

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE**  
**CERTIFICATION OF AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS**

I hereby certify that the attached Amended and Restated Bylaws dated February 13, 2021, last revised February 8, 2022, are a true, correct and complete copy of the Bylaws of the Cumberland County Republican Committee.



Kelly Brent, Recording Secretary

Date: February 14, 2022

**THE BYLAWS OF THE  
CUMBERLAND COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE  
AMENDED AND RESTATED  
FEBRUARY 13, 2021  
LAST REVISED FEBRUARY 8, 2022**

The official name of the Republican organization in Cumberland County shall be **THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE.**

The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall be an association, which acting through its officers, shall have the power to acquire, own, hold, sell, mortgage or otherwise encumber, lease and manage real estate, to acquire and own or lease personal property, to incur obligations and indebtedness, and to hire and fire employees, and to conduct all business transactions involving the Republican Party. The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall have control of the Republican Party of Cumberland County and in the election districts, and shall have authority to put into effect such measures as shall promote its interest and that of its candidates in accordance with the following Bylaws:

**RULE 1 – COUNTY COMMITTEE**

- SECTION 1.** The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall be composed of two (2) members from each election district of Cumberland County, one of whom shall be a woman and one a man. Such members shall be elected at the Primary Election held in each gubernatorial election year by the Republican electors of the district and in each instance shall be a qualified elector and a registered Republican residing in such district. The members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall serve from the date of their election or appointment until the succeeding Primary Election held in a gubernatorial election year, unless sooner disqualified under these Bylaws.
- SECTION 2.** Should any vacancy occur in the membership of The Cumberland County Republican Committee, the County Chair may fill such vacancy for the remainder of the term, by appointment of any qualified Republican elector

residing within the district wherein such vacancy exists, regardless of gender. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the County Chair may not appoint any Committee members during the following time periods: (i) the period commencing on December 15 and ending immediately after the adjournment of the meeting held in the following calendar year for the endorsement of candidates in the primary election; and (ii) in gubernatorial election years, the period commencing on the date of the Primary Election and ending with the adjournment of the Reorganization Meeting.

**SECTION 3.** In order for a member of The Cumberland County Republican Committee to be duly elected by write-in votes, that member must receive at least as many write in votes as the required number of signatures on a valid election petition for the same office.

**SECTION 4.** The duties of a member of The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall consist of the following:

- a. To faithfully attend meetings of The Cumberland County Republican Committee;
- b. To support endorsed party candidates;
- c. To arrange for appropriate distribution of campaign literature, posters and other election materials;
- d. To arrange for appropriate coverage of polling places on primary and general election days;
- e. To attempt to register new Republican voters;
- f. To faithfully support the official functions and fundraising events of The Cumberland County Republican Committee; and
- g. To perform such other duties as may be assigned by the County Chair.

**SECTION 5** No person convicted or has entered a plea of Nolo Contendere to perjury, any felony or crime of moral turpitude in the 10 year period prior to commencement of his or her term, shall be eligible to be a member of The Cumberland County Republican Committee, or capable of holding any office in this Committee.

## **RULE 2 – OFFICERS**

- SECTION 1.** The officers of The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall consist of a County Chair, two Deputy County Chairs, five Vice Chairs, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Assistant Treasurer, all of whom shall be qualified Republican electors residing in Cumberland County.
- SECTION 2.** The County Chair shall be elected on a secret ballot by a majority of The Cumberland County Republican Committee present in person or represented by valid proxies at the reorganization meeting. The County Chair does not need to be a current member of the Committee, but must have prior experience as a member, officer or committee chair of the Committee. The term of the County Chair shall end at the next reorganization meeting. No person may be elected for more than two (2) four-year terms as County Chair.
- SECTION 3** The Deputy County Chairs, the Vice Chairs, the Recording Secretary, the Corresponding Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Assistant Treasurer shall be appointed by and shall serve at the pleasure of the County Chair. One of the Deputy County Chairs shall be male, and the other female.
- SECTION 4.** None of the aforesaid officers need be members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee.
- SECTION 5.** Should a vacancy occur in the office of County Chair by reason of death, resignation, or otherwise, such vacancy shall be filled by The Cumberland County Republican Committee within thirty (30) days.
- SECTION 6.** Any vacancy occurring in any office appointed by the County Chair shall be filled by appointment made by said County Chair.

## **RULE 3 – DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

- SECTION 1.** County Chair. The County Chair shall be the chief executive officer of The Cumberland County Republican Committee and, as such, shall put into operation the resolutions and actions of The Cumberland County Republican Committee and shall preside at its meetings and be an ex-officio member of all committees. In the absence of the County Chair, one of the Deputy Chairs shall preside based on seniority. The County Chair shall have the responsibility for the supervision of the county, state and federal election campaigns in the county and shall be responsible for the training and standards of performance for Committee members.

- SECTION 2.** Deputy Chairs. The Deputy Chairs shall perform such duties as directed by the County Chair. In the absence of the County Chair, one of the Deputy Chairs shall have charge of the conduct of the affairs of The Cumberland County Republican Committee and preside at the meetings of The Cumberland County Republican Committee, based on seniority. For purposes of determining which Deputy Chair has seniority for acting in the absence of the County Chair, the Deputy Chair of the opposite gender of the County Chair shall take precedence. The Deputy Chairs shall be ex-officio members of all committees.
- SECTION 3.** Vice Chairs. The Vice Chairs appointed by the County Chair shall perform such duties as directed by the County Chair.
- SECTION 4.** Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of the proceedings of The Cumberland County Republican Committee in books provided for that purpose and shall perform such other duties as may be directed by the County Chair. All papers, documents and data in the Recording Secretary's possession shall be turned over to his or her successor.
- SECTION 5.** Corresponding Secretary. The Corresponding Secretary shall maintain an accurate roll of committee members and their mailing addresses and shall perform such other duties as may be directed by the County Chair. All papers, documents and data in the Corresponding Secretary's possession shall be turned over to his or her successor.
- SECTION 6.** Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse, upon proper written authorization from the County Chair or his designee, all monies contributed for Party purposes. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all receipts and expenditures, and shall report them quarterly to the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall submit the books for the annual review as provided in Rule 4, Section 3. The fiscal year shall be January 1 to December 31. All funds, books, documents, and other data in the Treasurer's possession shall be turned over to his or her successor. The Treasurer shall comply with the provisions of all state and federal election laws. The Treasurer shall provide an annual report to The Cumberland County Republican Committee. The County Chair shall designate the banking institution or institutions in Cumberland County in which the Party's funds shall be deposited. The records of the receipts and expenditures of the Treasurer shall be open for inspection by any member of The Cumberland County Republican Committee upon reasonable notice.
- SECTION 7.** Assistant Treasurer. The Assistant Treasurer shall perform any duties delegated by the Treasurer, or assigned by the County Chair, and shall report concerning Party functions in the absence of the Treasurer.

## **RULE 4 – COMMITTEES**

- SECTION 1.**        Standing Committees. The Standing Committees shall be an Executive Committee, a Finance Committee, a Voter Registration Committee, a Candidate Interview Committee, a Candidate Development Committee, a Volunteer and Committee Person Recruitment and Training Committee, a Public Relations and Communication Committee, a Young Republicans Committee, a Campaign Liaison Committee, a Municipal Official/School Board Outreach Committee, and the Governor’s Club Committee. Any other committee may be established at the discretion of the County Chair.
- SECTION 2.**        Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall operate as the board of directors of The Cumberland County Republican Committee. The membership of the Executive Committee shall be the Chair, the Deputy Chairs, the Vice Chairs, the Recording Secretary, the Corresponding Secretary, the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer and not less than 10 at-large members. Members of the Executive Committee do not need to be Committee members, but all members must be qualified Republican electors. The Executive Committee shall consider all the matters referred to it by the County Chair or delegated to it by these Bylaws.
- SECTION 3.**        Finance Committee. Within sixty (60) days after the reorganization meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee at which the County Chair has been elected, said Chair shall appoint a Finance Committee of not less than seven (7) members to serve until the next succeeding reorganization meeting unless removed in accordance with the Bylaws and shall designate one such appointee as Chair. Members of the Finance Committee need not be members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee, but must be qualified Republican electors. The Finance Committee shall annually review the accounts of the County Chair and The Cumberland County Republican Committee. The Finance Committee shall supervise fundraising programs. Any monies collected by the Finance Committee shall be reported to and promptly paid over to the Treasurer and receipt taken therefor.
- SECTION 4.**        Voter Registration Committee. Within sixty (60) days after the reorganization meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee at which the County Chair has been elected, said Chair may appoint a Voter Registration Committee of not less than seven (7) members to serve until the next succeeding reorganization meeting unless removed in accordance with these Bylaws and shall designate one such appointee as Chair. Members of the Voter Registration Committee need not be members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee, but must be qualified Republican electors. The Voter Registration Committee shall effect the

necessary organization to maintain an active Republican voter registration program.

**SECTION 5.**

Candidate Interview Committee. The County Chair shall annually, at least sixty (60) days prior to the first day to file nominating petitions, appoint a Candidate Interview Committee of not less than the (10) nor more than thirteen (13) members, at least five (5) of whom shall be members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee. Any individual who is currently serving on the Candidate Development Committee, or is less than twelve (12) months removed from serving on the Candidate Development Committee, is not eligible to serve on the Candidate Interview Committee. The County Chair shall designate one member of the Candidate Interview Committee as Chair. It shall be the duty of this Committee to interview any potential candidate for any county-wide office, state senator, state representative or national representative whose election district shall include all or a portion of Cumberland County. The proceedings of the Candidate Interview Committee are to remain confidential. Only members of the Candidate Interview Committee (including ex officio members) and the candidate being interviewed can be present in the meeting. Any member of the Candidate Interview Committee who is related by blood or marriage to any candidate appearing before the Candidate Interview Committee, or is serving in an official capacity on the campaign of said candidate, must not participate in any interviews or deliberations concerning the office for which that candidate is seeking. This Committee shall report its recommendations to The Cumberland County Republican Committee for endorsement or other appropriate action. Unless otherwise directed by the Chair or unanimously agreed to by the members of the Candidate Interview Committee, the Committee shall vote on Candidate endorsements by secret ballot. Upon delivery of its report, the Candidate Interview Committee shall disband until reformed in accordance with these Bylaws.

**SECTION 6.**

Volunteer and Committee Person Recruitment and Training Committee. Within sixty (60) days after the reorganization meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee at which the County Chair has been elected, said Chair may appoint a Volunteer and Committee Person Recruitment and Training Committee and shall designate one such appointee as Chair. Members of the Volunteer and Committee Person Recruitment and Training Committee need not be members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee, but must be qualified Republican electors. The Volunteer and Committee Person Recruitment and Training Committee shall recruit and train volunteers and committee persons, especially those newly elected, and ensure they are indoctrinated into the duties and responsibilities of the position.

**SECTION 7.** Public Relations and Communication Committee. Within sixty (60) days after the reorganization meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee at which the County Chair has been elected, said Chair may appoint a Public Relations and Communication Committee and shall designate one such appointee as Chair. Members of the Public Relations and Communication Committee need not be members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee, but must be qualified Republican electors. The Public Relations and Communication Committee shall maintain the Committee website and provide notices of events and programs that are of interest to Republicans and that enhance and further the Party's interests.

**SECTION 8.** Young Republicans Committee. Within sixty (60) days after the reorganization meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee at which the County Chair has been elected, said Chair may appoint a Young Republicans Committee and shall designate one such appointee as Chair. Members of the Young Republicans Committee need not be members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee, but must be qualified Republican electors. The Young Republicans Committee shall promote and assist Young Republican organizations in Cumberland County and provide opportunities to younger Republicans to advance in the Party and become our future leaders.

**SECTION 9.** Campaign Liaison Committee. Within sixty (60) days after the reorganization meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee at which the County Chair has been elected, said Chair may appoint a Campaign Liaison Committee and shall designate one such appointee as Chair. Members of the Campaign Liaison Committee need not be members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee, but must be qualified Republican electors. The Campaign Liaison Committee shall provide direct communication to and from endorsed Republican candidates' campaigns and the Committee and keep the Committee informed and up to date on the status of each candidate's campaign.

**SECTION 10.** Municipal Official/School Board Outreach Committee. Within sixty (60) days after the reorganization meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee at which the County Chair has been elected, said Chair may appoint a Municipal Official/School Board Outreach Committee and shall designate one such appointee as Chair. Members of the Municipal Official/School Board Outreach Committee need not be members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee, but must be qualified Republican electors. The Municipal Official/School Board Outreach shall provide direct communication to and from local elected officials and the Committee and educate local elected officials on how the Committee can best serve their needs.



**SECTION 11.** Governor’s Club Committee. Within sixty (60) days after the reorganization meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee at which the County Chair has been elected, said Chair shall appoint a Governor’s Club Committee and shall designate one such appointee as Chair. The Committee shall oversee the operation of the Governor’s Club, or any successor organization, the purpose of which shall be to raise funds for The Cumberland County Republican Committee, and to encourage greater involvement of qualified Republican electors in the affairs of The Cumberland County Republican Committee.

**SECTION 12.** Candidate Development Committee. Within sixty (60) days after the reorganization meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee at which the County Chair has been elected, said Chair may appoint a Candidate Development Committee of not less than seven (7) members to serve until the next succeeding reorganization meeting unless removed in accordance with these Bylaws and shall designate one (1) such appointee as Chair. Members of the Candidate Development Committee need not be members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee, but must be qualified Republican electors. At least one (1) member of the Candidate Development Committee shall be an elected member of Republican State Committee, and preference should be given to appointing one (1) member of the Candidate Development Committee that has previously been elected to county, state or federal office. The Candidate Development Committee will focus on the recruitment and development of candidates for county-wide office, state senator, state representative or national representative whose election district shall include all or a portion of Cumberland County.

**SECTION 13.** Bylaws Committee. Within sixty (60) days after the reorganization meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee at which the County Chair has been elected, said Chair shall appoint a Bylaws Committee and shall designate one such appointee as Chair. The Committee shall review, consider and propose revisions to these Bylaws.

**RULE 5 – MEETINGS**

**SECTION 1.** Reorganization Meetings. In gubernatorial election years, the incumbent County Chair shall, within sixty (60) days after the Primary Election held in such years, call a meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee for the purpose of reorganization. Such meeting shall be called to convene at a place within Cumberland County at a time to be selected by the incumbent County Chair. At such reorganization meetings, The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall elect a County Chair to serve until the next reorganization meeting and transact any additional

business properly presented for consideration. In the event of a disaster declared by the state or federal government that includes Cumberland County, during which public gatherings are prohibited or restricted, the incumbent County Chair may hold the reorganization meeting by means of the Internet or other electronic communications technology in a fashion pursuant to which the members have the opportunity to read or hear the proceedings substantially concurrently with their occurrence, vote on matters submitted to the members, pose questions, make appropriate motions, and comment on the business of the meeting.

**SECTION 2.** Regular Meeting. The County Chair shall call at least two (2) regular meetings of The Cumberland County Republican Committee annually, one of which shall be the Endorsement Meeting. The Endorsement Meeting is to be held on the Saturday immediately prior to the first day to circulate and file nominating petitions.

**SECTION 3.** Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called at any time by the County Chair. Upon written request of fifty (50) members of the County Committee, the County Chair shall call a special meeting to consider the matters specified in the request, but no other business. The County Chair shall designate the time and the place within Cumberland County for said special meeting.

**SECTION 4.** Notice. Notice of all meetings of The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall be given by written notice signed by the County Chair specifying the time, date and location for the meeting as well as the purpose for which said meeting is called. Notice shall be given by the Corresponding Secretary to each Member of The Cumberland County Republican Committee either by personal delivery or by sending a copy thereof: (i) by first-class mail, postage pre-paid and sent to the mailing address for the committee member as listed on the roll prepared by and in the custody of the Corresponding Secretary; (ii) electronic mail sent to the e-mail address for the committee member as listed on the roll prepared by and in the custody of the Corresponding Secretary; or (iii) such other methods for notices of meetings permitted by the Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988, as amended, or any successor statute thereto. Notices shall be deemed to have been sent when deposited in the United States mail or, in the case of electronic mail, when sent. The Corresponding Secretary is not required to use one universal method of delivering notice and may use different methods for different Committee Members. Notices for all meetings shall be sent at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting, except in the case of a bona fide emergency, as determined by the County Chair, a special meeting may be called upon no less than seventy-two (72) hours' notice.

- SECTION 5.** Executive Committee Meetings. Meetings of Executive Committee shall be called by the County Chair.
- SECTION 6.** Standing Committee Meetings. Meetings of the Standing Committees may be called by the Chair of the respective Committee or the County Chair from time to time as required.
- SECTION 7.** Parliamentary Procedure. The proceedings of all meetings of The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall be regulated by the provisions of Robert’s Rules of Order. The County Chair may appoint a Parliamentarian and an Assistant Parliamentarian, who shall advise the County Chair on parliamentary matters.
- SECTION 8.** Order of Business – Reorganization Meetings. The order of business of a reorganization meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall be as follows:
- A. Roll call of members and validation of proxies.
  - B. Nomination and election of County Chair.
  - C. Report of officers to include Treasurer’ report.
  - D. Other business.
  - E. Adjournment.
- SECTION 9.** Order of Business – Endorsement Meetings. Endorsement Meetings are to be regular meetings of The Cumberland County Republican Committee and the order of business shall be as follows:
- A. Roll call of members and validation of proxies.
  - B. Reading of minutes of preceding meeting.
  - C. Reports of officers to include Treasurer’s Report.
  - D. Reports of standing committees.
  - E. Consideration of Endorsement of Candidates.
  - F. Unfinished business.
  - G. New business.
  - H. Adjournment.
- SECTION 10.** Order of Business – Regular Meetings. The order of business of the regular meetings of The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall be as follows:
- A. Roll call of members and validation of proxies.
  - B. Reading of minutes of preceding meeting.

- C. Reports of officers to include Treasurer’s Report.
- D. Reports of standing committees.
- E. Unfinished business.
- F. New business.
- G. Adjournment.

**SECTION 11.** Order of Business – Special Meetings. The order of business of a special meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall be as follows:

- A. Roll call of members and validation of proxies.
- B. Consideration of matters specified in request for special meeting.
- C. Adjournment.

**SECTION 12.** Place of Meetings. Regular or special meetings of the County Committee may be held (i) in person in a location within Cumberland County, Pennsylvania; or (ii) by means of the Internet or other electronic communications technology in a fashion pursuant to which the members have the opportunity to read or hear the proceedings substantially concurrently with their occurrence, vote on matters submitted to the members, pose questions, make appropriate motions and comment on the business of the meeting.

### **RULE 6 – QUORUM**

**SECTION 1.** Quorum. A quorum of The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall consist of a majority of its duly elected or appointed members in person or by proxy.

### **RULE 7 – PROXY**

**SECTION 1.** Proxy. Any absent member of The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall have the power to substitute by proxy any registered Republican elector residing in his or her election district. The proxy shall be in writing and signed by the Committee member giving their proxy. The proxy holder must also sign the proxy, certifying that he or she is a registered Republican residing in the district and that he or she received the proxy from the Committee member. The proxy holder must be present in person at the meeting. No person may vote more than two proxies.

Committee members may hold one proxy and be entitled to vote his or her vote and the vote of the proxy. Any challenges to the validity of a proxy are to be decided solely by the County Chair.

### **RULE 8 – WATCHERS**

**SECTION 1.** Watchers. Watchers for The Cumberland County Republican Committee at the general election or any primary election shall be designated by the County Chair who shall ensure that proper watchers' certificates are issued.

### **RULE 9 – CANDIDATE VACANCIES**

**SECTION 1.** County. Any vacancy occurring on the Republican ticket for an office to be voted for by the electors of Cumberland County at large, whether said vacancy arises by reason of death, withdrawal, failure to nominate or any other cause whatsoever, shall be filled by The Cumberland County Republican Committee.

**SECTION 2.** Republican State Committee. Any vacancy occurring in a Cumberland County seat on the Pennsylvania Republican State Committee shall be filled by the County Chair.

**SECTION 3.** Legislative District. Any vacancy occurring on the Republican ticket for an office to be voted for solely by the electors of one of the Legislative Districts of Cumberland County shall be filled by The Cumberland County Republican Committee members representing the election districts within said Legislative District. Said members shall be convened for the purpose upon written notice to each member within such group by the County Chair. Any vacancy in the nomination for the State Legislature, after the Primary Election in the Legislative District, of which Cumberland County, or a portion thereof is a part, shall be filled by conferees selected by The Cumberland County Republican Committee from registered voters residing in the Legislative District. The number of conferees shall be fixed as provided by law, or by the Rules of the Republican Party of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In the absence of any such law, or any such provision in the Rules of the Republican Party of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Cumberland County or a portion thereof, shall have its proportionate share of conferees in the same ratio as Republican votes cast by the electors of Cumberland County in the last state-wide election bear to the Republican votes cast for the Legislative District in the last state-wide election.

**SECTION 4.** Municipal. Any vacancy occurring on the Republican ticket for an office to be voted solely by electors of any borough, township, ward, precinct or single election district within Cumberland County may be filled by the members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee representing said borough, township, ward, precinct or voting district, as appropriate, at a meeting to be convened as the members thereof may determine.

**SECTION 5.** Congressional. Any vacancy in the nomination for Congress after the Primary Election in the congressional district of which Cumberland County or a portion thereof is a part, shall be filled by conferees selected by The Cumberland County Republican Committee from registered Republican voters residing in the congressional district. The number of conferees shall be fixed as provided by law, or by the Rules of the Republican Party of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In the absence of any such law, or any such provision in the Rules of the Republican Party of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Cumberland County or a portion thereof shall have its proportionate share of conferees in the same ratio as Republican votes cast by the electors of Cumberland County in the last state-wide election bear to the total Republican votes cast for the congressional district in the last national election.

**SECTION 6.** Special Election. In the event that a special election shall be called to fill a vacancy in any office to be voted for by the electors of Cumberland County at large, nomination for such office shall be made in accordance with Section 1 of this Rule.

In the event a special election shall be called to fill a vacancy in any office to be voted upon by the electors of any legislative district of Cumberland County, nomination for such office shall be made in accordance with Section 3 of this Rule.

In the event a special election shall be called to fill a vacancy in any office to be voted upon by the electors of any congressional district of which Cumberland County or a portion thereof is a part, nomination for such office shall be made in accordance with Section 5 of this Rule.

**SECTION 7.** For the purpose of the party endorsement process for Legislative Congressional Districts, representing portions of Cumberland County, for each such office to be considered, only those members of the Cumberland County Republican Committee who reside in, and represent, the election districts or precincts within the geographical boundaries of the District in question shall have standing for the purposes of voting to endorse a candidate for the District in question. Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, all members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee may speak on the issue of endorsement of any candidate representing any part of Cumberland County.

## **RULE 10 – ENDORSEMENTS**

- SECTION 1.** The Cumberland County Republican Committee shall consider, at the Endorsement Meeting immediately prior to respective primary election, whether to endorse in elections for all County-wide offices, State Representative in which some or all of the district is in Cumberland County and State Senator in which some or all of the district is in Cumberland County.
- SECTION 2.** Any candidate seeking the endorsement of The Cumberland County Republican Committee must notify the County Chair of his or her request to be considered for endorsement no later than twenty-one (21) days prior to the first day to circulate and file nomination petitions. Any candidate failing to provide such notice will be ineligible for endorsement unless the County Chair determines extenuating circumstances warrant a waiver of the requirement. For purposes of this Section, the withdrawal of a candidate or decision of an incumbent not to seek reelection during or immediately prior to the aforementioned twenty-one (21) day period constitutes extenuating circumstances.
- SECTION 3.** All candidates seeking the endorsement of The Cumberland County Republican Committee will be presented with and must complete a questionnaire prepared by the Candidate Interview Committee. All candidates seeking endorsement must also be interviewed by the Candidate Interview Committee. The chair of the Candidate Interview Committee may set reasonable deadlines for completing questionnaires and interviews, and the Candidate Interview Committee may rule a candidate ineligible for endorsement if that candidate fails to meet those deadlines. All candidate interviews are to be limited to the candidate and the members of the Candidate Interview Committee; no other County Committee members or officers, campaign staff or other parties are allowed to be present. The Candidate Interview Committee may prescribe an abbreviated questionnaire and shorter interview process for incumbent candidates. For all purposes under these Bylaws, a candidate seeking the endorsement of The Cumberland County Republican Committee for the first time for that office, regardless of whether that candidate currently occupies or has previously occupied the office he or she is seeking, will not be treated as an incumbent and must satisfy all expectations and requirements of Candidate Interview Committee and these Bylaws applying to new candidates.

**SECTION 4.** The Candidate Interview Committee will, upon receiving all candidate questionnaires and completing all interviews, deliberate and consider whether and whom to endorse in the respective races. The Candidate Interview Committee will prepare a report of its recommendations and deliver the report to the County Chair prior to the Endorsement Meeting. The recommendations of the Candidate Interview Committee are to remain confidential prior to the Endorsement Meeting. The Candidate Interview Committee must, however, cause all candidate questionnaires to be made available electronically to all Committee members at least three (3) days prior to the Endorsement Meeting.

**SECTION 5.** For the purpose of the party endorsement process for legislative districts, representing portions of Cumberland County, for each such office to be considered, only those members of the Cumberland County Republican Committee who represent the election districts or precincts within the geographical boundaries of the legislative district in question shall have standing for the purposes of voting to endorse a candidate for the District in question. Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, all members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee may speak on the issue of endorsement of any candidate representing any part of Cumberland County.

**SECTION 6.** At the Endorsement Meeting, endorsement will be considered on a per-office basis in an order selected by the County Chair.

**SECTION 6.** Uncontested Races. Candidates for uncontested offices shall address the committee for a maximum of three minutes, followed by seven minutes for questions and answers from members of the full Committee.

After the candidates have spoken, the Candidate Interview Committee will make its recommendation of whether the Committee should endorse the candidates for that office.

The Committee will then vote on whether to endorse the candidates presented. The County Chair will call for a single vote on whether to endorse the presented candidates for the office in question. The vote will initially be by voice, subject to a Committee member’s right to request a secret ballot. If the candidate receives sixty percent (60%) of the votes cast, that candidate will be endorsed.

For purposes of these Bylaws, an office for which more than one person is elected (such as, but not limited to, County Commissioner) will be considered uncontested if the number of candidates seeking that office is equal to or less than the seats on the Republican primary ballot.

**SECTION 7.** Contested Races. Candidates for contested offices shall address the committee for a maximum of five minutes. There will be seven minutes for



questions and answers from members of the full committee to each candidate. Candidates for office will not be present while other candidates for the same office are speaking or answering questions.

After all candidates for an office have spoken, the Candidate Interview Committee will make its recommendation of whether the County Committee should endorse a candidate for that office. The County Committee will then vote on whether to endorse in the race for that office. If a simple majority of the members present vote to endorse, the Cumberland County Republican Committee shall then proceed to determining which candidate to endorse. The vote on whether to endorse will initially be by voice, subject to a Committee member's right to request a secret ballot.

If the Committee votes to endorse, the Candidate Interview Committee shall make a recommendation of whom to endorse. The County Committee will then proceed to vote by secret ballot. Each ballot must contain votes for a number of candidates equal to offices being filled. Any ballot containing votes for a number of candidates more than or less than the number of offices being considered will be discarded and not count towards the threshold for endorsement.

To be endorsed, a candidate must receive sixty percent (60%) of the votes cast. Any candidate receiving sixty percent (60%) of the votes cast shall be declared an endorsed candidate.

In the event that no candidate, or fewer candidates than the number for whom endorsement is sought, receives at least sixty percent (60%) of the votes cast on the first ballot, then subsequent ballots shall be taken. The threshold for endorsement on each subsequent ballot is sixty percent (60%) of the votes cast.

For each subsequent ballot, the candidate who received lowest number of votes on the prior ballot will not be considered on the subsequent ballot. This process shall repeat until such time as candidates are endorsed for all offices for which endorsement is being sought, or if the number of candidates remaining equals the number for which endorsement is sought, plus one.

Once the number of candidates remaining equals the number for which endorsement is sought, plus one, up to two (2) final ballots shall be taken. If no candidate receives sixty percent (60%) of the votes cast on the first final ballot, then a second final ballot shall be taken, and if no candidate receives sixty percent (60%) of the votes cast on the second final ballot, then no endorsement will be made in that race. If on a final ballot an endorsement is made on one or more, but not all, of the positions for which

endorsement is sought, then up to two (2) final ballots shall be taken on the remaining office pursuant to the procedure set forth above.

### **RULE 11 – AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**

**SECTION 1.** Amendments to the Bylaws may be proposed by a Bylaws Committee or by any member of The Cumberland County Republican Committee: Any proposed amendment shall be in writing and shall be submitted to the County Chair. The County Chair may refer the proposed amendment to committee for review and recommendation. Any proposed amendment submitted may be presented to The Cumberland County Republican Committee for action at the next meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee provided the proposed amendment is submitted at least thirty (30) days prior to said meeting. If the proposed amendment is not submitted within thirty (30) days prior to the next meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee, then the proposed amendment shall be submitted to The Cumberland County Republican Committee for action at the next subsequent meeting of The Cumberland County Republican Committee. Provided that there are sufficient members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee present to constitute a quorum, these Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of The Cumberland County Republican Committee present, whether in person at the meeting or represented by valid proxies.

### **RULE 12 – SUSPENSION OF RULES OR BYLAWS**

**SECTION 1.** Suspension of any Rule or Bylaw shall require a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present in person or represented by valid proxies.

### **RULE 13 – RECALL OR REMOVAL**

**SECTION 1.** Upon petition signed by a majority of all members of The Cumberland County Republican Committee a special meeting shall be convened for the purpose of replacing the County Chair elected under the Bylaws. One of the Deputy County Chairs shall preside as determined by seniority. Recall of the Chair shall be by two-thirds affirmative vote of the entire County Committee. No proxy shall be allowed. A new County Chair shall be selected at the recall meeting in accordance with these Bylaws.

**SECTION 2.** Appointed officers, Chair or members of a Committee may be removed at the pleasure of the power by whom they have been appointed.

**RULE 14 - MISCELLANEOUS**

**SECTION 1.** The County Chair shall ensure that at least ten (10) copies of the current Bylaws are available at all meetings of The Cumberland County Republican Committee. This condition may be satisfied by posting a copy of the current Bylaws on the County Committee website.

**SECTION 2.** Every Committee member shall be entitled to access an electronic copy of the current Bylaws on the County Committee website.

**SECTION 3.** These Bylaws shall be deemed severable and separately enforceable and should any provision be invalidated or declared void all of the other provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

The foregoing Bylaws were adopted by The Cumberland County Republican Committee on February 13, 2021; last revised February 8, 2022.