

**Informational Report & Press Release
Republican Legislative District Committee
For Senate District 24.**

From: Ken Adams, Chairman
Legislative District Committee
For Senate District 24
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On December 3rd, the LDC for Senate District 24 decided to nominate its candidate for the State Senate by calling a Convention.

The Republican Party of Virginia (RPV) authorizes in its State Party Plan (SPP) four types of Committees for the transaction of business. They are the State Central Committee, the Congressional District Committees, the Legislative District Committees and the County and City Committees.

Legislative Districts for Delegates and Senators span and encompass several County and City Committees. The LDC for Senate District 24 includes seven Committees, which are also called Units. They are Waynesboro, Augusta, Staunton, part of Rockingham, Greene, Madison and part of Culpeper.

According to the State Party Plan of the RPV, the members of the Legislative District Committees are the Chairmen of the Units that comprise the Districts. That means there are seven members of the LDC for Senate District 24.

Senator Emmet Hanger is the incumbent. According to media reports, he will likely announce his intention to be re-elected in November 2015. Candidates Dan Moxley and Marshall Pattie have announced that they will challenge Senator Hanger for the nomination.

The SPP of the RPV states “The Legislative District Committee shall determine whether candidates for Legislative District public office shall be nominated by Mass Meeting, Party Canvass, Convention or Primary, where permitted to do so under Virginia Law.”

The Code of Virginia includes section 24.2-509, which permits incumbents to select the method of their re-nomination. This section is often called the Incumbent Protection Act because it allows an incumbent, and not the Republican Party, to

determine the method by which he or she will be re-nominated to represent the Republican Party.

Typically, incumbents, when challenged, choose an open Primary, as it allows non-Republicans to participate in the nomination of the Republican candidate.

Recent court decisions have ruled in favor of the right of private organizations, such as the Republican Party, to select their leaders without government interference.

The government may not decide who gets to lead or represent a private organization. That right is well-established in Constitutional Law. It is called the Freedom of Association.

On Friday, December 5th, the decision of the LDC was hand-delivered to the State Board of Elections in Richmond. The documents were delivered to Chairman Charlie Judd and Matt Abell, the head of Election Services.

Copies of the letter to the State Board of Elections and a Statement from the Attorney representing the LDC are attached.