

CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN PARTY

Proposed Bylaw Amendment – “Proxy Votes are Not for Sale”
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Section 2.02.03(B) (Proxies) of Article II shall be amended by adding a new subsection (4), without changing any other provisions of that Section:

(4) Delegates and associate delegates shall not buy or sell proxies, nor shall they solicit or conspire with others to engage in these prohibited activities. Proxies that were obtained or submitted as a result of these prohibited activities may be invalidated by the Board of Directors, the Rules Committee, the Proxies and Credentials Committee, and the Executive Committee, but any action or inaction by these committees may be appealed to the full Committee and resolved by the adoption or amendment of the Proxies and Credentials Committee report. Delegates and associate delegates who have engaged in these prohibited activities may be removed or censured in the same manner as set forth in Section 2.01.06 (Discipline of Delegates).

Explanation: Our Bylaws do not prohibit the purchase or sale of proxies. These practices are detrimental to the representative nature of our State Central Committee and they create at least the appearance of corruption. Proxies that have been purchased by interested parties dilute the votes of the honest Delegates who show up to vote at our Conventions. Even the hypothetical possibility of buying and selling proxies creates a bizarre financial incentive to appoint Delegates who will never show up, thus allowing their proxies to be bought and sold.

Enforcement of this prohibition may not be practical in some situations, especially when proxies are sold in secret, far away from Conventions and Party functions. However, most Delegates and Associates are honorable people and public figures who consistently obey our rules without the need for disciplinary actions. For that reason, the adoption of this rule alone, even if it is not vigorously enforced, will have a substantial impact on this corrupt practice.