



Republican National Committee

Michael S. Steele
Chairman

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Republican National Committee

**FROM: Chairman Michael Steele
General Counsel Reince Priebus**

DATE: July 1, 2010

**RE: Temporary Delegate Selection Committee's Current Draft Rule No. 15(b)
Amendment Language and Brief Summary of Recommendation**

The following Rule No. 15(b) language is the current amended language as adopted by the Temporary Delegate Selection Committee at the Committee's meeting on Monday, June 28, 2010. The language in red identifies the changes from the original Rule No. 15(b) language as adopted by the 2008 Republican National Convention and currently found in *The Rules of the Republican Party*. The amended language is followed by a brief summary of the recommended amendments. The Counsel's Office is drafting a background report describing the process this Committee followed to reach its recommendation, which will be distributed to the full Republican National Committee. Please use this brief memorandum for your reference until the background report is final.

Current Draft Rule No. 15(b) Amendment Language

Rule No. 15: Election, Selection, Allocation, or Binding of Delegates and Alternate Delegates

(b) Timing.

(1) No primary, caucus, or convention to elect, select, allocate, or bind delegates to the national convention shall occur prior to the first Tuesday in March [~~February~~] in the year in which a national convention is held. Except Iowa, New Hampshire, [~~and~~] South Carolina, and Nevada may begin their processes at any time on or after February 1 [~~the third Tuesday in January~~] in the year in which a national convention is held and shall not be subject to the provisions of paragraph (b)(2) of this rule.

(2) Any presidential primary, caucus, convention, or other meeting held for the purpose of selecting delegates to the national convention which occurs prior to the first day

of April in the year in which the national convention is held, shall provide for the allocation of the delegates selected on a proportional basis.

- (3) If the Democratic National Committee fails to adopt a presidential primary schedule with the dates set forth in Rule 15(b)(1) of these Rules (February 1 and first Tuesday in March) by December 31, 2010, then the dates in Rule 15(b) shall revert to the dates set forth in the Rules as adopted by the 2008 Republican National Convention.

Summary of Rule No. 15(b) As Amended

Subsection (1) of the amended language moves the beginning dates of the 2012 Presidential nominating process back to no earlier than February 1 for the carve-out states of New Hampshire and South Carolina; and it clarifies that Iowa and Nevada are also included in the carve-out states. Similarly, Subsection (1) moves the allowable date for all other states back to no earlier than the first Tuesday in March. Furthermore, it exempts the carve-out states from the requirements of the new Subsection (2). The new Subsection (2) requires that any state holding its presidential nominating process in March include some form of proportional delegate allocation, as determined by the state. The new Subsection (3) provides that if the Democratic National Committee fails to adopt the same start dates as established in revised Subsection (1), the start dates revert to the original dates currently found in *The Rules of the Republican Party*.

Please contact any Member of the Temporary Delegate Selection Committee with any questions or comments related to this proposal.