

Date: April 8, 2008

To: State Credentials Committee or other governing body

RE: Challenge to Zan (Statham) Prince, County Chairman for Parker County, TX
And the entire Delegation elected to the Texas Republican State Convention
For Violation of Rule 27d and Roberts Rules of Order

We, the undersigned, having voted in the 2008 Presidential Primary Elections held March 4, 2008 find it necessary, pursuant to Rule 11b(1) of the Texas Republican Party's General Rules For All Conventions and Meetings, to be charged with the duty of recognizing, identifying and rectifying any infraction of these rules to the integrity of the Republican Party; and following the procedures outlined in Rule 27 (2) for filing said challenge, please be advised that this letter serves as our Challenge to Zan (Statham) Prince as Republican Party County Chair for Parker County and the entire Delegation elected to the Texas Republican State Convention.

Challenge: Violation of Rule 27d which states:

d. Committee on Credentials Procedure. At any convention other than a precinct convention, the Temporary Committee on Credentials, when it convenes, shall hear both sides of the challenge and shall report to the convention the names of the delegates or alternates whom it believes are entitled to participate in the convention. **The convention shall vote** on the report of the Committee on Credentials **on each challenge that is made** (emphasis added). Challenged delegates shall be listed on the Temporary roll, but may not vote on their own challenge. Furthermore, delegates from delegations that are being challenged may not be seated until the challenge is resolved.

And violation of Robert's Rules of Order to *Amend and/or Divide the Question.*

Issues regarding Rule 27d and Robert's Rules of Order infractions:

1. On approximately Saturday, March 29, 2008, during the Parker County Republican County Convention, pursuant to the reading of the Credentials Committee Report, the chair made a motion to accept the list of temporary delegates she had just identified. *No Vote was held on this motion.*
2. Immediately following that, a delegate exercised a Point of Information pertaining to challenges that had been filed by various delegates. At that point in the meeting, the committee chair resumed the podium and read a "report" of the credentials committee that found the challenges issued by duly-elected delegates to be "without merit". She then made **another motion** to accept the report.
3. Upon the conclusion of her 2nd motion, a delegate stood and was recognized by the temporary chairman of the convention. He made a motion to *request a roll call vote and was called out of order.*
4. The temporary chair, Mrs. Zan Prince, then "clarifies" the motion made by the chair including reading aloud the names of all the signers of the challenges (why would that have any bearing on the motion?) She then proceeds to tell the delegation that if this motion (which one) is not adopted, there is no convention.
5. A delegate rises and is recognized. **He tries to move to amend the motion** to "separate the seating of the delegates and consideration of the 3 challenges" and debate and vote on them separately. The chair reminds him to identify himself and his precinct and she immediately repeats his information (name and precinct number) into the microphone. He makes another attempt to state his motion to amend and is shut down by talking in the audience. **The chair** chastises the audience and then **calls him out of order** because, according to the parliamentarian, there is a motion on the floor.
6. A delegate tries to call for a Point of Order, which requires no recognition by the chair, but she is told that she cannot speak because the chair chooses to recognize someone else.

7. The chair then calls for the question. According to Robert's Rules, the chair is to be impartial and all motions, etc. are to be called for by the delegates.
8. Then a delegate calls for a Point of Order. The chair allows her to speak and then chastises her saying she MUST be recognized by the chair in order to speak. According to Robert's Rules of Order, Point of Order is to be called out and all debate must stop to answer the point of order. The chair once more tells the delegate that there will be no roll call vote unless there is no majority in the voice vote.
9. As evidenced in the enclosed video, a delegate stands to be recognized and the chair just ignores her by calling for the first precinct to stand and identify the leader of their group.
10. The same delegate rises and calls out and is finally recognized. She clarifies that the vote is on the delegates and the challenges. She asks if there is any way to vote on them separately and is told there is no way.
11. Another delegate rises and calls out "Divide the Question". But the chair ignores him altogether.
12. During caucusing, the chair again reiterates that there will be no convention if "we reject" the credentials committee report.
13. When she finishes speaking, someone calls loudly from the crowd "Point of Order" but is ignored by the chair.
14. As the delegates caucus, the credentials committee chair asks the delegation to "please be quiet".
15. A delegate asks for clarification as to why the motion cannot be split and the committee chair says there is no "line-item veto" and immediately begins calling the precinct numbers for the vote. The same delegate says she is not finished but she is ignored.
16. The committee chair then reads the "content" of the challenges but none of the evidence.
17. A delegate calls "Point of Order" from the floor and is ignored.
18. A delegate calls "Point of Information" and asks if the challenges will ever be revisited. The committee chair informs her that the challenges were dealt with in the committee and they will not be revisited.
19. Then the temporary chair of the convention, Mrs. Prince, says that there will be a "time when the committee on Permanent Organization will make a report" whereby the permanent officers will be elected. The delegate asks if the delegation will ever be able to revisit the issues and is told that "any specific questions" can be asked of the Permanent Organization Committee.
20. A delegate then speaks to the temporary chair regarding the vote. She tells him, "If we vote yes, we move on to the next order of business. If we vote no, we all go home." She then tells the delegate that she called "the state party to confirm exactly what happens in the event that we cannot accept the temporary credentials report and I was told we have no one to vote on anything if we don't accept the temporary credentials report.'
21. The delegate asks if we can revisit the issues and the temporary chairman of the convention tells him that he will have the opportunity to ask questions and then to vote. She then tells him that she has not given any response to the challenges but at the point of the debate on the challenges, she will give an explanation "so you'll understand what the issues are..."
22. Another question is asked by the same delegate regarding revisiting the challenges and the parliamentarian says the challenges cannot be addressed later.
23. Yet another delegate stands and asks that the two issues; i.e. delegate approval and the challenges, be split and was told it could not be done AGAIN. The entire delegation applauds and affirms this request to no avail.
24. The parliamentarian then says that the report of the committee cannot be changed according to Rule 27 of the party rules. However, this writer can find no support of that "ruling" in Rule 27.

25. She goes on to read Rule 27 d and states that “we will, according to the rules, take each challenge individually” but it never happens.

26. There is a call for the vote and the vote is administered by the credentials committee temporary chair. The motion passes and we move on to the next order of business.

27. The temporary rules committee chairman reports. In his report he reads rule 27 and states that the credentials of any person can be challenged by any person in the precinct of the challenged delegate. Since the challenge was made against the temporary chairman of the convention, it stands to reason that anyone disenfranchised, meaning any one in the county district, should be able to challenge the chairman. And, thus, the delegates are informed that the challenges will not be revisited.

28. A delegate calls a Point of Order and tries to read the Republican Party Rules but is told she is out of order and shut down by the temporary chair who the challenges were against in the first place.

In conclusion, Robert’s Rules of Order were not upheld with any integrity. As hard as the delegation tried to address the issues, the temporary chair shut them down at every turn. In addition, “each” challenge was not heard and voted on by the delegation as was required by the rules of the Republican Party. They were summarily denied because none of the signers lived in the county chairs precinct.

Since these rules were broken, we, the undersigned, would like to request that the entire convention be rendered “null and void” as the will of the people was not carried out and the vote to seat the delegates to the convention was made under duress for many of the delegates. Therefore, the seated delegates to the county convention were not valid. Since they were invalid, all the votes of the delegation are invalid and the convention is not valid.

Sincerely,
