



DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE

January 23, 2006

Hon. Alexis M. Herman  
Co-Chair, DNC Rules & Bylaws Committee  
1333 H Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005

Mr. James Roosevelt, Jr.  
Co-Chair, DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee  
14 Meadow Way  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Alexis & Jim:

As you know, the Commission on Presidential Nomination Timing and Scheduling completed its work in early December and forwarded to me its recommendations for changes to the rules governing the Party's primaries and caucuses. I want to once again thank you, Alexis, and Congressman David Price for serving as Co-Chairs the Commission and you, Jim, for serving as a member of the Commission.

Clearly, the Commission carried out its work in a thoughtful and deliberate manner, soliciting and listening to a broad range of opinions about the process. As someone who has first-hand experience with the presidential primary and caucus schedule, I know the complexity of the issues with which the Commission dealt. I am pleased that the Commission has made recommendations that seek to broaden participation and increase diversity in the early stages of the presidential nominating process. Indeed, I am mindful that over the years the Party has instituted reforms aimed at making our nominating process fairer, more representative, and more effective for both our presidential candidates and voters. The Commission's recommendations are another positive step in that evolving process.

Accordingly, I am forwarding on to you the Commission's report and asking that a meeting of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee (RBC) be scheduled as soon as possible to consider the Commission's recommendations for inclusion in the 2008 Delegate Selection Rules. I know that the RBC will carry out its deliberations in the same thoughtful and deliberate manner that the characterized the Commission's work.

Once again, thank you both for your continued leadership, service and advice to me and to the Party.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Howard B. Dean". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Governor Howard B Dean, M.D.  
Chairman