

Tony Perkins
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July 1, 2024

Chairman Michael Whatley
Republican National Committee
310 First Street SE
Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Michael,

I am writing as an elected delegate, selected at the Louisiana GOP convention to serve on the RNC Platform Committee. I urge you to reconsider the RNC Gag Rule, which has been announced and restricts access to the deliberations of the various committees and subcommittees to only the credentialed delegates of those committees. This Gag Rule is unprecedented and appears to violate RNC rules.

This Gag Rule cannot reflect the position of President Trump, who has been the target of these types of tactics from the Left, who want to silence their opponents. Nothing can be more un-American.

Alarming, the RNC Gag Rule goes even further than what the President has had to endure. Based on the limited communications delegates have received, it appears that neither guests nor the press will be allowed to observe the platform committee or subcommittee discussions of the Party's principles and policy priorities. The Party's platforms have provided guidance not just to presidents and Congresses but also to state legislatures, school boards, county commissioners, and, just as importantly - voters.

The RNC Gag Rule heightens speculation that the GOP platform will be watered down to a few pages of meaningless, poll-tested talking points. This contrasts sharply with Ronald Reagan's call for a party platform, "a banner of bold, unmistakable colors with no pale pastels," challenging the nation with a clear vision for the future.

These bold principles on life, family, and freedom have served the GOP well for over a half-century, starkly contrasting with the other Party and attracting many God-fearing Americans to the GOP.

There is great concern that the foundational efforts of patriots like Phyllis Schlafly and countless others who have built the Republican Party into a majority, pro-life, pro-family, pro-ordered liberty party will be undermined by these unprecedented changes in the process.

Mr. Chairman, I have made numerous attempts to resolve these concerns privately. It now appears the repeated promises to look into the issue and get back to me were stalling tactics. Therefore, I am elevating my concern today by communicating this to the Republican National Committee. If the RNC Gag Rule is not removed and the committee and subcommittee process made open and fair by 10 am tomorrow, I will be forced to escalate this matter to all stakeholders in the GOP platform.

Michael, I understand that raising these concerns might make me the proverbial skunk at the wedding. However, I cannot forever hold my peace and remain silent when the Party that so many patriots have sacrificed to build is about to adopt a process that is not befitting of the Grand Ole Party. This process will likely result in an outcome that jeopardizes the Party's ability to continue being a stabilizing force for freedom in this nation, as it has been for nearly 175 years.

I respectfully request that you reject the imposition of the Gag Rule. If you decide to proceed, I formally request the RNC meeting minutes that recorded the motion and the vote, which allowed this unprecedented Gag Rule to be implemented.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

Tony Perkins
Convention Delegate, Louisiana

Copy to: RNC Members