Rule 8? No, we do not have any  
22 additional amendments on Rule 8.

1                   We have no amendments that have been  
2 submitted on Rule 9.

3                   But, this is the stack for Rule 10. So,  
4 let's get to work.

5                   All right. The first amendment that we  
6 will consider is Amendment number 10.1. Rule number  
7 10 deals with Committees of the Republican National  
8 Committee.

9                   The Chair will recognize Mr. Munisteri for  
10 the purpose of making a motion.

11                   MR. MUNISTERI: Thank you, Madam Chair.

12                   I'd like to propose adding a new rule,  
13 which would be labeled 10(a)(11). The substance of  
14 that rule would be as follows, "There shall be a  
15 temporary Committee on the Presidential Nominating  
16 Process to review the rules governing the nomination  
17 of the Republican Party's presidential nominee. The  
18 Chairman of the Republican National Committee shall  
19 appoint all temporary members of the Committee on  
20 the Presidential Nominating Process, not to exceed  
21 11 members, and shall appoint one as Chairman. And  
22 the Chairman of the Republican National Committee



1 shall serve as an ex officio member. The Chairman  
2 of the Republican National Committee shall convene  
3 the Committee on the Presidential Nominating Process  
4 at his discretion" -- or I -- could be "her"  
5 discretion, but we didn't put that in there -- "but  
6 not later than June 30th, 2017. The Committee on  
7 the Presidential Nominating Process shall make any  
8 recommendations it deems appropriate and report such  
9 recommendations to the Republican National Committee  
10 no later than May 31st, 2018. The Committee on the  
11 Presidential Nominating Process shall disband  
12 following the transmittal of its report. Necessary  
13 and proper resources of the Republican National  
14 Committee shall be made available to fund the  
15 efforts of the -- of this Committee."

16 Madam Chairman, I would move the adoption  
17 of this as a new rule.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a motion.  
19 Is there a second?

20 VOICE: Second.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Moved and seconded.

22

1           Mr. Munisteri, would you like to address  
2 the merits of your amendment?

3           MR. MUNISTERI: Yes, Madam Chair, I would.  
4 Thank you.

5           For those of you that don't know me, I was  
6 the three-time elected Chairman of the Texas  
7 Republican Party. During that time, I probably  
8 received more questions and comments and concerns  
9 from our grassroots members regarding the  
10 presidential nominating process, the timelines, how  
11 we pick our nominee, et cetera, than any other  
12 subject. Unfortunately, there has never been a  
13 consensus as to how to fix or improve the system. I  
14 would think that almost everybody here would agree  
15 that there are ways that we can improve the way we  
16 pick our presidential nominee. But, I think, to get  
17 consensus, it's going to take a longtime effort to  
18 get input from all the stakeholders -- our  
19 grassroots, our elected officials -- and give a  
20 great deal of thought and consideration to this.

21           So, my motion is designed to allow a  
22 process and the discussion to continue and proceed,

1 and hopefully reach recommendations so that we can  
2 improve our process in the future.

3 I would point out that this commission  
4 does not have the power to adopt any changes. It's  
5 merely to get a discussion going so that, hopefully,  
6 it would culminate, eventually, in an improved  
7 process.

8 Thank you for your time, Madam Chairman.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
10 Munisteri.

11 Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
12 opposition to this amendment? Anyone who would like  
13 to speak in opposition?

14 [No response.]

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
16 else who would like to speak in support?

17 [No response.]

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We will  
19 move immediately to a vote on the amendment.

20 All of those in favor of adding the  
21 proposed language that you see in front of you on a  
22 temporary Committee on the Presidential Nominating

1 Process, please say aye.

2 [A chorus of ayes.]

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed?

4 [A chorus of nays.]

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

6 Next, we will move to Amendment 10.2.

7 Rule 10 -- excuse me -- Amendment 10.2, which  
8 impacts the language in Rule number 10(b) -- 10(b).

9 It has been submitted by the Gentleman from  
10 Arizona, Mr. Ash.

11 Mr. Ash, would you like to make a motion?

12 MR. ASH: Good afternoon, Madam Chairman.

13 Bruce Ash, from Arizona.

14 This would be to Rule 10(b), page 20, line  
15 22. It would add a new section that would just  
16 merely say -- and I hope you'll consider this for  
17 cleanup -- "All members of the Standing Committee  
18 shall be members of the Republican National  
19 Committee."

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. It's --

21 MR. ASH: That is my motion.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- been moved. Is

1 there a second?

2 VOICE: Second.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Second. It's been  
4 moved and seconded.

5 Would you like to address the merits, Mr.  
6 Ash?

7 MR. ASH: Sure, just very quickly.

8 Just as -- this is just clarifying  
9 language. It's probably self-evident, but doesn't  
10 hurt to be there.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
12 there anyone else who wishes to speak in opposition  
13 to the motion? Anyone who wishes to speak in  
14 opposition?

15 [No response.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Anyone else who  
17 wishes to speak in support?

18 [No response.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we'll  
20 move directly to a vote.

21 All of those in favor of adopting the  
22 language in 10(b) to read "All members of the

1 Standing Committees shall be members of the  
2 Republican National Committee," please say aye.

3 [A chorus of ayes.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed?

5 [No response.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

7 Next, we move to Rule 10.3.

8 Mr. Ash, I have this down as being  
9 submitted by Mr. Blackwell, of Virginia.

10 MR. ASH: You're right, sorry. I got  
11 ahead of --

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That's all right.

13 MR. ASH: -- myself again. Pardon me.

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That's all right.

15 Is Mr. Blackwell here? Oh, here he comes.

16 Chair recognizes Mr. Blackwell for the  
17 purpose of a motion. He's just coming back to the  
18 top of the seating area.

19 Mr. Blackwell? Mr. Blackwell? I believe  
20 it is your turn to submit a motion. This is  
21 Amendment 10.3 to Rule number 10(a)(2)(ii).

22 MR. BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

1 I apologize for not being at my seat when my  
2 amendment came up.

3           The National Convention in 1992 passed  
4 this provision that allows members of the Republican  
5 National Committee, notwithstanding whatever action  
6 the Resolutions Committee might make, to make a  
7 resolution in order to be considered on the floor of  
8 the National Committee. The provision, as written,  
9 says that such a process requires the written  
10 support of one member from at least 10 States. That  
11 has been part of our rules since 1992. It has  
12 caused no serious problems. It has been a means by  
13 which grassroots people from 10 States who are  
14 members of the National Committee could, if they  
15 wished, make a matter in -- a resolution in order to  
16 be considered.

17           The Standing Committee on Rules put this  
18 amendment into the rules, and so it is before us  
19 today, that would require two members of the  
20 National Committee from at least 10 States. That's  
21 doubling the number of members required, but it is  
22 orders of magnitude more difficult to obtain.

1           This has been a very useful provision for  
2 conservatives over the years, and it has angered  
3 some people, for that reason. It is not a good idea  
4 to produce this amendment, which is essentially a  
5 gag rule, against grassroots members being able to  
6 bring a matter up for discussion. And there no  
7 danger whatsoever that there will be some extended  
8 debate that would be embarrassing because a  
9 resolution, once it becomes on -- for discussion is  
10 always subject to a motion to table, which is not  
11 debatable. And a matter can be tabled. But, there  
12 -- but, it would be very wrong to make it virtually  
13 impossible for a grassroots resolution to come  
14 before the National Committee unless the Resolutions  
15 Committee approved it.

16           So, I strongly urge everyone to vote for  
17 this. It restores what has been the rule here since  
18 1992, and it's a good rule, and we don't need to  
19 centralize power further in our national rules.

20           Thank you.

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
22 Blackwell.



1           Is there someone who wishes to speak in  
2 opposition to the amendment?

3           Mr. Feaman, from Florida.

4           MR. FEAMAN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

5           Peter Feaman, the State of Florida.

6           Certainly, Mr. Blackwell overstates his  
7 case when he says this would amount to a "gag rule."

8           That kind of overheated rhetoric is certainly not  
9 necessary in this particular instance.

10           Simply adding one extra person per State,  
11 which would be two out of the three, and then only  
12 having 10 States out of the 50 to present a  
13 resolution, is certainly not an unconstitutional  
14 burden or any kind of other burden in prohibiting a  
15 resolution to come before our body.

16           We've done a lot of resolutions in my  
17 years here. They're all pretty good. And, because  
18 they're all pretty good, they will all get support  
19 of two people from at least 10 States.

20           Thank you.

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thanks, Mr. Feaman.

22           Is there anyone who wishes to speak in

1 support?

2 Mr. Yue, from Oregon.

3 MR. YUE: Thank you.

4 Solomon Yue, from Oregon.

5 I support Morton's resolution, for one  
6 simple reason. It is a good-governance resolution.

7 Actually, I'm the only one on this Committee used.

8 If you remember Chairman Steele spent \$1 million of  
9 our line of credit for Tampa 2000 Convention and  
10 without supervision of the RNC Executive Committee.

11 I got 10 signatures and passed that resolution,  
12 because Chairman controlled the RNC Resolution  
13 Committee, and that is a bypass resolution -- a  
14 bypass procedure and allow us to take this one  
15 directly to 168 members. With member support, I led  
16 RNC executive efforts to investigate and report the  
17 results to the entire Committee. For that reason,  
18 Chairman Steele could only get a 45 votes for his  
19 reelection, and Reince Priebus got elected.

20 So, I am supporting this resolution for  
21 good-governance purpose.

22 Thank you.

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Yue.

2 Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
3 opposition?

4 Gentlelady from Illinois.

5 MS. DeMONTE: Demetra DeMonte, National  
6 Committee Women, Illinois.

7 I would actually like to offer an  
8 amendment to Mr. Blackwell's amendment.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That's in order.

10 MS. DeMONTE: I understand what Mr.  
11 Blackwell is talking about --

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Pardon -- excuse me  
13 -- Demetra, I need you to make the motion --

14 MS. DeMONTE: Yes.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- and then we'll  
16 get --

17 MS. DeMONTE: Excuse me.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- a second. And  
19 then I'd love to have you speak to it.

20 MS. DeMONTE: Yes. My motion would be  
21 that we would ask that one member from 20 States  
22 would be the bar to be presented directly to the

1 floor.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?

3 VOICE: Second.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a second.

5 All right. Now if the Lady --

6 MS. DeMONTE: Now --

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- would like to

8 continue.

9 MS. DeMONTE: Thank you. Now, my  
10 reasoning for this -- I understand what Mr.  
11 Blackwell and Mr. Yue are talking about. Getting  
12 two members from 10 States is truly difficult --  
13 very, very difficult. We do represent the  
14 grassroots. Now, my recommendation would be to make  
15 the bar more difficult. And I do understand that.  
16 That is why my recommendation is one member from 20  
17 States. That is a heck of a high bar, but, if it is  
18 a truly good resolution, you will be able to get  
19 enough members to sign off on that.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

22 Is there anyone who would like to speak in

1 opposition to the amendment to the amendment?

2 MR. YUE: Yes, Madam Chairman.

3 Solomon Yue, Oregon.

4 I would like to speak in opposition.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Please proceed.

6 MR. YUE: Again, I was the one tried to  
7 get those 10 signatures. It was very, very  
8 difficult. The reasoning is, it's election year.  
9 Chairman got absolute power. He can decide which  
10 State he's going to open Victory Office, how much  
11 money he's going to spend. You think, when you have  
12 20 States, all want RNC money to open Victory Office  
13 and field staff members. And any member were there  
14 to stand up for a good-governance resolution, again,  
15 answer is no. But, I have no problem Chairman  
16 Priebus, the way he run this Committee. However,  
17 whatever we do, we need to think about  
18 institutionalize what we do. Not for this  
19 Committee, not for this administration. For future  
20 Committee. There also is a concept for a checks and  
21 balance within our Committee.

22 Thank you.

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

2 Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
3 support of the amendment to the amendment? Anyone  
4 who wishes to speak in support of the amendment to  
5 the amendment.

6 [No response.]

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing no one else  
8 who wishes to speak, we will move forward to a vote.

9 Mr. Ryder?

10 MR. RYDER: I wish to speak against the  
11 amendment to the amendment.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, I thought  
13 that's what I said, but perhaps --

14 MR. RYDER: I thought you said for. I'm  
15 sorry, I may have misheard.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. My  
17 apologies.

18 MR. RYDER: John Ryder, Tennessee.

19 I oppose the amendment to the amendment.  
20 In all of these matters, what we're dealing with,  
21 we've got a Committee that is elected by region, not  
22 appointed by the Chairman, not controlled by the

1 Chairman -- elected by the regions of the RNC. And  
2 that Committee is empowered to review the  
3 resolutions and report them out. So, when you're  
4 talking about the procedure that's being debated  
5 here, it's a procedure that involves bypassing and  
6 defrocking the Committee. And we simply don't need  
7 to do that.

8 I oppose the amendment. And I -- I oppose  
9 the amendment to the amendment, and I oppose the  
10 amendment.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
12 you, Mr. Ryder.

13 Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
14 support of the amendment to the amendment?

15 [No response.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
17 else who wishes to speak in opposition to the  
18 amendment to the amendment?

19 Mr. Duprey.

20 MR. DUPREY: Madam Chairman, Steve Duprey,  
21 from New Hampshire.

22 I rise in opposition to the amendment to

1 the amendment, and to the underlying amendment. The  
2 current rules work fine.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
4 there anyone else who wishes to speak in support of  
5 the amendment to the amendment?

6 MR. BLACKWELL: Yes --

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Blackwell.

8 MR. BLACKWELL: -- Madam Chairman.

9 The previous speaker said that the current  
10 rules work fine. The fact of the matter is that the  
11 -- that what we are proposing here is not currently  
12 part of the rules of the Republican Party. So, how  
13 can one say that the rule really works fine?

14 The truth of the matter is, this original  
15 proposal is a solution for something that no one  
16 will admit what the problem is. The real problem is  
17 that, occasionally, conservatives want to raise some  
18 issue on the floor of the National Committee, and  
19 the Chairman and the Resolutions Committee won't  
20 pass it out. And if 10 members from 10 different  
21 States sign on to a resolution, it can come up.

22 No one has identified what the real



1 problem is. What damages has -- have -- has this  
2 rule that's been in there since 1992 done? The only  
3 damage is that, occasionally, conservative  
4 resolutions or, in the case of what Solomon Yue did,  
5 an important investigation into what was generally  
6 understood to be an abuse, was made possible. I  
7 oppose the amendment, because 20 is way more than  
8 twice as difficult to get as 10. And my friend, Ms.  
9 DeMonte, I think, is mistaken in this.

10 I urge that the amendment be defeated --  
11 the amendment to my amendment -- that my amendment  
12 be passed. This is fundamental for the  
13 representation of conservative principles on a  
14 National Committee that is not always sympathetic  
15 with discussion of conservative issues.

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
18 there anyone else who's -- wishes to speak in  
19 support of the amendment to the amendment? Anyone  
20 who wishes to speak in support of the amendment to  
21 the amendment?

22 [No response.]

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Anyone else who  
2  wishes to speak against the amendment to the  
3  amendment?

4                   Mr. Barbour.

5                   MR. BARBOUR:  Thank you, Madam Chairman.  
6                   Henry Barbour, from Mississippi.

7                   I do oppose this amendment that would  
8  change this to 20 States.  Couple of points.

9                   One, there's 168 members of the RNC, so to  
10 get 20 people to do something is a very low  
11 threshold.  And one point -- the Gentleman from  
12 Virginia, Mr. Blackwell, mentioned -- talked about  
13 conservatives, and then he talked about the Chairman  
14 as if he's not a conservative.  And I just want to  
15 clarify that we know our Chairman, and all the  
16 members of the RNC, are conservatives.  We don't  
17 agree on every particular issue, but what we do  
18 agree on is that we want to win elections, and we  
19 want to win elections with conservatives.

20                   Thank you.

21                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Thank you, Mr.  
22  Barbour.

1           Is there anyone else who wishes to speak  
2 regarding the amendment to the amendment?

3           Yes, sir.

4           MR. DeVITO: Vincent DeVito,  
5 Massachusetts.

6           I'm rising against the amendment to the  
7 amendment, and I am rising also against to -- the  
8 amendment. The reason is, it seems to me that,  
9 regardless of everything that was said, there's also  
10 a procedural element here, which is, as this has  
11 already been discussed in Standing Committee, this  
12 Committee -- and has been thoughtfully discussed,  
13 reasoned, and voted upon for a whole bunch of  
14 thoughts that we do not need to repeat today. But -  
15 - however, folks come to this Committee for another  
16 bite at the apple.

17           I would go -- I'm against the amendment to  
18 the amendment, and I oppose the amendment.

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

20           MR. DeVITO: Thank you.

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
22 else who wishes to be recognized with respect to the

1 amendment to the amendment?

2 [No response.]

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we  
4 will move to a vote.

5 This first vote will be on the amendment  
6 to the amendment. The amendment to the amendment  
7 would replace the word "two" with "one," but insert  
8 "from 20 States."

9 All of those in favor of adopting the  
10 amendment to the amendment, please say aye.

11 [No response.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All of those  
13 opposed, please say nay.

14 [A chorus of nays.]

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

16 We are back to the main motion. Is there  
17 anyone else who wishes to speak in support of Mr.  
18 Blackwell's amendment?

19 Mr. Semanko.

20 MR. SEMANKO: There's no previous  
21 question? Okay. Going for three in a row, there.

22 Madam Chair, Norm Semanko, from Idaho.

1           I support this amendment. And I'm afraid  
2 I just -- was dangerously close to hearing, a moment  
3 ago, that this Convention Committee on Rules has no  
4 role in reviewing what the Standing Committee did.  
5 I hope I heard that wrong. But, I traveled here, I  
6 spent my resources to be here. I'm representing the  
7 State of Idaho here. And I know a lot of other  
8 people who are in that position. And we have the  
9 right and the obligation to review all of these  
10 rules. And if we think, as on this one, some of us,  
11 that the RNC Standing Committee got it wrong, that  
12 they're raising the bar too high, that they're  
13 making it too difficult -- and that's the word I  
14 heard a little while ago, we do want to make this  
15 more difficult -- that we have the opportunity to  
16 argue the other way.

17           And we started this proceeding by hearing  
18 about the rights of the minority to be heard but the  
19 majority to make a decision. That's what this rule  
20 is about.

21           Thank you.

22           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone

1 else who wishes to speak to the amendment?

2 The Lady from the District of Columbia.

3 MS. HOMAN: Would it be in order if I  
4 called the previous question?

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It would --

6 MS. HOMAN: Jill Homan, from Washington,  
7 D.C.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It would be in  
9 order, Mrs. Homan.

10 MS. HOMAN: Thank you.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

12 Previous question has been called. We  
13 will now vote on closing debate on the Blackwell  
14 amendment.

15 All of those in favor of closing debate,  
16 please say aye.

17 [A chorus of ayes.]

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

19 [A chorus of nays.]

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

21 VOICE: Madam Chairwoman?

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We --

1 VOICE: Can I have a point of order?

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

3 VOICE: A point of information. The  
4 previous question was just called --

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Name and State,  
6 please.

7 MR. SHORT: Oh, I'm sorry. Guy Short,  
8 Colorado.

9 The previous question was just called.  
10 You had two individuals at the mic, standing, before  
11 the Gentlelady from D.C. walked up. They were in --  
12 clearly in line. She walked up. She was recognized  
13 first. Is there any type of order? Or how is that  
14 going to be run, so that folks who are standing at  
15 the mic before others who get up here have a chance  
16 to speak?

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, I did not  
18 know for what purpose the Gentlelady arose. I  
19 thought she was intending to speak on the amendment.  
20 But, she does have the right to move for previous  
21 question once I have recognized her. I will try to  
22 do my best to make certain that everyone gets a

1 chance to be heard. But, if a member is recognized  
2 -- and I don't always know why they're standing --  
3 and they make previous question, that will be in  
4 order.

5 MR. SHORT: Right. And I understand that.  
6 The Gentlelady from Iowa was standing, and so was  
7 the Gentleman from Arizona. And they were standing  
8 for a while. And certainly she has every right to  
9 stand and call the previous question, but she just  
10 immediately rose. So, if there's -- if there can be  
11 any equity of folks who have been standing for a  
12 while and wish to address it, that would be  
13 appreciated.

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I will try to do  
15 that.

16 MR. SHORT: Thank you very much.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

18 All right. We now will vote on the  
19 amendment.

20 All of those in favor of adopting the  
21 Blackwell amendment to replace the number "two" with  
22 the number "one," please say aye.



1 [A chorus of ayes.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed?

3 [A chorus of nays.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Chair is in  
5 doubt, and we will move to a standing vote, because  
6 that hand thing did absolutely nothing to clarify  
7 the situation.

8 All of those in favor of adopting Mr.  
9 Blackwell's amendment, please stand. And I will ask  
10 the staff to count.

11 [Members standing.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. You may  
13 be seated.

14 All of those opposed, please stand.

15 [Members standing.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. You may  
17 be seated.

18 The vote tally is as follows: those in  
19 favor, 44; those against, 63. The motion fails.

20 Next, we will move to Amendment 10.4 --  
21 Amendment 10.4 that has been submitted by the  
22 Gentlelady from Maryland, Ms. Ambrose.

1 MS. AMBROSE: Good afternoon. Nicolee  
2 Ambrose, from Maryland.

3 I am proposing language under 10(a)(8),  
4 "There shall be a State Chairman's Advisory  
5 Committee composed of the State Chairmen of each of  
6 the States, the Chair of which shall be elected  
7 annually by its members from among its members at  
8 each Republican National Committee Winter Meeting."

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. There  
10 has been a motion. Is there a second?

11 VOICE: Voice.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
13 seconded.

14 Please proceed, Ms. Ambrose.

15 MS. AMBROSE: So, essentially, we are just  
16 changing words from this being an appointment to  
17 having it be a -- the Chairman of the State Chairs  
18 is elected from amongst that group. I'm really  
19 pulling this out of the playbook of an organization  
20 that I mentioned before. I used to be chairman of  
21 the Young Republican National Federation. We had a  
22 very similar structure of State Chairman's

1 Association. And this was just a phenomenal  
2 leadership development tool. It was a great way for  
3 people to prove they could interact and lead at the  
4 national level, not just at their States. And I'm  
5 all for anything that helps develop leadership so we  
6 might know who to look at when we're considering  
7 future chairmen. And it gives a nice opportunity  
8 for people to rotate, as there's a new election  
9 every single year.

10 Thank you.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

12 Ms. Ambrose, I think your experience in  
13 the Young Republicans must have been a little  
14 different from mine. I'm not sure I would always  
15 use it as the gold standard by which to run the  
16 organization.

17 [Laughter.]

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Former Young  
19 Republicans are laughing at the moment, I'm sorry.  
20 It's nothing about the merits of your particular  
21 item. I simply don't think we'd use the Young  
22 Republicans as the gold standard.

1           All right. Is there anyone who would like  
2 to speak in opposition to this amendment?

3           Mr. Evans.

4           MR. EVANS: Madam Chair, thank you so  
5 much.

6           I rise in opposition. I urge my  
7 colleagues to vote no. And the reason is because  
8 part of the success that we've experienced has been  
9 the very change that this resolution -- or this  
10 rules change seeks to undo, which is to permit a  
11 Chair with the full access of all of the resources  
12 and the strengths and the weaknesses of every State,  
13 taking into account what they can and can't achieve,  
14 and then fitting the person to the job. Because  
15 CEOs and presidents and chairman's job it is is to  
16 field out a team that can work together.

17           So, you know I have to go back to college  
18 football. We don't elect a quarterback. We don't  
19 elect a right offensive lineman. We don't elect any  
20 of those. We allow the coach, the manager of the  
21 team, to put the team together, recognizing the  
22 strengths and the weaknesses to put together a

1 winning team.

2           And I think I echo what Mr. Duprey said,  
3 which is, I don't think we've ever had a Chairman  
4 who has been so adept in actually taking the various  
5 talents and molding them into a team, the team  
6 capable of winning rather than a team put together  
7 by popularity or by election or by whatever. And we  
8 don't want to change that, because we want to  
9 continue to win. We've been winning. We want to  
10 continue to win. And so, there's no reason to  
11 change the rules that are helping us win the way  
12 we're winning now.

13           So, I urge everyone to vote no.

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
15 Evans.

16           I'm getting tempted to start using  
17 quilting analogies.

18           [Laughter.]

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: But, I will  
20 refrain, since I don't think everybody would know  
21 what they mean.

22           All right. Is there anyone who would like

1 to speak in support of this amendment?

2 MS. GROSSMAN: No, I'm speaking in  
3 opposition to the amendment.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
5 there any -- we've just had someone who spoke in  
6 opposition. Is there someone who'd like to speak in  
7 support?

8 Yes.

9 MS. BOWEN: Sorry. Gwen Bowen, Louisiana.

10 I just heard the Gentleman say we had a  
11 winning team with our -- with this. Well, the last  
12 two times, we didn't win. So, perhaps we need a  
13 little more variety. And so, I would encourage  
14 everyone to consider that before you vote.

15 And I am in support of this amendment.

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

18 The lady here, you wanted to rise --

19 MS. GROSSMAN: My name is -- yes -- my  
20 name is Eileen Grossman. I represent Rhode Island.  
21 And it's an honor and a privilege to serve with you  
22 all.

1           I don't know a thing about football. And  
2 I was never a Young Republican.

3           [Laughter.]

4           MS. GROSSMAN: But, let me just say, the  
5 way Rhode Island operates, it appears that, when we  
6 have the Chair and his Committee, and then we have  
7 the Chairman's Caucus -- and this is exactly, I  
8 believe, what she is presenting -- they were -- they  
9 did not work together. They have never worked  
10 together. And it just seems that this -- it's a  
11 power struggle. It really turns out to be a power  
12 struggle.

13           So, I would urge everyone to vote no.

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

15           Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
16 support?

17           MR. ASH: I would, Madam Chairman.

18           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Ash.

19           MR. ASH: Bruce Ash, from Arizona.

20           This isn't a football team. It is a  
21 political organization. And, as such, we have State  
22 Chairmen around the country who have -- this is the

1 cream of the crop. They've been voted by their  
2 peers, by Party leaders in their various States. We  
3 have many, many great State Chairmen. And we see it  
4 by the results in all the various States where they  
5 are red States.

6 I have no qualms with the way that this  
7 Committee has been run in the past, but I'd  
8 personally like to see men and women within that  
9 organization create their own leadership, one that  
10 comes from them, a leader that inspires the others,  
11 and not one that's imposed upon the group. The  
12 leadership that we've had has been very good. I'd  
13 like to try something different. I don't think it's  
14 a dangerous experiment. And it will only, I think,  
15 inspire more activity within this group if it is a  
16 leader that comes from amongst that group.

17 Thank you very much for your  
18 consideration.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Ash.

20 Is there anyone else who'd like to rise in  
21 opposition? Is there anyone else who'd like to rise  
22 in opposition?



1 [No response.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
3 else who would like to rise in support?

4 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, Madam Chair.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

6 MR. CRAWFORD: This is Jim --

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Oh. No --

8 MR. CRAWFORD: -- Crawford, from --

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Ma'am? Ma'am?  
10 Have you been trying to seek recognition? I'm  
11 sorry. You've been there so long, I thought you  
12 were stretching.

13 [Laughter.]

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I am -- I  
15 apologize, and I'm happy to recognize you, and then  
16 I will go to you, sir.

17 MS. POPMA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

18 I'm Marlys Popma, from Iowa.

19 This last election cycle, the one thing we  
20 have seen is, the people want their power back. And  
21 that has just been a theme throughout the entire  
22 election cycle. Our presumptive nominee has brought

1 that out. The people want their power back. And I  
2 think it only behooves us, here at the RNC, to  
3 empower those people who are closest to the  
4 grassroots. And when you're electing your Chairman  
5 -- you elect your central Committee members, they  
6 elect their Chairman -- that's from the grassroots.  
7 And to allow those individuals, who are elected by  
8 their grassroots, to pick the person they want to  
9 lead them gives great credibility to the new leader,  
10 it makes them feel a buy-in to the new leader. I  
11 don't understand why we wouldn't want to bring the  
12 power as close to the people as we can.

13 Thank you very much.

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

15 And let me just say, so we don't have this  
16 situation again, you were being so polite and  
17 standing about 4 or 5 feet back from the microphone,  
18 that I didn't think you were seeking recognition.  
19 So, if you would like to be recognized, let me  
20 invite you to step right up to the microphone, as  
21 close as this Gentleman is. Otherwise, I may think  
22 you're resting your back. All right?

1 All right. I said I would recognize this  
2 Gentleman next, and then we'll go to Mr. Hammond.

3 MR. CRAWFORD: Thank you, Madam Chair.  
4 Jim Crawford, from Maryland.

5 And this seems like a good idea. And I  
6 just wanted to remind the -- as a professional  
7 sports official, I wanted to remind the Gentleman  
8 from Georgia that the coach is hired, but the team  
9 elects its own captain.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Hammond.

11 MR. HAMMOND: Madam Chair, John Hammond,  
12 from Indiana.

13 Very sympathetic to the notion that the  
14 grassroots voices need to be heard. And we can talk  
15 through that quite a bit. And we'll have an  
16 opportunity to talk through that even more  
17 throughout the rest of this day and probably  
18 tomorrow. But, I don't see this amendment really to  
19 be the place where that discussion should be had at  
20 the moment. And here's why.

21 I would oppose the amendment. The  
22 Chairman -- the State Chairman's Advisory Committee

1 is for the CEO our -- that is our National Chair --  
2 to use for advice. And in any organization, we've  
3 got to have some verticality in that -- in choosing  
4 leadership on that team that Mr. Evans spoke about.

5           And I really think that this is an entity  
6 that's there to provide counsel. If, for some  
7 reason, the State Chairs want to do their own thing  
8 on their own, they can do that. The grassroots,  
9 anyone can organize in this country any way they  
10 want, and associate anyhow they want. In this case,  
11 this will tend to weaken the Chair's role, and it  
12 will not address the concerns related to the  
13 grassroots. And I would urge opposition.

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
15 else who seeks recognition with respect to this  
16 amendment?

17           VOICE: Madam Chair?

18           VOICE: Madam Chair?

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Right over --

20           MR. SCHANFARBER: Robert --

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: This Gentleman  
22 first, and then we'll come over here.

1                   MR. SCHANFARBER: Robert Schanfarber,  
2 Virgin Islands. I'd like to call the previous  
3 question.

4                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
5 is in order. We will move to a vote on ending  
6 debate.

7                   MR. LITTLE: Aren't we -- I thought we  
8 were going to let people at the mic talk.

9                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, if they get  
10 recognized, they have every right to raise the  
11 previous question. I did not know for what purpose  
12 the Gentleman was rising. I will keep trying to  
13 make certain, but if someone stands at the  
14 microphone -- and he had been there for some time --  
15 he has every right to make the motion for previous  
16 question.

17                   MR. LITTLE: Madam Chairman, I would  
18 suggest that you requested recognition for the  
19 purpose of speaking for or against, but not for the  
20 purpose of making a previous --

21                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, the Gentleman  
22 was recognized in accordance with the rules, and has

1 every right to move for previous question.

2 All right. We will move to a vote on  
3 ending debate. All of those in favor of ending  
4 debate, please say aye.

5 [A chorus of ayes.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Those opposed.

7 [A chorus of nays.]

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Clearly, the ayes  
9 have it.

10 We will now move directly to a vote on the  
11 amendment.

12 All of those in favor of adopting the  
13 amendment that reads that "There shall be a State  
14 Chairman's Advisory Committee composed of the State  
15 Chairmen of each of the States, the Chairman of  
16 which shall be elected annually by its members from  
17 among its members at each Republican National  
18 Committee Winter Meeting."

19 All in favor, say aye.

20 [A chorus of ayes.]

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Those opposed, say  
22 nay.

1 [A chorus of nays.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

3 Next, we will move to Amendment number  
4 10.5, impacting Rule number 10(c). It has been  
5 submitted by Mr. Ash.

6 MR. ASH: Good afternoon, Madam Chairman.

7 Bruce Ash, from the State of Arizona.

8 Again, just a cleanup and perhaps --

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Excuse me. Mr.  
10 Ash, I need you to make the motion, and --

11 MR. ASH: Right on.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- we'll get a  
13 second.

14 MR. ASH: Right on. This is to Rule  
15 10(c), page 20, lines 4 and 5. And it would strike  
16 the words "with approval of the Republican National  
17 Committee" and insert "with a vote of the majority  
18 of the members of the Republican National  
19 Committee," and striking the words "and assistants."

20 Again, I think, just cleanup and clarifying what  
21 the rule was intended to be. This is a rule we  
22 didn't get to on Standing Committee.

1           Thanks for your consideration.

2           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
3 you, Mr. Ash.

4           Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
5 opposition to this amendment?

6           Excuse me, Mr. Yue? Okay, he is -- yes,  
7 we had a motion and second.

8           Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
9 opposition?

10          Mr. Ryder, from Tennessee.

11          MR. RYDER: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

12          I oppose this amendment, and I urge a no  
13 vote on it. This is a further attempt to curb the  
14 powers of the Chair, who may need the ability to  
15 appoint temporary committees. There is already a  
16 rule in the rules of the Republican Party that  
17 requires that the composition of any such Committee  
18 at least be half drawn from the RNC. I think we  
19 have adequate protections there. And I urge a no  
20 vote.

21          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
22 there anyone else who would like to speak in favor



1 of the amendment?

2 [No response.]

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who  
4 would like to speak in opposition to the amendment?

5 [No response.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we'll  
7 proceed to a vote.

8 All of those in favor of the amendment,  
9 please say aye.

10 [A chorus of ayes.]

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
12 nay.

13 [A chorus of nays.]

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

15 Next, we will move to Amendment number  
16 10.6. Amendment 10.6 impacts the language of Rule  
17 number 10(a)(5) and has been submitted by the  
18 Gentleman from Oregon.

19 Mr. Yue, you are recognized for the  
20 purpose of making a motion.

21 MR. YUE: Thank you.

22 National Committeeman for Oregon.

1                   And I move to delete the period at the end  
2 of the sentence after the word "Convention" and  
3 insert the following, "on behalf of and under the  
4 supervision, direction, and control of the  
5 Republican National Committee."

6                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Mr. Yue  
7 has made his motion. Is there a second? Is there a  
8 second?

9                   VOICE: Second.

10                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I see a second.  
11                  Mr. Yue, would you like to address your  
12 motion?

13                  MR. YUE: Certainly. Thank you.

14                  This is, again, a good-governance proposal  
15 and to put a checks and balance within our system.  
16 If you remember, I share with you Chairman Steele  
17 spent 1 million our line credit and put RNC 26  
18 million in debt. And Chairman Priebus shared that  
19 with you during the orientation yesterday. And that  
20 was -- the main reason that happened during my  
21 investigation was very, very clear. There is no  
22 supervision from RNC Executive Committee. There is

1 no supervision from 168 RNC members. So, for good  
2 governance and transparency and -- I urge you,  
3 support this amendment.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Yue.

5 Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
6 opposition to this amendment?

7 Mr. Ryder.

8 MR. RYDER: Madam Chairman, John Ryder,  
9 Tennessee.

10 This amendment is unnecessary, redundant,  
11 and superfluous. Rule 10(f) already provides, "All  
12 Committees appointed or elected pursuant to any of  
13 these rules, whether separately incorporated and  
14 whether a separate reporting entity, shall be under  
15 the supervision, direction, and control of the  
16 Republican National Committee and its officers and  
17 staff, and shall be subject to and comply with the  
18 rules, policies, and procedures of the Republican  
19 National Committee, including its budgetary review  
20 and approval process, financial controls, legal  
21 compliance and review process, and employee policies  
22 and manual."

1           That language was added to deal with the  
2 concerns that Mr. Yue has expressed. His amendment  
3 is unnecessary, superfluous, and redundant. I urge  
4 that you vote no on the Yue amendment.

5           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
6 Ryder.

7           Is there anyone else who would like to  
8 speak in favor of the Yue amendment? Anyone else to  
9 speak in favor of the Yue amendment?

10           [No response.]

11           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who  
12 would like to speak in opposition to the Yue  
13 amendment.

14           Gentleman from Massachusetts.

15           MR. DeVITO: Tom Brady, Massachusetts. I  
16 couldn't resist the football.

17           [Laughter.]

18           MR. DeVITO: Vincent DeVito --

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I must need new  
20 glasses.

21           MR. DeVITO: Vincent DeVito -- thank you -  
22 - Vincent DeVito, Massachusetts.

1           I rise in opposition to this amendment.  
2   It is clearly redundant, unnecessary, and  
3   bureaucratic.

4           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. I  
5   didn't mean to say you looked worse than Tom Brady.  
6   Just different.

7           [Laughter.]

8           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. All  
9   right. Is there anyone else who wishes to seek  
10  recognition to speak regarding this amendment?

11          [No response.]

12          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing no one, we  
13  will move to a vote.

14          All of those in favor of adopting Mr.  
15  Yue's amendment, please say aye.

16          [A chorus of ayes.]

17          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Anyone opposed.

18          [A chorus of nays.]

19          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

20          Next, we will move to Amendment number  
21  10.7 -- number 10.7. This amendment impacts the  
22  language of Rule 10(a)(3) and has been submitted by

1 the Gentleman from Idaho, who is hereby recognized  
2 for the purpose of a motion.

3 MR. SEMANKO: Madam Chair, Norm Semanko,  
4 from Idaho.

5 After submitting this particular amendment  
6 and reviewing it further, I've identified a drafting  
7 error. So, I would like, at this time, to move to  
8 table consideration of Amendment 10.7 to a time  
9 certain, that time being after conclusion of  
10 consideration of Rules 1 through 12.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. The  
12 Gentleman is in order. The parliamentarian tells me  
13 that you wish to make your motion one to postpone.  
14 We will assume that that's the correct --

15 MR. SEMANKO: Yes.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- verbiage.

17 MR. SEMANKO: Thank you.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes.

19 Is there a second? Is there a second?

20 VOICE: Second.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those in favor,  
22 please say aye.

1 [A chorus of ayes.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

3 [No response.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We will take up --  
5 the ayes have it, and we will take this up at the  
6 end of Rules 1 through 12.

7 All right. The next one that we will  
8 bring up is Rule 10.8 -- Rule 10.8, impacting Rule  
9 number 10(a)(2). It has been submitted by the  
10 Gentleman from -- excuse me -- from Idaho, who's  
11 recognized for the purpose of an amendment.

12 MR. SEMANKO: Madam Chair, Norm Semanko,  
13 from Idaho.

14 I would like to move that Rule 10(a)(2) be  
15 amended by striking the word "Chairman" and  
16 inserting the word "member" after the words, quote,  
17 "region and a," unquote, and striking the words,  
18 quote, "of the Republican National Committee,"  
19 unquote, after the words, quote, "among the members  
20 of the," and inserting the sentence, quote, "The  
21 Chairman of the Standing Committee on Resolutions  
22 shall be elected by its members from among the

1 members thereof," unquote, and insert the sentence,  
2 quote, "The election of the Standing Committee on  
3 Resolutions shall take place at the Quadrennial  
4 Winter Meeting of the Republican National  
5 Committee," unquote.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. It's  
7 been moved. Has it been seconded? Is there a  
8 second? Is there a second?

9 VOICE: Second.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It has been moved  
11 and seconded.

12 Mr. Semanko, would you like to address the  
13 merits, please?

14 MR. SEMANKO: Yes. Madam Chair, as those  
15 that are familiar with the rules will no doubt note,  
16 this proposed change to the Resolutions Committee  
17 subsection of this rule would comport it to be  
18 consistent with the Standing Committee on Rules,  
19 under (a)(1), where "The Chairman of the Standing  
20 Committee on Rules shall be elected by the Committee  
21 from amongst its members." This would make the  
22 Resolutions Committee consistent with the Rules



1 Committee, in terms of the election of the Chairman.

2 And that is the purpose for the amendment.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.

5 Semanko.

6 Is there anyone else who wishes to speak

7 in opposition? Are you rising in opposition, Mr.

8 Little?

9 MR. LITTLE: Yes, Madam Chair.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Little, you are

11 recognized.

12 MR. LITTLE: Madam Chairman, I believe the

13 Resolutions Committee is fundamentally different

14 from the Rules Committee and should be appointed by

15 the Chair. We have resolutions that actually are

16 out there every day, and, at the end of every

17 meeting, they will affect the position of the

18 Republican National Committee. Whereas, the

19 Committee on Rules does not report, except once

20 every 4 years. So, the -- this deals with our

21 positions on the issues of the day, day in and day

22 out. We have a Chairman of the Republican National

1 Committee. We rise and fall on our Chairman. And I  
2 believe our Chairman should have the ability to  
3 appoint the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
5 Little.

6 Is there anyone else who rises to support  
7 the amendment? Anyone else who wishes to rise in  
8 support of the amendment?

9 [No response.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Anyone who wishes  
11 to speak in opposition to the amendment?

12 Mr. Evans.

13 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Madam Chair. And I  
14 will try to avoid all references to college  
15 football. I can recognize the sensitivities, being  
16 from the Southeastern Conference, by the rest of the  
17 group.

18 [Laughter.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: You may not have  
20 helped yourself just now, Mr. Evans.

21 MR. EVANS: But, I do agree with Mr.  
22 Little, which is that we are trying to put together

1 a team, and we do have a leader, and that leader is  
2 the Chairman. And the Chairman does need to have  
3 the discretion to help pick the team that helps win.

4 This isn't just a political exercise,  
5 where we all get together and exchange ideas. In  
6 the end, we want to win elections. And Chairman  
7 Priebus helped us do exceptionally well in the last  
8 election. And I think we will do exceptionally well  
9 in the coming election, when we elect President  
10 Trump. But, for right now, the key -- the key for  
11 us all is to make sure that we don't interfere with  
12 the ability to put those very effective teams in  
13 place, drawing upon the strengths of everybody to  
14 build a unit that is capable of winning, as opposed  
15 to just a group of outstanding individuals.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

17 Is there anyone else who would like to  
18 rise in support of the amendment?

19 Ms. Ambrose.

20 MS. AMBROSE: Nicolee Ambrose, Maryland.

21 I would really like us all to consider how  
22 important it is for the RNC not -- to not be one

1 person. It's fantastic we have a great Chairman,  
2 but this is about a 168-member body that's supposed  
3 to carry on the work of the Convention body in the 4  
4 years in between. Last I saw, we were Republicans  
5 who believe in individual rights and our own freedom  
6 and liberty.

7           So, I would just encourage us all to think  
8 and respect the fact that we need to have a few more  
9 people in power to make decisions, to have the  
10 ability to at least vote for the person who's  
11 leading your Committee. Just a concept. I  
12 encourage you all to think about that.

13           Thank you.

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

15           Is there anyone else who rises in  
16 opposition?

17           Mr. Duprey.

18           MR. DUPREY: Madam Chairman, Steve Duprey,  
19 from New Hampshire.

20           Ross Little said it best, this is  
21 fundamentally different from the Rules Committee,  
22 which reports out once a year. This -- the

1 Resolutions Committee puts resolutions out there all  
2 the time. It's important that the Chairman be in  
3 charge of this so that we're in sync with our  
4 congressional leaders.

5           So, I urge members to vote no on this  
6 proposed amendment.

7           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

8           The Gentleman is the only one standing at  
9 the microphone. And so, the Chair recognizes the  
10 Gentleman from Hawaii.

11           MR. PAIKAI: Thank you, Madam Chair.

12           Nathan Paikai, from the State of Hawaii.

13           I rise in opposition. I am -- I'm  
14 overwhelmed. This is my first time here. And to be  
15 a part of the RNC and who I believe will be the next  
16 nominee from the Republican Party. I believe in the  
17 leadership of the RNC and what they have done and  
18 what we will continue to do. And so, I rise in  
19 opposition on this amendment, because it now brings  
20 even more division. When I heard the Chairman now  
21 speak about unity, that's what I came for.

22           And so, I ask you to vote no on this

1 amendment.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
4 Paikai. And since it's your first time here --

5 [Applause.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- welcome. We're  
7 glad you're here.

8 All right. Is there anyone else who  
9 wishes to be heard on this amendment?

10 [No response.]

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing no one,  
12 we'll move directly to a vote on the amendment.

13 All of those in favor of adopting the  
14 amendment, please say aye.

15 [A chorus of ayes.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Anyone opposed?

17 [A chorus of nays.]

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

19 We'll move now to Amendment 10.9.

20 Amendment 10.9 impacts the language of Rule

21 10(a)(4), and it has also been submitted by Mr.

22 Semanko, of Idaho, who is hereby recognized for the

1 purpose of making a motion.

2 MR. SEMANKO: Madam Chair, thank you.

3 And I hope everyone agrees with me that  
4 this is a healthy discussion to have about the  
5 relative balance within the Republican National  
6 Committee between the Chairman and the members. And  
7 obviously, there is a -- somewhat of a tension  
8 between the Rules and the Resolutions Committee.  
9 And I appreciate the discussion that was had.

10 This is a similar amendment with regard to  
11 the Standing Committee on Site Selection of the  
12 Republican National Convention. And I just put  
13 before you again the idea that it may be better, as  
14 it is in the case of rules, to have that determined  
15 by the members themselves as to the Chairman of that  
16 Committee.

17 And, with that, happy to yield to others  
18 to debate.

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
21 Semanko.

22 It's been moved. Is there a second? Is

1 there a second?

2 VOICE: Second.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a second.

4 Mr. Semanko, because I was the appointed  
5 Chairman of the Site Selection Committed for this  
6 Convention, would you prefer that Mr. Kauffman take  
7 the Chair, or are you all right with me continuing  
8 to preside?

9 MR. SEMANKO: Madam Chair, having  
10 disclosed that, I have no problem. I don't know if  
11 anyone else does. But, thank you for that.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
13 Semanko.

14 Is there anyone who rises in opposition?

15 The Lady from California.

16 MS. DHILLON: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

17 I'm opposed to this amendment, for the  
18 same reasons that I opposed the prior couple that  
19 we've heard. And they seem to be implying that  
20 there's something wrong with the leadership of --

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I'm sorry. We  
22 didn't get your name and State. My fault.



1 MS. DHILLON: California, you said.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes.

3 MS. DHILLON: My name is Harmeet Dhillon,  
4 from the great State of California.

5 I oppose this amendment because I believe  
6 the Chair is doing a fine job. And, speaking from  
7 my experience as the Vice Chairman in the California  
8 Republican Party, a large Party, I think it's  
9 important for the Chairman to have the freedom to  
10 pick the people that he works with. And that's part  
11 of the Chairman's satisfaction in his job, as well.

12 And I think that we need to have Chairs who are  
13 empowered to get things done with people they get  
14 along with and people they have confidence in, as  
15 opposed to creating multiple power centers in the  
16 Party, which is not conducive to unity.

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

19 Is there anyone else who rises in support?  
20 Anyone who rises in support of this amendment?

21 [No response.]

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who

1 would like to recognized in opposition?

2 Ms. Homan.

3 MS. HOMAN: Jill Homan, from Washington,  
4 D.C.

5 I'm opposed to this amendment. And I  
6 served on the Site Selection Committee with the  
7 Chairman, Enid Mickelsen. And I think folks should  
8 know how difficult of a job it is. I think  
9 Cleveland Host Committee can attest to how much is  
10 involved, in terms of the negotiation with all the  
11 different parties, not to mention, when you have the  
12 election, you're only electing eight people, and so,  
13 you do need, you know, a ninth. But, I think it's  
14 important that we allow the Chairman to appoint  
15 someone with the right skillset and someone who is  
16 able to negotiate and represent us well. And so, I  
17 think it's critically important that we enable the  
18 Chairman to appoint this position.

19 Thanks.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mrs.  
21 Homan.

22 Is there anyone else who would like to be

1 recognized in support of the amendment?

2 [No response.]

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
4 else who would like to be recognized in opposition  
5 to the amendment?

6 Mr. Barnett, of Arkansas.

7 MR. BARNETT: Jonathan Barnett, from  
8 Arkansas. Thank you, Madam Chairman.

9 I, too, was privileged to be on the Site  
10 Selection Committee. And so, those of you that are  
11 here from Cleveland, you can thank people like me  
12 and Jill and some others.

13 [Laughter.]

14 MR. BARNETT: I guess we'll find out on  
15 the back side if, you know, they get criticized on  
16 the back side was -- whether it was a good choice or  
17 not.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I'm sure Cleveland  
19 will do a great job. It's some of the --

20 MR. BARNETT: I'm sure they will.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- outside visitors  
22 I'm a little concerned about.

1                   MR. BARNETT:  You know, I may have been a  
2 little concerned about our Chairwoman on the front  
3 side, but, after the first meeting or two, I had  
4 full confidence and faith, and thought she was very  
5 capable and very competent.  And --

6                   But, anyhow, I just -- there's eight  
7 members on the Site Selection Committee, and we  
8 worked very well together.  You know, the eight  
9 members actually make the choice.  It's not the  
10 Chairwoman or the Chairperson of that Committee.  
11 It's actually the eight Committee members.  And I  
12 think we all kind of worked very independently, as  
13 far as our thought process was concerned, but we  
14 collaborated together very well, and came together  
15 and made the very best decision possible.

16                   I don't -- this is not a sword that we  
17 need to die on.  It's, again, obviously, trying to  
18 take more powers away.  But, anyhow, I'd just -- I  
19 do rise in opposition.

20                   Thank you.

21                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Thank you, Mr.  
22 Barnett.

1           Is there anyone else who rises in support?

2           Mr. Ash, do you rise in support?

3           MR. ASH: No, ma'am.

4           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Oh, all right.

5           Mr. Duprey, do you rise in opposition?

6           MR. DUPREY: I rise in opposition. The  
7 California Delegate expressed it well. We have to  
8 have faith in our chief executive officer, our  
9 Chairman. And I would like to move the previous  
10 question.

11           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
12 is in order.

13           All of those who are -- who would like to  
14 end debate on this issue, please say aye.

15           [A chorus of ayes.]

16           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, say  
17 no.

18           [A chorus of nays.]

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous -- the  
20 ayes have it.

21           We will now move directly to a vote on the  
22 amendment.

1           All of those in favor of Mr. Semanko's  
2 amendment, which reads that, "The Chairman of the  
3 Standing Committee on Site Selection of the  
4 Republican National Convention shall be elected by  
5 its members from among the members thereof."

6           All those in favor, please say aye.

7           [A chorus of ayes.]

8           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

9           [A chorus of nays.]

10          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

11          I believe that completes our work on Rule  
12 12 -- excuse me -- Rule 10. And now we move to Rule  
13 12. I'm getting ahead of myself. All right. So,  
14 that completes our work on Rule 10.

15          We'll now move to Rule 12, and then I need  
16 to remind you that we set aside a number of other  
17 amendments to be taken up at the end of Rule 12. So  
18 that you don't give up all hope of ever getting a  
19 little bit of a break, after we have finished all of  
20 the amendments to Rules 1 through 12, we will take a  
21 30-minute break to allow you to get some afternoon  
22 refreshments that we've provided for you, and to

1 allow the staff to get all of the amendments for the  
2 next section loaded up.

3 All right. Let's move to Amendment 12.1.

4 This is Rule 12, and this is an amendment submitted  
5 by Mr. Blackwell, of Virginia.

6 Mr. Blackwell, you are recognized for the  
7 purpose of making a motion.

8 MR. BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

9 My motion is to strike Rule 12 in its  
10 entirety.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
12 Blackwell.

13 Is there a second?

14 VOICE: Second.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
16 seconded that Rule 12 be stricken in its entirety.

17 Mr. Blackwell, would you like to address  
18 the merits of your amendment?

19 MR. BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

20 I have communicated to the members of this  
21 Committee on this topic prior to this meeting. It  
22 went by email. And if you are like me, fellow

1 members, I didn't open all the emails for the past  
2 period of time. I want to read what I said to this  
3 members of this Committee into the record:

4            "This rule permits the RNC to change the  
5 rules between our National Conventions. It's the  
6 worst of the 2012 power grabs by the Romney  
7 Campaign. It is the worst rules change ever  
8 inserted into our National Party rules. It should  
9 be deleted entirely. For generations, conservatives  
10 praised as the greatest advantage of the Rules of  
11 the Republican Party over the National Democratic  
12 Party rules the fact that no RNC Chairman could  
13 change the National Party rules between Conventions.

14    The Democrats' National Committee has been free to  
15 change the rules between Conventions, and they often  
16 do so. They couch proposed rules changes in good-  
17 government terms, but they all know, and the public  
18 knows, that most often their proposed rules changes  
19 are designed to help this or that candidate or this  
20 or that faction of their Party. This generates  
21 constant ugly battles for power between the  
22 Conventions.



1           "Now, of necessity, the RNC Chairman has  
2 very great powers. For all practical purposes, the  
3 RNC Chairman controls the RNC funds, including how  
4 much RNC money, if any, goes to any State Party and  
5 how much RNC money, if any, goes to any Republican  
6 nominee of any State Party. The RNC Chairman  
7 controls the RNC's hiring decisions. The RNC  
8 Chairman decides which RNC members are appointed to  
9 many powerful positions in the National Party  
10 structure. Every RNC National Chairman, if that  
11 Chairman wishes, can get the votes at an RNC meeting  
12 of a majority of RNC members." And I know that.  
13 I've been on the Committee a long time. You've --  
14 members of the Committee know that. "Usually, it's  
15 a supermajority."

16           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Blackwell, your  
17 time is expired. I'm sorry, sir. You can seek  
18 unanimous consent to extend your remarks for 2 more  
19 minutes, but that would require unanimous consent of  
20 the body.

21           MR. BLACKWELL: Well, I -- all right. I  
22 would ask unanimous consent for 2 more minutes.

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there any  
2 objection?

3 [No response.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Hearing none,  
5 please --

6 There is an objection, I'm sorry, Mr.  
7 Blackwell.

8 All right. Is there anyone who would like  
9 to rise in opposition?

10 VOICE: Yes.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Duprey.

12 MR. DUPREY: Steve Duprey, from New  
13 Hampshire.

14 I rise in strenuous opposition to this  
15 proposal, notwithstanding my good friend Morton  
16 Blackwell. I think this was one of the most  
17 important rules changes we have made. And let me  
18 give you the example.

19 We had 23 debates in 2008, 21 in 2012, and  
20 we wanted to make sure that didn't happen and that  
21 we didn't give the media a chance to embarrass our  
22 candidates. But for the fact had we not had this

1 rule, the -- we would not have had the ability to  
2 pass the rule that said any candidate who shows up  
3 at an unsanctioned debate will be ineligible for  
4 later debates. That immediately gave us the control  
5 over the debate process, which allowed us to cut the  
6 number in half, to spread them out, to have input on  
7 who the panels look like, and to make sure they were  
8 on a calendar that our candidates could accept.

9           If we pass the Blackwell amendment, it  
10 would limit the ability of the Republican National  
11 Committee to deal with emerging situations that need  
12 attention between Conventions. I think the best  
13 proof that there is no abuse of power has been how  
14 rarely it was used. I believe that was the only  
15 change we made.

16           This rule works. It gives us a great  
17 ability to adapt to changing situations. And it  
18 would be a terrible mistake to strike this rule.

19           So, I urge members to vote no on this  
20 proposed amendment.

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
22 Duprey.

1           Is there anyone who rises in support? Is  
2 there anyone who rises in support?

3           Yes. Right here.

4           MS. BOWEN: Gwen Bowen, Louisiana.

5           And, although I thought the Republican  
6 debates were wonderful, and thank you all so much, I  
7 don't -- I think there's other places that that can  
8 be done, besides in Rule 12. In 2012 -- the only  
9 difference between, maybe, my opinion and Delegate  
10 Morton Blackwell's is, he thought it was the biggest  
11 power grab, and I thought it was the second-biggest  
12 power grab of 2012. I thought 16, which actually  
13 was 15 at the time, disavowing -- a candidate being  
14 able to disavow a Delegate duly elected -- I thought  
15 that was the biggest power grab. But, I think that  
16 this body -- this body, these -- this is the  
17 grassroots, the people have elected this body to  
18 make the decisions for the rules for the next  
19 Convention. And although -- and not the RNC,  
20 although I think the RNC certainly has its place,  
21 and they've done good jobs many times, but not  
22 always.

1                   And so, I'd encourage you to vote to  
2 delete Rule 12, which there was a lot of people not  
3 wanting to support Rule 12, almost to the point we  
4 had a Minority Report, but we didn't. We did it on  
5 Rule 15, which turned 16 instead.

6                   Thank you.

7                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

8                   Is there anyone who likes -- would rise to  
9 speak in support -- excuse me -- in opposition? In  
10 opposition.

11                   The Gentleman from Nevada.

12                   MR. ROSS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

13                   Jordan Ross, from Nevada.

14                   I have great empathy with what Mr.  
15 Blackwell is talking about. As a grassroots  
16 Republican who's worked hard to bring greater  
17 transparency and checks and balances to the  
18 Republican Party in Nevada, I have a great deal of  
19 empathy for what he's expressing here.

20                   The problem is that, in a 21st century  
21 political environment, we cannot have our Primary  
22 governing documents locked up and unable to change,

1 except once every 4 years. There needs to be some  
2 flexibility. We've dealt with this problem in  
3 Nevada by coming up with a hierarchical system.  
4 We've got bylaws, we've got standing rules for our  
5 State Central Committee, and standing rules for our  
6 Executive Committee. We're not going to have the  
7 time to come up with a solution that complex. I  
8 urge a solution to come up with that.

9           But, in the meantime, we have got to  
10 preserve some minimal flexibility. And I have  
11 looked at this carefully. The power that's being  
12 presented, that currently -- that the RNC exercises  
13 for rulemaking authority is limited. And I think  
14 it's safe enough to say that it'll be safe for  
15 another 4 years. We do need to make changes. Mr.  
16 Blackwell is right. But, this, unfortunately --  
17 regrettably, I have to say this, because I've worked  
18 so hard for transparency and for checks and balances  
19 in our own State Party -- this, unfortunately, is  
20 throwing the baby out with the bath water. Just  
21 can't do it in this day and age. I mean, I'm a 59-  
22 year-old grandfather, and I'm walking around not

1 with one, but with two cell phones, you know, and it  
2 -- you know, constantly, 24 hours a day. The ground  
3 game in politics changes constantly.

4 I stand in opposition to the amendment. I  
5 ask you that we have to think like a 21st century  
6 Party.

7 Thank you. Please vote no.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

9 Is there someone who wishes to rise in  
10 support? Is there any --

11 MS. HAGEMAN: Yes. Harriet Hageman, from  
12 Wyoming.

13 I'm going to continue to provide the  
14 information for Mr. Blackwell. I rise in support of  
15 this amendment.

16 As Mr. Blackwell stated, "The most  
17 effective check on the power of the RNC Chairman was  
18 that the National Chairman was bound by the rules  
19 adopted by the most recent National Convention and  
20 that only the next National Convention could change  
21 those rules. Rule 12 destroys that safeguard.  
22 Generations of serious Party activists and leaders

1 at National Conventions have written into our  
2 national rules some important protections against  
3 abuse of power in the RNC. For example, Rule 11  
4 prevents the RNC from contributing money or in-kind  
5 aid to a candidate in any State who is not yet the  
6 Republican nominee, unless all three of the State's  
7 RNC members file with the RNC prior written approval  
8 of that RNC intervention. This rule tends to  
9 protect conservative candidates.

10 "In living memory, many very different  
11 people have served as Chairman of the RNC. Some  
12 have proved to be skilled, honorable, and  
13 productive. Others have quite capriciously thrown  
14 their weight around. Some have been pawns of  
15 consultants who helped elect them or of other  
16 cronies who were enriched by their proximity to the  
17 seat of power in the Party. Some national Chairmen  
18 have left the RNC in a sound financial position,  
19 others have left the RNC broke and deep in debt.  
20 Nevertheless, over the years, our Party has had  
21 national Chairmen who served our Party much better  
22 than the Democrat's Party Chairmen served their



1 Party.

2 "One aspect of human nature is that people  
3 who have power tend to use that power to stay in  
4 power and to increase their power. That's why our  
5 Constitution set up a system of checks and balances  
6 and separation of powers in government. There may  
7 be no practical alternative to our National Party  
8 Chairman having many great powers. We could not  
9 operate effectively if the RNC membership had to  
10 vote on how much RNC financial support goes to which  
11 candidate in which States. Until now, however, all  
12 RNC Chairmen, regardless of their motives and  
13 probity, have been bound by the rules in effect when  
14 they were elected. That's a healthy check, which  
15 limits even the temptation to abuse power or to  
16 centralize it too much. Rule 12 must be repealed."

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

19 Are there others who wish to speak in  
20 opposition?

21 VOICE: Yes.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I'm going to go

1 first to Mrs. Costa, because she hasn't spoken yet  
2 today.

3 MS. COSTA: Cindy Costa, from South  
4 Carolina.

5 I rise in opposition of this amendment,  
6 for the very fact that Mr. Blackwell spoke a while  
7 ago. He said that it was very difficult to get two  
8 people from one State. Now we're asking that we get  
9 a three-fourths vote from the entire body to change  
10 a rule, which I think is a much higher bar than what  
11 he was talking about earlier. So, I think, because  
12 we would not change a rule unless it was a very  
13 serious rule that had to be changed, we would never  
14 get to that three-fourths if we were tinkering  
15 around and playing with our rules and trying to, you  
16 know, do something for, you know, one State's  
17 benefit.

18 So, I would say this is a protective rule  
19 that we need in our rules, and that, with that high  
20 bar, there won't be any gamesmanship. Everybody on  
21 this Committee is pretty smart. And so, they don't  
22 really allow for that kind of thing.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

3 Are there others who wish to speak in  
4 support?

5 Ms. Ambrose.

6 MS. AMBROSE: Nicolee Ambrose, Maryland.

7 I just want to remind everyone that this  
8 came about in 2012, and it was the brainchild of Ben  
9 Ginsberg. This outraged people in my home State of  
10 Maryland, so much so that we had a leadership sweep.

11 And I encourage you to realize that a lot of what  
12 we've seen in the past 4 years -- we've talked about  
13 power going back to the people, and people wanting  
14 to actually have a direct vote and direct influence  
15 in their -- how the affairs of our Party. I am  
16 encouraging you to think about what this means in  
17 your home State. People were upset in 2012, and  
18 they will remain upset unless we fix the things that  
19 upset them.

20 So, with that said, I love giving power to  
21 Convention bodies. They're the ultimate authority.

22 That is why we are here, to get things right so we

1 can propose great, fantastic rules that everyone  
2 will be happy with.

3 Thank you very much.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
5 else who wishes to speak in opposition?

6 MR. ASH: Yes, ma'am.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Ash.

8 MR. ASH: Madam Chairman, Bruce Ash, from  
9 Arizona.

10 For those of you who know me, you know me  
11 as being a traditionalist. When I first heard of  
12 the Rule 12 concept at the last Convention Rules  
13 Committee, it struck me dumfounded. I wasn't sure  
14 what to think, at first. It didn't take long for me  
15 to realize, though, it was providential.

16 And, as it turned out, some of the rules  
17 that were imposed upon the RNC at the last Rules  
18 Convention, we used Rule 12 to get rid of nearly all  
19 of those, to give back Delegate empowerment, to give  
20 back activist empowerment. This has been used as a  
21 tool for good.

22 I respect and admire, and I have to admit

1 openly, Morton Blackwell is one of my heroes. And I  
2 question my own judgment anytime he and I aren't on  
3 the same wavelength. But, for the very reasons that  
4 Mr. Blackwell supports eliminating Rule 12, I think  
5 those are the reasons why we want to continue Rule  
6 12, to make changes in rules that didn't work, that  
7 created problems with grassroots empowerment, but  
8 also, as some of the others have maintained, to make  
9 sure that our Party remains active and able to react  
10 to anything that happens in the political landscape  
11 between now and 2020.

12           Steve Duprey, Madam Chairman, said that we  
13 only changed the Debate Committee. We -- or created  
14 the Debate Committee -- we did lots of different  
15 things under Rule 12. Some of them weren't quite  
16 appreciated or understood back home in Arizona, but  
17 I am proud of every single change that we made under  
18 Rule 12. And it had to meet the very highest  
19 possible threshold, at 75 percent. In fact, most of  
20 the times, we were at 80 or 85 percent.

21           Thank you very much for your  
22 consideration.

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Ash.

2                   Is there anyone else who rises in support?

3                   Anyone who rises in support?

4                   Mr. Ross.

5                   MR. ROSS: Madam Chairman, I support the  
6 deletion of Rule 12. I've studied the Democrat  
7 Party as they began to do this. And when they gave  
8 their committee the ability to change rules, it was  
9 for things that were fairly innocuous on their side  
10 in the beginning, but it got worse and worse and  
11 worse. I think this is a very dangerous road that  
12 we go down. I think it was great, in fact, that we  
13 got the debates in. I thought that was a wonderful  
14 thing. I think it was an unusual thing. But, I  
15 believe we should keep it as it was prior to all the  
16 things that happened in the last 8 years, and revert  
17 to having the Convention being the ultimate arbiter  
18 of the rules.

19                   Thank you, Madam Chair.

20                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

21                   Is there someone who would wish to speak  
22 in opposition?

1 MR. MUNISTERI: Yes, Madam Chairman.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Munisteri.

3 MR. MUNISTERI: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

4 If you don't have a mechanism for dealing  
5 with an extraordinary circumstance, what would you  
6 do? Just use common sense. For example, if you had  
7 a court order that made you change the way you  
8 operated, but your rules did not allow you to  
9 adjust, what would you do?

10 This is not a hypothetical situation.  
11 When I was State Chairman of the Texas Republican  
12 Party, we were sued a number of times. We had to  
13 get permission by the Department of Justice, and we  
14 had to comply with court orders that required us to  
15 change our rules, and we had a mechanism.

16 What would the Republican Party do if it  
17 faced an extraordinary circumstance and you don't  
18 have a chance to adjust? It's just common sense.

19 Now, we were talking about the grassroots.  
20 It requires 75 percent to get agreement. Who  
21 comprises that 75? They're RNC members, such as  
22 Toni Dashiell, from our State, and Tom Meckler and

1 Robin Armstrong. They're elected by 9,000  
2 Delegates. If they did something that was untoward,  
3 when they got back, they wouldn't be reelected.

4 And something else that hasn't been  
5 mentioned. We allow our body to get rid of our  
6 Chairman or Chairwoman, if we don't like them or  
7 overstep, by two-thirds vote. If you don't think  
8 your Chairman is doing the right thing, or  
9 Chairwoman, you think they're abusing power, we have  
10 a mechanism to get rid of the Chairman. People are  
11 acting as if the Chairman has all the leverage. I  
12 can't think of greater leverage than the ability, as  
13 our presumptive nominee would say, "You're fired."

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
16 Munisteri.

17 Is there anyone else who rises to speak in  
18 support?

19 The Gentleman from Utah, Mr. Lee.

20 SENATOR LEE: Mike Lee, from Utah. Thank  
21 you.

22 I'm always concerned about any proposal or



1 any existing rule that seems to tend to allow one  
2 group of people, or one person, to accumulate too  
3 much power. I think we can spot a certain trend  
4 that's evolved today, a trend toward not passing  
5 those amendments that tend to disperse power,  
6 rejecting those amendments that tend to disperse  
7 power and leave them in the hands of the Delegates.

8           Now, it is certainly true that, under Rule  
9 12, you've got to have a supermajority, or a super-  
10 duper majority, you might call it, in order to  
11 exercise this rule, but that doesn't mean that that  
12 will serve as a significant check. What if, in  
13 fact, you see the RNC seeing things overwhelmingly  
14 the same way that the Chairman sees them, over and  
15 over and over again? So, in many respects, this  
16 could disempower Delegates, as a whole. This could  
17 disempower the power -- the Party at large, members  
18 of the grassroots. And so, I think we've got to be  
19 very skeptical of things that help facilitate the  
20 accumulation of power in the hands of the few,  
21 especially given that we aspire to be a Party that  
22 is more inclusive, a Party that brings people in,

1 that encourages grassroots activity. That is, after  
2 all, where our vitality as a Party is found.

3           Lastly, I will say, I was a little bit  
4 surprised by the fact that, when the sponsor of this  
5 amendment asked what I thought was a very modest  
6 request, that he be given 2 additional minutes to  
7 complete his very short remarks, we saw multiple  
8 objections. I work in a body where unanimous  
9 consent is constantly given, where someone just  
10 needs another minute or two. The fact that people  
11 are so upset at the -- even the suggestion that we  
12 consider getting rid of Rule 12 gives me additional  
13 reason to support this amendment and to encourage  
14 each member of this committee to strongly consider  
15 doing the same.

16           Thank you.

17           [Applause.]

18           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Are there others  
19 who wish to speak in opposition?

20           Mr. DeVito.

21           MR. DeVITO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

22           Vincent DeVito, Massachusetts.

1           I urge a no vote for this particular  
2 amendment. I had the privilege of speaking to this  
3 rule two Conventions in a row. This is not a rule  
4 that gave carte blanche, it was a rule that was  
5 negotiated thoughtfully among many smart people, 4  
6 years ago. And the super-duper-majority reference,  
7 prior to me, is exactly right, that is a very high  
8 threshold and restriction.

9           I want to emphasize also the other  
10 restriction on this particular rule as it stands.  
11 It is a 2-year window of operation. It not carte  
12 blanche, and it is not a grab of any type of power;  
13 it is simply a thoughtful process to be used for  
14 exigent circumstances.

15           Thank you for the opportunity to speak to  
16 this rule again this year.

17           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

18           Is there anyone else who wishes to rise in  
19 support? Anyone who wishes to rise in support?

20           [No response.]

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Anyone who wishes  
22 to rise in opposition?

1           Mr. Paikai.

2           MR. PAIKAI: Thank you, Madam Chair.

3           I'm in strong opposition. This is a  
4 safety valve for the people. This is a safety valve  
5 for the RNC, for this Committee, for anything that  
6 comes together to bring unity. It brings an  
7 opportunity for everyone to speak. If you get rid  
8 of this, you give no one an opportunity to voice  
9 their concerns.

10           Thank you.

11           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
12 Paikai.

13           Are there others who wish to speak --  
14 someone who wishes to speak in support?

15           Mr. Frias.

16           MR. FRIAS: People have made some very  
17 good points on both sides. I respect my colleagues  
18 on the RNC. I'm a member of the RNC. This is a  
19 great power the RNC's been given. But, I hear what  
20 Senator Lee stated. And to me, I'm always concerned  
21 about concentration of power. This isn't about who  
22 appoints what to Committee, this is about who

1 decides what the rules are.

2           In the end, when I have to make a decision  
3 about who has the ultimate authority over this  
4 rules, is it 1,237 Delegates on Monday or 126 RNC  
5 members? I prefer a larger group than a smaller  
6 group.

7           In response to some of the comments that  
8 have been made, that we're in the 21st century, we  
9 need to make changes as events occur, I recognize  
10 that. In the past, we would create a carve-out and  
11 say, "In regards to rules in the presidential  
12 Primary for this, the RNC can make a change later  
13 on." You do not grant this level of power to a  
14 smaller group. If you're going to give that level  
15 of power to a smaller group, you make it as narrow  
16 as possible.

17           This is my opinion. The -- Rule 12 has  
18 worked fine, by the way. So everybody knows that  
19 I'm not making any insults or attacking anybody.  
20 Rule 12 has worked fine these last couple of years.

21 I do not worry about how things have worked under  
22 Chairman Priebus. I worry about the future. When I

1 vote for a rule or a law or anything, I think not  
2 just about the best-case scenarios, but the worst-  
3 case scenarios.

4 I apologize to my colleagues on the RNC  
5 for voting against Rule 12, but that's just my view.

6 I'd -- and I know everyone's going to start  
7 attacking and whatever, but have a nice day.

8 [Laughter.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: You, too, Mr.  
10 Frias.

11 The Chair recognizes Mr. Ryder.

12 MR. RYDER: John Ryder, from Tennessee.

13 And no apology is necessary from the  
14 Gentleman from Rhode Island. These are legitimate  
15 points. This is a very important debate.

16 We had this debate 4 years ago. We had  
17 the debate 4 years prior to that, when we adopted a  
18 similar rule regarding amendments to Rule 15(c), as  
19 it then existed, concerning the Primary calendar,  
20 not some of the other elements of 15.

21 And the issue is this. The -- first, can  
22 we give the Party some limited flexibility to deal

1 with emergency situations and changing circumstances  
2 as they evolve over the next couple of years? And  
3 second, can we give the Republican Party the ability  
4 to debate and deliberate over issues that it is not  
5 possible for this Committee to adequately address in  
6 the 2 or 2 and a half days that we have? And we  
7 just addressed that last when we passed the  
8 amendment to Rule 10, which created a Commission to  
9 Examine the Presidential Primary System. And we  
10 modeled this on Rule 10(d), from 8 years ago, which  
11 created the Temporary Delegate Selection Commission,  
12 whose purpose was to examine how the calendar works.  
13 And these are extraordinarily complex issues,  
14 because they involve a large number of rules, a  
15 multiplicity of the rules, and require some lengthy  
16 deliberations. And that Commission took testimony,  
17 conducted hearings, and conducted deliberations over  
18 many days, something this Committee does not have  
19 the luxury of doing.

20 So, ladies and gentlemen, I would urge  
21 that we oppose this amendment, we retain Rule 12, we  
22 retain the ability to have limited flexibility for a

1 limited period of time, upon limited circumstances,  
2 and that we give the Republican Party, through its  
3 National Committee, the ability to deliberate  
4 carefully over some of the more complex issues  
5 before us.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
8 Ryder.

9 The Chair sees Mr. Duprey at the  
10 microphone.

11 MR. DUPREY: Yes.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Duprey, you're  
13 recognized.

14 MR. DUPREY: Madam Chairman, Steve Duprey,  
15 from New Hampshire.

16 I would like to move the previous  
17 question. I would respectfully request a division  
18 vote on this important issue. And I urge members to  
19 vote no on this amendment.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
21 Duprey.

22 We've moved previous question.



1 All those in favor of previous question,  
2 please say aye.

3 [A chorus of ayes.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
5 nay.

6 [No response.]

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We will move to a  
8 vote on the amendment.

9 The amendment from Mr. Blackwell would  
10 strike Rule 12 in its entirety. We will move  
11 directly to a standing vote.

12 All those in favor of adopting Mr.  
13 Blackwell's amendment and striking Rule 12, please  
14 stand.

15 [Members standing.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. You may  
17 be seated.

18 All those against adopting Rule 12, please  
19 stand.

20 [Members standing.]

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: You're standing so  
22 long? Just stay there. I still see them doing

1 this. We have to make sure that all of the tallies  
2 match.

3 Thank you. You can be seated.

4 The vote is as follows: those in favor,  
5 23; those opposed, 86. The amendment fails.

6 Now we will go back and take up those  
7 amendments, all of which we had postponed to a  
8 definite time, to be taken up after Rule 12.

9 So, we are going to be moving quickly. We  
10 will take them in order. Again, Rules 1 through 12.

11 But, I'm going to -- just going to ask you to pay  
12 attention so that, when your amendment comes up,  
13 you're prepared to address the group.

14 We will start with Amendment 1.1. This is  
15 an amendment to Rule 1(c), dealing with lobbyists.  
16 And it has been submitted by Ms. MaryAnne Kinney, of  
17 Maine, and Ms. Cindy Pugh, of Minnesota.

18 MR. EVANS: Madam Chair?

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Evans.

20 MR. EVANS: Just a point of parliamentary  
21 inquiry, please.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

1           MR. EVANS:  Would it be in order to make a  
2 motion to refer these rules that we have deferred  
3 for consideration by -- pursuant to Rule 12, since  
4 none operate to affect the operation -- or none have  
5 any impact on the operation of the Convention?

6           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  The  
7 parliamentarians inform me that we would have to do  
8 each one individually --

9           MR. EVANS:  But --

10          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  -- but that it  
11 would be in order to do so.

12          MR. EVANS:  Okay.  I would so move on the  
13 first motion.

14          VOICE:  Second.

15          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  All right.  It's  
16 been moved and seconded that consideration of this  
17 amendment be -- and what was the language that you  
18 used, sir? -- referred to the committee established  
19 under Rule 12.  Is that correct?

20          MR. EVANS:  For consideration --

21          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  For consideration  
22 under Rule 12, thank you.

1                   It's been moved and seconded. Is there  
2 any debate?

3                   MR. BLACKWELL: Yes, ma'am.

4                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Blackwell.

5                   MR. BLACKWELL: Am I to understand, then,  
6 that, now that we have Rule 12 saved, that matters  
7 which routinely were decided by the Convention Rules  
8 Committee and the Convention are now to be handed  
9 over to the Republican National Committee to be  
10 determined by the use of Rule 12? I mean, this --

11                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Sir, that will be  
12 up --

13                   MR. BLACKWELL: -- is an abandonment of  
14 the grassroots power. Power in this Party should  
15 flow from the bottom up. This is truly an outrage.  
16 Truly an outrage. We've seen -- if this passes,  
17 it's a wholesale abandonment of the rights of the  
18 people who are going to vote on the adoption of the  
19 Rules Committee and to turn it over to a body where  
20 the National Chairman routinely has a supermajority  
21 of Delegates who vote where he wants. This is an  
22 outrage for the conservative grassroots.

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: This will be up to  
2 this body to decide. And I will leave it simply at  
3 that, that it is up to this body to make that  
4 determination.

5                   With that, I will recognize Mr. Barbour.

6                   MR. BARBOUR: Henry Barbour, from  
7 Mississippi.

8                   I will just say, as a lobbyist, I'm fine  
9 with this Committee deciding this issue.

10                  Thank you.

11                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
12 there anyone who rises to support Mr. Evans' motion?

13                  MR. EVANS: Madam Chair, may I just  
14 withdraw my motion?

15                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes.

16                  MR. EVANS: Thank you.

17                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
18 Evans.

19                  [Applause.]

20                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. All right.  
21 We still have a motion to postpone indefinitely that  
22 was on the floor. And I advise the body that, if

1 you want to be able to take up this amendment, which  
2 I believe is now -- Mr. Evans will, as well -- we  
3 need to take a vote to lift the postponing to a --  
4 indefinitely. How would we phrase it?

5 VOICE: [Inaudible.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. So, all  
7 those in favor of lifting the postponement, which  
8 would, in effect, allow us to consider this  
9 amendment, please say aye.

10 [A chorus of ayes.]

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
12 no.

13 [A chorus of nays.]

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

15 All right. Now we will move, Ms. Kinney,  
16 to consideration of your amendment. It has been --  
17 did we get back to the motion? We are now to the  
18 motion.

19 MS. KINNEY: Great, thank you. I never  
20 got a chance to give my reason for proposing it in  
21 the first place.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, now you'll

1 get that opportunity.

2 MS. KINNEY: I know.

3 So, as a State Representative, I can see  
4 differences in lobbyists. There -- this amendment  
5 is meant to keep those with a financial stake in  
6 being on the RNC. We are the Party led by the  
7 common man -- I, for one -- for example, I'm a  
8 farmer in Maine -- not those with ulterior motives.  
9 Let's reduce the influence peddling without  
10 appearance of impropriety. Should have picked a  
11 different word. Nonprofit lobbyists are exempt,  
12 which include, but not limited to, the NRA, of which  
13 I am a lifetime member, the National Right to Life,  
14 or other nonprofit lobbyists. And this amendment is  
15 brought forth to slow down the purchase of the RNC  
16 by the for-profit influences.

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

19 Are those who wish to be recognized in  
20 opposition to this amendment?

21 Gentlelady from California.

22 MS. DHILLON: Madam Chairman, Harmeet

1 Dhillon, from California.

2 I speak as a member of this body and as a  
3 First Amendment lawyer from California. I believe  
4 that banning people from participating in politics  
5 because of their chosen profession is both un-  
6 American and conflicts with the fundamental right to  
7 earn a living, which is part of our freedom  
8 guaranteed by the Constitution. This amendment  
9 would not only ban anybody who works for any entity  
10 that does lobbying, with the alleged exception of  
11 nonprofit -- we don't have time, in 2 minutes, to  
12 get into the distinctions between 501(c)(3) and  
13 501(c)(4) -- but, in addition, is unlimited as to  
14 duration. So, anybody who had ever worked as a  
15 lobbyist at any point in their careers would be  
16 banned, according to this rule, from ever serving as  
17 a member. And I think that is excessive, as well.

18 With registered lobbyists, which is the  
19 case both at the Federal level and in most of our  
20 States, there is total transparency. There isn't  
21 backroom dealing. Once we single out lobbyists,  
22 we're looking at singling out other potential



1 disfavored professions, such as plaintiffs' lawyers,  
2 such as used-car salesmen, such as insurance agents,  
3 perhaps, such as farmers who people don't like. As  
4 the preamble to our rules say, Republicans believe  
5 in bringing people together and in freedom of  
6 speech, not carving them into separate groups and  
7 casting them out.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

10 Are there those -- is there anyone who  
11 wishes to rise in support? Anyone who wishes to  
12 rise in support?

13 Yes. Thank you.

14 MS. PUGH: Yes, thank you, Madam Chair.

15 Cindy Pugh, from Minnesota.

16 And, as a State Representative, I've  
17 witnessed firsthand the influence of paid lobbyists  
18 focused on spending hard-earned taxpayer dollars  
19 versus advocating for everyday hardworking citizens.  
20 I strongly encourage support of this pro-grassroots  
21 rule. Our Republican Party should be giving voice  
22 to everyday hardworking citizens, and not giving in

1 to the voices of insider lobbyists employed by  
2 government and for-profit corporations.

3           This rule wouldn't affect, as my colleague  
4 and the author of this amendment mentioned -- it  
5 wouldn't affect, for example, registered paid  
6 lobbyists for the Right to Life, Inc., because  
7 that's a nonprofit organization, or a gun activist,  
8 for example, who voluntarily lobbies on behalf of  
9 the NRA ILA, the NRA's lobbying arm. But, it would  
10 affect John, for example, an employee for the  
11 Podesta Group, one of D.C.'s lobbyists -- largest  
12 D.C. lobbyist firms, who would be affected.

13           So, I encourage a favorable vote for this  
14 amendment so that this rule that no RNC member has a  
15 financial stake in being on the RNC. And this kind  
16 of insider politics has been heavily permeated  
17 within the DNC. And we all know that. Republican  
18 voters have overwhelmingly rejected insider politics  
19 this election cycle. And our presumptive nominee  
20 has clearly campaigned against special interests,  
21 too. Republicans need to make a bold statement that  
22 we stand in strong contrast and have higher

1 standards than the Democrat Party. We make American  
2 great again when we empower the everyday American  
3 instead of insider lobbyists with ulterior motives.

4           So, I urge the Committee to support this  
5 amendment.

6           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

7           Is there someone who wishes to speak in  
8 opposition? Some --

9           MR. STUART: Madam --

10          MS. DeMONTE: Go ahead.

11          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mrs. DeMonte.

12          MR. STUART: Madam Chairwoman, Mike  
13 Stuart, West Virginia.

14           I stand in opposition to this. I truly  
15 believe that every State should be able to determine  
16 its representatives to the RNC, whether that be  
17 three priests, three pastors, three lobbyists, three  
18 coalminers, or three flood victims from southern  
19 West Virginia. I think it's important, ultimately,  
20 at the end of the day -- it's a States-rights issue  
21 -- that each State gets to determine who we send to  
22 this important body, the Republican National

1 Committee.

2 I'd also point out that, if we pass this,  
3 the lobbyist industry is not going to go away.  
4 They're still going to be there. But, the  
5 Republican National Committee will be viewed as an  
6 exclusionary, potentially hostile group to this  
7 group that plays an important role in the way our  
8 government functions.

9 And so, with that, I'd just urge you to  
10 oppose this amendment. While it's appealing on its  
11 surface -- trust me, it's appealing on its surface,  
12 right? Who loves the lobbyists? It's like the car  
13 -- a used-car salesman, right? And I'm a lawyer.  
14 At what point do we decide who can be members of the  
15 RNC? Let's leave that to the people in our  
16 districts and our States, and let's proudly vote  
17 against this amendment.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

19 Are there others who wish to speak in  
20 support of the amendment? Others who wish to speak  
21 --

22 Yes, the Gentlelady from Louisiana.

1           MS. BOWEN: I just wanted -- Gwen Bowen,  
2 Louisiana -- I just wanted to make one thing clear.  
3 I understood our fellow Delegate who was opposed to  
4 this said that this would eliminate anyone who is,  
5 or ever has been, a lobbyist. And that's not what  
6 this says. This says, "if you are a paid lobbyist,"  
7 not "if you have been." I just want to make that  
8 clear.

9           And another thing that seemed to be  
10 conflicting, this would exempt nonprofits, such as  
11 Right to Life, exempt the NRA lobbyist. So,  
12 actually, it's just -- you know, there's -- it's --  
13 the grassroots people would actually not be -- you  
14 know, they would be exempt from this.

15           And there's a lot of lobbyists on this  
16 Committee right now. And, you know, we have media  
17 watching. And so, we have an opportunity to say the  
18 Republican Party is the grassroots Party, and it's  
19 the grassroots people that's going to make the  
20 decisions for the rules, and not the lobbyist, the  
21 paid lobbyist.

22           Thank you.

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Chair recognizes  
2 Mrs. DeMonte.

3                   MS. DeMONTE: Demetra DeMonte, National  
4 Committeewoman for Illinois.

5                   I rise in opposition to this amendment. I  
6 have to say, when I first heard about this  
7 amendment, I thought it might be a good deal -- a  
8 good idea. Let's face it, lobbyists at -- in some  
9 circles, it's not exactly the nicest term. But,  
10 after reflection, I started thinking, okay, if we  
11 start with lobbyists, where do we go from there? Do  
12 we go to lawyers, do we go to consultants, political  
13 operators, campaign managers, even elected  
14 officials?

15                   So, it is now my belief that this amended  
16 -- amendment, although well intended -- and I do  
17 think it is well intended -- is not practical. And  
18 I think it's going to open up a Pandora's box.

19                   So, therefore, I respectfully ask you in  
20 joining me in voting no on this amendment.

21                   Thank you.

22                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mrs.

1 DeMonte.

2 Are there others who wish to speak in  
3 support? Support?

4 Mr. Yue.

5 MR. YUE: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

6 Actually, this is a philosophical debate.

7 Do we want limited government, more spending, and  
8 we want small government -- or, we want big  
9 government, and also we want lobbyists to dictate  
10 and curry favors for the big industry at a  
11 disadvantage of small business? We have conflict of  
12 interest here. If our goal is reduce size of  
13 government and government spending, and we are --  
14 meanwhile you have paid lobbyists. They are paid to  
15 lobbying for a third party for profit and for  
16 favorable regulations. That is crony capitalism.  
17 Either we believe in small government or we  
18 shouldn't be in this business as a Party. This is a  
19 political party, after all. And do we want politics  
20 as usual? Of course not.

21 And last point is, take look our nominee  
22 Donald Trump's message, how he got where he is

1 today.

2 So, I am supporting this measure.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Yue.

5 Does the gentleman rise in support or in  
6 opposition?

7 VOICE: In opposition, Madam Chair.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. And let  
9 me just say at this junction, I apologize that I  
10 don't know all of your names and all of your States,  
11 but if you look at how small the type print is,  
12 you'll understand why I can't always see where  
13 you're from.

14 So, this Gentleman is recognized. If you  
15 could give us your name and State, please.

16 MR. WILLETTE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

17 Alex Willette, from the State of Maine.

18 It was my honor to serve as the Assistant  
19 House Republican Leader in the Maine Legislature.  
20 And in Maine, we passed some very great reforms  
21 limiting the impact of lobbying on the Maine  
22 Legislature. But, in doing that, Maine has some



1 great laws involving registration of lobbyists.  
2 But, some other States don't. And my concern with  
3 this amendment is that it would create an unfair  
4 patchwork of different definitions of lobbyists  
5 throughout the different States. So, where someone  
6 may be able to serve on the RNC in the State of  
7 California or Colorado, would not be able to because  
8 they have to register as a lobbyist in Maine. I  
9 think it's -- it should be up to the individual  
10 States, when electing their National Committee  
11 folks, to make that decision whether they want a  
12 registered lobbyist or not.

13           And so, I oppose this amendment.

14           Thank you.

15           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

16           All right. Are there those who wish to  
17 speak in support?

18           Mr. Blackwell.

19           MR. BLACKWELL: We have seen, over a long  
20 period of time, a process by which power in our  
21 Party has been centralized. The trend of what we  
22 have voted today has been to defeat efforts to

1 decentralize and to pass efforts to centralize.  
2 There is a real problem with lobbyists, as described  
3 in the resolution, who benefit from their membership  
4 on the Republican National Committee and make their  
5 living, sometimes really good livings, by lobbying,  
6 and the influence that they have as part of our  
7 National Committee. Such people tend to favor  
8 centralizing power, because, if you're a lobbyist,  
9 all you've got to do is lobby the person who has the  
10 power. It's a lot harder to get the Committee to  
11 pass something if you've got to convince everybody  
12 at the grassroots. And it's a problem that needs to  
13 be solved.

14           And I would like to run a little  
15 experiment. The words are, "A person who is  
16 registered with any government entity as a paid  
17 lobbyist for an entity other than a nonprofit  
18 organization or who is employed by an entity whose  
19 Primary purpose is providing lobbying services to  
20 others." I would like to ask for a show of hands.  
21 How many people on this Committee or in this room  
22 are, in fact, registered lobbyists with a government

1 entity?

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Blackwell, I'm  
3 sorry, but such a demonstration is not appropriate  
4 in this body.

5 MR. BLACKWELL: Under what grounds is it  
6 not?

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, I'll refer to  
8 the --

9 MR. BLACKWELL: Cannot a speaker make a  
10 request?

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I will refer to the  
12 parliamentarians, who just so advised me. They  
13 advise me that, under Robert's, that is designated a  
14 straw poll and is therefore inappropriate for this  
15 body. I'm sorry, sir.

16 MR. BLACKWELL: Gee, it would have been  
17 fun.

18 Thank you.

19 [Laughter and applause.]

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I'm sure it would  
21 have been. However, if I start bending Robert's for  
22 one, we open the floodgates, and I just can't do

1 that.

2           The Chair recognizes Ms. Hudson, and then  
3 we're just going to back and forth between these  
4 microphones until everyone who's had a chance to  
5 speak gets their opportunity.

6           MS. HUDSON: Thank you, Madam Chair.

7           Susie Hudson, from Vermont.

8           I rise in opposition to this amendment,  
9 for the reason that -- it's been stated that this  
10 amendment empowers the grassroots. But, by telling  
11 them who they can or cannot vote for, how exactly  
12 are we empowering them? We're actually taking away  
13 a candidate that they can consider voting for.

14           And so, I would encourage you to vote  
15 against this amendment.

16           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Duprey.

17           MR. DUPREY: Steve Duprey, from New  
18 Hampshire.

19           Some of these points have been made  
20 before, but let's start with the basic one. We are  
21 elected by our States. In New Hampshire, there are  
22 550 people who get to vote. We're home to Sturm

1 Ruger. We're home to Sig. We're home to a lot of  
2 gun manufacturers. Are we going to say that,  
3 because somebody works in the Government Relations  
4 Department in the State capital in New Hampshire,  
5 they're ineligible to serve? You know, some States  
6 have considered that. Virginia has a law. I  
7 believe Indiana does. But, that doesn't mean we,  
8 here, should impose that on everyone else.

9           It's also important to keep in mind that,  
10 in some States, if you are an employee in a firm --  
11 let's say it's a law firm, and there's one lobbyist  
12 who's a lobbyist, and you're a trusts and estates  
13 lawyer -- you're deemed a lobbyist because you're a  
14 member of the firm, and you'd be disqualified.

15           I also want to think about the fallacy of  
16 saying we're solving this problem with a not-for-  
17 profit exemption. Under this rule, someone who is a  
18 registered lobbyist for Planned Parenthood, who many  
19 of you would find not, perhaps, a good fit on this  
20 Committee, could run for office, but somebody who's  
21 a lobbyist in the State capital for Sig or Sturm  
22 Ruger could not. It's manifestly unfair.

1           The other thing to keep in mind is that,  
2 if we are going to start accusing people who are  
3 engaged in the honorable profession of lobbying of  
4 being ineligible, we should look at the pernicious  
5 influence of people who do business with our  
6 Committee, vendors or people who are paid by some of  
7 our entities, like the Senatorial Committee, the  
8 NRCC, the RNCC, the Governors' Association,  
9 Republicans Overseas. There are members here who  
10 have had contracts with them, and vendors. And  
11 that's the slope -- that's -- would be, arguably to  
12 some, much more offensive than being a lobbyist.

13           I urge everyone to vote no on this  
14 amendment.

15           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
16 else who rises in support?

17           MR. ASH: Madam Chairman?

18           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Ash.

19           MR. ASH: Bruce Ash, from Arizona.

20           I speak in support, but I would like to  
21 offer an amendment for consideration.

22           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That is in order.

1           MR. ASH:  And, if I could, I want to go  
2 with the microphone over -- because my eyes are so  
3 bad, I can't see this --

4           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Please.  We want  
5 you to --

6           MR. ASH:  -- unless I'm --

7           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  -- be able to see  
8 what you'd like to do.

9           MR. ASH:  Okay.

10           What I propose is, where it says  
11 "providing lobbying services to other," and then  
12 where it says "shall be ineligible to serve as a  
13 member of the Republican National Committee or as a  
14 proxy for any member of the Republican National  
15 Committee," that that be struck and simply say --  
16 and don't put anything up just yet -- but, my  
17 concept is just to provide disclosure.  Okay?  A  
18 simple disclosure statement, which is not unusual --

19           VOICE:  [Inaudible.]

20           MR. ASH:  Okay.  Well, that's great --  
21 which is not unusual for almost any organization  
22 that many of us belong to back in our respective

1 communities. I just --

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. Mr. Ash, I'm  
3 going to ask you to come to the Counsel's table --

4 MR. ASH: Okay.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- and work out the  
6 specific language while we allow others who have  
7 already been standing in line for quite some time,  
8 some of them, to be able to express their opinions.  
9 And then, when you have that drafted, we'll come  
10 back to your motion.

11 MR. ASH: I would just ask that we not  
12 call for the previous question and get cut off in  
13 the meantime. I will go as fast as I can.

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. The  
15 Chair would ask individuals not to move for previous  
16 question until Mr. Ash has had an opportunity to  
17 present his amendment.

18 The Chair will recognize Mrs. Davidson,  
19 from Ohio.

20 MS. DAVIDSON: Jo Ann Davidson, from the  
21 State of Ohio.

22 You know, earlier in this week, at the



1 Republican National Committee, we adopted a  
2 resolution. And that resolution stated what I think  
3 many of us believe very strongly, and -- that  
4 Federal regulations on businesses and other entities  
5 are hurting our economy. And we felt that that was  
6 unfair.

7           Now, if you are not permitting people to  
8 serve on the Republican National Committee that  
9 maybe have represented some of these interests, like  
10 the National Federation of Independents or a Chamber  
11 of Commerce, where the local businesses depend upon  
12 them to represent them, obviously, or the farmers or  
13 our agriculture community to testify why those  
14 regulations are not needed and try to protect  
15 themselves so that they can continue to profit and  
16 provide the jobs and give the strong economy that we  
17 want. I'm not quite sure what we're trying to do.

18           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mrs.  
19 Davidson.

20           Is there anybody else who would like to  
21 speak in support?

22           All right, the Lady over here, you've

1 already spoken once, and so we need to allow  
2 everyone else an opportunity to speak before we can  
3 give you a second opportunity to speak.

4 Mr. Yue, have you already spoken to this  
5 particular amendment?

6 MR. YUE: Yes. But, this --

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, you have.

8 MR. YUE: -- is based on personal  
9 privilege.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: And what is your  
11 point of personal privilege?

12 MR. YUE: The National Committeeman New  
13 Hampshire mentioned somebody could be paid, got a  
14 contract --

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Excuse me, sir,  
16 this is not a point of personal privilege.

17 MR. YUE: No -- may I?

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No. I'm sorry.  
19 It's not a --

20 MR. YUE: Okay.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- point of  
22 personal --

1 MR. YUE: All right.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- privilege. If  
3 you have a point of personal privilege, you may  
4 bring it, but you cannot use a point of personal  
5 privilege to make arguments.

6 All right. We'll recognize the Lady  
7 standing at this microphone.

8 MS. THOMAS: Madam Chairman, Pat Thomas,  
9 from Missouri.

10 I'd like everyone of my colleagues -- and  
11 thank you for serving on this Committee -- to  
12 realize that, Why are we differentiating between  
13 for-profit and not-for-profit? We've had many  
14 people here today talk about money grabs and big  
15 government and all these issues. Many not-for-  
16 profits take much more administrative dollars from  
17 our tax dollars, and, to many of us, we would  
18 actually say they misuse them to a larger degree.

19 So, for that reason, I would urge you to  
20 vote no on this amendment.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

22 Is there anyone else who has not spoken

1 previously who rises to speak in support?

2 You -- the Gentleman here.

3 MR. SHORT: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

4 Guy Short, from Colorado.

5 First, I want to thank you for allowing  
6 this debate to happen.

7 And I'd like to also thank Mr. Evans, from  
8 Georgia, for his graciousness of withdrawing his  
9 amendment and allowing this debate to happen.

10 I have a question. I would love to hear  
11 from perhaps some of those folks who oppose this or  
12 maybe -- I know there are some folks on the  
13 campaign, the Gentleman from Massachusetts, I think  
14 -- I would love to hear what our presumptive nominee  
15 Donald Trump's position on this is. I've heard him  
16 speak about lobbyists more than I can count. And I  
17 tend to agree. I would love to hear -- if anybody  
18 here knows what his position would be on this  
19 resolution or this rule, I would love to hear it.

20 Thank you, Madam Chairman.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. I am  
22 not certain that it is in order to have someone else

1 speak for someone who is not a member of the  
2 Committee and is not present. If anyone wants to  
3 cross that bridge, I guess we'll try it when we get  
4 there.

5           The Chair recognizes the Gentleman from  
6 Nevada.

7           MR. ROSS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

8           Where on earth do I begin? I'm a  
9 constable in Nevada. I have to testify in front of  
10 the Legislature on legislation that affects  
11 constables. I represent all of the rural constables  
12 in southern Nevada. I have to register as a  
13 lobbyist to speak on bills that affect my own  
14 agency. So -- and I do get paid. Am I a paid  
15 lobbyist? Well, they say, well, no, it's not for  
16 nonprofits. Governments don't count. Well, I  
17 shoved through legislation last year that made  
18 constables of Nevada competitive. I get a paid a  
19 token salary, about 1700 bucks a year, and then I  
20 get to retain the profits from my office, which are  
21 not bad, because I went out and then -- I went into  
22 a township of a Democratic constable, beat him over

1 the head, and stole \$150,000 a year worth of  
2 business from him, and now I'm -- trust me, I'm  
3 profitmaking.

4 Nonpaid, nonprofit paid, paid lobbyists, I  
5 could drive a truck through this stuff. It's so  
6 vague, it makes no sense at all.

7 Now, don't get me wrong. I mean, the last  
8 3 days, I've been doing nothing but -- to everybody  
9 from the media in here badmouthing the consultant  
10 industrial complex. Okay? I understand the  
11 problem. But, this is just like what we were trying  
12 to do with, you know, throwing out Rule 12. You  
13 know, it's a crude instrument, it doesn't address  
14 the problems, and it -- don't even get me started on  
15 where this is with State rights. You know, if  
16 somebody's a lobbyist and the -- their State Party  
17 wants to elect them, whose business is it?

18 Now, I -- it's off the hook, it's  
19 outrageous, it's, I'm sure, well intentioned. You  
20 know, this -- but, you know, what's a nonprofit?  
21 For crying out -- hey, you know what? The president  
22 of Common Core pays more in income taxes than I take

1 home. So, let's -- you know, again, what does even  
2 nonprofit mean? It's over the top.

3 I urge everyone to vote no.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. I see  
5 that there are two more people at the microphones  
6 who have not yet spoken. I'd like to give them the  
7 opportunity to speak, and then we will return to Mr.  
8 Ash's amendment, if there are no objections.

9 [No response.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Wonderful.

11 I'd like to recognize this Lady. I'm not  
12 sure what State from -- you're from, but you're  
13 about to tell me.

14 MS. FRISBIE: I'm Nell Frisbie, from  
15 Mississippi, and have been a worker in the  
16 Republican Party for my youth. And you can tell I'm  
17 not youth anymore.

18 [Laughter.]

19 MS. FRISBIE: But, my -- have always felt  
20 that we start at the grassroots. I believe in the  
21 grassroots. And, when we elect our people, we start  
22 in our county. And I'm a member of the Hancock

1 County Republican Executive Committee. We go to our  
2 State Convention. We elect our representatives to  
3 go the State. That is about as grassroots as you can  
4 get. We go to our State, and we represent them.  
5 And, before -- as a Delegate to the State  
6 Convention, I could ask my county who do they want  
7 to support for our National Committeeman and our  
8 National Committeewoman, as well as the other  
9 elected people that we do.

10           So, I think it is grassroots. I think  
11 it's States' rights. And I think that's where it  
12 ought to stay.

13           Thank you.

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

15           The Chair recognizes the Gentleman at this  
16 back microphone.

17           MR. FORSTON: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

18           Richard Forston, from the State of  
19 Delaware.

20           Among other things, I am the Party  
21 attorney in Delaware, and, as a result, I work with  
22 our legislators quite a bit in the General Assembly.



1 And so, I'm very familiar with the legislative  
2 process. And one thing that I'll say troubles me a  
3 little bit about the way the RNC conducts its  
4 business -- this Rules Committee meets once every 4  
5 years, we come together, people have ideas, but, a  
6 lot of times, the legislative process is  
7 strengthened by reflection, collaboration, and  
8 looking at things more carefully. Because one of  
9 the things we all have to avoid is the law of  
10 unintended consequences. And, for example, in  
11 Delaware, you're a lobbyist if you go down to the  
12 General Assembly -- you work for a company, and your  
13 company -- your boss says to you, "I need you to go  
14 down and testify about this bill." Congratulations.  
15 You're paid. You're speaking on behalf of  
16 legislation. In theory, you have to register as a  
17 lobbyist. If a client of mine asks me to go down to  
18 the General Assembly, I'm a lawyer, but suddenly  
19 I've got to register as a lobbyist, even though I  
20 might do it for one client with -- once every 2 or 3  
21 years.

22 And we heard the Gentleman from Maine,

1 they have a different definition. And I don't know  
2 what the definition or requirements are in West  
3 Virginia or Nevada. They're a patchwork. But,  
4 people may get caught in this innocently enough, and  
5 suddenly they are -- they're off the RNC.

6 More importantly, though, if it ain't  
7 broke, don't fix it. And I don't wonder if this  
8 rule isn't a solution in search of a problem.  
9 Nobody has pointed out to me any problems that the  
10 RNC has had. Nobody has pointed out to me any  
11 problem that a State has had in electing its members  
12 of the RNC. And, I think, as long as the States  
13 know who they're electing, they're free to send to  
14 the RNC whoever they want.

15 So, I oppose this amendment, on a lot of  
16 grounds, not the least of which is that, in a 1-hour  
17 or half-hour debate that's being held with no prior  
18 warning, I don't think we should be doing something  
19 like this, because I think it could come back to  
20 bite us.

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

1           The Chair recognizes Mr. Ash for purposes  
2 of his amendment.

3           MR. ASH: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

4           Bruce Ash, from Arizona.

5           Sorry about the dustup trying to get this  
6 put together.

7           On page 3, line 17, after the word -- or  
8 after the words "services to others," we would  
9 delete everything after that and add -- and  
10 hopefully this is going up on the board -- "and is  
11 elected to the Republican National Committee shall  
12 disclose to the Secretary of the Republican National  
13 Committee his or her status as a lobbyist in a  
14 manner to be established by the Secretary."

15           While it might be a great grassroots idea  
16 --

17           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Just a moment, Mr.  
18 Ash. You've made a motion.

19           MR. ASH: Oh. Sorry. Sorry.

20           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We need a second.

21           VOICE: Second.

22           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a second.

1 MR. ASH: Okay, thank you.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. Now, I'd  
3 like to let the staff catch up first, so that  
4 everybody is not looking at the screen instead of  
5 listening to you. So, let's let them catch up.

6 MR. ASH: Thank you.

7 [Pause.]

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Mr.  
9 Ash, is that -- let's see -- okay, now they're  
10 fixing it. Let's give them just a moment.

11 [Pause.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
13 you.

14 Mr. Ash, if you'd like to proceed.

15 MR. ASH: All right. Thank you very much,  
16 Madam Secretary.

17 There have been some wonderful arguments  
18 for both sides on this issue. And I admire the  
19 Delegates who filed this amendment, to begin with.  
20 We may not get to the place that you want to be, and  
21 perhaps a lot of people want to be, with respect to  
22 how this is going to be handled. But, one thing I

1 think all of us well know from other volunteer work  
2 we do and other paid work we do is that we have to  
3 disclose other organizations that we might do work  
4 for, other conflicts of interest that we may  
5 potentially have. We're used to disclosure. And,  
6 although not a lawyer, I know that disclosure is a  
7 very important thing when trying to avoid  
8 difficulties in various matters that we have public  
9 discourse with.

10           This idea, which would come after  
11 "services to other and is elected to the Republican  
12 National Committee shall disclose to the Secretary  
13 of the Republican National Committee his or her  
14 status as a lobbyist in a manner to be established  
15 by the Secretary." I think this is a fairly  
16 straightforward manner. We have a great Counsel's  
17 Office. I'm sure that they would work with the  
18 Secretary of the RNC in order to put this together.  
19 We would keep a file at the RNC, and it would be  
20 available for public access to members, perhaps, at  
21 -- and this would all be at the discretion of the  
22 Secretary, of course.

1           But, the idea would be, is that we would  
2 begin disclosure process. That doesn't mean that  
3 anybody's disqualified, that doesn't mean that we're  
4 taking anybody's ability to earn money, and it  
5 doesn't mean that we don't want them to be  
6 advocating for either issues, candidates, or any  
7 other political means. But, it is a start with  
8 disclosure.

9           And I urge consideration and adoption.

10           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Ash.

11           Is there someone who would like to speak  
12 in opposition?

13           The Gentleman here.

14           MR. PEARCE: Steve Pearce, New Mexico.

15           I mostly want to speak to the one phrase  
16 that stands now and is in the original amendment,  
17 too, and that is the bias in favor of nonprofits.  
18 Now, if the attempt is to stop people from  
19 increasing the size of the Federal budget, which has  
20 been the dominant commitment -- or dominant comment,  
21 then I think that understanding that the lobbyists  
22 who approach our office in Congress, my office, many

1 times are nonprofits, and they never have asked for  
2 us to decrease the budget, because many times they  
3 are, in fact, the beneficiaries of money that is  
4 coming through the budget. So, this bias that  
5 suddenly nonprofits are more holy than anyone else  
6 is something that I think that we would like to  
7 closely look at.

8           And then, again, the underlying -- the  
9 comments about "all lobbyists are bad." Some  
10 lobbyists are extraordinarily good and very  
11 knowledgeable. I do not -- I would not want to  
12 approach the idea of nuclear arms proliferation  
13 without a paid lobbyist. My deal is, you tell me  
14 both sides of the argument. So, again, it's this  
15 idea that we've got to treat lobbyists separate.  
16 Self-governance requires that we understand who is  
17 involved in the self-governance, and clear them out  
18 if they're no good. Self-governance requires that  
19 we have more liberty and more freedom, not choking  
20 ourself down with rules.

21           So, with my -- with all respect to the  
22 sponsor of the amendment, I would urge no on both

1 the amendment to the amendment and the underlying  
2 amendment.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

5 Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
6 support of the amendment to the amendment? In  
7 support of the amendment to the amendment?

8 [No response.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who  
10 would like to speak in opposition?

11 Gentleman from West Virginia.

12 MR. STUART: Mike Stuart, West Virginia.

13 I stand in opposition to the amendment. I  
14 guess I say, To what point is this registration or  
15 declaration with the RNC? I go back to the point  
16 that every State should have the right to determine  
17 who its representatives are to the RNC. If West  
18 Virginia wants to elect three coalminers or three  
19 lobbyists or three insurance salesmen, I say that's  
20 the right of West Virginia. And who is the RNC to  
21 determine that?

22 And so, I say let's leave this to the



1 States. Let's let the States determine who their  
2 representatives are. And I oppose the amendment,  
3 and I oppose the motion.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who  
5 would like to speak in favor of the amendment to the  
6 amendment?

7 VOICE: Yes.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Lady from  
9 Minnesota.

10 MS. PUGH: Thank you, Madam Chair.

11 Cindy Pugh, from Minnesota.

12 I am very supportive of this amendment.  
13 In fact, I'm very grateful for it. I think that it  
14 definitely enhances transparency. I think that all  
15 of our constituency and Americans appreciate  
16 transparency. Perception, as all know, becomes  
17 people's reality. And I do believe that it would be  
18 right for this body to pass this amendment to the  
19 amendment. I'm hopeful for support for the  
20 amendment, as well. But, I do believe that this  
21 would be supportive of the will of the people. And  
22 I'm grateful.

1           So, thank you very much, to Committeeman  
2 Ash.

3           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
4 else who would like to speak in opposition?

5           The Lady at the microphone over here.

6           MS. SERRANO-GLASSNER: Thank you.

7           Christine Serrano-Glassner, from New  
8 Jersey.

9           What I don't understand, and what's not  
10 clear in the new amendment to the amendment, is,  
11 What will be done eventually with this Scarlet  
12 Letter file of people that have had to disclose?  
13 And, without that clarification here, I don't see  
14 why people would have to disclose. I mean, they  
15 should know, eventually, what's going to be done  
16 with that information and how it's going to be used  
17 against them.

18           Thank you.

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

20           Is there anyone else who would like to  
21 speak in favor of the amendment to the amendment?  
22 In favor?

1 [No response.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
3 who's like to speak in opposition to the amendment  
4 to the amendment?

5 Mr. Evans.

6 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

7 So, my niece goes in for -- to see her  
8 doctor, and one of the questions on the  
9 questionnaire is whether there is a firearm owned in  
10 the house. Anybody familiar with this regulation,  
11 where it's now collected? The bottom line is, it's  
12 all about this created collection of disclosed  
13 information under the rubric that somehow we have a  
14 reason to know.

15 Now, I personally have complete confidence  
16 in each of the 50 States, five territories, and the  
17 District of Columbia to fully vet their  
18 Committeeman, their Committeewoman, and their Chair,  
19 find out every piece of information, whether they're  
20 a lobbyist or not. And if they make the decision  
21 that they want to have a lobbyist, then more power  
22 to them, because that -- there are certain States

1 that actually would benefit from having a  
2 Committeeman or a Chair or a Committeewoman who is a  
3 lobbyist. But, there's no reason why we should be  
4 the ones that collect all of this information, put  
5 it in a secret file, be able to access it later, for  
6 whatever purpose. It starts to eliminate the  
7 distinction between us and them.

8           And so, I oppose the amendment to the  
9 amendment, because I think there comes a point where  
10 we actually have to trust our fellow colleagues in  
11 the other States to pick the people that represent  
12 them best, not who we would want them to pick.

13           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

14           The Chair would like to recognize anyone  
15 who is still in support of the amendment to the  
16 amendment. Would anyone like to speak in support of  
17 the amendment to the amendment?

18           [No response.]

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Would anyone like  
20 to speak in opposition to the amendment to the  
21 amendment?

22           The Lady at this microphone right here.

1 MS. SCHWALBACH: Thank you, Madam Chair.

2 My name is Judi Schwalbach, and I'm from  
3 Michigan.

4 In Michigan, we elect our RNC person  
5 through the grassroots effort. We do -- as Nell  
6 said, we elect our precinct Delegates, and then they  
7 elect, and then they elect, and eventually it comes  
8 down to our Convention. And that person is elected  
9 by the people.

10 Now, I take great exception to the fact  
11 that, as a body, we may be saying to Mississippi  
12 that their representative that they've asked to have  
13 sit on the RNC be eliminated strictly because of his  
14 profession. Now, I would expect that the RNC  
15 members would take into consideration if anybody is  
16 lobbying them. And we know the difference. We know  
17 when we're having some smoke blown where it's not  
18 supposed to be.

19 So, it is up to us, as individuals on the  
20 RNC, to understand the difference and stand up for  
21 the rights of the people, but not for this body to  
22 eliminate the rights of the people to elect their

1 people.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

4 Is there anyone else who would like to  
5 speak on the amendment to the amendment?

6 MR. OSE: Madam Chairman?

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

8 MR. OSE: Doug Ose, the People's Republic  
9 of California.

10 [Laughter.]

11 MR. OSE: I have interests in a number of  
12 States, and I'm trying to figure out, under the  
13 proposed amendment and the underlying amendment, in  
14 which of those States am I going to be judged  
15 eligible or ineligible. Those of you who are in  
16 business today have operated, during the past 7 or 8  
17 years, whether purposefully or otherwise, as  
18 nonprofit corporations. It's one of the things  
19 we're here to try to change. But, I question the  
20 advisability of moving forward, asking me to pick  
21 between the States that I wish to be ruled eligible  
22 under, or my representatives. And I certainly don't

1 want to give the government or any pseudo-government  
2 organization any of my private information that I so  
3 zealously guard in the first place.

4           So, I would speak -- I am speaking against  
5 the amendment that's on the screen, as well as the  
6 underlying amendment.

7           Thank you, Madam Chairman.

8           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

9           The Chair would recognize the Gentlelady  
10 from New Mexico.

11          MS. TRIPP: Rosie Tripp, from New Mexico.

12          Madam Chairman, I call for the question on  
13 the amendment to the amendment.

14          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We've  
15 heard -- I assume you meant "previous question."

16          MS. TRIPP: Yes.

17          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. All  
18 those in favor of closing debate on the amendment to  
19 the amendment, please say aye.

20          [A chorus of ayes.]

21          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
22 nay.

1 [No response.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

3 We'll now move to consideration of the  
4 amendment to the amendment.

5 All those in favor of including the  
6 information that you currently see in green on your  
7 screen -- if you are in favor of adding that  
8 language, please say aye.

9 [A chorus of ayes.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

11 [A chorus of nays.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

13 We'll now move to a vote on the main  
14 motion. If we can get it back up on the screen. Do  
15 we have other people who would like to be heard on  
16 the main motion?

17 VOICE: For the purpose of an amendment to  
18 the amendment.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We can't do --  
20 amend -- wait, yes, you can. That's still -- I was  
21 thinking it was an amendment to the amendment to the  
22 amendment. So, I apologize.



1 VOICE: Okay.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, the Gentleman  
3 is recognized for the purpose of an amendment to the  
4 amendment.

5 MR. JONES: Gary Jones, from Oklahoma.

6 And what I propose is deleting the  
7 language that says "shall be ineligible to serve as  
8 a member of the Republican National Committee or as  
9 a proxy as a member of the National Committee" and  
10 insert the language that is "and is elected to the  
11 Republican National Committee shall disclose such to  
12 the Secretary for the Republican National Committee  
13 his or her status as a lobbyist in the manner that  
14 is established to the Secretary." It basically --  
15 well, I move to adopt that.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a motion.

17 Is there a second? Is there a second?

18 [No response.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Dies for lack of a  
20 second.

21 To what point does the Gentleman rise?

22 MR. HUNT: Madam Chair, this is Graham

1 Hunt, from Washington State.

2 And I would like to move to amend the  
3 document as we see now to further define and clarify  
4 the paid lobbyist as that as which is defined by a  
5 lobbyist for the FEC.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Have  
7 you submitted this amendment? Do you have language  
8 that we can put up on the board?

9 MR. HUNT: I have not. I can run down  
10 there.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: If you would do  
12 that, I would appreciate it.

13 MR. HUNT: Thank you.

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
15 else who wishes to make an amendment to the  
16 amendment?

17 VOICE: Request for information, Madam  
18 Chair.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

20 VOICE: With an active amendment on the  
21 floor, is it out of order for me to move the  
22 previous question on the Primary amendment?

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, he did not  
2 have an actual motion. It has not been moved and  
3 seconded, so there is not a motion on the floor.  
4 So, previous question would be in order.

5 VOICE: Madam Chair, I move the previous  
6 question.

7 VOICE: Second.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
9 seconded that we move to previous question.

10 All those in favor of closing debate on  
11 Amendment 1.1, please say aye.

12 [A chorus of ayes.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed -  
14 -

15 [No response.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- nay, all right.

17 [Laughter.]

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

19 We will now move directly to a vote on

20 Amendment 1.1. All those in favor of adopting

21 Amendment 1.1, please say aye.

22 [A chorus of ayes.]

1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
2 please say nay.

3           [A chorus of nays.]

4           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.  
5 All right. I'm going to --

6           VOICE: Madam Chair, a point of personal  
7 privilege.

8           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

9           VOICE: I rise to raise a question of  
10 privileging affecting the assembly.

11          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

12          VOICE: I cannot --

13          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Name and State,  
14 please.

15          MR. ROSS: Jordan Ross, Nevada.

16          I cannot be the only person in this room  
17 needing a powder-room break.

18          [Laughter.]

19          MR. ROSS: I ask for a 10-minute recess.

20          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. The --  
21 before you say 10-minute recess, let me suggest  
22 this. All right? We're going to continue tonight

1 after this, because of the time that we lost this  
2 morning, which is none of your faults, and I'm sorry  
3 that we have to do this, but we are nowhere close to  
4 completing our task to be done before 5:00 a.m. on  
5 Saturday morning.

6           So, here's my suggestion. We do have the  
7 sandwiches and the other items that were available  
8 that we will now call dinner. It will be an early  
9 dinner. But, I think it would be appropriate for us  
10 to take a 30-minute recess for you to be able to go  
11 and get your food. You can bring it back in here, I  
12 believe -- or, we -- there's no restrictions on  
13 bringing it back. We trust you to clean up after  
14 yourself.

15           VOICE: One question. I have a point of  
16 information that I'd like to ask.

17           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes.

18           VOICE: Will -- can Minority Reports be  
19 submitted in advance of Monday?

20           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes. Minority  
21 reports will be required -- excuse me. Yes, the  
22 only opening for Minority Reports to be submitted to

1 this body, under the current RNC rules, is 1 hour --  
2 within 1 hour after we have completed our final  
3 votes -- not on Monday, but when we have completed  
4 our work -- it is Monday? I apologize. That's why  
5 we have so many people up here to help me. There  
6 will be a 1-hour window after we vote on Monday.  
7 There will not be an opportunity to presubmit them.  
8 Correct, Mr. Phillippe? It's -- it -- because the  
9 Minority Reports are not possible to be in order  
10 until we've actually voted to pass the package as  
11 the permanent committee.

12 All right.

13 MS. BOWEN: Point of information, Madam  
14 Chairman.

15 Gwen Bowen.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes.

17 MS. BOWEN: And you might have said this,  
18 but I didn't understand --

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay.

20 MS. BOWEN: -- if you said it. We can  
21 submit Minority Reports before Monday? Is that --

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, ma'am.

1 MS. BOWEN: -- correct? Okay.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, ma'am. They --

3 MS. BOWEN: I didn't --

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- will not be in  
5 order --

6 MS. BOWEN: Will not be --

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- until we have  
8 taken our final vote on Monday. And then you will  
9 have 1 hour as the opening in which to submit a  
10 Minority Report.

11 MS. BOWEN: Thank you, Mrs. Chairman.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. One  
13 other thing I've been asked to announce is, the  
14 staff is continuing to make amendments -- or to  
15 accept amendments to any of the rules from this  
16 point forward. So, if you have an amendment that  
17 you know you're going to want to make, I would  
18 encourage you to come up -- you can see how well  
19 it's gone on the ones who have been presubmitted.  
20 And so, we're going to try to continue to be able to  
21 do that.

22 The Lady from Hawaii.

1 MS. HELLREICH: Madam Chairman, just a  
2 point of information. Many of the RNC members have  
3 invited guests here for dinner tonight at the  
4 banquet, and they actually have paid and bought  
5 tickets to those particular events. I don't know if  
6 there's any consideration for that. But, I'm --

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I'm --

8 MS. HELLREICH: -- I'm just -- I don't  
9 know --

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I'm in the same  
11 boat as you --

12 MS. HELLREICH: Yeah. Yeah.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- Mrs. Hellreich.  
14 And I --

15 MS. HELLREICH: I have invited guests who  
16 have spent money on dinner, so I feel a little --

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, hopefully --

18 MS. HELLREICH: -- bad about it.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- they can still  
20 attend and tell you what a wonderful time was had --

21 MS. HELLREICH: Well, they're --

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- by all.



1 MS. HELLREICH: No, they're here in this  
2 meeting. They're here in this meeting.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Oh, they're here in  
4 this meeting. I'm sorry. We are going to have to  
5 continue our work. And --

6 MS. HELLREICH: Okay.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- I would  
8 encourage all of the members to stay and complete  
9 your work. Any guests, you'll have to make that  
10 call on your own.

11 All right. Are there any other questions?

12 Hearing --

13 MS. GROSSMAN: I --

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes.

15 MS. GROSSMAN: Eileen Grossman, from Rhode  
16 Island.

17 I am a guest -- even though I'm on the  
18 Rules Committee, a guest of Steve Frias, and I did  
19 pay to go to this event tonight. So, I am leaving.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: And that is your  
21 choice to make.

22 MS. GROSSMAN: I just --

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We will  
2 stand in recess for 30 minutes.

3                   [Recess.]

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1 there's an issue that comes up, where there's a lot  
2 of passionate feeling that we need to do some  
3 additional debate, we'll do that. But, let's see if  
4 we can't knock some of these off tonight so that we  
5 don't have such a long day tomorrow.

6 All right. We are now going to take up  
7 Amendment 3.2 -- Amendment 3.2, which impacts Rule  
8 3(a).

9 We need quiet, folks. Thank you.

10 Rule 3.2, which affects Rule number 3(a)  
11 has been submitted by Mr. Jones, of Oklahoma, who is  
12 recognized for the purpose of making a motion.

13 MR. JONES: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

14 Gary Jones, from Oklahoma.

15 And for the -- to help preserve time, I  
16 ask to withdraw my amendment.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I bet you'll get a  
18 standing ovation for that.

19 [Applause.]

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We'll  
21 move on to Rule 4.1 -- Rule 4.1, which impacts Rule  
22 4(d). Does anyone see Mr. Ash in the room? This is

1 his amendment. Oh, here he is. Rule -- Amendment  
2 4.1, your amendment on Rule 4(d). We'll give him  
3 just a moment.

4 MR. ASH: Madam Chairman, thank you very  
5 much.

6 That amendment is withdrawn at this time.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Another ovation.

8 [Applause.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. I'm  
10 told I'm supposed to ask for unanimous consent on  
11 withdrawals. I assume you all agree with those last  
12 two.

13 [Laughter.]

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Okay.  
15 Amendment number 4.2, which also deals with Rule  
16 4(c). Again, Mr. Ash?

17 MR. ASH: That would be withdrawn at this  
18 time, Madam Chairman.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
20 there any objection?

21 [No response.]

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Hearing none, it is

1 withdrawn.

2 [Applause.]

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We are rolling.

4 All right. Amendment number 5.7, which impacts Rule  
5 5(c). That has been introduced by Mr. Semanko, of  
6 Idaho.

7 Mr. Semanko, you are recognized for the  
8 purpose of making a motion.

9 MR. SEMANKO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

10 My proposed amendment would add language  
11 on line 19, pages 8 and 9, of Rule 5(c), where the  
12 Chairman appoints the General Counsel. Language  
13 would be added to state that, "The General Counsel  
14 shall render objective, impartial, professional  
15 written legal advice to officers, chairmen of  
16 committees, and members of the Republican National  
17 Committee, upon their request, regarding these  
18 rules. Parliamentary procedure is applicable to the  
19 Republican National Committee, its committees, and  
20 the Republican National Convention, and other  
21 applicable laws. The General Counsel shall  
22 supervise and direct the activities of the Legal

1 Counsel's Office. In addition, the General Counsel  
2 shall perform any other legal activities, as  
3 directed by the Chairman." It also revises the  
4 existing paragraph to make clear that the Chairman  
5 of the Republican Finance Committee shall serve at  
6 the will of the Chairman," which is current, and  
7 that "the General Counsel may only be removed by a  
8 majority vote of the Republican National Committee."  
9 That's my motion.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a motion.  
11 Is there a second?

12 VOICE: Second.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I've heard a  
14 second.

15 Mr. Semanko, would you like to address the  
16 merits of your proposal?

17 MR. SEMANKO: Yes, Madam Chair, this comes  
18 during the time I was fortunate enough to be General  
19 Counsel, in 2010 and 2011. And, of course, General  
20 Counsel probably means different things to different  
21 people. The rules simply provide that the Chairman  
22 will appoint a General Counsel for the Republican

1 National Committee who will also be counsel to the  
2 various committees and subcommittees of the  
3 Republican National Committee.

4 Not a lot of folks understand that this is  
5 not the personal attorney for the Chairman.  
6 Sometimes it feels like that, because the Chairman  
7 appoints that person and that person serves, under  
8 the current rule, at the will of the Chairman.

9 But, a General Counsel is the chief  
10 attorney for a company or an entity or an  
11 organization, for the entire body, for the  
12 Republican National Committee -- not just for the  
13 CEO or the Chairman, but for the entire body. And I  
14 don't think there's any disagreement about that.

15 What this amendment would do is simply  
16 clarify what some of those responsibilities are,  
17 number one, to provide the objective, impartial,  
18 professional, written legal advice to the officers,  
19 the Chairmen of the Committees, the members of the  
20 National Committee, upon their request, regarding  
21 the applicability of these rules, not just to the  
22 Chairman. And I think that's what most National



1 Committee General Counsel do. Supervising the  
2 direct activities of the Legal Counsel's Office,  
3 working with John and his staff -- it's a great  
4 privilege to have done that -- and also performing  
5 whatever legal activities are requested by the  
6 Chairman.

7           And then, finally -- and I think this is  
8 really important -- the Treasurer, the Secretary,  
9 the Chairman, the Co-Chairman, all of those elected  
10 officials, officers of the Party, can only be  
11 removed by a two-thirds vote. The General Counsel,  
12 to my way of thinking, is the highest-ranking  
13 appointed officer and, a lot of times, by default,  
14 is the only one that can run anything, because  
15 they're not up for election. And there's no  
16 protection for that. It's at the will of the  
17 Chairman.

18           So, I'm simply suggesting that removal  
19 should be by a majority -- not two-thirds, like the  
20 elected officers, but by a majority of the RNC.

21           Thank you, Madam Chair.

22           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

1           Is there someone who wishes to be  
2 recognized in opposition?

3           The Lady from California.

4           MS. DHILLON: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

5           I am a member of this esteemed profession  
6 of the law. And I use "esteemed" farcically,  
7 because I know that people don't have a high respect  
8 for our profession. But, actually, I think this  
9 amendment is not necessary, because we are a heavily  
10 regulated profession. So, all of the additional  
11 text in the second paragraph there regarding the  
12 duties of the General Counsel are all obligations  
13 that any lawyer is already under in any attorney-  
14 client relationship to objectively serve their  
15 client, their client being the Republican National  
16 Committee. So, being superfluous, I'm opposed to  
17 it, because it's bureaucratic and adds regulations  
18 that are not necessary.

19           Secondly, it's my learned colleague's  
20 suggestion, and analogy to a corporate general  
21 counsel, I think, is very instructive. A corporate  
22 general counsel is not answerable to a vote of the

1 shareholders of the corporation. A corporate  
2 general counsel is generally answerable to a very  
3 small number of people, or sometimes just the  
4 chairman of the corporation, because it is not  
5 practical to have that type of a attorney-client  
6 professional relationship be regulated by a popular  
7 vote, nor would it be seemly for a General Counsel  
8 to be lobbying for his job to the members of the --  
9 this larger body of their Republican National  
10 Committee, where the Chairman, who is the person who  
11 has to receive his advice and implement the advice  
12 given by the General Counsel, is really the  
13 decisionmaker in that regard. And I just think that  
14 it's setting up a whole can of worms to have this  
15 type of a broadbased amendment. And I think it is a  
16 solution without a problem.

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you,

19 Is there anyone else who wishes to speak  
20 in support of the amendment? Anyone who wishes to  
21 speak in support of the amendment?

22 [No response.]

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who  
2 wishes to speak in opposition? All the lawyers are  
3 coming to line up.

4                   MR. MOORE: Madam Chair, Matt Moore, from  
5 South Carolina.

6                   I'd point out that it already takes a two-  
7 thirds vote to remove the Chair of the Committee.  
8 And therefore, the General Counsel serves at the  
9 pleasure of the Chair, so therefore, there is a  
10 check in that already. So, that -- I believe this  
11 amendment to be unnecessary.

12                   Thank you.

13                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

14                   Is there anyone else who would like to  
15 speak in support?

16                   [No response.]

17                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, Mr.  
18 Feaman, I believe you are in opposition.

19                   MR. FEAMAN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

20                   Peter Feaman, the State of Florida.

21                   I rise in opposition, mostly because I  
22 sense an undertone or a premise with this motion and

1 with a lot of the other proposed amendments that  
2 we've heard today, that, in this motion  
3 particularly, there seems to be a premise that the  
4 General Counsel has somehow not been forming --  
5 performing his duties in the way he should. And  
6 there's been no hint of that, at least in the 4  
7 years that I've seen John Ryder as our General  
8 Counsel.

9           As with a lot of these other amendments  
10 that we've seen, Madam Chair, there is an underlying  
11 premise, which, in my experience at the RNC, I don't  
12 accept, and my observations have been just the  
13 opposite. For example, the RNC is a grassroots  
14 organization. The RNC performance by our Chair in  
15 the last 4 years has been exemporily -- has been  
16 pretty good.

17           [Laughter.]

18           MR. FEAMAN: So, as with the other motions  
19 of similar faulty premises, I also will oppose this  
20 motion.

21           Thank you.

22           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. That

1 was pretty good.

2 All right. Is there anyone else who  
3 wishes to speak in support?

4 [No response.]

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Anyone else who  
6 wishes to speak in opposition?

7 Mr. Evans.

8 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

9 In my spare time, I have written eight  
10 books on lawyers law, published three bestsellers.  
11 They deal exclusively with the legal obligations of  
12 attorneys. And I want to echo the comments of my  
13 learned colleague from California, who was dead-on,  
14 in two very important respects.

15 The first change that is proposed there is  
16 actually inconsistent with existing law in every  
17 State in the country, which is, contrary to what it  
18 says, lawyers -- there's a thing called -- I'm not  
19 going to bore you, don't worry -- but, it's called  
20 the entity role, which is that a lawyer for an  
21 entity represents the entity, not the Chair, not the  
22 shareholders, et cetera. And those obligations are

1 far greater than that would be owed to any  
2 individual. So, that first sentence is just  
3 inaccurate as a statement of law. And I'm not sure  
4 how that would work, because it would constitute a  
5 bar grievance in all 50 States and the five  
6 territories and the District of Columbia.

7           The second paragraph actually is a lower  
8 standard than is imposed on lawyers under the bar  
9 roles. So, if we were to adopt this, we would  
10 actually be saying that we expect less of our  
11 Counsel than is what is already imposed under the  
12 bar roles. And so, you would literally be lowering  
13 the standard, saying, "John Ryder has been acting at  
14 too high a level. We need to lower the bar." Now,  
15 I'm not going to say anything about the University  
16 of Tennessee or football, I promise, but lowering  
17 the bar is not the way to go.

18           And so, in this context, I urge all of my  
19 colleagues to vote no. Vote no because, one, it is  
20 in direct conflict with existing law, and, number  
21 two, because it lowers the threshold of what the  
22 obligation would already be.

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.  
2 The Chair recognizes the Gentlewoman from  
3 Vermont.

4 MS. HUDSON: Thank you.  
5 Susie Hudson, from Vermont.

6 Madam Chair, I'd like to call the previous  
7 question.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
9 is in order, so we will move to an immediate vote on  
10 closing debate.

11 All those in favor of closing debate on  
12 this proposal, please say aye.

13 [A chorus of ayes.]

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

15 [No response.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The motion carries.

17

18 We will now move directly to a vote on  
19 Amendment number 5.7. All those in favor of  
20 adoption of Amendment 5.7, please say aye.

21 [A chorus of ayes.]

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All opposed, nay.



1 [A chorus of nays.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

3 Next, we will go to Amendment number 10.7.

4 This is amendment that impacts Rule number  
5 10(a)(3), and it has been submitted by the Gentleman  
6 from Idaho. Mr. Semanko, who will be recognized for  
7 the purpose of making a motion.

8 MR. SEMANKO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

9 And if I could take a personal liberty  
10 just to say that, with regard to my previous  
11 amendment, there was no intent to criticize anyone's  
12 performance. I have too much respect for folks that  
13 have -- are in the position that I have been in.  
14 I'm sorry that people took it that way.

15 With regard to 10(a)(3), we're proposing,  
16 and my amendment is, to strike the word "eleven" and  
17 substitute the word "nine" after the words "composed  
18 of," to strike the word "three" and insert the word  
19 "one" after the words "Republican National  
20 Committee," to strike the sentence that reads, "The  
21 Chairman of the Republican National Committee shall  
22 appoint the Chairman of the Standing Budget

1 Committee from among the members thereof," and  
2 substitute the following language, "The Chairman of  
3 the Standing Budget Committee shall be elected by  
4 its members." That's my motion.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

6 Is there a second? Is there a second?

7 VOICE: Second.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Second. The motion  
9 has been made and seconded.

10 Mr. Semanko, we'll let you address your  
11 proposal.

12 MR. SEMANKO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

13 So, first thing this would do is reduce  
14 the number of appointments to the Budget Committee  
15 by the Chairman from three to one. The relative  
16 strength of the folks that are elected in their  
17 regions, those two people from each of the four  
18 regions, is diluted because of those three  
19 appointments. One is enough. This would,  
20 therefore, reduce the overall number from eleven to  
21 nine on the Committee.

22 The second thing this would do is -- the

1 Resolutions Committee is different than the Rules  
2 Committee is different than the Budget Committee.  
3 The Budget Committee allocates the expenditure of  
4 tens of millions of dollars, oversight of those  
5 monies. It is wholly appropriate, in my view, to  
6 allow the Chairman of that Committee to be appointed  
7 from amongst the other members of the Committee who  
8 are performing that same solemn obligation of  
9 safeguarding the finances and allocating the budget  
10 of the RNC.

11           And that's the entirety of my motion.

12 Thank you.

13           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
14 Semanko.

15           Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
16 opposition? Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
17 opposition?

18           Mr. Duprey.

19           MR. DUPREY: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

20           Steve Duprey, from New Hampshire.

21           Again, this is similar to other amendments  
22 we've seen proposed. First, the Chairman -- the

1 ironic thing about the Republican National Committee  
2 is that the Chairman does the hardest work raising  
3 all the money we spend. Everybody on the Committee  
4 helps, but, let's face it, the Chairman is the one  
5 who makes 2 and 3 hours of calls a day, jumps on the  
6 plane, and raises all of the money. To suggest that  
7 we don't trust that person to then appoint the  
8 Chairman of the Budget Committee rather than having  
9 them elected, I think is completely inappropriate.  
10 And he should have a number of appointments on it.  
11 He's the guy who's got to raise the money.

12           So, this amendment really is intended to  
13 dilute the authority of the Chairman, and I urge all  
14 the members to vote no.

15           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
16 Duprey.

17           Is there anyone else who would like to  
18 speak in support of the amendment? Support of the  
19 amendment?

20           [No response.]

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
22 else who would like to speak opposed to the

1 amendment?

2 Mrs. Costa.

3 MS. COSTA: Yes. Cindy Costa, from South  
4 Carolina.

5 I would be opposed to this amendment, in  
6 view of the fact that our Chairman, who raises  
7 hundreds of millions of dollars for the Republican  
8 National Committee and is very careful about the way  
9 it is expended, also should have the right to pick  
10 the people who help him, because many of these  
11 people are people that are very wealthy, that  
12 support the RNC and have friends that are very  
13 wealthy that give to the RNC. And so, if we made it  
14 just among the members, who, yes, we support the RNC  
15 and give some money, but it's not like we give, you  
16 know, hundreds of thousands of dollars, you know,  
17 individually. And so, I just think if we pass this  
18 rule, we would really hamstring our Chairman, and I  
19 think it would be a very foolish thing.

20 So, I would ask you all to vote against  
21 this amendment.

22 Thank you.

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
2 else who would like to speak in favor of the  
3 amendment?

4                   [No response.]

5                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who  
6 would like to speak in opposition?

7                   Mrs. Herron, from Georgia.

8                   MS. HERRON: Linda Herron, from Georgia.

9                   I've served on the Budget Committee for 12  
10 years. And I've served under three different  
11 Chairmen. I do know that the Chairman that's  
12 appointed by the RNC Chairman spends a tremendous  
13 amount of time. The last -- or current, I suppose,  
14 Chairman is Mr. Ron Kauffman. And I know, from my  
15 perspective, as a member of the Budget Committee  
16 living in Atlanta, Georgia, I could not afford to  
17 fly up to D.C. and go through the budget and so  
18 forth and so on once a month. Okay? So, I think  
19 that the Chairman of Budget should be appointed,  
20 because it's someone that has the ability to be  
21 there or to get there.

22                   And so, therefore, I oppose this

1 amendment.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mrs.  
3 Herron.

4 Is there anyone else who would like to  
5 speak in favor of the motion?

6 [No response.]

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who  
8 would like to speak in opposition to the motion?

9 The Chair recognizes the Gentlelady from  
10 Texas.

11 MS. DASHIELL: Why, thank you, Madam  
12 Chairman.

13 Toni Anne Dashiell, from Texas.

14 And I am opposed to this. I feel that, as  
15 we look at the numbers right now, we have a total of  
16 eleven, eight of those coming from the grassroots,  
17 who were the people that are elected by the members  
18 of their region. That is -- that gives us a number  
19 of -- that's in control. The Chairman only has 27  
20 percent of the control in that Committee. And any  
21 chairman, if you've been a president -- a chairman  
22 of any organization, you have to have people that

1 you trust, that you can contact, that you can have  
2 dialogue with, but you don't have to have -- you  
3 should not have complete control.

4 Ladies and gentlemen, he does -- our  
5 Chairman, now or in the future, will never have  
6 complete control, because we are strong individuals  
7 on the RNC, and we are ones that want us to be able  
8 to have a dialogue and build trust.

9 I urge you to vote no on this.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
11 else who would like to speak in favor of the motion.

12 Mr. Semanko.

13 MR. SEMANKO: Just to take a second to say  
14 this is my last amendment. I'm really glad.

15 And I want to tell you how much I  
16 appreciate the discussion. As I said earlier today,  
17 I really think it's important to examine our rules  
18 every once in a while. And, as Senator Lee pointed  
19 out, this issue of decentralization of power -- and  
20 I think it's been a very good debate and a good  
21 discussion. I've heard good points on both sides.  
22 I think the case is a little stronger on some of



1 these committees than on others, but I certainly can  
2 abide by the decision. And I just want to take the  
3 opportunity to say how much I appreciate everybody  
4 that's participating in the debate and, again,  
5 emphasize -- I served on the Budget Committee with  
6 Linda. I was the elected Budget Committee member  
7 for the West. It's not about criticizing what  
8 anybody's doing. It's examining our institutions  
9 and how we're organized, and challenging us to  
10 think. And I appreciate the opportunity.

11 Thanks.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

13 The Chair believes that we have reached  
14 the limit of number of people who would like to  
15 comment on this matter. So, without objection,  
16 we'll move to an immediate vote on the matter.

17 All those in favor of Amendment 10.7,  
18 please say aye.

19 [A chorus of ayes.]

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

21 [A chorus of nays.]

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

1           That gets us through everything that has  
2 been submitted thus far for Amendments 1 through 12.

3           [Applause.]

4           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We've got one done.

5           All right. Let's move on to Section 2.

6           As you will recall, we already decided --  
7 we went through the numbers and decided on those  
8 that would be set aside for subsequent  
9 consideration.

10           So, there were no amendments applied to  
11 Rule number 13.

12           So, we'll now go to Rule number 14. And  
13 I'm trying to see if they have my amendments ready.

14           I'm trying not to have to take a recess. Here they  
15 come. All right.

16           All right. On Rule number 14, Membership  
17 in the Convention, we have five amendments. We'll  
18 start with Amendment 14.1, which has been suggested  
19 -- or, rather, submitted by the Gentleman from  
20 Louisiana, Mr. Little.

21           Mr. Little, would you like to make a  
22 motion?

1 MR. LITTLE: Yes, Madam Chairman.

2 This is 14. This, you can see, is -- I'd  
3 like to move the amendment that's on the --

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
5 Little.

6 There is a motion. Is there a second?

7 VOICE: Second.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There's -- been  
9 moved and seconded.

10 Mr. Little, would you like to address your  
11 amendment?

12 MR. LITTLE: This would increase the total  
13 Delegates to the Republican National Convention, at  
14 our next Convention, by adding one at-large Delegate  
15 for every Republican Congressman. So, each State,  
16 for however many Congressmen you have, would have an  
17 additional Delegate. This is to provide more  
18 representation in the Convention, more Delegates.  
19 And, in those districts that have a Republican  
20 Representative.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
22 you, Mr. Little.

1           Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
2 opposition? Is there anyone who would like to speak  
3 in opposition?

4           [No response.]

5           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who  
6 would like --

7           Yes, Mr. DeVito.

8           MR. DeVITO: Vincent DeVito,  
9 Massachusetts.

10           I oppose this particular amendment.  
11 Speaking for myself, our delegation is large enough.

12           [Laughter.]

13           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Would it -- what a  
14 refreshingly honest point of view. Thank you for  
15 sharing it with us, Mr. DeVito.

16           Is there anyone else who would like to  
17 speak in favor? Anyone else in favor?

18           [No response.]

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
20 opposed who would like to speak?

21           All right, we'll start with the Gentleman  
22 from West Virginia.

1           MR. STUART: Yeah, Mike Stuart, West  
2 Virginia.

3           I stand opposed to the amendment. As I  
4 hear the amendment and read the amendment, it  
5 appears to strengthen large States, in terms of  
6 their delegations. And so, for States like West  
7 Virginia and Idaho and all those other great places  
8 out there, I think this is not good for us. And so,  
9 I'd urge some reconsideration of this and vote no.

10          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
11 else who'd like to speak in favor? Any --

12          Yes. The Lady from Louisiana.

13          MS. BOWEN: Gwen Bowen, Louisiana.

14          The way I see this and the intent is to do  
15 the Republican thing, reward hard work, reward  
16 performance. And so, I strongly support it. And  
17 it's hard for me to imagine any Republican not  
18 wanting to encourage and reward performance. This  
19 is for Republican's districts -- are going to be  
20 rewarded.

21          And it's easy to make our delegation  
22 overall numbers the same. If we could -- if we

1 wanted to do an amendment to it, if that was the  
2 concern of the Gentleman, was that we're too big, we  
3 could just make those that are rewarded -- we could  
4 offset it with less alternates and would have the  
5 same number of people here for our Convention. We  
6 would just be rewarding States that are out there,  
7 hardworking, to get Republican Congressional  
8 Districts. And I thought that was a good thing.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

10 Are there others who wish to speak in  
11 opposition?

12 MS. GROSSMAN: Yes. Eileen Grossman,  
13 Rhode Island.

14 We do this in Rhode Island. Every elected  
15 Republican official is on -- at our State Central  
16 Committee. Their attendance is nil. They don't  
17 come, they don't vote, they don't participate. If a  
18 Republican Representative or Senator wants to be a  
19 Delegate to the RNC, they have that opportunity to  
20 run as a Delegate in their State. I don't think  
21 that, you know, a reward system is in order here.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

1           Is there anyone else who wishes to speak  
2 in support?

3           Mr. Blackwell.

4           MR. BLACKWELL: Yes. Morton Blackwell, of  
5 Virginia.

6           I think what the Lady said does not apply  
7 to this proposal. The Lady was referring to elected  
8 people who became automatic members and then didn't  
9 show up. This proposal adds to the number of at-  
10 large Delegates that a State has. And the State  
11 sets its own rules as to how to elect its at-large  
12 Delegates.

13           So, this is a completely different set of  
14 circumstances. At-large Delegates do not  
15 notoriously refuse to come to the Republican  
16 National Convention. So, it really -- what she said  
17 does not apply.

18           The principle of awarding States bonus  
19 Delegates or at-large Delegates is well established  
20 in the rules of the Republican Party. The current  
21 rules, if you have a majority or at least half of  
22 the members of the House of Representatives from

1 your State, you get one bonus Delegate. It would  
2 seem to me that States that elect a large number of  
3 Republicans to the House of Representatives deserve  
4 a bonus.

5           This is a fair bonus, and it's awarded.  
6 And in those places where Republicans have elected a  
7 lot of U.S. Representatives, they should have some  
8 recognition of that. And awarding extra at-large  
9 Delegates to the States, under those circumstances,  
10 makes sense.

11           Thank you.

12           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
13 Blackwell.

14           Is there anyone else who would like to  
15 speak in opposition? In opposition.

16           Yes. The Gentleman from Maine.

17           MR. WILLETTE: Thank you, Madam Chair.  
18 Alex Willette, from Maine.

19           I stand in opposition to this. You know,  
20 Maine, we're lucky. We're really proud of our  
21 Republican Congressman. But, it's the first time  
22 we've had a Republican Congressman in two decades.



1 And we're very proud of Representative Bruce  
2 Poliquin. But, I do believe this is one way to take  
3 power away from the little States, by giving more  
4 Delegates to the bigger States. And don't think  
5 this would be good for us in Maine. So, I stand in  
6 opposition.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

8 Is there anyone else who'd like to speak  
9 in support? Anyone to speak in support?

10 The Lady from Wyoming.

11 MS. HAGEMAN: Yes. Harriet Hageman, from  
12 Wyoming.

13 I speak in support of this amendment. I  
14 believe that it's very clearly a Republican  
15 performance-based-type system. It would get more  
16 people involved in this. And coming from the least-  
17 populated State in the Nation, I don't believe that  
18 it does punish the small States. But, it does  
19 reward those States that consistently vote  
20 Republican and work hard to elect Republicans. I  
21 think that this is exactly the type of thing that we  
22 should be doing. It doesn't take away from other

1 States. It doesn't decrease Delegates for other  
2 folks. But, it does reward those States that  
3 consistently vote Republican. And I think that's  
4 important. I speak in support of the amendment.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
6 else who would like to speak in opposition?

7 MS. SERRANO-GLASSNER: Thank you, Madam  
8 Chair.

9 Christine Serrano-Glassner, from New  
10 Jersey.

11 Just a logistical matter. This doesn't  
12 really specify how many more people. But, with that  
13 many more people, assuming we're talking about  
14 increasing the numbers, then you need that much more  
15 staff. And I think one of the challenges that the  
16 Site Committee has had in the past is finding  
17 locations that have enough hotel rooms. So, I  
18 think, before we pass something without, really,  
19 full consideration of what the numbers would do and  
20 what that means overall for the Convention, I think  
21 that has to be taken into consideration. So, I'm in  
22 opposition.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

3 Is there anyone else would like to speak  
4 in support? Anyone who would like to speak in  
5 support?

6 [No response.]

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Anyone who would  
8 like to speak in opposition?

9 Chair recognizes the Gentleman from New  
10 Mexico.

11 MR. PEARCE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

12 Coming from the State of New Mexico, the  
13 last member of the Federal Delegation from New  
14 Mexico, I would like to speak in opposition to the  
15 amendment.

16 Now, keep in mind that the district that I  
17 represent is 34 percent registered Republicans. It  
18 is 60 percent minority, 52 percent Hispanic, 60  
19 percent overall minority. We're one of the poorest  
20 districts in the United States. And to say that the  
21 -- winning a seat there doesn't have the same value,  
22 that the big States are going to dominate, is one

1 that, frankly, I wonder how we're going to get the  
2 voice of those of us who will be out there slugging  
3 to win in districts that are very difficult. I've  
4 got several 85-percent Democrat counties. And I go  
5 in there, where people hate to see Republicans, and  
6 some say, "We've never talked to a Republican before  
7 in our life." I go places I'm not wanted, and I get  
8 -- and I'm well enough liked that they invite me  
9 back. That's my job. Some conversations have  
10 lasted 10 years. And to say we're going to reward  
11 performance, I will tell you that it just flies in  
12 the idea that we must be broadening our base, here,  
13 that we've got to not just win elections, but win  
14 hearts. That's what we should be about, as a Party.  
15 And so, this idea that we're going to segregate out  
16 --

17           Now, finally, many things in Washington  
18 are not Democrat versus Republican. They are big  
19 versus small. And if we take on the tone in this  
20 Convention that we are going to favor the big States  
21 over the small States, we will lose the small  
22 States. We are the ones that keep the glue together

1 for us in the U.S., for us in the Congress. Now,  
2 the Senate, those guys, they're equal. That's the  
3 power of the Senate. Small States have the same  
4 power as a big State. In the House of  
5 Representatives, we fight this every day.

6 God bless you all, but stand opposed to  
7 the amendment.

8 [Applause.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

10 Is there anyone else who would like to  
11 speak in favor of the amendment?

12 Gentlelady here.

13 MS. POPMA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

14 Marlys Popma, from Iowa.

15 I am in favor of this amendment, but  
16 that's not necessarily what I want to speak to. I  
17 want to speak to the comment that was made earlier  
18 about whether we could deal with more people. The  
19 Democrats have way more people at their Conventions  
20 than we do. And they find space. So, I don't think  
21 we should make this based on space.

22 I do think that, if you reward people --

1 we've got a district in Iowa that was Democrat for  
2 many, many years. And we just took it for  
3 Republicans. To be able to tell the people of that  
4 district, "You will get another Delegate because of  
5 your hard work," is a great thing. That's a great  
6 thing. And any one of you, in your States, if you  
7 could tell your people, "If you win this district,  
8 you get one more Delegate," that's a great thing.

9           And so, I hope that you would consider  
10 voting for this. I think this is a -- this is a  
11 great amendment.

12           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

13           Is there anyone else who'd like to speak  
14 in opposition? In opposition?

15           The Gentleman from California rises, to  
16 what point?

17           MR. OSE: To voice my opposition, Madam  
18 Chair.

19           Doug Ose, California.

20           With great respect to my friend Mr.  
21 Pearce, having served with him, I will validate that  
22 small States versus large States in Congress, on the

1 floor, are at a disadvantage. That's not why I rose  
2 to speak against this.

3           When I read that up there, it reminds me  
4 of what Debbie Wasserman-Schultz has implemented on  
5 the Democratic side in which, on a constant theme in  
6 this entire campaign has been, "No more instructions  
7 from Washington." That smells like a rigging to me.

8     And I'm opposed to it.

9           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
10 you, sir.

11           Anyone else who'd like to rise in support?

12     Is there anyone to rise in support?

13           Seeing -- Mr. Little, do you rise in  
14 support?

15           MR. LITTLE: Yes, Madam Chairman.

16           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Gentleman from  
17 Louisiana is recognized.

18           MR. LITTLE: This is not something simply  
19 in support of large States. This is not simply a  
20 directive. This is something that's in support of  
21 the flyover country of this Nation that supports  
22 Republicans, year in and year out. The States that

1 have Republicans are the States that have been  
2 providing the votes in Congress. And we're not a  
3 large State. We're a relatively small State. We  
4 only have five Republicans in our State. But, we  
5 support the Republican Party. We have a high  
6 percentage of Republicans in our State. And the  
7 five extra Delegates from our State would make a  
8 huge difference.

9           Secondly, the more Delegates you have --  
10 and this is not that many more; it's really less  
11 than 247, because we already get one for majority --  
12 the more Delegates you have, the most grassroots  
13 people you have in attendance, the more supporters  
14 for the Republican Party you have in attendance, and  
15 the more we're going to tend to grow. This is going  
16 to grow our Party, get the support of flyover  
17 country, and make America great again.

18           Thank you.

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
20 Little.

21           The Chair recognizes the Gentleman from  
22 Arkansas.



1 MR. BARNETT: Jonathan Barnett, from  
2 Arkansas.

3 I move the previous question.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
5 Barnett.

6 Previous question has been moved, and is  
7 in order.

8 All those in favor of ending debate on  
9 Amendment 14.1, please say aye.

10 [A chorus of ayes.]

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All opposed, nay.

12 [No response.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

14 We'll now move to an immediate vote on  
15 Amendment 14.1. All those in favor of adopting this  
16 amendment, please say aye.

17 [A chorus of ayes.]

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All opposed, nay.

19 [A chorus of nays.]

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

21 We will now move to Amendment number 14.2,  
22 which has also been submitted by the Gentleman from

1 Louisiana, who's recognized for the purpose of  
2 making a motion.

3 MR. LITTLE: Madam Chairman, I'd like to  
4 move the amendment on the board.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved.  
6 Is there a second?

7 VOICE: Second.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
9 seconded.

10 Mr. Little, would you like to address your  
11 amendment?

12 MR. LITTLE: Similar to the prior  
13 proposal, which has gone down in flames --

14 [Laughter.]

15 MR. LITTLE: -- I would request this  
16 august body to consider increasing the Delegates,  
17 the at-large Delegates, from States that have  
18 Governors that are Republicans.

19 Madam Chairman, I believe the Office of  
20 Governor is the most significant political office in  
21 a State. It often controls the Legislature, deals  
22 with reapportionment, budgeting. We are finding, in

1 our own State, with a Democrat Governor, we are  
2 groaning under a Democrat Governor after having a  
3 Republican for many terms. Just a single Delegate  
4 for having a Republican Governor, I believe, is not  
5 enough. And, in keeping with my concept of the idea  
6 of increasing the total number of Delegates -- we  
7 have, I believe, 31 Republican Governors, we already  
8 get one Delegate for that, so it would be four more.  
9 It would be 124 more Delegates. I urge adoption of  
10 this amendment.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who  
12 speaks in opposition? Is there anyone who speaks in  
13 opposition?

14 The Chair recognizes the Gentleman from  
15 Indiana.

16 MR. HAMMOND: Madam Chair, John Hammond,  
17 from Indiana.

18 I recognize the Gentleman from Louisiana's  
19 point. And we have a Republican Governor we're very  
20 proud of, and we'll have a chance to see more of him  
21 later. But, you've got to think about what this  
22 means. We've -- we're looking at this one at a

1 time, one amendment at a time. This is the kind of  
2 thing that needs to be looked at. I'm glad we're  
3 trying to deal with it here, but I think, as we look  
4 at it, we're skewing numbers, we're skewing balance.

5 We've got this big-State -- large-State issue. We  
6 don't know exactly what this means, in terms of the  
7 exact States.

8 I recognize what was said earlier by our  
9 friend from New Mexico, that we have an obligation  
10 also to grow this Party everywhere we can, not just  
11 the places where we're successful today, but where  
12 we need to be tomorrow. And I just think there's an  
13 awful lot going on, here, that we don't understand  
14 the implications. Changing it here requires us to  
15 understand where it pops up in changes in some other  
16 place.

17 So, for those reasons -- and really this  
18 is something in need of further study -- I oppose  
19 this amendment.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
21 Hammond.

22 Is there anyone who's like to speak in

1 support?

2 The Gentleman at the back microphone.

3 MR. WILLHOIT: Thank you.

4 Janssen Willhoit, from Vermont.

5 Speaking from a blue State, a small State,  
6 I am in favor of this. And, to the Gentleman's  
7 point, actually, in our small, blue State, we nearly  
8 won the Governor's seat, 2 years ago, lost by under  
9 2,000 votes. And I feel very confident this year we  
10 are going to gain a Republican Governor in the State  
11 of Vermont. And to encourage --

12 [Applause.]

13 MR. WILLHOIT: -- Vermonters to get out  
14 there and vote for a Republican to be our -- to be  
15 our Governor, I would applaud this effort, so that  
16 way in 4 years we'll have five more strong Vermont  
17 Republicans here at the Convention.

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

20 The Chair recognizes Mr. Duprey.

21 MR. DUPREY: Madam Chair, Steve Duprey,  
22 from New Hampshire.

1           I rise in opposition to this amendment,  
2 for the very eloquent reasons spoken by Congressman  
3 Pearce on the previous one.

4           And I'd like to move the previous  
5 question.

6           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
7 is in order. We will move directly to a vote on  
8 ending debate.

9           All those in favor of ending debate on  
10 this matter, please say aye.

11           [A chorus of ayes.]

12           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
13 nay.

14           [A chorus of nays.]

15           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

16           We will move directly now to voting on the  
17 amendment itself. All of those in favor of adopting  
18 Amendment 4.2, please say aye.

19           [A chorus of ayes.]

20           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
21 nay.

22           [A chorus of nays.]

1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.  
2           We can have a division of the house. The  
3 Chair's not in doubt, but you're certainly entitled  
4 to have division.

5           So, will all of those who are in favor of  
6 adopting Amendment 14.2 please stand.

7           [Members standing.]

8           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. Please  
9 be seated.

10          All those against, please stand.

11          [Members standing.]

12          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. Please  
13 be seated.

14          The vote is as follows: those in favor,  
15 32; and those against, 71. The motion fails.

16          Let's move on now to Amendment number 4.3.

17          This is an amendment to Rule 14(a)(6)(ii). It has  
18 been submitted by Mr. Ash, of Arizona.

19          Mr. Ash is recognized for the purpose of  
20 making a motion.

21          MR. ASH: Madam Chairman, we've had a  
22 little bit of a -- of an issue. I've submitted a

1 number of different amendments at the same time, and  
2 they got a bit reversed in order. If I could come  
3 back to these, perhaps at the end of this particular  
4 section, and redirect?

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Let's  
6 make certain we know which ones you're referring to,  
7 Mr. Ash. It looks like --

8 MR. ASH: 14.3, 14.4, 14.5, and there's a  
9 final one that actually, on my copies, hasn't even  
10 been numbered yet.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We --  
12 you still have a number of other amendments. And  
13 so, I'm trying to see if it's -- you want to set  
14 aside 14.3, 14.4, 14.5, and then which additional  
15 ones?

16 MR. ASH: Well, the amendment was on  
17 14(a)(6)(iv). And I don't have a copy with a number  
18 on it yet.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Mr.  
20 Ash, I'm informed by the staff that you have six  
21 remaining. May I suggest that, unless you feel  
22 otherwise, we set them all aside while you sort out



1 which ones you'd like to take in what order?

2 MR. ASH: Yeah, that'd be great. Thank  
3 you, ma'am.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
5 you.

6 Without objection, so ordered.

7 All right. Now we will move on -- we do  
8 not have any amendments to Rule number 15, but we do  
9 have amendments to Rule 16.

10 Rule 16 deals with the election,  
11 selection, allocation, or binding of Delegates and  
12 alternate Delegates.

13 We'll begin with Amendment number 16.2.  
14 This amendment impacts Rule number 16(c)(1). It has  
15 been submitted by Mr. Wheeler, of South Dakota, who  
16 is recognized for the purpose of making a motion.

17 MR. WHEELER: Madam Chairman, I move  
18 Amendment 16.2.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?  
20 Is there a second?

21 VOICE: Second.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It has been moved

1 and seconded that we adopt Amendment 16.2.

2           Mr. Wheeler, would you like to address the  
3 substance of your amendment?

4           MR. WHEELER: Thank you.

5           The purpose of this amendment is to ensure  
6 that, in our Primary calendar, we have consistency  
7 and fairness when we divide up States between States  
8 that are required to be proportional and States that  
9 are not required to be proportional. Right now, we  
10 have in our rules that, after March 15th, you can be  
11 winner-take-all, but, before then, you must be  
12 proportional. But, there is a carve-out for the  
13 first four States -- Iowa and New Hampshire and  
14 Nevada and South Carolina -- and that -- so, that  
15 language that they're bringing up now, the whole  
16 section, would require those first four States to  
17 also follow those same proportionality rules that  
18 any other State has to follow prior to March 15th.

19           So, I think this is a reasonable amendment  
20 that ensures that those States that go early in the  
21 process are proportional and that the winner-take-  
22 all States can come later in the process.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
3 Wheeler.

4 Is there someone who rises in opposition  
5 to the rule?

6 Mr. Moore, of South Carolina.

7 MR. MOORE: Thank you, Madam Chair, Matt  
8 Moore, from South Carolina.

9 We have already, in a previous section,  
10 established -- to establish a study committee to  
11 assess such rule changes. I don't believe that such  
12 changes should be taken lightly, and therefore,  
13 would urge nonpassage of this amendment.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

16 Is there anyone else who would like to  
17 rise in support of this amendment? Anyone who would  
18 like to rise in support?

19 Mr. Blackwell.

20 MR. BLACKWELL: This is a very simple and  
21 easy-to-understand amendment. We have in the rules,  
22 up to a certain point on the calendar, the

1 requirement that, if States have Primaries, that  
2 they will have to be proportional under certain  
3 rules. It does not make sense to say that those  
4 Primaries held before the period when proportional  
5 representation is required should have the option to  
6 be winner-take-all.

7           Obviously, if this amendment passes, which  
8 I think is imminently fair, and there is a study  
9 which recommends a significant overhaul of our  
10 nomination rules, then they can take into  
11 consideration things which seem appropriate to them  
12 at the time. We don't know what that's going to  
13 come up with.

14           Meanwhile, this makes sense in our current  
15 rules, to have the winner-take-all Primaries be  
16 possible before a certain date. Well, it should  
17 apply to all of the Primaries held before that  
18 certain date, which is now in our rules. And we  
19 don't know how it might be changed, but we have the  
20 right, and even the duty, to do here what we think  
21 is the right thing to do.

22           So, I favor this amendment.

1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there someone  
2 who would like to be recognized in opposition?

3           Mr. Duprey. I think I'm sensing a  
4 pattern. We've had South Carolina and now New  
5 Hampshire.

6           MR. DUPREY: Madam Chairman, Steve Duprey,  
7 from New Hampshire, the small State next to Vermont.

8           I rise in opposition to this, simply  
9 because we earlier agreed, by a very large majority,  
10 to have a commission set up to study the Primary  
11 process and the role of all the different States,  
12 just like we did in 2008 and 2012. And each year,  
13 we try and make improvements and recommendations.

14           Ironically, I'll point out, in 2012 the  
15 complaint was the carve-out States pick our nominee;  
16 we don't like that. This year, we made lots of  
17 changes. Thirty-eight different States played a  
18 role. And some members came to me and said, "It was  
19 too messy and too fussy." Darned if you do, darned  
20 if you don't. But, that's why we have that  
21 commission. Making this change here precipitously  
22 would be a bad idea. All of these suggested

1 amendments should be going to that commission.

2 That's what we've done in 2008 and 2012.

3           So, I would urge members to vote no on  
4 this amendment and other ones that come up on this  
5 topic.

6           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
7 Duprey.

8           Is there anyone who would like to rise in  
9 support? Anyone who would like to rise in support?

10           [No response.]

11           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Anyone --

12           In support? He's coming from the back.

13           MR. HENRY: Thank you, Madam Chair.

14           Alabama, Ed Henry.

15           We moved our Primary this year to March  
16 the 1st. And one of the big wranglings was that we  
17 were not going to be a winner-take-all. And so, as  
18 a what we like to think of as a very conservative  
19 State, we weren't going to be able to put all of our  
20 Delegates behind a conservative candidate. And, as  
21 such, because we decided to go early so that we  
22 could be significant in the race, we had to go

1 proportional.

2           And I've always thought it was unfair that  
3 Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina, and Nevada  
4 somehow were able to live outside of that rule. And  
5 I know many of the people in our State. And so, I'd  
6 be disingenuous if I came to this Convention, to the  
7 individuals who make the vote, and I didn't express  
8 that dissatisfaction from the people who send us all  
9 here to do this.

10           So, with that, I stand in support of this  
11 amendment.

12           Thank you, ma'am.

13           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

14           Is there other -- are there others who  
15 wish to stand in opposition? In opposition?

16           Mr. Ryder.

17           MR. RYDER: John Ryder, Tennessee.

18           And I support the intent of this  
19 amendment. I think that the early States should be  
20 proportional. But, I don't support passing it at  
21 this time, for the reasons stated by Mr. Moore and  
22 by Mr. Duprey, that we have appointed a commission -

1 - created a commission to study these issues. And  
2 these issues tend to be interrelated, whether and  
3 which carve-out States we have, how we initiate the  
4 process, and how we go through it, and what  
5 constitutes proportionality.

6           The fact of the matter is that none of the  
7 four carve-out States, I believe, are winner-take-  
8 all. Iowa and Nevada are Caucus States, which  
9 apportion their Delegates. South Carolina, I  
10 believe, is winner-take-all by Congressional  
11 District and then winner-take-all for the at-large  
12 Delegates. And I don't believe New Hampshire is  
13 winner-take-all, either. So -- but, their  
14 proportional formulas do not comply with the  
15 proportionality definition in the Rules of the  
16 Republican Party, as presently written.

17           So, I think this is precisely the kind of  
18 issue that ought to be referred to the study  
19 commission and allow them to do their work.

20           I like the idea. I just think we need to  
21 blend it into the other Rule 16 issues that are  
22 going to come up over the next couple of years.



1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
2 Ryder.

3                   Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
4 support?

5                   The Gentleman from Oklahoma.

6                   MR. JONES: Gary Jones, from Oklahoma.

7                   In addressing the -- what the Gentleman  
8 from Alabama said, we were March 1st prior to the  
9 rule being changed. And we were winner-take-all by  
10 Congressional District and winner-take-all by State  
11 for the at-large. But, the rule changed, and we had  
12 to go to proportional. Trying to get that moved  
13 back, the citizens of Oklahoma and the Legislature  
14 said no. And so, here we now have created a  
15 situation that -- you know, we talked about  
16 everybody being equal, but we've got some more equal  
17 than others.

18                   And that being said, we've talked about  
19 changing things clear back to 2008, 2012, and now  
20 we've got another commission, we're going to move it  
21 back. I'm in favor of this amendment, and then, if  
22 we -- if the commission comes up with something

1 later, they can change it. But, I'm in favor of  
2 this particular amendment.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

4 Is there anyone else who wishes to speak  
5 in opposition?

6 Gentleman from Nevada.

7 MR. ROSS: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

8 Jordan Ross, Nevada.

9 Madam Chairman, I'm shocked -- shocked, I  
10 say -- that Mr. Ryder and Mr. Duprey would chew up  
11 three-quarters of my argument.

12 The fact of the matter is that the -- it  
13 is complex. In Nevada, we are proportional. In  
14 fact, we have a very, very precise and very fair and  
15 neutral mathematical formula for proportionality.  
16 And it does strike me as a little odd that, with  
17 many of the important things we have to consider,  
18 that we would attempt to undertake some changes in  
19 rules that really do require some indepth survey.  
20 This is why we passed the rule providing for a  
21 committee to examine the electoral process in  
22 detail. This is not the sort of thing I -- we can -

1 - you can do in 2 days.

2           Again, the Gentleman is quite right. It  
3 seems to make sense, and three of the four carve-out  
4 States, in fact, are proportional. But, this  
5 strikes me as jumping the gun. And I urge the  
6 members to vote no.

7           Thank you.

8           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

9           Is there anyone else who would like to  
10 speak in support?

11          MR. SHORT: Yes, Madam Chairman.

12          Guy Short, from Colorado.

13          First of all, I'm finding myself in a  
14 great position, agreeing with Mr. Ryder and my  
15 friend Ed Henry, over here, from Alabama. It seems  
16 to me maybe that their only disagreement here is  
17 whether we're going to decide that today or if we're  
18 going to wait for a committee. We have Mr. Ryder  
19 thinking it's a good idea, the Gentleman from Nevada  
20 thinking it's a good idea, my friend Ed Henry  
21 thinking it's a good idea.

22          I would encourage this body to pass that

1 today. And, as the Gentleman from Oklahoma said, we  
2 can revisit this. And if, for some reason, there --  
3 it's a bad idea and we want to tinker with it, that  
4 will get done with the study committee that we've  
5 already passed today.

6           But, I would just encourage you all, let's  
7 not abdicate our responsibility and our duties as  
8 the 2016 Rules Committee. That's who we are.  
9 That's why we came here. We didn't come here to  
10 pass the buck on to a committee. Now, we know a lot  
11 of folks do that. With all due respect to my great  
12 friend from New Mexico, Congress does that all the  
13 time. They just pass the buck. Let's not pass the  
14 buck. Let's make decisions here today as the 2016  
15 Rules Committee. If we're going to study it, I  
16 guess we'll study it. But, that -- there's no  
17 reason why we can't make that decision today,  
18 especially for those who think it's a good idea,  
19 like my friend Mr. Ryder, and like the Gentleman  
20 from Nevada.

21           Thank you, Mrs. Chair.

22           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

1           Are there additional individuals who'd  
2 like to be recognized?

3           Mr. DeVito.

4           MR. DeVITO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

5           I'm here to a -- oppose. And I urge  
6 everybody to vote no against this particular  
7 amendment. I appreciate the opportunity to speak at  
8 this time, because I'm not sure if those that are  
9 also opposing this motion actually said it was a  
10 good idea. I think what they said -- I don't want  
11 to speak for anybody, I'm not speaking for anybody,  
12 but what -- I think what they said is that it's a  
13 good idea to look at this in the future. And so,  
14 let's not be whimsical and vote on anything today.  
15 A no vote on this motion is urged -- on this  
16 amendment is urged.

17           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

18           The Gentleman from West Virginia.

19           MR. STUART: Yeah. And I'm in opposition,  
20 as well. I don't know if there's anybody else in  
21 favor that would need to speak at this point. I  
22 speak in opposition, but I speak in opposition and

1 make some comments. And I support all the points  
2 that have been made here, but let me make one point.  
3 And I think this is important for places like West  
4 Virginia. And I'm here, let's face it, representing  
5 my State, a great State. But, the extractive  
6 industries, whether it's coal mining, natural gas,  
7 other industries that are really critical to this  
8 country, when we have these early States -- Iowa,  
9 New Hampshire, South Carolina, Nevada -- love all  
10 your States, but there's not a State that represents  
11 those critically important industries to this  
12 country that's early in the process. I think you  
13 have to go 13 or 14 States deep before any of those  
14 industry-laden States get addressed in the process.

15

16           And so, I think it's really important.  
17 I've said, for a long time, the subsidies for  
18 ethanol that were at least once in place for Iowa,  
19 there would be subsidies in place for coal in West  
20 Virginia if it were first in the process.

21           And so, I just bring that point up. I  
22 think they're important that we examine this

1 process. The protection of those four States, I  
2 think, ought to be examined. But, I urge no on this  
3 amendment.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, Mr. Wheeler,  
5 did you want to speak in support?

6 MR. WHEELER: Thank you.

7 I support the study committee. I  
8 supported that proposal. It is important to study  
9 our process. I believe that is more in the timing,  
10 and not so much this particular aspect of it. I  
11 think we, as a body, should communicate to that  
12 study committee that, if we're going to have a time  
13 after which -- or before which proportional rules  
14 must apply, they should apply to everybody. I don't  
15 care how much you study that idea. I don't know  
16 there would be a good reason why a few States get  
17 exempted from that rule so early in the process.

18 So, I would urge you to support this now  
19 and express why we should have the rules apply to  
20 all States.

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

1           Is there --

2           Mr. Evans.

3           MR. EVANS: Yes. So, I know that we're  
4 getting late, and probably don't want to hear too  
5 much, but I thought it was important to understand  
6 how we got where we are and why I oppose the  
7 amendment. And the reason is because of the  
8 doctrine of unintended consequences. And I'll just  
9 share with you a little bit about that.

10           Now, under the -- under Rule 12, we have  
11 to have 75 percent of the Committee vote for an  
12 amendment. That means that I can only lose 42  
13 votes. And every time I move a State around, you  
14 lose 3 right out of the box. So, the idea, for  
15 example, that I would eliminate the four carve-out  
16 States means that I immediately have lost 12 votes,  
17 and, on any given vote, there's 20 no votes. So, it  
18 becomes very tricky.

19           Now -- then, if you add to that, we shrunk  
20 the calendar from 6 and a half months to 75 days.  
21 Now, in 75 days, 4 of those -- 4 weeks of those were  
22 for the carve-outs. That left us 55. Now, you --



1 55 meant we had 7 Tuesdays. Seven Tuesdays to do 50  
2 jurisdictions, which necessarily meant that we would  
3 have many regional Primaries, like we did on March  
4 1st, many regional Primaries like we had in the  
5 Northeast, or many national Primaries, where we had  
6 States from all over the entire country on the same  
7 Tuesday. Okay? Are you with me?

8           Now, if you're not careful, what you have  
9 is, you have a runaway nominee, which is somebody  
10 that's not been adequately vetted, if you don't have  
11 a cooling-off period. Because if you don't have the  
12 cooling-off period, then what happens is, the first  
13 four States have a huge impact, and then, if you can  
14 win on the very first State, the Super Tuesday, in  
15 this case, the SEC Primary, you literally could  
16 skyrocket a nominee that hasn't been properly and  
17 thoroughly vetted all the way through the process.

18           So, it's complicated. It's calculus,  
19 mixing all of these things together. Now, to try to  
20 do that right now in this 15- or 30-minute period of  
21 something that took -- something that took us days,  
22 is just too dangerous, because we have no idea what

1 the ultimate consequences would be.

2 Thank you, Madam Chair. And it's -- the  
3 reason I urge you to vote no and let us study it and  
4 come up with a reasoned solution that meets the  
5 requirements of the 75-percent threshold.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: And he didn't even  
7 say "football."

8 [Laughter.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
10 you, Mr. Evans.

11 Is there anyone else who wishes to be  
12 recognized in support?

13 MR. HENRY: Madam Chairman?

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

15 MR. HENRY: Thank you, Madam Chair.

16 Ed Henry, Alabama.

17 A lot of argument's been made to put this  
18 off, to wait, because we don't have enough time to  
19 study it. Why are we here? Why did we all come  
20 together? Why did we make such an effort to come if  
21 we're really not going to deal with some things?

22 We left Rule 12 in place. So, after this

1 meeting, things can be undone if they are  
2 significantly wrong. It is a high threshold, as the  
3 Gentleman, my colleague, stated. If the commission  
4 comes back and decides that we need to undo this and  
5 we need to remove their privilege, as you stated,  
6 you already have 12 Delegates from those four States  
7 -- I mean, 20 Delegates from those four States who  
8 are not going to be part of your 75 percent. And  
9 so, the threshold has been moved even further from  
10 the possibility of truly dealing with this  
11 amendment.

12           And I agree with my colleague from  
13 Colorado and several of the colleagues that have  
14 spoken today. Let's deal with it today, let's  
15 remove the privilege that's in place that I've heard  
16 no one give a true and honest reason why it is  
17 there. Let's remove it. And then, if it is  
18 significantly wrong, we can -- the RNC can undo it.

19           And, with that, Madam Chair, I make a  
20 motion to move the previous question.

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

22           Previous question has been moved and is in

1 order, so we will move directly to a vote on whether  
2 we will end debate.

3 All those in favor of ending debate on  
4 Amendment number 16.2, please say aye.

5 [A chorus of ayes.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All opposed, nay.

7 [No response.]

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

9 We will then move directly to a vote on  
10 Amendment 16.2.

11 All those in favor of adopting Amendment  
12 16.2, please say aye.

13 [A chorus of ayes.]

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
15 nay.

16 [A chorus of nays.]

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

18 VOICE: Division.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. I'm going to  
20 ask you to stand. And it's going to be quite clear  
21 that there are not enough. And so, rather than have  
22 them keep counting, I'm going to ask you to stand,

1 and, if it's quite obvious, we're not going to worry  
2 about the count.

3 Will those of you in favor of Amendment  
4 16.2 please stand?

5 [Members standing.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Frias, I  
7 noticed that you counted. What did you get?

8 MR. FRIAS: Twenty-eight.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Would  
10 you be seated, please?

11 [Laughter.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
13 please stand.

14 [Members standing.]

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's clearly the  
16 nays have it.

17 Thank you. You may be seated. The  
18 amendment fails.

19 Next, to Amendment 16.3. This relates to  
20 Rule number 16(e)(5) and has been submitted by the  
21 Gentlelady from Colorado, who will be recognized for  
22 the purpose of making a motion.

1                   MS. UNRUH: Madam Chairman, Kendal Unruh,  
2 from the State of Colorado.

3                   And I would like to move to the proposed  
4 language to strike the words "or the population  
5 therein" at the end of this section.

6                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved.  
7 Is there a second?

8                   VOICE: Second.

9                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
10 seconded.

11                   Mrs. Unruh, if you'd like to address your  
12 amendment, please.

13                   MS. UNRUH: Sure.

14                   This is dealing with the way that the  
15 Delegates are apportioned in the Congressional  
16 District Conventions and also the State Conventions  
17 that we have in our States in order to -- where the  
18 Delegates elect, obviously, from the Congressional  
19 District Conventions and the State Conventions. And  
20 they're apportioned according to the Republicans and  
21 the -- it's pursuant to the State law and Party  
22 rules within the respective districts. But, it is -

1 - at the end, when it said "having regarded the  
2 Republican vote or the population therein," I would  
3 just like to strike that, because we are going to  
4 want to focus just on the Republican vote when it's  
5 apportioning for the Delegates to our Congressional  
6 Districts and the State Conventions. And the reason  
7 why I really like this is because it's  
8 noncontroversial.

9 [Laughter.]

10 MS. UNRUH: But, if we just aren't also  
11 focusing on the population overall, it also is not  
12 including a lot of the illegal immigrants that are  
13 actually right now comprised in the population  
14 therein. So.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

16 Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
17 opposition to this motion? Anyone speaking in  
18 opposition?

19 [No response.]

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
21 else who would like to speak in support?

22 [No response.]

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Anyone else who  
2 would like to speak at all?

3                   [No response.]

4                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  I'm seeing some  
5 back-and-forth up here.

6                   The Gentlelady from California.

7                   MS. DHILLON:  Thank you, Madam Chairwoman.

8                   Harmeet Dhillon, from California.

9                   I'm opposed to this amendment, because,  
10 taken to its logical conclusion, you could see  
11 similar attempts to disenfranchise people in smaller  
12 States, based on small population.  Right now, our  
13 founders created a balance between the States that  
14 get apportionment in our national legislature based  
15 on population versus their regional identity.  You  
16 know, one could say, Why is it fair that Rhode  
17 Island has the same number of United States Senators  
18 as California?  We have 5 million voters in  
19 California.  Some of them live in benighted places  
20 like San Francisco, like I do, where I was the  
21 Chairman of the Republican Party of San Francisco  
22 for 4 years.  Donors live in those districts.  Many



1 donors live in my district. And I can tell you  
2 that, if our representation, because we are stuck  
3 with Nancy Pelosi for so many years, were to be  
4 taken away on the basis of an amendment like this,  
5 you guys who come to San Francisco for your  
6 fundraisers would see a decreased amount of interest  
7 there.

8           But, on a fairness ground, I think, for  
9 keeping all of our Delegates throughout the State of  
10 California engaged and energized, decreasing the  
11 involvement and representation at this National  
12 Convention on the basis of a rule change like this  
13 would have a very significant impact. I don't think  
14 it should be taken lightly. Even though it is  
15 simply striking four words, it's going to be a huge  
16 impact on some of the more populous States.

17           Thank you for your consideration.

18           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

19           Is there anyone else who would like to  
20 speak in support? Anyone who would like to speak in  
21 support?

22           [No response.]

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who  
2 would like to speak in opposition?

3                   MR. RYDER: Madam Chairman, John Ryder,  
4 Tennessee.

5                   I oppose this amendment. We are a  
6 national political party. Our goal should be to  
7 represent and carry our vision to all corners of  
8 this great Nation. And that includes areas that  
9 don't yet vote Republican. We need to bring them  
10 enlightenment.

11                   [Laughter.]

12                   MR. RYDER: And they need to be  
13 represented in our councils so that we can share  
14 with them our vision for this country. So, I urge a  
15 no vote on this amendment.

16                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
17 else who wishes to be recognized on this amendment?

18                   [No response.]

19                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none --  
20 Oh. The Gentlelady from Louisiana.

21                   MS. BOWEN: I couldn't get up here fast  
22 enough.

1           Well, I'm one of those -- I'm going to  
2 speak in support of it -- Gwen Bowen, Louisiana --  
3 for one reason. Let me get it where I can read it.  
4 I can't see that when it's raised.

5           It seems to me, whenever it's talking  
6 about "the population thereof," that the one that's  
7 mostly going to be affected are, like, sanctuary  
8 cities, where there's illegal immigration there.  
9 And I thought that was the biggest point for our  
10 presumptive nominee, Trump. I don't understand why  
11 there's so much opposition to it. But, I'm speaking  
12 in support of it.

13           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

14           Mr. Munisteri.

15           MR. MUNISTERI: Yes, Madam Chair. I was -  
16 - hesitated before I came up here, because I wanted  
17 to make sure I understood the implications of this.

18           As I read it, it's directing the State  
19 Parties and the Congressional Districts'  
20 Conventions, the local ones, to only pick Delegates  
21 on the basis of Republican vote. Whereas, currently  
22 it says you can do it on the basis of Republican

1 vote or the population therein.

2           So, when I read that, I said -- it seems  
3 to me what this is doing is taking away from the  
4 State Parties the discretion to decide how they pick  
5 their Delegates. And, being a Texan, this may come  
6 as a surprise, but we don't like Washington telling  
7 us how we write our rules or to pick our Delegates.

8       And I would like my State to have the option.  
9 Nothing in the current rules prohibit you from  
10 basing it on Republican vote. It just gives you the  
11 option, and the locale and the State decide.

12           So, since I'm a Tenth Amendment guy and I  
13 think our State should decide how we pick our own  
14 Delegates, I just now decided to vote against this.

15           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
16 Munisteri.

17           Is there anyone else who would like to be  
18 heard?

19           [No response.]

20           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we're  
21 going to go directly to a vote on the amendment.

22           All of those in favor of adoption of

1 Amendment 16.3, please say aye.

2 [A chorus of ayes.]

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Those opposed, nay.

4 [A chorus of nays.]

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

6 Next, we will go to Amendment number 16.4.

7 Amendment number 16.4, which impacts Rule number

8 16(c)(3) -- I don't know how you're supposed to say

9 this, other than "double small I" -- "double small

10 two." [16(c)(3)(ii)] All right. This has been

11 submitted by Mr. Ash.

12 Is Mr. Ash here to make a motion?

13 Mr. Ash is recognized for the purpose of

14 making a motion.

15 MR. ASH: Madam Chairman, Bruce Ash, from

16 Arizona.

17 I'd like to submit for consideration the

18 proposal that's been put up on the board.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved.

20 Is there a second? Is there a second?

21 VOICE: Second.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It has been

1 seconded.

2 Mr. Ash, would you like to speak to your  
3 amendment?

4 MR. ASH: Yeah. This is along with the  
5 other amendments that have been presented on  
6 performance enhancement. And it would strike the  
7 word "a" at the beginning of the subsection and  
8 insert the following language, "on or after March  
9 31st of a presidential election."

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
11 there anyone who would like to speak in opposition  
12 to the motion?

13 Mr. Ryder, are you approaching the  
14 microphone? All right. Mr. Ryder is recognized in  
15 opposition to the motion.

16 MR. RYDER: No, I'm -- no, this is a point  
17 of inquiry. I was having trouble finding this  
18 language in the rule.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I was having the  
20 same difficulty.

21 MR. RYDER: And where does it fit? Could  
22 we get some clarification on that?

1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Do we  
2 have this up on -- if -- yeah, if the staff could  
3 put this up. Is it -- would change -- all right.  
4 16(c)(3)(ii) -- okay, as -- if I understand it  
5 correctly, Mr. Ash, just perhaps to expedite this --

6           MR. ASH: Certainly.

7           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. It  
8 looks like you're proposing that --

9           MR. ASH: It would be "proportional up to  
10 March 31st."

11          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. And  
12 that's a current change of 15 days -- or 16 days.

13          MR. ASH: Correct.

14          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

15                 Is everyone clear now on what the  
16 amendment would be?

17                 [No response.]

18          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
19 there anyone who would like to speak in opposition?

20                 We've not yet had someone speak in opposition to  
21 the motion.

22                 [No response.]

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who  
2 would like to speak in favor of the motion?

3                   MR. ASH: Madam Chairman, if I could -- we  
4 kind of got a little bit bollixed up there at the  
5 beginning.

6                   This is a concept, colleagues, that we  
7 have talked about at the RNC. In fact, some of us  
8 who were working in this prior presidential cycle  
9 seriously believed that going proportional through  
10 March 31st was a very good idea. Some of the  
11 reasons that Mr. Evans had talked about earlier  
12 today, just a few moments ago, with respect to not  
13 allowing a well-funded candidate or an early winner  
14 to sort of pile up victories, to allow momentum to  
15 flow in a number of State Primaries, and not have  
16 anybody get too far out in advance in the  
17 presidential cycle process.

18                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
19 you, Mr. Ash.

20                  Is there someone who wishes to speak in  
21 opposition?

22                  Mr. Hammond.



1                   MR. HAMMOND: Madam Chair, John Hammond,  
2 from Indiana.

3                   This is a bad amendment. Now, it doesn't  
4 seem that way on its surface, because most everyone  
5 here doesn't really understand how it works. And  
6 I'm not going to profess to be the person that  
7 understands it the best. But, to me, we still  
8 should let States decide this question.

9                   And then, secondly, we spent a lot of  
10 time, the last couple of years, trying to shorten  
11 the calendar. To me -- be argued that, on the back  
12 end, we haven't lengthened it at all, but we have,  
13 for the proportional portion of it.

14                   I am opposed to this. I just don't think  
15 it -- I think it's a mistake to make that move.

16                   Thank you. I would urge your opposition  
17 to this.

18                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
19 Hammond.

20                   Is there someone who would like to be  
21 recognized in support?

22                   Mr. Blackwell.

1 MR. BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

2 As I understand it, the effect of this  
3 amendment would be to return to the rules that were  
4 in effect with respect to requiring proportionality  
5 in 2012. The rules were changed for this year, and  
6 States were allowed to start holding winner-take-all  
7 Primaries after the 15th of March. What I believe  
8 this amendment would do -- and correct me if I am  
9 mistaken -- is to say that winner-take-all Primaries  
10 could not start before March 31st, which I think is  
11 in accord with the thinking of probably most of the  
12 people in this room. I think it's a desirable thing  
13 to do, to extend the period in which proportional  
14 Primaries must be held.

15 Thank you.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
17 Blackwell.

18 Is there someone who would like to speak  
19 in opposition?

20 Mr. Evans.

21 MR. EVANS: Yes, thank you, Madam Chair.

22 So, the amendment tries to take us back to

1 a world that doesn't exist anymore. It tries to  
2 take us back to a time when we didn't have instant  
3 media, the Internet, constant communication. So,  
4 what's happened is, when we went to put together the  
5 2012 map, if you shorten from 6 and a half months  
6 down to 75 days, you limit the number of available  
7 Tuesdays to have Primaries on.

8           Now, if you expand, then, you then have to  
9 similarly contract -- if you contract the overall  
10 period, you have to also contract the cooling-off  
11 period. Remember, the cooling-off period is  
12 proportional, which means that no candidate can, by  
13 virtue of a series of winner-take-all, wrap up the  
14 nomination by, say, March 10th. And so, that's what  
15 that's designed to do.

16           On the other hand, we've balanced that.  
17 There's a counterbalance. And the counterbalance  
18 is, we also don't want to have our candidates still  
19 cutting each other up 7 months into the process.  
20 And so, we moved the Convention date up from August  
21 to July, we moved the end date up to the middle of  
22 May, we moved the beginning back to February so that

1 we were to cut down the total period. It's kind of  
2 like having a shot chock in the NBA. It would be  
3 like saying, "We want to go back to the four  
4 corners, but we have a shot clock." So, you can't  
5 go back to that world anymore. And that's why the  
6 point is, this is -- the doctrine of unintended  
7 consequences is so serious -- is, you have, in a  
8 proposal like this, which says, "Hey, let's just add  
9 the 2 weeks back in to a world that doesn't exist  
10 anymore."

11           Now, I do want to address one thing that  
12 came up in the last point, which is, well, we --  
13 this Rule 12 Committee can fix that. Well, no, it  
14 can't. Let me give you a great example. Imagine me  
15 going to the 14 States who were on the SEC Super  
16 Tuesday and say, "We're going to now move your day."  
17 Well, guess what? They have more Delegates than the  
18 25-percent threshold. I can't then meet the 75-  
19 percent threshold, because they all have more  
20 Delegates than the high standard that we set. And  
21 that's why I say it's a Rubik's Cube, and it's a  
22 Rubik's Cube that, for us to try to solve here

1 today, would literally lead to some consequences  
2 that we could never contemplate. And that's why I  
3 strongly oppose trying to do this in the context of  
4 the time period that we have here.

5 I agree, we have to do important things,  
6 and we have. I don't think that we should be  
7 tackling anything that's like this. It would be  
8 like me tackling calculus in high school.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
10 Evans.

11 Is there anyone else who would like to  
12 speak in support?

13 Mr. Little.

14 MR. LITTLE: Madam, far be it from the  
15 supporters of this to speak to a land that does not  
16 exist. The opponents speak of history that they  
17 know nothing of. In 1998, the Rules Committee --  
18 the Standing Rules Committee of the RNC met in  
19 Indianapolis to discuss what was called the Delaware  
20 Plan. The problem that we had was the frontloading  
21 of Primaries, and we were going to have a national  
22 Primary, eliminating all but the most wealthy

1 candidates. So, some plans began to be put forth  
2 that would prevent frontloading. That was the  
3 Delaware Plan in 1998.

4 The proportional versus winner-take-all  
5 was the solution to the problem, but it has not much  
6 of a solution, because starting on March 15th, you  
7 can go winner-take-all. It makes a lot of sense, if  
8 we're going to stop frontloading, to make that date  
9 March 31st.

10 Let's not be devoid of history. We're not  
11 talking about a land that doesn't exist. We're  
12 talking about the land of common sense.

13 This Committee should support this  
14 proposal today.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

16 Are there -- those who would wish to be  
17 recognized in opposition?

18 The Gentleman at the back microphone.

19 MR. FORSTEN: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

20 Richard Forsten, from Delaware.

21 And thank you for that shout-out about the  
22 Delaware Plan. I was one of its authors. Although

1 the year was actually 2000. But, that's okay.

2 I don't think this amendment is necessary,  
3 but certainly, as it's currently drafted, it creates  
4 a huge ambiguity and hole in the rules. And here's  
5 why. If you look at Rule (c) (2) on page 30, the  
6 page before where this one pays, it says, "Any  
7 presidential Primary, Caucus, Convention, or other  
8 process to elect, select, allocate, or bind  
9 Delegates to the National Convention that occurs  
10 prior to March 15 in the year of the National  
11 Convention is held shall be proportional." So, that  
12 says March 15 is the trigger, where you can switch  
13 over to winner-take-all.

14 This amendment, though, drops down into  
15 (c) (2) and imposes a March 31st date, and it creates  
16 a huge ambiguity. What happens if -- on March 20th?  
17 I mean, I've got one section of the rules now that  
18 says March 15. I've got another section of the  
19 rules that says March 31st. If we're happy with a  
20 March 15 date, then we don't need this amendment at  
21 all. If we want to make the proportional  
22 requirement all the way through to March 31st, the

1 only change we have to make is on line 10 of page  
2 30, and change March 15 to March 31st.

3           So, I don't think this amendment really --  
4 this is not the place to put it, assuming we want to  
5 make a change. I don't want to make a change, but  
6 assuming we do. This amendment won't work. And I  
7 think it needs to be fixed or more closely looked  
8 at.

9           I also think we should all look at the  
10 Delaware Plan again, that commission. I call the  
11 Delaware Plan to -- I still have many copies. I'll  
12 get them all to you.

13           [Laughter.]

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

15           Is there someone who wishes to speak in  
16 support?

17           VOICE: Madam Chair?

18           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Lady from  
19 Maine.

20           MS. KINNEY: Thank you. MaryAnne Kinney,  
21 from Maine.

22           Based on what was just said, that's why I



1 had come up, too, and I would propose an amendment  
2 to have this language be changed into 16(c)(2)  
3 instead, and changing the March 15th date to March  
4 31st to make it in a more consistent location.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. The Chair is  
6 going to observe that there is another amendment,  
7 16.5, that would do exactly that thing. It proposes  
8 to strike "March 15th" and insert "March 31st." And  
9 so, I'm going to suggest that we go ahead and act on  
10 this, and then we can act on that separately. Is  
11 that all right?

12 MS. KINNEY: Sure.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay.

14 MS. KINNEY: Sure. Yeah.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

16 All right. Is there anyone who would like  
17 to speak in support?

18 MR. ASH: Madam Chairman?

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, Mr. Ash.

20 MR. ASH: Bruce Ash, from Arizona.

21 I don't think I had my entire 2 minutes.

22 And if I could just readdress some of the points

1 made by my colleagues.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Certainly.

3 MR. ASH: And I address these to you,  
4 Madam Chairman.

5 The same logic that my colleagues used to  
6 vote against a prior amendment, they're using also  
7 now to not pass this one. We don't want a runaway  
8 candidate. The same Gentlemen who have talked about  
9 the frontloading problem are also the same people on  
10 our Committee, for a number of years, who have  
11 talked about making all States matter, making as  
12 many States matter as is possible. And this is  
13 what's -- this is what happens, Madam Chairman, when  
14 we have proportional that goes a little longer than  
15 to March 15th. March 31st is a pretty good date.  
16 And if that does mean that there are some regional  
17 Primaries, that's probably a good thing. It allows  
18 campaigns to spend their time in certain areas and  
19 not be spread out all over the country.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

22 Mr. Evans.

1                   MR. EVANS: I know this is my final  
2 chance, so let me just address my friend from  
3 Louisiana.

4                   The past isn't -- we have tools now  
5 available to solve the problems of the past in a  
6 very different way. I agree with him. Listen, I  
7 ran the Newt Gingrich campaign. Front-end loading  
8 is a problem. But, we have a tool available now to  
9 solve that problem in a very different way. And  
10 that is the debates. So, what we did was, we had a  
11 debate schedule that permitted one debate per week  
12 so that each candidate would get a massive infusion  
13 of earned media, so that no preordained candidate  
14 could front-end-load the system. Now, that's a tool  
15 that was not available when the Delaware Plan came  
16 along.

17                   But, I say that because it illustrates how  
18 intricate all of these various pieces are. There's  
19 the debate piece. There's infused earned media.  
20 There's the cooling-off period. There's pushing it  
21 back so that we have a shorter time period. There's  
22 the whole prospect of the way in which different

1 States calculate proportional delegations. All of  
2 those things are quite tricky. All of those things  
3 require a Rubik's Cube approach. That's way more  
4 than we could probably do here.

5           If we tried to do anything, the net effect  
6 would be a massive set of unintended consequences  
7 that we could never contemplate and, to my colleague  
8 from Alabama, that we could never fix, because we,  
9 in the South, always vote as a bloc on the RNC. And  
10 I could never cross the 25-percent threshold.

11           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
12 Evans.

13           I'm going to recognize one more individual  
14 and then I'm going to entertain a motion for  
15 previous question.

16           Mr. DeVito.

17           MR. DeVITO: I urge a vote -- a no vote.  
18 And I move previous question.

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: See how well that  
20 worked? Thank you.

21           All right. We're going to move directly  
22 to a vote on closing debate.

1 All those in favor of closing debate on  
2 this item, please say aye.

3 [A chorus of ayes.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

5 [No response.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

7 We will now move directly to a vote on the  
8 text of the amendment.

9 All those in favor of adopting Amendment  
10 16.4, please say aye.

11 [A chorus of ayes.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
13 nay.

14 [A chorus of nays.]

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

16 Next, we will go to Amendment 16.5. This  
17 is the amendment that I directed the Lady from Maine  
18 to. This is -- involves Rule number 16(c)(2), and  
19 it is submitted by Mr. Ash, who is recognized for  
20 the purpose of making a motion.

21 MR. ASH: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

22 This is to Rule 16(c)(2), page 30, lines

1 10. It would strike "March 15th" and insert "March  
2 31st." I'll make this as painless as possible for  
3 everybody. If you liked the last amendment, you'll  
4 love this one. If you didn't like that so much,  
5 you're probably not going to like this one.

6 [Laughter.]

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?

8 Oh. All right. There has been a second. I'm  
9 sorry, I think I just lost track there for a moment.  
10 I apologize.

11 All right. Without objection, the Chair  
12 will recognize only two speakers on each side of  
13 this, if there be some.

14 Is there anybody who would like to rise in  
15 opposition? Anyone who would like to rise in  
16 opposition?

17 Mr. Duprey.

18 MR. DUPREY: Steve Duprey, New Hampshire.

19 Brevity is the soul of wit. I rise in  
20 opposition, for the exact same reason that we just  
21 debated on the previous rule. And I would move the  
22 previous question.

1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
2 is in order. We will move to a vote on whether to  
3 close debate.

4           All those in favor of closing debate,  
5 please say aye.

6           [A chorus of ayes.]

7           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

8           [A chorus of nays.]

9           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.  
10 We'll now move directly to a vote on the amendment.

11          All those in favor of adopting Amendment  
12 16.05, please say aye.

13          [A chorus of ayes.]

14          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
15 nay.

16          [A chorus of nays.]

17          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

18          And I believe that completes Rule 16.

19          And do we have -- we have no amendments  
20 for Rule 17.

21          Do we have any amendments for Rule 18? We  
22 had some. Have they been withdrawn? Okay, they

1 have not been presented.

2 Rule number 19, we had none.

3 Rule number 20 had not been presented to  
4 Counsel's Office.

5 So, we will go now to Rule 21.1, dealing  
6 with contests and resolution by States.

7 Rule number 21.1, impacting Rule 21, has  
8 been proposed by the Gentlelady from Virginia, Ms.  
9 Gentry, who is recognized for the purpose of  
10 presenting a motion.

11 MS. GENTRY: Good evening.

12 Anne Gentry, from Virginia.

13 I propose the language that you see on the  
14 screens to add the words "after the District  
15 Convention in question or" after the word "meet."

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

17 Is there a second?

18 VOICE: Second.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
20 seconded.

21 Ms. Gentry, would you like to speak to  
22 your motion?



1 MS. GENTRY: Thank you.

2 This is to address the situation we had  
3 this year in Virginia, where our State Convention  
4 took place in the middle of our District  
5 Conventions. We had District Conventions both after  
6 and before our State Convention.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

8 Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
9 opposition? Is there anyone who would like to speak  
10 in opposition?

11 [No response.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there any  
13 further discussion to this amendment?

14 [No response.]

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Hearing none, we'll  
16 move directly to a vote.

17 All those in favor of adopting Amendment  
18 number 21.1, please say aye.

19 [A chorus of ayes.]

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
21 nay.

22 [A chorus of nays.]

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.  
2 VOICE: call for division.  
3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Division is called.  
4 All of those in favor of adopting  
5 Amendment 21.1, please stand.  
6 [Members standing.]  
7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I apologize for  
8 whispering. We're just discussing that we think we  
9 need to bring chocolate tomorrow.  
10 VOICE: Second.  
11 [Laughter.]  
12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
13 you. Would you please be seated.  
14 All those against, please stand.  
15 [Members standing.]  
16 VOICE: Madam Chair, parliamentary  
17 inquiry, please?  
18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.  
19 VOICE: For those of us were distracted  
20 initially, how might we register our vote, having  
21 missed the standing, earlier?  
22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Are you in favor or

1 against?

2 VOICE: I am in favor.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Without  
4 objection, I will add one more to the tally.

5 VOICE: And I was his distraction, talking  
6 to him from California. So, please add me, as well.

7 [Laughter.]

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Without objection.

9 Okay, we're starting a flood, here. If we keep  
10 this up, we're going to have to do this again. Let  
11 me see if it's going to make a material difference.

12 How many? Okay. It does not make a  
13 difference. I am informed that the Chair was in  
14 error. There are 48 for and 34 against. So, I  
15 appreciate the opportunity to get that right. That  
16 amendment passed.

17 I think some of you are so tired, you're  
18 hoarse, and I'm not hearing it.

19 All right. Lest you give up hope that you  
20 will get out of here in a reasonable amount of time,  
21 we have two more amendments that impact multiple  
22 rules, and then we need to go back to Mr. Ash's

1 amendments, and then we will have completed our work  
2 on the second session -- section, and I will suggest  
3 that we adjourn for the night at that point.

4 [Applause.]

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. The  
6 next amendment that we will take up is Amendment  
7 M2.1, which stands for "multiple rules, first  
8 amendment."

9 The Chair will recognize the sponsor, Mr.  
10 Ryder, of Tennessee, for the purpose --

11 MR. RYDER: Thank you, Madam --

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- of making a --  
13 and before you do that, Mr. Ryder, we're taking just  
14 a moment to pass these out, because they will not  
15 fit in one screen on the video monitors. So, just  
16 give us a moment, Mr. Ryder, so everyone can be  
17 caught up.

18 [Pause.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Does  
20 everyone now have a copy of Amendment M2.1? If you  
21 do not, please raise your hand.

22 All right. Mr. Ryder, you are recognized

1 for the purpose of making a motion.

2 MR. RYDER: Madam Chairman, John Ryder,  
3 Tennessee.

4 I move the adoption of the amendments  
5 shown as M2.1.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
7 Ryder.

8 Is there a second?

9 VOICE: Second.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
11 seconded.

12 Mr. Ryder, would you like to address the  
13 merits of your amendment?

14 MR. RYDER: Yes, I would, thank you very  
15 much.

16 And, ladies and gentlemen, thank you.  
17 These --

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Can I ask the staff  
19 to be just a little more quiet, please? Or whoever  
20 it is that's back there talking? It's a little  
21 distracting for the Chair. Thank you.

22 MR. RYDER: This is a series of amendments

1 that arose out of this year's experience with the  
2 certification and contest procedures. And there  
3 were a number of difficulties, and there are a  
4 number of provisions of the existing rules, which  
5 appear to be archaic and burdensome. And so, what  
6 we have tried to do is come up with a package of  
7 amendments that streamline, clarify, and modernize  
8 these procedures. And what I would like to do is  
9 just very briefly go through the points one by one.

10

11           The first item is in Rule 18(d), which  
12 requires the -- which prohibits delegations from  
13 filling vacancies any later than 12 hours prior to  
14 the General Session. I don't -- this gives us time  
15 to do things like print the temporary roll. And  
16 that 12 hours prior to the General Session, I  
17 believe, would fall at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday this  
18 year. So, I don't think anybody'll be filling their  
19 delegation at 4:00 a.m. on Sunday.

20           Rule 20(a), we strike the words "date of  
21 the meeting of the National Convention" and replace  
22 that with "the date on which the National Convention

1 is scheduled to begin." We have seen situations in  
2 prior Conventions, where we were scheduled to begin  
3 on a Monday, and, because of a weather event, had to  
4 meet at a later time. And so, we -- the trigger  
5 date needs to be when everybody was notified of the  
6 trigger date.

7           In Rule 20(b), we insert the words "by  
8 sending names and addresses in the following  
9 manner," and then, if you'll look through 20(b),  
10 that gives you the various ways in which you can  
11 certify your Delegates to the National Committee,  
12 depending on the method of election or selection of  
13 the Delegates.

14           In Rule 20(b)(1), we deleted the reference  
15 to the Secretary of the State -- Republican State  
16 Committee and replaced it with the words "another  
17 authorized officer of the Republican State  
18 Committee." There have been circumstances where,  
19 for one reason or another, the Secretary was not  
20 available to certify. And so, this creates a  
21 vehicle for the State Party to authorize someone  
22 else to backup the certification from the State

1 Chairman.

2           In Rule 20(b)(2), we add, after the words  
3 "all certificates," "and/or copies of certified  
4 election results," again providing another mechanism  
5 readily available to the State Party for  
6 certification of their Delegates.

7           20(b)(2), the same language that we used  
8 in 20(b)(1).

9           In 20(b)(3), again, the same language  
10 providing for another authorized officer.

11           In 20(c), again, the same language  
12 regarding the date on which the National Convention  
13 is scheduled to begin.

14           In 20(d), we strike the words "as of the  
15 date of the start of the Convention," and, again,  
16 put in the language about the date on which the  
17 Convention is scheduled to begin.

18           22(a), we strike the words "presenting  
19 certificates of election from" and replace it with  
20 the words "certified by." Again, a clarification.

21           In 23(a), we strike the words "registered  
22 mail." We had a real problem in one of the contests



1 we had, where the contestants had to be noted by --  
2 noticed by registered mail. It's expensive, it's  
3 cumbersome, it's time-consuming. And we think that  
4 can be accomplished with much more efficiency and  
5 still provide adequate notice for the procedures to  
6 -- it can be "certified mail or other means set  
7 forth in the procedural rules adopted by the  
8 Committee on Contests."

9           In 23(b), we strike the entire rule. And  
10 it really is a reversal of the wording there to say,  
11 instead of "only an alternate or" -- "Delegate or  
12 alternate Delegate may file," to start off with "A  
13 contest may be filed against the Delegate or  
14 alternate Delegate." I think the wording is clear.

15           In 23(c), just delete the "(s)."

16           And in Rule 24(b), the current procedure  
17 requires that the parties file their pleadings on  
18 the same day. And that is a very awkward procedure.

19           What this does is, the contestant files 27 days in  
20 advance, and then the respondent would have an -- 5  
21 days to file a response.

22           In 25(b), we replace the language "6" and

1 -- strike the language "6" and insert "the earlier  
2 of 24 hours after the RNC passes the temporary rule  
3 or 12 hours prior to the commencement of the  
4 Convention."

5           Madam Chairman, the intent of all of these  
6 amendments is simply to make clearer what the  
7 current rules are and, in some cases, to streamline.  
8 There is no other agenda, other than clarity and  
9 efficiency here. And I would urge adoption of the  
10 amendment.

11           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
12 Ryder.

13           Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
14 opposition to the amendment?

15           MR. LITTLE: Madam Chairman, I have a  
16 couple of questions of Mr. Ryder.

17           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Generally,  
18 questions are to be addressed to the Chair, but,  
19 without objection, I'm going to allow Mr. Ryder and  
20 Mr. Little to have a discussion that may benefit all  
21 of us.

22           MR. LITTLE: Mr. Ryder, are -- through

1 Madam Chairman -- you indicated that it would have  
2 been 2:00 a.m. as of Sunday, when -- your very first  
3 amendment here. But, of course, it refers to the  
4 Republican National Committee meeting, session of  
5 that.

6 MR. RYDER: I'm sorry. That was -- that's  
7 right. That would be before the -- 12 hours prior  
8 to the General Session of the --

9 MR. LITTLE: So, that would have been this  
10 week.

11 MR. RYDER: That's -- which is when the  
12 temporary roll was adopted.

13 MR. LITTLE: And that's because the RNC is  
14 required to adopt the temporary roll.

15 MR. RYDER: That's correct. Thank you for  
16 that clarification, Mr. Little.

17 I'm sorry, Madam Chairman. I should have  
18 directed that to you.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I thought it would  
20 be more helpful if you talked to each other for a  
21 moment.

22 All right. Are there any other

1 individuals who wish to be recognized for the  
2 purpose of opposing the motion?

3 [No response.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we  
5 will move directly to a vote.

6 All those in favor of adopting Mr. Ryder's  
7 motion, please say aye.

8 [A chorus of ayes.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
10 nay.

11 [No response.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The amendment  
13 passes.

14 We will move now to Amendment M2.2, which  
15 impacts Rule number 14 in a number of aspects. This  
16 has been raised by Mr. Ash, of Arizona, who's  
17 recognized for the purpose of making a motion.

18 MR. ASH: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

19 Bruce Ash, from the State of Arizona.

20 You will see before you various citations  
21 within Rule 14. The gist of where this is going is  
22 -- has earlier been discussed by Mr. Little and

1 others. We've rejected those amendments. Perhaps  
2 the purpose of still making this motion at the  
3 present time is to get this on the docket for when  
4 the temporary -- when this temporary committee  
5 begins meeting.

6           The concepts here to be aware of is the  
7 change from population-basis electoral votes to  
8 Republican performance, which is one Delegate per  
9 50,000 Republican votes cast. This doesn't take  
10 into account illegal aliens, and it bases a  
11 representation on GOP performance.

12           This should encourage GOP participation,  
13 rewarding productive States with more Delegates and  
14 prompting those States with -- that have been  
15 underperforming to do better. Approximately 30  
16 percent more Delegates are created by this, with 10  
17 percent more participants.

18           Now, under this particular plan, 39 States  
19 would gain Delegates, one stays the same, and only  
20 11 drop. The territories stay exactly the same for  
21 where they are now. And it also moves large numbers  
22 of alternates over to being Delegates, getting more

1 people participating in the process.

2           There probably is good reason at this  
3 time, given the past votes that have been taken this  
4 afternoon, Madam Chairman, to refer these ideas to a  
5 committee, but it would be wise for us to at least  
6 look at these currently, to respond to any questions  
7 or any debate that we might have.

8           Thank you very much.

9           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Ash.

10           The Chair's a little bit confused on what  
11 you'd like to suggest, so let me ask you this. Are  
12 you proposing that we go ahead with a vote on your  
13 amendment, or are you proposing to withdraw it, with  
14 the understanding of the body that this will be  
15 referred to a committee?

16           MR. ASH: Yeah. Thank you. I would like  
17 to have debate and a vote on it. And if the body  
18 decided not to adopt these amendments, then, of  
19 course, I would hope that some of these ideas, if  
20 not all of these ideas, might be the topic of  
21 conversation when this Committee begins meeting at a  
22 later date.

1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
2 you, Mr. Ash.

3           Then we will proceed with debate on the  
4 amendment. Are there individuals who wish to be  
5 heard in opposition?

6           Mrs. Homan.

7           MS. HOMAN: I -- would it be a point of  
8 inquiry? I'm trying to understand some of the  
9 language on what is stricken. And could I ask a  
10 question to clarify?

11          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Certainly.

12          MS. HOMAN: Am I correct in understanding  
13 that this would delete all Delegates from the  
14 District of Columbia and the territories? Because  
15 it talks about striking 10 through 12.

16          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Mr.  
17 Ash, is that the intent of your motion?

18          MR. ASH: No, it would not.

19          MS. HOMAN: So, it would leave all the  
20 Delegates from D.C. and the --

21          MR. ASH: And the --

22          MS. HOMAN: -- territories --

1 MR. ASH: -- territories, correct.

2 MS. HOMAN: Okay. Thank you.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
4 you, Mrs. Homan.

5 Is there someone who would like to speak  
6 in opposition?

7 Gentleman -- I've --

8 MR. FORSTEN: From Delaware.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- forgotten your  
10 State, I apologize.

11 MR. FORSTEN: Delaware. The Delaware  
12 Plan.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Of course. Of  
14 course. The Gentleman from Delaware.

15 MR. FORSTEN: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

16 I rise in opposition to this proposed  
17 rule. As I see it -- I haven't seen the breakdown,  
18 but my guess is, the 10 States that suffer are the  
19 smallest States. Just looking at it from Delaware's  
20 perspective, where we have the largest Congressional  
21 District that is only one Congressman, we would no  
22 longer -- we would -- right now, under the current



1 rules, we get three Delegates for each Congressional  
2 District. That's the rule. This rule says, if you  
3 don't have a Republican, you only get one. We only  
4 have 17 Delegates to begin with, so we lose Delegate  
5 s that way. This awards additional Delegates for  
6 every -- I think it's 500,000 -- 50- -- every 50,000  
7 Republican votes cast. Delaware's a pretty small  
8 State. We've only got about 500,000 registered  
9 voters. More than half of them, unfortunately, are  
10 on the other side of the aisle. And yet, a big  
11 State -- New York, California, Illinois -- they're  
12 just going to get a lot more Delegates. And that's  
13 not even in the rules. So, this is going to further  
14 exacerbate the differential in State impact and  
15 State sizes. And I think it should be opposed. I  
16 don't have any problem studying it, but I'm sure  
17 further study will come to that conclusion, as well.

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

20 Are there others who wish to be heard in  
21 support -- in support of the amendment?

22 [No response.]

1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Are there others  
2 who wish to be heard in opposition to the amendment?

3           Mr. Tettlebaum.

4           MR. TETTLEBAUM: Thank you, Ms. -- Madam  
5 Chairman.

6           The first amendment, page 24, lines 2  
7 through 4, I'm not sure what the intent of that  
8 actually is, because it seems to me that perhaps  
9 what the author wants to do is to strike the word  
10 "State" before "Republican Party" in line 3, rather  
11 than "State" after the word "each." Because it's  
12 not clear what the effect of that is.

13           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Ash, would you  
14 like to address that?

15           MR. ASH: Madam Chairman, I don't have a -  
16 - an excellent answer for my fellow Delegate. I  
17 wish I did. I don't have any answer for you. It's  
18 part of -- it was part of our drafting that we did.

19           MR. TETTLEBAUM: Okay.

20           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Right. Are there  
21 other --

22           Mr. Tettlebaum, did you have anything

1 else?

2 MR. TETTLEBAUM: No. I would -- I believe  
3 this is a confusing amendment, and I would urge that  
4 we vote against it.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
6 else who would like to speak in favor? Anyone else  
7 who would like to speak in favor?

8 [No response.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Are there -- is  
10 there anyone else who would like to speak --

11 I see the Lady --

12 MR. SCHANFARBER: Madam Chair?

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- from Wyoming is  
14 still coming.

15 MR. SCHANFARBER: Madam Chair, I have a --

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Who would like to  
17 speak in favor?

18 MR. SCHANFARBER: -- point of information.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

20 MR. SCHANFARBER: Yeah. Robert

21 Schanfarber, the Virgin Islands.

22 I, too, am confused by the effect of this

1 amendment, specifically for the Virgin Islands. Is  
2 the intention to change the amount of Delegates,  
3 going forward?

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Ash?

5 MR. ASH: Thank you for that question.

6 The territories are not impacted by this.  
7 They don't lose, they don't gain.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

9 The Lady from Wyoming is recognized to  
10 speak in support.

11 MS. HAGEMAN: Yes. Harriet Hageman, from  
12 Wyoming.

13 I speak in support of this amendment,  
14 again because it is based upon the concept of  
15 rewarding those States that are voting Republican,  
16 and that it is rewarding those States that have the  
17 Republican Governors and Senators and  
18 Representatives. It is a benefit to all -- to the  
19 vast majority of the States. And I think that there  
20 was a comment about whether it hurt the smaller  
21 States. Again, coming from the least populated  
22 State in the Nation, looking at the numbers, it

1 actually helps the State of Wyoming, and it will  
2 help other States, as well, in terms of increasing  
3 their Delegates. It is performance-based, based  
4 upon those States that vote Republican.

5           We're trying to award -- to reward the  
6 people who get out the vote and that have the  
7 Republican Governors, Senators, Representatives, and  
8 those things. It is a performance-based-type  
9 Delegate allocation.

10           Thank you.

11           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

12           The Gentleman from Nevada.

13           MR. ROSS: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

14           Jordan Ross, Nevada.

15           I will have to echo the earlier comment  
16 from the Gentleman who said that the amendment is  
17 confusing. The language, as I'm reading this here,  
18 striking the word "State," which is currently  
19 defined in our rules to include all of the  
20 territories, not just the District of Columbia, and  
21 to replace it with "the 50 States and the District  
22 of Columbia," I fail to see how this does not

1 exclude the territories.

2           And there was another question, just a  
3 moment ago; the author was honest enough to say he  
4 did not have an answer. I -- Easter eggs are  
5 entertaining when they're in video games or in  
6 children's Easter baskets, I don't like them in  
7 rules, Madam Chair. I don't know what else is  
8 lurking in this. We don't have enough time to go  
9 through it.

10           I urge a no vote.

11           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

12           The Gentlelady from California.

13           MS. DHILLON: Madam Chair, I call the  
14 question -- previous question.

15           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
16 has been called. We will now move to a vote on  
17 ending debate on Amendment M2.2.

18           All those in favor of ending debate,  
19 please say aye.

20           [A chorus of ayes.]

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
22 nay.

1 [A chorus of nays.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

3 We will immediately move to a vote on Amendment

4 M2.2.

5 All those in favor of adoption of this

6 amendment, please say aye.

7 [A chorus of ayes.]

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,

9 nay.

10 [A chorus of nays.]

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

12 Ladies and gentlemen, two more came in

13 while we were working, the last little while. Let's

14 see if we can't deal with these, as well.

15 Amendment number 24.1 deals with Rule

16 number 24(e). It has been submitted by the Lady

17 from Maryland, Ms. Ambrose, who is recognized for

18 the purpose of making a motion.

19 MS. AMBROSE: Hello. Good evening.

20 Nicolee Ambrose, Maryland.

21 This proposal is to simply add a sentence

22 at the end of 24(e), "A copy" -- in -- if I may, the

1 Rule pertains to -- we have an 8-day notice in front  
2 of this, which maybe someone else could assist in,  
3 give is the lead-in to it. But, the addition is "A  
4 copy of such objection shall be provided to all  
5 members of the Republican National Committee within  
6 3 days of receipt, and, in all cases, before" -- oh,  
7 and now I can't read it. Can we enlarge the screen,  
8 please? Sorry.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There we go.

10 MS. AMBROSE: -- "and, in all cases,  
11 before the start of any meeting of the Republican  
12 National Committee in which the contest is to be  
13 addressed under these rules."

14 This is simply an --

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Just a second. We  
16 can ask for a second. Is there a second?

17 VOICE: Second.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a second.

19 Now please proceed, Ms. Ambrose.

20 MS. AMBROSE: Thank you.

21 This is simply a notice issue. Once  
22 again, I'm of the opinion that if we criticize Nancy



1 Pelosi for saying, "Lets pass it so we can read it,"  
2 we need to be able to read things before we pass  
3 them or vote on them at the Republican National  
4 Committee.

5 So, I'm simply requesting that we have  
6 notice before we decide weighty issues before us.

7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

9 Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
10 opposition? Is there anyone who would like to speak  
11 in opposition?

12 Okay, one of you decide -- all right.

13 Mr. Ryder is recognized in opposition to  
14 Amendment 24.1.

15 MR. RYDER: If I understand this, the --  
16 well, it gets to be a timing issue, in terms of the  
17 objections that we receive and when they come to the  
18 National Committee. The normal procedure is that,  
19 after there is an objection to the initial finding  
20 of the Contest Committee, the Contest Committee then  
21 either grants a hearing or doesn't grant a hearing.  
22 And then -- the initial meeting of the Contest

1 Committee is in Washington, and then the hearing is  
2 held in the Convention city. And the Contest  
3 Committee then hears testimony from any Party  
4 seeking a hearing, deliberates, and then gives the  
5 National Committee its results, and the National  
6 Committee then reviews the findings of the  
7 Committee, rather than going behind the Committee  
8 and acting as a trial court in its own right.

9           So, it seems to me that this is not an  
10 appropriate procedure for us to follow. And I would  
11 urge a no vote on this amendment.

12           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
13 Ryder.

14           Is there anyone else who would like to  
15 speak in support of the amendment?

16           [No response.]

17           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
18 else who would like to speak in opposition?

19           [No response.]

20           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing no one else  
21 who wishes to be recognized, we will move  
22 immediately to a vote on the amendment.

1 All those in favor of adopting Amendment  
2 24.1, please say aye.

3 [A chorus of ayes.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Those opposed, nay.

5 [A chorus of nays.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

7 The next item that we have is Amendment  
8 number 16.6. This pertains to Rule 16(d)(1). It  
9 has been proposed by Ms. Blanchard-Reed, of the  
10 State of Washington, who is recognized for the  
11 purpose of making a motion.

12 MS. BLANCHARD-REED: Thank you, Madam  
13 Chair.

14 I'd like to make a motion to strike the  
15 word "selected" after the word "elected."

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?

17 VOICE: Second.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Moved and seconded.

19 Ms. Blanchard-Reed, if you'd like to  
20 proceed.

21 MS. BLANCHARD-REED: Thank you.

22 I propose to do this because systems and

1 words matter. The word "elect" indicates that  
2 someone is chosen by -- to do a job. "Voting" is  
3 open, fair, and transparent. "Selecting" is  
4 choosing somebody according to a system. And  
5 "selecting" does imply a bias. It prevents the  
6 potential of selling Delegates to the highest donor.  
7 And "voting" is broad. Anyone could win. And  
8 "selecting" is narrow and closed.

9 So, I urge you to vote in favor of  
10 replacing the word "selected" and adding "elected."

11 Thank you.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

13 Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
14 opposition to the motion?

15 The Gentleman from Nevada.

16 MR. ROSS: Madam Chair, I see nothing that  
17 --

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Name and State,  
19 please.

20 MR. ROSS: Yes, ma'am. I'm -- bad boy.

21 Jordan Ross, Nevada. That's why I have  
22 the name tag, in case I get lost, they know how to

1 return me to my wife.

2 I'm sorry, Madam Chair, but I see nothing  
3 in this that says, you know, going forward, you  
4 know, starting with, you know, the Convention, 4  
5 years from now. So, I'm looking at this, I'm  
6 thinking anybody who was -- the method by which they  
7 were chosen to be a Delegate to this Convention, if  
8 it doesn't meet the precise interpretation of what  
9 an election is, I mean, does that mean they had to  
10 be elected, you know, at the precinct level, at the  
11 county level, the State level, et cetera? Are we  
12 then going to disenfranchise and revoke the  
13 credentials of a number of people? I don't know,  
14 from various State to State, exactly how all the  
15 Delegates are chosen, and I'm not willing to put my  
16 vote in favor of this without knowing that. And I  
17 would advise that everyone else would do the same.

18 Again, surprises buried in rule amendments  
19 that are just too scary to go forward with. I urge  
20 a no vote.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

22 Is there anyone who rises in support? Is

1 there anyone who rises in support of this amendment?

2 Mr. Ash, do you rise in support? Mr. Ash?

3 MR. ASH: Oh, yes. I'm sorry, Madam  
4 Chairman.

5 I do arise in support. And to answer the  
6 Gentleman's question with respect to this  
7 Convention, this rule doesn't impact this  
8 Convention. And really what it does is solidify our  
9 commitment to activist voting in elections in State  
10 Conventions, and so on, and not selecting Delegates  
11 in small rooms, where just a few people have an  
12 opportunity to select Delegates at this time.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Ash.

15 Mr. Tettlebaum.

16 MR. TETTLEBAUM: I would rise to oppose  
17 this amendment, because what this amendment would do  
18 is negate the provisions of Rule 14(a)(2). And if  
19 you will turn your page to the top of page 32, you  
20 will see that, as part of 16(d)(1)(v) is 14(a)(2),  
21 which is the provision which provides for the  
22 National Committeeman, National Committeewoman, and

1 the Chair of the State Delegation being Delegates to  
2 the National Convention. And by removing the word  
3 "selected," since those persons aren't elected as  
4 Delegates, they are selected as Delegates because of  
5 their positions, and I believe that may be the  
6 purpose, intentionally or unintentionally, of this  
7 amendment. So, I move that it be opposed.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
9 Tettlebaum.

10 Mr. Munisteri.

11 MR. MUNISTERI: Yes, Madam Chairman. I'm  
12 rising in opposition to this.

13 This particular provision would actually  
14 invalidate the Republican Party of Texas rules -- we  
15 talked about unintended consequences -- because it  
16 applies to alternates and uses the word "selection."

17 We have a process that, if a Delegate can't make  
18 it, the alternate moves up, and then we have a  
19 selection process for the alternate.

20 So, I spoke earlier about not having the  
21 National Party tell States what to do. This is  
22 another example that, if you come in and you try to

1 change things in the way that local parties do  
2 things, you'll mess up our local rules.

3           It wasn't broken. I didn't get 1,000  
4 letters from grassroots activists saying, "Please  
5 change the word 'select' in your rules." So, let's  
6 not fix problems that don't exist and then create  
7 new problems.

8           Thank you.

9           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
10 Munisteri.

11           Mr. Ose.

12           MR. OSE: Madam Chair, Doug Ose, from  
13 California.

14           I would ask for some clarification. The  
15 amendment proposes to address subparagraph (1),  
16 where the word "selected" is included. But, if you  
17 go down in paragraph (1) to subparagraph (4), the  
18 word "selected" is repeated. So, is it the purpose  
19 of the amendment to delete the word "selected" up  
20 there by -- on line 12, and leave it on line 22?

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I would ask the  
22 maker of the amendment to address that. Was it the



1 intention of the maker of the amendment to replace  
2 it in only one place, or did you intend to have it  
3 replaced in both places?

4 MS. AMBROSE: Yes, to have it replaced in  
5 both places.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Then we  
7 would need to vote on an amendment.

8 MS. AMBROSE: Okay.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Let -- without  
10 objection, let's simply vote on an amendment that  
11 would reflect that this would be -- the word  
12 "selected" would be stricken, and the word "elected"  
13 inserted in both of those places.

14 All those in favor of making that  
15 amendment, say aye.

16 [A chorus of ayes.]

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Aye. Excuse me.

18 [Laughter.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I was listening to  
20 him.

21 All of those opposed, please say nay.

22 [A chorus of nays.]

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. The  
2 nays have it.

3                   So, at this point, the text stands, with  
4 the substitution in only one place.

5                   MR. OSE: Madam Chair, my further  
6 question. In California, slates of Delegates are  
7 submitted to the Secretary of State 30 days before  
8 the election. And the names of the candidates are  
9 in the ballot. So, like, Senator Cruz, Governor  
10 Kasich, Mr. Trump, what have you. Does that mean  
11 that Delegates who were selected by the respective  
12 campaigns to represent each Congressional District  
13 would not be eligible to serve?

14                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It seems to me that  
15 that's a legal question that I would have to refer  
16 to our counsel. I don't know if they have an  
17 opinion at this point. I'm sorry.

18                   Would you repeat the question, please, Mr.  
19 Ose.

20                   MR. OSE: In California, the -- each  
21 Congressional District, each campaign submits a  
22 slate of Delegates and alternates to serve in the

1 event that that candidate prevails in that  
2 Congressional District. The names of the Delegates  
3 are not on the ballot, nor are the names of the  
4 alternates. The only names on the ballot are those  
5 of the candidates. Now, does that mean that  
6 potential Delegates selected to serve on the slate  
7 would not be eligible to serve or to come to the RNC  
8 meeting or the Convention?

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Counsel informs me  
10 that his initial view would be that that is correct.  
11 However, he's not --

12 MR. OSE: So, if I understand Counsel's  
13 answer, California would be totally disenfranchised,  
14 regardless of who prevailed in whichever  
15 Congressional District.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: You would have to  
17 make changes to bring yourself into compliance, so  
18 that you would have to alter the means by which your  
19 Delegates are elected, if this passed.

20 MR. OSE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

22 Is there anybody else who wishes to be

1 recognized?

2 Mr. DeVito.

3 MR. DeVITO: Vincent DeVito,  
4 Massachusetts.

5 I'm asking this Committee to vote no on  
6 this amendment, but I'm going to steal the Gentleman  
7 from Nevada's idea, because of the Easter-egg  
8 effect.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. The  
10 Chair senses that we have exhausted debate on this  
11 matter. And so, we will move directly to a vote.

12 All those in favor of adopting Amendment  
13 16.6, please say aye.

14 [A chorus of ayes.]

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

16 [A chorus of nays.]

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

18 We have had one additional amendment come  
19 in. I know, every time I say that, I can tell --  
20 you all just kind of slump. But, in order for us to  
21 be able to complete our work on the second session -  
22 - section, it's necessary for us to take up this

1 amendment.

2           It is Amendment number 14.10. It is  
3 applicable to Rule number 14(a)(9). It has been  
4 submitted by Mr. Hunt, of Washington, and Mr. Short,  
5 of Colorado.

6           And I see Mr. Hunt approaching the  
7 microphone, and he will be recognized for the  
8 purpose of making a motion.

9           MR. HUNT: Thank you, Madam Chair.

10           I would like to make the motion to move  
11 this amendment.

12           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?

13           VOICE: Second.

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a second.

15           Please proceed, Mr. Hunt, to address your  
16 amendment.

17           MR. HUNT: Thank you, Madam  
18 Chair. And I thank you for addressing this. We had  
19 thought that this was turned in earlier, so I do  
20 apologize for it not being discussed previously.

21           This amendment is providing a bonus to the  
22 States that will perform a closed Primary, thereby

1 making the Republican Primary even stronger. And  
2 it's something that would be welcomed in Washington  
3 State, and it's -- I hope that it will be adopted by  
4 this body.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
6 Hunt.

7 Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
8 opposition to Mr. Hunt's amendment? Is there anyone  
9 who would like to speak in opposition?

10 Mr. DeVito.

11 MR. DeVITO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

12 Vincent DeVito, Massachusetts.

13 I'm asking this Committee to vote no on  
14 this amendment. And we have debated similar  
15 amendments already about this, so, rather than go  
16 into those points again, please revisit those issues  
17 with yourself. I'm asking you to vote no.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
19 else who likes to -- who would like to be recognized  
20 to speak in support of the amendment?

21 The Gentleman from Colorado.

22 MR. SHORT: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

1           Our goal of this amendment is obviously to  
2 benefit those States that have Republican-only  
3 nominating processes. We are the Republican Party,  
4 and we ought to select our nominee. We've done our  
5 best to respect States' rights. That's why we --  
6 there's no penalty if you don't have a closed  
7 Primary. And we recognize there are States that  
8 have Democratic Legislatures that we can't make any  
9 change on. So, we're doing our best here to respect  
10 States. We're not trying to dictate from the RNC or  
11 the Republican Convention Committee what States have  
12 to do. But, if you are closed Primary, we want to  
13 incentivize that. That will also help those States  
14 that maybe have Republican Legislatures and that can  
15 use this as a little bit of an incentive to get this  
16 passed. We've talked to -- we've definitely talked  
17 to other States who would like to pass this type of  
18 thing, and need this incentive. Colorado is  
19 certainly one of them, as we deal with a statewide  
20 ballot initiative right, trying to open Primaries.  
21 So, this would be very beneficial to Colorado. I  
22 know, Virginia and Washington and some other States.

1 So, I'd urge you to support this amendment.

2 Thank you, Madam Chairman.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

4 Are those -- who would like to be  
5 recognized in opposition?

6 Mr. Barbour?

7 MR. BARBOUR: Thank you, Madam Chairman

8 Henry Barbour, from Mississippi.

9 I do oppose this amendment. And, while it  
10 might not, quote, "punish" States if you give other  
11 States a bonus Delegate, obviously, States that have  
12 open Primaries will be punished. So, I would  
13 disagree with that comment.

14 And certainly, in Mississippi and, I  
15 think, a lot of other States, certainly in the  
16 South, open Primaries have been a good way for the  
17 Party to grow over the last few decades.

18 So, I think that I am in strong opposition  
19 to this, and I appreciate your time.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.

21 Barbour.

22 Is there someone else who would like to be



1 recognized in support? Anyone else who'd like to be  
2 recognized in support?

3 Mr. Blackwell.

4 MR. BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

5 If you've read through the rules -- and  
6 I'm confident that virtually every one of us in this  
7 room has read through the rules as part of our  
8 preparation -- you know that the general philosophy  
9 in the rules is to encourage participation by  
10 Republicans and not let non-Republicans come in and  
11 choose our candidates. This is common.

12 This proposed change has the great merit  
13 of not penalizing anybody, but giving a powerful  
14 incentive for closing Primaries. In Virginia, we  
15 have had a problem for decades, because our State  
16 law does not provide for Party registration. And on  
17 Primary day, any registered voter can come in and  
18 vote in either the Democrat or Republican Primary,  
19 as he or she chooses. Always, there are -- and this  
20 is customary in Virginia -- there are many people  
21 who, in the Democrat Party, particularly if they  
22 don't have a contested Democrat nomination, they

1 come in and vote in large numbers in our Primary,  
2 and they do it, not because they prefer one of these  
3 Republican candidates, they try to pick somebody who  
4 Democrats can most easily beat.

5           The Republican Party of Virginia has  
6 repeatedly asked the Legislature to set up a Party  
7 registration process. And we get the majority of  
8 the Republicans, who are conservative, but there are  
9 some Republicans, whom I might describe as content-  
10 free Republicans, and not all Republicans are  
11 conservative, as someone else said on this  
12 microphone earlier today, and they vote with the  
13 Democrats to avoid having Party nomination, because  
14 those content-free Republicans want to be able to  
15 invite liberal Democrats to come into our Primaries  
16 to help those incumbents get renominated.

17           If this were passed, it would be a big  
18 argument in favor of setting up registration, which  
19 the Republican Party of Virginia has insisted that  
20 our legislators cooperate on, but a handful of our  
21 legislators still keep voting with the Democrats.

22           So, it would be great help to the

1 Republican Party of Virginia.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

3 Mrs. Herron, did you wish to be  
4 recognized?

5 MS. HERRON: To speak in opposition.

6 I totally agree with what Mr. Blackwell  
7 said, so just punch rewind and listen to that again,  
8 and then I'll pick it up.

9 The thing is, we have open Primaries in  
10 the State of Georgia, because we don't have  
11 registration by Party. So, I could go in and say,  
12 "I want the blue ballot" or "the white ballot," and  
13 I vote, and I go home. It would be to our great,  
14 great advantage if we could only have Republicans  
15 choosing our candidates. But, the State Party,  
16 Georgia Republican Party, has absolutely no control  
17 over this. It is controlled by our Legislature and  
18 our Secretary of State. We control the House, we  
19 control the Senate, we have a Republican. However,  
20 we also are under the Voting Rights Act. And if you  
21 change one period -- one period in your voting, you  
22 have to go to the JOD and get it approved, and it

1 costs two- or three-hundred-thousand dollars for our  
2 State to do that. We change one period, it's going  
3 to cost us money.

4 So, even though we're Republican-  
5 controlled, we can't control it. The Party would  
6 love to do it, but right now we have no control.

7 So, if you do that, Georgia would wind up  
8 being penalized, because we cannot control that at  
9 this point.

10 Thank you.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mrs.  
12 Herron.

13 Is there anyone else who would like to be  
14 recognized in support --

15 VOICE: Yes, Madam Chair.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- of the  
17 amendment?

18 Yes, ma'am.

19 MS. BLANCHARD-REED: Gina Blanchard-Reed,  
20 from Washington State.

21 I'd like to rise in favor of this  
22 amendment. This puts the onus on the State to

1   devise a plan to close Primaries, and they can do it  
2   any way they'd like.  And I'm in favor, because it  
3   is the carrot approach, versus penalizing.

4               Now, some States, like Washington, have  
5   State laws that prohibit registering by Party.  And  
6   in this current cycle, our Convention results were  
7   vastly different than our Primary votes -- than our  
8   Primary outcome.  And there has been some  
9   speculation to the reasoning.  And this discouraged  
10  many Republicans.

11              So, this change would give States a  
12  significant incentive to restrict participation to  
13  deemed Republicans.  And again, giving the States  
14  the rights to decide how they can do that.

15              Thank you.

16              CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Thank you.

17              Are there others who wish to be recognized  
18  in opposition?

19              The Gentleman at the front microphone.

20              MR. WILLHOIT:  Janssen Willhoit, from  
21  Vermont.

22              I'm rising with those States, like

1 Vermont, again, that also do have -- not  
2 registration by Party, and also, under current  
3 Vermont election law, we cannot have closed  
4 Primaries. And so, again, it would be -- I would  
5 find it unfair for States like my State, that we  
6 have no other option. And so, I would -- I do rise  
7 now in support of small little States, like Vermont  
8 and other States, to not support this.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

11 Are there others who wish to rise in  
12 support?

13 VOICE: Yes.

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. The  
15 Lady from Wyoming.

16 MS. HAGEMAN: Harriet Hageman, from  
17 Wyoming, yet again.

18 I rise in support of this amendment. I  
19 believe that it is critically important that  
20 Republicans ought to be picking our Republican  
21 candidates, whether they are for Governor, Senate,  
22 House, the Federal elections or the State elections,

1 even the local elections. We are a State that is  
2 primarily Republican. We are known as being a  
3 Republican State. But, I can assure you, with our  
4 small population, by not having a closed Primary, we  
5 have Democrats that often pick the candidates. They  
6 either pick the weakest candidate or they pick the  
7 most moderate or more liberal candidate in many,  
8 many, many of our races. And, in Wyoming, it would  
9 be very, very helpful to have closed Primaries. We  
10 believe strongly in this.

11           Again, we believe that it ought to be the  
12 Republicans picking our nominees, not Democrats.  
13 And I support this amendment and encourage all of  
14 you to support it, as well.

15           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

16           The Chair recognizes Mrs. DeMonte.

17           MS. DeMONTE: Demetra DeMonte, great State  
18 of Illinois.

19           Yes, I'm from the great State of Illinois.  
20 I was born in Chicago, raised in a Democrat family,  
21 and I'm proud to tell you that my first vote was  
22 cast in 1980 for Ronald Reagan as a Reagan Democrat.

1 So, I tell you, we cannot have closed Primaries. I  
2 believe that. This is the way of growing our Party.

3 So, I ask you to join me in voting against this so  
4 we can grow our Party.

5 I ask this question to be called.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
8 has been called. We will now move to a vote on  
9 closing debate.

10 All those in favor of closing debate,  
11 please say aye.

12 [A chorus of ayes.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
14 nay.

15 [A chorus of nays.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

17 VOICE: Division.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

19 VOICE: I was standing to speak, and she  
20 called the question --

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, sir --

22 VOICE: Division.



1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Fine, we'll do  
2 division. But, I'll just say, once again, that any  
3 member who has been recognized and has the  
4 microphone has the right to call for the previous  
5 question, regardless of whether other individuals  
6 have not yet spoken.

7                   So, we will go a division.

8                   All of those in favor of this amendment --  
9 excuse me -- previous -- in favor of calling the  
10 question -- all those in favor of ending debate,  
11 please rise.

12                   [Members standing.]

13                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. Please  
14 be seated.

15                   Those against, please stand.

16                   [Members standing.]

17                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. Please  
18 be seated.

19                   The tellers inform me that the vote is as  
20 follows: those in favor, 70; those against, 13.  
21 Clearly, we have more than two-thirds. Previous  
22 question is adopted.

1                   Sir, for what purpose do you seek to be  
2 recognized?

3                   VOICE: I rise on a point of personal  
4 privilege.

5                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

6                   MR. CABELLO: Thank you.

7                   John Cabello, from Illinois.

8                   I know we have lots of business going on  
9 today, but I think, in light of the attacks that  
10 took place in France, maybe we could do a moment of  
11 silence.

12                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Sir, what I was  
13 going to suggest, I have been waiting simply until  
14 we finish this final amendment. And if you will  
15 allow me simply to take this final vote, then I was  
16 going to do exactly that. Thank you.

17                  MS. BOWEN: Point of information, Madam  
18 Chairman.

19                  Gwen Bowen, Louisiana.

20                  Did you say 13? Because I just happened  
21 to be counting them while they were counting them,  
22 and it was --

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thirty.

2 MS. BOWEN: Oh, I'm -- okay, 30. I  
3 misunderstood.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I mis- -- it may  
5 have sounded like 13. I apologize.

6 MS. BOWEN: Okay, thank you.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thirty.

8 Okay, my -- just a minute. The tellers  
9 seem to be having a disagreement. They're triple-  
10 checking.

11 [Pause.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. All  
13 right. Ladies and gentlemen, I apologize and stand  
14 corrected. Previous question did fail.

15 Before we continue that, however, the  
16 Gentleman has raised a very important point. You  
17 may have seen me scowling for the last 15 minutes or  
18 so, and it's not because we are behind in our work  
19 or because of anything that's going on in this room.

20 It is because our brothers and sisters in France  
21 have just been victim to yet another act of  
22 terrorism.

1                   In the past several weeks, we have all  
2 increasingly been witness to too many acts of  
3 senseless violence and loss of life. And, at this  
4 point, I would ask that God would continue to guide  
5 us in our deliberations, but also to bless our  
6 brothers and sisters in France, who have just  
7 suffered another terrible loss. And so, I would  
8 invite you to join me in bowing our heads for a  
9 moment of silence.

10                   [A moment of silence was observed.]

11                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

12                   We will continue debate on Amendment  
13 14.10.

14                   Mr. Paikai.

15                   MR. PAIKAI: Madam Chair, I -- on personal  
16 privilege, please, ma'am. I just want to thank you  
17 for a wonderful job that you've been doing. I have  
18 been honored by it.

19                   [Applause.]

20                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.

21 Paikai. Thank you.

22                   And I want to thank all of you for your

1 help and your cooperation and your good humor during  
2 this marathon session today. Hopefully, this will  
3 make it so that we don't have quite so much work to  
4 do tomorrow.

5           We are back to debate on Amendment number  
6 14.10. And I can't remember whether we left off  
7 those in favor or those opposed. So, I'm going to  
8 start here with Mr. Little and then move back to the  
9 back microphone.

10           Mr. Little.

11           MR. LITTLE: Madam Chairman, I fear we are  
12 losing our distinctive -- as Republicans. We have  
13 had open Primaries in Louisiana for practically all  
14 of my voting life. In our recent Legislature, in  
15 our Senate side, we have 25 out of 39 Republicans in  
16 our State Senate. Thirteen of those 25, a majority,  
17 voted for every single tax that our Governor  
18 proposed this year in our first Special Session, a  
19 billion-two in taxes. We have Republicans that are  
20 acting like Democrats. I believe it is time for us  
21 to at least provide an incentive for States in the  
22 presidential Primaries and Caucuses and Conventions

1 to conduct them by Republicans. It's an incentive,  
2 not a penalty.

3 Mrs. Chairman, I urge a yes vote on this.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
5 Little.

6 We've now heard Mr. Little speak in  
7 opposition. Is there some -- pardon me -- in  
8 support. Mr. Little has spoken in support of the  
9 amendment. Is there someone who wishes to be  
10 recognized in opposition to the amendment?

11 Mrs. Hellreich.

12 MS. HELLREICH: Yes. Madam Chairman,  
13 coming from one of the bluest States in our country,  
14 Hawaii, and having worked to elect the first  
15 Republican Governor in our State since statehood,  
16 had we had a closed Primary, we would have never  
17 been able to have accomplished that. So, I have  
18 real empathy for the States who are controlled by  
19 the Democrat Legislatures in their election laws and  
20 various other things. And, in our State, we have  
21 our businesses and many others who are intimidated.  
22 If they had to go and request and in any way show

1 that they were going to vote a Republican ballot,  
2 they would be afraid to do it.

3           So, as we tried to build our Party in our  
4 State, and when I see that we were able to have  
5 Republican leadership in our governorship and  
6 Lieutenant Governor's Office for 8 years as a result  
7 of bringing Democrats in, who are now beginning to  
8 vote Republican, but they're not willing to be able  
9 to go out -- many of them work for the government,  
10 and they're afraid to go out and even say it. But,  
11 they are coming around to voting for our people.

12           But, it's a long process. There's no  
13 question about it. But, you need to be sympathetic  
14 with those States who don't have control.

15           So, I would urge our colleagues here to  
16 vote no on this.

17           Thank you.

18           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

19           Mrs. Hellreich has spoken in opposition.  
20 Is there anyone else who wishes to be recognized in  
21 support of the amendment? Support of the amendment?

22

1           The Lady from Colorado.

2           MS. UNRUH: Kendal Unruh, from Colorado.

3           And I want to really stress the importance  
4 of this. And I'm in favor of this. Obviously, open  
5 Primaries are a huge problem, with the fact that  
6 they get integrated with people that do not share  
7 Republican values and do not reflect the platform.  
8 And we have a horrible situation in Colorado, where  
9 we actually even have been subjected to same-day  
10 voter laws, to where people can actually go into an  
11 area and vote just with the idea, and they -- all  
12 they have to do is state that they are intending on  
13 moving there, and they are not given a provisional  
14 ballot, they're actually given an actual ballot.  
15 And it actually is just a problem that we've had to  
16 deal with as Republicans, because we don't tend to  
17 be the Party that takes advantage of a system like  
18 that.

19           But, anyway, I just think that a lot of  
20 the problems that we have within different election  
21 cycles, where, for instance, we lose down-ballot  
22 races because of open Primaries, I think that this



1 will get to the core root of that problem, to where  
2 we can just remain strong and unified as a  
3 Republican Party by closing down some of these open  
4 Primaries.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

7 Is there anyone who wishes to be  
8 recognized in opposition?

9 VOICE: Madam Chair?

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: In opposition?

11 The Gentleman from Delaware.

12 MR. FORSTEN: Thank you, Madam Chairman

13 Two points. And I'll be very brief.

14 But, if we are going to give a bonus --  
15 and we give other bonuses for a Republican Governor,

16 for control of the House or control of a State

17 Senate -- we give one Delegate, maybe two Delegates.

18 Here, we're given 20 percent for having a closed

19 Primary. This will have the effect of making

20 smaller States which have a closed Primary, like

21 Delaware, that much less relevant compared to their

22 bigger States, if it only takes a simple majority to

1 get the nomination. So, a State with 50 Delegates  
2 in a closed Primary gets 10 more Delegates.  
3 Delaware, we've got 15, that gets us three. So,  
4 it's now 60 to 18. And even bigger States get more.  
5 Twenty -- we should not be awarding 20 percent. If  
6 we're going to do this, I would say, at most, it  
7 should just be one or two Delegates, the way it is  
8 with everything else.

9           On the issue of open Primaries versus  
10 closed Primaries, I'll just observe very quickly,  
11 all politics are local. In Delaware, if we had open  
12 Primaries, Mike Castle would be a Senator today  
13 instead of Chris Coons, and we'd have one more  
14 Republican in the Senate Caucus.

15           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

16           Is there someone who would like to be  
17 recognized in support?

18           Ms. Ambrose.

19           MS. AMBROSE: Nicolee Ambrose, Maryland.

20           Coming from the Old Line State of  
21 Maryland, a small blue State that has elected two  
22 Republican Governors in the past 14 years, I am

1 tremendously in favor of this. It's a great benefit  
2 to us, even though we're technically in the  
3 Northeast Region.

4 I'd also like to add that I think this  
5 handles a -- many States' concerns the way it's  
6 worded, where it allows for either you to be  
7 identified as registered as a Republican by your  
8 Party rules or by your State's rules. So, I think  
9 that allows some additional flexibility that takes  
10 care of some people's concerns.

11 Thus, I urge you to vote for this  
12 amendment.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Ms.  
15 Ambrose.

16 Are there additional people who wish to be  
17 recognized?

18 The Gentleman from Maine.

19 MR. WILLETTE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

20 Alex Willette, from Maine.

21 I stand opposed to this, for two reasons.

22 One, Maine, we do have a closed Caucus system, but

1 the State statutes require us to keep the  
2 registration open for fewer than 30 days. So, that  
3 would impact us. We wouldn't be able to benefit  
4 from this. And, as far as changing the law, you  
5 know, we've had some luck in past years having a few  
6 Republican Legislatures, but it's not necessarily  
7 guaranteed in Maine. And getting the Democrats in  
8 the Maine House to change this statute, I think,  
9 would be nearly impossible.

10           Secondly, we've -- when I first got  
11 elected in 2010 to the Maine House, we were the --  
12 it was the first time in 40 years that we were  
13 elected a Republican House, a Republican Senate, and  
14 a Republican Governor. And that was really  
15 exciting. We brought a lot of new people to the  
16 table. Fast forward to this year, we had four times  
17 as many people participate in our Caucus than we did  
18 in 2012. Mainers are excited. Maine is turning  
19 into a purple State. And if we start to pass  
20 provisions like this, I think that will hurt us and  
21 other blue States from turning purple.

22           So, I stand in opposition to this.

1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

2           Is there anyone else who would like to be  
3 recognized in support?

4           Mr. Blackwell.

5           MR. BLACKWELL: Madam Chairman, I have a  
6 point of information.

7           You did not announce the corrected totals  
8 on the vote on the previous question. A lot of us  
9 were interested in that. Could you do that for --

10          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. I want  
11 to make certain I get it from those who tabulated  
12 it. They kept whispering different things back and  
13 forth. Can we have the final tabulation? Seventy  
14 ayes, 39 nays.

15          MR. BLACKWELL: Thank you. I would like  
16 to tell you in advance that I am going to request a  
17 division on the vote on this amendment.

18          Thank you.

19          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Certainly, Mr.  
20 Blackwell.

21          Is there anyone else who would like to be  
22 recognized in opposition?

1                   VOICE: Madam Chair?

2                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Gentleman from  
3 South Carolina.

4                   MR. MOORE: Delegate Matt More, from South  
5 Carolina.

6                   First and foremost, I am for registration  
7 of my Party in closed Primaries, particularly in  
8 South Carolina, where this issue is in our platform.  
9 But, Delegate Little, from Louisiana, has said that  
10 he's been under the open Primary system his whole  
11 life. And we should reflect about why that is the  
12 case, particularly in the South. And you all should  
13 Google this. Many court cases from the 1930s and  
14 '40s of the Democratic Party using closed, say,  
15 Conventions to discriminate against African American  
16 brothers and sisters of ours. So, this is why it's  
17 the case in the South. And it's important to  
18 remember our history on this issue. And this is a  
19 very sensitive issue, as Delegate Barbour alluded to  
20 earlier, in the South, of closed Primaries and  
21 registration by Party. And then, in -- particularly  
22 in South Carolina's Senate, it just takes one vote

1 to block legislation such as this. And that has  
2 been the case in South Carolina now for now going on  
3 a couple of a decades. And, as you all know, South  
4 Carolina does not take kindly to doing things at the  
5 point of a Federal spear.

6 Therefore, I urge opposition to this  
7 amendment, based on that.

8 So, thank you very much.

9 MR. LITTLE: A point of order, Madam  
10 Chairman.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, Mr. Little.

12 MR. LITTLE: If the vote was 78 to 39, it  
13 would appear to me that the question had been  
14 called. Could --

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, it was 70 to  
16 39. And the previous question --

17 MR. LITTLE: Oh, I thought you said 78.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- requires two-  
19 thirds.

20 MR. LITTLE: Begging your pardon.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: My -- I'm probably  
22 slurring, at this point at night. It's only Diet

1 Coke, I promise. But --

2 All right. Are there others who wish to  
3 be heard in -- where did we just leave off? He was  
4 against. Others who wish to be recognized in  
5 support?

6 Mr. Ash.

7 MR. ASH: Thank you, Madam Chairman. And  
8 I also want to thank you for the way you've  
9 conducted the meeting so far today. And I won't  
10 speak for very long, because I know we all want to  
11 leave and go back to our hotels.

12 I live in a pretty red State. I host a  
13 radio show most every Saturday afternoon. Probably  
14 the most constant question I get is the complaining  
15 about our elected officials, who are Republicans, by  
16 Independents. Now, if we had more Senators like  
17 Mike Lee and House members like Steve Pearce, and if  
18 I lived in those States, perhaps I wouldn't have as  
19 many questions as I do sometimes in the State of  
20 Arizona.

21 I often say to my Republican colleagues in  
22 this very red State of Arizona, Where is the



1 Independent Party headquarters located? Where do we  
2 go to complain to the Independent Party Chairman or  
3 National Committee people? In those States that are  
4 blue, in those States that aspire to be purple, in  
5 purple States that aspire to be red States, we need  
6 to elect more Republican elected officials. And,  
7 while we may have more elected Republican officials  
8 in this country today, in large part due to the work  
9 done here at the RNC, than any time since the 1920s,  
10 the best way for us to get more Republican officials  
11 elected is to have closed Primaries, to hold our  
12 Republican officials accountable for the work that  
13 they do to get conservative elected Republicans.  
14 And the way we do it is, we close our Primaries.

15 Thank you very much.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

17 The Gentleman from Vermont has been  
18 waiting most patiently. Are you rising to speak in  
19 support or in opposition?

20 MR. WILLHOIT: Opposition, ma'am.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Then please  
22 proceed.

1           MR. WILLHOIT: Thank you.

2           Again, Janssen Willhoit, from Vermont.

3           I think we've already spoken in detail  
4 about States like myself that, by our own very laws,  
5 must stay open, but I also want to take this  
6 opportunity for those of my friends amongst the  
7 grassroots to not be scared or fearful of these open  
8 Primaries. Because as I think many of my colleagues  
9 in those blue and aspiring-purple States can attest  
10 to, we have the message. And I am a part of a group  
11 of eight that are -- that got elected as freshmen in  
12 our State, last year in the House, that, for the  
13 first time in over a decade, the Democrats lost  
14 their supermajority. Yes, they still have a  
15 majority, but, as we talked about early -- earlier,  
16 Madam Chair, once we have that Governor, we're going  
17 to be able to sustain that veto and make change.

18           But, again, I got there by, yes, a lot of  
19 very progressives still voting for me, because I  
20 went to every door and I gave them the message. We  
21 have the message, and we cannot fear that message.

22           And so, again, I say allow us -- besides

1 the fact that we have to, by law, stay open, but,  
2 beside that, don't fear us, because we have good  
3 conservatives in our States, and our message will  
4 prevail.

5 Thank you, Madam.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you very  
7 much, sir.

8 Is there anyone else who's -- rises to  
9 speak in support?

10 Mr. Lee.

11 SENATOR LEE: What makes us a Party is  
12 that we have differences from the other people who  
13 are not part of our Party. We will cease to be a  
14 Party if we allow others to vote in our elections  
15 and determine our candidates who don't share our  
16 values.

17 In any political election, anytime there  
18 is a political consultant involved, you'll always  
19 hear from that political consultant about the need  
20 to draw contrast, to identify a difference between  
21 the candidate that you're supporting, a candidate  
22 that the consultant is advising, and the other

1 candidate. When we don't have closed Primaries,  
2 when we don't have some system, whether it's a  
3 closed Primary or a Convention or something, that  
4 draws a distinction between us and the other people,  
5 those who are Republicans and those who are not, we  
6 lose.

7           One of my favorite movies, "What About  
8 Bob?," contained this great line, where he said  
9 there are people -- two kinds of people in the  
10 world, people who like Neil Diamond and those who  
11 don't.

12           [Laughter.]

13           SENATOR LEE: There are two kinds of  
14 people who participate in American politics,  
15 Republicans and those who are not. If we want to be  
16 conservatives, and if we want to have a Party that  
17 is conservative, that Party has to be the Republican  
18 Party. There is no other. But, if we allow others  
19 to vote in our contests, if we allow others to  
20 decide for us who is going to run under our banner,  
21 with our logo, with that elephant, we are destining  
22 our own Party and our own cause for extinction.

1           So, please, please, if you believe in  
2 this, if you believe that we've got to draw  
3 contrast, we've got to show how we're different from  
4 the other people, please support this amendment.

5           [Applause.]

6           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I must remind the  
7 guests that any indication of support or opposition  
8 is not proper from the gallery.

9           Thank you.

10          All right. At this point, do we have  
11 others who wish to rise in opposition?

12          The Gentlelady from California.

13          MS. DHILLON: Thank you, Madam Chairwoman.

14          I want to start my comments by pointing  
15 out that California has a closed Primary for  
16 presidential selection for Republicans, and not for  
17 the Democrats. So, you can -- you all are  
18 sophisticated enough to know what effect that has on  
19 our participation. So, this rule would actually  
20 benefit California. We would get, in fact, given  
21 our 169 current elected Delegates, we'd add 34  
22 additional Delegates.

1           I'm still opposed to this motion, for the  
2 reason of the premise. And I heard Senator Lee make  
3 some very impassioned comments. I agree with him.  
4 I like having a closed Primary, I like having the  
5 ability to differentiate myself, as a Party officer,  
6 from the Democrats. But, the premise that a rule  
7 like this, even if you made it 100-percent bonus in  
8 the number of Delegates, is going to have any, sort  
9 of, incentive impact on a Democratic or a purple  
10 mixed Legislature to change the law to help the  
11 Republicans out is a fallacy. It's a logical  
12 fallacy. It's not going to happen. To the  
13 contrary, you're putting a -- you're putting a  
14 bulls-eye on our backs. I mean, the Democrats love  
15 the fact that California is technically outside the  
16 Primary cutoff dates of the RNC. We're only here as  
17 Delegates by virtue of a waiver that we got, because  
18 the Democrats have no interest in California  
19 Republicans being able to vote and affect the impact  
20 of these races.

21           So, it is a perverse incentive that you  
22 are delivering by supporting this amendment in

1 anything other than a red State.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

4 Are there others who wish to be heard in  
5 support?

6 The Lady from Washington.

7 MS. BLANCHARD-REED: Yes, Madam Chair.

8 This is Gina Blanchard-Reed, from  
9 Washington State.

10 And I'd like to address two points. One  
11 is from the Gentlelady from California. This rule  
12 does not require that the State Legislature passes  
13 any laws. This is putting the onus on the State  
14 Party to determine who is deemed Republican. They  
15 can come up with a lot of creative ideas on how to  
16 do that 30 days before the Primary. Could be  
17 sending in a survey or donating \$5. It could be  
18 anything they want. It just -- it needs to be done  
19 30 days before, and has nothing to do with the  
20 Legislature or the State laws.

21 And I also just want to bring up the point  
22 that we should stand for the freedom of association,

1 that we have the right to stand together as  
2 Republicans, and we should uphold that.

3 I urge you to vote in favor of this.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Are there others  
6 who wish to be heard who do not support the  
7 amendment?

8 The Gentleman from New Hampshire.

9 MR. DUPREY: Madam Chairman, in addition  
10 to not supporting this amendment at this time, I'd  
11 like -- we've had 20 minutes more of debate. We  
12 have some very well-articulated arguments by Senator  
13 Lee and others. I think all of us understand the  
14 issue. And I'd like to move the previous question.

15 VOICE: [Inaudible.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Point of order?  
17 I'm sorry?

18 VOICE: [Inaudible.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, there is no  
20 debate on that motion. Excuse me?

21 VOICE: [Inaudible.]

22 MR. DUPREY: No, I spoke against the --



1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No.

2 MR. DUPREY: -- the amendment, and then --

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: And then called  
4 previous question.

5 VOICE: [Inaudible.]

6 MR. DUPREY: Yeah.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

8 All right. Previous question has once  
9 against been called.

10 All of those in favor of ending debate on  
11 this issue, please stand.

12 [Members standing.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yeah, if you'd  
14 please just remain in place. Some of you, as soon  
15 as you think you've been counted, you move. And  
16 then, when you do that, the counters who are  
17 verifying the count from another position get very  
18 confused.

19 All right. Please be seated.

20 All those opposed to previous question,  
21 although I can't imagine why you would be, at this  
22 point, please stand.

1 [Members standing.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I don't know what  
3 we have left to debate about it.

4 All right. Please be seated.

5 Can we have the tally, please? It was 98  
6 to 2, previous question passes. Excuse me. Three.  
7 Three. Ninety-eight to three.

8 All right, we will move directly to a vote  
9 on the amendment itself.

10 All of those in favor of adopting  
11 Amendment 14.10, please stand. All those in favor,  
12 please stand.

13 [Members standing.]

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
15 please stand.

16 [Members standing.]

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. The  
18 Chair is no longer in doubt. Please be seated. The  
19 motion fails.

20 We had one more amendment come in. Let me  
21 just -- let me suggest this.

22 VOICE: Vote count?

1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I didn't have them  
2 complete it, because the Chair was no longer in  
3 doubt.

4           VOICE: What's the purpose of a division?

5           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: To -- so that the  
6 Chair can make certain that the Chair rules  
7 correctly. The division is simply a rising vote.  
8 It is not a counting vote unless it's called for.

9           Mr. Blackwell, if you would please  
10 approach a microphone if you have a point to make.

11          MR. BLACKWELL: Madam Chairman, I request  
12 a record vote. I move for a record vote.

13          VOICE: Second.

14          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. You  
15 need 20 percent to accomplish that. All of those in  
16 favor of a record vote, please stand. We'll see if  
17 we have 20 percent.

18          [Members standing.]

19          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: If I could please  
20 have the tellers. I'm informed by the  
21 parliamentarians that we need to have 23 members to  
22 have a standing vote. Can you tell me how many that

1 we have? Where's my teller? They all take it over  
2 here and then compare. Excuse me? Thirty-one.  
3 Please be seated. We will have a standing vote and  
4 a counted vote.

5           Excuse me, he called for a rollcall vote?  
6 Thank you. It is a record vote. And so, I'm going  
7 to ask our Vice-Chairman, Mr. Kauffman, to come and  
8 read the roll of the membership.

9           CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Alabama, Ed Henry.

10          MR. HENRY: No.

11          CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Laura Payne.

12          MS. PAYNE: No.

13          CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: No.

14          Alaska, Peggy Wilson.

15          MS. WILSON: No.

16          CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: No.

17          Fred Brown.

18          MR. BROWN: Yes.

19          CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: American Samoa, Abe  
20 Malae.

21          MR. MALAE: No.

22          CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Amata Radewagon.

1 MS. RADEWAGON: No.

2 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Arizona, Linda

3 Brickman.

4 MS. BRICKMAN: Yes.

5 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Yes.

6 Bruce Ash.

7 MR. ASH: Yes.

8 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Thank you.

9 Arkansas, Reta Hamilton.

10 MS. HAMILTON: No.

11 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Jonathan?

12 MR. BARNETT: No.

13 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: No.

14 California, Doug Ose.

15 MR. OSE: No.

16 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Harmeet Dhillon.

17 MS. DHILLON: No.

18 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: No.

19 Colorado, Guy Short.

20 MR. SHORT: Yes.

21 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Kendal Unruh.

22 MS. UNRUH: No.

1 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: No?  
2 Connecticut, Linda McMahon.  
3 MS. McMAHON: No.  
4 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Ben Proto.  
5 MR. PROTO: No.  
6 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Delaware, Richard  
7 Forsten.  
8 MR. FORSTEN: No.  
9 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Ellen Barrosse.  
10 MS. BARROSSE: No.  
11 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: District of  
12 Columbia, Jill Homan.  
13 MS. HOMAN: No.  
14 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Thank you, Jill.  
15 Bob Kabel.  
16 MR. KABEL: No.  
17 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Florida, Peter  
18 Feaman.  
19 MR. FEAMAN: No.  
20 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Susan Wiles.  
21 MS. WILES: No.  
22 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Georgia, Randy

1 Evans.

2 MR. EVANS: No.

3 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Linda Herron.

4 MS. HERRON: No.

5 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Speak up a little  
6 bit, folks. Thanks.

7 Guam, James Rojas.

8 [No response.]

9 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Donna Jones.

10 MS. JONES: No.

11 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Hawaii, Nathan

12 Paikai.

13 MR. PAIKAI: No.

14 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Miriam Hellreich.

15 MS. HELLREICH: No.

16 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Idaho, Lora

17 Gervais.

18 MS. GERVAIS: Yes.

19 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Yes.

20 Norm Semanko.

21 MR. SEMANKO: Yes.

22 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Illinois, John

1 Cabello.  
2 MR. CABELLO: No.  
3 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Demetra DeMonte.  
4 MS. DeMONTE: No.  
5 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Indiana, John  
6 Hammond.  
7 MR. HAMMOND: No.  
8 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Thank you, John.  
9 Beth Boyce.  
10 MS. BOYCE: No.  
11 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Iowa, Marlys Popma.  
12 MS. POPMA: Yes.  
13 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Yes.  
14 Steve Scheffler.  
15 MR. SCHEFFLER: No.  
16 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Thank you.  
17 Kansas, Kelly Arnold.  
18 MR. ARNOLD: No.  
19 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Beverly Caley.  
20 MS. CALEY: No.  
21 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Kentucky, Ralph  
22 Alvarado.



1 MR. ALVARADO: Yes.

2 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Kelly Craft.

3 MS. CRAFT: No.

4 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Louisiana, Gwen  
5 Bowen.

6 MS. BOWEN: Yes.

7 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Ross Little.

8 MR. LITTLE: Yes.

9 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Maine, Alex  
10 Willette.

11 MR. WILLETTE: No.

12 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: MaryAnne Kinney.

13 MS. KINNEY: No.

14 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Maryland, Nicolee  
15 Ambrose.

16 MS. AMBROSE: Yes.

17 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Jim Crawford.

18 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes.

19 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Massachusetts,  
20 Janet Fogarty.

21 MS. FOGARTY: No.

22 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Vincent DeVito.

1 MR. DeVITO: No.

2 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Michigan, Judi  
3 Schwalbach.

4 MS. SCHWALBACH: No.

5 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Matt Hall.

6 MR. HALL: Yes.

7 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Minnesota, Cindy  
8 Pugh.

9 MS. PUGH: Yes.

10 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: David Asp.

11 MR. ASP: Yes.

12 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Mississippi, Henry  
13 Barbour.

14 MR. BARBOUR: (Inaudible.)

15 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Nell Frisbie.

16 MS. FRISBIE: No.

17 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Missouri, Harvey  
18 Tettlebaum.

19 MR. TETTLEBAUM: No.

20 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Patricia Thomas.

21 MS. THOMAS: No.

22 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Montana, Anita

1 Milanovich.  
2 MS. MILANOVICH: Yes.  
3 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Arthur Wittich.  
4 MR. WITTICH: Yes.  
5 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Nebraska, Joyce  
6 Simmons.  
7 MS. SIMMONS: No.  
8 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: J.L. Spray.  
9 MR. SPRAY: No, for the record.  
10 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: No, for the record.  
11 Nevada, Diana Orrock.  
12 MS. ORROCK: No.  
13 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Jordan Ross.  
14 MR. ROSS: No.  
15 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: New Hampshire,  
16 Steve Duprey.  
17 MR. DUPREY: No.  
18 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Ellen Suprunowicz.  
19 MS. SUPRUNOWICZ: No.  
20 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Thank you.  
21 New Jersey, William Palatucci.  
22 MR. PALATUCCI: No.

1 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Christine Serrano-  
2 Glassner.  
3 MS. SERRANO-GLASSNER: (Inaudible.)  
4 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: New Mexico, Steve  
5 Pearce.  
6 MR. PEARCE: No.  
7 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Rosie Tripp.  
8 MS. TRIPP: No.  
9 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: New York, Ralph  
10 Mohr.  
11 MR. MOHR: No.  
12 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Jennifer Rich.  
13 MS. RICH: No.  
14 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: North Carolina, Zan  
15 Bunn.  
16 MS. BUNN: Yes.  
17 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Thomas Stark.  
18 MR. STARK: No.  
19 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: North Dakota, the  
20 very quiet Curly Haugland. Curly?  
21 MR. HAUGLAND: (Inaudible.)  
22 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Sandra Boehler.

1 MS. BOEHLER: (Inaudible.)  
2 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Northern Marianas,  
3 Ralph Torres.  
4 MR. TORRES: (Inaudible.)  
5 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Vicky Villagomez.  
6 MS. VILLAGOMEZ: No.  
7 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Ohio, Don Thibaut.  
8 MR. THIBAUT: Emphatically no.  
9 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Thank you, Don.  
10 Jo Ann Davidson.  
11 MS. DAVIDSON: No.  
12 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Oklahoma, Gary  
13 Jones.  
14 MR. JONES: Yes.  
15 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Megan Winburn.  
16 MS. WINBURN: Yes.  
17 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Oregon, Solomon  
18 Yue.  
19 MR. YUE: Yes.  
20 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Chris Barreto.  
21 MR. BARRETO: Yes.  
22 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Pennsylvania, Joyce

1 Haas.

2 MS. HAAS: (Inaudible.)

3 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Lawrence Tabas.

4 MR. TABAS: No.

5 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Thank you.

6 Puerto Rico, John Regis.

7 MR. REGIS: (Inaudible.)

8 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Zori Fonalledas.

9 MS. FONALLEDAS: (Inaudible.)

10 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Thank you.

11 Rhode Island, Steve Frias.

12 MR. FRIAS: Yes.

13 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Eileen Grossman.

14 MS. GROSSMAN: (Inaudible.)

15 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: South Carolina,

16 Cindy Costa.

17 MS. COSTA: No.

18 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Matt Moore.

19 MR. MOORE: No.

20 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: South Dakota, David

21 Wheeler.

22 MR. WHEELER: No.

1 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Sandye Kading.  
2 [No response.]  
3 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Tennessee, John  
4 Ryder.  
5 MR. RYDER: No.  
6 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Betty Cannon.  
7 MS. CANNON: (Inaudible.)  
8 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Texas, Steve  
9 Munisteri. Steve?  
10 Can't hear? Oh, I'm sorry. Did you get  
11 Texas? Steve Munisteri?  
12 MR. MUNISTERI: No.  
13 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: No? Sorry.  
14 Toni Anne Dashiell.  
15 MS. DASHIELL: (Inaudible.)  
16 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Utah, Mike Lee.  
17 SENATOR LEE: Yes.  
18 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: I'm sorry? Repeat  
19 the vote. Yes. I'm sorry.  
20 Sharon Lee.  
21 MS. LEE: Yes.  
22 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Yes.

1 Vermont, Susan Hudson.  
2 MS. HUDSON: No.  
3 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: No.  
4 Janssen Willhoit.  
5 MR. WILLHOIT: No.  
6 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: No. Thank you.  
7 Virgin Islands, Valerie Stiles.  
8 MS. STILES: Abstain.  
9 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Valerie?  
10 MS. STILES: Abstain.  
11 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Abstain. Oh, I'm  
12 sorry. Forgot. Sorry.  
13 Virginia, Anne Gentry.  
14 MR. GENTRY: Yes.  
15 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Yes.  
16 Morton Blackwell.  
17 MR. BLACKWELL: Yes.  
18 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Washington, Graham  
19 Hunt.  
20 MR. HUNT: Yes.  
21 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Yes.  
22 Washington, Gina Blanchard-Reed.



1 MS. BLANCHARD-REED: Yes.

2 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Say again, please?

3 MS. BLANCHARD-REED: Yes.

4 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Yes. Thank you.

5 West Virginia, Betsy Andreini.

6 MS. ANDREINI: No.

7 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: No.

8 Mike Stuart.

9 MR. STUART: No doubt about it, but no.

10 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Thank you.

11 [Laughter.]

12 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Wisconsin, Steve

13 King.

14 MR. KING: No.

15 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Mary Buestrin.

16 MS. BUESTRIN: No.

17 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Wyoming, Matt

18 Micheli.

19 MR. MICHELI: Yes.

20 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: And, last but not

21 least, Harriet Hageman.

22 MS. HAGEMAN: Yes.

1 CO-CHAIRMAN KAUFFMAN: Thank you.

2 VOICE: Madam Chairman?

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

4 VOICE: Over here.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Oh. Yes. Mr.

6 Duprey.

7 MR. DUPREY: Madam Chair, you're facing

8 forward, and you said yes, I thought.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, I recognized

10 Mr. Duprey.

11 MR. DUPREY: Thank you.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We don't have a

13 motion on the floor at the moment.

14 Mr. Duprey?

15 MR. DUPREY: Well, I would like to make a

16 motion.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay.

18 VOICE: Don't we have to the results of

19 the vote first?

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes.

21 MR. DUPREY: Sorry.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We do need to wait

1 until we have --

2 MR. DUPREY: Sorry.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- the results of  
4 the vote.

5 Do we have the tally? They're still going  
6 through it.

7 [Pause.]

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Apparently, we did  
9 not receive a vote for Sandye Kading.

10 Sandye, are you here? They could not hear  
11 you. Could you tell us what your vote was?

12 MS. KADING: [Inaudible.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Court Reporter  
14 did not hear the vote. It was no. You think you've  
15 had a long day. Imagine what he's been through.

16 VOICE: Madam Chair, in the course of this  
17 wait, can we ask a point of information?

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Certainly.

19 VOICE: The question would be what the  
20 intent of the Chair would be. We have accommodated  
21 multiple extensions of the recess, and so, is it  
22 your expectation that you will be asking for a

1 recess, upon the announcement of this vote?

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, I have at  
3 least one more that -- I have one more that came in.

4

5 VOICE: Well, we've had multiple --

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I -- sir --

7 VOICE: -- instances.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I understand how  
9 you feel. We are trying to finish -- as we'd said  
10 all along, we're trying to finish that second  
11 section. So, let me get the vote announced, and  
12 then we're going to see what the will of the body  
13 is.

14 VOICE: Thank you.

15 [Pause.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seventy-three nays,  
17 32 yeas.

18 MR. DUPREY: Madam Chairman.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Duprey.

20 MR. DUPREY: At the risk of being  
21 remembered as the fellow in the blue blazer who  
22 ruined everyone's Thursday night, but hopefully

1 being, rather, remembered as the person who gave  
2 everybody Friday day and night off, I know you were  
3 planning to get done after Rule 25, but I would like  
4 to move and then take a vote to see the will of the  
5 body that we stay in session, keep going, get our  
6 work done tonight.

7 VOICE: Second.

8 VOICE: Madam Chair?

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay, it's been  
10 moved and seconded.

11 Just a minute, we have a motion on the  
12 floor.

13 What the Chair would like to do is inquire  
14 of our legal staff, so that we know what we're  
15 voting on, how many amendments we have had submitted  
16 for the third section. We have nine amendments.

17 VOICE: There's more to come --

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There's one to  
19 finish for the second section. There are nine for  
20 the third section. And if any of you plan on making  
21 additional amendments, raise your hand.

22 VOICE: I think we --

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: How many more?  
2 VOICE: At least one here.  
3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay.  
4 Mr. Semanko?  
5 MR. SEMANKO: We're coming back tomorrow.  
6 I'm still working on them. Can I make an inquiry?  
7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well -- yes.  
8 MR. SEMANKO: Is a substitute motion in  
9 order?  
10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, we have the  
11 order -- excuse me -- we have the motion on the  
12 floor. I'm just informing the body exactly what we  
13 have at this point.  
14 So, we have nine that we know of for the  
15 third section, one that we know of for the second  
16 section. And the motion has been made to stay and  
17 get it done.  
18 Let's go ahead and take a vote on that.  
19 MR. SEMANKO: Is an amended --  
20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: If you want to --  
21 MR. SEMANKO: -- motion in order? I move  
22 that we adjourn until 8:00 o'clock a.m.

1 VOICE: And I believe that takes priority.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, we can't  
3 adjourn.

4 MR. SEMANKO: I asked if a substitute or  
5 amended motion is in order.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Semanko, if we  
7 adjourn, we're done for the rest of the Convention.

8 MR. SEMANKO: Sorry. Recess until 8:00  
9 o'clock. I'm asking if it's appropriate to make  
10 that motion at this time.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, it is.

12 MR. SEMANKO: I make that motion, that we  
13 recess --

14 VOICE: I'll second.

15 MR. SEMANKO: -- until 8:00 a.m. tomorrow.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. It's  
17 been moved and seconded.

18 Let's just go ahead and vote on this,  
19 either way. No debate.

20 All of those who are in favor of recessing  
21 until 8:00 a.m., please stand.

22 [Members standing.]

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Wow.  I think I  
2 just heard the press go, "Ohhhh."

3                   [Laughter.]

4                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  We're counting.  
5 We're counting.  Stay standing.  Stay standing.  
6 We're counting.

7                   While they're counting, I'm going to  
8 direct the staff.  I understand that we have snacks  
9 available.  We're not going to stop to let people  
10 come and get them.  So, I'm going to ask the staff  
11 to move as quietly as possible through the ranks to  
12 give anyone who would like something, something to  
13 eat.  If we could kind of set it up on stations, I  
14 think, on either end, here, and that people could  
15 very carefully come down those little goat paths on  
16 the side and down the center.

17                   May they sit now?  Okay, please be seated.

18                   All those in favor of continuing our work  
19 tonight until it's complete, please stand.

20                   [Members standing.]

21                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Excuse me.  Those -  
22 - yes.  Yes, it's -- those are -- these are those



1 who are opposed -- okay, please stop moving around -  
2 - those who are opposed to the motion to recess  
3 rather than move forward, you're being counted.  
4 This -- yes. These are the people who'd like to  
5 stay until we finish our work tonight.

6 VOICE: Yes, ma'am.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Rosie, you're going  
8 to lead us in calisthenics to wake us all up,  
9 seventh-inning stretch.

10 Okay, do we have a count? I don't think  
11 the result is in doubt, but let's get the count.  
12 All right. We have 70 in favor and 32 -- no, excuse  
13 me -- 32 in favor of recess, 70 opposed. We're just  
14 going to stay and get it done, folks. Please be  
15 seated.

16 [Applause.]

17 MR. WILLHOIT: Your Honor -- Madam Chair,  
18 pardon me, I do have a point of clarification, if I  
19 may. Oh, sorry. Janssen Willhoit, Vermont.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. Yes, sir.

21 MR. WILLHOIT: My question is this. I'm  
22 sorry, because it was -- for some of us, it's hard

1 to get here, Madam Speaker, and I received  
2 information that we were going to meet 8:00 to 8:00  
3 today and tomorrow. So, did I waste my family's  
4 money to stay tonight, then, because I don't need to  
5 be here tomorrow? Is that what just happened?

6 VOICE: No.

7 MR. WILLHOIT: So, what are we doing  
8 tomorrow?

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, it's up to  
10 the will of the body to meet when they choose to  
11 meet.

12 MR. WILLHOIT: But, that was what was  
13 sent, so I can make the arrangements to get here.  
14 I'm sorry, that just doesn't seem fair. I'm sorry.  
15 It doesn't.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, sir, I'm  
17 sorry, but you would have had to be here today  
18 anyway.

19 MR. WILLHOIT: I understand that, but then  
20 I could have driven home and I could have actually  
21 been there for my boy's game tomorrow afternoon.  
22 That's my concern.

1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, sir, I -- I'm  
2 sorry. You -- the schedule that you received  
3 indicated that you would be working tomorrow. Now I  
4 suppose --

5           MR. WILLHOIT: Yes.

6           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- you could drive  
7 home.

8           MR. WILLHOIT: Okay. No, I already -- oh,  
9 so I'll get refunded the \$250 for my room tonight?

10          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay, sir -- okay,  
11 I'm just going to give you my philosophy on this.  
12 You may not like it. You probably won't like what  
13 I'm going to tell you. Okay? Serving on this  
14 Committee is a privilege.

15                   [Applause.]

16          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We let everybody  
17 know that we would begin meeting on Wednesday  
18 afternoon. We said we'd keep meeting as long as was  
19 necessary to complete our work. We let you know  
20 that it's no longer available on Saturday. It is up  
21 to the body as to whether you want to keep working  
22 tonight, and you just voted that you're going to.

1           So, I'm sorry, sir, that you're upset,  
2 but, as far as I'm concerned, the obligations of the  
3 Rules Committee come before any Party, any travel  
4 plan. This is what we signed up for. So, let's  
5 just go ahead and get it done.

6           All right. We have one more amendment in  
7 Section 2. It is Amendment 23.1. It has been -- it  
8 impacts Rule number 23(b). And it has been  
9 submitted by Thomas Stark, of North Carolina.

10           Mr. Stark, would -- you are recognized for  
11 the purpose of making a motion.

12           Okay, before you start, Mr. Stark, we've  
13 got too much of a hum going on back here, and it's  
14 making it very difficult for us all to hear. I'm  
15 going to ask once again that the staff, as quietly  
16 as possible, set up drinks and snacks at two  
17 stations on either end so that people can move  
18 forward. But, I would ask you to do it as quietly  
19 as possible.

20           Mr. Stark, you're recognized for the  
21 purpose of making a motion.

22           MR. STARK: I make the motion to amend the

1 new amended 23(b) to insert at the end "or was  
2 eligible to participate in the election in  
3 question."

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It has been moved.  
5 Is there a second?

6 VOICE: Second.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Moved and seconded.

8 Mr. Stark, would you like to speak to your  
9 motion?

10 MR. STARK: We passed an amendment earlier  
11 this evening that limited a contest to a Delegate or  
12 alternate who was unsuccessful in seeking the  
13 position. Prior to that time, we had broader  
14 language in this section. It -- what we have faced  
15 is, in District Conventions, where there's improper  
16 notice, the aggrieved persons are the -- are people  
17 that weren't able to attend or didn't know about the  
18 Convention. And we also have to comply with State  
19 law to apportion our Delegates, which can create a  
20 problem that might draw a contest. For those kinds  
21 of issues, we felt like we needed broader language  
22 that allows us to addressed to -- the election to be

1 contested by any person who was eligible to  
2 participate in the election.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
4 you, sir.

5 Is there anyone who rises in opposition to  
6 this amendment? Anyone who rises in opposition?

7 Mr. Ryder, of Tennessee.

8 MR. RYDER: Madam Chairman, the language  
9 we previously adopted reaffirms the position of the  
10 Rules of the Republican Party that limit contests at  
11 the District level to people who actually  
12 participated in the contest and were candidates for  
13 the office and were unsuccessful. The provision  
14 offered by Mr. Stark, for whom I have the greatest  
15 admiration and respect, from my neighboring State of  
16 North Carolina, would open this up to people who  
17 were not participants and were not injured by the  
18 results, at least at a personal level, only at an  
19 institutional level. And I think that it would be  
20 better -- our Party would be better served by  
21 allowing only those who have actually been  
22 candidates and were unsuccessful to file the

1 District-level contest.

2           So, I would urge a no vote on this  
3 amendment.

4           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
5 Ryder.

6           Is there anyone else who rises to speak in  
7 support? Anyone else who rises to speak in support?

8           [No response.]

9           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
10 else who rises to speak in opposition?

11          [No response.]

12          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we  
13 will move directly to a vote.

14          All those in favor of adopting Amendment  
15 23.1, please say aye.

16          [A chorus of ayes.]

17          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Those opposed, nay.

18          [A chorus of nays.]

19          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

20          Ladies and gentlemen, as far as I know,  
21 that completes our work on Section 2 of the Rules.

22          [Applause.]

1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: So, now what we are  
2 going to do is, I'm going to read each of the rules  
3 numbers and titles for Section 3, our final section  
4 of the Rules of the Republican Party. If you wish  
5 to make an amendment to that rule, please so  
6 indicate, and we will set that rule aside. If there  
7 are no indications that anyone wishes to amend that  
8 rule, that rule will not be up for debate.

9           All right. First, Rule number 26, Order  
10 of Business. Are there any amendments to the Order  
11 of Business? Any amendments to the Order of  
12 Business?

13           [No response.]

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we'll  
15 go forward.

16           Rule number 27, Committee Reports. Are  
17 there any amendments to the Committee -- the Rule on  
18 Committee Reports? I see one. We will set that  
19 rule aside.

20           VOICE: I would like to also set aside 26.  
21 I just didn't get to the microphone in time.

22           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. We will set



1     aside numbers 26 and number 27.

2                     Rule number 28, Admission to Convention  
3     Hall. Are there any amendments to Rule number 28,  
4     Admission to Convention Hall?

5                     VOICE: Yes.

6                     CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I see one hand go  
7     up. We'll set that aside.

8                     Number 29, Voting. Are there any  
9     amendments to number 29? Mr. Semanko, we will set  
10    that aside.

11                    Rule number 30, Rules of Order. Rules of  
12    Order. Are there any amendments to Rule number 30?

13                    VOICE: Yes.

14                    CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We'll set that  
15    aside.

16                    Rule number 31, Length of Debate. Are  
17    there any amendments to Length of Debate?

18                    MS. ORROCK: Madam Chair, Diana Orrock,  
19    Nevada. I withdraw my amendment to -- or my  
20    amendment to Rule 31.

21                    CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Without  
22    objection, it is so ordered.

1           Are there any other amendments to Rule 31?

2           [No response.]

3           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Seeing none, we  
4 will move --

5           VOICE:  Yes, there will be.

6           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Okay.  We'll set  
7 that aside.

8           Rule number 32, Suspension of Rules.  Rule  
9 number 32, Suspension of the Rules.  Are there any  
10 amendments to Rule number 32?  I see one.  We'll set  
11 that aside.

12           We're not batting well so far, folks, but  
13 we'll just keep going.

14           Rule number 33, Platform Resolutions.

15 Rule number 33, Platform Resolutions.  Mr. Lee.

16           Rule number 34, Minority Reports;  
17 Amendments.

18           VOICE:  I'll have an amendment.

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  We have an  
20 amendment.

21           Rule number 35, Motion to Table.  Rule  
22 number 35, Motion to Table.

1           VOICE: Madam Chair, you expected to give  
2 us overnight to work on that. I would like to  
3 reserve 35.

4           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We will  
5 set it aside, but it will have to be completed  
6 tonight, since --

7           VOICE: Thank you.

8           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- the body has so  
9 voted.

10          VOICE: Thank you.

11          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Rule  
12 number 36, Previous Question. Rule number 36,  
13 Previous Question.

14          [No response.]

15          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none.

16          Rule number 37, Roll Call.

17          MR. ROSS: Madam Chair, Jordan Ross,  
18 Nevada.

19          With the consent of the body, I withdraw  
20 Amendment 37.1.

21          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay, we have one  
22 that has been withdrawn. Without objection, it is

1 so ordered.

2 Are -- do we have another amendment?

3 Mr. Haugland. Rule 37, we have an  
4 amendment. We will set that aside.

5 Rule number 38, Unit Rule. Rule number  
6 38, Unit Rule. We have -- we will set that aside.

7 Rule number 39, Record Vote. Rule number  
8 39, Record Vote. Mr. Semanko.

9 Rule number 40, Nominations. Ms. Unruh,  
10 from Colorado.

11 Rule number 41, Convention Committees.  
12 Rule number 41, Convention Committees. Is there  
13 anyone who would like to make an amendment to Rule  
14 41?

15 MR. ROSS: Madam Chair, I apologize.  
16 Regarding Rule number 38, with the consent of the  
17 body, I withdraw Amendment 38.2.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, to the  
19 Gentleman from Nevada. Without objection, it is so  
20 ordered.

21 Are there any other amendments to Rule 38?  
22 Other amendments to Rule 38?

1 [No response.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none.

3 Rule number 41, Convention Committees?

4 VOICE: Yes.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We have  
6 amendments to Convention Committees. We will set  
7 that aside.

8 Rule number 42, Temporary Rules. Ms.  
9 Unruh.

10 All right.

11 MR. TETTLEBAUM: Madam Chairman?

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

13 MR. TETTLEBAUM: I have [inaudible].

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay, we will have  
15 additional rules that are multiple rules and new  
16 rules. Mr. Tettlebaum, we note that you have a new  
17 Rule 43.

18 Are there other amendments that will  
19 impact multiple rules? Any other amendments that  
20 will impact multiple rules?

21 [No response.]

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none.

1           Now, let me also ask if we have any  
2 amendments that anyone plans to make to the Preamble  
3 of the Rules?

4           Sir.

5           MR. ROSS: No, ma'am, I do not. With the  
6 greatest of apologies, after consulting with my  
7 colleagues, I would like to leave Amendment 37.1 and  
8 38.2 in the queue. Essentially, I'm reintroducing  
9 it.

10           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

11           MR. ROSS: And apologize to the Chair and  
12 to the body.

13           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

14           Again, are there any amendments to the  
15 Preamble?

16           [No response.]

17           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none.

18           All right. At this point --

19           MR. HAUGLAND: Madam Chairman?

20           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, Mr. Haugland,  
21 for what motion -- for what purpose do you rise?

22           MR. HAUGLAND: I rise to ask how to

1 proceed with entirely new rules.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Tettlebaum just  
3 said that he has one. Do you have one, Mr.  
4 Haugland?

5 MR. HAUGLAND: Yes, I plan to have two.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: You have two?

7 MR. HAUGLAND: Yes.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay.

9 All right, ladies and gentlemen, it looks  
10 like the only rule that has not been set aside is  
11 Rule number 36.

12 VOICE: And the Preamble.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: And the Preamble.

14 All right. Are we prepared with the  
15 amendments to be able to move forward? Let me check  
16 with staff. Stand at ease for just a moment,  
17 please.

18 All right, ladies and gentlemen, I've been  
19 informed that a number of the amendments have not  
20 been submitted, even though you asked for the rules  
21 to be set aside. And so, I'm going to ask for the  
22 sense of the body in setting off a cutoff period for

1 rules that have already been set aside for those  
2 amendments to be submitted. I understand that you  
3 want to discuss them. We want to give you that  
4 opportunity. But, if you don't submit them, they  
5 can't be loaded into our system. So, if you have an  
6 amendment that you asked to be set aside, clearly  
7 you already have the language that you are  
8 considering.

9           So, the Chair will entertain a motion to  
10 cut off amendments no later than -- no later than  
11 9:30 p.m. Is there such a motion?

12           VOICE: A point of information. What time  
13 is it now?

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It is 5 minutes to  
15 9:00.

16           VOICE: So, we'll be in recess until 9:30?

17           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We will not stand  
18 in recess. We will start in on the rules that have  
19 already been submitted. But, I'm telling you that  
20 we need to get these amendments in, and I'm really  
21 kind of baffled as to why you wouldn't submit them  
22 ahead of time.



1 Ms. Homan.

2 MS. HOMAN: [Inaudible.]

3 VOICE: Second.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
5 seconded that we will cut off submission of  
6 amendments no later than 9:30 p.m. to allow us to be  
7 able to commence our work.

8 All those in favor, please say aye.

9 VOICE: Madam Chair?

10 [A chorus of ayes.]

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed?

12 [A chorus of nays.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No. The ayes  
14 clearly have it in over two-thirds. So, we have now  
15 suspended the rules and required that all  
16 submissions be in by 9:30 p.m.

17 All right. Now we will take up  
18 amendments. I assume the body would like to take  
19 them up as we have them available. That means we'll  
20 be jumping around, but it means that we do not need  
21 to stand at ease as that point. Is that agreeable  
22 to the body?

1 [A chorus of ayes.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Let's  
3 begin.

4 All right. We are going to start with  
5 Amendment 33.1. Amendment 33.1, which pertains to  
6 Rule number 33.

7 MS. BOWEN: Point of information, Madam  
8 Chairman.

9 Gwen Bowen, Louisiana.

10 . Do we have a --

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes.

12 MS. BOWEN: -- quorum?

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Clearly.

14 MS. BOWEN: Thank you.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We will  
16 move forward with Amendment number 33.1, submitted  
17 by Mr. Ross, of Nevada.

18 Mr. Ross, of Nevada, are you prepared to  
19 begin with submission of your amendment?

20 MR. ROSS: Madam Chair, with the  
21 permission of the body, I withdraw the amendment.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Without

1 objection -- yes, last chance, Mr. Duprey -- without  
2 objection, it is withdrawn.

3 All right. The next amendment that we  
4 will consider is Rule 34.1. This impacts Rule 34.  
5 The Lady from New Hampshire? Is the Lady from New -  
6 - there she is.

7 MS. SUPRUNOWICZ: Thank you, Madam Chair.

8 Ellen Suprunowicz, from New Hampshire.

9 I'd like to propose a new section to Rule  
10 34, as follows: "When a temporary committee is  
11 convened as a permanent committee, and if a Minority  
12 Report is presented to the Chairman, the Chairman  
13 shall inquire as to whether any of the signatories  
14 of the Minority Report would like to have their  
15 names removed from the report. Anyone requesting to  
16 have their name removed shall have the signature  
17 removed immediately."

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. There  
19 has been a motion. Is there a second?

20 VOICE: Second.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
22 seconded.

1                   Would you like to address the substance of  
2 your amendment?

3                   MS. SUPRUNOWICZ: I would. This has to do  
4 with -- earlier this week, there were a number of  
5 Delegates who were misled into signing a Minority  
6 Report at the -- on the Platform Committee. And,  
7 upon learning of the deception, they found there was  
8 no clear rule which would allow them to have their  
9 name removed from that document. And I believe our  
10 Party needs a rule to prevent this from occurring in  
11 the future. And I ask that my fellow Delegates  
12 support this.

13                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

14                   Before we proceed to further debate, I'm  
15 going to ask the staff and the people over here --  
16 it sounds like it's coming from this side -- if you  
17 could please lower the level. I keep finding my  
18 voice getting louder and louder so that I can hear  
19 myself over that hum. Thank you, I appreciate it.

20                   All right. The Lady from New Hampshire  
21 has made her motion. It has been seconded. Are  
22 there any who wish to speak in opposition to this

1 amendment? Any who wish to speak in opposition to  
2 this amendment? Going once, going twice --

3 Mr. DeVito. Mr. DeVito, are you rising in  
4 opposition or support?

5 MR. DeVITO: Never mind.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's all right.

7 Mr. Blackwell, to what point do you rise?

8 MR. BLACKWELL: I rise to support this  
9 amendment.

10 Madam Chairman, this has -- this  
11 particular process has been a common problem. When  
12 the Convention Rules Committee meets on the day of  
13 the Convention, after the Convention has been called  
14 to order, time and time again after the generally  
15 perfunctory passage again of the Rules Committee  
16 Report, the rules have specified a time deadline by  
17 which Minority Reports must be handed in to  
18 particular officers. And time and time again, that  
19 has been a problem.

20 There are other changes that I think ought  
21 to be made in this. There may well be an amendment  
22 going to be proposed on that particular topic. But,

1 the matter of removing people's names is a very  
2 common occurrence. Generally speaking, the  
3 presumptive nominee has had an interest in avoiding  
4 a floor debate on a Minority Report and has found  
5 who are the signers on the Minority Report, which  
6 has qualified by being 25 percent of the total, and  
7 seek out those people and get them to take their  
8 names off. This has happened many times.

9 I've never heard of a great difficulty in  
10 people getting their names off of this, although  
11 there have been many Minority Reports filed since  
12 1976, which is the last time we debated a Minority  
13 Report. None of those Minority Reports has survived  
14 the pressure on the signers of it --

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Gentleman's  
16 time is expired.

17 MR. BLACKWELL: -- to get their names --  
18 to get their names off.

19 So, it's -- this is a good proposal.  
20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We've heard someone  
22 speak in support. Is there anyone who wishes to

1 rise to oppose this amendment? Anyone who wishes to  
2 oppose this amendment?

3 [No response.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Kauffman has  
5 carried a lot of water in his time.

6 [Laughter.]

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Full-service Vice  
8 Chairman.

9 All right. Is there anyone else who  
10 wishes to speak in support?

11 Mr. Ryder.

12 MR. RYDER: Madam Chairman, I wanted to  
13 take this rare opportunity to agree with Mr.  
14 Blackwell, and --

15 [Laughter.]

16 MR. RYDER: -- I urge support for the  
17 amendment.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: In the spirit of  
19 Party unity, I am thrilled, Mr. Ryder. Thank you.

20 All right. Seeing no further individuals  
21 that wish to be recognized, we will move immediately  
22 to a vote on Amendment 34.1.

1 All in favor of Amendment 34.1, please say  
2 aye.

3 [A chorus of ayes.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

5 [A chorus of nays.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It passes.

7 Next, will move to Amendment number 34.2 -  
8 - 34.2. This impacts Rule number 34(a). It has  
9 been submitted by the Lady from Louisiana, Mrs.  
10 Bowen, who is recognized for the purpose of making a  
11 motion.

12 MS. BOWEN: I would just like to make a  
13 motion that you accept this amendment. Those of you  
14 that were here in --

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Please -- if you  
16 want to just make a motion --

17 MS. BOWEN: Make a motion.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- and we'll get a  
19 second.

20 MS. BOWEN: Make a motion.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Perfect.

22 Is there a second? Is there a second?



1 VOICE: Second.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There -- it's been  
3 moved and seconded.

4 Now please give us your reasons.

5 MS. BOWEN: Okay, thank you.

6 And I do want to also take this moment to  
7 say I think you've been a great Chairman. And no  
8 disrespect to the former Chairmans, this is my  
9 fourth time, but I'm -- I appreciate your fairness  
10 and your -- and allowing people the time to do what  
11 they need to do.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. Did you  
14 hear that, Mr. Poitevint?

15 [Laughter.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you very  
17 much. I sincerely appreciate that.

18 MS. BOWEN: Well, I mean it.

19 I would ask your support for this  
20 amendment. If you were here in 2012, we did a  
21 Minority Report, and -- because, like I'd said  
22 earlier, the only rule that was worse, in my

1 opinion, than Rule 12 was Rule 15, which became Rule  
2 16, which would -- disavowed the elected Delegate at  
3 the whim of the candidate. And so, we did a  
4 Minority Report. And, before we had a chance to  
5 even go say it, another member -- I think Bob  
6 Bennett, from Ohio -- went to the front and said,  
7 "We have 31 signatures." And then, to my surprise,  
8 as soon as it ended, the Chairman and everybody was  
9 gone. And we went to try to find them. And then it  
10 appeared like we had been sent on a wild goose  
11 chase, as we was asking different staff members and  
12 et cetera to tell us where someone was, an officer  
13 we could submit it.

14           So, just for -- obviously, we have been  
15 minority during this session -- this gathering. So,  
16 if we could pass this, because time goes, people  
17 take -- am I at my stop yet? When you start singing  
18 God Bless America? Okay. Anyway, I'd appreciate  
19 your support on it.

20           Thank you.

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

22           MS. HELLREICH: Madam Chairman, could you

1 enlarge the print? I can't read it.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Oh, my heavens. No  
3 wonder you can't read it. I just looked down.

4 Could we get the print enlarged, please? I think  
5 they're having trouble fitting it in the screen.

6 Let's see what they can do. Did that help at all?

7 MS. HELLREICH: It helped, but I still  
8 can't --

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Why  
10 don't we do this. On this one, unfortunately,  
11 rather than go back and get them copied, let's work  
12 through the language. We'll read through it  
13 together. We'll have to roll it on the screen.

14 Okay, the proposed language, page 54, line  
15 7, strike "Vice Chairman or Secretary." Page 54,  
16 line 7, insert "finally and officially" after the  
17 words "at which such committee." Page 54, line 11,  
18 insert the following -- if we can bring that up, I  
19 think that just might fit -- "The Chairman of each  
20 such committee shall remain in the meeting room of  
21 such committee for at least 1 hour following the  
22 final and official vote on its report. Qualifying

1 Minority Reports shall be taken up immediately  
2 following the respective committee report. If there  
3 are multiple Minority Reports, then such reports  
4 shall be taken up in descending order, starting with  
5 the Minority Report that received the most petition  
6 signatures. And, in the event of ties, priority  
7 shall be given to the Minority Report filed earlier.

8 At the option of a majority of those committee  
9 members signing the Minority Report, such Minority  
10 Report may be taken up, resolution by resolution,  
11 rule by rule, or as a single block report. Such  
12 option shall be identified at the time the Minority  
13 Report is submitted. In the absence of such a  
14 selection, the Minority Report shall be taken up,  
15 resolution by resolution, for Committee on the  
16 Platform, or rule by rule for the Committee on Rules  
17 and Order of Business."

18 Okay. Is everyone now familiar with the  
19 language? Is there anyone who can't see it or  
20 hasn't heard it?

21 [No response.]

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We've

1 had a motion made and seconded. We have heard an  
2 explanation in support. Is there anyone who wishes  
3 to be recognized in opposition?

4 Mr. Evans.

5 MR. EVANS: Yes. Thank you, Madam Chair.

6 I rise in opposition simply for a couple  
7 of reasons. One, it contemplates multiple Minority  
8 Reports from a single Committee, which I don't think  
9 is consistent with the way we've handled it and  
10 certainly would prolong the process to make it  
11 virtually impossible to complete in time. And then,  
12 second, it adds a number of provisions that  
13 implicate other provisions in the rules, which would  
14 literally take us backward into this process.

15 As a result, I rise in opposition to the  
16 proposed amendment.

17 MS. BOWEN: Madam Chairman, I don't know  
18 if I'm in order, but can I just add, I'll be glad to  
19 consider a friendly amendment. I thought I  
20 expressed the -- what I wanted. Maybe I didn't  
21 write it the way you would like for it to be  
22 written. And --

1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well --

2           MS. BOWEN: -- you seem to have -- be real  
3 good with writing stuff.

4           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Any  
5 member has the ability to propose an amendment to  
6 the amendment. And if anyone wishes to do so, all  
7 they have to do is seek recognition.

8           All right. Is there a member who wishes  
9 to rise in support?

10          Mr. Blackwell.

11          MR. BLACKWELL: Madam Chairman, the past  
12 practice is beyond the memory of any person in this  
13 room. There have been, in living memory, twice  
14 occasions when a single Minority Report was  
15 presented: 1972, over a Delegate allocation  
16 formula; and 1976, in the Reagan versus Ford  
17 nomination contest.

18          It would be -- it is clear that a Minority  
19 Report is presented, debated, and decided upon as an  
20 amendment to the Majority Report. To say that all  
21 issues on which 25 percent of the Convention Rules  
22 Committee have signed a Minority Report -- they all

1 have to be compiled into one -- is, I think, an  
2 outrageous suggestion, because there are likely to  
3 be -- there are certainly possible to be a number  
4 of very different provisions, the subject of  
5 separate Minority Reports, which, by any logic,  
6 should be considered independently of each other.  
7 Otherwise, the idea of a Minority Report is foolish,  
8 because no Minority Report would ever pass if it had  
9 a number of different issues on it. A majority of  
10 the Convention might support each of the proposed  
11 amendments, but if you put many different issues in  
12 it, you preclude the possibility of having the  
13 majority able to work its will -- the majority of  
14 the Convention -- on each of the topics.

15           I think it's -- I think this clarifies  
16 what happens. We --

17           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Gentleman's  
18 time is expired.

19           MR. BLACKWELL: Thank you.

20           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The parliamentarian  
21 has informed me, and I will simply pass this along  
22 as a point of information for the body, that

1 Robert's Rules of Order provide for only one  
2 Minority Report. However, when we are operating in  
3 the Convention, we operate under the Rules of the  
4 House, and the Chair is unaware of what the rule is,  
5 because, actually, Minority Reports under the Rules  
6 of the House generally are not allowed. And yet,  
7 we've made specific provision through our rules for  
8 that to be allowed.

9           So, we have a little bit of a conflict  
10 there. Robert's Rules of Order only allows for a  
11 single combined Minority Report. I just wanted to  
12 pass that along to you for your consideration, since  
13 the parliamentarian's made it clear to me.

14           It looks -- Mr. -- we just had a --  
15 someone rise in support. Is there someone who would  
16 like to rise in opposition? Anyone who'd like to  
17 rise in opposition?

18           The Gentleman from Nevada.

19           MR. ROSS: Jordan Ross, Nevada.

20           Madam Chair, I've seen this movie before,  
21 you know, with Johnnie Depp and the Pirates of the  
22 Caribbean, and the ship is whirling around, and it



1 finally gets sucked down into this whirlpool and  
2 disappears. That is exactly what this looks like to  
3 me. I mean, I spend more of my week every week  
4 dealing with rules, and that's exactly what this  
5 looks like to me. What this looks like is a morass,  
6 a whirlpool that will drag us out for hours, if not  
7 more than a day, trying to conclude the Rules  
8 Committee report.

9 That's it. It's a whirlpool. Vote no.

10 [Laughter.]

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I never thought I'd  
12 hear a Pirates of the Caribbean reference in here.  
13 You -- my hat's off to you, sir.

14 All right. Would someone like to be  
15 recognized in support?

16 Mr. Little.

17 MR. LITTLE: Madam Chairman, I have two  
18 things to address.

19 In the first place, I would like to call  
20 your attention to the heading of Rule 34, which is  
21 part of our rules, which amends and overrides  
22 Robert's Rules of Order. It says "Minority

1 Reports." There's an "s" on the middle of that,  
2 which means it's plural, which means --

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, there are  
4 multiple committees.

5 MR. LITTLE: So, I would indicate -- I  
6 would suggest that our rules envision multiple  
7 Minority Reports.

8 Secondly, what I would like to do for this  
9 is to offer an amendment. At the beginning of the  
10 sentence, "If there are multiple Minority Reports,"  
11 I would suggest to start Subsection (b) -- or  
12 Section (b) there -- this is an amendment to Rule  
13 34(a). I would like that to start Rule 34(b). That  
14 would be my amendment.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: So, your amendment  
16 would simply create a new paragraph.

17 MR. LITTLE: Yes, ma'am.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: At which -- exactly  
19 which point, Mr. Little?

20 MR. LITTLE: At the point where it says,  
21 "If there are multiple Minority Reports."

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

1 MR. LITTLE: Before the word "if."

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. That's  
3 really more in the nature of a technical amendment,  
4 but I appreciate you bringing it to us.

5 Is there a second?

6 VOICE: Second.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been made and  
8 seconded. Is there any debate?

9 [No response.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, we'll  
11 move directly to a vote on the amendment to the  
12 amendment. This would require that we put in a new  
13 paragraph, labeled (b).

14 All those in favor, say aye.

15 [A chorus of ayes.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

17 [A chorus of nays.]

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

19 All right. We are back to debate on the  
20 main motion. Would anyone like to be recognized in  
21 opposition?

22 Mr. Hammond.

1                   MR. HAMMOND: Madam Chair, John Hammond,  
2 from Indiana.

3                   A couple of points I'd like to make, and I  
4 rise in opposition.

5                   This Committee will have fully debated all  
6 of these issues, one kind or the other. There are  
7 permutations of -- iterations of things that could  
8 be thought about between now and Monday, and, no  
9 doubt, in a Minority Report -- multiple Minority  
10 Reports could be conceived.

11                  Important thing is that we do allow for  
12 the minority voice to be heard. And we do allow for  
13 that in the current rules. And it will be heard.  
14 But, it needs to be heard at once with some  
15 efficiency. It would be done with fairness. I'm  
16 convinced. Because I think our Delegates, as they  
17 convene next week, will want to be fair, if, indeed,  
18 there is one presented. But, to have multiple  
19 Minority Reports presented will be seen as an  
20 attempt to disrupt. And I'm concerned about it.  
21 And I raise it only because if it's not that, then  
22 it becomes a very inefficient way to begin our

1 process. And I think that, to have multiple  
2 Minority Reports is not a -- is not something that I  
3 feel that will serve our Party well, and certainly  
4 serve us well in this Convention upcoming. If we,  
5 indeed, even have some.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

8 Are there others who wish to speak in  
9 support? Are there others who wish to speak in  
10 support?

11 The Gentleman from Colorado.

12 MR. SHORT: Thank you, Madam Chairwoman,

13 Can I just ask a point of order or a point  
14 of information? On this amendment, part of this  
15 amendment is the hour requirement for the Chair to  
16 stay in the room. If the full amendment were to  
17 fail, would it be in order to offer that amendment,  
18 or would that be seen as it's already been offered?

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, a piece of that  
20 would be in order, since you are -- if the main  
21 motion fails, then you have taken off -- excuse me.

22 Let me start that again. Because you need to do it

1 before we vote on the main motion. So, you would  
2 have to offer an amendment before we vote on the  
3 main motion.

4 MR. SHORT: But, I don't want to strike  
5 everything. I want that to still be voted on. I  
6 just -- I just want to make sure, if the whole thing  
7 goes down, that we can still just vote on having the  
8 chairperson stay in the room for an hour. I think  
9 that's a reasonable --

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Parliamentarians  
11 tell me that we can do that.

12 MR. SHORT: We can do that, so that would  
13 be in order.

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We can do that.

15 MR. SHORT: And how would I go about doing  
16 that? Go up to the --

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: You'd need to  
18 submit an amendment.

19 MR. SHORT: Okay. Thank you very much.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right?

21 Let me remind you -- that is -- would be  
22 an amendment to an amendment -- let me remind you

1 that main motions must be filed with the Counsel's  
2 Office no later than 9:30. That leaves you about 14  
3 minutes.

4 All right. Mr. DeVito.

5 MR. DeVITO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

6 Vincent DeVito, Massachusetts.

7 I respectfully ask this Committee to vote  
8 no against this particular amendment. I have read  
9 Rule 34 multiple times, just a moment ago. It's  
10 perfectly fine.

11 I move the previous question.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
13 has been raised. It is nondebatable. It is in  
14 order. We will immediately move to vote on the  
15 question of closing debate.

16 All those in favor of closing debate on  
17 Amendment 34.2, please say aye.

18 [A chorus of ayes.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Those opposed, nay.

20 [A chorus of nays.]

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes clearly  
22 have it. We will now vote on the main motion.

1 All those in favor of adoption of  
2 Amendment 34.2, please say aye.

3 [A chorus of ayes.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Those opposed, nay.

5 [A chorus of nays.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

7 VOICE: Madam Chair, may I ask a unanimous  
8 consent to revise and extend my remarks just to  
9 include all of the prior citations to Minority  
10 Reports that have been considered before. Mr.  
11 Blackwell indicated there had only been two.  
12 Because I'm not as old as him, I had somebody  
13 actually go back and do the research. So, I would  
14 like permission to revise and extend to include this  
15 in my remarks.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Without objection,  
17 you may attach that to your remarks.

18 All right. Let's move now to Amendment  
19 number 37.1, number 37.1 This impacts Rule 37, and  
20 it has been proposed by Mr. Ross, of Nevada, who is  
21 recognized for the purpose of making a motion.

22 MR. ROSS: Thank you, Madam Chair.



1 I introduce Amendment 37.1, as presented.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?

3 VOICE: Second.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is -- I hear a  
5 second.

6 All right. Mr. Ross, would you like to  
7 address your amendment?

8 MR. ROSS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

9 I'm going to use the "b" word: binding.  
10 I think it's fair. I think it's what millions of  
11 voters expect.

12 Now, while I have enjoyed, up to this  
13 point, the many and varied theological discussions  
14 on how many parliamentary angels can dance on the  
15 head of a parliamentary pin, it's time to put an end  
16 to those discussions and to clarify once and for  
17 all. This amendment and one for the following rule  
18 that is -- inserts the identical language into that  
19 rule is meant to do just that. It's to address  
20 arguments that have been going on for years about  
21 whether or not the rules of our Party permit  
22 binding, or not. This amendment and a companion

1 amendment for Rule 38 will do just that. In this  
2 particular case, the arguments that the rights of  
3 certain Delegates to demand roll call somehow allow  
4 them to invalidate their binding would be put to  
5 rest.

6 I'm a politician. The voters in my  
7 constituency, at the caucuses in our constituency,  
8 voted overwhelmingly for Mr. Donald Trump. I have  
9 no intention of returning to those people who I rely  
10 on to keep me in office by telling them I had some  
11 part in shredding their votes. It's time, after all  
12 these years, to put an end to this. Let's give the  
13 people what they expect, that their votes count. I  
14 don't mean to be bitter about this. I don't mean to  
15 be confrontational. But, for heaven's sake, the  
16 argument needs to be settled, one way or the other.

17 Thank you, Madam Chair.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

19 I have been asked to remind you, by  
20 counsel, that the 9:30 deadline is rapidly  
21 approaching. And if you are in line at the Help  
22 Desk at the stroke of 9:30, they will help you

1 finish your amendment. If you walk up at 9:30 and  
2 10 seconds, you will not have the opportunity to  
3 have your amendment drafted. Is everyone clear on  
4 that procedure? Excellent.

5 All right, we have had a motion made and  
6 seconded. Is there anyone who rises in opposition  
7 to the amendment? Is there anyone who rises in  
8 opposition to the amendment?

9 [No response.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, is  
11 there anyone else who rises in support of the  
12 amendment?

13 Mr. Ash.

14 MR. ASH: Madam Chairman, members of our  
15 Committee, in 56 contests across the country, into  
16 the Caribbean, and out into the Pacific, Donald  
17 Trump won almost 14 million votes. He nearly  
18 doubled the vote total of his nearest competitor.  
19 He surpassed the number of Delegates required by  
20 over 300 Delegates. And yet, among some, there seem  
21 to be some sort of question whether or not he is the  
22 presumptive nominee.

1           There has been a lot of battling back and  
2 forth. There's been a lot of emails that we get,  
3 and constant harassment from various people across  
4 the country. In Arizona, we had a presidential  
5 preference election, where Donald Trump received  
6 over 50 percent of the votes cast in that election -  
7 - contest. By State law, all 58 Delegates in  
8 Arizona are required to vote for Donald Trump on the  
9 first ballot. Donald Trump is the presumptive  
10 nominee. There should be absolutely no question as  
11 to who we are going to cast our votes for.

12           As Republicans, we oftentimes give our  
13 elected officials a hard time about campaigning one  
14 way and governing another. As Delegates, we were  
15 selected, elected by our State Conventions, in  
16 whatever manner in which we arrived here. We only  
17 had to have -- we only had to perform one function,  
18 and that was to vote for the candidate that we were  
19 bound to.

20           I urge all of us to vote for this  
21 amendment and for the following, and to get this  
22 matter finally understood across the country.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Ash.

3 Is there anyone who would like to rise in  
4 opposition? Is there anyone who'd like to rise in  
5 opposition?

6 Mr. Haugland.

7 MR. HAUGLAND: Yes, Madam Chairman.

8 I rise in opposition to this, because --  
9 primarily because it seeks to link a pre-Convention  
10 rule to a Convention rule. And soon -- I just  
11 submitted a -- an amendment to this very same topic  
12 that provides satisfaction within Rule 37, within  
13 the Convention rules completely and without mixing  
14 pre-Convention rules with Convention rules. So,  
15 therefore, I would urge the defeat of this one, in  
16 anticipation of the complete, proper way to do this,  
17 which I'm sure all of you guys will embrace.

18 [Laughter.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I'm sure they will  
20 embrace them and debate what is the proper way to do  
21 this. Thank you, Mr. Haugland.

22 Are there others who wish to rise in

1 support of this amendment?

2 Mr. Blackwell.

3 MR. BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

4 This matter has obviously been the subject  
5 of more pre-Convention publicity than any rules  
6 matter ever in living memory. It is obviously an  
7 important issue. People have changed sides on the  
8 issue. There were people like me who wished to  
9 repeal the requirements in the rules that were  
10 passed by the Romney Campaign, which prevented  
11 legitimate Delegates' votes being counted if they  
12 cast their vote for somebody who hadn't met the  
13 greatly increased threshold. That position -- I  
14 attempted, in April of 2013, to pass an omnibus  
15 repeal of the -- all the amendments that the Romney  
16 people passed that were -- that we could repeal.  
17 But, circumstances changed.

18 I moved, at our meeting in April, it's --  
19 a rifleshot amendment to the rules, focused just on  
20 that disenfranchisement of Delegates, which caused  
21 hundreds of Delegates to not have their votes  
22 counted at the Tampa Convention. As the Primaries

1 progressed, it became clear that the operation of  
2 the rules was going to have both -- have two  
3 candidates who would qualify: Trump and Cruz. And  
4 suddenly, from the establishment forces, came the  
5 idea: there are no rules to be changed, the  
6 Convention writes its own rules. And that lasted  
7 until it was perceived that the Cruz and Trump  
8 people might have a majority of this Convention.  
9 And the establishment's positions changed. And  
10 Chairman Priebus said, "We should not amend the  
11 rules. We should not amend the rules."

12 In my judgment, we can -- these rules, for  
13 the nominating process at the Convention, can be  
14 amended in only one of two ways. One if there is --

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Gentleman's  
16 time is expired.

17 MR. BLACKWELL: -- a consensus or, second,  
18 after a battle, which could split this Party. And I  
19 think --

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Blackwell --

21 MR. BLACKWELL: -- we need to avoid that.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- I'm sorry, but -

1 -

2 MR. BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam Chairman

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.

4 Blackwell.

5 The staff has just handed me the following

6 "sticky." Two minutes to the 9:30 deadline. We are

7 going to strictly enforce this. Two minutes.

8 Thank you, Mr. Blackwell.

9 Is there someone who wishes to rise in  
10 opposition? Anyone wish to rise in opposition?

11 [No response.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing none, are  
13 there those who would wish to speak in support?

14 Mr. Sheffler.

15 MR. SHEFFLER: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

16 Steve Sheffler, from Iowa.

17 I, too, like Mr. Blackwell, was initially  
18 opposed to binding. But, based on the fact that 22  
19 of the 28 Delegates to the National Convention in  
20 2012 from Iowa voted for a candidate who came in  
21 third place, even though they did everything legally  
22 by the book -- it was an embarrassment, and I don't



1 want to see that happen again.

2           In my State -- it's a purple State --  
3 there was a new poll that came out, I think, just a  
4 couple of days ago, that Donald Trump is leading by  
5 2 points. And I understand that we had these  
6 candidates all vetted. But, I want to remind  
7 everybody what Phyllis Schlafly, who's as  
8 conservative as anybody, or more so than anybody in  
9 this room. Is -- she said, "If you're looking for a  
10 perfect candidate, you won't find Jesus Christ's  
11 name on the ballot on November 8th.

12           And the people that have been sending  
13 these emails, it's over, folks. We need to get  
14 behind our candidate. And I guess it all came --  
15 all the birds came to roost when I was informed by  
16 the Wall Street Journal, about 3 weeks ago, they  
17 were going to run a negative ad against me on one of  
18 these unbinding of the Delegates. And, no offense  
19 to anybody that lives on the East Coast or the West  
20 Coast that your dialect is different than mine, but,  
21 for Pete's sakes, why would you have somebody come  
22 into my State who understand how people's talk in a

1    Midwestern accent and bring somebody from New Jersey  
2    with a distinctive, harsh New Jersey accent to beat  
3    up on me?  And it isn't like I wasn't transparent  
4    from day one.  I told people, when this binding took  
5    into effect, where I was at.  People in my State  
6    support me overwhelmingly.  And I just have to tell  
7    you, it's an insult.  It's over.  Let's get behind  
8    our nominee right now.

9                    Thank you.

10                   [Applause.]

11                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Thank you, Mr.  
12    Scheffler.

13                   Are there others who wish to speak in  
14    opposition?  Opposition?

15                   [No response.]

16                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Seeing none, are  
17    there those who wish to speak in support?

18                   The Lady in the -- right here.

19                   MS. GROSSMAN:  Yes.

20                   Eileen Grossman --

21                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Yes, Eileen.

22                   MS. GROSSMAN:  -- Rhode Island.

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Yes.

2                   MS. GROSSMAN:  As many of these people --  
3  fine people have received, I personally have  
4  received 440 emails to vote my conscience, to  
5  unbind, et cetera.  I want you to know that I  
6  answered every single one of them.  And the  
7  responses back weren't nice.  I was very respectful.

8                   Let me just say this.  I will not turn my  
9  back on 14.1 million people that voted for Donald  
10 Trump.  I will not.  I was elected to be a Trump  
11 Delegate by our State law.  I cannot do anything to  
12 unbind.  And my constituency, at least 300 texted me  
13 and emailed me.  I mean, my -- from my State -- that  
14 voted for Donald Trump and said, "You'd better not  
15 vote against Donald Trump."

16                   So, I strongly urge us to begin going --  
17 hugging the person next to us, do a kumbaya, be  
18 unified, be happy.  We have a better nominee than  
19 the Democrats.

20                   [Applause.]

21                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Thank you.

22                   Are there any people who wish to speak in

1 support -- or, excuse me -- in opposition? Is there  
2 anyone who wishes to speak in opposition?

3 Did the Gentleman rise to support this --

4 MR. HALL: Yes.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes. All right.

6 The Gentleman is recognized.

7 MR. HALL: Thank you.

8 My name is Matt Hall. I'm from Michigan.

9 It's an honor to be here.

10 And I wanted to speak in favor of this  
11 motion. Donald Trump won Michigan overwhelmingly.  
12 Under -- and we had rules, as a Convention body,  
13 that -- and a Party -- that those voters came to  
14 the polls in reliance on those rules. That included  
15 binding. And so, our voters, our State Party, when  
16 we made rules, our State, when we had a taxpayer-  
17 funded Primary, and all the candidates and their  
18 strategies, relied upon these rules, which included  
19 binding. And so, what -- you know, when I was  
20 elected as a Delegate, what was clear to me is that  
21 we have a responsibility to honor that commitment  
22 that we made to our voters and the rules that we

1 will honor their vote, and their vote will count.  
2 And therefore, I fully intend to support Mr. Trump  
3 and support the binding under the current rules.

4 And I call the previous question.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

6 Previous question is in order. We will  
7 immediately move to a vote on closing debate.

8 All those in favor of closing debate on  
9 Amendment number 37.1, please say aye.

10 [A chorus of ayes.]

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Those opposed, nay.

12 [A chorus of nays.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes clearly  
14 have it.

15 We will now vote --

16 VOICE: Division.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: On that one? I'm  
18 going to call for a standing vote on this. Will --  
19 won't that suffice, Mr. Blackwell?

20 VOICE: That is division.

21 MR. BLACKWELL: I called for division. We  
22 do standing vote, Madam Chair.

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, on the  
2 previous question?

3 MR. BLACKWELL: [Inaudible.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. We will  
5 hold a standing vote.

6 We are moving to a vote on the main  
7 motion.

8 All those in favor of adopting Amendment  
9 37.1, please stand.

10 [Members standing.]

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Please be seated.

12 All those opposed, please stand.

13 [Members standing.]

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. Please  
15 be seated.

16 The tally of the vote is as follows: the  
17 ayes are 87, the nays are 12. The motion passes.

18 [Applause.]

19 VOICE: Madam Chairman? Parliamentary --

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir. Yes.

21 VOICE: Name and State.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Name and State,

1 please.

2 MR. OSE: Doug Ose, California.

3 I'd like to move to lay on the table a  
4 motion to reconsider.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The  
6 parliamentarians are telling me the form of the  
7 motion is incorrect. What is it you'd like to  
8 achieve?

9 MR. OSE: I want to end discussion on this  
10 thing we just voted on. I do not want to have a  
11 motion to reconsider, 10 minutes or 10 hours from  
12 now.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: So, you'd like to  
14 make a motion to reconsider at this time.

15 MR. OSE: I'd like to lay it on the table.  
16 I don't care to have a vote.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I'm afraid we can't  
18 do that. If you want to end it, you'd have to make  
19 a motion to reconsider, and we would vote again.

20 MR. OSE: Would that end any further  
21 discussion of this --

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, it would.

1 VOICE: Parliamentary inquiry.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, Mr. --

3 VOICE: So, I understand that if the  
4 Gentleman were to make a motion to reconsider, and  
5 then you had voted with the majority, and you  
6 decided to vote no on reconsideration, that would  
7 end things once and for all.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Correct.

9 VOICE: Okay. I'm a slow learner, but I -  
10 -

11 MR. ROSS: Request for information.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

13 MR. ROSS: Am I not correct, Madam Chair,  
14 that, in a motion to reconsider, only those persons  
15 who voted against it can vote to vote for it? Or do  
16 I have that backwards?

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, the --

18 VOICE: You have it backwards.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- the motion must  
20 be made by those who voted on the prevailing side.

21 MR. ROSS: Right.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: So, if Mr. Ose



1 voted in favor, he is eligible to make a motion to  
2 reconsider.

3 MR. ROSS: Right. And so, only the people  
4 who voted -- all those people who voted against the  
5 motion cannot vote for this motion to reconsider.  
6 Do I have that right?

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: They cannot move to  
8 reconsider.

9 MR. ROSS: Oh, cannot move. Oh. Thank  
10 you.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

12 Mr. Ose, did you wish to make a motion to  
13 reconsider?

14 MR. OSE: I move to reconsider.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved.

16 Is there a second?

17 VOICE: Second.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
19 seconded. We will move directly to a motion to  
20 reconsider.

21 VOICE: So, as a point of information,  
22 when we say that this discussion is over, what does

1 that mean?

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. Name and  
3 State, please.

4 MR. BROWN: This is Fred Brown, from  
5 Alaska.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It means that we  
7 cannot reconsider this particular amendment.

8 MR. BROWN: All right. Thank you.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.  
10 All of those in favor of reconsidering  
11 this amendment, please --

12 Okay, Mr. Ose, you have another point to  
13 make?

14 MR. OSE: Madam Chairman, just for  
15 everybody's edification, an aye vote on this means -  
16 -

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That we --

18 MR. OSE: -- that we take it up again.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Correct.

20 MR. OSE: A no vote means we don't take it  
21 up again.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That is correct.

1 MR. OSE: Thank you for the clarification.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

3 So, all those in favor of the motion to  
4 reconsider, meaning an aye vote means that you want  
5 to reconsider and reopen debate, all of those  
6 people, please say aye.

7 [A chorus of ayes.]

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Those opposed, nay.

9 [A chorus of nays.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Not at all close.  
11 The noes have it.

12 All right. All right. Just for  
13 everyone's information, we have passed our 9:30  
14 deadline. My understanding is that very few  
15 amendments came in at that point. Okay, there are  
16 still a few coming through the process. We'll just  
17 continue to move forward.

18 Amendment number 38.1 -- 38.1 is an  
19 amendment to Rule number 38. It has been submitted  
20 by the Lady from Colorado, Ms. Unruh, who is  
21 recognized for the purpose of making a motion.

22 Ms. Unruh? Is Ms. Unruh here? Oh.

1 MS. UNRUH: I'm Kendal Unruh, from the  
2 State of Colorado.

3 And I would like to move the -- I can't  
4 read it anywhere here -- okay. I would like to add  
5 the language to Rule number 38 to add that -- let's  
6 just read it, to insert the following as a new  
7 sentence at the end of Rule 38, "Notwithstanding any  
8 other provision of these rules or any rule of the  
9 U.S. House of Representatives, the right of each  
10 Delegate and alternate Delegate to vote their  
11 conscience on all matters shall not be infringed or  
12 impaired by any State Party rule, State law, ruling  
13 by the National Convention Chair or any other  
14 method."

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved.  
16 Is there a second?

17 VOICE: Second.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
19 seconded.

20 Ms. Unruh, would you like to address your  
21 amendment?

22 MS. UNRUH: I would.

1           Does anybody need any information about  
2 the conscience clause? Obviously, this is a very  
3 important topic to the hearts of many Americans,  
4 because we have all been inundated with all of the  
5 emails that have flooded our email boxes about very  
6 heartfelt convictions from Americans and patriots  
7 and people from all walks of life who truly believe  
8 in the right to conscience. And the right to  
9 conscience is not just something that we've decided  
10 is a cool idea, but it's something that is the very  
11 basis of our Nation. It is why the Pilgrims came  
12 here and founded our Nation. It is a God-given  
13 right. It's why we have the Bill of Rights. It is  
14 why you cannot force a doctor to perform abortions  
15 when it's against his right to conscience. You  
16 cannot force the Mennonites to go into the draft.  
17 It is systemically the core of every single  
18 American.

19           And what this does is, it allows people to  
20 exercise that right and not be bound by State law,  
21 that the Supreme Court has actually ruled cannot  
22 happen within a private organization. But, beyond

1 that, this is a process, and this is literally how  
2 our founding fathers set up the rule of law, the way  
3 that our government operates. And the Party,  
4 itself, is modeling what has been established as the  
5 right to Delegates, who take it extraordinarily  
6 seriously the sanctity of their votes.

7           And all I am asking is that you regard  
8 this as the sanctity of the vote, that it is  
9 reflected in the duty and the obligation of each  
10 Delegate to cast a ballot according to their  
11 conscience.

12           That is a God-given right that should not  
13 be taken away by the RNC, by any Party, or by the  
14 State. And it has been ruled that -- even with the  
15 recent court ruling in Virginia, that the State  
16 cannot actually overstep a boundary and determine  
17 the outcome of a vote that to be left to a Delegate,  
18 alone.

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
20 Unruh.

21           Are there any who wish to rise in  
22 opposition?

1           The Gentleman from -- is it -- Michigan.

2           MR. HALL: Correct. Yes. Thank you,  
3 Madam Chairman.

4           Again, my name is Matt Hall, from  
5 Michigan.

6           Donald Trump can win this election and be  
7 our next President of the United States, but, in  
8 order to do that, we need to allow our -- the record  
9 number of Republican voters who voted for Donald  
10 Trump in our Primary to have their voice heard. And  
11 that means honoring the rules and the commitment of  
12 our Party to bind the Delegates and make their vote  
13 count.

14           And, accordingly, I move to call the  
15 previous question.

16           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
17 is in order. We will move immediately to a vote on  
18 the previous question.

19           All of those in favor of previous question  
20 ending debate on this matter, please say aye.

21           [A chorus of ayes.]

22           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, no.

1 [A chorus of nays.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Chair is in  
3 doubt, and we will have a standing vote. Previous  
4 question does require a two-thirds majority to pass.

5 All of those in favor of ending debate on  
6 this matter, please stand.

7 [Members standing.]

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. Please  
9 be seated.

10 All those opposed to previous question,  
11 please stand.

12 [Members standing.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. You may  
14 be seated.

15 The votes are as follows: in favor of  
16 previous question, 77; those opposed, 21. It's  
17 clear two-thirds majority. Previous question  
18 passes. And we will now move to an immediate vote  
19 on the amendment.

20 All those in favor of adopting Amendment  
21 38.1, as submitted by Ms. Unruh, of Colorado, please  
22 say aye.



1 [A chorus of ayes.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
3 nay.

4 [A chorus of nays.]

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Clearly, the nays  
6 have it.

7 VOICE: Division.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay, we will take  
9 a standing vote. Oh, they tell me I don't have to,  
10 because I've already declared it and it's clear.

11 All right. We've been counted, we've  
12 stood. We're going to move forward.

13 All right. Amendment --

14 VOICE: Madam Chairman?

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- 38.2 --

16 VOICE: Madam Chairman?

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, Mr. Ose.

18 MR. OSE: I move to reconsider. I was on  
19 the prevailing side. I move to reconsider.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Mr. Ose  
21 has moved to reconsider. Is there a second?

22 VOICE: Second.

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. There  
2 has been motion and second.

3                   All those in favor of reconsideration,  
4 which means an aye vote means that we can reopen and  
5 continue to discuss this amendment. A nay vote  
6 means that we have finally concluded any debate on  
7 this amendment permanently. All those in favor of  
8 reconsideration, please say aye.

9                   [A chorus of ayes.]

10                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
11 nay.

12                  [A chorus of nays.]

13                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays clearly  
14 have it. There is no further reconsideration of  
15 this particular amendment.

16                  All right. Let's move forward now to  
17 Amendment 38.2. This impacts, again, Rule number  
18 38. It has been proposed by Mr. Ross, of Nevada,  
19 who is recognized for the purpose of making a  
20 motion.

21                  MR. ROSS: Yes, Madam Chairman, thank you.

22                  I have decided to introduce a logo.

1 [Laughter.]

2 MR. ROSS: I'm just waiting for the  
3 amendment to come up. By the way, if anybody's  
4 asking, I despise this logo, and I have since I was  
5 13. I apologize, that was out of order.

6 [Laughter.]

7 MR. ROSS: Let's get a new one. Big,  
8 tough, mean-looking elephant, with tusks.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: You need to check  
10 out Liberty, which is the elephant on the Cleveland  
11 2016 logo. He's not mean-looking, but, you know,  
12 he's standing on a guitar.

13 MR. ROSS: It's -- that's an improvement,  
14 but, you know, my job title is State Whip, so I like  
15 mean.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Can we  
17 get the staff to bring this up?

18 MR. ROSS: Yeah, the sooner they get it  
19 up, the sooner I will shutup.

20 [Laughter.]

21 MR. ROSS: There you go, okay.

22 Madam Chair, I introduce Rule 38.2, as

1 presented.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. Is  
3 there a second?

4 VOICE: Second.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
6 seconded.

7 Mr. Ross, would you like to speak to your  
8 amendment?

9 MR. ROSS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

10 The language in this is precisely the same  
11 as in the amendment on Rule 37 I introduced. For  
12 those of you who voted in favor of that, I thank  
13 you, and I ask that you vote again. For those who  
14 chose not to support it, I just want to go on the  
15 record saying I understand your concerns, and I feel  
16 that, when this is all over, there is no more  
17 division on this. We're all Republicans, and  
18 Republicans are very individual. That's a fact of  
19 life. We can have honest differences. When we walk  
20 out of here, we all walk out of here together.

21 I'm asking to have this to clarify on the  
22 issue we did -- clarified the issue on the roll

1 call. This clarifies the issue on the unit rules.  
2 See, I had to cheat back there, put my glasses back  
3 on. There has been some contention for some time  
4 that the unit rule inherently prohibits binding. I  
5 have said for years it does not, but there have been  
6 arguments on both sides. Again, as I said before  
7 with Rule 37, it's time to put this to a rest.  
8 Let's go ahead and simply settle the question once  
9 and for all.

10 I need to know that my constituents, when  
11 they walk in -- and they don't -- I understand --  
12 the millions of people who vote, they're not like  
13 rules nerds like me, okay? And a couple of other  
14 people in this room. They're not playing the inside  
15 baseball. They go in, they vote for Bill Jones. If  
16 he wins all -- the majority of the votes, they  
17 expect him to be the candidate. They vote for a  
18 Mary Smith, she gets the most, they expect her to  
19 win. That's all I'm asking here.

20 I ask your -- for a yes vote.

21 Thank you very much.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.

1 Ross.

2 Would anyone like to rise in opposition?

3 Mr. Haugland.

4 MR. HAUGLAND: Madam Chairman, I'd like to  
5 move an amendment to this rule -- motion.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Please statement  
7 your amendment.

8 MR. HAUGLAND: I would like to move to  
9 amend the entire Rule 38, to repeal it.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That is not germane  
11 to this particular amendment. You would need to  
12 move to strike the entire clause after we have dealt  
13 with this particular item.

14 MR. HAUGLAND: Thank you.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

16 All right. Is there anyone else who  
17 wishes to rise in opposition or support for this  
18 amendment?

19 Mr. Lee.

20 SENATOR LEE: I rise in opposition to this  
21 amendment. I think it's important for us to  
22 remember that, as members of this Committee, we can

1 make any change to any rule that we want. As  
2 Delegates, we can choose to vote for whomever we  
3 choose on the floor, ultimately, assuming the rules  
4 allow that.

5           A lot of the focus today has been,  
6 understandably, on expanding our Party, making its  
7 appeal broader, making those who have felt excluded  
8 from it feel more included. And that's important.  
9 We sent the opposite signal every time we take our  
10 rules and we clamp down on our rules further. We  
11 make it less possible for Delegates to exercise  
12 their right to have a voice in this process.

13           Now, I think our elections are absolutely  
14 important. They're essential. They're fundamental.  
15 Delegates traditionally, historically, have been  
16 considered honorbound to follow the outcome of their  
17 States' Primary election. And they overwhelmingly  
18 have done so. But, historically, it has also been  
19 the case that Delegates have retained some option,  
20 some choice on their own to make their own  
21 decisions, in the unusual event that they find some  
22 conscience-binding reason why they can't do that.

1           At the end of the day, we have to remember  
2   that it's important for our presidential nominees to  
3   win at two levels. First, to win the Primaries, and  
4   then to win over the Delegates. It almost always  
5   happens. I hope that whoever our nominee is going  
6   to be this time will, in fact, win over the  
7   Delegates. But, rules like this are not going to  
8   help that. This problem, this angst, as we will see  
9   in a few days, isn't just going to go away just  
10  because we paper over it with rules.

11           So, I say to Mr. Trump and those aligned  
12  with him, make the case. Make the case to those  
13  Delegates who want to have a voice. Make the case  
14  that they should use their voice to support him.  
15  Don't make the case that their voices should be  
16  silenced. That's not going to help. It's not going  
17  to help elect him President. It's not going to help  
18  our Party in the long run.

19           Thank you.

20           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

21           [Applause.]

22           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone who



1 wishes --

2                   Guests, please. Thank you.

3                   Is there anyone who wishes to rise in  
4 support of the amendment?

5                   Mr. Munisteri?

6                   MR. MUNISTERI: I have great respect for  
7 Senator Lee, as we all do, for representing our  
8 conservative values. But, sir, I have to take issue  
9 with you on something.

10                  My understanding is that you represent the  
11 grassroots. And yet, what I don't understand about  
12 your logic is, you want to ignore what are really  
13 the grassroots, which are millions and millions and  
14 millions of voters who voted for Donald Trump, and  
15 instead transfer the opinion and the expression of  
16 that opinion through a vote to a couple of thousand  
17 Delegates.

18                  Now, to me, if we're really representing  
19 the grassroots and we're really representing  
20 conservatism, we listen to those voices, and we  
21 exercise our responsibility, but, more importantly,  
22 we advance the conservative cause. The only way to

1 advance the conservative cause is through a strong  
2 Republican Party that is united to defeat Hillary  
3 Clinton and the Democrats this fall. That's the  
4 only way to do it.

5 [Applause.]

6 MR. MUNISTERI: Sir, there is nobody else  
7 running for President in this Party right now than  
8 Donald Trump. No other person has said, "I am  
9 running. I will accept your nomination." Nobody is  
10 vetting Vice Presidents. Nobody is raising money  
11 with the Republican National Committee to prepare  
12 for the battle, which begins in 2 months with early  
13 voting. I have been involved in the conservative  
14 movement since 1972, 44 years -- a precinct chair, a  
15 doorknocker, a member of the Reagan Youth Brigade up  
16 here at the last Convention. And I will tell you  
17 that the most important thing to me is, we don't let  
18 the left wing take over our country this fall. And  
19 the only thing that's standing between that  
20 happening is our victory with our nominee and our  
21 ticket.

22 It is time, sir, for you and everyone else

1 to come together to say this Party will be united,  
2 and we will defeat the Democrats. And these motions  
3 are a way to do it.

4 Thank you. And I do applaud you for your  
5 service.

6 [Applause.]

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
8 Munisteri.

9 Is there anyone who rises in opposition?  
10 In opposition?

11 Mr. Semanko, are you rising in opposition?

12 MR. SEMANKO: Yes, Madam Chair.

13 Norm Semanko, from Idaho.

14 And, as a matter of decorum, I'd like to  
15 request that future comments by speakers be directed  
16 to the Chair.

17 I have a question, if the sponsor would  
18 yield.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Would the sponsor  
20 yield to question?

21 MR. SEMANKO: It's a clarifying question.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yeah, it -- ask it

1 through the Chair, Mr. Semanko, as you correctly --

2 VOICE: That's appropriate, Madam Chair.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- pointed out.

4 Ask it through the Chair, and then I'll  
5 direct it to him.

6 MR. SEMANKO: With regard -- the question  
7 is, "With regard to the language in the amendment,  
8 nothing in this rule shall be construed or prohibit  
9 the binding of Delegates pursuant to Rule 16(a)."  
10 Am I reading Rule 16(a) correctly that that binding  
11 could be either through State law, State rule, or  
12 just the result of the Primary? Absent any State  
13 law or State rule, you're still bound by the result  
14 of the Primary? Are those all three ways that you  
15 can be bound under 16(a) that we're enshrining with  
16 this amendment?

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That seems to me to  
18 be requiring a legal opinion.

19 Mr. Phillippe, would you like to address  
20 that?

21 The Gentleman is correct, because the  
22 National Party Rules always serve as Primary. The

1 National Party Rules incorporate the Primary -- the  
2 National Rules incorporate the Primary results.  
3 National Rules always supersede any State law to the  
4 contrary or, in this case, where there's a contrary  
5 rule, any State Party Rules to the contrary.

6 MR. SEMANKO: So, irregardless if there's  
7 no State law and no State rule that binds Delegates  
8 from that State to the outcome of their Primary,  
9 they would nonetheless be bound to the result of the  
10 Primary, pursuant to the National Rule.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That is what the --

12 MR. SEMANKO: Thank you.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- National Rules  
14 provide.

15 MR. SEMANKO: Thank you.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Are  
17 there -- anyone who would like to rise in support?

18 Mr. Paikai, are you rising in support or  
19 opposition?

20 MR. PAIKAI: I am in support.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Would you like to  
22 say anything else, sir?

1 MR. PAIKAI: No, ma'am. Yes, I would.

2 A house divided against itself shall not  
3 stand. When I came into this, I was asked by one  
4 that was helping Mr. Cruz [inaudible] -- "If Mr.  
5 Cruz or Senator Cruz win, would you vote for him?"  
6 And I said, "Absolutely, yes." Then I said, "When  
7 Mr. Trump wins, would you?" Because I know the  
8 binding -- we're only as good as our word. And she  
9 said, "I would."

10 I need to ask all of you -- excuse me,  
11 because I'm very emotional about this -- I need to  
12 ask you, Are we going to do this together? Are we  
13 going to be divided? For the law says, the rule  
14 says that you are legally bound to whom -- your  
15 candidate of whom you were standing with, for whom  
16 you were walking with. I'm only as good as my word.

17 And I ask you to be good as your word. A house  
18 divided against itself shall not stand. He is the  
19 nominee, because he won 1543 Delegates votes and 14  
20 million people came, and they voted for him. So,  
21 why cannot we, as a body, come together with the RNC  
22 and everyone else, and get together and show the

1 whole world and the universe that we are a Party,  
2 not divided, but we are a Party of one.

3 Thank you, Madam --

4 [Applause.]

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
6 Paikai.

7 MS. BLANCHARD-REED: Thank you, Madam  
8 Chair.

9 I'll try to be more respectful with my  
10 speech.

11 I'd like to rise --

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I'm sorry? What's  
13 the issue?

14 MS. BLANCHARD-REED: Well, I thought I  
15 heard a profanity, and I --

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, I don't believe  
17 that's the case.

18 MS. BLANCHARD-REED: Well, good, that kind  
19 of concerned me, that that wasn't addressed. Sorry.

20 Okay, thank you.

21 Well, I -- I'm a little bit surprised, a  
22 little earlier -- my name is Gina Blanchard-Reed,

1 I'm from Washington State -- that there wasn't  
2 allowed to be a little bit more of a debate on this  
3 issue on the previous, because I think that we all,  
4 as we stated earlier, that there were so many  
5 emails. And I think that, when we talk about the  
6 word "vote," we need to think about how it  
7 represents our voice. So, I'd like to make an  
8 amendment to the amendment that's currently up to  
9 change the word "vote" to say "count." Because I  
10 think that that is more accurate, because we're not  
11 actually -- if we don't have a voice, and if people,  
12 as Delegates, don't have a voice, then maybe we just  
13 need to change it to a count, and maybe that might  
14 simplify some things.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I'm sorry, but your  
16 amendment is not in order, because it is not an  
17 amendment to the amendment that is before us. It  
18 would be a separate amendment to the rule. And so,  
19 your amendment is not in order at this time.

20 MS. BLANCHARD-REED. Okay, thank you.  
21 But, I would like to speak out against the part that  
22 is being considered.



1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Certainly.

2 MS. BLANCHARD-REED: Thank you.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
4 there anyone else who would like to rise to speak in  
5 support of the amendment? Support of the amendment?

6 Mr. Palatucci.

7 MR. PALATUCCI: Madam Chair -- Madam  
8 Chairwoman, thank you.

9 Bill Palatucci, from New Jersey.

10 You know, I've sat here quietly all day,  
11 and the -- listened to a lot of good arguments on a  
12 lot of different questions. But, I felt this one  
13 was important enough to speak up and speak my mind  
14 briefly on this one.

15 You know, in New Jersey, our State Party,  
16 nobody's told us how to vote. It wasn't State law,  
17 it wasn't the RNC. Our Party last year, last  
18 summer, got together. We met. We deliberated. We  
19 debated. We voted. And we determined what our  
20 Party rules were going to be for our Primary and our  
21 Delegates. And, based upon that Party decision, we  
22 conducted our Primary, we elected our Delegates, and

1 we, last summer, as a Party -- okay? -- not by State  
2 law or not by the RNC -- we, as a group, ourselves,  
3 made our decision. And we decided to bind  
4 ourselves. And then we conducted a Primary. And  
5 obviously, back then, you know, we had a different  
6 candidate in mind. And -- but, Donald Trump, then,  
7 won 80 percent of New Jersey Primary vote, nearly  
8 356,000 votes, as a result of that Primary. And so,  
9 that's why, you know, I support this amendment,  
10 based on the decisions that we made, ourselves at  
11 our State Party.

12           And, with that, Madam Chairman, I call for  
13 the previous question.

14           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
15 is in order. We will move directly to a vote on  
16 closing debate.

17           All those in favor of closing debate on  
18 Amendment 38.2, please say aye.

19           [A chorus of ayes.]

20           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

21           [A chorus of nays.]

22           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes clearly

1 have it. It's over two-thirds. And we move  
2 directly to a vote on the main motion.

3 All those in favor of adopting Amendment  
4 number 38.2, please say aye.

5 [A chorus of ayes.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, no.

7 [A chorus of nays.]

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes clearly  
9 have it.

10 Next, we will go to an amendment that has  
11 been --

12 VOICE: Madam Chair?

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

14 MR. OSE: Doug Ose, California.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I have a --

16 MR. OSE: I was in the affirmative.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I know what you're  
18 going to do.

19 MR. OSE: I'm going to ask for  
20 reconsideration. Thank you.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
22 there a second for reconsideration?

1 VOICE: Second.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a second  
3 for reconsideration. We will now vote on  
4 reconsideration.

5 In the vote on reconsideration, if you  
6 vote aye, you are voting to keep debate open, if you  
7 vote nay, you are voting to close debate on this  
8 amendment permanently.

9 All those in favor of reconsideration,  
10 please say aye.

11 [A chorus of ayes.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Those opposed, nay.

13 [A chorus of nays.]

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays clearly  
15 have it.

16 All right. Now we're going to consider an  
17 amendment that has been proposed by Mr. Steve King,  
18 of Wisconsin. And, as he is approaching the  
19 microphone, I simply need to take this point of  
20 personal privilege to say: Mr. King has devoted the  
21 last year and a half of his life to being the  
22 Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, which is

1 the Committee that puts on this Convention. And he  
2 has done an incredible job, as you will all see next  
3 week, and I just want to let you know, Steve, of my  
4 personal appreciation for the work that you have put  
5 in on this Convention. It has been extraordinary.

6 [Applause.]

7 MR. KING: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

8 All right. Ladies and gentlemen, this is  
9 Amendment 40.2. It applies to Rule number 40(b).  
10 Mr. King, you are recognized for the purpose of a  
11 motion.

12 MR. KING: Well, I think you -- can you  
13 all read it? This replaces the existing 40(b). It  
14 reads as follows, "Beginning with the 2020 National  
15 Convention and each Convention thereafter, each  
16 candidate for nomination for the President of the  
17 United States and Vice President of the United  
18 States shall demonstrate the support of a plurality  
19 of the Delegates from each of five or more States  
20 severally prior to the presentation of the name of  
21 that candidate for nomination, notwithstanding any  
22 other provisions of these rules or any rule of the

1 House of Representatives. To demonstrate the  
2 support required by this paragraph, a certificate  
3 evidencing a plurality with the affirmative written  
4 support of the required number of permanently seated  
5 Delegates from each of the five or more States shall  
6 have submitted to the Secretary of the Convention  
7 not later than 1 hour prior to the placing of the  
8 names of candidates for nomination pursuant to this  
9 rule and established order of business."

10 VOICE: Second.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It has been moved  
12 and seconded.

13 Mr. King, would you like to speak to your  
14 amendment?

15 MR. KING: We were all -- many of us,  
16 anyway, were obviously present at the 2012  
17 Convention in Tampa. Several of us were on that  
18 Rules Committee. We adopted a rule at that time,  
19 obviously, that went to the floor and was adopted,  
20 was passed by the delegation, but not without,  
21 obviously, some concerns.

22 That was then, this is now. Let's move

1 forward. What this amendment proposes, obviously,  
2 is that we return to the traditional five States  
3 instead of the eight, and the plurality instead of a  
4 majority. We've had five States as the marker for  
5 being nominated for many, many decades. We changed  
6 that 4 years ago. And we moved from a majority to a  
7 plurality, I think it was in 2008 or something like  
8 that.

9 I'd like to think that this kind of  
10 amendment serves that which we heard from the  
11 Gentleman from Hawaii's purpose. It can bring us  
12 together. I hope it's something that we can all  
13 agree to.

14 And, beyond that, Madam Chairman, I'd like  
15 to make sure that we get through this before we  
16 entertain any amendments.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank  
18 you, Mr. King.

19 All right. Is there anyone who would like  
20 to rise in opposition? In opposition?

21 Mr. Semanko, are you rising in opposition?

22 MR. SEMANKO: I would like to move to

1 amend the motion.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Oh, that's --

3 MR. SEMANKO: Am I not in order?

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, you are in  
5 order. I'm sorry, Mr. King, but the Gentleman is in  
6 order.

7 MR. SEMANKO: And if it's no good, it'll  
8 go down. I appreciate the opportunity.

9 I move to amend this amendment to add,  
10 after the word "certificate" "upon" -- comma, "upon  
11 forms" -- "upon a form provided by the Secretary,"  
12 comma.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?  
14 Is there a second?

15 VOICE: Second.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been seconded.  
17 Moved and seconded.

18 Mr. Semanko, would you like to speak to  
19 your amendment?

20 MR. SEMANKO: Just briefly. And if this  
21 is proven not to be necessary, I'll be happy to be  
22 corrected. But, this question has come up during



1 this Convention, about why certain States who have a  
2 majority for a certain candidate haven't provided a  
3 certificate. And I don't know if there is a form,  
4 or should be a form, that's available to provide  
5 that on. Now certainly is moot, but, in the future,  
6 for this five-person -- five-State -- and perhaps  
7 Mr. King knows the answer to this, but I'm just  
8 curious what form the certificate is to take if it  
9 is in a form prepared -- provided by the Secretary.

10 Thank you.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
12 there anyone who rises in opposition to the  
13 amendment? Is there anyone who rises in opposition  
14 to the amendment?

15 Mr. Blackwell, are you rising in  
16 opposition?

17 MR. BLACKWELL: No, I'm going --

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No.

19 MR. BLACKWELL: I want to speak in favor.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.

21 The Gentleman from West Virginia, are you  
22 rising in opposition?

1 MR. STUART: Yeah, Mike Stuart, West  
2 Virginia.

3 I do rise in opposition. I think the rule  
4 -- the proposed amendment, as written, is  
5 sufficient. It serves our purposes. It's been well  
6 written and well studied.

7 I'd ask that we call the question at this  
8 moment, on the previous question --

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous --

10 MR. STUART: -- on the amendment to the  
11 amendment.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
13 is in order. And so, we will immediately move to a  
14 vote on cutting off debate on the amendment to the  
15 amendment.

16 All of those in favor of cutting off  
17 debate, please say aye.

18 [A chorus of ayes.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

20 [No response.]

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The motion passes.

22 We are now moving directly to a vote on

1 the motion, itself. The motion is that we insert,  
2 following the word "certificate" "upon a form  
3 provided by the Secretary."

4 All those in favor of adoption of this  
5 amendment, please say aye.

6 [A chorus of ayes.]

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

8 [A chorus of nays.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

10 Next, we will move to Amendment number --

11 Oh, excuse me. I'm sorry. Now we're back  
12 to the main motion. I'm sorry. It's 10:15. Give  
13 me one.

14 All right. We are now voting on the main  
15 motion. All those in favor --

16 MR. LITTLE: I thought we would -- debate  
17 was still on the main motion.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We called --

19 MR. LITTLE: I think it just closed --

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I -- okay, yes.

21 I've just made two mistakes, because we just voted  
22 on previous question for the amendment to the

1 amendment. So, we will continue to debate the main  
2 motion. My apologies.

3 Mr. King?

4 MR. KING: I just wanted to say one other  
5 thing. As noted, I'm from Wisconsin. This  
6 amendment has the support of my friend, the Chairman  
7 of our National Committee, his wholehearted support.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
10 King.

11 Is there anyone else who would like to  
12 rise in opposition? In opposition?

13 MR. LITTLE: Thank you, Madam Chairman,  
14 can I ask a question?

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, Mr. Little.

16 MR. LITTLE: I believe we talked about  
17 this in the Standing Committee on Rules. Let's say  
18 you had a delegation of 30, and it was signed by 10  
19 as a plurality, and then someone other -- 11  
20 Delegates from the same State would then file a  
21 petition signed by 11, which -- okay, I'll -- how --  
22 when -- how do you know that it's a plurality? How

1 are we going to know that?

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, the plurality  
3 -- you simply have to have the requisite number of  
4 signatures from that State. So, you have to have  
5 more than any other. So, if two different petitions  
6 came in, and one had 10 signatures, and one had 11  
7 signatures, the one with the 11 signatures would  
8 control. Because it -- you do not have to have a  
9 majority, but you have to have more votes than any  
10 other entity in your delegation.

11 MR. LITTLE: So, any State could submit a  
12 petition or certificate, and it would be considered  
13 valid unless some other group with a larger  
14 plurality would then offer a second petition with  
15 more Delegates.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, I believe if  
17 there was any question as to the validity of the  
18 plurality, that the Chairman of the Convention would  
19 have the opportunity to check with the delegation,  
20 not necessarily from the podium, but that is  
21 certainly something that would be researched to make  
22 certain that it was valid.

1 MR. LITTLE: Thank you, Madam Chairman

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.

3 Little.

4 Let's go to Mr. Blackwell first.

5 MR. BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

6 I support this proposal. I've had a  
7 conversation with Mr. King about it. This amendment  
8 will, essentially, restore the circumstances that  
9 were passed into our rules in 2008 with a threshold  
10 of a plurality of the delegates in at least five  
11 States. In the years when that five-State threshold  
12 was a majority and was employed, the purpose of it,  
13 of course, was to reduce the number of favorite-son  
14 candidates so the Convention could proceed with its  
15 business. And it was generally understood. But, in  
16 those Conventions, notwithstanding the threshold,  
17 votes that were cast by legitimate Delegates who  
18 were acting in accord with their State Party rules  
19 had their votes counted, which they weren't, in  
20 Tampa, because the rules had been changed, and had  
21 their votes included in the final tally.

22 I asked Mr. King if he agreed that his

1 proposal restores that previous set of circumstances  
2 and would not disenfranchise duly-elected delegates  
3 who -- for voting for somebody whom they may have  
4 been even bound for, and still their votes would be  
5 counted in the final tally. And he agreed with my  
6 understanding on that. And that's one reason why  
7 I'm enthusiastically supporting his amendment.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
10 Blackwell.

11 Mr. DeVito.

12 MR. DeVITO: Madam Chair, thank you.

13 I urge the Committee to vote yes on this  
14 amendment. I'm urging a yes vote on this amendment.

15 We are hours away from nominating the next  
16 President and Vice President of the United States,  
17 and it feels like a win.

18 I call the question.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
20 has been called and is in order. So, we will  
21 immediately move to a vote to conclude debate on  
22 this amendment.

1 All those in favor of concluding debate,  
2 please say aye.

3 [A chorus of ayes.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
5 nay.

6 [No response.]

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes clearly  
8 have it.

9 We will now move to an immediate vote on  
10 this particular amendment.

11 All those in favor of adopting Mr. King's  
12 amendment, please say aye.

13 [A chorus of ayes.]

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Those opposed, no.

15 [No response.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

17 As a matter of fact, I believe it was unanimous.

18 [Applause.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: And now that the --

20 oh, I see Mr. Ose rising.

21 MR. OSE: Madam Chair --

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, Mr. Ose.



1 MR. OSE: -- Doug Ose, California.

2 Despite the unanimity of the panel, I move  
3 for reconsideration.

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?

5 VOICE: Second.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Reconsideration has  
7 been moved and seconded.

8 Once again, I'll remind you that if you  
9 vote for reconsideration, you are voting to continue  
10 debate. If you vote against reconsideration, you  
11 are voting to foreclose any further debate on this  
12 amendment.

13 All of those in favor of continuing debate  
14 through reconsideration, please say aye.

15 [No response.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Hearing none, all  
17 those opposed to reconsideration, please say no.

18 [A chorus of nays.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No.

20 Now that this matter is finally disposed  
21 of, and my personal opinion will not sway -- not  
22 that it would have, anyway -- but, I'm very glad,

1 and I want to express my appreciation that this  
2 thorn that has been in our flesh for over 4 -- well,  
3 for 4 years now, that caused so much disappointment  
4 and so much trouble, has finally been removed.

5 Thank you, Mr. King.

6 All right.

7 [Applause.]

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We will now move to  
9 Ms. Unruh's motion on Rule number 40(b).

10 Ms. Unruh, if you would like to -- let's  
11 see, where is she? Here she comes. Ms. Unruh, you  
12 are recognized for the purpose of making a motion.

13 MS. UNRUH: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

14 Kendal Unruh, from Colorado.

15 I would like to move the proposed language  
16 that, in the first sentence, you strike the word  
17 "majority" and substitute the word "plurality,"  
18 strike the word "eight" and substitute the word  
19 "five" in both places those words appear in the  
20 subsection, and, in the second sentence, strike the  
21 words "or any rule of the House of Representative."

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. The

1 Chair is going to point out to the body that we have  
2 just passed the first two items of this particular  
3 amendment. We have changed the word "majority" to  
4 "plurality," and we have stricken the word "eight"  
5 and substituted the word "five," so the only things  
6 that would be remaining in this amendment would be  
7 the final sentence.

8 Is there a second? Is there a second?

9 [No response.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Hearing none, it  
11 dies for lack of a second.

12 MS. UNRUH: Okay, thank you.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Next, we go to  
14 Amendment number 42.1, also proposed by Mrs. Unruh.

15 This impacts Rule number 42.

16 Mrs. Unruh, if you would like to approach  
17 the microphone, and we will -- the Chair will  
18 recognize you for the purpose of making a motion.

19 MS. UNRUH: Okay.

20 Madam Chairman, I would like to propose --  
21 move to propose the language -- strike the existing  
22 language in its entirety, insert in lieu thereof the

1 following, "Rules 1 to 25 herein shall apply upon  
2 the adjournment of the 2016 Convention, and Rules 26  
3 to 42 herein shall constitute the Standing Rules for  
4 this Convention and the Temporary Rules of the 2020  
5 Convention."

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?

7 VOICE: Second.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
9 seconded.

10 Mrs. Unruh, if you'd like to address the  
11 body with regard to your amendment.

12 MS. UNRUH: Well, I just think it's  
13 explanatory. It's just setting into order exactly  
14 what we've done here today and tonight, and just  
15 codifying, I guess, just what are the Standing Rules  
16 and what are the Temporary Rules.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right, Mrs.  
18 Unruh.

19 Is there someone who would rise in  
20 opposition to the motion?

21 Mr. Ryder, of Tennessee.

22 MR. RYDER: John Ryder, Tennessee.

1           I rise in opposition and urge a no vote on  
2 this amendment. I believe it to be unnecessary, in  
3 that Rules 1 through 25 remain in effect when they  
4 are adopted, and they remain in effect going into  
5 the next Convention, as found by the Court last week  
6 in Correll versus Herring. The Temporary Rules are  
7 exactly that, temporary rules. So, you've got a set  
8 of Rules 1 through 25, which have no practical  
9 effect, since they deal with the matters of the  
10 Republican National Committee and the Delegate  
11 selection process. They have no practical effect  
12 until after this Convention goes out, back into the  
13 world, and the new RNC convenes on Friday morning.  
14 The Convention Rules take effect at the Convention,  
15 as adopted by the Convention.

16           It's an unnecessary rule, and I would urge  
17 a no vote.

18           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there anyone  
19 else who wishes to rise in support?

20           Mr. Haugland.

21           MR. HAUGLAND: Madam Chair, I would --  
22 Curly Haugland, North Dakota -- I would certainly

1 rise in support of this. It clarifies an area that  
2 evidently many people are confused about in this  
3 body, because we have a lot of people that are under  
4 the impression that a rule in the 1 through 25 apply  
5 to this Convention, that mainly being Rule 16. And  
6 I don't quite get the reference to a court case that  
7 had nothing to do, at this point, by the previous  
8 speaker. But, this is very clear and distinct  
9 language that identifies the difference between the  
10 Convention Rules and the rules that do not pertain  
11 to the Convention. And therefore, it would be wise  
12 to vote yes.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Gentleman from  
14 West Virginia is recognized.

15 MR. STUART: Mike Stuart, West Virginia.

16 I stand in opposition. I believe this  
17 rule is insufficient -- or unnecessary, let me put  
18 it that way. And I move the previous question.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
20 is in order. We will now move immediately to a vote  
21 on closing debate.

22 All of those in favor of closing debate on

1 this amendment, please say aye.

2 [A chorus of ayes.]

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, no.

4 [A chorus of nays.]

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The motion carries.

6 Ladies and gentlemen, before we move to a  
7 vote, I just want to let you know, I can see we've  
8 got some carpet pulling away here. If there is  
9 anyone left in the room, we'd like to get that  
10 repaired before somebody falls and hurts themselves.

11 Thank you, Mr. Barnett, for trying to fix  
12 it, but here comes Gordon, the Magic Man who fixes  
13 everything in this room. I just don't want to see  
14 any of us take a tumble when we've done so well so  
15 far today.

16 All right. As they work on that, we will  
17 move to a vote on the main motion.

18 All those in favor of adopting Mrs.  
19 Unruh's motion, please say aye.

20 [A chorus of ayes.]

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
22 nay.

1 [A chorus of nays.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays clearly  
3 have it.

4 Next, we will proceed to an amendment --

5 MR. OSE: Madam Chairman.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, Mr. Ose.

7 MR. OSE: It's delightful to see you  
8 again.

9 [Laughter.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: And you, sir.

11 MR. OSE: I move reconsideration.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?

13 VOICE: Second.

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We will vote on  
15 reconsideration. By now, you know what it means.

16 All those in favor of leaving debate open  
17 on this issue and in favor of reconsideration,  
18 please vote aye.

19 [A chorus of ayes.]

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
21 nay.

22 [A chorus of nays.]



1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.  
2 Reconsideration is now proscribed.

3           Now, we are going to move -- we have one,  
4 two, three, four amendments to go. And, since we've  
5 already passed out of the presubmitted and we have  
6 many more to go. All right, guys. We'll just keep  
7 plugging along.

8           All right. Next, we go to an amendment by  
9 Mr. Blackwell. It is MA2.1, or Multiple Amendments  
10 2.1. It impacts Rule 16(a)(2) and Rule 40(d).

11           And, Mr. Blackwell, if you would like to  
12 approach the microphone, you will be recognized for  
13 the purpose of making a motion.

14           MR. BLACKWELL: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

15           It -- this amendment is not designed to  
16 change the rules in any way, but it moves that  
17 portion in -- of Rule 16, which has to do with the  
18 operation of the Convention, from Rule 16 to Rule  
19 40, which is where it ought to be, I believe. So,  
20 I'm not suggesting that we change this, but we put  
21 that rule where it belongs, because it has to do  
22 with the conduct of the Convention.

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
2 Blackwell.

3                   Is there anyone who rises in opposition to  
4 this motion? Anyone who rises in opposition?

5                   I see -- are you rising in opposition or  
6 in support?

7                   MS. DHILLON: I'm rising in opposition.  
8 And I wish to move the question.

9                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.  
10 Previous question is in order.

11                   All those in favor of closing debate --

12                   VOICE: Madam Chair?

13                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

14                   MR. BROWN: Point of information.

15                   We've indulged the practice of arguing and  
16 then moving the question, but I would like a ruling  
17 from the parliamentarian whether that's actually  
18 correct or not.

19                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, the  
20 parliamentarians are not allowed to make a ruling.  
21 I need to make a ruling. The Gentleman is correct.  
22 We've been letting it be lax, simply because that

1    seemed to be the will of the body.  However, it is -  
2    - it -- if it is the body's will, I'll certainly be  
3    more strict in applying that rule.

4           MR. BROWN:  Is there any opportunity to  
5    revisit earlier instances in which that occurred?

6           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  No, sir.

7           MR. BROWN:  Thank you.

8           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  All right.  Is  
9    there -- so, we do not have a valid previous  
10   question on the floor.

11           Mr. Evans.

12           MR. EVANS:  That is my motion.

13           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Previous question  
14   has been made -- or has been called for, and is  
15   appropriate and nondebatable.

16           So, all of those in favor of closing  
17   debate on this item, please say aye.

18           [A chorus of ayes.]

19           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Any opposed, nay.

20           [No response.]

21           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  The ayes have it.

22   We will now move to a vote on the main motion.

1 All those in favor of adopting Mr.

2 Blackwell's amendment, MA2.1, please say aye.

3 [A chorus of ayes.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Those opposed, nay.

5 [A chorus of nays.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Nays clearly have

7 it.

8 Mr. Ose.

9 MR. OSE: Madam Chairman.

10 Doug Ose, California.

11 I move to reconsider. I was on the

12 prevailing side.

13 VOICE: Second.

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It has been moved

15 and seconded for reconsideration.

16 All those in favor of reconsideration and

17 leaving debate open, please say aye.

18 [A chorus of ayes.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,

20 nay.

21 [A chorus of nays.]

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

1           Next, we have Amendment number 43.1 that  
2 has been submitted by Mr. Tettlebaum, of Missouri,  
3 who is recognized for the purpose of making a  
4 motion.

5           MR. TETTLEBAUM: Thank you, Madam  
6 Chairman.

7           We have all been -- I will move the  
8 adoption of Amendment 43.1.

9           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

10          Is there a second? Is there a second?

11          MR. TETTLEBAUM: I don't think they know  
12 what the amendment is.

13          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Oh, I'm sorry.  
14 Okay. It's --

15          MR. TETTLEBAUM: Let me read the  
16 amendment, since we have the famous logo up.

17          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: 43.1 --

18          MR. TETTLEBAUM: "The" --

19          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Would you bring  
20 that up?

21          MR. TETTLEBAUM; I can read it.

22          "The names and contact information of

1 Delegate members of the Convention Rules Committee  
2 shall be confidential. The RNC shall create a  
3 system by which the public may contact the  
4 designated Committeeman or Committeewoman by State  
5 that permits the Delegate members to retrieve those  
6 messages."

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The motion has been  
8 made. Is there a second?

9 VOICE: Second.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It has been  
11 seconded.

12 There we have it.

13 Mr. Tettlebaum, would you like to address  
14 your motion?

15 MR. TETTLEBAUM: Yes. We -- thank you,  
16 Madam Chairman -- we have all been subjected to  
17 hundreds and hundreds, if not thousands, of messages  
18 from people who have wanted to voice their concerns  
19 mainly about one issue. But, in the process, I'm  
20 sure a number of us have been frustrated in trying  
21 to figure out which of the messages that we have  
22 received were messages that contained information

1 about the Rules Committee, the operation of the  
2 Rules Committee, and the Convention, as opposed to  
3 the opinions of people who wanted to voice their  
4 views on especially the -- what I'll call the  
5 conscience amendment. The -- this is as a result of  
6 the fact that the current RNC Rules, not Convention  
7 Rules, make public all of the information -- all of  
8 our contact information as Delegates.

9           I think it's time to bring us into the  
10 21st century. The technology currently exists where  
11 the RNC could set up something like a drop box,  
12 where people could send their comments in, because  
13 the messages that have been sent out have been  
14 virtually identical to all of us, as Delegate  
15 members of the Rules Committee. And we could then -  
16 - as some of us do in our current occupations or  
17 professions, could then access that drop box, or  
18 whatever system the RNC decided they wanted to use,  
19 to be able to retrieve those messages and review  
20 them so that what would be accomplished is that  
21 members of the public, Republicans, other Delegates  
22 would have the opportunity to express their views to

1 us as Delegate members of the Rules Committee, and  
2 we would have the opportunity to review that  
3 information without being inundated with information  
4 that might obscure and prevent us from retrieving  
5 more official communications.

6 So, I move the adoption of Rule 43.1.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
8 Tettlebaum.

9 I am advised by Counsel that there is a  
10 potential conflict. And so, what I would like to  
11 do, without objection, is to set your motion aside  
12 to allow you to approach Counsel table and figure  
13 out just exactly what language you would need to  
14 include to do away with the conflict.

15 MR. TETTLEBAUM: Thank you, Madam  
16 Chairman.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Would that be  
18 agreeable?

19 MR. TETTLEBAUM: I'll be happy to do that.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
21 Tettlebaum. We will set that aside while we get  
22 that question resolved.



1           Next, we will go to Amendment number 43.2.  
2    Amendment 43.2 has been submitted by Mr. Ross, of  
3    Nevada. It would create a new rule.

4           And you are recognized, Mr. Ross, for the  
5    purpose of making a motion.

6           MR. ROSS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

7           I ask the consent of the Committee to  
8    withdraw the motion.

9           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Without objection,  
10   so ordered.

11           All right. All right. If I could get  
12   Counsel to give me some additional amendments.  
13   Okay, there are some right here.

14           All right. Next, you'll see that these  
15   new amendments are going to be numbered "Final"-  
16   point-whatever-number-it-is. And that's because of  
17   the cutoff date that we established. So, all of  
18   these amendments came in from the time we voted to  
19   suspend the rules and our 9:30 cutoff. So, that's  
20   why they're numbered differently.

21           We are now going to take up Final.9. And  
22   they're just giving these to me in whatever order

1 they come, as they are able to get them into the  
2 system.

3 All right. So, Final.9 is -- has been  
4 submitted by Mr. Haugland, of North Dakota.

5 Mr. Haugland, if you would approach the  
6 microphone, you'll be recognized for the purpose of  
7 making an amendment -- or, excuse me, making a  
8 motion.

9 MR. HAUGLAND: Make a motion. Madam  
10 Chair, thank you.

11 Curly Haugland, from North Dakota.

12 I intended to make a motion to introduce  
13 the concept of a midterm National Convention, but,  
14 in light of the interest of getting out of here, I  
15 think maybe somebody else can bring that on at the  
16 next Convention. So, I withdraw the motion.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Without objection,  
18 it is withdrawn.

19 I thought I heard Mr. King have a sharp  
20 intake of breath at the idea of having one in 2  
21 years.

22 All right. We'll now go to Final.2. This

1 has been submitted by Mrs. Unruh, of Colorado.

2 If Mrs. Unruh would like to approach the  
3 microphone, you will be recognized for the purpose  
4 of making a motion.

5 MS. UNRUH: Madam Chairman, Kendal Unruh,  
6 from Colorado. I'll withdraw my amendment.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Without objection,  
8 the amendment is withdrawn.

9 Next is Final.11. It has been proposed by  
10 Mr. Semanko --

11 MR. OSE Madam Chairman? Parliamentary  
12 inquiry.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

14 MR. OSE: To the extent that we are  
15 dealing with these Final -- the F-whatevers -- and  
16 they are withdrawn, are they able to be tendered  
17 downstream at some future point?

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Not if they don't  
19 want the Chairman to throw my gavel at them.

20 [Laughter.]

21 MR. OSE: Well, what about under  
22 parliamentary rules?

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Once they have been  
2  withdrawn without objection, they are no longer  
3  viable.

4                   MR. OSE:  Thank you.

5                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Well, they -- it  
6  would have to -- yeah, well, they would have to  
7  bring them to the body again before we adjourn.

8                   MR. OSE:  Thank you.

9                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  All right.

10                  My comment about the gavel stands,  
11  however.

12                  [Laughter.]

13                  VOICE:  Parliamentary inquiry.

14                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Yes, sir.

15                  VOICE:  If they're withdrawn, then they  
16  tried to bring them in again, they would be after  
17  your 9:30 deadline.

18                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  That is correct.  
19  The Gentleman is correct.  Once they have been  
20  withdrawn, they would have to start all over again,  
21  and we've already voted to suspend the rules and not  
22  allow any submissions after 9:30.  So, I thank the

1 Gentleman for his point of order.

2 All right. Mr. Semanko's amendment,  
3 Final.11.

4 Mr. Semanko, you are recognized for the  
5 purpose of making a motion.

6 MR. SEMANKO: Madam Chair, I move to amend  
7 Rule 28(b) to insert the word "guests" following the  
8 word "press," with a comma inserted.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
10 there a second?

11 VOICE: Second.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been seconded.

13 Mr. Semanko, if you'd like to address the  
14 body.

15 MR. SEMANKO: So, Madam Chair, I may  
16 preface this by saying there may be a difference of  
17 opinion on receiving emails and phone calls and text  
18 messages and Facebook messages. I don't consider it  
19 being "subjected to." I appreciate the input. And  
20 we've certainly solicited that from folks in Idaho.

21 And I had some input with regard to amendments.

22 And this is one of those that I had a conversation

1 with someone who happens to be a guest of the Idaho  
2 Delegation, and they mentioned that, while in  
3 Subsection (c) it makes clear that each member -- or  
4 each alternate Delegate is entitled to a guest pass,  
5 and, in Subsection (d), that there are additional  
6 guest passes that are provided to the State Parties,  
7 there is actually no provision in (a) or (b) or (c)  
8 or (d) that designates that there's a place for the  
9 guest to be housed. So, certainly Subsection (a)  
10 gets to the issue of who's allowed to go on the  
11 Convention floor, and then (b) talks about press and  
12 staff being admitted to the section or sections of  
13 the hall authorized for them, and there is nothing  
14 specific in Rule 28 with regard to guests. And, of  
15 course, guests have, as I recall, their own section  
16 where they are seated, separate from the Delegates,  
17 the alternates, the press, the staff, the incumbent  
18 Governors, the incumbent Senators, incumbent  
19 Congressmen, and the other folks, as well.

20           So, that's the purpose for this amendment,  
21 and appreciate it being brought to my attention by  
22 one of our guests from Idaho.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
3 Semanko.

4 MR. ROSS: Madam Chair, a privilege  
5 question.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

7 MR. ROSS: I move the previous question.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No. No. You can't  
9 make a privilege and then --

10 MR. ROSS: A privileged motion. I  
11 apologize.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. But, you  
13 stated -- it's not a privilege motion. I understand  
14 your intent, but I'm going to recognize Mr. DeVito.

15 MR. DeVITO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

16 I oppose this amendment, and I urge the  
17 Committee to oppose this amendment. Excuse me.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
19 there anyone else who wishes to be recognized in  
20 support of the amendment? In support of the  
21 amendment?

22 [No response.]

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Anyone opposed to  
2  the amendment?

3                   Sir.

4                   MR. ROSS:  I move the previous question,  
5  Madam Chair.

6                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Thank you.  
7  Previous question is appropriate.  We will now move  
8  to a vote on closing debate.

9                   All those in favor of closing debate on  
10 this item, please say aye.

11                   [A chorus of ayes.]

12                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  All those opposed,  
13 nay.

14                   [No response.]

15                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  The ayes have it.  
16 We will move to a -- directly to a vote on the main  
17 motion.

18                   All of those in favor of adopting Mr.  
19 Semanko's motion, please say aye.

20                   [A chorus of ayes.]

21                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:  Any opposed, nay.

22                   [A chorus of nays.]



1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

2 We'll now go to Mr. Semanko's Final.12.

3 This amends Rule number 33.

4 And Mr. Semanko is recognized.

5 MR. SEMANKO: Madam Chair, I move that  
6 Rule 33, with regard to platform resolutions, be  
7 amended by, after "in writing," inserting the words  
8 "or in electronic format which is capable of being  
9 displayed at the Committee meeting."

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is a motion.

11 Is there a second?

12 VOICE: Second.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It has been moved  
14 and seconded.

15 Mr. Semanko, if you'd like to address the  
16 body.

17 MR. SEMANKO: So, Madam Chair, actually  
18 this was a suggestion that was made to me today by  
19 one of our Delegates watching the proceedings here  
20 today and enjoying the fact that we had everything  
21 up on the dais. And I'm not sure -- on the screens  
22 -- I'm not sure they understood the difference

1 between the Resolutions and the Rules Committee, but  
2 it occurs to me that, if things can be submitted in  
3 a format that can be displayed at the Committee  
4 meeting, and that is what is provided to staff, that  
5 it wouldn't be necessary for it to be submitted in  
6 writing. So, I forward that as a proposed amendment  
7 to Rule 33.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
10 there someone who rises in opposition?

11 MR. STUART: Madam Chairwoman?

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

13 MR. STUART: Mike Stuart, West Virginia.

14 I stand in opposition to this rule. I  
15 just believe it's unnecessary. And I call the  
16 question.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Question has been  
18 called.

19 All those in favor of end -- excuse -- ah,  
20 yes. I'm afraid we did it again. You argued and  
21 then made a motion.

22 Mr. Evans?

1           Ah, the parliamentarians are letting me  
2 know that that is in order. I stand corrected. I  
3 apologize to the Gentleman from West Virginia, and  
4 we will move directly to previous question.

5           All of those in favor, please say aye.

6           [A chorus of ayes.]

7           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
8 nay.

9           [A chorus of nays.]

10          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I need you to be a  
11 little louder.

12          All of those in favor of ending debate,  
13 please say aye.

14          [A chorus of ayes.]

15          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. All  
16 those opposed, say nay.

17          [A chorus of nays.]

18          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I know you're  
19 tired. The ayes have it. Now we will vote on the  
20 main motion.

21          All those in favor of adopting Final.12 by  
22 Mr. Semanko, please say aye.

1 [A chorus of ayes.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
3 nay.

4 [A chorus of nays.]

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

6 Next, we go to Mr. Semanko's Final.22  
7 amendment to Rule 33.

8 Mr. Semanko, if you would like to approach  
9 the microphone, you'll be recognized for the purpose  
10 of making a motion.

11 MR. SEMANKO: Madam Chair, this is a  
12 duplicate of the Amendment that was just fondly  
13 rejected by the group, and I think it should be  
14 withdrawn.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Without objection,  
16 so ordered. Thank you, Mr. Semanko.

17 All right. Do we have some more? Oh, we  
18 have more. All right. Thank you.

19 Mr. Semanko, Final.13. This amends Rule  
20 number 34(a).

21 Mr. Semanko, you're recognized.

22 MR. SEMANKO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

1                   I would move that Rule 34(a) be amended by  
2 striking "1 hour" and inserting in lieu thereof --  
3 good job, guys; I didn't write it that way -- "2  
4 hours."

5                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. It's  
6 been moved. Is there a second?

7                   VOICE: Second.

8                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
9 seconded.

10                  Mr. Semanko?

11                  MR. SEMANKO: Madam Chair, compliments of  
12 the broadcast on C-SPAN today, I received a text  
13 message from one of our alternates, actually,  
14 suggesting that 1 hour is an impossible timeframe.  
15 I don't know if that's true or not, but it occurred  
16 to me that extending that to "not later than 2 hours  
17 after the time at which such Committee votes on its  
18 report at the Convention and shall have been  
19 accompanied by a petition evidencing the affirmative  
20 written support of a minimum of 25 percent of the  
21 membership of such Committee" is more than  
22 reasonable for a Minority Report. Perhaps someone

1 knows the history of that or why it's -- why it is 1  
2 hour. But, when that point was made earlier today,  
3 I drafted this amendment, and appreciate the  
4 opportunity to provide it.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
6 Semanko.

7 Is there anyone who would like to rise in  
8 opposition? In opposition?

9 The Gentleman from Alabama.

10 MR. HENRY: Thank you.

11 Ed Henry, from Alabama.

12 I appreciate all the amendments that we've  
13 seen and dealt with tonight. We've gone through  
14 quite a few things. I think this is probably very  
15 self-explanatory, and we probably, as a group, know  
16 where we're going to be on it. So, with that, I'd  
17 like to move the previous question.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

19 Previous question has been moved. Is  
20 there a second?

21 VOICE: Second.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Moved and seconded.

1 All those in favor of ending debate on  
2 this item, please say aye.

3 [A chorus of ayes.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
5 nay.

6 [A chorus of nays.]

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.  
8 We'll move to a vote on the main motion.

9 All those in favor of adopting Amendment  
10 Final.13, please say aye.

11 [A chorus of ayes.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
13 nay.

14 [A chorus of nays.]

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

16 All right. Mr. Tettlebaum has worked with  
17 Counsel, and we --

18 MR. OSE: Madam Chair? Parliamentary  
19 inquiry?

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, Mr. Ose.

21 MR. OSE: I'd like to move -- Doug Ose,  
22 California -- I'd like to remove -- I'd like to move

1 reconsideration of the item just dispensed with.

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
3 there a second?

4 VOICE: Second.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
6 seconded.

7 All those in favor of reconsideration,  
8 please say aye.

9 [No response.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: You've all caught  
11 up now. I don't have to say the whole thing.

12 All those opposed to reconsideration,  
13 please say nay.

14 [A chorus of nays.]

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

16 All right. Mr. Tettlebaum, you're  
17 recognized, sir, for the purpose of -- we'll just  
18 call it your newly amended motion.

19 MR. TETTLEBAUM: Thank you, Madam  
20 Chairman.

21 With the able assistance of the Counsel's  
22 Office, and especially Mr. Tarcyaski and Matt Moore,



1 we have gone back to the RNC rule itself and made an  
2 amendment. I think you can see it now displayed.  
3 But, I will move the following amendment and read  
4 it, because the hour is late and everybody's eyes  
5 are blurred.

6           This would amend the RNC rule, and it  
7 would read, as amended, as follows: "No later than  
8 25 days prior to the National Convention, all  
9 members of each of the various Convention Committees  
10 shall be provided the most current listing of their  
11 fellow Committee member -- members' names." And  
12 this would then -- would take out the additional  
13 "with complete contact information."

14           "The" -- then this would be the additional  
15 amendment -- "The contact information of Delegate  
16 members of the Convention Rules Committee shall be  
17 confidential. The RNC shall create a system by  
18 which the public may contact the designated Rules  
19 Committeeman or Committeewoman, by State, that  
20 permits the Delegate members to retrieve those  
21 messages."

22           I'll move the adoption of that amendment.

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
2 Tettlebaum.

3                   Is there a second?

4                   VOICE: Second.

5                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
6 seconded.

7                   Mr. Tettlebaum, would you like to further  
8 address this?

9                   MR. TETTLEBAUM: Yes. As I was saying  
10 earlier, I believe that coming into the 21st  
11 century, with the technology that we have, we can  
12 avoid the situation that we all experienced with  
13 respect to this particular Rules Committee and the  
14 number of messages we received, on perhaps a single  
15 issue, which prevented us from easily accessing  
16 those messages of a more official nature, but, at  
17 the same time, giving individual Delegates and  
18 others the opportunity to exercise their right to  
19 contact members of the Rules Committee with their  
20 views and information they want to present in a  
21 centralized database which can be then accessed by  
22 the Delegates when they want and at the times that

1 they want and still allow the official  
2 communications to come directly to the contact  
3 information of those Delegates.

4           So, I will move the adoption of this  
5 amendment.

6           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, Mr.  
7 Tettlebaum.

8           Is there anyone who rises in opposition?  
9 Is there any --

10           The Lady from Wyoming. The Lady from  
11 Wyoming is recognized to rise in opposition.

12           MS. HAGEMAN: Yes. I rise in opposition  
13 to this. We believe in a representative form of  
14 government. We are a republic. People ought to be  
15 able to contact us. We are here doing the business,  
16 attempting to have a nominee for President of the  
17 United States. Bringing us into the 21st century,  
18 where people can send us emails and contact us, if  
19 you don't want the emails, you can delete them.  
20 But, I can assure you -- or I guess I believe that  
21 if they're put into a separate space, I don't think  
22 that the vast majority of us would go to those

1 emails and look at them and study them and see what  
2 our fellow citizens are saying to us. I think it's  
3 very important for people to be able to contact us  
4 directly.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

6 Is there anyone who wishes to speak in  
7 support?

8 MS. THOMAS: Madam Chairman?

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, ma'am.

10 MS. THOMAS: Patricia Thomas, from the  
11 State of Missouri.

12 And I rise to support this amendment. I  
13 think it's important that we are here to represent  
14 the grassroots and the people that have sent us  
15 here. I think it's important that they be able to  
16 contact us. But, I also think it's important that,  
17 as we are volunteers, we able -- be able to continue  
18 to conduct our daily business. And I think having  
19 the ability to go out and retrieve those messages at  
20 a time when we can take the time and dedicate it to  
21 answering and responding to those would put things  
22 in a much better light.

1                   And with that support, I move the previous  
2 question.

3                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

4                   The previous question is in order. We  
5 will direct -- move directly to a vote on ending  
6 debate.

7                   All of those in favor of ending debate,  
8 please say aye.

9                   [A chorus of ayes.]

10                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Opposed, nay.

11                  [A chorus of nays.]

12                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Well, the Chair's  
13 not in doubt. The ayes have it.

14                  MR. WILLHOIT: Madam Chair, is a point of  
15 information in order, though?

16                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

17                  MR. WILLHOIT: Thank you. I'm -- because  
18 I'm just curious.

19                  So, does this rule -- I don't understand -  
20 - is this rule then -- do we still get, as just a  
21 group, privately, confidentially, the contact  
22 information so we can talk, or does that no longer

1 happen if this is passed?

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The way I read it,  
3 it would be confidential, but there would be a drop-  
4 box system created whereby if each member agreed to  
5 talk with each other and share their information  
6 with each other, that would certainly be up to that  
7 member.

8 MR. WILLHOIT: Okay, thank you.

9 MR. LITTLE: Madam -- I'd like to ask for  
10 division on the --

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: On the previous  
12 question?

13 Although -- all right, we'll go to  
14 division on the previous question.

15 All those in --

16 MR. BROWN: For a point -- wait -- for a  
17 point of information --

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

19 MR. BROWN: Since you're ruling on  
20 parliamentary procedures, can you also rule on the  
21 question of whether there have to be two vote in  
22 favor -- or two speak in favor and two speak against

1 before you can call the question?

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, that is not --  
3 that is not a parliamentary requirement.

4 All right. So, now we will move to  
5 division on the question -- on the previous  
6 question.

7 All of those in favor of ending debate on  
8 this item, please rise.

9 [Members standing.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. Please be  
11 seated.

12 We're not -- we're not going to have them  
13 count when it's so obvious.

14 All those opposed, please rise.

15 [Members standing.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. Clearly, we  
17 have two-thirds. Please be seated.

18 We're not going to keep counting when it's  
19 obvious, folks. Not when it's 11:00 o'clock at  
20 night. All right?

21 Okay. We are back to a vote on the main  
22 motion.

1 All those in favor of adopting Mr.  
2 Tettlebaum's amendment, please say aye.

3 [A chorus of ayes.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed.

5 [A chorus of nays.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Chair is in  
7 doubt. All of those in favor of adopting Mr.  
8 Tettlebaum's amendment, please rise.

9 [Members standing.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay, I'd like to  
11 have the tellers count on this one.

12 All right. Thank you. You may be seated.

13 All those opposed to Mr. Tettlebaum's  
14 amendment, please stand.

15 [Members standing.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you. You may  
17 be seated.

18 The vote is as follows: ayes, 55; nays  
19 46. The amendment is adopted.

20 And considering the language on some of  
21 the things I got on my phone 4 years ago, Mr.  
22 Tettlebaum, I understand why you made it.



1 All right. Let's move now to Final number  
2 1.8, from Mr. Semanko, of Idaho.

3 Mr. Semanko, if you'd like to approach the  
4 microphone. This amends Rule number 35. Rule  
5 number 35.

6 All right. Mr. Semanko, you are  
7 recognized for the purpose of making a motion.

8 MR. SEMANKO: Madam Chair, I move that  
9 Rule 35 be amended to add the following after  
10 "original measure," "The motion to lay on the table  
11 may not be considered unless it is supported by a  
12 majority of the Delegates from five separate States"  
13 -- I'm sorry -- "The motion to lay on the table may  
14 not be considered unless it's supported by a  
15 majority of the Delegates from five separate States  
16 at the time the motion to lay on the table is made."

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. There is a  
18 motion. Is there a second? Is there a second?

19 VOICE: Second.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It has been  
21 seconded.

22 Mr. Semanko, if you'd like to address it.

1           MR. SEMANKO: Yes, Madam Chair.

2           Rule 35 simply reads, now, "It shall be  
3 order to lay on the table a proposed amendment to a  
4 pending measure, and such motion, if adopted, shall  
5 not carry with it or prejudice such original  
6 measure." And if you compare this to several of the  
7 other rules in here, which we'll discuss in a little  
8 while, with regard to suspension of rules and the  
9 like, there is no minimum number of State  
10 requirement like there is for other kinds of  
11 motions. So, the suggestion is that a modest number  
12 of States, five separate States, Delegates, a  
13 majority of those Delegates, make that motion in  
14 order for something that, otherwise, has been  
15 validly presented onto the floor to be -- for  
16 discussion, that it would be tabled and not allowed  
17 to be considered further. I believe this is  
18 consistent with some of the other rules that already  
19 exist. And I'm not sure why there is no threshold  
20 in the rule now for a motion to table.

21           Thank you.

22           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Thank

1 you, Mr. Semanko.

2 Is there anyone who rises in opposition?

3 Mr. DeVito.

4 MR. DeVITO: Vincent DeVito,  
5 Massachusetts.

6 I urge the Committee to vote no on this  
7 amendment. And I move previous question.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
9 has been moved and seconded.

10 All those in favor of ending debate,  
11 please say aye.

12 [A chorus of ayes.]

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
14 nay.

15 [A chorus of nays.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
17 passes.

18 We will now move to a vote on the  
19 amendment.

20 All those in favor of adopting Final  
21 number 1.8, please say aye.

22 [A chorus of ayes.]

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed?  
2 [A chorus of nays.]  
3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.  
4 Next, we will go to -- oh, now, this one -  
5 - I'm trying to see -- yes, it does have Final.1 --  
6 Final.1. That has been suggested by the Gentleman  
7 from Montana, Mr. Wittich.  
8 Yes, sir.  
9 MR. WITTICH: Thank you, Madam Chair.  
10 I'd like to move Amendment -- I can't read  
11 it --  
12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay, let's --  
13 MR. WITTICH: What's on the screen. It's  
14 --  
15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Oh, yes, that is  
16 very small.  
17 MR. WITTICH: It's an amendment to Rule  
18 37(b) .  
19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.  
20 Is -- can you read it now?  
21 MR. WITTICH: Madam Chair, my colleague  
22 from Nevada talked about the "b" word --

1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Just a minute, sir.

2     I need to -- you to have a motion, and then we'll  
3 get it seconded.

4                   MR. WITTICH: I thought I did. I'd like  
5 to move my amendment --

6                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I apologize.

7                   MR. WITTICH: Would you like me to repeat  
8 the --

9                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?

10                  MR. WITTICH: Oh.

11                  VOICE: Second.

12                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay, moved and  
13 seconded.

14                  Please proceed, sir.

15                  MR. WITTICH: Thank you, Madam Chair.

16                  My colleague from Nevada talked about the  
17 "b" word, and he proposed some solutions. And I  
18 think my solution is better. I think that his  
19 solution, from a syntax standpoint, was essentially  
20 a double negative.

21                  This is a positive way to say that we're  
22 going to honor the vote of the people of the United

1 States. It makes it explicit that we are bound.  
2 It's not implicit. It's also -- it's my  
3 understanding that this language is -- brings us  
4 back to the language that we had in 1976.

5 And so, I think it's time to resolve this  
6 open issue. And I think this is the best way to do  
7 it.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

9 Is there anyone who rises in opposition?  
10 Anyone who rises in opposition?

11 Mr. DeVito.

12 MR. DeVITO: Vincent DeVito,  
13 Massachusetts.

14 I urge the Committee to oppose this  
15 amendment. And I move to call the previous  
16 question.

17 VOICE: Second.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Been moved and  
19 seconded.

20 All those in favor of ending debate,  
21 please say aye.

22 [A chorus of ayes.]

1           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
2    nay.

3           [A chorus of nays.]

4           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

5           All those in favor of adopting Final.1,  
6    please say aye.

7           [A chorus of ayes.]

8           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
9    nay.

10          [A chorus of nays.]

11          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

12          Next, we go to Final.3 that has been  
13    submitted by Mr. Haugland, of North Dakota.

14          Mr. Haugland, if you would like to  
15    approach the microphone for the purpose of being  
16    recognized to make a motion.

17          MR. HAUGLAND: Madam Chair, Curly  
18    Haugland, from North Dakota.

19          I approach with trepidation. I intended  
20    to come tomorrow, in grateful anticipation of the  
21    opportunity to suggest some unity to the Party by  
22    introducing the -- essentially, the same amendment

1 that just didn't get much support. But, anyway, I  
2 can't read this here yet, so if -- put my glasses  
3 on, I'll --

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Certainly.

5 MR. HAUGLAND: -- indulge it.

6 Let me just summarize it. This is the --  
7 this is what was known as the Justice Amendment in  
8 1976, when the Ford Campaign was nervous about  
9 Reagan. And they had the horsepower to do it, so  
10 they got the Convention Delegates to vote to bind  
11 the Delegates to the results of Primaries. And it  
12 worked for Mr. Ford in that particular case.

13 But, in this case, the proposal you've  
14 just defeated is -- and the one that I would have  
15 happily explained in detail tomorrow, that would  
16 have fixed the rules for a long time, to allow  
17 binding in the Convention Rules, it doesn't sound  
18 like you have an appetite for it, so I'll withdraw  
19 this, Madam Chair.

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Without objection,  
21 it is so ordered.

22 Next, we go to Final.6, an amendment by



1 Mrs. Unruh, of Colorado. Mrs. Unruh's motion -- or  
2 amendment, rather, would change the language of Rule  
3 number 37(b).

4 Mrs. Unruh.

5 MS. UNRUH: Madam Chairman, I'll just  
6 withdraw my amendment.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Without objection,  
8 so ordered.

9 Next, we go to Final.23, submitted by Mr.  
10 Semanko, of Idaho. It would change the language in  
11 Rule number 37(d).

12 Mr. Semanko, you're recognized.

13 MR. SEMANKO: Madam Chair, Norm Semanko,  
14 from Idaho.

15 You know, I've been around for a little  
16 while. I've been doing Republican stuff since I was  
17 chairman of College Republicans at the University of  
18 Idaho and voted for Ronald Reagan. And my first  
19 salaried job was at the Republican National  
20 Committee for the George Herbert Walker Bush  
21 Campaign against Michael Dukakis, and had the good  
22 favor of serving as the chairman of the Idaho

1 Republican Party and on this -- on the RNC and as  
2 general counsel, and in a number of other positions.

3 And, you know, I know when my proposals are being  
4 considered and when they're being ignored. There  
5 are some good proposals, I think, and I'm glad that  
6 I've had the chance to bring them. And maybe  
7 someone else will have the opportunity to bring them  
8 at later date.

9 But, at this time, I would like to  
10 withdraw amendments that I have proposed numbered 14  
11 -- Final.14, .15, .19, .20, .21, and .23.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right, Mr.  
13 Semanko. Without objection, it is so ordered.

14 Next, we go to Final.16. This amendment  
15 has been submitted by Mr. Willhoit, of Vermont, who  
16 is recognized for the purpose of making a motion.

17 MR. WILLHOIT: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

18 I would like permission for leave for both  
19 this amendment and my second amendment, Amendment  
20 17, with gratitude to Member King and his amendment  
21 that was supported by Mr. Priebus, which basically  
22 did what I was hoping we could do. So, thank you.

1                   And I also -- I'm sorry to belabor, but I  
2 also want to personally apologize to you for my  
3 upsetness for being here so late.

4                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Sir, you do not  
5 need to apologize.

6                   MR. WILLHOIT: Thank you.

7                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There's nothing  
8 that brings our emotions more to the fore than our  
9 children.

10                  MR. WILLHOIT: Thank you.

11                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: So, I appreciate  
12 that. Thank you.

13                  All right. Without objection, it is so  
14 ordered that this is withdrawn.

15                  Now I -- let's see, is this -- all right.  
16 We have some more.

17                  Okay. Mr. Willhoit, just so that I'm  
18 clear, you also withdrew number 17?

19                  MR. WILLHOIT: Yes, please, with  
20 permission to leave.

21                  Thank you.

22                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you very

1 much.

2 All right. All right. We now move to  
3 Final.5. This is a rule that would amend Rule  
4 40(b). It has been suggested by Mrs. Unruh, of  
5 Colorado.

6 Mrs. Unruh, if you'd approach the  
7 microphone.

8 MS. UNRUH: I'm going to make everybody  
9 happy, Madam Chairman. I'm going to withdraw my  
10 amendment.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Without  
12 objection, so ordered.

13 Next, we have Final.7 that has been  
14 submitted by Fred Brown, of Alaska. Mr. Brown's  
15 amendment would change Rule number 41(a).

16 And he is recognized.

17 MR. BROWN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

18 Fred Brown, from Alaska.

19 This is on page 59 of 61, and it relates  
20 to Rule 41, lines 17 and 18. It basically would  
21 accommodate those of us who travel from afar in the  
22 event that, for whatever reason, we're not able to -

1 - or unwilling to travel and incur the expense, for  
2 whatever reason, it would clarify the fact that,  
3 even though we may be able to travel a distance, if,  
4 for whatever reason, we're unwilling to travel, that  
5 the delegation Chairman could then fill the  
6 described slots.

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. There's  
8 a motion. Is there a second?

9 VOICE: Second.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
11 seconded.

12 Would you like to address this, Mr. Brown?

13 MR. BROWN: And I apologize. I was out of  
14 order. But, in any case, I've already described the  
15 intent, and I would appreciate support.

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

18 Is there anyone who wishes to rise in  
19 opposition? Anybody rising in opposition?

20 MR. DUPREY: I am.

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Mr. Duprey.

22 MR. DUPREY: I am.

1           Steve Duprey, from New Hampshire.

2           If you don't think you can make the  
3           commitment to come to the Convention, you should not  
4           run for the spot of Delegate. The alternates are  
5           there in case there's an exigent emergency of some  
6           kind, and they're able to step in. I urge us to  
7           vote no on this proposed amendment.

8           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
9           there anyone else who wishes to speak in favor of  
10          the amendment? In favor of the amendment?

11          The Gentlewoman --

12          VOICE: Gwen --

13          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- from Louisiana.

14          MS. BOWEN: Oh, I'm sorry. Yeah, Gwen  
15          Bowen, Louisiana.

16          I speak in favor of it. I mean, Hawaii  
17          and Alaska are pretty far away. And so, sometimes  
18          things come up, you know, not that you're planning  
19          on it. Just things come up. So, I support it.

20          Thank you.

21          CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

22          Is there anyone else who rises in

1 opposition? Anyone else who rises in opposition?

2 [No response.]

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Seeing no further  
4 members who wish to speak, we'll move directly to a  
5 vote on the amendment.

6 All those in favor of adoption of the  
7 amendment, please say aye.

8 [A chorus of ayes.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
10 nay.

11 [A chorus of nays.]

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

13 Next, we move to Final.8, also proposed by  
14 Mrs. Unruh, of Colorado. This would be a change to  
15 Rule number 42.

16 Mrs. Unruh, if you would approach the  
17 microphone, please.

18 MS. UNRUH: Madam Chairman, is there a way  
19 to withdraw any amendment --

20 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: There is, yes.

21 Without objection, it's so ordered. Thank you.

22 Next is Rule number 43, submitted by Mr.

1 Ross, of Nevada. Mr. Ross, of Nevada, has proposed  
2 an amendment that would create Rule number 43.

3 MR. ROSS: Beg your pardon, Madam Chair.  
4 I believe I asked the consent of the body to  
5 withdraw the --

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: My apologies.  
7 Without objection, so ordered.

8 MR. ROSS: Thank you, ma'am.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I only have one  
10 left in the pile. And I'm almost afraid to ask our  
11 Counsel if this is -- is this the last one? It's  
12 the last one we've received? Well, we asked about  
13 the Preamble, and there was nothing there. So, this  
14 is the last amendment.

15 [Applause.]

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. This is  
17 Final.4. It has been submitted by MaryAnne Kinney,  
18 of Maine. It would propose an amendment to Rule 31.

19 And, Ms. Kinney, you are recognized.

20 MS. KINNEY: Thank you. It's not up. I  
21 guess I'm waiting for it to come up on the screens.  
22 Do you want me to read it or --



1                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. Can we get  
2 that up on the monitors, please? Do we have it?  
3 Yes, we do.

4                   Ms. Kinney, if you'd like to proceed.

5                   MS. KINNEY: I move this amendment to Rule  
6 31.

7                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is there a second?

8                   VOICE: Second.

9                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and  
10 seconded.

11                   Ms. Kinney, if you'd like to address the  
12 body.

13                   MS. KINNEY: Would. Thank you, Madam  
14 Chair.

15                   The National Committee, at the request of  
16 Chairman Priebus, passed a resolution in January of  
17 2015 titled Resolution for Reasonable Access to a  
18 Live Microphone. This resolution read, in part,  
19 "Resolved, that the Republican National Committee  
20 requests that the Standing Committee on Arrangements  
21 and the Temporary Convention Chair ensure there is  
22 an active microphone available to each State

1 Delegation Chair so that he or she may allow its use  
2 by individual Delegates who wish to speak in debate  
3 or make motions as allowed by rules." At  
4 yesterday's General Session meeting, Chairman  
5 Priebus confirmed that the Committee on Arrangements  
6 has taken measurements, as directed, to ensure that  
7 each Delegation will have a live microphone  
8 available for its use.

9           This rule simply puts into writing the  
10 wishes of the Republican National Committee,  
11 Chairman Priebus, and the Committee on Arrangements  
12 so that Delegates to the National Convention can set  
13 their expectations and know what is required of them  
14 to seek recognition and ensure an efficient use of  
15 time and a successful Convention.

16           Thank you.

17           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

18           Is -- we had a motion and a second. Is --  
19 does anyone rise in opposition?

20           The Lady from California.

21           MS. DHILLON: Harmeet Dhillon, member from  
22 California.

1           I rise in opposition to this motion,  
2 because I believe it is unnecessary to add this  
3 level of detail and, I would even say,  
4 micromanagement into our rules. I think our  
5 Committee on Arrangements is more than capable of  
6 making the right choices as technology evolves,  
7 rather than marking ourselves as dinosaurs,  
8 mentioning specific types of technology.

9           And I urge opposition to this motion. And  
10 I -- as well, I'd like to move the previous  
11 question.

12           VOICE: Second.

13           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. It's  
14 been moved and seconded for the previous question.  
15 We will move immediately to a vote on closing  
16 debate.

17           All those in favor of closing debate on  
18 this amendment, please say aye.

19           [A chorus of ayes.]

20           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
21 nay.

22           [A chorus of nays.]

1 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.  
2 We will now move to a vote on the  
3 amendment.

4 All those in favor of adopting this  
5 amendment, please say aye.

6 [A chorus of ayes.]

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Those opposed, nay.

8 [A chorus of nays.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The nays have it.

10 All right. The Gentleman from Nevada, for  
11 what purpose do you seek the microphone?

12 MR. ROSS: Madam Chair, after consulting  
13 with some of my colleagues, I would like to ask the  
14 grace of this Committee to reconsider a previous  
15 amendment that was withdrawn.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: And which amendment  
17 is that?

18 MR. ROSS: That would be, ma'am, Rule --  
19 Amendment number Final.1, with some changes that, if  
20 the Committee is willing to reconsider, I will  
21 present the staff to retype and -- oh, I apologize.  
22 No, that's right, this was not withdrawn. This was

1 defeated. And so, I'm asking for reconsideration  
2 for the amendment, with some modified language.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Okay. And did you  
4 vote against?

5 MR. ROSS: Yes, ma'am, I did.

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. So, the  
7 --

8 MR. ROSS: With the modified language --  
9 I'm asking the consent of the Committee to  
10 reconsider this, with modified language.

11 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. So, the  
12 Gentleman is asking for reconsideration of his  
13 motion, which would be to reopen debate. It is  
14 debatable. Is there anyone who wishes to be heard  
15 on this item?

16 Mr. DeVito.

17 MR. DeVITO: Vincent DeVito,  
18 Massachusetts.

19 I support the constable's motion for  
20 reconsideration. I urge us to vote yes.

21 MR. ROSS: Thank you, sir.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is

1 there anyone else who would like to vote -- excuse  
2 me -- who would like to speak in opposition? In  
3 opposition?

4 The Gentlelady from Iowa.

5 MS. POPMA: Yeah, I just want to have a  
6 clarification that the sponsor of the amendment  
7 originally voted no on the amendment. Because he  
8 would have had to vote with the prevailing. And so,  
9 I just want to have absolute clarification that the  
10 person who is calling for this motion to reconsider  
11 actually did vote against his own motion.

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That's what the  
13 Gentleman has represented.

14 MR. ROSS: Yeah, I'm not -- I am not the  
15 original author of the motion. I'm asking for  
16 reconsideration. I voted against this, and I would  
17 like to have it reconsidered.

18 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. This is  
19 -- all right. It's Final.1. It was brought up by  
20 Mr. Wittich, of Montana. And it's my understanding  
21 that we would have to vote with a majority vote to  
22 reconsider, to reopen debate. It is debatable.

1                   Does anyone else wish to speak on the  
2 question of whether we should reopen the debate?

3                   [No response.]

4                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:   Seeing none -- oh,  
5 Mr. Little.

6                   MR. LITTLE:   Is it in order for me to  
7 indicate that it appears that this is redundant,  
8 that this -- practically this precise wording is in  
9 Rule 16?

10                  MR. ROSS:   I will be asking -- making an  
11 amendment to it.  If the Committee indulges me and  
12 allows it to be reconsidered, I will be making a  
13 small -- two small amendments.

14                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:   So, it would not be  
15 redundant.  All right.  Thank you, Mr. Little.

16                  I think we're ready to vote on whether to  
17 reopen.

18                  All those in favor of reconsideration to  
19 reopen debate on Amendment Final.1, please say aye.

20                  [A chorus of ayes.]

21                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN:   All those opposed,  
22 nay.

1 [A chorus of nays.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

3 All right. At this point, the Gentleman  
4 from Nevada is recognized for the purpose of making  
5 a motion.

6 MR. ROSS: Yes, ma'am.

7 I'd ask that staff please make a change,  
8 down toward the end, where the new language had said  
9 "any binding presidential primary," please replace  
10 the word "primary" with the word "preference vote."

11

12 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Is that the only  
13 change that the Gentleman would like to make?

14 MR. ROSS: No, ma'am. I would also like  
15 to -- the -- where it says "State law," to add to  
16 that "State Party rule, these rule" -- excuse me --  
17 "these rules, State Party rules, or State law." I'm  
18 sorry. This should be inserted before that. So,  
19 let me start over again. My apologies.

20 "Pursuant to" -- after that should insert  
21 "these rules, State Party rules, or."

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right.



1 MR. ROSS: I think that this really --

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Let's let staff --  
3 let's just let staff catch up for just a minute --

4 MR. ROSS: Okay, very good.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- please. Yeah.

6 MR. ROSS: I would be more than happy to.

7 The first change is the change where -- in  
8 the phrase, "with the results of any binding  
9 presidential primary," to change the word "primary"  
10 to the words "preference vote." And, at the end of  
11 that sentence, where it says "bound or pledged  
12 pursuant to," to insert the words, before the words  
13 "State law," "these rules, State Party rules, or."

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is the  
15 language now correct on the monitor as you'd like to  
16 --

17 MR. ROSS: Yes, ma'am, thank you, Madam  
18 Chair.

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
20 there a second?

21 VOICE: Second.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It's been moved and

1 seconded.

2           Would you like to address this?

3           MR. ROSS: Just briefly.

4           This was rejected at first, because, to a  
5 certain extent, you know, it really was redundant.  
6 I think that with -- and a lot of times, you know,  
7 the detail's in the devils of the rules. I'm -- you  
8 know, you've heard the phrase "rules nerds." Well,  
9 you know, I'm one of them. And a lot times, it just  
10 takes a small tweak to make a significant  
11 difference.

12           What this does is, it plugs up several  
13 holes that were inadequate, in addition to which the  
14 fact that, without these holes being plugged, it was  
15 also largely redundant.

16           "Preference vote" will cover the fact --  
17 whether -- because both a Primary or a Caucus could  
18 be considered a preference vote. And we have also  
19 covered the base, in terms of being -- making sure  
20 that we refer to, not just simply State law, but the  
21 Party rules and any State Party rules.

22           And so, therefore, I would ask the

1 Committee to reconsider and to please vote yes.

2 Thank you very much. And I appreciate  
3 your time, and I appreciate everyone extending out  
4 for a few moments.

5 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

6 Let me just walk you through where we are  
7 procedurally. He has made -- he has proposed an  
8 amendment to something we have already voted to  
9 reconsider. So, we have to vote separately on the  
10 amendment, and then on the main motion.

11 So, is there anyone who would like to rise  
12 in opposition to the amendment? Is there opposition  
13 to the amendment?

14 Mr. Little.

15 MR. LITTLE: I rise in opposition both to  
16 the amendment and the main motion. If you read Rule  
17 16(a) (2) on page 30 of your blacklined copy, it  
18 reads, "The Secretary of the Convention shall  
19 faithfully announce and record each Delegate's vote  
20 in accordance with the Delegate's obligation under  
21 Rule 16(a) (1), State law, or Party rules."

22 If you turn to 16(a) (1), it reads, "Any

1 statewide presidential preference vote that permits  
2 a choice among candidates for the Republican  
3 nomination for the President of the United States in  
4 a Primary, Caucuses, or State Convention must be  
5 used to allocate and bind the States to -- the  
6 State's delegation to the National Convention in  
7 either a proportional or a winner-take-all manner,  
8 except for Delegates and alternates who [inaudible]  
9 in statewide election and are elected directly by  
10 Primary voters."

11 I believe this would lead to confusion.  
12 And, to my way of thinking, it's clearly redundant,  
13 and would oppose both this amendment and the full  
14 amendment.

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. Is  
16 there anyone who rises in support?

17 The Gentleman from Maine.

18 MR. WILLETTE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

19 I stand in support of this. This helps  
20 with the amendment to the amendment. It helps  
21 clarify and helps really confirm the results of our  
22 local Primaries and Caucuses, and allows those

1 voters' voices to be heard.

2           So, I urge the Committee to support the  
3 amendment to the amendment.

4           CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

5           Is there anyone who rises in opposition --  
6 opposition to the amendment?

7           The Lady from Wyoming.

8           MS. HAGEMAN: Yes, Harriet Hageman, from  
9 Wyoming.

10           It's 11:30 at night, and I believe some of  
11 the criticisms that we've had with previous  
12 proposals is that they're too complicated to be  
13 taking up -- to be taken up at this time or by this  
14 body. I think that it is a little too late to be  
15 able to -- to be bringing an amendment like this.  
16 And as complicated as this is, I think you're going  
17 to be creating all kinds of ambiguities and problems  
18 with other rules. And I think that it's simply too  
19 late. I think that it -- I oppose both the  
20 amendment as well as the reconsideration. I don't  
21 think that we ought to be addressing this, this late  
22 at night. It doesn't seem like it's right. It

1 seems like it's kind of a strange thing to be  
2 bringing up at this time.

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Chair  
4 recognizes the Lady from Vermont, Ms. Hudson.

5 MS. HUDSON: Thank you, Madam Chair.  
6 Susie Hudson, from Vermont.

7 I'd like to move the previous question.

8 VOICE: Second.

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
10 has been moved and seconded. We will move to a vote  
11 on --

12 What section is it? We are looking at  
13 7(b) -- excuse me -- 37(b).

14 All right. We will move to a vote on  
15 previous question.

16 All those in favor of ending debate on the  
17 amendment to the amendment, please say aye.

18 [A chorus of ayes.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
20 nay.

21 [A chorus of nays.]

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes clearly

1 have it.

2 We'll now move to a vote on the amendment  
3 to the amendment.

4 All those in favor of adopting the  
5 amendment to the amendment, please say aye.

6 [A chorus of ayes.]

7 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
8 nay.

9 [A chorus of nays.]

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Chair is in  
11 doubt.

12 All those in favor of adopting the  
13 amendment to the amendment, please stand.

14 [Members standing.]

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The Chair is no  
16 longer in doubt. Please be seated.

17 All those opposed, please stand.

18 [Members standing.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All right. I think  
20 it's quite clear. Please be seated. Thank you.

21 The amendment to the amendment passes.

22 Now we are back on debate to the main

1 motion. Is there anyone who would like to speak in  
2 opposition or in support of the main motion? Let's  
3 start with support of the main motion.

4 Mr. Wittich, I believe you started this in  
5 the first place.

6 MR. WITTICH: Thank you, Madam Chair.

7 I'd just like to say that I would have  
8 considered this a friendly amendment, and I'll  
9 support the motion, as amended.

10 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

11 Anyone rising in opposition?

12 MR. LITTLE: Yes, Madam Chairman.

13 I'm very concerned about the legal  
14 ramifications of this. What about the situation of  
15 Delegates who appear on a ballot in statewide  
16 election and are elected directly by Primary voters?

17 So, you have real too similarly worded provisions  
18 in completely different sections that are slightly  
19 different, a clause different. I would like to know  
20 if Counsel has reviewed this and feels comfortable  
21 with this.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: That calls for a



1 legal conclusion. At this point, Counsel has not  
2 raised any particular objection to it. And at this  
3 point, Counsel sees no issue with it. And we should  
4 simply allow the body to work its will.

5 All right. Is --

6 The Gentleman from --

7 MR. HALL: Michigan.

8 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- Michigan. Thank  
9 you, sir. I knew it was an "M."

10 MR. HALL: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

11 My name is Matt Hall, from Michigan.

12 I support this amendment. It's clear that  
13 it clarifies the intent of the rules to bind the  
14 Delegates.

15 And I call the previous question.

16 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Previous question  
17 has been called and is in order. And so, we will  
18 vote on closing debate.

19 All those in favor of previous question,  
20 please say --

21 VOICE: Madam Chair, a point of order.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Yes, sir.

1                   VOICE: We had -- the good Lady from  
2 Washington --

3                   CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Name and State,  
4 please.

5                   MR. HUNT: Graham Hunt, with Washington  
6 State.

7                   We had the good Lady from Washington State  
8 that had requested to change the word "vote" to  
9 "count." And this body stated that that was out of  
10 order and that it was too late, and an amendment  
11 would have had to have been made, but it was past  
12 the hour in order to do so. Is that not what this  
13 body is doing now?

14                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: No, because this  
15 body has voted to reconsider something that was  
16 already considered by the body. So, this amendment  
17 was to another section, and it is perfectly in  
18 order, and we should continue with the vote.

19                  MR. HUNT: Thank you, Madam Chair.

20                  CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you, sir.

21                  All those in --

22                  Where were we? We were on previous

1 question or the main motion? All right. Vote on  
2 previous question.

3 All those in favor of ending debate on  
4 this item, please say aye.

5 [A chorus of ayes.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: All those opposed,  
7 nay.

8 [A chorus of nays.]

9 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.  
10 We'll now move to a vote on the main  
11 motion.

12 All those in favor of adoption of this  
13 amendment, please say aye.

14 [A chorus of ayes.]

15 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

16 [A chorus of nays.]

17 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

18 Ladies and gentlemen, believe it or not,  
19 that is the last amendment that has been submitted.

20 Before you all bolt, let me say thank you  
21 for all of your hard work. You have been truly  
22 magnificent. Give yourselves a hand.

1 [Applause.]

2 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: I also want to  
3 thank the audience, who has been with us all day  
4 long, and who --

5 Oh, before you leave, we have one more  
6 vote. Don't anybody move. A really important vote.

7 This is why I have these lovely parliamentarians.

8 We now have to vote on the entire package  
9 of the amendments, as we -- on the rules, as we have  
10 amended them today. Is there a motion to adopt the  
11 entire rules package?

12 MR. RYDER: So move.

13 MR. TETTLEBAUM: Second.

14 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: It has been moved  
15 by Ryder and seconded by Mr. Tettlebaum.

16 All those in favor of adopting the  
17 package, as it stands at this point, please say aye.

18 [A chorus of ayes.]

19 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed, nay.

20 [A chorus of nays.]

21 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: The ayes have it.

22 All right. As I was saying, I want to

1 thank the audience. You've been wonderful, not only  
2 not disruptive, but attentive. Yes, we're still  
3 waving at each other. And we appreciate your being  
4 here and participating in this process.

5           Now -- excuse me -- now that we have  
6 passed these rules, it's -- will be necessary to  
7 adopt them once the Convention ratifies our  
8 Committee as a Permanent Convention Committee in  
9 order for our report to be considered by the full  
10 Convention. So, here are a few important logistical  
11 points.

12           This Committee will reconvene on Monday,  
13 July 20- -- excuse me -- July 18th during the  
14 opening session of the Convention, which begins on  
15 Monday at 2:00 o'clock p.m. -- 2:00 o'clock p.m., at  
16 Quicken Loans Arena. The Committee will meet in a  
17 section of the concourse or a room close by. So,  
18 the Chairman of the Convention will state, from the  
19 chair, exactly where our Committee is to meet. It  
20 is absolutely imperative that we have a quorum for  
21 this meeting. And if you are not present to help  
22 provide a quorum, it could, frankly, delay the

1 entire Convention. And we will list you by name, if  
2 necessary.

3 Now, thanks to the motion made by John  
4 Hammond at our Wednesday meeting, we only needed to  
5 take that one final vote to confirm the work that we  
6 have done. So, therefore, the meeting will be  
7 extremely short, but it is absolutely critical that  
8 you attend.

9 All right. We have already taken the  
10 final vote.

11 Gentleman --

12 MR. HALL: Yes.

13 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: -- from Michigan.

14 MR. HALL: Thank you, Madam Chairman.

15 I just wanted to make a point of personal  
16 privilege. I'm the Delegate, Matt Hall, from  
17 Michigan, and, as the Delegate from Grand Rapids,  
18 I'd be remiss if I did not wish one of our great  
19 Nation's Presidents, President Gerald R. Ford, a  
20 Happy Birthday. Today is his 103rd Birthday. I  
21 couldn't think of a better way to honor his legacy  
22 than the great work this Committee has done. So, I

1 just wanted to make that point.

2 [Applause.]

3 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Thank you.

4 All right. I'm just going to say it one  
5 more time. The Committee will reconvene on Monday  
6 at 2:00 p.m. at Quicken Loans Arena. The Convention  
7 Committees will convene on the floor. The Chairman  
8 will announce it, and you will receive instructions  
9 at that time regarding the exact location of our  
10 meeting. The staff at the Quicken Loans Arena will  
11 be there with signs to assist you to make sure you  
12 make it to the correct room.

13 Ladies and gentlemen, you have been  
14 nothing short of magnificent. I want to say thank  
15 you to all of you, to our staff, to our  
16 parliamentarians, to our special counsel, and  
17 everyone who has made this meeting run so smoothly.

18 At this point, I would like to entertain a  
19 motion to adjourn.

20 VOICE: Motion to adjourn.

21 VOICE: Second.

22 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: So moved and

1 seconded.

2 All those in favor, say aye.

3 [A chorus of ayes.]

4 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: Any opposed?

5 [No response.]

6 CHAIRWOMAN MICKELSEN: We stand adjourned.

7 Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

8 [Whereupon, at 11:30 p.m., the meeting was

9 adjourned.]

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