

Platform Voting Procedure

The Provisional Bargaining Platform was adopted at the Winter 2010 General Membership Meeting. That document will be our starting point for discussion.

We will proceed in three stages: (1) Modification; (2) Addition; and (3) Approval.

	Modification	Addition	Approval
What Happens:	Existing platform planks may be modified or removed.	New planks may be added to the platform.	The platform as a whole is approved.
How does it happen:	The floor will be opened. If a motion is heard to modify a plank, then we will discuss modification of that plank. At the end of discussion, we will vote on the proposed modification(s). If a majority support a modification, then the plank will be modified. Once discussion and voting is completed, the floor will be re-opened to motions to modify other planks.	The floor will be opened for proposed planks. If a proposed plank is brought forward, it will be discussed and amended as necessary. Once discussion is complete, we will vote on whether to add the new plank to the platform. If a majority supports the proposed plank, it will be added to the platform.	The membership votes on the platform as a whole. If two-thirds express their support, then the platform is adopted.

Conduct of Discussion

As we discuss the content of our Bargaining Platform, each of us should show respect to the others in the room. This means, first of all, that each of us should endeavor to express our opinions in a courteous manner. It also means that we should be respectful of each other's time. To that end, please follow these guidelines in order to keep the discussion moving along:

1. Be as brief as possible.
2. Do not repeat points that have already been made.
3. Do not comment merely to express approval or disapproval.

Points to Remember

- Under this procedure, removal of a plank is interpreted as a form of modification. Therefore, motions for removal should occur during the Modification Stage.
- A motion to modify need not include a specific proposed modification.
- Once a plank is up for discussion during the Modification Stage, any concern with the plank may be brought forward -- the discussion is not limited by the content of the motion.
- During the Addition Stage, a motion to add a plank **must** include a specific plank to be added. (Platform Plank Proposal Forms will be available)
- Once bargaining has begun, we can't add new substantive demands to the bargaining platform (this would be considered to be regressive bargaining and is illegal).