

# Appendix

to the

## Constitution of the Democratic Labour Party

as at 21 October 2023

The Special Federal Conference of the Democratic Labour Party held in Canberra on 18 March 2017 determined that the Constitution and Rules of the DLP are to be supplemented by an appendix comprising the official interpretation and clarification of any word, phrase or clause in the Constitution and Rules. As per the requirements of Clause 45 of the Constitution, any such Federal Executive interpretations shall be presented to the next Federal Conference for ratification or amendment. Thereafter, those ratified or amended interpretations are unchangeable except through a Constitutional change as per Clause 148.

*#1 Regarding Clause 22: The Federal Executive has ruled that each State and Territory Branch of the Democratic Labour Party may choose on what physical basis to establish Local Branches provided the local branch boundaries do not exceed their State or Territory Boundaries. (Ratified 2017 Federal Conference)*

*#2 Regarding Clause 48 and the initial establishment of State or Territory branches: The Federal Executive, under the provisions of Clause 45, has ruled that State or Territory Branches may be formed initially by a meeting of the members in that state or territory organised by the Federal Executive, or solely by the Federal Executive itself, provided a date is set for that State or Territories first State Conference not exceeding 6 months from the date the branch is formed; and further that the Federal Executive, or the meeting of members establishing the branch, may choose and install the initial State Executive Office Bearers, being a minimum of a Secretary and a President, whose terms will expire when their positions are vacated at the first State Conference (Ratified 2021 Federal Conference)*

*#3 Regarding Clauses 28 & 35 on the calling and organising of a State or Federal Conference: On 23/7/2020 the Federal Executive has passed the following motion allowing Conferences to be held either in person or by electronic means. "That this Federal Executive determines that where Clauses 27 and 34 of the Constitution state that a "Conference may be convened by way of correspondence or by postal vote" this can and will be interpreted as allowing a Conference to be convened in a manner other than in person and that convening a Conference by electronic means is permissible and decisions reached at such a conference are valid. Further this Federal Executive determines that any elections at a Conference held other than in person and requiring a secret ballot (i.e. elections of Executive office bearers and / or Federal delegates as per Clauses 32 and 39 of the Constitution) will be conducted by electronic secret ballot in a form to be determined by the Federal Executive. Further this federal executive determines that in the event of a secret ballot being conducted by electronic means the names of all delegates and secretaries attending, or their proxies, must be submitted to the appropriate Secretary in a form approved by the appropriate executive no later than 12 noon 1 week (7 days) prior to the appointed day of the conference. Further that all nominations for Executive Office Bearer positions and Delegates to Federal Conference must be lodged, by the nominees, with the appropriate Secretary no later than 12 noon 5 days prior to the appointed day of the conference. Further that electronic voting for executive office bearers and federal delegates must be opened and accessible to those entitled to vote at 12 noon 2 days prior to the appointed day of the conference and must close no later than 12 noon on the day of the conference and results of these elections must be reported before the conference adjourns". (Ratified 2021 Federal Conference)*

*#4 Regarding appendix item #3: On 30/03/2021 the Federal Executive passed the following motion allowing a conference to be held using a mix of in person and electronic means: "That this Federal Executive determines that where the motion passed on 23 July 2020 allowing electronic conferences states "and that convening a Conference by electronic means is permissible" that this line be amended to read "and that convening a Conference by electronic means **or, where deemed necessary, by a mix of in person and electronic means** is permissible". (Ratified 2021 Federal Conference)*

*#5 Regarding Clause 55 on Delegates: The Federal Conference on 10 April 2021 ruled that" In the event of an elected delegate to the Federal Conference being unable to attend they may only give their proxy vote to another elected delegate, or secretary, of their state." (Moved, passed and ratified by the Federal Conference 10 April 2021)*

**#6** Regarding Clause 51 on State Executive acceptance of memberships: The Federal Conference approved the validity of the Victorian motion on 3 month probationary memberships passed on 26 March 2021 that states: "This state executive determines that all applicants for membership of the Victorian Branch, whether supporting or financial, are accepted on a probationary basis upon application with the understanding that their membership may be rejected or reconsidered within a 3 month period from the day of their application. This is inclusive of all applicants for membership whose applications have been received at, or prior to, midnight of Friday the 26th of March 2021". (Ratified 2021 Federal Conference)

**#7** Regarding Clause 55 on Delegates (Note: This is an extension of appendix item #5 above): The Federal Executive, on 6 May 2021, passed the following motion as per a request by the Victorian State Executive. "That Clause 52,(now 55) in relation to proxies for State Conferences, be interpreted to mean that delegates to State Conferences who are unable to attend can only give their proxy to another delegate of the same branch." **To be ratified at next Federal Conference**

**#8** Regarding the expulsion of members from the Democratic Labour Party according to the Constitution and Rules, the Federal Executive, on 14 July 2021, passed the following motion. "That members who have been expelled from the Democratic Labour Party may not be re-admitted to membership" **To be ratified at next Federal Conference.**