



UTAH REPUBLICAN PARTY  
May 10, 2006

Dear Delegate:

As you are probably aware, you will be asked to vote at the Convention this Saturday to ratify certain proposed changes recommended by the State Party's Constitution and Bylaws Committee together with the State Central Committee, which has representatives from all 29 counties in the state. One of the recommendations, which has been generating quite a bit of discussion, adds the following language to Article VII, Section I of the State Party Constitution: *This Section does not create a requirement that a county party allocate all delegate positions to the precinct caucuses, nor does it prohibit such an allocation.*

As County Party Chairs, we want to communicate our support of this proposed clarification regarding so-called automatic delegates, and clarify the misinformation that has been distributed in the past days and weeks. We support this clarifying language as it will eliminate controversy and preserve the grass roots autonomy that allows each county party to govern itself.

Despite some of the rhetoric you may have read, the proposed clarification will not transfer any power from the primary political jurisdiction, your precinct, and consolidate it within Party leadership structure. Such a "sky-is falling" mindset is misleading because the proposed amendment will not change anything except to further clarify that each county party determines how it selects its delegates. This procedure has been in existence since the adoption of the UTGOP Constitution in 1991, and prior to that through the Utah State Code.

The current version of the Republican State Constitution does not require that all county and state delegates be elected in a precinct meeting. That language simply does not exist. Instead, certain party activists believe that such language should be inserted into the Party's governing documents. Likewise, there is no language that currently provides that all delegates must be distributed down to county precincts. In practice however, our 29 county parties allocate over 90 percent of their delegate positions to the precinct caucuses.

The existing language in Article XII, Section 1(a) of the State Party Constitution authorizes the county parties to designate the number of delegates in each individual caucus meeting and in assigning them to individual caucuses, requires them to use the predetermined Republican strength formula. Language in Article XII, Sections 1(c) and 1(d) further provides that there are other allowable methods for being elected as delegate (such as an election at a convention or through the Central Committee).

A number of years ago similar controversy was raised by certain party activists who also attacked existing party practice by repeatedly arguing that the party was not following its own rules. The State Central Committee carefully considered the positions on both sides of this dispute and voted by a 2/3 majority to correctly interpret that the Party's Constitution allowed for the county parties to determine for themselves this issue regarding delegates. Subsequently, language in the State Party Constitution was modified to further clarify this issue as well as insert

checks to ensure that County Party leadership could not arbitrarily assign persons to delegate status without authorization from the grass roots organizations of their respective counties. Here is an excerpt from a flyer distributed by both sides of the issue regarding the updated language, "Our individual County Parties will continue to choose how to select their own officers and delegates, but with new safeguards for grassroots members."

For those of us who are aware of or familiar with this issue, the ongoing attempts by a determined few are obvious and clear. Plain and simply, the Utah Republican Party Constitution does not say what they would have you believe, and the proposed language will only further clarify this issue.

From our perspective, the proposed clarification, which has already been approved by the C&B Committee and the State Central Committee, does not involve any power-grabbing attempt by party leaders. The state and county parties are lead by good men and women who are willing to dedicate their time and talents to furthering Republican principles in our government. This unwarranted criticism is not worthy of our regard as thinking and rational people. Additionally, each county is unique in its size, characteristics and make-up, and there is not a one-size-fits-all solution. The county party Central Committees, county delegates, or both, are the appropriate forum to determine which method best protects/promotes the grass roots process in that county, whether that county is best served by allowing some automatic delegates or not. Each county has a different number of precincts, a different number of delegates and a different ratio of delegates to precincts. Each county also has a different organizational structure, with different needs. It is only appropriate for the governing body of each county to determine the best method for distributing its allotted number of delegates.

In conclusion, we hope that you will steer clear of these types of manipulative arguments that are designed to invoke an emotional rather than a rational response. There is no far reaching conspiracy or corruption afoot. You can review the proposed language as well as the current versions of the Party's governing documents by visiting the state party's website at [www.utgop.org/index.htm](http://www.utgop.org/index.htm) and clicking on the "2006 Convention" link.

Thank you for your time and dedication to the Republican Party in Utah. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday.

Sincerely,

James Evans, Salt Lake County Party Chair  
Todd Weiler, Davis County Party Chair  
Marian Monnahan, Utah County Party Chair  
Mathew Bell, Weber County Party Chair  
Dean Cox, Washington County Party Chair  
Clark Hall, Uintah County Party Chair  
Cleve Horrocks, Box Elder County Party Chair  
Kyle Snow, Duchesne County Party Chair  
Diane Walker, Summit County Party Chair  
Monte Dalton, San Juan County Party Chair



**Utah Republican Party**  
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20 MAY 2006 PM



**Important Message  
From County Party Chairs**

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