



**OKLP Judicial Committee Opinion**  
**Re: Article XV, Section 5 of the OKLP Bylaws**  
*(Issued 16 May 2024)*

Pursuant to a request from the State Chair of the OKLP on behalf of the duly elected members of the 2024 OKLP delegation to the Libertarian National Convention, the Judicial Committee of the OKLP offers this advisory opinion to the following question:

The delegation wishes to know if the OKLP by-laws were followed properly in the selection and acceptance of our out-of-state alternate delegates.

**It is the unanimous opinion of the OKLP Judicial Committee that the 2024 OKLP delegation acted properly under a plain reading of the OKLP Bylaws. To wit:**

Article XV, Section 5 reads: "*Out-of-state delegates may be seated as Delegates representing Oklahoma during the National Convention for unfilled seats with a majority vote of duly elected National Delegates, and may be removed at any time by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the duly elected Delegates.*"

The plain (and customary) reading of this would indicate the duly elected members of the Oklahoma delegation to the national convention have the authority to select and seat out of state delegates at any time to ensure Oklahoma can fill all of its seats for the national convention. (see also Article IV, para. B, *The spirit and not the letter of each Bylaw shall be controlling subject to ratification of a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the entire State Executive Committee.*) As the national bylaws require the final list of delegates and alternates be provided to the national credentials committee prior to their final pre-convention meeting (National bylaws Article 10, section 4 (c)) it would be functionally impossible for the Oklahoma delegation to adhere to the national bylaws under any other reading of OKLP Article XV section 5. Furthermore, interpreting this bylaw in any other way returns a nonsensical result: it would render out of state alternate selections effectively moot, as the national bylaws require a 7/8ths approval to add delegates or alternates after business begins (National bylaws Art 10, section 4 (e)).

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Norton, Chair

Chad Williams, recording Secretary

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