

**DAVIDSON COUNTY  
DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE  
of the  
DAVIDSON COUNTY  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

**BYLAWS**

Revised

June 6, 1985  
April 25, 2006

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<b>DAVIDSON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY</b> Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee
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**BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I**  
**NAME AND PURPOSE**

**SECTION 1:**

**NAME:**

The name of this organization shall be the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee which shall be the governing body of the Davidson County Democratic Party. It may be referred to, from time to time in this document, as the Executive Committee.

**SECTION 2:**

**PURPOSE:**

This organization shall, on the local level, promote the national, state and local interests, policies and programs of the Democratic National Committee and the Tennessee Democratic Party.

**SECTION 3:**

**SUPPORT FOR CANDIDATES:**

The Executive Committee shall support the duly elected and/or selected nominees of the Democratic Party but shall not endorse and/or support any candidates for public office during the primary campaign and primary election.. This provision shall not be construed to limit the Executive Committee with regard to nominations determined in Convention, nor shall it be construed by implication or otherwise to limit or to prevent any individual member acting in an individual or private capacity from supporting any candidate in a primary of the Democratic Party. In so doing, each member of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee must refrain from affixing his/her official party title to any correspondence and/or literature on behalf of any candidate for any office during the Democratic Party Primary Election.

**ARTICLE II**  
**MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION 1:**

**MEMBERSHIP:**

The Executive Committee shall be composed of one man and one woman elected from each of the 35 Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Councilmanic districts at the regular biennial Democratic Primary held in accordance with Section 1816 of the Metropolitan Charter and Private Act of the Tennessee State Legislature concerning such primary.

**SECTION 2:**

**RESIGNATIONS:**

The resignation of any officer or member shall be submitted in writing and shall take effect at the time specified therein. If no time is specified in the letter of resignation, it shall take effect upon receipt of said letter by the Chair or Secretary. If it is common knowledge that either an officer or a member has moved from his/her district within Davidson County, in particular, or from Davidson County, in general, the Secretary, upon direction from the Chair, will ascertain either by telephone, certified mail, electronic mail, and/or some such other procedure, if indeed the member or officer has moved and inform the Executive Committee so that a replacement may be elected or selected according to procedures outlined within this document.

**SECTION 3:**

**VACANCIES:**

A vacancy shall be filled by nomination as herein provided from the membership. Upon closing the nominations, the membership shall vote by a Division of the House. The nominee receiving a majority vote of those present shall be elected to serve in the vacant position. Each nominee must reside within the councilmanic district in which the vacancy exists and must meet the same requirements as any duly elected member.

**SECTION 4:**

**EXPULSION:**

The Executive Committee may vote to impose sanctions on, or expel a member on written notice to the membership that the issue will be acted upon, such notice to be given at the meeting prior to the meeting on which such action is voted. The member in question shall be given similar written notice, and an opportunity to be heard. Three-fourths (3/4) of the membership present and voting must concur in any discretionary sanctions of expulsion. The grounds for sanctions or expulsion shall be specified in the Bylaws.

**ARTICLE III  
OFFICERS**

**SECTION 1:**

**OFFICERS:**

The elected officers of the Executive Committee shall be a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and five Regional Vice-Chairs, one from each of the five regions. All officers of the Committee must be duly elected members.

**SECTION 2:**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

The Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present and qualified to vote at the second meeting called after each biennial Democratic primary as required under the Bylaws of this Executive Committee. Nominations can be made by any member who is present and qualified to vote. After nominations for each individual office have been received and recorded by the immediate past Secretary, the election for that office shall be conducted by a division of the house. The order of election shall be Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.

**SECTION 3:**

**ELECTION OF REGIONAL VICE-CHAIRS:**

The election of the five Regional Vice-Chairs shall be conducted immediately following the election of the at-large officers. One of the four at-large officers and the Executive Director shall conduct each Regional election. A Regional Vice-Chair must be a duly qualified member and must reside with the region. The boundaries of the regions of the Executive Committee shall be specified in the Bylaws. The Regional Vice-Chair shall be elected by a majority vote of the members from each individual region present and qualified to vote.

**SECTION 4:**

**DUTIES OF OFFICERS:**

A. Chair: The Chair shall call and preside over all meetings including the meeting of the officers, administer the oath to all new members, appoint committee chairs, and execute all duties generally accompanying the position as chief executive of any organization. The chair shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. In addition, in cooperation with the Administrator of Elections of the Davidson County (TN) Election Commission, set the date for the primary/nominating election(s) of the Democratic party of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville-Davidson County, TN, but excluding any and all elected positions of state and federal government.

B. Vice-Chair: In the absence of the Chair or in the event of his/her death, inability, or refusal to act, the Vice-Chair shall perform the duties of the Chair. When so acting, the Vice-Chair shall have all the powers of, and be subject to all the restrictions upon, the Chair. The Vice-Chair shall perform such other duties as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Chair or by the members of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee.

C. Secretary: The Secretary shall record and publish all minutes of each meeting and maintain such records in proper order. The Secretary shall sign all certified copies of acts of the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall call the membership role where it is required. The Secretary shall notify the membership of all monthly or regularly scheduled meetings by letter or electronic mail or otherwise upon the direction of the Chair. The Secretary shall conduct the general correspondence of the Executive Committee that is not a function of other officers or committee chairs. The Secretary shall keep the Executive Committee's official membership roster. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Chair, or by the members of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee. In the absence of the Chair and/or the Vice-Chair, for whatever reason, the Secretary shall perform the duties of the Chair. When so acting, the Secretary shall have all the powers of, and be subject to all the restrictions upon, the Chair.

D. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect all monies raised by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall deposit such monies in a financial institution within Davidson County, and shall keep an accurate accounting of all monies collected, deposited, and disbursed. The Treasurer shall submit a regular written report of the Executive Committee's financial condition to the officers and the entire membership. The Treasurer shall render a report at each monthly meeting which shall include itemization of all monies received or disbursed since the previous Treasurer's report along with an "YTD" report. In the rendering of any and all financial activities, the Treasurer shall employ standard accounting methods. The Treasurer, and any other person authorized to sign checks, shall be bonded with a corporate surety bond. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Chair or by the members of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair, or the Secretary for whatever reason, the Treasurer shall perform the duties of the Chair. When so acting, the Treasurer shall have all the powers of, and be subject to all the restrictions upon, the Chair.

The Executive Committee's financial records shall be audited by the Finance Committee not later than 45 days after a new Executive Committee takes office, and the findings of such audit shall be reported to the full Executive Committee.

E. Regional Vice-Chairs: A Regional Vice-Chair shall keep the members of his/her region informed of the business of the Executive Committee and shall help coordinate the activities of the Democratic Party within his/her region. Each Regional Vice-Chair shall serve on the Officer's Committee and the Precinct Organization Committee.

**ARTICLE IV  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**SECTION 1: DETERMINATION**

If the Executive Committee of the Davidson County Democratic Party determines that there is a need for an Executive Director, either full-time or part-time, and sufficient monies are available to provide a living wage, the position of Executive Director may be established.

**SECTION 2: SELECTION**

Selection of an Executive Director shall be by the following process:

- A. A Search Committee, consisting of seven (07) members, shall be formed, as follows:
  - 1. Each regional vice-chair shall appoint one member from his/her district;
  - 2. One member of the Executive Committee elected at-large by the Executive Committee;
  - 3. One member who may or may not be a current officer, appointed by the Chair.
- B. The committee shall elect one of its members to serve as chair;
- C. The Search Committee shall advertise said position in whatever fashion it determines but must include publication in at least one (01) Davidson County newspaper of general circulation;
- D. After interviewing candidates, the Search Committee, by at least a 2/3 vote (two-thirds), shall recommend a candidate to the Executive Committee.
- E. The Chair of the Executive Committee shall have the right to veto the Committee's recommendation.
- F. The candidate shall not be informed of his/her selection until the Chair has waved the right of veto.
- G. If the recommendation of the Search Committee is not unanimous, a minority report may be presented.
- H. Without debate, the Executive Committee shall vote for said candidate who must receive a majority vote from those members of the Executive Committee present and attending such a meeting to elect an Executive Director.

**SECTION 3: REQUIREMENTS**

Requirements for the position of Executive Director include but are not limited to:

- A. Member of the Democratic Party.
- B. Must be a registered voter within Davidson County or shall establish residency in Davidson County within 90 days of his/her appointment as Executive Director.
- C. If eligible, must have voted in the various Democratic primaries for the past three (03) years either in Tennessee or elsewhere.
- D. A four (04) year degree from an accredited institution of higher learning and/or equivalent political/organizational experience.

- E. A current member of the Executive Committee may apply for the position of Executive Director. If elected, he/she shall resign his/her position on the Executive Committee immediately upon acceptance of the position as Executive Director.
- F. During his/her tenure as Executive Director, he/she may not be an elected member of the Executive Committee.

**SECTION 4:**

**TERM OF OFFICE AND COMPENSATION**

- A. The initial period of employment shall be one (01) year or the remainder of the Executive Committee's term, whichever is less.
- B. Upon recommendation of the current or new Chair, and with a majority vote of the current or newly elected Executive Committee, the current Executive Director may be offered additional terms of employment without establishing a new Search Committee.
- C. Compensation shall be determined by the Executive Committee.
- D. The Executive Director reports to and is supervised by the Chair of the Executive Committee.
- E. The Executive Director serves at the pleasure of the nine (09) elected officers of the Executive Committee. Upon recommendation of the Chair, the Executive Director may be removed from his/her position by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the nine elected officers of the Executive Committee.

**SECTION 5:**

**RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. The Executive Director shall be a non-voting ex-officio member of all committees except the Search Committee. The Executive Director may attend Search Committee meeting if invited by its chair.
- B. The Executive Director shall attend all committee meetings, in particular the monthly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Davidson County Democratic Party, and the officer's meeting.
- C. Provided there is more than one (01) candidate, the Executive Director shall not, under any circumstances, endorse, support, promote, or be involved with any candidate for public office during the primary campaign and primary election. To do such may be cause for immediate dismissal according to the procedure outlined above in Section IV.4.E. above.

**SECTION 6:**

**DUTIES**

- A. The Executive Director shall carry on the day-to-day duties of an administrator, including but not limited to managing the headquarters' office(s), selecting any person(s) or service(s) as authorized by the Executive Committee and approved by the Chair, promoting the election of Democrats to public office, maintaining such records as may be assigned to him/her, and promoting fund-raising efforts and events
- B. Perform those duties generally assigned to the chief executive officer of any association/organization.

**ARTICLE V**  
**REGIONS**

**SECTION 1: REGIONAL BOUNDARIES**

Immediately following the redistricting/redrawing of the councilmanic districts of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville-Davidson County, TN., the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee shall examine and shall adjust each of the 35 councilmanic districts, as necessary, into five (05) coherent and concurrent regions.

As of June 2004, the regions from which the five (05) regional vice-chairs shall be elected are comprised of the following councilmanic districts:

- REGION I: 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10 = 7 DISTRICTS
- REGION II: 01, 02, 03, 17, 19, 20, 21 = 7 DISTRICTS
- REGION III: 16, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32 = 7 DISTRICTS
- REGION IV: 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 29, 33 = 7 DISTRICTS
- REGION V: 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 34, 35 = 7 DISTRICTS

**ARTICLE VI**  
**MEETINGS**

**SECTION 1: REGULAR MEETING DATES:**

Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held monthly unless otherwise approved by the Committee. Any notification of a meeting must include time and location.

**SECTION 2: SPECIAL MEETINGS:**

Special meetings may be called by the Chair provided seven (07) calendar day's notice is given to the committee. If more than 60 days have passed since the last previous meeting, and if the Chair has not called a meeting, any three (03) members may call a meeting by notifying all members at least seven (07) days prior to such a meeting. Any notification of a meeting must include time and location.

**SECTION 3: EMERGENCY MEETINGS:**

In case of an emergency, a meeting may be called by the Chair with the concurrence of the majority of the Officer's Committee and provided a majority of the members of the Executive Committee are present at such a meeting. No business shall be transacted during an emergency meeting except that mentioned in the notice of such a meeting.

**SECTION 4: ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS:**

The Executive Committee shall reorganize and elect new officers at meetings called for this purpose within four (04) weeks after the certification of the results of the regular biennial Democratic Primary. The Chair of the prior Executive Committee shall call a meeting of all newly-elected members of the Executive Committee within ten (10) days following the certification of the election results for the purpose of orientation and education about the Executive Committee. Notice of such meeting shall be mailed at least one (01) week prior to the meeting.

**SECTION 5: INFORMATIONAL MEETING:**

At the informational meeting, the immediate past Chair, or an elected official selected by the immediate past Chair, shall administer the oath of office to the duly-elected members. Following the oath, the Constitution and Bylaws shall be distributed; the purposes, offices and election procedures of the Executive Committee shall be explained and discussed; and the date and time of the next meeting to elect officers shall be set, after which there shall be no other business conducted and the meeting will adjourn.

**SECTION 6: MEETING TO ELECT OFFICERS:**

At the meeting following the informational meeting, the previous Chair shall preside until a new chairman is elected, after which the new chair will preside and conduct the remaining elections along with the immediate past Secretary, who shall count the votes. The immediate past Secretary may appoint counters to assist in the conduct of the election. The election shall be conducted in the manner set forth in the Constitution.

**ARTICLE VII  
STANDING COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 1: STANDING COMMITTEES:**

There shall be five (05) standing committees of the Executive Committee consisting of a Bylaws and Rules Committee, Constitution Committee, Finance Committee, Officers' Committee, Precinct Organization Committee, and the Program Committee.

**SECTION 2: DUTIES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES:**

- (a) Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules:  
This Committee shall recommend changes to the Bylaws to the Executive Committee, as well as draft any changes in the Bylaws which are duly approved by the Executive Committee. This Committee shall also consider rules and procedures of operation for the Executive Committee and make recommendations to the Executive Committee
- (b) Finance:  
This Committee shall carry out the functions assigned to it in the Bylaws to assist the Treasurer in any matters relating to finance or fundraising in which the Treasurer may need or desire assistance and to plan for and involve the total membership in appropriate fundraising activities.
- (c) Precinct Organization:  
This Committee shall coordinate and shall supervise all activities of the Executive Committee with respect to grassroots organization, recruitment and training of volunteers, "get-out-the vote" (GOTV) activities, voter registration and all other political organizational efforts on the precinct, district and regional levels.
- (d) Program:  
This Committee shall plan educational and social programs at regular and special meetings of the Executive Committee, as well as plan of programs for any other Democratic Party activities the Executive Committee may sponsor or co-sponsor.
- (e) Officers:  
This Committee shall be composed of the four (04) at-large officers and the five (05) regional vice-chairs. This Committee shall be, chaired by the Chair of the Executive Committee and shall meet regularly for the purpose of planning agendas and discussing the implementation of Executive Committee decisions and projects.

**SECTION 3:**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:**

The Chair shall appoint the chair and the members of the Executive Committee to serve on each of the standing committees, except for the Officer Committee. Unless indicated otherwise, every member will be appointed to serve on at least one (01) committee. Where possible, the Chair, in making appointments, shall honor the preferences of the members, as to which committees they wish to serve. Committee chairs and assignments shall be announced no later than the next regular meeting following the election of officers. Standing committee chairs serve at the pleasure of the Chair of the Executive Committee.

**SECTION 4:**

**SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

The Chair of the Executive Committee may establish additional committees as deemed appropriate.

**ARTICLE VIII  
QUORUM**

**SECTION 1:**

**QUORUM:**

One-third (1/3) of the total number of members of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business at any meeting.

**ARTICLE IX  
PROXY VOTE**

**SECTION 1:**

Absentee and proxy voting shall not be permitted in any format at any time for any purpose.

**ARTICLE X  
SANCTIONS, EXPLUSIONS, AND ABSENCES**

**SECTION 1:**

**SANCTIONS OR EXPULSION:**

A member of this Executive Committee shall forfeit automatically his/her membership in said Committee for the following reasons:

- (a) In the event he/she qualifies for political office as an Independent or representing any political party other than the Democratic Party and opposes a duly qualified Democratic nominee.
- (b) If he/she has four (04) unexcused absences during a term.

**SECTION 2:**

**EXCUSED ABSENCES**

An absence is excused if notice is given to the Chair and/or the Secretary prior to the start of the meeting and the reason for the absence is one of the following:

- (a) Personal illness
- (b) Family illness or death
- (c) Business
- (d) Out-of-town

**SECTION 3:**

**DISCRETIONARY SANCTIONS OR EXPULSIONS:**

A member may be expelled at the discretion of the Executive Committee if a pattern of non-attendance is established, even if such absences are excused. Sanctions may be imposed against a member, or he/she may be expelled at the discretion of the Executive Committee, for demonstrating disloyalty to the Democratic party, either in the form of a public announcement of support for a candidate of another party in a pending election, or by working for or giving financial support to any such candidate running against a duly nominated candidate of the Democratic Party. The Executive Committee shall impose discretionary sanctions, or expel a member only in accordance with the manner set forth in Article II, Section 4, of the Bylaws of this Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE XI  
MEETING PROCEDURE**

**SECTION 1:**

**CONDUCT OF BUSINESS AT MEETINGS**

The suggested regular order of business shall be as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Invocation
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Report of Committees
7. Resolutions
8. Announcements
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Elections
12. Adjournment

**ARTICLE XII  
NOMINEE VACANCIES**

**SECTION 1:**

**PROCEDURES FOR FILLING NOMINEE VACANCIES**

The following procedures shall govern the filling of a nominee vacancy:

- (a) The Executive Committee shall meet no later than ten (10) days following the creation of the vacancy for the purpose of filling such vacancy. The meeting date shall be set by the Chair, taking into account the proximity of the meeting to the date of the election.
- (b) The membership of the Executive Committee and the general public shall be notified by the Chair as soon as possible following creation of the vacancy as to the date, time and place of the meeting to select the new nominee. Depending on the proximity of the vacancy to Election Day, notification should include written notice if at all possible.
- (c) Candidates to fill the vacancy must submit their intentions in writing to the Chair no later than 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting called to fill such vacancy. Such notification must be signed by the candidate. The Chair will then contact the County Election Registrar to verify that each candidate meets the necessary requirements for the office sought.

- (d) Each candidate must be formally nominated by a member of the Executive Committee. A nominating speech may be given. Immediately following the nominating speech, the candidate may address the Executive Committee. The length of all such speeches shall be set by the Chair of the Executive Committee. The order of nomination shall be based upon the alphabetical order of the last names of the candidates.
- (e) The election shall be conducted by a division of the house with each member standing to signify his/her vote. A majority of those present and qualified to vote is required for election. If there are more than two (02) candidates seeking to fill a vacancy, then the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be dropped from each successive ballot, until finally one (01) candidate receives a majority vote. At the will of the majority of the Executive Committee, a five (05) minute recess may be granted between each ballot.

**ARTICLE XIII  
VACANCIES  
PRIMARY BOARD  
NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES**

**SECTION 1:**

**NOMINEE VACANCIES:**

Whenever a Democratic nominee for any office dies, resigns, or becomes incapable of acting as such nominee prior to the General Election, then the vacancy in such nomination thereby created shall be filled by selection of a majority vote of those present and voting at a duly called meeting of the Executive Committee for that purpose as stipulated under TCA 1-13-204 as amended and the Executive Committee Bylaws. All candidates for the nominee vacancy must be given an opportunity to present their credentials.

**SECTION 2:**

**PRIMARY BOARD:**

The five (05) members of the Davidson County Democratic Primary Board shall be elected by a majority of those present and voting in a duly called meeting for this purpose. The County Primary Board shall file a report of all findings and actions taken by the Board with the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have the power to recommend to the Primary Board, officers and clerks to participate in the Democratic local elections.

**SECTION 3:**

**NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES:**

Delegates to the National Democratic Convention shall be selected according to the mandates of the Democratic National Committee and Tennessee Democratic Party.

**ARTICLE XIV  
CONTRACTS AND EXPENDITURES**

**SECTION 1: CONTRACTS AND EXPENDITURES**

No expenditures or bills shall be made or contracts entered into which purport to obligate the Executive Committee unless such expenditures or contracts as authorized by a majority vote of those present at a duly called meeting in which a quorum is present, except that expenditures for \$500.00 or less obligating the Executive Committee may be authorized by the Chair of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall present a monthly-itemized statement of income and expenditures to Executive Committee members. All paid bills shall be retained by the Treasurer for a period of two (02) years.

**ARTICLE XV  
PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

**SECTION 1: RULES OF ORDER**

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (10<sup>th</sup> Edition), shall be the governing rules of the Executive Committee at all times except when in conflict with the articles and sections of these Bylaws.

**ARTICLE XVI  
SUSPENSION OF RULES**

**SECTION 1: RULES**

During a meeting of the Executive Committee, these Bylaws may be suspended by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at a meeting of the Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE XVII  
AMENDMENTS**

These By-laws may be altered, amended, or repealed by two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting. An amendment must be presented first at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee. Written copy of the proposed changes to all members of the Committee shall be enclosed or attached to the announcement of the next scheduled meeting at which such changes are to be approved.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Krissa Barclay,  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Cooper,  
Secretary

REVISED:  
June 06, 1985  
April 25, 2006

# **APPENDIX**

**Statutory Powers of a County Executive Committee**  
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and

**Private Acts of the Tennessee Legislature that created  
or relate to the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee**

**CHAPTER NUMBER 549 ... Page 14-15**  
Senate Bill Number 765  
1923

**CHAPTER NUMBER 245... Page 16**  
House Bill Number 549  
February 4, 1943

**CHAPTER NUMBER 612... Page 17**  
Senate Bill Number 842  
March 2, 1945

**CHAPTER NUMBER 85... Page 18**  
Senate Bill Number 1090  
May 23, 1985

**(reprinted verbatim)**

## STATUTORY POWERS OF A COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

State statutes empower the county executive committees for a statewide political party to act in a number of different situations. Among the most important statutory powers of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee are the following:

1. Nominations For Davidson County Primary Board

The Executive Committee is authorized to make nominations for the five (05) positions on the Davidson County Primary Board. The State Primary Board, which for our purposes is the Tennessee Democratic State Executive Committee shall meet once every even-numbered year at the call of the Chair to appoint the members of the various county primary boards. The five (05) individuals are appointed to two (02) year terms.

The State Primary Board is directed to appoint the members to the county primary boards from lists prepared by the county executive committees. The members must be bona fide members of the Democratic Party. In the event the list submitted by the county executive committee is not divided fairly among the elements of the party, the State Primary Board is free to appoint two (02) of the five (05) members from outside the list.

2. Nominations for Election Officials

Each county primary board and each county executive committee may nominate to the county election commission persons for appointment as election officials. At each polling place, there should be one (01) officer of elections, three (03) judges, and one (01) operator per voting machine. However, the judges may also serve as machine operators. These positions, as a general rule, are to be equally divided between the statewide political parties.

The county election commission may refuse to appoint any nominee deemed unfit for the position. There is a residency requirement for certain of these positions.

3. Filling Vacancies During Elections

If a Democratic nominee for elective office dies, or withdraws for certain reasons, the party is called upon to fill the vacancy. For statewide offices, the vacancy is filled by the state executive committee. If the state office holder is to represent more than one (01) county, the party's chairs of its county executive committees in the affected counties are to be a committee to determine the method of filling the vacancy.

The Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee will be called upon to fill a vacancy when a nominee for a seat in the General Assembly is involved. The entire committee meets to select a new nominee. The new nominee for a General Assembly seat must be selected within ten (10) days of the day of vacancy. The Executive Committee will also be called upon to fill a vacancy when the nominee is seeking election to a countywide office.

**CHAPTER NO. 549**

**Senate Bill No. 765**

(By Messrs. Anderson and Washington)

An ACT to provide a County Executive Committee for the Democratic Party in Davidson County, Tennessee and to define its duties and functions"

Whereas, by Act of the present General Assembly entitled "An Act to abolish the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee; to terminate the terms of office of the respective members thereof; to abolish the Davidson County Democratic Primary Board and to terminate the terms of office of the respective members thereof," the former Davidson County Democratic Primary Board were, for the reasons stated in the preamble thereof, abolished; and

Whereas, it is meet and necessary that there be a Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee and a Davidson County Democratic Primary Board, to the end that the Democratic party in said county be not without a governing body and the requisite means for holding primary elections within said county; Therefore,

**Section 1.** *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee,* That there shall be and is hereby created a body to be known as the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee, said body to consist of ward and district chairmen and vice-chairmen, to be elected by the Democratic voters of each civil district of Davidson County and each ward of the City of Nashville as the First Civil District of said county, each ward and district to be represented by one chairman and one vice-chairman.

**Sec. 2.** *Be it further enacted* That said Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee shall be the general governing and controlling body for the management of the party affairs of the Democratic party within said county and shall be vested with all the powers and operated with all the duties now prescribed by law for such Democratic Executive Committees.

The terms of office of the members of said Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee shall be until their successors shall be elected and qualified as is hereinafter provided.

**Sec. 3.** *Be it further enacted,* That there be and is hereby created a Board to be known as the Davidson County Democratic Primary Board, which Board shall, after the expiration of the terms of office of the first members of said Board, hereinafter appointed, be composed of five members of said Davidson County Democratic Committee, same to be chosen in the manner of such Democratic Primary Boards. Said Board shall consist of five citizens named by the three Circuit Judges and the two Chancellors of Davidson County.

**Sec. 4.** *Be it further enacted,* That there shall be held in all the Civil Districts of Davidson County and in all Wards of the City of Nashville as the First Civil District of said county, on May 10, 1923, a special election for the purpose of choosing, in each civil district of said county and in each ward of said city, a Chairman and Vice-Chairman for each of said districts and wards, said Chairman and Vice-Chairman to compose the first Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee when elected and qualified. Said election shall be held in each of said wards and Districts within lawful hours and shall be held under the exclusive control and management of the first Davidson County Democratic Primary Board, hereinabove appointed. Said election shall be held according to the applicable provisions of Chapter 118 of Public Acts of the General Assembly of Tennessee, of 1917, unless herein otherwise provided. It shall be the mandatory duty of the said first Davidson County Democratic Primary Board and each and every member thereof to hold said election and no other election, than the election herein specifically provided for, shall be of any validity or efficacy for the purpose of choosing the members of the first Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee.

All persons desiring to qualify as candidates for ward or district Chairman or Vice-Chairman in said election shall, not less than fifteen days before the date of same, present in writing to the Davidson County Democratic Primary Board a petition signed by such prospective candidate, declaring that he or she is a qualified voter of the ward or district in which such prospective candidate desires to run for either of said offices, specifying which of said offices he or she seeks and declaring that he or she is a bona fide member of the Democratic party in said county, and asking that his or her name be printed or otherwise placed on the official ballot, to be used in said election. Said petition shall be accompanied, in the case of those persons desiring to qualify as candidates for Chairman of their ward or district, by a qualification fee of \$25.00, and in the case of those persons desiring to qualify as candidates for Vice-Chairman of their wards or districts, by a qualification fee of \$10.00, and no person not possessing the requisites herein specified or not presenting said petition within the time prescribed, accompanied by the fee herein fixed, shall be eligible to election to either of the offices of Chairman or Vice-Chairman for any of the wards or districts of said county. The funds derived from the payment of the qualification fees herein prescribed shall be used by the said Davidson County Primary Board in defraying the expense of said special election, and succeeding qualification fees in subsequent elections shall be fixed by the then existing Davidson County Democratic Primary Board.

Any person declaring, if asked, to the officers holding said election that he or she is a bona fide member of the Democratic party and resident in the ward or district in which he or she seeks to vote in said election, and that he or she was qualified to vote in the general election of November, 1922, and that he or she has not moved his or her residence since said election, shall be eligible to vote in said special election.

The said first Davidson County Democratic Primary Board shall be empowered to make all necessary rules and regulations and provisions for the holding of the special election herein directed to be held, not in conflict with existing law or this Act, and shall choose all officers for the holding of same and decide all contests arising under same, at the time and place hereinafter provided. Said Board shall meet on the first Monday following May 10, 1923, at noon, in the courthouse in Nashville, to canvass the returns of said election. The persons receiving the highest number of votes for Chairman in each of the respective wards and districts of said county, shall be declared elected to that office by said Board, and shall receive from them a certificate to that effect signed by the Chairman and other members thereof, and the persons receiving the highest number of votes in each of the respective wards and districts of said county for Vice-Chairman shall be declared elected to that office and shall receive from said Board a certificate to that effect signed by the Chairman and members of said Board; provided that if in any ward or district only one candidate shall qualify for either Chairman or Vice-Chairman no election shall be held in such ward or district, but said Primary Board is hereby authorized to declare such candidate elected and issue a duplicate as if an election had been held.

Said Board shall then and there hear all contests arising under said election and decide same before adjourning the meeting to be held at said time and place, and said Board shall be the sole and exclusive judges of any and all contests arising under said election. Upon the completion of the duties imposed upon them in this Act regarding the aforesaid first election held hereunder, the individuals herein named as the first members of said Davidson County Democratic Primary Board shall retire from their said offices and give place to the members thereof who shall be regularly appointed to said Board as heretofore provided, by law; but shall hold until their said successors shall be duly elected and qualified.

Sec. 5. *Be it further enacted,* That the first Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee chosen hereunder and all future and successive such Committees shall cause to be held at the same time and place as the regular biennial general Democratic primary, beginning in August, 1924, elections for their successors in office, and a failure upon the part of any Democratic Executive Committee of said county so to do shall ipso facto vacate the offices of the respective members thereof, and the Davidson County Democratic Primary Board shall proceed to call and hold such election, notwithstanding.

Sec. 6. *Be it further enacted,* That all Acts and parts of Acts in conflict with this Act be and the same are hereby repealed, and this Act, together with Chapter 118, Public Acts of 1917, shall be liberally construed to the end that the purposes set out in the preamble of this Act and in its enacting portions shall, with certainty, be carried into effect.

**CHAPTER NO. 249**

**House Bill No. 549**

**(by Davidson Delegation)  
February 4, 1943**

**An ACT to amend AN ACT entitled: "AN ACT to provide a County Executive Committee for the Democratic Party in Davidson County, Tennessee, and to define its duties and functions" Chapter 549 of the Private Acts of 1923.**

**Section 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That Chapter 549 of the Private Acts of 1923, entitled, "AN ACT to provide a County Executive Committee for the Democratic Party in Davidson County, Tennessee, and to define its duties and functions, be and the same is hereby amended in Section 2 thereof by adding at the end of said Section 2 the following:***

***"The membership of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee elected after the passage of this Act shall be entitled to the following votes in the meeting of said Committee, to-wit:***

***"The Ward Chairman or Vice-Chairman representing the seven City Wards of the City of Nashville shall be entitled to cast on behalf of their respective wards in the City of Nashville four votes each. The District Chairman or Vice Chairman for each of the Districts of the County outside of the City of Nashville shall be entitled to cast on behalf of said Districts one vote in all of the proceedings in the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee."***

**Sec. 2. *Be it further enacted That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be and the same are hereby repealed.***

**Sec. 3. *Be it further enacted, That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.***

**Passed: February 2, 1943**

**Jas. J. Broome,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.***

**Blair R. Maxwell,  
*Speaker of the Senate.***

**Approved: February 4, 1943**

**Prentice Cooper  
*Governor.***

**CHAPTER NO. 632**

**SENATE BILL NUMBER 842**

(by Davidson Delegation)  
March 2, 1945

An ACT to amend AN ACT entitled: "AN ACT to provide a County Executive Committee for the Democratic Party in Davidson County, Tennessee, and to define its duties and functions" being Chapter 549 of the Private Acts of 1923, and Acts amendatory thereto.

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That Section 1, Chapter 549 of the Private Acts of 1923, the caption of which is set forth in the caption hereof, be amended by striking out the following words as therein set out "each ward and district to be represented by one Chairman and Vice-Chairman," and substituting in lieu thereof the following: "each district to be represented by one Chairman and Vice-Chairman and each ward to be represented by four (4) Chairmen and four (4) Vice-Chairmen."*

Sec. 2. *Be it further enacted, That the Davidson County Executive Committee is hereby authorized to fill the places of the additional Ward Chairman and Vice-Chairman created by this Act, who shall serve as regular members of said Committee until the next election held for members of the Executive Committee. Each of said Ward Chairmen shall have one vote.*

Sec. 3. *Be it further enacted, That all laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith be, and the same are hereby repealed.*

Sec. 4. *Be it further enacted, That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.*

Passed: March 1, 1945:

Larry Morgan  
*Speaker of the Senate.*

George Woods  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

Approved: March 2, 1945

Jim McCord  
*Governor.*

**CHAPTER NO. 85**

**Senate Bill No. 1090**

**By Henry, Haynes, Williams**

**Substituted for: House Bill No. 1112**

**By Covington**

**AN ACT Relative to the election of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee and to amend Private Chapter 549 of the Acts of 1923, and all other acts amendatory thereto.**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:**

**SECTION 1.** Private Chapter 549 of the Acts of 1923 is amended in Section 5 by deleting the language "regular biennial general Democratic primary, beginning in August, 1924" and by substituting instead the following:

**May county primary, beginning in May, 1986**

**SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

**PASSED: May 16, 1985**

**John Wilder**

**SPEAKER OF THE SENATE**

**Ned R. McWherter**

**SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATTIVES**

**APPROVED this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May 1985**

**Lamar Alexander**

**GOVERNOR**