



Republican Party of Virginia

www.rpv.org

November 16, 2015

Bill Card, Chairman
Prince William County Republican Committee

VIA E-mail

Dear Chairman Card,

You have requested a ruling or interpretation of the Party Plan with regard to the application of Article VII, Section C to a member of an Official Committee who publicly supports a candidate for school board in opposition to another school board candidate that has been endorsed by the Official Committee.

The second paragraph of Article VII, Section C, to which I refer as the automatic removal provision, provides in pertinent part: “a member of an Official Committee is deemed to have resigned his Committee position if he [takes one of three specific actions] in support of a candidate in opposition to a Republican nominee....”

By its terms, the automatic removal provision applies only in cases involving a Republican nominee. Candidates for school board may only have their names placed on the ballot by petition. *See* §22.1-57.3(E); §24.2-506. A “nominee” is a candidate who receives the nomination of a political party and whose name appears on the ballot because of that nomination. *See* §24.2-101, 24.2-508 *et seq.*

Endorsement does not have the effect of placing a candidate’s name on the ballot for an election. Therefore, there can be no Republican nominee for school board, so the automatic removal provision cannot apply to any action of a member relating to a school board candidate.

This letter constitutes a ruling or interpretation of the Party Plan pursuant to Article X and, as such, it may be appealed to the Appeals Committee or the State Central Committee within thirty days of its posting on the RPV website.

Sincerely,

Chris Marston,
General Counsel

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