

Presidential Primaries and Conventions

12-1.

(a) *The total number of delegates and alternate delegates to represent the respective political parties at their respective national conventions shall be ascertained and determined by the governing body of each party and certified to the Secretary of State not later than the first day of March in each year in which national conventions for the nomination of President and Vice President are held. The selection of delegates shall be as follows:*

(1) *Election of delegates. Of the number of delegates allotted to Maryland there shall be elected from each congressional district an equal number of district delegates from the list of candidates certified to the boards by the Secretary of State. In ascertaining the number of delegates to be elected from each congressional district, the Secretary of State shall determine the highest whole number that can be multiplied by the current number of congressional districts in Maryland to obtain a product closest to ~~60%~~ 75% of the delegates allotted to Maryland by the respective national party committee. EACH DELEGATE MAY HAVE PLACED ADJACENT TO HIS NAME ON THE BALLOT THE NAME OF A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, PROVIDED THAT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE AT LEAST 53 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE PRIMARY ELECTION.*

(2) *Election of delegates by Party Convention. After the calculation of the number of elected district delegates, the State convention of any national major political party shall elect the delegates at large and their alternates in accordance with the lawful rules and practices of the political party.*

(3) *Selection of alternates for elected delegates. The elected delegation to the national party convention shall select their alternates.*

(4) *Filling of Vacancies. The entire delegation to a national party convention shall fill vacancies occurring in the office of delegate or alternate delegate.*

(b) *All the ELECTED delegates to a national convention shall be bound to vote for the candidate of their party for the office of President of the United States who receives the highest number of votes WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT at the primary election, AND THE DELEGATES ELECTED BY A STATE ~~CENTRAL COMMITTEE~~ PARTY CONVENTION AS HEREIN PROVIDED SHALL BE BOUND TO VOTE FOR THE CANDIDATE WHO RECEIVES THE HIGHEST TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES AT THE PRIMARY ELECTION IN THE STATE until the candidate for President of the United States is nominated by the convention, receives less than 35 percent of the votes for nomination by the convention, or releases the delegation, or until two convention nominating ballots have been taken.*

12-2.

(a) *Any person who is a candidate for the nomination of a party, subject to the provisions of this subtitle for the office of President of the United States, and who desires to obtain the vote*