

Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform Model Constitutional Convention Legislation Details

Convention Call

- Election to be held on Nov. 5, 2002 for convention question.
- Alabama Fair Campaign Practices Act will apply.
- Convention called if majority votes “for convention.”

Delegate Selection

- 105 delegates elected from House districts.
- Twelve elected members of the Legislative Council will serve as delegates.
(Six from the House and six from the Senate.)
- No other elected state official may be a delegate.

Delegate Races

- Candidates for delegate shall qualify from 30 to 90 days before election.
- Election of delegates will be non-partisan.
- Fair Campaign Practices Act shall apply but with tighter restrictions.
- Delegate election on June 3, 2003.

Reporting Rules

- Person becomes a “candidate” once contributions reach \$1,000.
- Candidates must report all contributions.
- Disclosure reports to be filed with Secretary of State.

Financial Limits

- No candidate may accept a contribution of more than \$100 from any source.
- Limit includes in-kind contributions.
- No contributions after filing last FCPA report due five to ten days before election.
- No post-election contributions.

Lobbyists Restricted

- Lobbyists must be registered and must comply with Alabama Code of Ethics.
- Delegates may not receive anything of value from a lobbyist.
- Lobbyists must file regular reports of activities.

The Convention

- Delegates will convene Aug. 5, 2003, in the old House chamber.
- Delegates will organize convention and elect a president.
- Legislative staff shall provide full support to the convention.

Compensation

- While convention meets, delegates will receive same pay and expense allowance as legislators.
- Legislator delegates may not draw double compensation.
- Delegates will have up to 120 calendar days to complete work.

New Document

- Convention may choose how to present its proposed document to voters.
- Otherwise, it may present its entire document for ratification; or
- It may submit separate proposals to revise the constitution.

Ratification

- There must be a vote for ratification.
- Governor will call election.
- Ratification vote may occur no sooner than 90 days after convention ends.
- New constitution shall take effect on the following Jan. 1.