

Bylaws of AFT Connecticut

ARTICLE I – PROCEDURES AND SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER FOR CONVENTIONS

Section 1 The Convention shall be chaired by the President or her/his designated officer. The Convention shall be called to order and conducted according to the printed program as prepared by the Convention Committee subject to such modification as the Convention may make.

Section 2 Only credentialed delegates and invited guests who are participating in the program of the Convention shall be admitted to the Convention floor. All visitors shall secure a pass from the Credentials Committee and shall be seated only in a special section reserved for them.

Section 3 Resolutions to the Convention may be introduced by locals or the Executive Council or by the Executive Committee. No resolution shall be introduced after the 21st day prior to the start of the Convention, except by the consent of 2/3 of the delegates on the floor. All resolutions shall bear the signatures of at least two elected officers of the local introducing the resolution, or two AFT Connecticut officers, if introduced by the Executive Council or the Executive Committee. The officers signing the resolution shall certify that the resolution was approved for submission to the Convention either by the Executive Board or membership of the local or by the AFT Connecticut Executive Council/Committee. The resolution shall be submitted to the President of the AFT Connecticut, AFT, AFL-CIO.

Section 4 The President or presiding officer of the Convention shall appoint a Sergeant-at-Arms whose duty shall be to preserve order at the Convention.

Section 5 Delegates shall be seated upon acceptance by the Convention of the report of the Credentials Committee and the list of delegates shall be made available to the members of the Convention. The right of any delegate to be seated as a member of the Convention shall be subject to challenge within a ONE (1) hour period after he has been declared seated by the Convention. Delegates may vote, unless or until successfully challenged, but in the event of a roll call vote a successful challenge invalidates the individual's vote. No delegate shall be seated after 12:00 noon on the last day of the Convention.

Section 6 The order of business for business sessions of the Convention shall be as follows:

- a. Report of Committee on Credentials
- b. Action on Minutes of Previous Convention as Summarized
- c. Reports of Officers and Executive Employees
- d. Report of Executive Council
- e. Reports of Convention Committees
- f. Reports of Special Committees
- g. Election of Officers (if warranted)
- h. Old Business
- i. New Business

Section 7 A quorum for conducting business of a convention shall be twenty percent (20%) of the locals in good standing or delegates representing thirty percent (30%) of the AFT Connecticut membership of locals in good standing.

Section 8 A motion calling for a roll call vote shall require a one-fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) vote for adoption. When a roll call vote has been ordered, the Chair shall at once call for the next item on the agenda, action on the pending motion being automatically postponed pending the tabulation of the results of the roll call vote. No debate, amendment, or other motion affecting the question on which the roll call vote was ordered may be made after a roll call has been ordered. The ballots shall be distributed to the ranking delegates under the direction of the Chair of the Credentials Committee. Each delegate voting shall enter on his ballot the number of the roll call, the number of his local, his full name, the number of votes he is casting, and how he is voting. The ranking delegate shall return the ballots to the Credentials Committee. If a delegate's ballot is not collected promptly, he may deliver his ballot directly to the Committee on Credentials. No vote shall be accepted later than one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour following the order of the roll call vote. The results of the roll call vote shall be tabulated by the Committee on Credentials and reported to the Convention immediately upon completion of the tabulation according to the following procedures:

- a. The total vote shall be read.
- b. If one half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the delegates request it, the vote by locals shall be read.
- c. If any delegate challenges the vote of his/her local, the roll of delegates from that local shall be read, and each delegate from that local shall rise as his name is called, announce his vote, and state the number of votes he/she is casting.
- d. The report on the roll call vote shall then be revised to agree with the oral vote just taken.

Section 9 The votes shall be distributed in accordance with the provision in Article VII, Sections 6, 7, and 8.

ARTICLE II - COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

Section 1 The Committee on Credentials shall be appointed by the President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, and shall be notified of appointment at least two weeks prior to the Convention. The Committee shall consist of at least five (5) members and shall be responsible for registration of delegates and visitors.

Section 2 Before the time for registration, the AFT Connecticut Office, at the direction of the President, shall furnish the Committee on Credentials with copies of the lists of delegations and the duplicates of credentials as reported to him by the various locals. Each delegate and visitor shall be furnished with an official badge to be worn at the Convention.

ARTICLE III - CONVENTION PROGRAM

The Committee on Convention Program shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee not later than three months before the date of the Convention. This Committee shall prepare the tentative program of the next Convention and shall submit it to the President at least

one month before the Convention. The President shall send a copy of the tentative program to each delegate as soon thereafter as possible.

ARTICLE IV - NOMINATION AND ELECTION PROCEDURE

Section 1 All officers shall be elected in convention in odd-numbered years for a two (2) year term. The method of the election shall be the same as prescribed by the AFT and shall be by roll-call vote.

Section 2 A member who is a candidate for a particular AFT Connecticut office shall present to the President a petition indicating the position sought ten (10) days before the Convention is scheduled to begin. This petition must contain the signatures of at least twenty-five (25) members of AFT Connecticut in good standing. A second method by which a member may become a candidate for a particular AFT Connecticut office is by presenting to the Credentials Committee Chair by 11:00 a.m. of the day of the election, a petition indicating the name of the particular office being sought and the signatures of at least ten (10) Convention delegates. The delegates to the Convention shall be informed of the names of the candidates for each office. If new positions(s) are created by the Convention, nominations shall be made from the floor.

Section 3 Each delegate may not cast more than his/her allotted votes (per Article VII) for each of the following officers:

- a. President
- b. First Vice President
- c. Second Vice President
- d. Secretary/Treasurer.

Each delegate may not cast more than his/her allotted votes (per Article VII) for any individual candidate on the ballot for the eighteen (18) non-jurisdictional Vice President positions.

Section 4 A plurality of the votes cast for each office shall be required to elect the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer. The eighteen (18) candidates for the non-jurisdictional Vice President positions receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected. In the event of a tie for any office, a run-off election shall be held by roll call vote.

Section 5 Jurisdictional Vice Presidents

- (a) The four (4) jurisdictional Vice Presidents shall be nominated by petition as stated in Section 3 of this Article above.
- (b) The four (4) Jurisdictional Vice Presidents shall be chosen in Convention Caucuses (with each jurisdiction as defined in Section 1 above) having one (1) Vice President. A majority of the delegates present and voting in each Caucus shall elect the Vice President from that jurisdiction.
- (c) In cases where a local represents members from multiple constituent jurisdictions, the local may send a different delegate to each caucus to which the local is entitled to representation.
- (d) No delegate shall vote in more than one caucus.

Section 6 At the Convention, each Candidate may have one (1) person speak in support of his or her candidacy.

Section 7 Officers elected at the Convention shall be designated "officers elect." They shall be entitled to attend all officers' meetings, shall take office July 1st, and shall be formally installed at the next regular Executive Council meeting.

ARTICLE V – STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1 The standing committees shall be established by the Constitution. Committee Chairpersons, with the exception of the councils chaired by elected jurisdictional vice presidents, and members shall be recommended by the President and approved by the Executive Council.

Section 2 Each Standing Committee shall make a written report for submission to the Convention.

Section 3 Standing Committees shall meet at the request of the Chairperson or a majority of the members of the Committee. The following Standing Committees may be appointed:

- Legislative/Political
- Retirement
- Communications
- Finance and Budget
- Defense
- State Employees
- Higher Education
- Health Care
- PreK–12
- Education Personnel
- Women and Civil Rights
- Membership and Structure
- Personnel

ARTICLE VI – BUDGET AND AUDIT

Section 1 A two (2) year budget shall be prepared by the Secretary/Treasurer in cooperation with the Executive Committee, and sent to local presidents and delegates at least one month before the Business Convention in even numbered years.

Section 2 The AFT Connecticut Executive Committee shall recommend the two (2) year budget to the Convention provided that delegates to the Executive Council are presented the proposed budget and have the opportunity to make suggestions on it. The Executive Council, at its the first regular meeting following the Convention, shall have the power to adopt the budget.

Section 3 All AFT Connecticut locals paying per capita tax on less than its entire dues-paying membership shall be subject to suspension by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may require a local to produce proof of membership where reason exists to believe such local is violating this provision. If the local shall fail or refuse to produce such proof on request, the Executive Committee may base its determination on such evidence as may be available.

ARTICLE VII - DUES

Section 1: Commencing September 1, 2012, dues shall be increased by \$.50 to \$20.13 per member per month.

Commencing September 1, 2013, dues shall be increased by \$.50 to \$20.63 per member, per month.