Submitted from RGV July 24, 2017

This proposal was posted on the forum on Monday, July 24, 2017, regarding details of GPCO bylaws involving member participation revocations at the state level by the state party.

The existing by-laws did not contain a clause that allow a ban from the entire state party when a former local chapter bans someone from just the local chapter. GPCO co-chair had claimed previously that it was in the state by-laws, but it is not. This is an attempt to remedy that defect after the fact.

In Proposal​ ​012-17, clause 3.4.2 states "The​ ​state​ ​party​ ​shall​ ​not​ ​override​ ​any​ ​disciplinary​ ​action​ ​imposed​ ​by​ ​a​ ​Green​ ​local. Disciplinary​ ​actions​ ​imposed​ ​by​ ​a​ ​Green​ ​local​ ​will​ ​be​ ​binding​ ​for​ ​the​ ​state​ ​party​ ​and​ ​will extend​ ​to​ ​state​ ​party​ ​events,​ ​spaces​ ​and​ ​internet/social​ ​media​ ​portals." That language does not currently appear in the by-laws.

-----Original Message-----
From: OFFICIAL GPCO Forum [mailto:contact@coloradogreenparty.org]
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 10:49 AM
Subject: New announcement: Proposal 012-17: Disciplinary Actions by State Council

This​ ​is​ ​Proposal​ ​012-17:​ ​Disciplinary​ ​Actions​ ​by​ ​State​ ​Council

Please​ ​read​ ​the​ ​proposal​ ​and​ ​keep​ ​comments​ ​on​ ​the​ ​topic​ ​of​ ​the​ ​proposal​ ​only.​ ​​ ​This​ ​proposal is​ ​moderated,​ ​and​ ​the​ ​GPCO​ ​Code​ ​of​ ​conduct​ ​will​ ​apply​ ​(located​ ​here: <http://coloradogreenparty.org/forum/index.php?topic=28.0>).

Designate​ ​your​ ​vote​ ​by​ ​using​ ​the​ ​following​ ​terms:​ ​AGREE,​ ​BLOCK,​ ​or​ ​STAND​ ​ASIDE.​ ​Any blocks​ ​will​ ​require​ ​a​ ​vote​ ​of​ ​the​ ​council.

Per​ ​Section​ ​4.3​ ​of​ ​the​ ​Bylaws,​ ​“All​ ​decisions​ ​concerning​ ​policy,​ ​finance,​ ​and​ ​objectives​ ​shall require​ ​consensus​ ​or​ ​a​ ​vote​ ​of​ ​at​ ​least​ ​60%​ ​of​ ​the​ ​membership​ ​present​ ​at​ ​a​ ​state​ ​meeting and/or​ ​the​ ​Council.”

There​ ​are​ ​currently​ ​11​ ​active​ ​voting​ ​chapters​ ​in​ ​the​ ​Green​ ​Party​ ​of​ ​Colorado.​ ​Adoption​ ​of​ ​this proposal​ ​requires​ ​an​ ​AGREE​ ​of​ ​at​ ​least​ ​60%​ ​of​ ​all​ ​votes​ ​cast​ ​and​ ​also​ ​requires​ ​a​ ​minimum quorum​ ​of​ ​at​ ​least​ ​one​ ​response​ ​from​ ​seven​ ​(7)​ ​chapters.

Active​ ​Chapters
Adams​ ​County
Arapahoe​ ​County
Denver
Douglas​ ​County
Greater​ ​Boulder
Pikes​ ​Peak
Poudre​ ​Valley
Mesa
San​ ​Miguel
Longmont
Ouray

Sponsors are requesting extra time for discussion.  The​ ​floor​ ​is​ ​now​ ​open​ ​for​ ​10 days​ ​of​ ​Agreement​ ​Seeking,​ ​ending​ ​Wednesday,​ ​August​ ​2,​ ​2017 at​ ​12​ ​midnight.

1.​ ​Basic​ ​Info:

Date​ ​proposed:​ ​July​ ​24,​ ​2017
Name​ ​of​ ​the​ ​sponsors:​ ​Andrea​ ​Merida​ ​Cuellar​ ​and​ ​Dave​ ​Bell,​ ​co-chairs,​ ​Green​ ​Party​ ​of Colorado and Sean Friend, Secretary, Green Party of Colorado

2.​ ​Title:​ ​Disciplinary​ ​Actions​ ​by​ ​State​ ​Council

3.​ ​Text​ ​of​ ​the​ ​actual​ ​proposal:​ ​​ ​Amend​ ​the​ ​bylaws,​ ​section​ ​3.3,​ ​to​ ​read:

3.3​ ​The​ ​right​ ​of​ ​participation​ ​of​ ​an​ ​individual​ ​in​ ​the​ ​Green​ ​Party​ ​of​ ​Colorado​ ​can​ ​be revoked​ ​by​ ​a​ ​Green​ ​local​ ​using​ ​its​ ​own​ ​criteria​ ​​or​ ​by​ ​a​ ​75%​ ​vote​ ​of​ ​the​ ​members​ ​of the​ ​state​ ​council​ ​or​ ​state​ ​party​ ​meeting.​​ ​Revocation​ ​of​ ​the​ ​rights​ ​of​ ​participation​ ​must be​ ​based​ ​on​ ​failure​ ​of​ ​the​ ​individual​ ​to​ ​adhere​ ​to​ ​the​ ​purpose​ ​and​ ​methods​ ​of​ ​the​ ​Green Party​ ​of​ ​Colorado.

3.4.1​ ​The​ ​Green​ ​Party​ ​of​ ​Colorado​ ​affirms​ ​the​ ​rights​ ​of​ ​individuals​ ​facing​ ​any​ ​disciplinary action​ ​the​ ​following​ ​rights​ ​of​ ​due​ ​process:
●The​ ​individual​ ​must​ ​be​ ​informed​ ​of​ ​the​ ​potential​ ​revocation​ ​of​ ​their​ ​rights​ ​of participation​ ​at​ ​least​ ​three​ ​weeks​ ​(21​ ​days)​ ​prior​ ​to​ ​the​ ​vote ●The​ ​individual​ ​will​ ​have​ ​a​ ​chance​ ​to​ ​speak​ ​in​ ​their​ ​defense​ ​at​ ​the​ ​meeting​ ​when the​ ​vote​ ​is​ ​held,​ ​either​ ​via​ ​a​ ​written​ ​statement​ ​or​ ​a​ ​telephone​ ​or​ ​web​ ​conference with​ ​a​ ​quorum​ ​of​ ​state​ ​council​ ​members.
●The​ ​individual​ ​may​ ​call​ ​witnesses​ ​to​ ​support​ ​their​ ​case,​ ​and​ ​the​ ​state​ ​council​ ​may ask​ ​questions​ ​of​ ​the​ ​witness.
●The​ ​individual​ ​will​ ​receive​ ​a​ ​written​ ​report​ ​with​ ​the​ ​decision​ ​with​ ​reasons​ ​for​ ​the decision​ ​and​ ​the​ ​length​ ​of​ ​time​ ​the​ ​disciplinary​ ​action​ ​will​ ​be​ ​in​ ​effect.
●Rights​ ​of​ ​participation​ ​will​ ​not​ ​be​ ​automatically​ ​reinstated,​ ​and​ ​a​ ​member​ ​whose rights​ ​of​ ​participation​ ​have​ ​been​ ​revoked​ ​must​ ​file​ ​a​ ​formal​ ​appeal​ ​with​ ​the Secretary.​ ​Rights​ ​of​ ​participation​ ​can​ ​be​ ​reinstated​ ​by​ ​an​ ​affirmative​ ​vote​ ​of​ ​75 percent​ ​of​ ​the​ ​state​ ​council​ ​or​ ​by​ ​75​ ​percent​ ​of​ ​the​ ​voting​ ​members​ ​present​ ​at​ ​a state​ ​meeting.

3.4.2​ ​The​ ​state​ ​party​ ​shall​ ​not​ ​override​ ​any​ ​disciplinary​ ​action​ ​imposed​ ​by​ ​a​ ​Green​ ​local. Disciplinary​ ​actions​ ​imposed​ ​by​ ​a​ ​Green​ ​local​ ​will​ ​be​ ​binding​ ​for​ ​the​ ​state​ ​party​ ​and​ ​will extend​ ​to​ ​state​ ​party​ ​events,​ ​spaces​ ​and​ ​internet/social​ ​media​ ​portals.

4.​ ​Background:​ ​Recent​ ​dynamics​ ​within​ ​the​ ​GPCO​ ​are​ ​requiring​ ​a​ ​more​ ​flexible​ ​method​ ​of addressing​ ​situations​ ​that​ ​may​ ​require​ ​a​ ​disciplinary​ ​response, while at the same time upholding and providing the rights of due process, which the current bylaws do not provide for.

5.​ ​Justification/Goals:​ ​​ ​To​ ​restore​ ​order​ ​to​ ​the​ ​state​ ​council​ ​proceedings,​ ​to​ ​minimize​ ​the​ ​conflict but​ ​to​ ​provide​ ​ample​ ​due​ ​process​ ​to​ ​individuals​ ​facing​ ​disciplinary​ ​actions.

6.​ ​Pros​ ​and​ ​Cons:​ ​​ ​There​ ​is​ ​no​ ​downside​ ​to​ ​more​ ​due​ ​process​ ​rights.

7.​ ​​ ​Alternatives​ ​to​ ​the​ ​proposal:​ ​Take​ ​no​ ​action.

8.​ ​​ ​References:​ ​Bylaws,​ ​Green​ ​Party​ ​of​ ​Colorado:​ ​<http://coloradogreenparty.org/about/bylaws/>

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<http://coloradogreenparty.org/forum/index.php?topic=353.0>

Regards,
The OFFICIAL GPCO Forum Team.