

Instructions for the Model Delegate Selection Plan For the 2012 Democratic National Convention

This **Model Delegate Selection Plan** is furnished to State Democratic Parties (including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and Democrats Abroad) to assist with the preparation of their respective Plans for the 2012 delegate selection process. In preparing their Plans, State Parties are welcome, but not required, to follow this “model” format.

Provisions applicable for both typical primary or caucus states are included in this Model Plan. A State Party can adapt this document to the requirements of its own unique primary or caucus system. State or date references appear in parentheses (e.g., *(state)* or *(date)*); state/system-specific choices or notations are indicated in brackets (e.g., *[indicate system: primary or caucus]*). All of these variables appear as ***bold and italicized*** text.

State Plans must be submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee by May 2, 2011. Before submitting the Plan, it must be approved by the State Party following a 30-day public comment period.

The Model Plan is available to State Parties electronically from the Office of Party Affairs and Delegate Selection at the Democratic National Committee.

For more information, please contact the Office of Party Affairs and Delegate Selection at (202) 488-5086.

DIRECTIONS:

Please double click on the shaded area and enter or select the appropriate response. When you have completed one field, use the tab key to move to the next field. You will still need to fill in more detailed responses in certain portions of the document however this form will automatically populate the most frequent responses throughout the entire document. Please also insert your state’s name in the header of the plan.

Enter name of state: Alabama

Enter total number of Delegates: 74

Enter total number of Alternates: 5

Select type of System: Primary

Enter number of District-Level Delegates: 41

Date of selection of District-Level Delegates:
3/13/12

Enter number of District-Level Alternates: 4

Date of selection of District-Level Alternates:
3/13/12

Enter number of Pledged PLEO Delegates: 8

Date of Selection of Pledged PLEO Delegates:
4/14/12

Enter number of At-Large Delegates: 14

Date of Selection of At-Large Delegates:
4/14/12

Enter number of At-Large Alternates: 1

Date of Selection of At-Large Alternates:
4/14/12

Enter number of Standing Committee
Members: 6

Enter number of Convention Pages: 2

**ALABAMA DELEGATE
SELECTION PLAN**

FOR THE 2012 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

ISSUED BY THE ALABAMA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

MAY 2011

Found in Conditional Compliance by the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the DNC: June 11, 2011

Amended and Resubmitted by the Alabama Democrats: October 21, 2011

**The Alabama Delegate Selection Plan
For the 2012 Democratic National Convention**

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Section 1 Introduction & Description of Delegate Selection Process

A. Introduction

1. Alabama has a total of **69** delegates and **5** alternates. (Call, I. & Appendix B.)
2. The delegate selection process is governed by the *Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States*, the *Delegate Selection Rules for the 2012 Democratic National Convention* (“Rules”), the *Call for the 2012 Democratic National Convention* (“Call”), the *Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee for the 2012 Democratic National Convention* (“Regs.”), the rules of the Democratic Party of Alabama, the Alabama election code, and this Delegate Selection Plan. (Call, II.A.)
3. Following the adoption of this Delegate Selection Plan by the State Party Committee, it shall be submitted for review and approval by the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee (“RBC”). The State Party Chair shall be empowered to make any technical revisions to this document as required by the RBC to correct any omissions and/or deficiencies as found by the RBC to ensure its full compliance with Party Rules. Such corrections shall be made by the State Party Chair and the Plan resubmitted to the RBC within 30 days of receipt of notice of the RBC’s findings. (Regs. 2.5, 2.6 & 2.7)
4. Once this Plan has been found in Compliance by the RBC, any amendment to the Plan by the State Party will be submitted to and approved by the RBC before it becomes effective. (Reg. 2.9)

B. Description of Delegate Selection Process

1. Alabama will use a proportional representation system based on the results of the *Primary* for apportioning delegates to the 2012 Democratic National Convention.
2. The “first determining step” of Alabama’s delegate selection process will occur on March 13, 2011, with *a Presidential Preference Primary*.
3. Voter Participation in Process
 - a. Participation in *Alabama’s* delegate selection process is open to all voters who wish to participate as Democrats. Voters shall indicate their preference for the Democratic Party at the time they cast their ballot in the Primary election. Voter registration is available through the Alabama Democratic Party, any state or county agency and a form may be printed from the Alabama Secretary of State’s website and mailed to Board of Registrar’s office located in the resident’s particular county. The completed voter registration form must be received by the Board of Registrar’s office by March 2, 2012 in order for the registrant to become enrolled as a voter in the March 13, 2012 Presidential Preference Primary. (Rules 2.A. & 2.C. & Reg. 4.3., Ala. Code § 17-16-14.)

- b. At no stage of Alabama's delegate selection process shall any person be required, directly or indirectly, to pay a cost or fee as a condition for participating. Voluntary contributions to the Party may be made, but under no circumstances shall a contribution be mandatory for participation. A \$50.00 donation will be requested of delegate candidates; however, no person shall be excluded from the delegate selection process for failure to pay a cost or fee. (Rule 2.D. & Reg. 4.4.)
 - c. No persons shall participate or vote in the nominating process for the Democratic presidential candidate who also participates in the nominating process of any other party for the corresponding elections. (Rule 2.E.)
 - d. No person shall vote in more than one meeting which is the first meeting in the delegate selection process. (Rule 3.E. & Reg. 4.6.)
4. The Alabama Democratic Party is participating in the state government-run presidential preference primary that will utilize government-run voting systems. The State Party has taken provable positive steps to:
- a. Promote the acquisition of accessible precinct based optical scan systems, wherever possible. (Rule 2.H.(1))
 - b. Seek enactment of legislation, rules, and policies at the state and local level to ensure that direct recording electronic systems include a voter verified paper trail (Rule 2.H.(2))
 - c. Seek enactment of legislation, rules and policies at the state and local level to ensure that both optical scan and direct recording electronic systems include recognized security measures. These measures include automatic routine manual audits comparing paper records to electronic records following every election and prior to certification or results where possible; parallel testing on election day; physical and electronic security for equipment; banning use of wireless components and connections; public disclosure of software design; use of transparent and random selection for all auditing procedures; and effective procedures for addressing evidence of fraud or error. (Rule 2.H.(3))
 - d. These provable positive steps have included: the introduction of legislation dealing with security of elections; parallel testing on election day, banning the use of wireless components and connections; and the public disclosure of software. The State Party will take steps to lobby legislators and educate the public through press releases.

Section II Presidential Candidates

A. Ballot Access

A presidential candidate gains access to the Alabama presidential preference primary ballot by filing a petition of support (see Attachment 8) of such person's candidacy in the office of the Chairperson of the Alabama Democratic Party at the State Headquarters, 501 Adams Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama 36104, no later than 5:00 p.m. on **December 13, 2012**, 90 days prior to the presidential preference primary on **March 13, 2012** [Code of Alabama 1975, §17-13-102]. Such petition or petitions will be made available from the State Headquarters on December 3, 2011 and shall comply with the election laws of the State of Alabama applicable thereto (Attachment 7). State law requires a total of not less than 500 signatures of qualified electors of the state, or not less than 50 qualified electors of each congressional district of the state, in which case there shall be a separate petition for each congressional district [Code of Alabama 1975, §17-13-102]. In addition, a presidential candidate must submit to the Chairperson at the State Headquarters on 501 Adams Avenue, Montgomery AL, 36104 between December 3, 2011 and not later than December 13, 2011 at 5:00 p.m., 90 days prior to the presidential preference primary on **March 13, 2012**, a completed and notarized "Presidential Qualification Form - Announcement and Declaration of Candidacy" (see Attachment 8), and a qualifying fee in the amount of \$2,500.00 (two thousand five hundred dollars) [Code of Alabama 1975, §17-13-5(a)]. An uncommitted slot will appear on the ballot along with the names of the presidential candidates that have gained access to the Democratic Presidential Preference Primary ballot. A name may not be written in as a vote on the primary ballot. (Rules 11.B., 14.A., 14.B., 14.D., 14.E., & 14.H.)

- B. Each presidential candidate shall certify in writing to the State Democratic Chair, the name(s) of his or her authorized representative(s) by **December 13, 2012**. (Rule 12.D.(1))
- C. Each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) shall use his or her best efforts to ensure that his or her respective delegation within the state delegation achieves the affirmative action goals established by this Plan and is equally divided between men and women. (Rule 6.I.)

Section III Selection of Delegates and Alternates

A. District-Level Delegates and Alternates

1. Alabama is allocated **41** district-level delegates and **4** district-level alternates. (Rule 8.C., Call, I.B., I.I. & Appendix B.)
2. District-level delegates shall be elected by a two-part primary- a presidential preference primary that includes the election of delegates.
 - a. The first part of the ballot for the Presidential Preference Primary shall contain the names of the Presidential candidates and also a bracket permitting electors to vote "uncommitted".

b. The second part of the ballot shall contain the names of the delegate candidates for the specific congressional district, grouped by gender, either pledged to a Presidential candidate or running uncommitted. Alternates will be selected at the SDEC meeting on April 14, 2011. Participation in the delegate selection process in the primary shall be restricted to Democrats.

3. Apportionment of District-Level Delegates and Alternates

a. Alabama’s district-level delegates are apportioned among the districts based on a formula giving equal weight to the vote for the Democratic candidates in the 2008 presidential and the 2010 gubernatorial elections. (Rule 8.A.; Regs. 4.10., 4.11 & Appendix A)

b. The state’s total number of district-level delegates will be equally divided between men and women. (Rule 6.C.(1) & Reg. 4.8.)

c. The district-level delegates are apportioned to districts as indicated in the following chart:

District	Delegates		
	Males	Females	Total
#1	2	3	5*
#2	3	3	6
#3	3	3	6
#4	2	2	4
#5	3	3	6
#6	3	2	5*
#7	4	5	9*
Total	20	21	41

**The State Party has requested a waiver to allow for the selection of all alternate-level delegates at the at-large level to better address any potential gender imbalances after the Primary election of the district delegates.*

***The State Party has determined the gender breakdown of districts with uneven number of delegates based on ensuring maximum participation of females in the delegate process. In Districts 1 and 7, delegates will be selected based on the top female vote getter then top male vote getter, and in District 6, the delegate slots will be awarded based on the top male vote getter the top female vote getter, et cetera.*

4. District-Level Delegate and Alternate Filing Requirements

- a. A district-level delegate may run for election only within the district in which he or she is registered to vote. (Rule 12.H.)
- b. An individual can qualify as a candidate for a position in the Democratic Presidential Preference Primary ballot for district-level delegate to the 2012 Democratic National Convention by filing a verified statement of candidacy designating his or her presidential or uncommitted preference and a signed pledge of support for the presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) with the State Chairman of the Alabama Democratic Party, 501 Adams Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama during the period of December 3, 2011 and 5:00 p.m. January 13, 2011. This form, along with instruction, is available at the Alabama Democratic Party office, address above, from any County Democratic Executive Committee Chairperson, or on the State Party's website at www.aldemocrats.org. (Reg. 4.21.)
- c. All candidates considered for district-level alternate positions must meet the same requirements as candidates for district-level delegate positions. Candidates not chosen at the delegate level may be chosen at the alternate level. (Rule 12.C.)

1. Presidential Candidate Right of Review for District-Level Delegates

- a. The State Democratic Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than 5:00 PM *January 16, 2012*, a list of all persons who have filed for delegate pledged to that presidential candidate. (Rules 12.D. & 12.F.)
- b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), may approve in writing a number of delegate candidates equal to or greater than the number of delegates or allocated to the district. This approval must be filed with the State Democratic Chair by 5:00 p.m. January 18, 2011. (Rule 12.E.(1), Reg. 4.23.)
- c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate, or the authorized representative(s), signifies otherwise in writing to the State Democratic Chair not later than 5:00 p.m. January 18, 2011.
- d. National convention delegate candidates removed from the list of bona fide supporters by a presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), may not be elected as a delegate at that level pledged to that presidential candidate (including uncommitted status). (Rule 12.E. & Reg. 4.23.)

- e. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective district-level delegate candidates meet the affirmative action and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved district-level delegate candidates as indicated in section III.A.5.b of this Plan.

2. Fair Reflection of Presidential Preference

- a. Presidential Primary - Proportional Representation Plan (Rules 13.A., 13.B. & 13.D.)

The (Alabama) presidential primary election is a “binding” primary. Accordingly, delegate positions shall be allocated so as to fairly reflect the expressed presidential (or uncommitted) preference of the primary voters in each district. The National Convention delegates selected at the district level shall be allocated in proportion to the percentage of the primary vote won in that district by each preference, except that preferences falling below a 15% threshold shall not be awarded any delegates or alternates.

- b. Within a district, if no presidential preference reaches a 15% threshold, the threshold shall be the percentage of the vote received in that district by the front-runner minus 10%. (Rule 13.F.)
- c. If a Presidential candidate could qualify to receive delegates, but failed to slate a sufficient number of delegate candidates, a meeting shall be convened with proper notice given of that candidate’s supporters in the designated congressional district.

Such meeting(s) will take place on April 14, 2012 in the designated congressional district(s) at a location to be determined and published in all major area newspapers no later than 5:00 p.m. April 1, 2012.

The deadline for such district level delegate candidates to file their statement of candidacy and pledge of support with the State Party by mail at **501 Adams Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36104** or by fax at **(334) 262-6474** using forms to be made available at the State Party Headquarters or on-line at **aldemocrats.org** is to be no later than 5:00 p.m. April 12, 2012.

The State Party will provide a list of district level delegate candidates to the respective Presidential candidate(s) by 5:00 p.m. April 12, 2012.

The Presidential candidate(s) will provide a list of approved district level delegate candidates to the State Party by no later than 5:00 p.m. April 14, 2012.

At the April 14, 2012 meeting(s), the State Party will conduct an election process from among the candidate's supporters to fill said slots.

The State Party will certify the elected district level delegates to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee by no later than 5:00 p.m. April 16, 2012. (Rule 12.G.)

3. Equal Division of District-Level Delegates

- a. In order to ensure the district-level delegates are equally divided between men and women, delegate positions within each district will be designated by presidential preference beginning with the highest vote-getting presidential preference. This assignment of delegate positions, alternating by sex as mathematically practicable, will continue with the next highest vote-getting preferences in descending order until the gender of each position has been assigned. (Rule 6.C.(1) & Reg. 4.8.)
- b. Delegate candidates in each Congressional District will be grouped by gender on the ballot under each Presidential candidate's name and under the "Uncommitted" bracket. Voters will first vote for the Presidential candidate of their choice or uncommitted. They will then be instructed to vote for not more than four (4) women and not more than four (4) men delegate candidates committed to the Presidential candidate they voted for at the top of the ballot or not more than four (4) women and not more than four (4) men who are running uncommitted if they voted uncommitted at the top of the ballot.
- c. In districts with an odd number of delegates, the first delegate selected for the winning Presidential preference must be of the same sex as the advantaged gender in that district. Following that determination, the allocation would continue alternating by gender for the winning Presidential preference and any subsequent preferences. In districts with an even number of delegates, the highest vote-getting delegate candidate for the district's winning Presidential preference will be the first delegate assigned. Following that determination, the state will then designate the remaining positions for that Presidential preference and any subsequent preferences alternating by gender, as mathematically practicable.
- d. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) the election of the state's district-level delegates to the Democratic National Convention within ten (10) days after their election, or **March 23, 2012**. (Rule 8.C. & Call, IV.A.)

B. Unpledged Delegates

1. Unpledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials

- a. The following categories (if applicable) shall constitute the Unpledged Party Leaders and Elected Official delegate positions:
 - (1) Members of the Democratic National Committee who legally reside in the state; (Rule 9.A.(1), Call, I.F., J., & Reg. 4.13.)
 - (2) Democratic President and Democratic Vice President (if applicable); (Rule 9.A.2., Call I.G.)
 - (3) All of Alabama's Democratic Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate; (Rule 9.A.(3), Call I.H. & J.)
 - (4) The Democratic Governor (if applicable); (Rule 9.A.(4), Call I.H. & J.)
 - (5) "Distinguished Party Leader" delegates who legally reside in the state (if applicable). (Rule 9.A.(5), Call I.G., and Reg. 4.13.)
- b. The certification process for the Unpledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates is as follows:
 - (1) Not later than March 1, 2012, the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee shall officially confirm to the State Democratic Chair the names of the unpledged delegates who legally reside in Alabama. (Rule 9.A.)
 - (2) Official confirmation by the Secretary shall constitute verification of the unpledged delegates from the categories indicated above. (Call, IV.B.1.)
 - (3) The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the DNC the presidential preference of state's unpledged delegates 10 days after the completion of the State's Delegate Selection Process, or April 24, 2012. (Call, IV.B)

C. Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) Delegates

1. Alabama is allotted 8 pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) delegates. (Call, I.D., E. & Appendix B)
2. Pledged PLEO Delegate Filing Requirements
 - a. Individuals shall be eligible for the pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegate positions according to the following priority: big city mayors and state-wide elected officials (to be given equal consideration); state legislative leaders, state legislators, and other state, county and local elected officials and party leaders. (Rule 9.B.(1) & Reg. 4.15.)

- b. An individual can qualify as a candidate for a position as a pledged PLEO delegate by filing a Declaration of Candidacy and a signed pledge of support for the candidate with the Chairman of the State Party by 5:00 p.m., on **April 12, 2012**, at State Party Headquarters located at 501 Adams Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama. (Rules 9.C.(3), & 14.G., Reg. 4.16.)
3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review
 - a. The State Democratic Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than 12:00 p.m. **Friday April 13, 2012**, a list of all persons who have filed for a party and elected official delegate pledged to that presidential candidate. (Rules 9.B.(3) & 12.D.)
 - b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must file with the State Democratic Chair, by **Saturday, April 14, 2012**, a list of all such candidates he or she has approved, as long as approval is given to at least one (1) name for every position to which the presidential candidate is entitled. (Rule 12.E.(2) & Reg. 4.23.)
 - c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate or the authorized representative(s) signifies otherwise in writing to the State Democratic Chair not later than **9:00 AM Saturday, April 14, 2012**.
 - d. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective pledged PLEO delegate candidates meet the affirmative action and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved pledged PLEO candidates as indicated in section III.C.3.b of this Plan.
 4. Selection of Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates
 - a. The pledged PLEO slots shall be allocated among presidential preferences on the same basis as the at-large delegates. (Rule 9.B.(2), 10.C., 13.E. & F.)
 - b. Selection of the pledged PLEO delegates will occur at **10:00 AM** on **4/14/12** at a meeting called by the State Democratic Executive Committee of Alabama, which is after the election of district-level delegates and alternates and the unpledged add-on delegates and prior to the selection of at-large delegates and alternates. (Rule 9.B.)
 - c. These delegates will be selected by the State Democratic Executive Committee in compliance with the following provisions: (Rule 9.D.)

- (1) Membership on the State Democratic Executive Committee includes 210 members elected from Alabama's 105 State House districts, one man and one woman from each district. The 77 other members are officers and representatives of groups having a measure of Democratic strength. (Rule 9.D.(1))
 - (2) It is the policy of the State Democratic Executive Committee of Alabama that minority members should be represented on the state committee in proportion to their presence in the democratic electorate of Alabama or in proportion to their presence in the population of Alabama, whichever is greater. The term "Democratic Electorate" of Alabama is defined as being composed of those persons who voted for the Democratic nominee for president in the immediate preceding general election and each succeeding general election for the Democratic nominee for president every four (4) years thereafter. The Chairman shall, utilizing whatever expert advice and assistance is necessary, and with the advice and consultation of the Vice-Chairman for Minority Affairs, determine the percentage of minority voters in the Democratic Electorate and compare that percentage to the percentage of minority members found in the population of Alabama, according to the most recent decennial census. The higher percentage shall be selected as the percentage of minority members of the state committee. If the percentage selected is not met by the number of minority members elected to the state committee, then the Chairman shall determine the number of minority members to be added to the state committee to bring the number of minority members on the state committee to the appropriate level. This number of persons, if any, to be added onto the state committee shall be selected by a caucus of the elected minority members of the state committee.
 - (3) Members of the State Democratic Executive Committee of Alabama have been elected through open processes in conformity with the basic procedural guarantees utilized for delegate selection. (Rule 9.D.(2))
 - (4) Pledged Party and Elected Official delegates will be elected at a public meeting on April 14, 2012. (Rule 9.D.(3))
 - (5) Members of the State Democratic Executive Committee of Alabama were elected in the June 2010 Primaries of the Alabama Democratic Party. (Rule 9.D.(4))
 - (6) Membership of the State Democratic Executive Committee of Alabama complies with the equal division requirements of Article 9, Section 16 of the Charter of the Democratic Party of the United States. (Rule 9.D.(5))
- d. Alternates are not selected at the pledged Party Leader and Elected Official level. These alternates are combined with the at-large alternates and selected as one unit. (Reg. 4.30.)

5. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the election of the state's pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates to the Democratic National Convention within ten (10) days after their election. (Rule 8.D. & Call, IV.A.)

C. At-Large Delegates And Alternates

1. The state of Alabama is allotted **14** at-large delegates and **1** at-large alternates. (Rule 8.C., Call, I.B., II. & Appendix B)
2. At-Large Delegate and Alternate Filing Requirements
 - a. Persons desiring to seek at-large delegate or alternate positions may file a statement of candidacy designating their presidential or uncommitted preference and a signed pledge of support for the presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) with the State Party by 5:00PM *Thursday April 12, 2012*. (Rules 12.B. & 14.G.; Regs. 4.21. & 4.27.)
 - b. In the interest of providing those PLEOs not selected the opportunity to run for at-large delegate or alternate, and to allow Presidential candidates the opportunity to review a full list of candidates after the selection of the PLEOs, the State Party will allow individuals to choose to file simultaneously for PLEO delegate/alternate and at-large delegate/alternate and will indicate as such on the qualifying form. Those candidates who are elected as PLEO delegates would be removed from consideration for the at-large delegate and alternate positions.
 - c. The statement of candidacy for at-large delegates and for at-large alternates will be the same. After the at-large delegates are elected by State Democratic Executive Committee, those persons not chosen will then be considered candidates for at-large alternate positions unless they specify otherwise when filing. (Rule 18.A.)
3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review
 - a. The State Democratic Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than 12:00 p.m. *Friday, April 13, 2012*, a list of all persons who have filed for delegate or alternate pledged to that presidential candidate. (Rule 12.D.) (Reg. 4.22. & 4.27.)
 - b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must then file with the State Democratic Chair, following the election of the PLEOs on April 14, 2012, a list of all such candidates he or she has approved, provided that, at a minimum, **one (1) name** remains for every national convention delegate or alternate position to which the presidential candidate is entitled. (Rule 12.E.(2) & Reg. 4.23.)

- c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate or the authorized representative(s) signifies otherwise in writing to the State Democratic Chair not later than 12:00 PM. Saturday, April 14, 2012.
 - d. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective at-large delegate candidates and at-large alternate candidates meet the affirmative action and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved at-large delegate candidates and at-large alternate candidates as indicated in section III.D.3.b of this Plan.
4. Fair Reflection of Presidential Preference
- a. At-large delegate and alternate positions shall be allocated among presidential preferences according to the state-wide primary vote.
 - b. Preferences which have not attained a 15% threshold on a state-wide basis shall not be entitled to any at-large delegates. (Rule 13.E.)
 - c. If no presidential preference reaches a 15% threshold, the threshold shall be the percentage of the statewide vote received by the front-runner, minus 10%. (Rule 13.F.)
 - d. If a presidential candidate is no longer a candidate at the time of selection of the at-large delegates, then those at-large slots that would have been allocated to the candidate will be proportionally divided among the remaining preferences entitled to an allocation. (Rule 10.C.)
 - e. If a given presidential preference is entitled to one or more delegate positions but would not otherwise be entitled to an alternate position, that preference shall be allotted one at-large alternate position. (Rule 18.B., Call, I.I. & Reg. 4.30.& 4.33.)
5. Selection of At-Large Delegates and Alternates
- a. The selection of the at-large delegates and alternates will occur at 10:00 a.m. on April 14, 2012 at *a meeting of the State Democratic Executive Committee*, which is after all pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates have been selected. (Rule 8.D. & Call, III.)
 - b. These delegates and alternates will be selected by the State Democratic Executive Committee, provided that: (Rules 10.B. & 8.D.)

- (1) Membership on the State Democratic Executive Committee includes 210 members elected from 105 State House districts, one man and one woman from each district. The 77 other members are the officers and representative of groups having a measure of Democratic strength. (Rule 9.D.(1))
- (2) Members of the State Democratic Executive Committee have been elected through open processes in conformity with the basic procedural guarantees utilized for delegate selection. (Rule 9.D.(2))
- (3) Such delegates are elected at a public meeting subsequent to the election of district-level delegates. (Rule 9.D.(3))
- (4) Members of the State Democratic Executive Committee shall have been elected in the June 2010 Primaries of the Alabama Democratic Party. (Rule 9.D.(4))
- (5) Membership of the State Party Committee complies with the equal division requirements of Article 9, Section 16 of the Charter of the Democratic Party of the United States. (Rule 9.D.(5)) (Rule 8.E. & Reg. 4.12.)

c. Priority of Consideration

- (1) In the selection of the at-large delegation priority of consideration shall be given to African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and women. (Rule 6.A.)
 - (2) In order to continue the Democratic Party's ongoing efforts to include groups historically under-represented in the Democratic Party's affairs and to assist in the achievement of full participation by these groups, priority of consideration shall be given other groups by virtue of race/ethnicity, age, sexual orientation or disability. (Rules 5.C., 6.A.(3), & Reg. 4.7.)
 - (3) The election of at-large delegates and alternates shall be used, if necessary, to achieve the equal division of positions between men and women, and may be used to achieve the representation goals established in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan. (Rule 6.A. & 6.C.)
 - (4) Delegates and alternates are to be considered separate groups for this purpose. (Rules 6.A.(3), 10.A. & Regs. 4.8 & 4.19.)
6. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the election of the state's at-large delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention within ten (10) days after their election. (Rule 8.C. & Call, IV.A.)

D. Replacement of Delegates and Alternates

1. A pledged delegate or alternate may be replaced according to the following guidelines:
 - a. Permanent Replacement of a Delegate: (Rule 18.D.(2))
 - (1) A permanent replacement occurs when a delegate resigns or dies prior to or during the national convention and the alternate replaces the delegate for the remainder of the National Convention.
 - (2) Any alternate permanently replacing a delegate shall be of the same presidential preference (including uncommitted status) and sex of the delegate he/she replaces, and to the extent possible shall be from the same political subdivision within the state as the delegate.
 - (a) In the case where the presidential candidate has only one alternate, that alternate shall become the certified delegate.
 - (b) If a presidential candidate has only one alternate, and that alternate permanently replaces a delegate of the opposite sex, thereby causing the delegation to no longer be equally divided, the delegation shall not be considered in violation of Rule 6.C. In such a case, notwithstanding Rule 18.D.(2), the State Party Committee shall, at the time of a subsequent permanent replacement, replace a delegate with a person of the opposite sex, in order to return the delegation to equal division of men and women. (Reg. 4.32.)
 - b. Temporary Replacement of a Delegate: (Rule 18.D.(3))
 - (1) A temporary replacement occurs when a delegate is to be absent for a limited period of time during the convention and an alternate temporarily acts in the delegate's place.
 - (2) Any alternate who temporarily replaces a delegate must be of the same presidential preference (including uncommitted status) as the delegate he/she replaces, and to the extent possible shall be of the same sex and from the same political subdivision within the state as the delegate.
 - c. The following system in this order will be used to select permanent and temporary replacements of delegates. When the first method is not allowed under certain circumstances, such as the delegation cannot meet to take a vote, the next method shall be used. Should the second method not be allowed, for whatever reasons, the third and final method shall be used. (Rule 18.D.(1))
 - (1) The delegation chooses the alternate by a majority vote of the delegation.
 - (2) The delegate being replaced chooses the alternate.

- (3) The alternate who received the highest number of votes becomes the delegate replacement.
- d. Certification of Replacements
 - (1) Any alternate who permanently replaces a delegate shall be certified in writing to the Secretary of the DNC by the State Democratic Chair. (Rule 18.D.(2))
 - (2) Permanent replacement of a delegate (as specified above) by an alternate and replacement of a vacant alternate position shall be certified in writing by the Alabama's Democratic Chair to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the replacement is selected. (Call, IV.D.1.)
 - (3) Certification of permanent replacements will be accepted by the Secretary up to 48 hours before the first official session of the Convention is scheduled to convene. (Call, IV.D.1. & Reg. 4.31.)
 - (4) In the case where a pledged delegate is permanently replaced after 48 hours before the time the first session is scheduled to convene or, in the case where a pledged delegate is not on the floor of the Convention Hall at the time a roll call vote is taken, an alternate may be designated (as specified above) to cast the delegate's vote. In such case, the Delegation Chair shall indicate the name of the alternate casting the respective delegate's vote on the delegation tally sheet (Call, VIII.F.3.d., VIII.F.3.b. & Reg. 5.5.)
- e. A vacant alternate position shall be filled by the delegation. The replacement shall be of the same presidential preference (or uncommitted status), of the same sex and, to the extent possible, from the same political subdivision as the alternate being replaced. (Rule 18.E.)
2. Unpledged delegates shall not be entitled to a replacement, nor shall the state be entitled to a replacement, except under the following circumstances: (Rule 18.E. & Reg. 4.33.)
 - a. Members of Congress and the Democratic Governor shall not be entitled to name a replacement. In the event of changes or vacancies in the state's Congressional Delegation, following the official confirmation and prior to the commencement of the National Convention, the DNC Secretary shall recognize only such changes as have been officially recognized by the Democratic Caucus of the U.S. House of Representatives or the Democratic Conference of the U.S. Senate. In the event of a change or vacancy in the state's office of Governor, the DNC shall recognize only such changes as have been officially recognized by the Democratic Governors' Association. (Call, IV.D.2.a.)

- b. Members of the Democratic National Committee shall not be entitled to a replacement, nor shall the state be entitled to a replacement, except in the case of death of such delegates. In the case where the state's DNC membership changes following the DNC Secretary's official confirmation, but prior to the commencement of the 2012 Democratic National Convention, acknowledgment by the Secretary of the new DNC member certification shall constitute verification of the corresponding change of unpledged delegates. (Call, IV.D.2.b.)
- c. Unpledged distinguished Party Leader delegates allocated to the state pursuant to Rule 9.A.(5), shall not be entitled to name a replacement, nor shall the state be entitled to name a replacement. (Call, IV.C.2.c.)
- d. In no case may an alternate cast a vote for an unpledged delegate. (Call, VIII.F.3.d.)

Section IV Convention Standing Committee Members

A. Introduction

1. *Alabama* has been allocated (2) member(s) on each of the three standing committees for the 2012 Democratic National Convention (Credentials, Platform and Rules), for a total of (6) members. (Call, VII.A. & Appendix D.)
2. Members of the Convention Standing Committees need not be delegates or alternates to the 2012 Democratic National Convention. (Call, VII.A.3.)
3. These members will be selected in accordance with the procedures indicated below. (Rule 1.G.)

B. Standing Committee Members

1. Selection Meeting
 - a. The members of the standing committees shall be elected by a quorum of Alabama's National Convention delegates, at a meeting to be held on *April 14, 2012*. (Call, VII.B.1.)
 - b. All members of the delegation shall receive adequate notice of the time, date and place of the meeting to select the standing committee members. (Call, VII.B.1.)
2. Allocation of Members
 - a. The members of the standing committees allocated to Alabama shall proportionately represent the presidential preference of all candidates (including

uncommitted status) receiving the threshold percentage used in the state's delegation to calculate the at-large apportionment pursuant to Rule 13.E. of the Delegate Selection Rules. (Call, VII.C.1. & Reg. 5.7.)

- b. The presidential preference of each candidate receiving the applicable percentage or more within the delegation shall be multiplied by the total number of standing committee positions allocated to Alabama. If the result of such multiplication does not equal 0.455 or above, the presidential preference in question is not entitled to representation on the standing committee. If the result of such multiplication is 0.455 but less than 1.455, the presidential preference is entitled to one (1) position. Those preferences securing more than 1.455 but less than 2.455 are entitled to two (2) positions, etc. (Call, VII.C.2.)
- c. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation exceeding the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is farthest from its eventual rounded-off total shall be denied that one (1) additional position. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation falling short of the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is closest to the next rounding level shall be allotted an additional committee position. (Call, VII.C.3.)
- d. Standing committee positions allocated to a presidential candidate shall be proportionately allocated, to the extent practicable, to each of the three standing committees. When such allocation results in an unequal distribution of standing committee positions by candidate preference, a drawing shall be conducted to distribute the additional positions. (Call, VII.C.4.)

3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review

- a. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), shall be given adequate notice of the date, time and location of the meeting of the state's delegation authorized to elect standing committee members. (Call, VII.D.1.)
- b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must submit to the State Democratic Chair, by **9:00AM on April 14, 2012**, a minimum of one (1) name for each slot awarded to that candidate for members of each committee. The delegation shall select the standing committee members submitted by the presidential candidates (including uncommitted status). Presidential candidates shall not be required to submit the name of more than one person for each slot awarded to such candidate for members of standing committees. (Call, VII.D.2.)

4. Selection Procedure to Achieve Equal Division

- a. Presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) shall use their best efforts to ensure that their respective delegation of standing committee members shall achieve Alabama's affirmative action goals and that their respective members are equally divided between men and women. (Rule 6.I. & Reg. 4.9.)
 - b. Each position on each standing committee shall be assigned by gender. For example, the first position on the Credentials Committee of the presidential candidate with the most standing committee positions shall be designated for a female, the second position for a male, and the remaining positions shall be designated in like fashion, alternating between females and males. Positions for presidential candidates on each committee shall be ranked according to the total number of standing positions allocated to each such candidate. After positions on the Credentials Committee are designated by sex, the designation shall continue with the Platform Committee, then the Rules Committee.
 - (1) A separate election shall be conducted for membership on each standing committee.
 - (2) The membership of the standing committees shall be as equally divided as possible under the state allocation; if the number is even, the membership shall be equally divided between men and women; if the number is odd, the variance between men and women may not exceed one (1), and the advantaged gender must not remain constant for the three standing committees. (Call, VII.E.1.)
 - (3) The positions allocated to each presidential candidate on each committee shall be voted on separately, and the winners shall be the highest vote-getter(s) of the appropriate sex.
5. Certification and Substitution
- a. The State Democratic Chair shall certify the standing committee members in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after their selection. (Call, VII.B.3.)
 - b. No substitutions will be permitted in the case of standing committee members, except in the case of resignation or death. Substitutions must be made in accordance with the rules and the election procedures specified in this section, and must be certified in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the substitute member is selected. (Call, VII.B.4.)

Section V
The Delegation

A. ALABAMA will select one (1) person to serve as Delegation Chair and 2 to serve as Convention Pages. (Call, IV.E., F.1. & Appendix C.)

B. Delegation Chair

1. Selection Meeting
 - a. The Delegation Chair shall be selected by a quorum of the state's National Convention Delegates, at a meeting to be held on *April 14, 2012*. (Call, IV.E.)
 - b. All members of the delegation shall receive timely notice of the time, date and place of the meeting to select the Delegation Chair. (Rule 3.C.)
2. The State Democratic Chair shall certify the Delegation Chair in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after his or her selection. (Call, IV.E.)

C. Convention Pages

1. 2 individuals will be selected to serve as Alabama's Convention Pages by the State Democratic Chair in consultation with the Party Vice Chair and members of the Democratic National Committee from the state. This selection will take place *April 14, 2012*. (Call, IV.F.3., Appendix C & Reg. 5.6.)
2. The Convention Pages shall be as evenly divided between men and women as possible under the state allocation and shall reflect as much as possible, the Affirmative Action guidelines in the Affirmative Action Plan. (Reg. 5.6.A.)
3. The State Democratic Chair shall certify the individuals to serve as Alabama's Convention Pages in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the selection. (Call, IV.F.3. & Reg. 5.6.B.)

Section VI
General Provisions and Procedural Guarantees

A. The *Alabama* Democratic Party reaffirms its commitment to an open party by incorporating the 'six basic elements' as listed below. These provisions demonstrate the intention of the Democratic Party to ensure a full opportunity for all minority group members to participate in the delegate selection process. (Rules 4.A. & C.)

1. All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party in *Alabama* should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, economic status or physical disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as "status"). (Rule 4.B.(1))

2. No test for membership in, nor any oaths of loyalty to the Democratic Party in *Alabama* should be required or used which has the effect of requiring prospective or current members of the Democratic Party to acquiesce in, condone or support discrimination based on "status." (Rule 4.B.(2))
 3. The time and place for all public meetings of the Democratic Party in Alabama on all levels should be publicized fully and in such manner as to assure timely notice to all interested persons. Such meetings must be held in places accessible to all Party members and large enough to accommodate all interested persons. (Rule 4.B.(3))
 4. The Democratic Party in *Alabama*, on all levels, should support the broadest possible registration without discrimination based on "status." (Rule 4.B.(4))
 5. The Democratic Party in *Alabama* should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the legal and practical procedures for selection of Democratic Party officers and representatives on all levels. Publication of these procedures should be done in such fashion that all prospective and current members of each Alabama Democratic Party will be fully and adequately informed of the pertinent procedures in time to participate in each selection procedure at all levels of the Democratic Party organization. (Rule 4.B.(5))
 6. The Democratic Party in *Alabama* should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties, a complete description of the legal and practical qualifications of all positions as officers and representatives of the Alabama Democratic Party. Such publication should be done in timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected or appointed position within each Alabama Democratic Party will have full and adequate opportunity to compete for office. (Rule 4.B.(6))
- B. Discrimination on the basis of 'status' in the conduct of Democratic Party affairs is prohibited. (Rule 5.B.)
- C. ALABAMA's delegation shall be equally divided between delegate men and delegate women, and alternate men and alternate women. Such goal applies to the entire delegation, which includes all pledged delegates and alternates and all unpledged delegates. Delegates and alternates shall be considered separate groups for purposes of achieving equal division. (Rule 6.C.)
- D. All delegate and alternate candidates must be identified as to presidential preference or uncommitted status at all levels which determine presidential preference. (Rule 12.A.)
- E. No delegate at any level of the delegate selection process shall be mandated by law or Party rules to vote contrary to that person's presidential choice as expressed at the time the delegate is elected. (Rule 12.I.)
- F. Delegates elected to the national convention pledged to a presidential candidate shall in all good conscience reflect the sentiments of those who elected them. (Rule 12.J.)

- G. All delegates, alternates and standing committee members must be bona fide Democrats who have the interests, welfare and success of the Democratic Party of the United States at heart, who subscribe to the substance, intent and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States, and who will participate in the Convention in good faith. (Rule 12.H. & Reg. 4.24.)
- H. **40% (forty percent)** of the members of any Party body above the first level of the delegate selection process shall constitute a quorum for any business pertaining to the selection of National Convention delegates, alternates, standing committee members, and other official Convention participants. (Rule 15)
- I. Proxy voting will not be permitted under any circumstances at either the convention or at any convention meeting. (Rule 16 & Reg. 4.28.)
- J. The unit rule, or any rule or practice whereby all members of a Party unit or delegation may be required to cast their votes in accordance with the will of a majority of the body, shall not be used at any stage of the delegate selection process. (Rule 17.A.)
- K. Any individual or group of Democrats may sponsor or endorse a slate of candidates for convention delegates. But no slate may, by virtue of such endorsement, receive a preferential place on a delegate selection ballot or be publicly identified on the ballot as the official Democratic Party organization slate, and all slates must meet identical qualifying requirements for appearing on a ballot at all levels of the delegate selection process. (Rule 17.B.)
- L. All steps in the delegate selection process, including the filing of presidential candidates, must take place within the calendar year of the Democratic National Convention, except with respect to the implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan. (Rules 1.F. & 11.B.)
- M. In electing and certifying delegates and alternates to the 2012 Democratic National Convention, *Alabama* thereby undertakes to assure all Democratic voters in the state full, timely and equal opportunity to participate in the delegate selection process and in all Party affairs and to implement affirmative action programs toward that end, and that the delegates and alternates to the Convention shall be selected in accordance with the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2012 Democratic National Convention, and that the voters in the state will have the opportunity to cast their election ballots for the Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees selected by said Convention, and for electors pledged formally and in good conscience to the election of these Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees, under the label and designation of the Democratic Party of the United States, and that the delegates certified will not publicly support or campaign for any candidate for President or Vice President other than the nominees for the Democratic National Convention. (Call, II.B.)

Section VII

Affirmative Action, Outreach and Inclusion Plan

A. Statement of Purpose and Organization

1. Purpose and Objectives

- a. In order that the Democratic Party at all levels be an open Party which includes rather than excludes people from participation, a program of effective affirmative action is hereby adopted by *Alabama*. (Rule 5.A.)
- b. Discrimination on the basis of “status” in the conduct of Democratic Party affairs is prohibited. (Rule 5.B.)
- c. All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party in *Alabama* should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, economic status or physical disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as “status”). (Rule 4.B.(1))
- d. Consistent with the Democratic Party’s commitment to including groups historically under-represented in the Democratic Party’s affairs, by virtue of race/ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, or disability, *Alabama* has developed Party outreach programs. Such programs include recruitment, education and training, in order to achieve full participation by such groups and diversity in the delegate selection process and at all levels of Party affairs for 2012. (Rule 5.C & Reg. 4.7.)
- e. In order to encourage full participation by all Democrats in the delegate selection process and in all Party affairs, the Alabama Democratic Party has adopted and will implement programs with specific goals and timetables for African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and women. (Rule 6.A.)
 - (1) The goal of the programs shall be to encourage participation in the delegate selection process and in Party organizations at all levels by the aforementioned groups as indicated by their presence in the Democratic electorate. (Rule 6.A.(1))
 - (2) This goal shall not be accomplished either directly or indirectly by the Party’s imposition of mandatory quotas at any level of the delegate selection process or in any other Party affairs. (Rule 6.A.(2))
- f. In order to achieve full participation of other groups that may be under-represented in Party affairs, including members of the LGBT community, people with disabilities and youth, the Alabama Democratic Party has adopted and will implement Inclusion Programs. (Rule 7)

2. Organizational Structure

- a. An Affirmative Action Committee shall be appointed by the State Democratic Chair on *March 1, 2011*. (Rule 6.F.)
 - b. The State Democratic Chair shall certify in writing to the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the Democratic National Committee the compliance of the State's Affirmative Action Committee with Rules 5.C, 6.A and 7, and submit the names, demographic data and contact information no later than 15 days after their appointment. (Reg. 2.2.K)
 - c. The Committee shall consist of members from each delegate district representing the Democratic constituency groups set forth in the Introduction to the Affirmative Action Plan. (See Affirmative Action Exhibit 1 attached hereto listing the members of the Affirmative Action Committee and identifying each member's relevant demographic information.)
 - d. The Affirmative Action Committee shall be responsible for:
 - (1) Reviewing the proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans and making recommendations to the State Democratic Chair.
 - (2) Reviewing the proposed Inclusion Programs and making recommendations to the State Democratic Chair.
 - (3) Directing the implementation of all requirements of the Affirmative Action section of this Plan.
 - (4) Implementing a financial assistance program for delegates and alternates. (Rule 6.G.)
 - (5) Ensuring, on behalf of the State Party Committee, that district lines used in the delegate selection process are not gerrymandered to discriminate against African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and women. (Rule 6.E.)
 - e. Financial and staff support for the Affirmative Action Committee shall be provided by the State Party Committee to the greatest extent feasible, including, but not limited to, making available on a priority basis, the State Party staff and volunteers and covering all reasonable costs incurred in carrying out this Plan.
3. Implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan shall begin on *September 16, 2011* with the distribution of the press kits, and will continue through the end of the delegate selection process. (Rule 1.F.)

B. Efforts to Educate on the Delegate Selection Process

1. Well publicized educational workshops will be conducted in each of the delegate districts beginning in September 2011. These workshops will be designed to encourage participation in the delegate selection process, including apprising potential delegate candidates of the availability of financial assistance. These workshops will be held in places which are easily accessible to persons with physical disabilities. The times, dates, places and rules for the conduct of all education workshops, meetings and other events involved in the delegate selection process shall be effectively publicized by the party organization and include mailings to various organizations representative of the Democratic voting populace. (Rules 3.A., 3.C. & 3.D.)
2. A speakers bureau of volunteers from the Affirmative Action Committee comprised of individuals who are fully familiar with the process, will be organized to appear before groups, as needed, to provide information concerning the process.
3. The State Party's education efforts will include outreach to community leaders within the Democratic Party's constituencies and making sure that information about the delegate selection process is available to Democratic clubs and Party caucuses representing specific constituencies.
4. The State Party will publish and make available at no cost: a clear and concise explanation of how Democratic voters can participate in the delegate selection process; an explanation of how, where and when persons can register to vote; and delegate district maps. As well, the State Party shall also make available copies of the State Party Rules, the Delegate Selection Plan (and its attachments), the Affirmative Action Plan, and relevant state statutes at no cost. Copies of documents related to the state's delegate selection process will be prepared and the Affirmative Action Committee will distribute them in the various delegate districts not later than *October 1, 2011*. (Rule 1.H.)
5. The State Party shall take all feasible steps to encourage persons to register and to vote as Democrats and will seek to ensure simple and easy registration procedures. (Rule 2.C.)

C. Efforts to Publicize the Delegate Selection Process

1. Special attention shall be directed at publicizing the delegate selection process in the state. Such publicity shall include information on eligibility to vote and how to become a candidate for delegate, the time and location of each stage of the delegate selection process and where to get additional information. The foregoing information will also be published in the State Party newspaper. The Party organization, official, candidate, or member calling a meeting or scheduling an event, shall effectively publicize the role that such meeting or event plays in the selection of delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention. (Rules 3.C. and 3.D.)

2. Newspapers, radio and television will be utilized to inform the general public how, when and where to participate in the delegate selection process. Specifically, this information should provide details as to how to qualify to run as a delegate candidate. Special effort shall be directed to the major daily newspapers, radio and television stations by the State Democratic Chair, Affirmative Action Committee members and staff. Regular releases during the delegate selection process to all other media sources, weekly newspapers, and wire services should complete timely coverage. (Rules 4.B.(3) & 6.D.)
3. A priority effort shall be directed at publicity among the Democratic Party's constituencies.
 - a. Information about the delegate selection process will be provided to minority newspapers and radio stations, ethnic press, Native American, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, Spanish-speaking and other non-English press, radio stations and publications, and women's organizations, student newspapers, gay and lesbian press, disability press, and any other speciality media in the state that is likely to reach the Democratic constituency groups set forth in the Introduction of this Affirmative Action Plan.
 - b. The State Party shall be responsible for the implementation of this publicity effort. For purposes of providing adequate notice of the delegate selection process, the times, dates, places and rules for the conduct of informational meetings and the SDEC meetings for at-large and alternate delegate selection shall be effectively publicized, multilingually where necessary, to encourage the participation of minority groups. (Rule 6.D.)
4. Not later than *September 16, 2011*, a press kit shall be made and provided to each daily and weekly newspaper as well as to the electronic media. The press kit will include:
 - a. a summary of all pertinent rules related to the state's delegate selection process;
 - b. a map of delegate districts and how many delegates will be elected within each district;
 - c. a summary explaining the operation and importance of the 2012 Convention; and
 - d. materials designed to encourage participation by prospective delegate candidates.

D. Representation Goals

1. In 2008, 813,479 Alabama voters turned out to cast a ballot for President Barack Obama, an increase of more than a hundred thousand voters over 2004. Appropriately, we have

used data from the voterfile, the United States Census Bureau (<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/socdemo/voting/publications/p20/2008/tables.html>), and respected research institutions to determine the demographic make-up of the Democratic electorate in Alabama.

2. Party Registration: there is no partisan registration in Alabama. Voters are identified as Democrats or Republicans based on canvassing and phone IDs in the field and as such there is presently not a complete and accurate representation of Democratic voters in the state of Alabama.
3. In determining the African-American make-up of the electorate, the State Party used the African-American vote total of 547,000 based on data from the Census Bureau for the 2008 election. As post-election data shows that 96% of the African-American electorate voted for President Obama, we determined our delegation goal with the following metric:

$$\begin{aligned} 547,000 \times .96 &= 525,120 \text{ Democratic African-American voters} \\ 525,120 / 813,479 &= .65 \text{ or } 65\% \text{ of the Democratic electorate} \\ \mathbf{74 \times .65} &= \mathbf{48 \text{ delegates}} \end{aligned}$$

4. According to data from the United States Census bureau, the Latino, Asian/Pacific-Islander and Native American populations again constituted less than one percent of the Alabama electorate, and we have chosen to maintain our representation goals.
5. In determining the number of voters with disabilities in the Alabama electorate, the State Party based its metric on a study from Rutgers University showing 274,000 voters with disabilities turned out in Alabama in 2008 (http://www.nebraskaadvocacyservices.org/file_download/c1c687ae-70cd-4726-a4e7-659f198fe4f4). As there is no partisan registration in Alabama, and since there is no significant data on the rate at which voters with disabilities turned out for President Obama, the state party has chosen to use the total number of voters with disabilities that turned out in 2008 in the interest of making our goals as inclusive as possible.

$$\begin{aligned} 274,000 / 813,479 &= .34 \text{ or } 34\% \text{ of the electorate} \\ \mathbf{74 \times .34} &= \mathbf{25 \text{ delegates}} \end{aligned}$$

6. There is presently no accurate reflection of the LGBTQ community in the state of Alabama. In the 2008 plan submitted by previous State Party leadership, numbers had been based on an unofficial estimate determined by a study presented by the Democratic National Committee.

As we were unable to meet our 2008 goal for LGBT representation, the State Party has chosen to keep the previous goal and instead continue to work with state LGBT organizations such as the Stonewall Democrats and Equality Alabama to ensure that we are able to increase the number of delegates from the LGBT community over our 2008 representation.

7. The number of young voters who cast a ballot in the 2008 general election was determined by establishing the number of voters aged 18-35 presently listed in the Alabama voterfile who are recorded as having cast a ballot in that race, totaling 379,737. As, again, there is no partisan affiliation required when registering in Alabama, the State Party has estimated the youth turnout in the Democratic electorate by using data from the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) of Tufts University.

Per the research from CIRCLE

(http://www.civicyouth.org/PopUps/FactSheets/FS_08_exit_polls.pdf) President Obama received 68% of the youth vote nationwide. Using that data, this is the metric by which we established our youth representation goals:

$$1.379,737 \times .68 = 258,221 \text{ Democratic young voters}$$

$$2.258,221 / 813,479 = .32 \text{ or } 32\% \text{ of the Democratic electorate}$$

$$74 \times .32 = 24 \text{ delegates}$$

	African Americans	Hispanics	Native Americans	Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders	LGBT Americans	People with Disabilities	Youth
% in Democratic Electorate	65	1	1	1	8 est.	34 est.	32
Numeric Goals for Delegation	48	1	1	1	6	25	24

8. When selecting the at-large portion of the delegation, the demographic composition of the other delegates (district-level, pledged PLEO, and unpledged) shall be compared with the State Party's goals in order to achieve an at-large selection process which helps to bring about a representative balance.
9. Use of the at-large delegation to achieve the affirmative action goals established by this Plan does not obviate the need for the State Party to conduct outreach activities such as recruitment, education and training. (Rule 6.A.(3))

E. Obligations of Presidential Candidates to Maximize Participation

1. Presidential candidates shall assist the *Alabama* Democratic Party in meeting the demographic representation goals reflected in the Affirmative Action Plan. (Rule 6.H.)
2. Each presidential candidate must submit a written statement to the Alabama Democratic Chair by **October 1, 2011** which indicates the specific steps he or she will take to encourage full participation in Alabama's delegate selection process, including, but not limited to, procedures by which persons may file as candidates for delegate or alternate. (Rule 6.H.(1))
3. Each presidential candidate must submit demographic information with respect to all candidates for delegate and alternate pledged to them. Such information shall be submitted in conjunction with the list of names approved for consideration as delegate and alternate candidates pledged to the presidential candidate. (Rule 6.H.(2))
4. Presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) shall use their best effort to ensure that their respective delegations within the state's delegate, alternate and standing committee delegations shall achieve the affirmative action goals reflected in the Affirmative Action Plan and that the respective delegations of each presidential candidate shall be equally divided between men and women. Furthermore, presidential candidates shall use their best efforts at the district level to approve delegate and alternate candidates who meet applicable equal division and affirmative action considerations in order to achieve the affirmative action goals and equal division for their respective delegations. (Rule 6.I. & Reg. 4.9.)

Section VIII Challenges

A. Jurisdiction & Standing

1. Challenges related to the delegate selection process are governed by the *Regulations of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee for the 2012 Democratic National Convention* (Regs., Sec. 3.), and the "Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2012 Democratic National Convention." (Call, Appendix A.)
2. Under Rule 20.B. of the *2012 Delegate Selection Rules*, the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee has jurisdiction over challenges pertaining to the submission, non-implementation and violation of state Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans. (Rule 20.B. & Call Appendix A.)
3. The Rules and Bylaws Committee has jurisdiction to hear and decide any challenge provided it is initiated before the 56th day preceding the date of the commencement of the 2012 Democratic National Convention. (Call, Appendix A. & Reg., 3.1.)
4. Challenges to the credentials of delegates and alternates to the 2012 Democratic National Convention initiated on or after the 56th day preceding the date of

commencement of the Democratic National Convention shall be processed in accordance with the "Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2012 Democratic National Convention." (Call, Appendix A)

5. Any challenge to the credentials of a standing committee member shall be considered and resolved by the affected standing committee in accordance with Appendix A of the *Call for the 2012 Democratic National Convention*. The Rules and Bylaws Committee shall have jurisdiction over challenges brought before the 56th day preceding the date of the commencement of the Democratic National Convention. (Call, VII.B.5.)
6. Copies of the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee and/or the Call for the 2012 Democratic National Convention, including the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee (Appendix A), shall be made available by the State Party upon reasonable request.
7. Any group of fifteen Democrats with standing to challenge as defined in Reg. 3.2 or the Call (Appendix A, Sec. 2.A.), may bring a challenge to this Plan or to the implementation of this Plan, including its Affirmative Action provisions.

B. Challenges to the Status of the State Party and Challenges to the Plan

1. A challenge to the status of the State Party Committee as the body entitled to sponsor a delegation from that state shall be filed with the Rules and Bylaws Committee not later than thirty (30) calendar days prior to the initiation of the state's delegate selection process. (Rule 20.A. & Reg. 3.4.A.)
2. A challenge to the state's Delegate Selection Plan shall be filed with the Chair of the Alabama Democratic Party and the Co-Chairs of the Rules and Bylaws Committee within fifteen (15) calendar days after the adoption of the Plan by the State Party. (Reg. 3.4.B.)
3. A challenge to a Plan must be brought in conformity with the Rules and the Regs., which should be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

C. Challenges to Implementation

1. A challenge may be brought alleging that a specific requirement of an approved Plan has not been properly implemented. Jurisdiction over all challenges initiated in a timely fashion shall reside with either the Rules and Bylaws Committee or the Credentials Committee of the National Convention (See Section VII.A. above). However, the Rules and Bylaws Committee may provide advice, assistance or interpretations of the Delegate Selection Rules at any stage of the delegate selection process. (Reg. 3.1.C.)

2. An implementation challenge brought before the Rules and Bylaws Committee is initiated by filing a written challenge with the State Party Committee and with the Rules and Bylaws Committee not later than fifteen (15) days after the alleged violation occurred. The State Party has twenty-one (21) days to render a decision. Within ten (10) days of the decision, any party to the challenge may appeal it to the Rules and Bylaws Committee. If in fact, the State Party renders no decision, any party to the challenge may request the Rules and Bylaws Committee to process it. The request must be made within ten (10) days after expiration of the above twenty-one (21) day period. (Regs. 3.4.C., E., & H.)
3. Performance under an approved Affirmative Action Plan and composition of the convention delegation shall be considered relevant evidence in the challenge to any state delegation. If a State Party has adopted and implemented an approved affirmative action program, the State Party shall not be subject to challenge based solely on delegation composition or primary results. (Rule 6.B.) The procedures are the same for challenges alleging failure to properly implement the Affirmative Action section of a Plan, except that such challenges must be filed not later than thirty (30) days prior to the initiation of the state's delegate selection process. (Reg. 3.4.C.)
4. Depending on the appropriate jurisdiction (see Section VIII.A. above), implementation challenges must be brought in conformity with the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee or the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee, which should be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

**Section IX
Summary of Plan**

A. Selection of Delegates and Alternates

Alabama will use a proportional representation system based on the results of the *Primary* for apportioning delegates to the 2012 Democratic National Convention.

The “first determining step” of Alabama’s delegate selection process will occur on *March 13, 2012*, with a *Primary*.

Delegates and alternates will be selected as summarized on the following chart:

Type	Dele- gates	Alter- nates	Date of Selection	Selecting Body
				Filing Requirements and Deadlines
District-Level Dele- gates District-Level Alternates	41	4	3/13/12 3/13/12	<i>Selecting Body: Primary Voters</i> Delegate statements of candidacy and signed pledges of support must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. January 13, 2012
Unpledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates*	6	n/a	n/a	Automatic by virtue of respective public or Party office as provided in Rule 8.A. of the 2012 Delegate Selection Rules.
Pledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials (PLEOs)	8	**	4/14/12	Selecting Body: State Democratic Executive Committee Statements of candidacy and signed pledges of support must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. April 12, 2012
At-Large Delegates At-Large Alternates	14	1	4/14/12	Selecting Body: State Democratic Executive Committee Statements of candidacy and signed pledges of support must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. April 12, 2012
TOTAL Delegates and Alternates	69	5		

* Unpledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) delegates includes the following categories, if applicable, who legally reside in the state: the Democratic National Committee Members, the Democratic President, the Democratic Vice President, all Democratic Members of Congress, the Democratic Governor, and any other Distinguished

Party Leader as specified in Rule 9.A. of the 2012 *Delegate Selection Rules*. The exact number of Unpledged PLEO Delegates is subject to change due to possible deaths, resignations, elections or special elections.

** Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) alternates are selected with the At-Large alternates.

B. Selection of Standing Committee Members (For the Credentials, Platform and Rules Committees)

Standing committee members will be selected by the state’s National Convention delegates as summarized below:

Members Per Committee	Total Members	Selection Date	Filing Requirements and Deadlines
2	6	<i>April 14, 2012</i>	Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative, must submit to the State Democratic Chair, by 9:00 AM. April 14, 2012, a minimum of 1 name for each slot awarded to that candidate for members of each committee.

C. Selection of Delegation Chair and Convention Pages

The Delegation Chair will be selected by the National Convention Delegates on April 14, 2012.

2 Convention Pages will be selected by the State Democratic Chair on April 14, 2012.

D. Presidential Candidate Filing Deadline

Presidential candidates must submit to the State Democratic Chair a petition in support of such person’s candidacy no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 13, 2011.

Such petition or petitions will be made available from the State Headquarters on December 3, 2011.

Presidential candidates must submit to the State Democratic Chair both the Presidential Qualification Form and \$2500 qualifying fee between the dates of December 3, 2011 and January 13, 2011, 5:00 p.m.

Each presidential candidate shall certify in writing to the State Democratic Chair the name(s) of his or her authorized representative(s) by December 13, 2011.

State 2012 Delegate Selection Plan

E. Timetable

(Reg. 2.2.B.)

Date	Activity
2011	
March 1	Delegate Selection Affirmative Action Committee members are appointed by the State Chair.
March 13	Affirmative Action Committee meets to draft proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans.
March 15	Delegate Selection Affirmative Action Committee members must be submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee including names, contact information and demographic data.
April 1	Proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans are tentatively approved for public comment by State Party Committee.
April 1	Public comments are solicited on the proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans. Press releases are mailed announcing the public comment period.
May 1	Period for public comment on state Plan is concluded. Responses are compiled for review by the State Party Committee.
May 2	State Party Committee reviews public comments and adopts revised Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans for submission to DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee. Press releases are mailed announcing the approval of the Plan.
May 2	Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans are forwarded to the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee.
September 16	State Party begins implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan. Press kits, as described in the Affirmative Action Plan, are sent to all state media.
October 13	Deadline for each announced presidential candidate to submit a statement specifying steps the candidate will take to encourage full participation in the delegate selection process. (Individuals who announce their candidacy after this date must provide this full participation statement to the State Party not later than 30 days after their announcement.)
December 3	Presidential candidate petition forms are available from the State Party Committee Headquarters.
December 3	Delegate and alternate candidates may obtain the statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms and filing instructions from State Party Committee Headquarters, in person, by mail, or from State Party's web site at aladems.org .
December 13	Presidential candidate deadline for certifying the name(s) of their authorized representative(s) to the State Party.
December 13	Presidential candidate deadline for filing the petition of candidacy with the Secretary of State and a copy to the State Party.
2012	
January 13	District-level delegate and alternate deadline for filing the statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms with State Party.
January 16	State Party provides list of district-level delegate and alternate candidates to the respective Presidential candidates.
January 18	Presidential candidates provide list of approved district-level delegate and alternate candidates to State Party.
March 13	Presidential preference primary.
March 23	Secretary of State certifies results of primary; pre-slated district-level delegates and alternates are allocated according to presidential preference.
April 2	State Party certifies elected district-level delegates and alternates to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee.
April 12	Pledged PLEO and at-large delegate or alternate candidate deadline for filing the statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms with State Party.

State 2012 Delegate Selection Plan

Date	Activity
April 12	State Party provides list of PLEO and at-large delegate and alternate candidates to the respective Presidential candidates.
April 14	Presidential candidates provide approved list of pledged PLEO delegate candidates to State Party.
April 14	State Convention convenes. Pledged PLEO delegates selected. Following selection of PLEO delegates, presidential candidates provide approved list of at-large delegate and alternate candidates to State Party. State Convention selects at-large delegates and alternates. Presidential candidates submit lists of candidates for standing committee members to State Party.
April 14	National Convention delegation meeting. Delegates select National Convention Standing Committee Members and Delegation Chair. State Chair names convention pages.
April 14	State Party certifies remainder of elected delegates and alternates (PLEOs and at-large), along with standing committee members, delegation chair, and convention pages.
April 14	State Chair certifies in writing to the Secretary of the DNC the State's Delegation Chair, Convention Pages and Standing Committee Members.
April 14	Special district-level meetings held to elect district-level delegates if a candidate failed to slate a significant number of candidates in the primary.
April 17	State Party certifies in writing to the Secretary of the DNC the presidential preference of Pledged PLEOs and At-Large Delegates and Alternates.
April 17	State Party certifies in writing to the Secretary of the DNC the presidential preference (including uncommitted) of the state's Unpledged Delegates.

Exhibits to the Affirmative Action Plan

- A. Members of the Affirmative Action Committee: Attached**
- B. Media Outlets to be Contacted Regarding the Delegate Selection Process: Attached**

ATTACHMENTS TO THE DELEGATE SELECTION PLAN

1. **A summary** of the process for selecting delegates, alternates, standing committee members, the delegation chair and convention pages, along with related deadlines.
2. **A timetable** reflecting all significant dates in the state's delegate selection process.
3. **A statement from the State Democratic Chair certifying the Plan** as submitted to the RBC was approved by the State Party Committee. (Reg. 2.2.C.)
4. **A copy of the press release** distributed by the State Party Committee announcing its adoption of the Plan and summarizing the major components of the Plan. (Reg. 2.2.D.)
5. **A statement from the State Democratic Chair certifying that the proposed Plan**, including all attachments and appendices, was placed on the State Party website during the 30-day public comment period. (Reg. 2.2.E.)
6. **A statement from the State Democratic Chair certifying compliance with Rule 1.C.** which requires a 30 day public comment period prior to the adoption of the Plan by the State Party Committee, provided that the State Party has published specific guidance for the submission of public comments. (Reg. 2.2.F.)
7. **A copy of all written public and online comments** submitted through the process provided above on the Plan. (Reg. 2.2.G.)
8. **A blank copy of forms to be filed with the state or the State Party by delegate candidates.** (Reg. 2.2.H.)
9. **A statement from the Chair of the Affirmative Action Committee certifying compliance with Rule 6.F.,** which requires that the Affirmative Action Committee has reviewed the proposed Affirmative Action outreach plan, including any numerical goals established. (Reg. 2.2.I.)
10. **A statement from State Democratic Chair outlining the reliable data** and source used for numerical goals established under Rules 5.C., 6.A., and 7. (Reg. 2.2.J.)
11. **A statement from the State Democratic Chair certifying that the State Affirmative Action Committee composition complies with Rules 5.C, 6.A., and 7** and that the names, demographic data and contact information of members was submitted to the RBC 15 days after their appointment. (Reg. 2.2.K.)
12. **Copies of all state statutes reasonably related to the Delegate Selection Process** (Reg. 2.2.L.)
13. **A copy of all qualifying forms to be filed with the state or the State Party by presidential candidates.** (Reg. 2.2.M.)