

2026 Republican Convention

Platform Committee Procedural Rules

- A. The Platform Committee shall consist of nine members of the South Dakota Republican Party.
- B. The Platform Committee shall formally convene on Thursday, June 25, 2026, at the convention location. The Chair may call meetings of the Committee prior to that time if the Chair deems it necessary to prepare for the Convention and review platform changes, but will not hear testimony on the proposed platform changes until the Convention meetings.
- C. The Platform Committee shall be led by a chair selected by the State Party Chair or by co-chairs selected by the State Party Chair. If the State Party Chair elects not to appoint co-chairs, then the State Party Chair or Committee Chair shall appoint a vice chair who shall serve in the chair's position when the Chair of the Committee is unavailable.
- D. The Platform Committee shall be tasked with reviewing platform changes submitted for consideration by the convention as a whole. Platform changes may be submitted by any member of the South Dakota Republican Party, but must be supported by at least one delegate eligible to vote at the convention. A delegate supporting the platform change must introduce the platform change to the Committee.
- E. For a proposed platform change to be considered timely by the Platform Committee, the platform change shall be submitted in writing to the Chair of the Committee or via the SDGOP website no later than 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time on Friday, June 12, 2026.
 - 1. If not submitted via the SDGOP website, the proposed platform change must be accompanied by an electronic version of the platform change in Word format.
 - 2. The submittal of the platform change—whether on the platform change itself, in a cover letter, or in an email—must identify the platform change supporters submitting the platform change for consideration and a primary sponsor/contact.
 - 3. Supporting documentation or resources may be provided in PDF format or by link in the document.
 - 4. The State Party and/or the Chair(s) of the Platform Committee shall then provide the platform changes to the Committee members no later than 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time on Wednesday, June 24, 2026.
- F. Late-filed platform changes:
 - 1. Late-filed platform changes will not be considered except when a request is made to the Platform Committee once it is seated on Thursday, June 25, 2026, and all the following conditions have been met.

- a. Late submittals must be submitted no later than:
 - i. Wednesday, June 24, 2026, if the request for a late submittal is made electronically by 12:00 p.m. (noon) using the same format as a timely-presented platform change, or
 - ii. prior to 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2026, once the Platform Committee has commenced meeting, if the request for a late submittal is made in writing along with a written explanation of the reasons why the platform change is late.
 - b. The request to hear the late platform change must be supported by a minimum of five (5) delegates eligible to vote at the convention, where the supporting delegates are from at least three (3) different counties, and
 - c. The proponent of any late-filed platform change shall submit thirty (30) paper copies of the platform change for review by the Committee and the public, and a Word version of the late-filed platform change shall be emailed to platform@sdgop.com.
 2. A late-filed platform changes is not debatable prior to receiving a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Committee. However, the Committee Chair(s) may, after all timely-submitted platform changes have been heard and considered, allow the proponent of the late-filed platform changes up to two (2) minutes to state why the platform change should be heard even though filed late.
 3. Upon receiving a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Committee, the Committee Chair(s) shall permit the presentation of the late-filed platform change and reasonable testimony in support of and in opposition to the platform change.
 4. Failing to receive a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Committee to hear the platform change, the platform change shall be deemed rejected as not timely presented.
- G. Platform changes shall be heard in the following order:
1. Timely-submitted platform changes;
 2. Any late-filed platform changes submitted no later than 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, 2026, that the Committee agrees to hear pursuant to Paragraph F; and
 3. Any late-filed platform changes submitted no later than 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2026, that the Committee agrees to hear pursuant to Paragraph F.

- H. Within each category in Paragraph G, platform changes shall be heard in the order submitted, except that the Chair, in his or her sole discretion, may group platform changes touching on similar subjects so they may be heard together or consecutively.
- I. Based on the number of platform changes that have been timely-submitted for consideration, the Chair may set appropriate time limits for the presentation of each platform change. This may include limiting the time and number of presenters, witnesses in support, or witnesses in opposition. In setting time limits, the Chair shall also consider the Committee's need to debate, discuss, and edit platform changes. If the Chair does not set a time limit and/or the number of individuals allowed to speak, the platform change's primary sponsor will be allotted five (5) minutes to present the platform change, and no more than three (3) supporters and three (3) opponents will each be allotted two (2) minutes to provide their opinion on the platform change. The Chair may extend the time for debate on his or her own motion or upon a motion made by a Committee Member, seconded by another Committee Member, and passed by a simple majority of Committee Members.
- J. A platform change as proposed may be amended or edited by the Committee through a motion passed by a majority of the Committee. A platform change shall be labeled "Recommend" or "Not Recommend" upon a call to a vote or a motion to do so made by a Committee Member and seconded by another Committee Member. Any final platform change recommendation must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Committee. A majority and a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Committee shall be based on the total number of members, even if not all Committee Members are present for the vote.
- K. Platform changes passing out of the Committee shall be compiled into a report to be made to the convention as a whole. The Chair(s)—or, if there are no co-chairs, the Chair and vice chair—shall present the platform changes to the convention as a whole pursuant to the convention rules.
- L. Robert's Rules of Order (12th Edition) shall govern the deliberations of this Committee, except as may be modified by South Dakota Codified Law, the Bylaws of the South Dakota Republican Party, these Committee rules, or the Convention rules. Specific provisions of South Dakota Codified Law, the Bylaws of the South Dakota Republican Party, these Committee rules, and the Convention rules may not be set aside regardless of Robert's Rules of Order.