

## PARTY UNITY, LOYALTY AND MUTUAL SUPPORT

**WHEREAS**, elected District Chairs and other members of the State Committee oversee the Party's activities, define its goals and objectives, recruit and assist candidates, coordinate fund-raising programs, review and approve the budget, and take all other steps as are appropriate to promote the success of the Party and its candidates in the 2016 elections;

**WHEREAS**, disagreements on Party leadership, expenditures, and methods will necessarily always arise;

**WHEREAS**, the Party encourages members to voice their opinions in a manner to promote full discussion and open debate and thereby present disagreements so that the appropriate Party body may consider the issues, afford full examination of all view-points, and decide the matter by majority vote;

**WHEREAS**, the Party's success in attracting and aiding candidates, raising funds, and winning elections depends upon (a) the Party members' enthusiasm and confidence in the Party and (b) the public's perception of Party members as reasonable and responsible citizens;

**WHEREAS**, it is a violation of the duty of loyalty and mutual support that all Party members owe each other if a member communicates to other members or the public in a manner calculated to:

- discourage participation in Party fundraisers and programs, or
- belittles or denigrates Party candidates or supporters through personal attacks, or
- makes false or misleading statements to discredit the political positions of the Party or individual Party candidates; and

**WHEREAS**, Party members have complained to the Party about past violations of the duty of loyalty and mutual support as exhibited in communications they have received from persons purporting to be "Republicans" in which such persons:

- Sought to discourage participation in Party programs and events;
- Insulted and denigrated an elected official from another State when that elected official was participating in a Party function;
- Made plainly false and misleading statements, such as alleging the Party was in debt and its fundraising activity was programed to "break even;" and
- Specifically urged members not to contribute money to support the Party.

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that State Committee members fully accept and adopt the duty of loyalty and mutual support and therefore pledge and commit to each other:

1. To use their best efforts and perform their duties in a manner that will promote the Party's goals and objectives; and
2. Engage in the open debate and discussion of issues in a respectful manner that centers on resolution of issues and never devolves into personal attacks or misleading assertions against others who may hold a differing view;
3. Take special care to ensure public communications promote the Party's image and interests by ensuring all statements and assertions are accurate and not misleading ;
4. Make no statements or assertions calculated to harm the Party or its efforts to promote candidates and fundraising; and
5. Actively challenge and contest false, misleading, and insulting communications made by anyone purporting to be a "Republican" but who makes the communication to discourage support of the Party, its leadership, its platform, or its candidates.

**AND IT IS HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED** that all Party officers, including County, District, and Precinct Chairs, delegates, and standing committee members, also owe a duty of loyalty and mutual support and therefore shall comply with that duty as described in this resolution; and

**AND IT IS HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED** that, pursuant to Rule Section 316 of Hawaii Republican Party State Rules, the Executive Committee may sanction any member found, by a two-thirds majority vote, to have violated the duty of loyalty and mutual support. Such sanction may include any measure the Executive Committee determines appropriate, by two-thirds majority vote, from private reprimand to not more than removal of the individual from his or her office as a Party officer; County, District, or Precinct Chair; delegate; or standing committee member.