



**THE CHARTER & THE BYLAWS
OF THE
YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF GEORGIA**

*As Proposed by the Charter and Bylaws Committee
March 12, 2016, in Atlanta, GA*

Sarah Z. Beeson
Sarah Z. Beeson, President

CHARTER

THE CHARTER OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF GEORGIA

ARTICLE I - NAME
SECTION 1 Definition..... 4
ARTICLE II - PURPOSE
SECTION 2 Definition..... 4
ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP
SECTION 3.1 Eligibility 4
SECTION 3.2 Active Members 4
SECTION 3.3 Honorary Members..... 4
SECTION 3.4 Non-Discrimination Clause 4
SECTION 3.5 Affirmative Action Directive..... 4
SECTION 3.6 Liability 4
ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION
SECTION 4.1 YDG Chapters 5
SECTION 4.2 College Democrats of Georgia 5
SECTION 4.3 High School Democrats of Georgia..... 5
ARTICLE V - CONVENTIONS
SECTION 5.1 State Conventions 5
SECTION 5.2 Oversight 5
SECTION 5.3 Site Selection 5
SECTION 5.4 Notification 5
SECTION 5.5 Credentials 5
SECTION 5.6 Registration..... 5
SECTION 5.7 Voting 5
SECTION 5.8 Candidate Debates 5
SECTION 5.9 Convention Quorum 5
SECTION 5.10 Candidate Fundraising 5
SECTION 5.11 National Conventions 5
SECTION 5.12 Special Conventions 5
ARTICLE VI – ELECTED OFFICERS
SECTION 6.1 Elected Officers 6
SECTION 6.2 Elections 6
SECTION 6.3 Terms 6
SECTION 6.4 Nominations 6
SECTION 6.5 Qualifications..... 6
SECTION 6.6 Turnover of YDG Property..... 6
SECTION 6.7 Vacancy 6
SECTION 6.8 Removal from Office..... 6
SECTION 6.9 Duties..... 7
ARTICLE VII - APPOINTED OFFICERS
SECTION 7.1 Appointed Officers 7
SECTION 7.2 Voting 7
SECTION 7.3 Confirmation..... 7
SECTION 7.4 Turnover 7
SECTION 7.5 Vacancy 7
SECTION 7.6 Removal..... 7
SECTION 7.7 Duties..... 7
ARTICLE VIII – EX-OFFICIO OFFICERS
SECTION 8.1 Ex-Officio Officers..... 8
SECTION 8.2 Voting 8
SECTION 8.3 President Emeritus 8
ARTICLE IX – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SECTION 9.1 Composition 8
SECTION 9.2 Voting 8
SECTION 9.3 Meetings 8

SECTION 9.4 Authority.....	8
SECTION 9.5 Special Meetings.....	8
SECTION 9.6 Rules of Order	8
SECTION 9.7 Quorum.....	8
ARTICLE X – STATE COMMITTEE	
SECTION 10.1 Composition.....	8
SECTION 10.2 Voting	8
SECTION 10.3 Meetings	8
SECTION 10.4 Authority.....	8
SECTION 10.5 Special Meetings.....	8
SECTION 10.6 Rules of Order	8
SECTION 10.7 Quorum.....	8
ARTICLE XI - COMMITTEES	
SECTION 11.1 Types	9
SECTION 11.2 Standing Committees	9
SECTION 11.3 Caucus Committees	9
SECTION 11.4 Convention Committees	9
SECTION 11.5 Special Committees	9
ARTICLE XII - FINANCES	
SECTION 12.1 Fiscal Year.....	9
SECTION 12.2 Budget Committee.....	9
SECTION 12.3 Financial Authority	9
SECTION 12.4 Spending Limits.....	9
SECTION 12.5 Audits	9
ARTICLE XIII – JUDICIAL COUNCIL	
SECTION 13.1 Judicial Power	9
SECTION 13.2 Review	9
SECTION 13.3 Composition.....	9
SECTION 13.4 Quorum.....	10
SECTION 13.5 Rules	10
ARTICLE XIV – DISCIPLINE	
SECTION 14.1 Member Expulsion	10
SECTION 14.2 Chapter Expulsion	10
ARTICLE XV – STAFF	
SECTION 15.1 Employees and Contractors	12
ARTICLE XVI – AMENDMENTS	
SECTION 16.1 Charter Timeline	10
SECTION 16.2 Charter Adoption	10
SECTION 16.3 Bylaws Timeline.....	10
SECTION 16.4 Bylaws Adoption.....	10
SECTION 16.5 Bylaws Duration	10
SECTION 16.6 Bylaws Power.....	10
SECTION 16.7 Chapter Ratification of a Charter Amendment	11
ARTICLE XVII – PARLIMENTARY AUTHORITY	
SECTION 17.1 Parliamentary Authority	11
ARTICLE XVIII – DISSOLUTION	
SECTION 18.1 Chapter Dissolution	11
SECTION 18.2 YDG Dissolution	11
ARTICLE XIX– APPENDIX	
SECTION 19.1 Vote	11
CERTIFICATION OF CHARTER	12

CHARTER

THE CHARTER OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF GEORGIA

CHARTER ARTICLE I NAME

SECTION 1.1 Definition. The name of this organization shall be the Young Democrats of Georgia (hereinafter referred to in this charter as the YDG), affiliated with the Young Democrats of America (YDA) and affiliated with the Democratic Party of Georgia (DPG).

CHARTER ARTICLE II PURPOSE

SECTION 2.1 Definition. The purpose of the YDG is to stimulate in the youth of Georgia an active interest in governmental affairs; to increase the efficiency of popular government; to foster and perpetuate the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party; to recruit the most promising material for leadership; to encourage statesmanship; to aid the Democratic Party; to provide through its administration the highest degree of justice and social welfare; and to serve as a voice for young people within the Democratic Party.

CHARTER ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 3.1. Eligibility. Any person at least fourteen (14) years of age but less than forty (40) years of age who professes and demonstrates allegiance to the principles of the Democratic Party shall be eligible for active membership with all of the rights and privileges of state and local level membership.

Any person at least fourteen (14) years of age but less than thirty-six (36) years of age who professes and demonstrates allegiance to the principles of the Democratic Party shall be eligible for active membership with all of the rights and privileges of state, local, and national-level membership.

SECTION 3.2. Active Members. An Active Member shall be a member of a chartered chapter of YDG who is a resident or domiciliary in the state of Georgia, or a student of a fully accredited high school, college, university or institution of higher learning in the state of Georgia who have paid dues of at least \$1 (or an amount set by the Board of Directors), or an “at-large” member who has paid dues of at least \$1 (or an amount set by the Board of Directors).

SECTION 3.2.1 At-Large Members. An individual is only eligible for “At-Large” membership in the Young Democrats of Georgia if he or she lives in a county where no chartered chapter of the Young Democrats of Georgia exists, and, if he or she is a student, also attends a college or high school where no chartered chapter of the Young Democrats of Georgia exists.

SECTION 3.2.2 Dues. Dues shall be assessed by the Young Democrats of Georgia yearly, in conjunction with the Annual Convention, per Charter Section 3.2. Financial need waivers should be granted to actively-participating individuals as explained in Charter Section 3.2.3.

SECTION 3.2.3 Financial Need Waivers. An individual’s yearly dues to the Young Democrats of Georgia may be waived upon a showing of financial need. If the individual is a member of a chartered chapter of the Young Democrats of Georgia, the Credentials Committee should grant a fee waiver if he or she attests to a financial need, and the President of his or her chapter attests to his or her active participation in that chapter. If the individual is a qualified “at-large” member, the Credentials Committee should grant a fee waiver if he or she attests to a financial need.

SECTION 3.3 Honorary Members. An Honorary Member is someone who has rendered service of outstanding character in the advancement of the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party and the YDG, but is not of age to be deemed an Active Member of Young Democrats of Georgia.

SECTION 3.4. Non-Discrimination Clause. Neither the YDG nor any chapter shall discriminate in membership or any proceeding, charter, bylaws or vote on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or identity, disability or past political activity.

SECTION 3.5. Affirmative Action Directive. The YDG and all of its chapters shall make a good faith effort to recruit members of, and publicize events to, all segments of the population.

SECTION 3.6. Liability. The members of the YDG shall not be liable for the debts or actions of the YDG, except to the extent of any unpaid portion of their respective dues, nor shall the YDG be liable for the unauthorized acts of any of its members unless so ratified by the YDG Executive Committee. Where gross misspending or unauthorized spending occurs, said officer or officers involved shall be personally liable for any and all debts incurred.

CHARTER

CHARTER ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION

SECTION 4.1. YDG Chapters. Chapters may charter by submitting an application in accordance with the Bylaws.

SECTION 4.2 College Democrats of Georgia. YDG college chapters will form an organization within and subordinate to the YDG known as the College Democrats of Georgia (CDG). All chapters within YDG shall affiliate with the CDG and all CDG chapters shall affiliate with the YDG. CDG shall have the ability to associate with College Democrats of America (CDA).

SECTION 4.3. High School Democrats of Georgia. High School Chapters may form an organization within and subordinate to the YDG known as the High School Democrats of Georgia (HSDG). HSDG shall have the ability to associate with the High School Democrats of America (HSDA).

CHARTER ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS

SECTION 5.1 State Conventions. The YDG shall assemble in state convention every year for the purpose of electing officers in the YDG, for considering charter amendments, for adopting resolutions and the transacting of any other business that may properly come before the convention. The YDG State Convention shall be the highest authority of the Young Democrats of Georgia.

SECTION 5.2 Oversight. The Convention Oversight Committee shall assist and oversee the planning of the convention and shall, in conjunction with the host committee, make regular reports to the Executive Committee. The Convention Oversight Committee (CO-COM) shall consist of the Executive Vice President, who shall serve as Chair, the Vice President of Membership, the Vice President of Finance, the Vice President of Programs, and the immediate past chair or co-chair of the State Convention.

SECTION 5.3 Site Selection. The State Convention shall be held at a place and date selected by the YDG Executive Committee in accordance with the site selection process set forth in the Bylaws.

SECTION 5.4 Notification. Convention notice shall be prior to the convening of the annual convention according to the by-laws.

SECTION 5.5 Credentials. The basis for vote allocation shall be a list of officers and current members that is submitted to the Credentials Committee.

SECTION 5.6 Registration. Intentionally blank.

SECTION 5.7 Voting. A distance formula shall be employed so that one member from a distant chapter represents the votes of others in his/her chapter.

SECTION 5.8 Candidate Debates. Intentionally blank.

SECTION 5.9 Convention Quorum. The quorum for all State Conventions shall be thirty-five (35) delegates representing at least five (5) chapters.

SECTION 5.10 Candidate Fundraising. Intentionally blank.

SECTION 5.11 National Conventions. The delegates and alternates for the YDA Convention shall be determined in accordance with the Bylaws.

SECTION 5.12 Special Conventions. Intentionally blank.

CHARTER

CHARTER ARTICLE VI ELECTED OFFICERS

SECTION 6.1 Elected officers. The elected officers of the YDG shall be the President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Membership, Vice President of Programs, Vice President of Finance, Secretary, Treasurer, National Committeewoman, National Committeeman, College Democrats Chair, and High School Democrats Chair.

SECTION 6.2 Elections. The election of elected officers shall be held at the YDG State Convention. Elections for President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Membership, Vice President of Programs, Vice President of Finance, Secretary, Treasurer, National Committeewoman, and National Committeeman shall be by an alphabetical roll call of chapters. A majority of the delegates present shall elect. In the event that no candidate receives a majority, the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall enter a run-off election to be contested immediately.

Elections for College Democrats Chair and High School Democrats Chair shall be elected by their caucus membership at the State Convention according to their caucus bylaws and reported at the General Session.

SECTION 6.3 Terms. The term of office for the President shall be for two (2) years. If a vacancy occurs before the completion of this term, then the remainder of the term shall be completed by the current Executive Vice President or by whoever is elected by the YDG Executive Committee in accordance with SECTION 6.7. The president shall assume his or her duties upon the close of the State Convention.

The term of office of other elected officers shall be for one (1) year. If a vacancy occurs before the completion of this term, then the remainder of the term shall be completed by whoever is nominated by the YDG President and confirmed by the YDG Executive Committee in accordance with SECTION 6.7. Elected officers shall assume their duties upon the close of the State Convention.

SECTION 6.4 Nominations. Each person seeking elected office must declare for the position(s) as per the Bylaws.

SECTION 6.5 Qualifications. Each person seeking elected office must be qualified for the position(s) as per the Bylaws.

SECTION 6.6 Turnover of YDG Property. Officers shall turn over all YDG property to their successors as per the Bylaws.

CHARTER

SECTION 6.7 Vacancy. In the event of a vacancy in an elected office (except President), the President shall nominate and the YDG Executive Committee shall elect by majority vote a person to fill the unexpired term at the first possible meeting, or through the electronic process as defined in the Bylaws.

In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Executive Vice President shall assume the role of President. If the Executive Vice President is unwilling or unable to serve the unexpired term, or the office of Executive Vice President is also vacant, the YDG Executive Committee shall elect by majority vote a person to fill the unexpired term at the first possible meeting following notification to the Executive Committee of the existence of the vacancy.

SECTION 6.8 Removal from Office.

Section 6.8.1 Notice. The Board of Directors, Executive Committee Members, and Appointed Officers of the Young Democrats of Georgia may be subject to impeachment and removal from office.

The YDG Executive Committee may, after giving written notice of intent to remove to the offending officer and to the Executive Committee, remove an elected officer for cause. In the event of Presidential removal, the Judicial Council shall appoint a presiding officer for the Executive Committee meeting. Notice shall be given to the offending officer by certified mail or electronic mail and to the entire Executive Committee by the normal means for providing notice of Executive Committee meetings.

Section 6.8.2 Cause. Cause shall include misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance of assigned duties or for violation of any law or rule of the Young Democrats of Georgia, the Young Democrats of America, the Democratic Party, or for the commission of high crimes and misdemeanors.

Section 6.8.3 Procedure. At the Executive Committee meeting mentioned in the notice of intent to remove, the Executive Committee shall meet to determine whether or not to remove the officer. A three-quarters (3/4) vote of the Executive Committee is required to move an officer from his/her position. Any officer subject to removal from office shall have the opportunity to present all witnesses, documents, and arguments in support of their position.

Section 6.8.4 Attendance. All elected officers of the YDG shall attend all executive committee meetings of the YDG.

If the President is unable to attend a regular membership meeting, he or she shall so notify the Executive Vice President in writing prior to that meeting. Such notification shall include the President's officer report.

If an elected officer other than the President is unable to attend a regular membership meeting, they shall so notify the President and Secretary in writing prior to that meeting. Such written notification shall include such officer's report.

Any elected officer who is absent from a regular membership meeting without notification as described above may submit a written explanation for the absence to the President and Secretary, as appropriate, within one week of the meeting. The President, or Secretary, as appropriate, may at their discretion, elect to excuse the officer's absence on the basis of such a written explanation. In all other cases, an absence w i t h o u t notification as described above shall be considered unexcused.

Any elected officer of YDG who accumulates two consecutive unexcused absences shall be considered to have resigned as of the date of the second absence without necessity for any further action on the part of either the dismissed officer or members of the Executive Committee.

If a National Committee Man or National Committee Woman fails to attend two Young Democrats of America quarterly meetings in a row (including National Conventions), they will be deemed to have resigned without need for further action on the part of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee.

SECTION 6.9 Duties. The duties of the officers are defined in the Bylaws.

CHARTER

ARTICLE VII APPOINTED OFFICERS

SECTION 7.1 Appointed Officers. The President shall have the power to appoint members of the YDG to non-voting positions or ad-hoc committees at his/her discretion.

SECTION 7.2 Voting. Intentionally blank.

SECTION 7.3 Confirmation. The confirmation is detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 7.4 Turnover. Turnover is detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 7.5 Vacancy. Vacancy is detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 7.6 Removal. Removal is detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 7.7 Duties. Duties are detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER ARTICLE VIII EX-OFFICIO OFFICERS

SECTION 8.1 Ex-Officio Officers. The Ex-Officio Officers of the YDG shall be the immediate Past YDG President and YDG members elected or appointed to national or regional positions in the YDA.

SECTION 8.2 Voting. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 8.3 President Emeritus. Detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER ARTICLE IX BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 9.1 Composition.

Section 9.1 Voting Members. The President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Membership, Vice President of Programs, Vice President of Finance, Secretary, Treasurer, National Committeeman, and National Committeewoman shall be voting members of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 9.2 Voting. No person shall be entitled to cast more than one vote on the Board of Directors by virtue of holding multiple offices. Secret ballot voting shall be prohibited. Unless otherwise restricted by this Charter or the Bylaws, any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board of Directors, except for an amendment to the Charter or Bylaws, may be taken electronically.

SECTION 9.3 Meetings. The YDG Board of Directors shall meet at least once every eight (8) calendar weeks unless otherwise scheduled or canceled at the call of the YDG President. Two weeks calendar notice of the time and place of every meeting of the Board of Directors of the YDG must be given to all members of the Board of Directors. Said notice must be given by e-mail and/or by United States Mail with a written and printed copy of the e-mail which was sent being available in the event of any dispute as to proper notice. At least two (2) Board of Directors meetings per calendar year shall be held north of Macon and two (2) Board of Directors meetings shall be held south of Macon. Board of Directors meetings may also include conference calls. All other meeting requirements shall apply.

CHARTER

SECTION 9.4 Authority. The YDG Board of Directors has the power to grant charters and may bestow honorary memberships. The Executive Committee has the option to choose the date and place of the State Convention, decide how the remaining delegates to the YDA Convention shall be chosen, approve any bank in which YDG money is held, advise the National Committeewoman and National Committeeman on YDA matters and consider emergency resolutions or actions. The Board of Directors may consider or act upon any business necessary and proper to the running of the YDG.

SECTION 9.5 Special Meetings. Special Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or any four (4) members of the Board of Directors with seven (7) days notice to all members of the Board of Directors. Special Meetings of the Board of Directors shall not satisfy the requirement for Board of Directors meetings as provided for in SECTION 9.3 of this Article.

SECTION 9.6 Rules of Order. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 9.7 Quorum. Detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER ARTICLE X EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 10.1 Composition.

SECTION 10.1.1 Voting Members. The voting members of the YDG Executive Committee shall be composed of the President of every chartered chapter or their designee, all elected officers, the chairs of the standing committees, the Chair of the High School Democrats of Georgia, and the Chair of College Democrats of Georgia.

SECTION 10.1.2 Non-Voting Members. The non-voting members of the YDG Executive Committee shall be composed of all other appointed positions, the chair of each special committee, and all YDG Members who are elected or appointed to national or regional positions within the Young Democrats of America

SECTION 10.1.3 Proxy Voting. For the purpose of a meeting called under Charter Section 10.3, the President of a Chartered Unit may designate, in writing, an individual from the chapter from which the President was elected to cast the President's vote on behalf of the Chartered Unit. This written authorization must be submitted to, and received by, the President and Secretary of YDG prior to the call of the meeting.

SECTION 10.2 Voting. No person shall be entitled to cast more than one vote on the YDG Executive Committee by virtue of holding multiple offices or by virtue of proxy. Secret ballot voting shall be prohibited.

SECTION 10.3 Meetings. The YDG Executive Committee shall meet at least once every eight (8) calendar weeks unless otherwise scheduled or canceled, at the call of the YDG President. One week calendar notice of the time and place of every meeting of the Executive Committee of the YDG must be given to all members of the Executive Committee. Said notice must be given by e-mail and/or by United States Mail with a written and printed copy of the e-mail which was sent being available in the event of any dispute as to proper notice. All other meeting requirements shall apply.

SECTION 10.4 Authority. Except for powers reserved to the State Convention, the governing body of the Young Democrats of Georgia shall be the Executive Committee. The YDG Executive Committee has the power to approve the YDG Strategic Plan, have the final decision on the expulsion of a chapter, have the final decision on the appeal of a member who has been expelled from a chapter, have the final determination of any action taken by the Board of Directors up to two weeks prior to a duly called meeting of the State Committee, and approve the YDG budget.

CHARTER

SECTION 10.5 Special Meetings. Special Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President or any three (3) members of the Board of Directors with seven (7) days notice to all members of the Executive Committee. Special Meetings of the Executive Committee shall not satisfy the requirement for Executive Committee meetings as provided for in SECTION 10.3 of this Article.

SECTION 10.6 Rules of Order. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 10.7 Quorum. Detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER ARTICLE XI COMMITTEES

SECTION 11.1 Types. There shall be four types of committees: Standing, Caucus, Convention, and Special.

SECTION 11.2 Standing Committees. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 11.3 Caucus Committees. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 11.4 Convention Committees. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 11.5 Special Committees. Detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER ARTICLE XII FINANCES

SECTION 12.1 Fiscal year. The YDG fiscal year runs May 1 to April 30.

SECTION 12.2 Budget Committee. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 12.3 Financial Authority. Financial commitments may only be made by the President of YDG. Commitments exceeding \$100 must have the assent of the Treasurer. Commitments exceeding \$500 must be approved by the Board of Directors as a whole.

SECTION 12.4 Spending Limits. On an annual basis, the Board of Directors shall set and the executive committee shall approve discretionary spending limits for all officers.

SECTION 12.5 Audits. The Treasurer's books shall be audited by a committee of three appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee. This audit should take place by the close of the fiscal year.

CHARTER ARTICLE XIII JUDICIAL COUNCIL

SECTION 13.1 Judicial Power. The judicial power of the YDG shall be vested in one Judicial Council. The Judicial Council shall serve to resolve disputes over the nature and interpretation of the YDG Charter and of the rules and regulations established by the YDG Executive Committee. The YDG Membership and the YDG Executive Committee shall be bound by the decision of the Judicial Council.

CHARTER

SECTION 13.2 Review. Detailed in the Bylaws

SECTION 13.3 Composition. The Judicial Council shall be composed of seven (7) active members of the YDG.

Section 13.3.1 Chair. The Parliamentarian shall chair the Judicial Council and serve with six (6) members from chapters in attendance at the State Convention.

Section 13.3.2 Selection. At the State Convention, the Credentials Chair shall randomly select five chapters from the list of chapters that have been continuously chartered for at least five years. The final member shall be chosen from the remaining chapters that have chartered for that year's convention. Each of the chosen chapters will then select one member from that chapter to serve on the Judicial Council.

Section 13.3.3 Term. Members of the Judicial Council serve a term of one (1) year or until a successor is chosen.

SECTION 13.4 Quorum. Detailed in the Bylaws.

SECTION 13.5 Rules. Detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER ARTICLE XIV DISCIPLINE

SECTION 14.1 Member Expulsion. YDG chapters may expel members as per the Bylaws.

SECTION 14.2 Chapter Expulsion. YDG may expel chapters as per the Bylaws.

CHARTER ARTICLE XV STAFF

SECTION 15.1 Employees and Contractors. Detailed in the Bylaws.

CHARTER ARTICLE XVI AMENDMENTS

SECTION 16.1 Charter Timeline.

Section 16.1.1 At State Convention All proposed amendments to this Charter shall be submitted to the Executive Committee no later than seven (7) days prior to the convening of the State Convention.

Section 16.1.2 At Other Meetings Amendments to this charter may also be adopted at any in-person meeting of the Executive Committee, provided that representatives from at least seven (7) chartered chapters are present. All proposed amendments to this Charter shall be submitted to all members of the Executive Committee in writing (electronically or otherwise) no later than seven (7) days prior to the convening of such an in-person meeting.

SECTION 16.2 Charter Adoption. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the State Convention or other in-person meeting is required to adopt any charter amendment.

SECTION 16.3 Bylaws Timeline. Bylaws amendments may be proposed in the same manner as charter amendments under SECTION 16.1.

CHARTER

SECTION 16.4 Bylaws Adoption Bylaws amendments proposed in the same manner as charter amendments under sections 16.3.1 and 16.1 may be adopted in the same manner as charter amendments under section 16.2.

CHARTER ARTICLE XVII PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

SECTION 17.1 Parliamentary Authority. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern YDG in all cases in which such rules are applicable and in which such rules are consistent with this Charter and any special rules of order the YDG may adopt.

CHARTER ARTICLE XVIII DISSOLUTION

SECTION 18.1 Chapter Dissolution. In the event that a chapter dissolves, after all liabilities and obligations are satisfied, all funds in the chapter's treasury shall be transferred to the YDG treasury.

In the event that a chapter dissolves, all liabilities and obligations are the responsibility of that chapter and its President. YDG will not assume any debt incurred by the dissolving chapter.

SECTION 18.2 YDG Dissolution. In the event that the YDG dissolves, after all the liabilities and obligations are satisfied, all funds in the YDG treasury shall be transferred to the Democratic Party of Georgia.

CHARTER ARTICLE XIX APPENDIX

SECTION 19.1 Vote. Unless otherwise indicated, a reference to a vote means a majority of those present and eligible to vote, if the appropriate quorum has been met.

CERTIFICATION OF CHARTER

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of The Charter of the Young Democrats of Georgia as amended including amendments certified by the Secretary of the Young Democrats of Georgia, as adopted by the Executive Committee, April 18, 2015, in Athens, Georgia.

Richard McDaniel, President
Young Democrats of Georgia

Amanda Nabors, Chair
Standing Committee on Charter and Bylaws

CHARTER

THE BYLAWS OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF GEORIGIA

Adopted pursuant to The Charter of the Young Democrats of Georgia on April 18, 2015 by the Executive Committee in Athens, Georgia.

**BYLAWS
ARTICLE I
NAME**

Intentionally left blank.

**BYLAWS
ARTICLE II
PURPOSE**

Intentionally left blank.

**BYLAWS
ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION 3.1. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 3.2. Active Members. Intentionally left blank.

Section 3.2.1. Voting. Only active members in good standing may vote in any meeting of the YDG.

Section 3.2.2. Proxy voting. No proxy or mail votes are acceptable.

Section 3.2.3. Office eligibility. Only active members in good standing may hold office in the YDG.

SECTION 3.3 Honorary Members

Section 3.3.1. Rights and duties. Honorary Members may attend meetings, but pay no dues, may not make or second motions, may not participate in debate unless an active member yields time to him/her, and may not vote.

SECTION 3.4. Non-Discrimination Clause. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 3.5. Affirmative Action Directive. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 3.6. Liability. Intentionally left blank.

**BYLAWS
ARTICLE IV
ORGANIZATION**

SECTION 4.1. YDG Chapters

Section 4.1.1. Applications. All applications for chartering shall be submitted to the Board of Directors through the Vice President of Membership before the meeting at which the charter is to be considered. Approved charters must have the Chapter contact information posted on the YDG Web Site.

So as not to penalize a potential chapter, in the event that the Board of Directors shall find a potential chapter's charter lacking in certain respects, or that chapter's charter conflicts with the Charter or Bylaws of the YDG, the Board of Directors shall have the right to issue a "conditional charter" to a chapter and said conditional charter must be indicated as such in the official minutes of the meeting in which the chapter's charter shall be considered. Those elements of the chapter's charter which are lacking or which are in conflict with the Charter or Bylaws of the YDG must be rectified by that chapter by the next officially noticed Board of Directors meeting or said "conditional charter" shall automatically lapse without the need for any action or vote by the Board of Directors of the YDG. A charter application must include the following:

1. List of at least five members (including name, address, phone and e-mail address [if available] and date of birth)
2. List of duly elected officers and date elected
3. Copy of governing document
4. Copy of minutes from a meeting
5. Copy of notice of meeting as evidence of compliance with Article III, section 5.

Section 4.1.2. Constitution or Charter. No charter shall be issued to any chapter whose constitution or charter conflicts with the Charter or Bylaws of the YDG or the YDA. Chapter constitutions must provide for meetings, yearly elections, dues, quorum, amendments, and dissolution.

Section 4.1.3. Chapters per County. As a general rule, there shall be no more than one chapter per county, unless a college/university or high school wishes to have a chapter of its own. If more than one chapter is chartered per county that is not affiliated with a college, university, or high school, no chapter should have the name of the county in its official name without approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 4.1.3.1. Multi-County Chapters. Upon recommendation of the President and Vice President of Membership, and approval of the Executive Committee, a charter may be approved for a chapter which is comprised of multiple counties as long as those counties are geographically contiguous and it is otherwise necessary or beneficial for said counties to associate as a single chartered unit.

Section 4.1.3.2. Multiple Chapters per College. In the event that a college or university is comprised of multiple campuses in different locations, a chapter may be formed either: (a) at each campus, or (b) comprised of members from multiple campuses.

Section 4.1.3.3 College Name Changes. In the event of a college changing its name the existing chapter at that college shall change their chapter's name to reflect the new name of the college. The chapter shall inform the President and Secretary of the change, no further action will be required for the chapter to retain its status as an active chapter.

Section 4.1.3.4 College Mergers. In the event of two or more existing colleges merge, the chapters shall merge or organize themselves in accordance with Section 4.1.3.2. The chapter or chapters shall inform the President and Secretary of the change, no further action will be required for the chapter or chapters to retain its status as an active chapter. If the chapters' merge immediate elections shall be held to combine the chapter's' Executive Committees overseen by the President of CDG and the Judicial Council.

Section 4.1.3.5 College Closing. In the event of a college closing, the college chapter may become a county chapter or dissolve, if a county chapter already exists then the college chapter shall merge with the county chapter. If the chapters' merge immediate elections shall be held to combine the chapter's' Executive Committees overseen by the President of YDG and the Judicial Council.

Section 4.1.4. Review. The Board of Directors reserves the right to periodically review chapter constitutions or charters. Constitutions or charters that are found to be in conflict with the Charter or Bylaws of the YDG may be grounds for removal of a chapter's chartered status. If a chapter cannot produce a current Constitution or Charter, the Board of Directors may require that chapter to re-charter with YDG. The Board of Directors also reserves the right to review a chapter's compliance with its own Constitution or Charter. If the Board of Directors finds a chapter to be in violation of its Charter, the Board of Directors may, by a majority vote, revoke the charter of said chapter. This decision may be appealed to the Judicial Council.

Section 4.1.5. At Large Membership. If an eligible person prefers, that person may pay dues annually to the YDG Treasurer, at an amount to be determined by the Executive Committee, as an at-large active member rather than join a chapter of YDG.

Section 4.1.6. High School and College Chapters. To be a member of a high school chapter, a member shall be a currently enrolled student of that same high school or be the advisor or faculty sponsor. A home-schooled high school student shall be deemed to be eligible for at-large membership in the High School Caucus. Similarly, to be a member of college or university chapter, a member shall be a currently enrolled student of that college or university or be the advisor or faculty sponsor. Advisors and sponsors shall only be eligible for membership provided they meet the qualification for a regular member.

SECTION 4.2. College Democrats of Georgia (CDG)

Section 4.2.1. Eligibility. Membership in the CDG shall be open to any Young Democrat enrolled in and attending an accredited institute of higher learning in Georgia. Members of the CDG shall be active members of the YDG as defined in 3.2 of the charter.

Section 4.2.2. Affiliation. The CDG shall be the official college affiliate of the YDG. CDG shall be responsible for organizing college students in YDG, for advocating student issues, and for organizing the Georgia delegation to the College Democrats of America National Convention.

Section 4.2.3. Elections. The CDG shall caucus to elect a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary from its membership at the annual YDG State Convention. The Vice Chair or the Secretary must be of the opposite gender of the Chair. Officers will be elected by a majority vote. In case no candidate receives a majority, the two top vote getters shall advance to a run-off. In case of a tie, the current CDG officers shall vote to break the tie.

Section 4.2.3.1. Chair. The Chair shall serve as primary representative of the CDG, shall organize and chair CDG meetings, shall be responsible for preparing the CDG budget, and shall implement the responsibilities of the CDG as defined in this section.

Section 4.2.3.2. Vice Chair. The Vice Chair will assume the role of Chair in the Chair's absence and shall assist in preparing the CDG budget. The Vice Chair will also serve as the principal CDG officer in charge of membership, and shall work closely with the YDG Vice President of Membership in chartering new chapters and communicating with existing chapters.

Section 4.2.3.3. Secretary. The Secretary will be the official record keeper of the CDG and will maintain a list of the college chapters in the YDG.

Section 4.2.3.4. Ex-Officio memberships. The Chair and highest-ranking officer of the opposite gender of the College Democrats of Georgia shall be Ex-Officio members of the YDG Executive Committee.

Section 4.2.4. Bylaws. CDG may draft its own bylaws to govern meetings as long as they are consistent with the YDG, YDA, and CDA governing documents.

Section 4.2.5. Removal. An officer in CDG may be removed from office by an affirmative vote of three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) of all CDG officers and college chapter presidents. When an officer of CDG is no longer enrolled in classes for over one full semester, the officer's resignation is effective at the start of the second consecutive full semester not enrolled without necessity for any motion or action. In case the Chair is removed from office, the Vice Chair shall become Chair. All other vacancies shall be filled by the Chair of the CDG.

SECTION 4.3. High School Democrats of Georgia (HSDG)

Section 4.3.1. Affiliation. The HSDG shall be the official high school affiliate of the YDG. Members of the HSDG shall be active members of the YDG as defined in 3.2 of the charter.

Section 4.3.2. Advisors. Advisors of high school chapters shall also be full members of the HSDG if they are active members of the YDG. Advisors shall be prohibited from holding the presidency of the HSDG, but may run for other positions within YDG so long as they also meet the membership requirements of YDG as defined in 3.2 of the charter.

Section 4.3.3. Constitution. The HSDG shall adopt a constitution which shall be consistent with the YDG charter and YDA constitution.

Section 4.3.4. Elections. The HSDG shall caucus to elect a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary from its membership at an annual High School Summit. The High School Summit shall be scheduled for a date at least two weeks prior to YDG's Annual Convention, the date of which shall be made public at least thirty (30) days in advance of the Summit. The Vice Chair or the Secretary must be of the opposite gender of the Chair. Officers will be elected by a majority vote. In case no candidate receives a majority, the two top vote getters shall advance to a run-off. In case of a tie, the current HSDG officers shall vote to break the tie.

Section 4.3.4.1. Chair. The Chair shall serve as primary representative of the HSDG, shall organize and chair HSDG meetings, shall be responsible for preparing the HSDG budget, and shall implement the responsibilities of the HSDG as defined in this section.

Section 4.3.4.2. Vice Chair. The Vice Chair will assume the role of Chair in the Chair's absence and shall assist in preparing the HSDG budget. The Vice Chair will also serve as the principal HSDG officer in charge of membership, and shall work closely with the YDG Vice President of Membership in chartering new chapters and communicating with existing chapters.

Section 4.3.4.3. Secretary. The Secretary will be the official record keeper of the HSDG and will maintain a list of the college chapters in the YDG.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE V
CONVENTIONS
BYLAWS
ARTICLE V
CONVENTIONS

SECTION 5.1. State Convention

Section 5.1.1 Date. The YDG shall assemble in state convention once per year, at a time to be determined by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5.2. Oversight.

Section 5.2.1 Reports. The Convention Oversight Committee shall make regular reports in writing to the Executive Committee at each Executive Committee Meeting between the award of Convention to a particular city and the opening of Convention itself and no later than one hundred and twenty (120) days before the opening of Convention, there shall be a written report from the Convention Oversight Committee to the Executive Committee detailing the accommodations for Convention, the agenda for the Convention, the program(s) for Convention and the speaker(s) who are committed to appear at the Convention.

SECTION 5.3. Site Selection

Section 5.3.1. Bid submission. Local chapters or other interested individuals shall submit convention site bids on a standard form to the Executive Committee by August 1, or an earlier date set at the discretion of the Executive Committee, of each year for referral to the Convention Oversight Committee (CO-COM).

Section 5.3.2. Bid review. The CO-COM shall meet on or before August 15 to review the bids. The date, time, and place of this meeting shall be announced by July 15. The announcement shall include the details of the bidding process.

The meeting shall be open to all YDG members. Each chapter that makes a bid to host the State Convention shall be given an opportunity to present its bid. At the regular meeting that next follows the CO-COM's meeting, the Executive Committee shall be presented with each bid in standard form and a list of Pros and Cons from the CO-COM, along with the CO-COM's recommendations. The Executive Committee shall then select a site for convention.

Section 5.3.3. Fallback. Should no chapter submit a bid nor any submitted bid meet the approval of the CO-COM, the CO-COM is responsible for recommending a site to the Executive Committee by October 1 and, with three additional members appointed by the President, shall be responsible for planning the state convention.

SECTION 5.4. Notification

Section 5.4.1 Days in advance. Convention notice shall be given at least sixty (60) days prior to the convening of the annual convention using all means necessary.

Section 5.4.2. Notification contents. This notice shall include date and location.

SECTION 5.5. Credentials

Section 5.5.1 Credentials list requirements. The list shall include name, address, birth date, phone numbers, e-mail addresses (if available), and for officers, date elected.

Section 5.5.2. Credentials lists due date. Credentials lists are due before the adjournment of the Credentials Committee meeting as defined in Section 5.5.4.

Section 5.5.3 At-Large. At-Large members must submit their information individually to the Credentials Committee.

Section 5.5.4. Credentials meeting. The Credentials packets shall not be opened until a meeting held exactly seven (7) days prior to the convening of the convention. On this date, the Credentials Committee meeting will be called to order. The Credentials Committee shall not adjourn before 12:00 PM (noon) on that day.

Section 5.5.5. Residence and age verification. The Credentials Committee shall check for proper Georgia residence or school enrollment and date of birth showing proper age. Any person whose membership has not been accepted by the Credentials Committee shall be granted membership upon showing the following:

- a. Proper Residence--Georgia Driver's License, Voter Registration card or a bill mailed to the person's residence within the last thirty days.
- b. Proper Enrollment--a current fees paid card (e.g. student ID) or the equivalent from the corresponding institution.
- c. Proper Age--Birth Certificate or government issued identification

Section 5.5.6. Challenges. All challenges to any membership must be sustained by a majority vote of the Credentials Committee members present. Challenges to the Credentials Committee's report must be registered in writing with the Credentials Committee Chair and the YDG President no later than three days prior to the convening of the Convention.

Section 5.5.7. Credentials Committee final report. Upon the close of delegate registration, the Credentials Committee shall meet to decide the final vote allocation using the lists of those registered and employing the distance formula. The Credentials Committee will submit the final report to the State Convention for adoption.

SECTION 5.6. Registration

Section 5.6.1. Costs. Any student from an accredited Georgia institution shall pay a registration fee upon registration at convention of at least \$10.00, and all other members shall pay a registration fee of at least \$15.00 to the YDG Treasurer. The entity hosting the convention may include in its bid a separate convention fee to be paid to the host entity to cover the cost of convention.

SECTION 5.7. Voting

Section 5.7.1. Distance Ratio. The distance shall be the distance between the convention city and the county seat of the chapter's county. College, university, and high school chapters shall be measured from the city listed in its official mailing address. Regional chapter's county seats for the purposes of the distance formula will be the county seat of the county from which the majority of the names on their membership list have as an address. In the event that the addresses are equally divided among more than one county, the county seat furthest from the convention site shall be used to calculate the distance formula. Online distance tools based on the Global Positioning System may be used to determine mileage. The latest Georgia Department of Transportation mileage charts shall be the final basis of determining the mileage in the event of a dispute. The vote allocation formula is as follows:

- 0-50 miles--One member may represent one vote
- 51-125 miles--One member may represent one and one half votes
- 126-200 miles--One member may represent two votes
- 201-275 miles--One member may represent two and one half votes
- 275+ miles--One member may represent three votes

Section 5.7.2. Chapter votes. Delegate votes can only be represented by delegates who are members of the chapter of the members being represented. A chapter's total votes will be determined by multiplying the number of registered delegates by the requisite distance ratio, with their maximum votes equaling their total membership.

Section 5.7.3. Chapter vote allocation. The allocation of delegate votes among members of a delegation shall be divided equally among the members of the delegation.

Section 5.7.4. Distance ratio excluded from proxy voting. None of the votes cast in accordance with this subsection shall be considered proxy votes.

Section 5.7.5. Proxy voting. No proxy votes shall be allowed.

Section 5.7.6. One Chapter per person. No person's name shall appear on more than one membership list submitted for vote allocation purposes. In the event that a person is a member of more than one chapter, that person must decide which one chapter's list will contain his/her name.

Section 5.7.7. At-Large Delegation. There shall be an At-Large Delegation for those persons eligible for YDG membership but not credentialed with a chapter, who have credentialed with the Credentials Committee as At-Large. The At-Large Delegation shall be allocated one vote for each member regardless of the distance traveled.

Section 5.7.8. Unit rule voting. Unit rule voting, the practice by which the entire vote of a delegation is cast according to the majority vote within the delegation, shall be prohibited.

SECTION 5.8. Candidate Debates

Section 5.8.1. The current Board of Directors of the YDG shall sponsor a debate between any and all duly-declared candidates for contested offices on the Board of Directors for the upcoming calendar year and it shall be the responsibility of the host chapter, person or body to make the proper arrangements for said debate. Any and all duly-declared candidates in contested elections for the Board of Directors shall have the right, but not the obligation, to participate in said debate and all such candidates shall have equal time and opportunity to speak for themselves. Any dispute as to the conduct of said debate shall be appealed to the Judicial Council at Convention and any decision of said Judicial Council shall be final.

SECTION 5.9. Convention Quorum. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 5.10. Candidate Fundraising. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 5.11 National Conventions

Section 5.11.1 National committee representatives. The National Committeewoman, National Committeeman, YDG President and any member of the YDG on the YDA Executive Committees shall be delegates.

Section 5.11.2 Remaining places. The remaining places will be distributed among the chapters, as evenly as possible, by a plurality vote of the YDG Executive Committee. No delegate may be chosen who is now thirty-six (36) years of age or who would become thirty-six (36) years of age before the time of the National Convention.

Section 5.11.3 Affirmative Action. All YDA Affirmative Action Rules and Guidelines shall apply to the selection of delegates.

Section 5.11.4 Voting. All delegates shall cast the same number of votes and the delegation's votes shall be evenly distributed among the delegates.

SECTION 5.12 Special Conventions. Intentionally left blank.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE VI
ELECTED OFFICERS

SECTION 6.1 Elected officers. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 6.2 Elections

Section 6.2.1 Order. The order of elections shall be as follows: President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Membership, Vice President of Programs, Vice President of Finance, Secretary, Treasurer, National Committeewoman, and National Committeeman.

SECTION 6.3 Terms. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 6.4 Nominations

Section 6.4.1 Prior to Convention. Each person seeking elected office must declare for the position(s) in writing to the Credentials Committee Chair and the YDG President at least fourteen (14) days prior to the convening of the State Convention.

Section 6.4.2 Open if Empty. If no one has declared for a particular office in advance, the floor is automatically open for nominations.

Section 6.4.3 Nominations from Floor. Nominations for each office may be opened from the floor by a one-third (1/3) vote of the entire convention.

SECTION 6.5 Qualifications.

Section 6.5.1 Government regulations. No person shall hold office in the YDG who is prohibited from holding office in a political organization by any government regulation. If a YDG officer takes employment covered by such regulations, that officer's resignation from office takes effect upon commencement of such employment.

Section 6.5.2 Age limits. No person shall be a candidate for YDG President, National Committeeman, or National Committeewoman who is now thirty-six (36) years of age or who would become thirty-six (36) years of age during their term of office.

Section 6.5.3 Public office. Any member of the YDG Executive Committee, whether elected or member by virtue of a chapter presidency, but not to include appointed officers, shall immediately resign their position on the Board of Directors upon official public declaration for any elected public office other than an office of the Democratic Party of Georgia or a subdivision thereof.

Section 6.5.4. Number of positions held. Any individual YDG member may only hold a single elected voting office on the Board of Directors at any single time.

SECTION 6.6 Turnover of YDG Property.

Section 6.6.1 Timeframe. Officers shall turn over all YDG property to their successors within two (2) weeks of their successors' election.

Section 6.6.2 Documents. The documents belonging to the YDG and which are deemed to be property of the YDG, shall include, but not be limited to, the YDG checkbook, the funds contained in said checking account, checks and monies received from outside donors or sources, cancelled checks, deposit slips, bank statements, spread sheets and audit reports. Failure to turn over any and all such documents as required by this Section shall give rise to a legal cause of action to be addressed by the Board of Directors.

Section 6.6.3 Deposits. Any and all monies received by the Treasurer must be deposited in the checking account of the YDG within two (2) calendar weeks of receipt, regardless of dollar amount or the means of receipt. All deposits prior to deposit, must be verified by both the Treasurer and either the President of the YDG or another member of the YDG authorized by the President. Any fees incurred by the YDG as a result of failure to comply with this provision shall lead to the personal liability of the Treasurer and must be re-paid to the YDG checking account.

SECTION 6.7 Vacancy. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 6.8 Removal from Office. Intentionally left blank.

Section 6.8.1 Notice. Intentionally left blank.

Section 6.8.2 Cause. Intentionally left blank.

Section 6.8.3 Procedure. Intentionally left blank.

Section 6.8.4 Attendance. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 6.9 Duties

Section 6.9.1 President. The President shall preside at Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings and Annual and Special Conventions. The President shall have the power to appoint with the approval of the Executive Committee all appointed officers and all special committees deemed desirable for the operation of the YDG. The President shall serve as a member of the YDA National Committee. The President shall serve as an Ex-officio voting member of all YDG Committees. During each state convention during the President's term, he/she shall provide an Annual Report to the General Session of the convention. The President shall not vote unless it is to make or break a tie. The President shall perform all duties assigned by the YDG Executive Committee.

Section 6.9.2 Executive Vice President (EVP). The EVP shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the President and shall assume the office of President if it becomes vacant. The EVP shall chair the Convention Oversight Committee and ensure coordination of the activities of the VPMem, VPProg, and VPFin. The EVP shall assist the President in the execution of his/her duties. The EVP shall provide a report at every Executive Committee meeting of his/her activities since the previous Executive Committee meeting.

Section 6.9.3 Vice President of Membership (VPMem). The VPMem shall be responsible for recruitment and retention of YDG chapters and members. The VPMem shall aid in the development of chapters. The VPMem shall serve on the Convention Oversight Committee, and serve as Ex-officio voting member of the Membership Committee. The VPMem shall provide a report at every Executive Committee meeting of his/her activities since the previous Executive Committee meeting.

Section 6.9.4 Vice President of Programs (VPProg) The VPProg shall be responsible for the development and management of statewide workshops, forums, lectures, dinners, and similar events in order to inform the membership concerning political participation. The VPProg shall be responsible for coordinating the YDG Campaign effort to assist Democratic nominees and shall coordinate YDG efforts to implement the YDG legislative packet. The VPProg shall co-chair the convention oversight committee.

Section 6.9.5 Vice President of Finance (VPFin). The VPFin shall aid in the coordination of all financial matters pertaining to the raising and disbursement of YDG funds. The VPFin, together with the President and Treasurer, shall prepare a budget prior to June 1 for submission to the YDG Executive Committee. The VPFin shall serve on the convention oversight committee. The VPFin, in coordination with the president, shall be responsible for the execution of not less than two (2) fundraisers during his / her term of office. The VPFin shall serve as an Ex-officio voting member of the Finance Committee. The VPFin shall provide a report at every Executive Committee meeting of his/her activities since the previous Executive Committee meeting.

Section 6.9.6 Secretary. The Secretary shall record and preserve minutes of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings and all conventions. The Secretary shall make the minutes available within ten (10) days

following the event via email or other electronic means (or regular mail if requested) to all Executive Committee members, elected and appointed, and all chapter presidents or designate. The Secretary shall see that the Executive Committee approves the minutes. The Secretary shall keep records of meeting place and times and shall handle all correspondence as assigned by the President or Executive Committee. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping a file of all Convention Programs. The Secretary shall transmit the minutes of each Executive Committee and Board of Directors meeting to the Communications Director within ten (10) days of the meeting for distribution via email or other means to members of the executive committee and representatives of each chapter. The Secretary shall further oversee the Communications Committee and all of its activities.

Section 6.9.7 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be in charge of collecting dues from both At-Large Members and Chapters. The Treasurer shall have custody of all YDG funds and shall report at each meeting of the Executive Committee and at the State Convention on the amount of funds in the YDG treasury, debts outstanding, deposits received, and any expenditures made since the last report. If the Treasurer is unable to attend a meeting of the Executive Committee, he/she shall submit a written and detailed report no less than two (2) days prior to the meeting to the President and VPFin. Such report shall be read to the Executive Committee at that meeting. The Treasurer shall be a voting, Ex-officio member of the Finance Committee.

Section 6.9.8 National Committee. The National Committeewoman and National Committeeman shall represent the YDG at all YDA functions and shall report YDA activities and information to the YDG Executive Committee for discussion and input. The National Committeewoman and National Committeeman have the express responsibility to attend all YDA National Meetings, unless a valid excuse prevents their attendance, in which case proxies shall be submitted if practicable.

BYLAWS ARTICLE VII APPOINTED OFFICERS

SECTION 7 Appointed Officers. The Appointed Officers of the YDG are the Chief of Staff, Political Director, Communications Director, Parliamentarian, Press Secretary, and Campaigns Director. Additional Appointed Officers may be appointed by the President as necessary, subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 7.1 Voting

Section 7.1.1. These appointed officers shall serve on the YDG Executive Committee as voting members.

SECTION 7.2 Confirmation

Section 7.2.1. The Appointed Officers shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee by majority vote following notification. If the President does not name appointments for each of the Appointed Officers by the second regular Executive Committee meeting, the Board of Directors shall make and Executive Committee approve any such appointments that the President has not yet made.

SECTION 7.3 Qualifications

Section 7.3.1. Appointed officers must meet the same qualification requirements as the Elected Officers (see SECTION 6.5).

SECTION 7.4 Turnover

Section 7.4.1. Appointed Officers shall turn over all YDG property to their successors in the same way as the Elected Officers (see SECTION 6.6, replacing “elected” with “appointed” as appropriate).

SECTION 7.5 Vacancy

Section 7.5.1. In the event of a vacancy in an appointed office, the position shall be filled in the manner described in the Charter.

SECTION 7.6 Removal

Section 7.6.1. Upon written recommendation of the President, the Executive Committee, by one third (1/3) vote, shall remove any appointed officer.

SECTION 7.7 Duties

Section 7.7.1 Political Director. The Political Director of the YDG shall be responsible for maintaining any legislative internship program and shall be a liaison to the Georgia General Assembly and advocacy groups under the direction of the Executive Vice President. The Political Director shall provide a report at every Executive Committee meeting of his/her activities since the previous Executive Committee meeting. The Political Director shall also be responsible for preparing and enacting the YDG Legislative Plan.

Section 7.7.2 Communications Director. The Communications Director shall be responsible for the creation, publication, and distribution of the YDG newsletter in coordination with the Secretary. The Communications Director shall provide a report at every Executive Committee meeting of his/her activities since the previous Executive Committee meeting.

Section 7.7.3 Parliamentarian. The Parliamentarian shall assist the Executive Committee, its committees and its members in their compliance with this charter and all other charters under which the YDG operates and will assist in drafting legislative proposals. The Parliamentarian shall also assist the Executive Committee and its committees with respect to matters of parliamentary procedure.

Section 7.7.4 Press Secretary. The Press Secretary shall be responsible for issuing press releases for the organization, in conjunction with YDG Staff and under the direction of the Secretary and Communications Director, coordinating the sending of letters to publications on behalf of the organization, and serving as a media liaison for the organization with the Executive Director. The Press Secretary shall provide a report at every Executive Committee meeting of his/her activities since the previous Executive Committee meeting.

Section 7.7.5 Chief of Staff. The Chief of Staff shall be responsible for working with all non-elected positions. The Chief of Staff shall be a liaison between the President and non-elected positions, and shall ensure that those positions are completing tasks delegated to them. The Chief of Staff shall also be responsible for the completion of any tasks so delegated by the President.

BYLAWS ARTICLE VIII EX-OFFICIO OFFICERS

SECTION 8.1 Ex-Officio Officers. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 8.2 Voting

Section 8.2.1. Ex-Officio Officers have the right to vote if active members in the YDG, as defined in the Charter. However, Ex-Officio Officers do not count toward quorum.

SECTION 8.3 President Emeritus

Section 8.3.1. The President Emeritus shall serve a term equal to that of his/her immediate successor. If the President Emeritus was removed from office, he/she forfeits the right to serve as an Ex-Officio Officer.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE IX
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 9.1 Composition. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 9.2 Voting. Intentionally left blank.

Section 9.2.1. Electronic Voting. The proposed resolution must be supported by at least three members of the Board of Directors, including the person making the motion, and shall be voted upon by e-mail. All members of the Board of Directors are required to maintain an e-mail account and to provide the Secretary with their current e-mail address. The Secretary shall send the proposed resolution by e-mail to each member of the Board of Directors. The subject heading of the e-mail shall state "YDG Exec Urgent Electronic Vote" or similar wording. In the e-mail, the Secretary shall clearly specify the numbers of votes necessary for the resolution to pass, and when the voting period begins and ends. Voting on the resolution shall begin immediately after the Secretary sends the resolution by e-mail to each member of the Board of Directors. Members of the Board of Directors shall have 48 hours to vote in favor or against the resolution. Amendments shall not be considered. Each member of the Board of Directors shall vote only one time in the 48 hour period permitted for voting. Passage of the resolution shall require at least an absolute majority of the Board of Directors voting in favor of the resolution, not just a majority of those casting votes. Members of the Board of Directors shall send their votes by e-mail to the Secretary with copies to all of the other members of the Board of Directors. The e-mail message must clearly indicate whether the vote is in favor or against the resolution. Within 24 hours of the close of voting, the Secretary shall send the results of the vote by e-mail to all members of the Board of Directors. The resolution and copies of the votes of the members of the Board of Directors shall be maintained by the Secretary and filed with the minutes of proceedings of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 9.3 Meetings.

Section 9.3.1 Gavel Order. In the absence of the President and the EVP, the gavel order shall be set by the order in which the elected officers were elected at state convention. In the absence of all elected officers, the Board of Directors members present shall elect a chair.

SECTION 9.4 Authority. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 9.5 Special Meetings. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 9.6 Rules of Order. Intentionally left blank.

Section 9.6.1. The YDG Board of Directors has the power to adopt Special Rules of Order and Standing Rules for Board of Directors meetings and activities.

SECTION 9.7 Quorum

Section 9.7.1. The quorum for the Young Democrats of Georgia Board of Directors shall constitute at least five (5) members.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE X
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 10.1 Composition. Intentionally left blank.

Section 10.1.1. Voting Members. Intentionally left blank.

Section 10.1.2. Non-Voting Members. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 9.2 Voting. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 9.3 Meetings. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 9.4 Authority. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 9.5 Special Meetings. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 9.6 Rules of Order. Intentionally left blank.

Section 9.6.1. The YDG Executive Committee has the power to adopt Special Rules of Order and Standing Rules for State Committee meetings and activities.

SECTION 9.7 Quorum

Section 9.7.1. The quorum for the Young Democrats of Georgia Executive Committee shall constitute representatives of at least five (5) chartered chapters and five (5) other Executive Committee members.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XI
COMMITTEES

SECTION 11.1 Types. There shall be three types of committees: Standing, Convention, and Special.

SECTION 11.2 Standing Committees

Section 11.2.1. Standing Committees shall be Campaign, Charter and Bylaws, Platform, Membership, Budget and Finance, Political and Legislative, Communications, and Issues. Standing Committees shall be chaired by a member of the YDG appointed by the President subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. Standing Committees shall meet at the call of the Chair and in a manner defined by the chair. Each chartered chapter is eligible to have at least one (1) voting representative on each Standing Committee. Each Standing Committee shall be directly supervised by one Board of Directors member, who also serves on the committee ex-officio.

Section 11.2.2 Standing Committee on Campaign. The Standing Committee on Campaign shall meet at the call of its Chair and shall be responsible for the development, implementation, and submission to the Executive Committee for approval of a state campaign plan and shall assist in the development and implementation of individual campaign plans for each chartered chapter upon request. The VPProg shall supervise this committee.

Section 11.2.3 Standing Committee on Charter and By-laws. The Standing Committee on Charter and By-Laws shall meet at the call of its Chair or the YDG President and shall review and recommend the adoption or deletion of rules governing the Executive Committee and/or amendments to this Charter and Bylaws. No rule change, Charter amendment or Bylaw amendment shall be submitted to the Executive Committee until it has been favorably reported out of this committee. The EVP shall supervise this committee.

Section 11.2.4 Standing Committee on Platform. The Standing Committee on Platform shall plan and execute an annual Platform convention to recommend to the State Convention an Annual Platform for the YDG and shall consider any proper plank proposals submitted. A proper plank proposal is a statement of general principle that is generally timeless. Proposals that express support or opposition to a current piece of legislation, reference a specific person, provide a statement of gratitude for service, or sorrow about a specific death are out of order at Platform convention and should be referred the Resolutions Committee at State Convention. The VPProg shall supervise this committee.

Section 11.2.5 Standing Committee on Membership.

Section 11.2.5(a) Overview The Standing Committee on Membership shall meet at call of its Chair and shall be responsible for the design, coordination, and implementation of state membership projects. The Committee shall be responsible for review, modification, implementation and submission to the Executive Committee for approval of the State Membership Plan. The Committee shall work with the officers, staff, and consultants engaged in fundraising on behalf of the YDG to effectively oversee these programs and ensure their successful implementation. The Standing Committee on Membership shall be overseen directly by the Vice President of Membership. The VPMem supervises this committee.

Section 11.2.5(b) Region Directors The President of YDG shall have the power to appoint six (6) regional directors, who serve at the pleasure of the President, to serve on the Membership Committee as liaisons between chapters in a certain region and the Membership Committee as a whole. Region Directors may also develop programs to charter new chapters within their region and plan events that promote regional unity. The six regions of Georgia shall be defined as follows:

Section 11.2.5(b)(i) Northwest Georgia shall be composed of the counties of Dade, Walker, Catoosa, Whitfield, Murray, Fannin, Union, Gilmer, Lumpkin, Dawson, Pickens, Gordon, Bartow, Floyd, Chatooga, Polk, Haralson, Carroll, and Heard.

Section 11.2.5(b)(ii) Northeast Georgia shall be composed of the counties of Towns, Rabun, White, Habersham, Stephens, Hall, Banks, Franklin, Hart, Jackson, Madison, Elbert, Barrow, Clarke, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Wilkes, Lincoln, Walton, Morgan, Greene, Taliaferro, Warren, McDuffie, Glascock, Columbia, Richmond, Jefferson, and Burke.

Section 11.2.5(b)(iii) Atlanta shall be composed of the counties of Cherokee, Forsyth, Paulding, Cobb, Douglas, Fulton, Gwinnett, DeKalb, Fayette, Clayton, Henry, Newton, and Rockdale.

Section 11.2.5(b)(iv) Middle Georgia shall be composed of the counties of Coweta, Troup, Meriwether, Spalding, Butts, Jasper, Putnam, Hancock, Pike, Lamar, Monroe, Upson, Jones, Baldwin, Washington, Crawford, Bibb, Twiggs, Wilkinson, Johnson, Taylor, Peach, Macon, Houston, Bleckley, Dodge, and Laurens.

Section 11.2.5(b)(v) Southwest Georgia shall be composed of the counties of Harris, Marion, Schley, Talbot, Muscogee, Chattahoochee, Stewart, Webster, Sumter, Dooley, Pulaski, Crisp, Wilcox, Quitman, Randolph, Terrell, Lee, Clay, Calhoun, Dougherty, Worth, Turner, Ben Hill, Irwin, Tift, Early, Miller, Baker, Mitchell, Colquitt, Cook, Berrien, Seminole, Decatur, Grady, Thomas, Brooks, Lowndes, Lanier, Clinch, and Echols.

Section 11.2.5(b)(vi) Southeast Georgia shall be composed of the counties of Jenkins, Screven, Emanuel, Candler, Bulloch, Effingham, Treutlen, Telfair, Wheeler, Montgomery, Toombs, Tattnall, Evans, Bryan, Chatham, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Jeff Davis, Appling, Wayne, Glynn, Coffee, Bacon, Pierce, Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Ware, and Atkinson.

Section 11.2.6 Standing Committee on Budget and Finance. The Standing Committee on Budget and Finance shall meet at the call of its Chair and shall be responsible for the design, coordination and implementation of state fundraising projects. The Committee shall be responsible for review, modification, implementation and submission to the Executive Committee for approval of the State Fundraising Plan. The Committee shall work with the officers, staff, and consultants engaged in fundraising on behalf of the YDG to effectively oversee these programs and ensure their successful implementation. The Standing Committee on Budget and Finance shall also draw up a budget to be presented for approval at the second Executive Committee meeting after the State Convention closes and before June 1 of that same calendar year. At this Executive Meeting, a balanced and final budget draft of the budget for the next YD fiscal year must be approved for recommendation to the State Committee. If the budget is not recommended by the adjournment of the second Executive Committee meeting following the closing of the state convention, then no money shall be appropriated from the YDG treasury except to resolve the debts outstanding until a budget is recommended. The Standing Committee on Budget and Finance shall be overseen directly by the Vice President of Finance and Treasurer.

11.2.7 Standing Committee on Political and Legislative Affairs. Intentionally left blank.

11.2.8 Standing Committee on Communications. Intentionally left blank.

11.2.9 Standing Committee on Issues. Intentionally left blank.

Section 11.2.10 Officers of Standing Committees. The President, within ninety (90) days of assuming office, shall appoint a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary for each Standing Committee. Standing Committee Chairs shall serve at the pleasure of the President conterminously with the appointing administration. Vice Chairs of Standing Committees shall preside at meetings in the absence of the Chair but not succeed in the event of the Chair's death, resignation, or removal.

Section 11.2.11 Voting in Standing Committees. Although a specific individual should be certified in writing to represent each chartered chapter in each Standing Committee, any unit member present may represent and cast the vote of his or her unit in any meeting of a Standing Committee when the certified representative is not present. The officers of the Standing Committee shall not be entitled to a vote because of their position as an officer. However, the Vice Chair and Secretary may cast the vote of the unit they represent provided they are not serving in the capacity of Chair at the time of the vote.

Section 11.2.12 Duties of Standing Committee Chairs. The Chair of each Standing Committee shall present a report to each meeting of the Executive Committee as to matters being reported out of committee for consideration by the Executive Committee. This report shall be in writing and, where feasible, copies should be distributed to all Executive Committee members.

SECTION 11.3 Caucuses

Section 11.3.1(a) Composition Caucuses shall be the Minority Caucus, the Women's Caucus, and the Stonewall Caucus, and shall be coordinated and chaired by the appropriate Chair. Caucuses shall meet at the call of the Chair and in a manner defined by the chair.

Section 11.3.1(b) Addition of New Caucuses New caucuses may be created by the President, with majority approval of the Executive Committee, so long as the new caucus does not duplicate or overlap with an existing caucus.

Section 11.3.2. Chairs The Chair of each caucus shall be appointed by the President, and serves at his/her pleasure, conterminously with the President's term of office.

Section 11.3.3. Responsibilities Caucuses shall be responsible for recruitment of members into YDG, in conjunction with the Membership Committee, and the creation of programs related to its membership, with the VPProg.

SECTION 11.4 Convention Committees

Section 11.4.1. Convention Committees shall be Awards, Credentials, Rules, and Resolutions.

Section 11.4.2. The President shall appoint with approval of the Executive Committee the chairs of all Convention Committees.

Section 11.4.3. All Convention Committees shall be composed of a chair and one representative from each chapter..

Section 11.4.4. Committee vacancies, other than the Chair of any committee, shall be filled by appointment of the chapter president.

Section 11.4.5. The Awards committee shall be authorized to grant Honorary Memberships. Nominations for Honorary Membership may be submitted to the Awards Chair up to thirty (30) days prior to the State Convention. Recipients will be announced at the State Convention.

SECTION 11.5 Special Committees

Section 11.5.1 The YDG President shall have the power to appoint with the approval of the Executive Committee any Special Committee (and its members) deemed necessary for the operation of the YDG. As soon as the Special Committee presents its final report, the Special Committee is automatically dismissed.

Section 11.5.2 Vacancies in Special Committees are filled by appointment by the President.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XII
FINANCES

SECTION 12.1 Fiscal year. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 12.2 Budget and Finance Committee

Section 12.2.1 Membership. Intentionally left blank

Section 12.2.2 Budget. Intentionally left blank

Section 12.3 Financial authority. Intentionally left blank.

Section 12.4 Spending Limits. Intentionally left blank.

Section 12.5 Audits. Intentionally left blank.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XIII
JUDICIAL COUNCIL

SECTION 13.1 Judicial Power. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 13.2 Review

Section 13.2.1. In order for the Judicial Council to review an issue, a forty percent (40%) vote of the Executive Committee present requesting such a review shall be required, unless the convention is in session, in which case a forty percent (40%) vote of the members of credentialed chapters shall be required.

SECTION 13.3 Composition. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 13.4 Quorum

Section 13.4.1. Quorum for the Judicial Council shall be five (5) members at least one of whom must include the Parliamentarian.

SECTION 13.5 Rules

Section 13.5.1. The Judicial Council shall set the rules by which it deliberates and is governed.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XIV
DISCIPLINE

SECTION 14.1 Member Expulsion

Section 14.1.1 Expulsion. Any member may be expelled by their chapter in accordance with the chapter's bylaws.

SECTION 14.2 Chapter Expulsion

Section 14.2.1 Expulsion. To expel a chapter for just cause or for violation of the YDG Charter and Bylaws requires a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Executive Committee. What constitutes "just cause" is to be at the discretion of the Executive Committee, but may include, though is not limited to: failure to comply with the chapter's governing documents, failure to adhere to the YDG Charter and Bylaws, prolonged chapter inactivity, or failure to comply with the vision and mission of YDG.

Section 14.2.2 Appeal. The Chapter may appeal this decision to the Judicial Council. A one-half (1/2) vote of the Judicial Council is required to reverse the expulsion.

Section 14.2.3 Unified Appeal. This option shall consist of a comprehensive unified appeal and may only be utilized once.

SECTION 14.3 At-Large Expulsion. An at-large member of YDG may be expelled in the same way as a chapter may be expelled (see Section 14.2).

BYLAWS ARTICLE XV STAFF

SECTION 15.1 Employees and Contractors

Section 15.1.1. Executive Director. The Executive Director shall serve as the administrator of the state office of the YDG. The Executive Director shall work under the day-to-day supervision of the President and shall be responsible for supervising staff and contractors and implementing programs and projects as assigned by the President and the Executive Committee.

Section 15.1.2. Other Staff and Contractors. Other staff and contractors shall be hired as necessary and as provided for in the budget to fulfill programs and projects as assigned by the President and the Executive Committee. These staff and contractors shall work under the day-to-day supervision of the Executive Director or an officer or staff member designated by the Executive Director.

Section 15.1.3. Employment, Contracting and Human Resources. The Board of Directors shall establish written policies and processes for all matters relating to hiring, bidding, managing and terminating of employees or contractors, specifically providing for the fair and equal opportunity of employment, evaluation and treatment of all employees and contractors. In the absence of such written policies and procedures, which must be passed by a majority (1/2) vote of the Board of Directors, YDG may not hire any individuals to serve in paid positions.

BYLAWS ARTICLE XVI AMENDMENTS

SECTION 16.1 Charter Timeline. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 16.2 Charter Adoption. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 16.3 Bylaws timeline

Section 16.3.1 As Charter Amendments. Intentionally left blank.

Section 16.3.2 Executive Committee. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 16.4 Bylaws Adoption

Section 16.4.1 As Charter Amendments. Intentionally left blank.

Section 16.4.2 Executive Committee. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 16.5 Bylaws Duration. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 16.6 Bylaws power. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 16.7 Chapter Ratification of a Charter Amendment. Intentionally left blank.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XVII
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Intentionally left blank.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XVIII
DISSOLUTION

SECTION 18.1 Chapter Dissolution. Intentionally left blank.

SECTION 18.2 YDG Dissolution. Intentionally left blank.

BYLAWS
ARTICLE XIX
APPENDIX

SECTION 19.1 Voting. Intentionally left blank.