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**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

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12 **LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE**  
13 **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**  
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16 **ARTICLE I. DEFINITION**

17  
18 **Section A. NAME**

19  
20 The name of this organization shall be the LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEMOCRATIC  
21 CENTRAL COMMITTEE (LACDCC). It shall be referred to herein as This Committee.  
22

23 **Section B. CONTINUITY**

24  
25 This Committee is, and shall function as, a continuing body. To that end, upon the election  
26 of new officers or appointment of new chairs, of their removal from office, resignation or  
27 protracted illness, the Chair shall appoint two (2) officers or chairs of This Committee,  
28 whose responsibility shall be to ensure the safe and intact transfer of all records,  
29 correspondence, files, books, financial records and documents as they pertain to This  
30 Committee to the newly elected or appointed officers or chairs to ensure the continued  
31 operation and function of said office and/or committee.  
32

33 **Section C. PURPOSES**

- 34  
35 1. To serve as the official governing body of the Democratic Party in the County of  
36 Los Angeles in cooperation with the State and National Committees.  
37  
38 2. To conduct the Democratic Party campaign in the County of Los Angeles under  
39 the general direction of the State Central Committee.  
40  
41 3. To build party organization on district, regional, and county levels to register voters  
42 as Democrats and turn out Democratic voters.  
43  
44 4. To encourage the fullest possible participation of all Democratic voters.  
45  
46 5. To develop party policies and positions and to communicate them to the public  
47 and to all officeholders.  
48  
49 6. To provide a forum for the study and discussion of public issues.  
50  
51 7. To conduct a public relations program for the Democratic Party throughout  
52 Los Angeles County and to represent the Democratic Party within the county.

8. To interview, develop and endorse Democratic candidates for public office.
9. To nominate a qualified Democrat to fill any vacancy occurring in a party nominee position within this county where applicable law so allows.
10. To charter Democratic organizations within Los Angeles County.
11. To ensure, as far as possible, the election of the Democratic Party Nominees for President and Vice-President of the United States and candidates endorsed by the National, State or applicable County Democratic Party.
12. To perform such other duties and services as will benefit the Democratic Party.

**Section D. DEMOCRATIC VOTERS**

As used in these Constitution and By-Laws, the terms “Democrat,” “Democratic voter” and “registered Democrat” refer to a voter who has indicated a preference for the Democratic Party on her/his voter registration form.

**Section E. HIGHEST FINISHING DEMOCRAT**

As used in these Constitution and By-Laws, the term “Highest Finishing Democrat” refers to the registered Democrat who receives the most votes in the most recent general election for the offices of United States Senate, United States House of Representatives, a California state constitutional office, the California State Senate or the California Assembly. In the event fewer than two (2) registered Democrats appear on the ballot in the most recent general election for one (1) of these offices, the “Highest Finishing Democrat” shall be the Democrat who received the most votes in the primary election for the most recent general election for that office.

**Section F. GENDER / EQUAL DIVISION**

Whenever a rule is expressly predicated upon, or otherwise references, the principle of equal division by gender, the principle shall be deemed to refer to a division into two categories: persons who self-identify as female and persons other than self-identified females.

**ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP**

**Section A. TYPES OF MEMBERS**

There are five (5) types of members of This Committee: Elected Members, Appointed Members, Ex-Officio Members (all of which are classified as "Regular Members"), Alternate Members, and Associate Members. Their rights and duties are as specified within.

**1. Elected Members**

- a. In accordance with Section 7203 of the Election Code each Assembly District contained wholly or partially within Los Angeles County shall be entitled to be represented by seven (7) members residing in and elected

1 from that portion of the Assembly District contained within Los Angeles  
2 County.

- 3  
4 b. In accordance with Section 7205 of the Election Code This Committee may  
5 provide for the division of some or all of its constituent Assembly Districts  
6 into divisions. A resident of each division will be elected to represent that  
7 division, but will be elected at-large from the Assembly District. Upon  
8 petition by a majority of the Regular Members of an Assembly District  
9 Delegation This Committee will authorize that District to be divided into  
10 seven (7) equally populated divisions effective at the next election of  
11 members of This Committee (subject to the deadline imposed by the  
12 County Registrar of Voters). Upon petition to This Committee by a majority  
13 of the Regular Members of an Assembly District divided into divisions, that  
14 District will no longer be so divided.

15  
16 **2. Appointed Members**

- 17  
18 a. A registered Democrat residing in an Assembly District may be appointed  
19 by This Committee to fill a vacancy occurring in that Assembly District.  
20  
21 b. This Committee may appoint only a person who has been recommended  
22 by the Delegation of that District, except that if the Delegation fails to make  
23 a recommendation within three (3) months of the occurrence of the  
24 vacancy, This Committee may appoint any registered Democrat residing in  
25 the District who is recommended by the Policy Committee.  
26  
27 c. Appointed members shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges as  
28 Elected Members of This Committee except that they must use the  
29 designation "Appointed Incumbent" rather than "Incumbent" upon seeking  
30 election to This Committee.

31  
32 **3. Ex-Officio Members**

- 33  
34 a. Ex-Officio Members of This Committee shall be the following, if registered  
35 to vote in Los Angeles County:  
36  
37 (i) Incumbent office holders of the following offices who are registered  
38 to vote as Democrats: United States Senate, United States House  
39 of Representatives, a California state constitutional office, the  
40 California Assembly or the California State Senate; the Los Angeles  
41 County Sheriff, the Los Angeles County District Attorney, the Los  
42 Angeles County Assessor, or a member of the Los Angeles County  
43 Board of Supervisors;  
44  
45 (ii) The most recent Highest Finishing Democrat for the following  
46 offices: United States Senate, United States House of  
47 Representatives, a California state constitutional office, the  
48 California Assembly or the California State Senate;  
49  
50 (iii) Statewide Chairs or Presidents of official or chartered statewide  
51 Democratic Party Organizations; and Statewide Special Group  
52 Caucuses;

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- (iv) Members of the Democratic National Committee;
  - (v) State Officers of the California Democratic Party;
  - (vi) Assembly District Representatives to the Executive Board of the California Democratic Party;
  - (vii) The Chair of This Committee at the expiration of the immediately preceding term of office for Elected Members of This Committee;
  - (viii) The Treasurer of This Committee, appointed under Article VI.A; and,
  - (ix) The Legal Counsel of This Committee, appointed under Article VI. B.
- b. Incumbent office holders of, and the Highest Finishing Democrat for the offices of, the United States House of Representatives, the State Board of Equalization, the State Senate, and the State Assembly whose districts extend into Los Angeles County, but who are themselves not registered to vote in Los Angeles County, shall have the right to appoint a voting alternate, provided such alternate is registered to vote in Los Angeles County.
- c. The term of office of Ex-Officio Members whose membership in This Committee is based on their status as the Highest Finishing Democrat shall be as follows:
- (i) The Highest Finishing Democrat serves on This Committee until the end of the term of office of the office for which that member was a candidate or, in the case of an office in which the officeholder's term is cut short (by, for example, death or resignation of the officeholder), until the seating of a successor. So, for example, the Highest Finishing Democrat in a State Senate race held in 2014 remains seated until December 2018 unless the current officeholder's term is cut short for some reason.
  - (ii) (A) If fewer than two (2) Democrats advance to the general election ballot, the "Highest Finishing Democrat" is the Democrat who received the most votes in the primary election and shall be seated when the primary election results are certified.  
(B) If two (2) Democrats advance to the general election ballot, no one is the "Highest Finishing Democrat" after the primary election; and, therefore, the Democrat who receives the most votes in the general election achieves membership as a result of incumbency rather than as the "Highest Finishing Democrat."
- d. Ex-Officio Members shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges as Elected Members of This Committee except that they may not use the designation of "Incumbent" upon seeking election to This Committee.



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4. **Regular Members**

- a. A Regular Member is any Elected, Appointed or Ex-Officio Member of This Committee.
- b. Any Regular Member who wishes to exercise membership rights including the right to appoint an Alternate Member must meet the dues requirement of This Committee.
- c. A Regular Member is a member of the Assembly District Delegation and Region for the Assembly District in which she/he resides.

5. **Alternate Members**

- a. Any Regular Member in good standing may appoint an Alternate Member, subject to the approval of This Committee, who shall serve at the member's pleasure, upon presentation of written authorization to the Chair of the Credentials Committee. Except at the Organizational Meeting, such appointment shall not be submitted to This Committee for approval unless the Chair of the Credentials Committee has been notified of the appointment at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting at which the appointment is to be announced.
- b. An Alternate Member for an Elected or Appointed Member must reside in the same Assembly District. An Alternate Member for an Ex-Officio Member must reside in that political subdivision of Los Angeles County which the Appointing Member was elected to represent or for which the Appointing Member was the Highest Finishing Democrat.
- c. An Alternate Member shall meet the same dues requirement of This Committee as a Regular Member.
- d. An Alternate Member has right of voice and motion at meetings of This Committee even if the Appointing Member is present but may vote only in the absence of that member. An Alternate Member may serve on a standing or special committee with a Regular Member; may serve as a representative of This Committee to the State Committee or its Executive Board, provided all Regular Members who are candidates for representative are first given the opportunity to be elected; but may not be elected or appointed to serve as an officer of This Committee.
- e. An Alternate Member shall be considered a member of the Assembly District Delegation and Region for the Assembly District and Region in which the Appointing Member resides except where an Alternate Member is a voting alternate for the Highest Finishing Democrat or a Democratic officeholder whose District extends into Los Angeles County but who is not himself/herself registered to vote in Los Angeles County. In the case of such an exception, the voting Alternate Member shall be considered a member of the Assembly District Delegation and Region in which the voting Alternate Member is registered to vote.

6. **Associate Members**

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- a. (i) An Associate Member shall have the right to voice, but not to make motions or vote, on matters before This Committee.
- (ii) In addition, Associate Members shall have the right to be appointed to a special or Standing Committee, except for any committee which authorizes the expenditure of campaign funds, which determines campaign strategy or execution or which recommends endorsements. Associate Members shall have full rights when serving in such a capacity, except they shall not serve as chairs or co-chairs of Standing Committees.
- b. An Associate Member shall meet the same dues requirement of This Committee as an Alternate Member.
- c. (i) Each club chartered by This Committee shall have the right to designate one (1) of the club's members as an Associate Member. This designation may be revoked upon written notice by the club to This Committee.
- (ii) In addition, the Chair of This Committee shall have the right to nominate Associate Members who, in the Chair's opinion, possess qualifications or skills that would assist in meeting the objectives of This Committee.
- (iii) Upon verification of the Democratic Party voter registration of the designee or nominee and that the designee or nominee has not been removed from membership in This Committee during the current term, The Policy Committee shall ratify or reject the designee or nominee.
- (iv) Upon ratification and payment of dues, the individual will become an Associate Member as of the next meeting of This Committee at least fifteen (15) days after ratification. The Associate Member's term will expire at the end of the term.
- d. Upon ratification, the Chair of This Committee may appoint Associate Members to a special or Standing Committee of This Committee.
- e. On no committee of This Committee, including any special committees, shall more than twenty percent (20%) of its membership be Associate Members of This Committee.
- f. Associate Members shall be considered nonvoting members of the Assembly District in which they reside, but shall not be considered members of that Delegation for purposes of allocation of Standing Committee assignments under Article VII.B.3.

**Section B. SEATING OF MEMBERS**

- 1. Elected Members of This Committee shall be seated on the second Monday in July following the primary election in which members of This Committee are elected. The meeting at which such seating takes place shall be known as the

1 “Organizational Meeting of This Committee.”  
2

- 3 2. a. Appointed Members shall be seated immediately upon appointment by This  
4 Committee.  
5 b. Ex-Officio Members whose ex officio status derives from their status as  
6 incumbent public officeholders shall be seated upon taking the public  
7 office.  
8 c. Ex-Officio Members by virtue of their status as the “Highest Finishing  
9 Democrat” shall take office as of the date of certification of the primary  
10 election.  
11 d. Ex-Officio Members by virtue of their status as members of the  
12 Democratic National Committee, Statewide Officers and Regional  
13 Directors of the California Democratic Party, and California Democratic  
14 Party Executive Board members elected at Assembly District election  
15 meetings shall be seated when they take their Party office.  
16 e. Ex-Officio Members whose ex officio status derives from their  
17 chairpersonship/presidency of statewide chartered organizations or  
18 California Democratic Party Special Group Caucuses shall be seated  
19 when their respective elections become final under the applicable  
20 organizational bylaws.  
21 f. The Treasurer of This Committee and the Legal Counsel of This  
22 Committee shall be seated at the time they assume office.  
23 g. Alternate Members shall be seated immediately upon approval by This  
24 Committee.  
25

26  
27 **Section C. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**  
28

29 **1. Voluntary Termination**  
30

- 31 a. A member may tender his or her resignation only in writing.  
32  
33 b. No member may cast more than one vote. Consistent with this principle,  
34 any Elected, Appointed or Alternate Member of This Committee who is an  
35 Ex-Officio Member of This Committee shall, as of the thirtieth day after  
36 being seated as an Ex-Officio Member, be deemed to have tendered a  
37 resignation in writing from the membership status other than ex officio  
38 status. A member may retain her/his status as a member by virtue of  
39 election or appointment, as well as his/her status as an ex officio, if he/she  
40 notifies the Chair in writing, during the thirty-day period after being seated,  
41 of his/her desire to retain membership by virtue of more than one  
42 membership status. The Credentials Committee shall include, in its next  
43 report to This Committee, the names of any members who opt to retain  
44 membership by virtue of more than one membership status.  
45  
46 c. It is the policy of This Committee to provide written notice of the provisions  
47 of this Article II, C.1 to members who hold membership in This Committee  
48 by virtue of more than one membership status, but the failure to do so shall  
49 not invalidate any resignation from elected or appointed membership  
50 where the member has not timely exercised his/her option to retain more  
51 than one membership status.  
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**2. Termination for Lack of Attendance**

- a. For purposes of this Article II.C.2 (Termination for Lack of Attendance), a member who attends a meeting of This Committee or has his/her alternate attend in his/her place shall be counted as present, not absent.
- b. The absence of an Elected or Appointed Member from three (3) regular meetings of This Committee within a term year (July to June) shall automatically terminate the membership of that member.
- c. It is the duty of all members to attend all meetings of This Committee and any Standing Committees to which they are appointed and to assure that their attendance at all such meetings is recorded.
- d. A notice shall be sent to an Elected or Appointed Member after his/her second absence in a term year warning of the automatic termination of that member's membership if the member fails to attend a third meeting in that term year.

**3. Termination for Failure to Pay Dues**

- a. The Controller shall certify to the Chair of the Credentials Committee the fact of nonpayment of dues of any Elected or Appointed Member within sixty (60) days of the date on which the dues were payable.
- b. A notice shall be sent via Certified Mail stating the amount owing and stating that if the amount is not paid within ten (10) days of receipt of the notice the membership is automatically terminated.
- c. Unless the dues set forth in the notice are paid within the ten (10) days, the member's membership will be automatically terminated, the member will be notified in writing and the termination will be announced at the next regular meeting of This Committee.

**4. Termination for Additional Grounds**

- a. The additional grounds for termination of membership are as follows:
  - (i) A member supports a non-Democratic candidate for public office;
  - (ii) An elected official or Appointed Member moves out of the Assembly District;
  - (iii) Death or mental incapacity;
  - (iv) A member ceases to be a registered Democrat in Los Angeles County;
  - (v) A member commits This Committee to unauthorized expenditures;

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- (vi) Knowing membership in an organization which should under California Election Code, Sec. 20201 and/or Article XV of these Constitution and By-Laws, be chartered, but does not have such a charter and does not have an application for charter pending;
  - (vii) A member's financial obligation to This Committee (other than dues) are more than thirty (30) days past due from the date written notice of failure to meet such obligation has been given by the Controller of This Committee to said member. A member may, to avoid removal, bring any such obligation current at any time prior to actual removal. An administrative fee to cover costs of processing, not to exceed Five Dollars (\$5.00) plus any bank charges, may be assessed in addition to the actual obligation.
- b. Except in the case of death or mental incapacity the Policy Committee shall not declare the termination of a membership under one (1) of these additional grounds until the member has been notified by Certified Mail that she/he has the right to appear before the Policy Committee to negate the charges.
- c. Termination of membership under Article II.C.4.a.(vi) above shall only be declared upon recommendation of the Credentials Committee and a sixty percent (60%) vote of This Committee's members present and voting, provided, however, that the member is first:
- (i) Informed by Certified Mail that he/she is a member of such an organization; and,
  - (ii) Given thirty (30) days to resign said membership, or the organization in question applies for charter within said thirty (30) days; and,
  - (iii) Accorded the due process rights of written notice of the charges against him/her, right of response before both the Credentials Committee and This Committee, and is given the right to representation by counsel.
- d. If the organization in question applies for a charter within the thirty (30) day time period after the member is notified as provided above, termination of membership under Article II.C.4.a.(vi) above shall only be recommended and declared if:
- (i) The charter application is denied; and,
  - (ii) The member is informed by Certified Mail of said denial of charter application; and,
  - (iii) The member does not resign his/her membership in the organization in question within thirty (30) days of receipt of said notice of denial and notify This Committee of same; and,

- (iv) The due process rights referred to herein above have been accorded the member; and,
  - (v) The Credentials Committee recommends termination; and,
  - (vi) This Committee, by sixty percent (60%) vote of those persons present and voting, votes to terminate the member's membership.
- e. Declaration of the termination of membership may only be overruled at the next meeting of This Committee. Upon such overruling, all acts pursuant to the acceptance of the declaration shall be voided.

**Section D. FILLING OF VACANCIES**

- 1. Upon termination of the membership of any member, This Committee may appoint, at any meeting by affirmative vote of the majority of the members voting, as a member to fill that vacancy, any registered Democrat from Assembly Districts from which the member whose membership was terminated was elected or appointed.
- 2. Upon the failure to elect from any Assembly District members sufficient in number to equal those provided in California Election Code, Section 7203, or ineligible to be members, This Committee may appoint at any meeting by affirmative vote of the majority of the members present and voting, as members any registered Democrat from that District, so that District's representation equals the number provided for in the Election Code.
- 3. This Committee may not appoint as a member from an Assembly District one who has not been recommended by the Delegation of the District for such appointment; provided that upon the failure of that Delegation to so recommend a person during the three (3) months following the occurrence of the vacancy to be filled, This Committee may appoint any registered Democrat who has been recommended by the Policy Committee for such appointment.
- 4. Despite the above, once new members have been elected in the direct primary election, any vacancy shall be filled automatically by the top vote getting member-elect residing in the District not already a Regular Member of This Committee.

**ARTICLE III. DUES**

**Section A. PAYMENT OF DUES**

- 1. The dues of This Committee shall be established by the Policy Committee and any change in the dues must be announced to the members of This Committee not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date each year on which dues are due and payable. Dues for Elected and Ex-Officio Members shall be payable at the Organizational Meeting and in the same month of the following year.
- 2. Dues for Appointed and Alternate Members are payable upon appointment.

**Section B. DEFERRAL OR WAIVER OF DUES**

Any member may request in writing or in person that the Credentials Committee allow the deferral or waiver of dues on the grounds of economic hardship. Denial by the Credentials

1 Committee may be appealed to the Policy Committee.  
2

3 **ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS**  
4

5 **Section A. OFFICERS OF THIS COMMITTEE**  
6

- 7 1. The officers of This Committee shall be a Chair, Vice-Chair (Male), Vice-Chair  
8 (Female), Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Controller,  
9 Parliamentarian, the Immediate Past Chair, and one (1) Vice-Chair from each  
10 Region. The office of Treasurer is an appointed position requiring an expert in  
11 campaign finance and reporting. As such, the Treasurer is not an officer for  
12 purposes of internal governance, but shall be a principal of This Committee for the  
13 purposes of campaign finance report filing and compliance with applicable  
14 campaign finance, tax and related law. Except for the Treasurer, no officer of This  
15 Committee may be an employee of This Committee.  
16
- 17 2. Any Regular Member in good standing of This Committee is eligible to be an officer  
18 of This Committee.
- 19 3. The following officers of This Committee shall be elected: a Chair, Vice-Chair  
20 (Male), Vice-Chair (Female), Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary,  
21 Controller, and one (1) Vice-Chair from each Region. The following officers shall  
22 not be elected: Immediate Past Chair, who serves by virtue of his/her status as  
23 such, and the Parliamentarian, who shall be appointed by the Chair of This  
24 Committee.  
25

26 **Section B. DUTIES OF OFFICERS**  
27

- 28 1. **Chair**  
29
- 30 a. The Chair shall be chief executive of This Committee with full power to  
31 enforce the provisions of these Constitution and By-Laws. She/he shall  
32 chair the Policy Committee and shall perform such other duties as are  
33 usually incident to the office.  
34
- 35 b. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of This Committee and the Policy  
36 Committee, shall appoint, and may at his/her discretion remove, a  
37 Parliamentarian, Chairs of Standing Committees and such special  
38 committees as are required to carry out the program of This Committee, a  
39 Newsletter Editor, an Internet Coordinator, Fair Booth Coordinator, Legal  
40 Counsel, a Treasurer and a Sergeant-at-Arms.  
41
- 42 c. Appointments to the offices described in Article IV.B.1.b., above, shall be  
43 subject to confirmation by the Policy Committee. Upon signed, written  
44 petition from two (2) or more Policy Committee members, the Policy  
45 Committee, by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, may overturn the Chair's  
46 decision to remove from office any of the above appointees.  
47
- 48 d. The Chair shall be an Ex-Officio Member of all standing and special  
49 committees.  
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- 51 2. **Vice-Chair (Male) and Vice-Chair (Female)**  
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- a. The Vice-Chair (Male) and Vice-Chair (Female) shall perform the duties and have the powers of the Chair when the latter is unable to act. In the event of the removal, resignation or death of the Chair, the Vice-Chair of the opposite sex shall exercise the powers and duties of the Chair. At the next meeting for which due notice can be given, an election shall be held for the office of Chair. Each Vice-Chair shall assist in the performance of the duties of the Chair upon request.

**3. Regional Vice-Chair**

- a. The Regional Vice-Chairs shall represent This Committee's Chair on all matters referred to them by him/her.
- b. The Regional Vice-Chair shall coordinate work of This Committee in their Regions and shall assist the Chairs of the Assembly District Delegations in their Regions.
- c. The Regional Vice-Chairs shall preside over the meetings of their Regions.
- d. Each Regional Vice-Chair shall appoint members of This Committee resident in his/her Region to each Standing Committee as provided in elsewhere in these Constitution and By-Laws.
- e. Each Regional Vice-Chair shall oversee the activities of such Standing Committees as the Chair of This Committee assigns.

**4. Recording Secretary**

- a. The Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of This Committee and the Policy Committee and the custodian of their records, except as otherwise provided.
- b. The Recording Secretary shall attest to all official actions of This Committee such as the election of officers, and termination and appointment of members and all such matters that require official attestation.
- c. The Recording Secretary shall keep the roll of the membership of This Committee and of the Policy Committee.
- d. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Recording Secretary, an election shall be held to fill the vacancy at the next meeting for which due notice can be given.

**5. Corresponding Secretary**

- a. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of This Committee and of the Policy Committee, except as otherwise provided.
- b. The Corresponding Secretary shall send out notices and minutes of the meetings of This Committee and of the Policy Committee.



- c. The Corresponding Secretary shall take the roll at meetings of This Committee and of the Policy Committee.
- d. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Corresponding Secretary, an election shall be held to fill the vacancy at the next meeting for which due notice can be given.
- e. The Corresponding Secretary shall perform other duties as directed by This Committee, the Policy Committee or the Chair.

**6. Controller**

- a. The Controller shall be responsible for preparing a budget as set forth in Article VIII.A. herein below.
- b. The Controller shall have the right to inspect all financial records upon demand.
- c. The Controller shall present written Financial Summaries comparing year to date actual receipts, disbursements and balances with year to date budgeted receipts, disbursements, and balances to This Committee on a Quarterly basis and to the Policy Committee at each of its regular meetings.

**7. Parliamentarian**

- a. The Parliamentarian's duties shall be those usually performed by such officer and such other duties as the Chair, the Policy Committee, or This Committee may assign. The Parliamentarian, shall, at the request of the Chair, render an opinion on all questions pertaining to these Constitution and By-Laws and the procedures of This Committee when requested.

**ARTICLE V. ELECTIONS AND RECALL**

**Section A. OFFICERS OF THIS COMMITTEE**

- 1. The Chair, Vice-Chair (Self-Identified Female), Vice Chair (Other than Self-Identified Female), Secretaries, and Controller shall be elected at the Organizational Meeting by all Regular Members of This Committee.
- 2. Nominations for these offices shall be accepted at the Organizational Meeting. A member may nominate himself/herself.
- 3. In any such election, This Committee's Parliamentarian, unless the Parliamentarian is a candidate for an office at issue in the election, shall be the Presiding Officer. Where the Parliamentarian is a candidate for an office at issue in the election, the most immediate past Chair of This Committee who is not a candidate for office shall be the Presiding Officer. Other rules for the election shall be established by the Policy Committee, after consultation with the Co-

1 Chairs of the Rules and Legal Committee, and subject to approval by This  
2 Committee.

- 3  
4 4. Challenges to the election of any officer shall be decided by an Appeals  
5 Committee at or during the meeting at which the election occurred, or is to occur,  
6 except as set forth below.

7  
8 a. Composition of Appeals Committee

9  
10 The validity of any challenge concerning the officer election process shall  
11 be determined by an Appeals Committee consisting of the Presiding Officer,  
12 one (1) Credentials Committee Co-Chair selected by the Chair of This  
13 Committee and one (1) Rules and Legal Committee Co-Chair selected by  
14 the Chair of This Committee. Although inclusion of a designated Co-  
15 Chair's name on the notice shall not limit the ability of the other Co-Chair to  
16 serve in the event of unavailability of the designee, the names of the Co-  
17 Chairs of the Credentials and Rules and Legal Committee designated by the  
18 Chair of This Committee to serve on the Appeals Committee shall be  
19 included in the election notice.

20  
21 b. Authority of Appeals Committee

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23 i. The Appeals Committee shall have authority to resolve the challenge and  
24 to order such remedy as may be just and equitable. Remedies may include,  
25 but are not limited to, disqualifying a challenged ballot, directing that a  
26 challenged ballot be counted, or directing that the election or any part thereof  
27 be reconducted. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final.

28  
29 ii. Except as otherwise set forth in this Article V. Section A.4.b, a challenge  
30 must be filed at the meeting at which the election occurred or is to occur. In  
31 the event a challenge is filed after the meeting in which the election has  
32 occurred, the Appeals Committee may determine that compelling unusual  
33 circumstances exist and vote to hear the challenge notwithstanding the fact it  
34 was filed after the close of the meeting, but only if the untimely challenge was  
35 filed no later than fourteen (14) days before the next regularly scheduled  
36 meeting of This Committee. In the event such a post-election appeal is  
37 sustained by unanimous vote of the Appeals Committee, the Appeals  
38 Committee may order the election re-run and establish the rules and procedures  
39 for the re-running thereof; provided that the person selected in the challenged  
40 election shall continue to serve until the election has been re-run.

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42 **Section B. REGIONAL VICE-CHAIRS**

- 43  
44 1. Each Regional Vice-Chair shall be elected within thirty (30) days after the  
45 Organizational Meeting of This Committee by those members of This Committee  
46 residing in the Region. A Regional Secretary shall be elected at the same time.  
47 Only a Regular member of This Committee resident in the Region is eligible to  
48 seek election or serve as a Regional Vice-Chair or a Regional Secretary.

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2. Should a vacancy occur during the term of a Regional Vice-Chair, the Secretary of that Region shall notify all the members of that Region that a meeting will be held (within thirty (30) days of the declaration of the vacancy) to fill the vacancy. If the Secretary does not send the notice, the Chair may instruct the Corresponding Secretary to send the notice. The notice shall be sent no less than five (5) days prior to the meeting, which shall be held in the Region or in conjunction with a regular meeting of This Committee.

10 **Section C. ASSEMBLY DISTRICT DELEGATION OFFICERS**

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1. Each Assembly District Delegation shall elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair at the Organizational Meeting of This Committee or the Delegation's first regular meeting after the Organizational Meeting. Only a Regular or Alternate Member of This Committee resident in the Assembly District is eligible to seek election or serve as a Delegation Chair or a Delegation Vice-Chair.
  2. In the absence of the Delegation Chair from any duly called Delegation meeting, or in the event of a vacancy, the Vice-Chair shall perform the duties and have the powers of the Delegation Chair during the course of the meeting or until the vacancy is filled, as applicable. The Vice-Chair shall be responsible for the taking of minutes at any Delegation meeting.
  3.
    - a. Should a vacancy occur in the office of Delegation Chair during the term of the Delegation Chair, the Vice-Chair of that Delegation shall notify all the members of that Delegation that a meeting will be held (within thirty (30) days of the declaration of the vacancy) to fill the vacancy.
    - b. Should a vacancy occur in the office of Delegation Vice-Chair during the term of the Delegation Vice-Chair, the Delegation Chair shall notify all members of that Delegation that a meeting will be held (within thirty (30) days of the declaration of the vacancy) to fill the vacancy.
    - c. If the applicable Delegation officer (Chair or Vice-Chair) does not send the notice, the Chair of This Committee may cause notice to be given to the Delegation.
    - d. The notice shall be sent no less than five (5) days prior to the meeting to fill the vacancy, which shall be in the district or in conjunction with a regular meeting of This Committee

42 **Section D. REPRESENTATIVES TO STATE COMMITTEE**

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1. The regular membership of each Assembly District Delegation shall automatically be elected as This Committee's representative to the State Committee provided written intent to serve has been filed with This Committee. Any representatives apportioned to This Committee which are not so elected shall be elected at-large. The at-large Delegates shall be used to balance the Delegation as equally as possible between self-

1 identified females and persons other than self-identified females. Alternate Members  
2 shall only be eligible for election provided there are not sufficient numbers of Regular  
3 Members, who choose to stand for election, to fill the Delegation. Within these  
4 parameters, the at-large candidates for representative receiving the most votes within  
5 their respective gender category shall be deemed elected. These representatives shall  
6 serve until their successors are elected, provided they remain members of This  
7 Committee.  
8

- 9
- 10 2. In the event there are insufficient candidates who have been selected to serve as  
11 representatives to the State Committee in time for This Committee to fill its allotted  
12 number of representatives to the State Committee by the State Committee's deadline  
13 for submission of representatives' names, the Policy Committee of This Committee  
14 or, at the Policy Committee's discretion, the Chair of This Committee shall be  
15 entitled to fill the remaining slots by appointment. Representatives to the Executive  
16 Board of the State Committee shall be elected pursuant to the Rules adopted by This  
17 Committee consistent with the Constitution and By-Laws of the State Committee and  
18 This Committee. Except as otherwise provided in this Article V. Section D,  
19 vacancies shall be filled by election, due notice having been given.

20 **Section E. RECALL OF OFFICERS**

- 21
- 22 1. Any officer of This Committee may be recalled by affirmative vote of two-thirds  
23 (2/3) of the eligible members present and voting provided that:  
24
- 25 a. The officer's recall has been requested by the Policy Committee or by  
26 written petition signed by thirty (30) Regular Members and containing the  
27 alleged grounds for recall;  
28
- 29 b. Written notice has been sent at least ten (10) days prior to the regular  
30 meeting stating the alleged grounds to each member;  
31
- 32 c. The officer is allowed thirty (30) minutes during which the officer and/or any  
33 persons selected by the officer shall be allowed to address this committee  
34 immediately before the vote.  
35
- 36 2. The method in this Section shall be in addition to any method provided by a Region  
37 for recall of its Regional Vice-Chair.  
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40 **ARTICLE VI. TREASURER AND LEGAL COUNSEL**

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42 **Section A. TREASURER**

- 43
- 44 1. A Treasurer may be appointed by the Chair of This Committee, subject to approval  
45 of the Policy Committee. The Treasurer may be an existing member of the Policy  
46 Committee, an employee of This Committee or an outside vendor. The principal  
47 duty of the Treasurer is to prepare and execute the statements required to be filed  
48 under the political campaign finance laws to which This Committee is subject. It is  
49 also a duty of the Treasurer to assure that a competent bookkeeper utilizing a  
50 system with an appropriate division of duties (which, at a minimum, shall meet the

1 safe-harbor requirements promulgated by applicable governmental authorities)  
2 maintains the books of This Committee.

- 3  
4 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Constitution and By-Laws, subject to  
5 the approval of the Policy Committee, the Treasurer may be compensated by This  
6 Committee, either as an employee or as independent contractor.  
7  
8 3. This Committee may enter into an indemnification agreement with the Treasurer.  
9 Any such agreement must be ratified by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of This  
10 Committee of those present and voting, a quorum being present.  
11  
12 4. The Treasurer may be assisted by employee(s) or outside vendor(s) of This  
13 Committee expert in campaign finance laws to which This Committee is subject,  
14 and employee(s) or outside vendor(s), which may be the same or different from  
15 the campaign finance expert, to keep the books of This Committee.  
16

17 **Section B. LEGAL COUNSEL**

- 18  
19 1. The Chair of This Committee, subject to approval by the Policy Committee, may hire  
20 or retain Legal Counsel, including a general counsel, to provide such legal services as  
21 may be required.  
22  
23 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Constitution and By-laws, subject to the  
24 approval of the Policy Committee, Legal Counsel may be compensated by This  
25 Committee either as an employee or as an independent contractor.  
26

27 **ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES**

28  
29 **Section A. POLICY COMMITTEE**

- 30  
31 1. The Policy Committee of This Committee shall be the officers of This Committee,  
32 the Co-Chairs of Standing Committees, the Newsletter Editor, the Internet  
33 Coordinator, the Fair Booth Coordinator, the Sergeant-at-Arms and the Regional  
34 Endorsement Coordinators: a quorum being ten (10) members consisting of at  
35 least four (4) County-Wide Officers, three (3) Regional Vice-Chairs, and three (3)  
36 other members. For purposes of any Policy Committee meetings during the first  
37 sixty (60) calendar days after the Organizational Meeting of This Committee, a  
38 quorum of the Policy Committee shall consist of a majority of the County-Wide  
39 Officers and Regional Vice-Chairs who, at the time of the meeting, are current  
40 members of This Committee. While both shall have the right to speak, neither the  
41 Treasurer, nor the Legal Counsel, shall have a vote on the Policy Committee, nor  
42 count towards a quorum.  
43  
44 2. The Policy Committee shall be charged with general oversight of the operations of  
45 This Committee, including the review and approval of contracts, the hiring and  
46 termination of staff, and the resolution of complaints against officers, members,  
47 and employees of This Committee, as well as organizations chartered by This  
48 Committee.  
49  
50 3. The Policy Committee shall be responsible for formulating, and overseeing the  
51 implementation of, the general policy of This Committee. The Policy Committee  
52 may exercise any of the powers of This Committee on an emergency basis if it

1 finds such action to be essential to maintenance of This Committee's operations  
 2 and programs. Any emergency action requires an affirmative vote of not less than  
 3 sixty percent (60%) of those members present and voting at a meeting with a  
 4 quorum. The exercise of emergency powers is to be rare and reserved to  
 5 situations where immediate action is genuinely essential. Nothing in this Section  
 6 A.3 shall in any way authorize any deviation from the process for the endorsement  
 7 of candidates or ballot measures set forth elsewhere in these Constitution and  
 8 By-Laws. Any emergency action undertaken under the authority of this Section A.3  
 9 shall be reported at the next meeting of This Committee.

- 10  
 11 4. Any member of the Policy Committee (except for the Chair of This Committee or  
 12 any member who is also a member of the Audit Committee) is eligible to serve as  
 13 Treasurer of This Committee.  
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22 **Section B. OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES**

- 23  
 24 1. The following Standing Committees shall be established:  
 25

Ballot Measures	Election Protection and Oversight	Organizational Chartering and Development
Budget	Events	Program and Education
Campaign Services	Finance	Resolutions
Candidate Interview	Judicial Interview	Rules & Legal
Community Outreach	Labor	Voter Registration and Development
Credentials	Legislative Action	

- 26  
 27 2. The Chair of This Committee shall appoint two (2) Co-Chairs of each Standing  
 28 Committee with the consent of the Policy Committee, within sixty (60) days after  
 29 the Organizational Meeting of This Committee. One (1) Co-Chair of each Standing  
 30 Committee may be an Alternate Member. Additionally, the Chair of This  
 31 Committee shall appoint at least one (1) additional member to each Committee,  
 32 which, along with the Committee Co-Chairs shall constitute the initial membership  
 33 of each Standing Committee. The Chair of This Committee shall consider  
 34 geographic diversity when appointing Co-Chairs of Standing Committees. A  
 35 separate process for appointments to the Budget, Finance and Audit Committees  
 36 are described in Article VII.B.4 and Article VII.D.1.  
 37  
 38 3. Each Regional Vice-Chair shall appoint members of his/her Region to the following

Standing Committees within sixty (60) days of the Organizational Meeting of This  
Committee in the following number per District:

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- Ballot Measures ..... 1 per Region
- Campaign Services ..... 1 per Region
- Candidate Interview ..... 1 per AD
- Community Outreach ..... 1 per Region
- Credentials..... 1 per AD
- Election Protection and Oversight . 1 per Region
- Events..... 1 per Region
- Judicial Interview..... 1 per Region

- 1 Labor.....1 per Region
- 2 Legislative Action.....1 per Region
- 3 Organizational Chartering
- 4 and Development.....1 per Region
- 5 Program and Education .....1 per Region
- 6 Resolutions.....1 per Region
- 7 Rules & Legal .....1 per Region
- 8 Voter Registration
- 9 and Development.....1 per Region

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Any Regular or Alternate Members who wish to serve on a Standing Committee who have not been so appointed may be appointed by the Chair of This Committee.

The Chair of This Committee may appoint additional members to Endorsement Recommendation Committees, except for Assembly District Delegations, to insure geographic or other diversity when considering a particular race(s).

- 4. The Budget and Finance Committees of This Committee shall each be composed of five (5) members of This Committee appointed by the Policy Committee.
- 5. The Chair of This Committee may, with the consent of the Policy Committee, appoint members of the Chair's Advisory Committee to any Standing Committee as non-voting member.

**Section C. NOTICE AND RULES**

- 1. The Chair of This Committee may remove the Chair or any member of a Standing Committee. A Standing Committee member who misses three (3) consecutive meetings is considered to have resigned.
- 2. Each Standing Committee shall meet at the call of its Chair upon seven (7) days written notice unless such Committee meets on a regular basis at a predetermined time and place.
- 3.
  - a. Each Standing Committee shall have such powers and duties as are implicit in its title and as assigned by these Constitution and By-Laws, the Chair, This Committee or the Policy Committee.
  - b. Except as otherwise provided in these Constitution and Bylaws, matters within the exclusive jurisdiction of a Standing Committee are to come for a vote of This Committee only upon a report of the Standing Committee.
- 4. Each Standing Committee shall adopt such rules as are necessary for its own operation not inconsistent with these Constitution and By-Laws; provided that no such rule may impair the voting rights of any person duly appointed to such Standing Committee beyond any restrictions specifically set forth in these Constitution and By-Laws.



5. Chairs of Standing Committees may, at their discretion, form subcommittees of their Standing Committees the recommendations of which may be reported directly to This Committee; provided, however, that any such subcommittees shall have not less than three (3) members and appointments thereto shall be made with due consideration for the principles of fairness and inclusion to which the Democratic Party is committed.
6. A quorum for Standing Committees shall be a majority of the filled positions with a maximum quorum requirement of one (1) Co-Chair and four (4) members, except with regard to Endorsement Recommendation Committees, which shall be as specified in Article XI.A.11.

**Section D. AUDIT COMMITTEE**

1. The Audit Committee shall consist of three (3) members appointed by the Policy Committee and approved by This Committee at the regular meeting following the Organizational Meeting. Members of the Audit Committee may not serve as Treasurer.
2. The members of the Audit Committee shall select the chair from among its members and so notify the Recording Secretary.
3. The members of the Audit Committee can be recalled in the same manner as an officer of This Committee.
4. The Audit Committee shall audit the financial records of This Committee at least once a year at a time determined by the Audit Committee. The chair of the Audit Committee shall report the results of the audit at the next meeting of This Committee.
5. The Audit Committee may inspect the financial records and reports of This Committee or any subordinated body at any time. It is an affirmative duty of the Audit Committee to assure that the Treasurer has arranged for a bookkeeper utilizing a system with an appropriate division of duties (which, at a minimum, shall meet the safe-harbor requirements promulgated by applicable governmental authorities) to maintain the books of This Committee.
6. The chair of the Audit Committee shall serve as member of the Policy Committee.

**Section E. CHAIR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Chair of This Committee may appoint non-member Democrats residing in Los Angeles County to the Chair's Advisory Committee, which shall advise the Chair on request.

**Section F. REMOVAL OF MEMBERS FROM POLICY COMMITTEE**

1. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Constitution and By-Laws, any member of the Policy Committee who misses three (3) of any four (4) consecutive properly noticed meetings of the Policy Committee is automatically removed from the Policy Committee.

- 1 a. Any Policy Committee member subject to removal pursuant to this Section  
2 and who wishes to contest such removal must file a written appeal at least  
3 ten (10) days before the next regularly scheduled meeting of This  
4 Committee. At that meeting, the appeal will be heard, and shall be decided  
5 by a majority vote of the members of the Committee in attendance.  
6  
7 b. In the absence of a timely-filed appeal, the Chair will announce the  
8 automatic removal of Policy Committee members removed pursuant to this  
9 Section during the Chair's report at the next regularly scheduled meeting  
10 of This Committee.  
11  
12 2. Removal of a member from the Policy Committee pursuant to this Section shall be  
13 deemed to create a vacancy in the position, which shall be filled pursuant to these  
14 Constitution and By-Laws.  
15  
16 3. This Section shall not apply to the Treasurer or to other members of the Policy  
17 Committee appointed by the Chair.  
18

19 **Section G. LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE**  
20

- 21 1. Except as set forth in Article VII., Section G.2, the Legislative Action Committee  
22 shall have exclusive jurisdiction over recommendations of positions of This  
23 Committee on federal, state and local legislation that is not in the form of a ballot  
24 measure.  
25  
26 2. Where state legislation has not previously been considered by This Committee  
27 during the relevant legislative session and the Chair of This Committee, in  
28 consultation with the Co-Chairs of the Legislative Action Committee, has  
29 determined that the Legislative Action Committee cannot consider a  
30 recommendation on that legislation in a timely manner, a recommendation to  
31 support or oppose the legislation may be brought directly to the floor of This  
32 Committee by a petition stating the proposed position on the legislation signed by  
33 twenty-five (25) Regular Members from at least five (5) Assembly Districts.  
34

35 **Section H. RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**  
36

37 1. INTRODUCTION  
38

- 39 a. The following shall govern the submission of resolutions:  
40  
41 (i) All resolutions must be typed;  
42  
43 (ii) Twenty (20) copies of each resolution must be provided to the  
44 Chair of the Resolutions Committee at least seven (7) days in  
45 advance of the meeting at which it is to be considered;  
46  
47 (iii) Whereas clauses must be limited to three (3) or less and resolved  
48 clauses to two (2) or less;  
49

1 (iv) All resolutions must contain an "action clause" indicating the  
2 action requested;

3  
4 (v) Resolutions must be no longer than one (1) side of one (1)  
5 typewritten page (8-1/2" x 11").  
6

7 b. The Resolutions Committee shall:

8  
9 (i) Consider only those resolutions submitted by a member of This  
10 Committee, an Assembly District Committee, a Region, or by an  
11 entity chartered by This Committee.  
12

13 (ii) Combine similar resolutions by re-writing.  
14

15 (iii) Reject resolutions which repeat past positions unless substantially  
16 new actions are proposed.  
17

18 (iv) Consider only those resolutions which by subject matter do not fall  
19 within the scope of the Legislative Action, Policy, Ballot Measures  
20 and Rules and Legal Committee(s).  
21

22 c. Except upon majority vote, the Resolutions Committee shall not consider any  
23 resolutions not in conformity with the foregoing rules.  
24

25 d. Except as otherwise provided below a resolution must first be  
26 presented to the Resolutions Committee. There shall be at least three (3) copies  
27 provided.  
28

29 e. For a resolution to be brought up directly on the floor of This Committee, it must  
30 be signed by twenty-five (25) Regular Members from at least five (5) Assembly  
31 Districts.  
32

33 2. PASSAGE  
34

35 a. A resolution approved by the Resolutions Committee shall be brought up  
36 automatically for consideration as part of the Resolutions Committee Report.  
37

38 b. A resolution not approved by the Resolutions Committee must meet the same  
39 signature requirements as one coming directly to the floor. These resolutions  
40 shall be considered during presentation of the report of the Resolutions  
41 Committee.  
42

43 c. No resolution shall be passed except upon sixty percent (60%) affirmative vote.  
44

45  
46 **ARTICLE VIII. BUDGET AND FINANCE**

47  
48 **Section A. BUDGET**

1  
2 An annual budget shall be proposed by the Controller to the Budget Committee and to the  
3 Finance Committee in joint session. The Controller shall timely provide copies of the  
4 proposed annual budget to the chairs of all Standing Committees in sufficient time to afford  
5 each Standing Committee an opportunity for input into the final proposed budget. The  
6 Budget and Finance Committees, in joint session, shall adopt the final proposed budget  
7 and propose it to This Committee at the February meeting.  
8

9 **Section B. EXPENDITURES**

- 10  
11 1. All appropriations and bills shall be presented to the Treasurer, who shall pay all  
12 approved budgeted bills and appropriations without further authorization. The  
13 Treasurer or the Treasurer's authorized representative or designee shall report all  
14 such expenditures at the next meeting of This Committee.  
15  
16 2. No expenditures shall be made from the general fund except as provided for in the  
17 budget. Any unbudgeted expenditures must first be referred to the Budget  
18 Committee for its approval. In exigent circumstances, the Chair and the Controller  
19 in conjunction with one (1) officer of This Committee elected on a county-wide  
20 basis by the entire Committee may authorize an unbudgeted expenditure without  
21 referral to the Budget or any other Committee, provided that they have made a  
22 specific finding that there are identifiable offsetting revenues that have a likelihood  
23 of eminent collection.  
24  
25 3. The Chair, Treasurer, Vice Chair (Male), and Vice-Chair (Female) are hereby  
26 authorized to sign checks on any account carried in the name of This Committee,  
27 provided the expenditure has been duly authorized. All checks shall require two  
28 (2) signatures. The Treasurer or Chair shall be a signatory on every check.  
29  
30 4. No member of This Committee shall make any financial commitment involving the  
31 expenditure of This Committee's funds other than those provided herein unless  
32 such person has been so authorized by a motion passed by This Committee  
33 specifically authorizing such expenditure or commitment. Violation of this provision  
34 shall constitute grounds for termination of the member's membership. Any  
35 member of This Committee may file the charges.  
36

37 **Section C. RECEIPTS**

- 38  
39 1. All funds received either by donation or by sale of tickets or other items in  
40 connection with the activities of any Committee of This Committee shall be  
41 deposited into the Treasury of This Committee. Such funds shall then be made  
42 available to the responsible Committee chair upon request to the Treasurer of This  
43 Committee. Any unused funds shall be returned to the general fund upon  
44 completion of the Committee's activity.  
45  
46  
47

48 **ARTICLE IX. MEETINGS**

49 **Section A. REGULAR MEETINGS**

- 50  
51 1. This Committee shall meet on the evening of the second Tuesday of each month  
52

1 except the Chair may designate another weekday evening (other than a Friday)  
2 for the meeting if the second Tuesday is a legal holiday or if there falls upon the  
3 second Tuesday an event that would make holding the meeting inappropriate in  
4 the opinion of the Policy Committee. Should a regular meeting be held on any  
5 evening other than the second Tuesday of the month, the absence from such a  
6 meeting shall not count for purposes of removal from This Committee.  
7

- 8 2. This Committee may cancel its next regular meeting provided that notice of such  
9 cancellation is sent to all members of This Committee at least seven (7) days  
10 before the date of the meeting being canceled and provided that no two (2)  
11 consecutive meetings are canceled.
- 12 3. The Organizational Meeting of This Committee shall replace the regular meeting  
13 of This Committee in July of the year following the election of new members and  
14 shall take place on the second Monday of July.
- 15 4. The Chair shall schedule meetings at times which provide for the maximum  
16 participation of the members.
- 17 5. Written notice of all regular meetings of This Committee shall be sent to all  
18 members of This Committee at least seven (7) days prior to each meeting. Such  
19 notice shall contain time, place and proposed agenda for the meeting. All  
20 members of the Policy Committee shall be given notice of all Policy Committee  
21 meetings in written form, which can be electronic (where the member has  
22 consented to electronic notice), or by telephone at least seven (7) days prior to  
23 each meeting. By that same deadline, notice of all Policy Committee meetings shall  
24 be posted on This Committee's website. All such meeting notices shall contain the  
25 time, place and proposed agenda for each meeting.  
26  
27  
28  
29

30 **Section B. SPECIAL MEETINGS**

- 31 1. The Chair of This Committee may call a special meeting of This Committee on any  
32 day that is not a legal holiday. The Chair may call a special meeting of the Policy  
33 Committee on any day not a legal holiday.  
34  
35
- 36 2. Any thirty (30) Regular Members representing a majority of Assembly Districts may  
37 call a special meeting of This Committee on any day not a legal holiday. The  
38 names of those calling the meeting shall be included in the written notice of the  
39 meeting.  
40
- 41 3. Only the business specified in the written notice of a special meeting shall be  
42 conducted at such meeting.  
43
- 44 4. Written notice of all special meetings of This Committee shall be sent to all  
45 members of This Committee at least seven (7) days prior to such meeting.  
46 Reasonable advance notice shall be given to all members of the Policy Committee  
47 of all special meetings of the Policy Committee in written form, which can be  
48 electronic (where the member has consented to electronic notice), or by telephone.  
49 In addition, reasonable advance written notice of all special meetings of the Policy  
50 Committee meetings shall be posted on This Committee's website. All such  
51 meeting notices shall contain the time, place and business to be considered.

1  
2 **Section C. EMERGENCY MEETINGS**  
3

4 1. The Chair may call an emergency meeting of This Committee to  
5 determine the nominee of the Party to partisan office in the event of a vacancy  
6 described in Article I.C of these Constitution and By-Laws.  
7

8 2. As much notice as possible shall be given.  
9

10  
11  
12 **Section D. PROCEDURES**  
13

14  
15 1. The proceedings of This Committee, and of the Policy Committee, shall be  
16 governed by Robert's Rules of Order, except as otherwise provided herein,  
17 applicable rules or By-Laws of the Democratic National Committee or California  
18 Democratic Party or the Election Code. Rules of procedure for Standing and  
19 special Committees, Regions and Assembly Districts Delegations may be made  
20 by those bodies provided they do not conflict with rules set forth in these  
21 Constitution and By-Laws, including Article VII.C.4.  
22

23 2. A quorum for transaction of business at any meeting of This Committee shall  
24 consist of fifty (50) members representing a majority of the Assembly Districts.  
25

26 3. Except as otherwise provided herein or in Robert's Rules of Order, all actions taken  
27 by This Committee or any subordinate body of This Committee shall be by  
28 affirmative vote of a majority of those members eligible to vote who are present  
29 and voting, a quorum being present. Abstaining members count as being present  
30 for purposes of a quorum, but abstentions do not count for purposes of determining  
31 the outcome of a vote. Secret ballots shall not be allowed on any vote. In the event  
32 a written ballot is utilized in any proceeding, it shall bear the printed name and  
33 signature of the voter, and shall be maintained by This Committee for a period of  
34 at least ninety (90) days. In the case of ballots regarding endorsement  
35 recommendation(s) or endorsement(s), such ballots shall be maintained for not  
36 less than ninety (90) days or until the day after the next regular meeting of This  
37 Committee after the election in question, whichever is later.

38 4. A member must be present in order to participate in the business of This  
39 Committee or any subordinate body of This Committee. No proxy or absentee  
40 voting shall be permitted.  
41

42 5. All Regular, Alternate and Associate Members of This Committee shall have the  
43 right to speak at meetings of This Committee. Only members of the Policy  
44 Committee shall have the right to speak at meetings of the Policy Committee  
45 except as otherwise authorized by the Policy Committee.  
46

47 6. Privilege of the floor may be granted if:  
48

49 a. The speaker has been requested to speak by the Chair.  
50

51 b. The speaker has been requested to report on the activities of a sub-  
52 committee by the chair of that sub-committee.

- 1  
2 c. Time is ceded by someone eligible for the floor.  
3

4 **Section E. GENERAL POLICIES**  
5

6 The Los Angeles County Democratic Party acknowledges and adopts, as its own, the  
7 following General Policies of the National and State Democratic Party:  
8

- 9 1. All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party shall be open to all  
10 members of the Democratic Party without regard to race, color, creed, national  
11 origin, sex, age, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, disabilities as defined  
12 by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 or economic status.  
13  
14 2. There shall be no membership requirements tests, or loyalty oaths for This  
15 Committee or at any other level of the Democratic Party causing or requiring, either  
16 directly or indirectly, prospective or current members of the Democratic Party to  
17 acquiesce in, condone or support discrimination on the grounds of race, color,  
18 creed, national origin, sex, age, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation,  
19 disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 or economic  
20 status.  
21  
22 3. This Committee shall support nondiscriminatory, and the broadest possible, voter  
23 registration.  
24  
25 4. This Committee shall publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to  
26 all interested parties a full description of the legal and practical procedures for  
27 selection of Democratic Party Officers and representatives on all levels.  
28

29 **Section F. EMAIL NOTICE**  
30

- 31 1. This Committee may provide any notice via email if:  
32  
33 a. The recipient has consented, in writing, on forms provided by This  
34 Committee to receiving notice in this manner;  
35  
36 b. The notice is sent to the email address specified when the  
37 recipient gave consent, or the most recent email address specified on a  
38 subsequent notice of change of address by the recipient;  
39  
40 c. The obligation to inform, and procedure for informing, This  
41 Committee of any change in email address, has been specified in writing;  
42  
43 d. The recipient has received from This Committee an initial  
44 email confirmation of their consent to receiving notice via email, and has  
45 reconfirmed that consent by means of a return email;  
46  
47 e. The recipient agrees, in writing, that This Committee is not  
48 responsible should the recipient fail to open, receive, view or read their  
49 incoming emails and, therefore, did not receive actual knowledge of the  
50 material contained in the email notice in a timely manner;

1 f. The recipient acknowledges in writing that they have been  
2 informed, in writing, that their email address will be made public unless they  
3 exercise an option to maintain the confidentiality of their address on a form  
4 provided by This Committee. The confidentiality from public disclosure  
5 does not preclude the dissemination of the recipient's email address to the  
6 staff of This Committee or others with a need to know the member's email  
7 address in order to provide effective notice to the recipient; and

8 g. Any email providing notice shall contain;

9 (i) information about how a recipient who has previously consented  
10 to email notice can "opt out" of receiving future notices by email;  
11 and

12 (ii) information about how to submit a change of email address.

13 2. Notice to This Committee of the change of the email address of a person  
14 consenting to email notice is to be provided to This Committee in writing. Similarly,  
15 to be effective, notice of the revocation of such consent (that is, of a person who  
16 has consented to email notice choosing to terminate that consent and opt out of  
17 email notice on a going forward basis) shall be provided to This Committee in  
18 writing.  
19

## 20 **ARTICLE X. CANDIDATE NOMINATION**

21  
22 This Committee, alone or in conjunction with other County Committee or State  
23 Committee members, shall nominate candidates to fill vacancies as provided by Section  
24 8806 of the Election Code.  
25

## 26 **ARTICLE XI. ENDORSEMENT**

### 27 **Section A. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

28  
29 The following general provisions shall govern all endorsement recommendation and  
30 endorsement proceedings of This Committee or its Endorsement Recommendation  
31 Committees:  
32

#### 33 1. **Definition and Jurisdiction of Endorsement Recommendation Committee**

##### 34 a. **Jurisdiction**

35  
36 The following Committees may be referred to as Endorsement  
37 Recommendation Committees and shall have the following jurisdiction:  
38

39 (i) Assembly District Delegation(s) – The Assembly District Delegation  
40 of each Assembly District in which a candidate for a particular race  
41 is on the ballot, shall have jurisdiction over Local Races; defined  
42 herein as races covering less than four (4) Assembly Districts,  
43 excluding Los Angeles County offices, municipal offices of the City  
44  
45  
46



1 of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Unified School District, and Los  
2 Angeles Community College District. If more than one (1)  
3 Assembly District Delegation has jurisdiction, they shall meet  
4 jointly. If more than four (4) Assembly District Delegations would  
5 have jurisdictions, the race shall be considered by the Candidate  
6 Interview Committee. Meetings shall be held at the call of the Chair  
7 of This Committee, or his or her designee;

- 8  
9 (ii) Candidate Interview Committee – The Candidate Interview  
10 Committee shall have jurisdiction over all Non-Judicial Races that  
11 involve Los Angeles County offices, municipal offices of the City of  
12 Los Angeles, Los Angeles Unified School District, and Los Angeles  
13 Community College District elections and/or other non-partisan  
14 races covering more than four (4) Assembly Districts;  
15  
16 (iii) Judicial Interview Committee – The Judicial Interview Committee  
17 shall have jurisdiction over all Judicial Races and retention  
18 questions; and,  
19  
20 (iv) Ballot Measure Committee – The Ballot Measure Committee shall  
21 have jurisdiction over all measure contests including state and local  
22 initiatives, propositions, and referenda, other than recall elections.  
23  
24 (v) Screening and Early Endorsement Recommendation Committee  
25 (SEER Committee) – The SEER Committee shall have jurisdiction  
26 over non-partisan races that have been placed into a “Candidate  
27 Recruitment Track”, which may allow certain participating  
28 candidates to receive early endorsements.  
29

30 **2. Percentage Required for Endorsement or Recommendation for**  
31 **Endorsement**

32  
33 This Committee may endorse, and Endorsement Recommendation Committees  
34 may recommend, by affirmative vote of sixty percent (60%) of those members  
35 voting any Democrat who has filed as a candidate for non-partisan office or for  
36 partisan office in a special election; blank ballots, void ballots, and abstentions  
37 shall not count towards the total. The same sixty percent (60%) requirement shall  
38 apply to endorsements in support of, or opposition to, ballot measures.  
39

40 **3. Validity of Written Ballot**

41  
42 To be valid, a written ballot must include the printed name of the member or  
43 alternate casting the ballot and their signature.  
44

45 **4. Calculation of Percentages**

46  
47 The sixty percent (60%) threshold is calculated by multiplying the number of ballots  
48 cast--excluding blank ballots, void ballots, and abstentions--by .6 and if a whole  
49 number is not obtained, rounding up to the next whole number.  
50

51 *[For example: If one hundred (100) votes are cast, sixty percent (60%) is sixty*  
52 *(60) votes; however, if one hundred two (102) votes are cast, multiplication by .6*

1 *results in 61.2, which is rounded up to the next whole number. Accordingly, sixty-*  
2 *two (62) votes would be needed to make an endorsement or recommendation of*  
3 *endorsement.]*

4  
5 **5. Prohibition on Multiple Endorsements**

6  
7 This Committee shall not endorse more candidates for an office than the number  
8 to be elected for that office.  
9

10  
11  
12 **6. Only One Form of Endorsement**

13  
14 This Committee shall make no form of endorsement other than an official  
15 endorsement as expressly described in these Constitution and By-Laws.  
16

17 **7. Prohibition on Supporting or Endorsing Non-Democrats**

18  
19 This Committee shall not in any way support or endorse a candidate who is not a  
20 registered Democrat.  
21

22 **8. Notice of Endorsement Proceedings, Service of Standard Candidate**  
23 **Questionnaire & Proof of Service**

24  
25 a. Whenever an endorsement procedure is initiated, except as to ballot  
26 measures, the Chair of the relevant Endorsement Recommendation  
27 Committee, or his/her designee, shall be responsible for sending to all  
28 candidates notification in writing of:

29  
30 (i) The date, time and place of all relevant meetings;

31  
32 (ii) Their right to consideration;

33  
34 (iii) The requirement that, in order to be considered for endorsement by  
35 This Committee, they must be registered Democrats as of the close  
36 of filing or the first consideration by an Endorsement  
37 Recommendation Committee of their race, whichever is earlier;

38  
39 (iv) The content of the Standard Candidate Questionnaire adopted by  
40 the Policy Committee of This Committee by providing them with a  
41 copy of the questionnaire;

42  
43 (v) The instructions for return of the completed Standard Candidate  
44 Questionnaire; and,

45  
46 (vi) The instructions for payment of Administrative Fees.  
47

48 These requirements do not apply to the Early Endorsement Procedure for  
49 races on the Candidate Recruitment Track.  
50

51 b. The Chair of This Committee may reassign the above responsibilities to  
52 another member of This Committee.

- 1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7
- c. The above written notification shall be sent at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting of the Endorsement Recommendation Committee.
  - d. A proof of service of notification shall be maintained by This Committee for a period of at least thirty (30) days after the relevant election.

8  
9

9. **Special Notice Provisions for Ballot Measures**

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12  
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21

Whenever an endorsement procedure is initiated as to a ballot measure, the Chair of the Ballot Measure Committee or his/her designee, shall be responsible for causing to be posted on This Committee's public website not less than seven days prior to the first such meeting the date, time and place of all relevant meetings in the endorsement process for that measure and, in the event additional meetings are added, reasonably in advance of any such meetings. The Chair of This Committee or his/her designee shall endeavor to provide members of This Committee with reasonable advance notice by electronic mail of the date, time and place of all such relevant meetings. The failure of the Chair of This Committee to provide such notice by electronic mail shall not be sufficient grounds for challenging an endorsement recommendation or endorsement decision.

22  
23  
24

10. **Application of the Open Meetings Rule to Endorsement Recommendation Process; Notification of Committee Actions and Recommendations**

- 25  
26  
27  
28
- a. The Rule of this Party that all public meetings of This Committee are open to all registered Democrats applies with full force and effect to meetings of Endorsement Recommendation Committees.

29  
30  
31

The meetings of Endorsement Recommendation Committees are public meetings subject to this rule with the following exceptions:

- 32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47
- (i) Endorsement interviews and review and discussion of completed candidate questionnaires may reflect deliberations about campaign strategy and, as a result, are not public parts of any Endorsement Recommendation Committee meetings. As a result, only members of the Endorsement Recommendation Committee, officers of This Committee and the Chair's designees, unless otherwise excluded herein, may attend these parts of any Endorsement Recommendation Committee meetings.
  - (ii) A candidate for the office under consideration at the relevant portion of the Endorsement Recommendation Committee meeting and any other persons serving in paid employment at the pleasure of such candidate may only attend the non-public portion of the meeting dealing with her/his race in which that candidate is being interviewed and shall otherwise be excluded therefrom.

- 48  
49  
50  
51  
52
- b. Voting on recommendations to This Committee, including debate on any such motion, is a public part of any Endorsement Recommendation Committee meeting and recommendations of an Endorsement Recommendation Committee are public information and are not to be kept secret.

1  
2 To that end, and to insure the free and fair flow of information regarding  
3 such recommendations, the chair of an Endorsement Recommendation  
4 Committee:

5  
6 (i) Shall, within seventy-two (72) hours of a decision of an  
7 Endorsement Recommendation Committee, diligently attempt to  
8 notify the Chair of This Committee, along with all candidates  
9 whose races have been considered, of the content of the  
10 recommendations of the Endorsement Recommendations  
11 Committee; and,

12  
13 (ii) May provide such notice either orally, in writing, telephonically, or  
14 electronically, or by any other form of actual notice.  
15

16 **11. Conflict of Interest Provisions**

17  
18 a. A member of This Committee may not vote on nor make a motion  
19 concerning a recommendation for endorsement of a candidate during  
20 proceedings of an Endorsement Recommendation Committee if:

21  
22 (i) The member is a candidate for the public office under consideration;  
23 or,

24  
25 (ii) The member is a paid employee or independent contractor of the  
26 controlled committee of a candidate for the office under  
27 consideration; or,

28  
29 (iii) The member is an employee who serves or works in paid  
30 employment at the pleasure of a person standing for election to the  
31 office under consideration; provided, however, that nothing in this  
32 rule shall preclude any person serving on a non-salaried basis as  
33 an appointee to a public panel, board or commission from voting on  
34 such a recommendation for endorsement.  
35

36 b. Disqualified members may, however, participate in discussion and debate.  
37

38 **12. Quorum**

39  
40 a. **Minimum Participation**

41  
42 (i) **Endorsement Recommendation Committees Consisting of an  
43 Assembly District(s)**

44  
45 Assembly District Delegations meeting as Endorsement  
46 Recommendation Committees, either alone or in conjunction with  
47 other Assembly District Delegations, have the following quorum  
48 requirements:

49  
50 a) In the case of a single Assembly District Delegation, a  
51 majority of the filled positions of all Regular Members, with  
52 a maximum quorum requirement of six (6);

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- b) In the case of a two (2) Assembly District Delegations meeting jointly, a majority of the filled positions of all Regular Members, with a maximum quorum requirement of nine (9);
- c) In the case of a three (3) Assembly District Delegations meeting jointly, a majority of the filled positions of all Regular Members, with a maximum quorum requirement of twelve (12); and
- d) In the case of a four (4) Assembly District Delegations meeting jointly, a majority of the filled positions of all Regular Members, with a maximum quorum requirement of fifteen (15).

*[Note: Regular Members are defined as Elected, Appointed, and Ex-Officio Members. A majority is calculated by first determining the number of filled positions and then subtracting any disqualified members as described in XI.A.10 above.]*

**(ii) Endorsement Recommendation Committees Consisting of a Standing or Ad Hoc Committee**

A quorum of any meeting of an Endorsement Recommendation Committee, which is a Standing Committee, an Ad Hoc Committee or any subcommittee thereof, is a majority of the filled positions.

*[Note: A majority is calculated by first determining the number of filled positions and then subtracting any disqualified members as described in XI.A.10 above.]*

**b. Effect of Disqualification on Quorum**

**(i) Endorsement Recommendation Committees Consisting of an Assembly District(s)**

In the event a member of an Assembly District Delegation is disqualified from participating in a specific race, that member's alternate may participate and shall be counted for purposes of determining a quorum, unless the alternate is otherwise disqualified. If both the member and alternate are disqualified, neither shall be counted as a member of the Delegation for purposes of determining a quorum, for that specific race.

**(ii) Endorsement Recommendation Committees Consisting of a Standing or Ad Hoc Committee**

Whenever a member of a Standing Committee or Ad Hoc Committee considering endorsements is disqualified from voting, that individual shall not be counted as a member of the Standing Committee or Ad Hoc Committee for purposes of determining a quorum, for that specific race.

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**13. Participation of Alternate Members**

- a. Alternates may only vote on endorsement recommendations at the Assembly District level, if:
  - (i) The Appointing Member is not present at the time of the vote, or
  - (ii) Their Appointing Member is disqualified, whether or not the Appointing Member is present at the time of the vote.
- b. Alternate Members serving on Endorsement Recommendation Committees that are Standing or Ad Hoc Committees have the same rights and privileges as Regular Members on the committee.

**14. Exclusive Procedure**

Except as provided in this Article XI.E.,G.,H. and J., the only valid motions to endorse must originate from an Endorsement Recommendation Committee. No other motions to endorse shall be in order. If a motion to endorse originating from an Endorsement Recommendation Committee is not adopted, balloting shall proceed as provided in Article XI.D.5.

**15. Binding Nature of Rules**

The rules in this Article XI are substantive and may not be suspended, modified, supplemented or waived by any Endorsement Recommendation Committee nor by This Committee, except as specifically provided herein.

**Section B. PREREQUISITES TO CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENT PROCESS**

**1. Initiation of Endorsement Process**

- a. Endorsement procedures for a candidate shall only take place when requested in writing by a candidate who has taken out papers for a non-partisan office, or by a member of This Committee.
- b. In any race in which the Chair of This Committee reasonably believes that the Endorsement Recommendation Committee responsible for initiating an Endorsement Recommendation process will fail to do so, or has failed to do so, upon proper request, the responsibility for making such recommendation may be reassigned by the Chair of This Committee to the Candidate Interview Committee or Policy Committee.

**2. Restriction on Timing of Endorsement**

No endorsement or recommendation for endorsement shall take place until the deadline for filing has passed unless the race has been placed in the Candidate Recruitment Track. Nothing in this section shall prevent:

- a. The scheduling of meetings;

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- b. The Notice of Endorsement Proceedings; and/or
- c. The Service of a Standard Candidate Questionnaire prior to the close of filing.

**3. Administrative Fees for Endorsement & Waiver**

**a. Fees**

Each candidate seeking the endorsement of This Committee shall submit to the relevant Endorsement Recommendations Committee Chair, a non-refundable administrative filing fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100) in the case of races involving more than four (4) Assembly Districts and Fifty Dollars (\$50) in all other cases. This fee shall be submitted by the time of the Endorsement Recommendations Committee Meeting in which his/her name is considered.

**b. Waiver**

In the event of economic hardship, candidates may offset the filing fee by submitting proof of registration of new Democrat voters who have been registered within the three (3) months immediately preceding the Endorsement Recommendation Committee meeting. Each registration shall reduce the filing fee by One Dollar (\$1) for each proof of such registration submitted. Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, the fee and/or proof of registration must be delivered by the time of the Endorsement Recommendation Committee meeting. A waiver of all or part of the filing fee may also be granted for economic hardship by the Chair of This Committee.

**4. Submission of Completed Standard Candidate Questionnaire**

The Candidate or the Candidate's designee is to submit at least ten (10) copies of the completed Standard Candidate Questionnaire to the Chair of the Endorsement Recommendation Committee prior to consideration of that particular race. Completed Standard Candidate Questionnaires are an adjunct to deliberations about electoral strategy. The Chair of the Endorsement Recommendation Committee and any other person with custody of an original or copy thereof shall take such steps as are necessary to safeguard the confidentiality of such completed Standard Candidate Questionnaires pursuant to the written guidance promulgated by the Policy Committee of This Committee.

**5. Eligibility of Candidates for Endorsement**

Only a candidate who has timely paid or had waived the applicable administrative filing fee and timely submitted a completed Standard Candidate Questionnaire shall be eligible for endorsement.

**6. Candidate Recruitment Track and Early Endorsement Procedure**

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- a. Overview and Purpose – In rare circumstances, This Committee may select certain races and candidates to qualify to be included in a Candidate Recruitment Track, which allows them to receive training, endorsements and support before the close of filing.
  
  - b. Selection of Races – Any member of This Committee may suggest non-partisan races to be considered for the Candidate Recruitment Track to the Co-Chairs of the Campaign Services Committee. The Chair of This Committee, in consultation with the Co-Chairs of the Campaign Services Committee, may select non-partisan races to be included in the Candidate Recruitment Track. To be selected, races must exhibit at least one (1) of the following characteristics:
    - (i) Currently or historically held by a non-Democrat;
    - (ii) Historically difficult for a Democrat to be victorious;
    - (iii) Democratic disadvantage in voter registration; and/or,
    - (iv) Democratic disadvantage in voter performance.
  
  - c. Candidate Recruitment – After a race is selected, members of the Assembly District Delegation(s) in whose jurisdiction(s) the race is situated, the Campaign Services Committee, organizations chartered by This Committee, the Chair of This Committee and its staff may all offer people to be considered for the screening and early endorsement process.
  
  - d. Recommendation of Candidates for Early Endorsement – After a race is selected, the Chair of This Committee shall appoint a “Screening and Early Endorsement Recommendation Committee” (SEER Committee), for that race which shall consist of:
    - (i) The Co-Chair(s) of the Campaign Services Committee;
    - (ii) The Chair(s) of the affected Assembly District Delegation(s), or their designee(s), who must be members of This Committee;
    - (iii) The Regional Vice-Chair(s) and Regional Endorsement Coordinator(s) of the affected Region(s);
    - (iv) Associate Members appointed by a chartered organization who reside in the affected Assembly District(s) (who shall be non-voting members); and
    - (v) The Chair of This Committee’s designee, who may be an employee of This Committee.



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- e. SEER Committee Duties – The SEER Committee shall have the responsibility to conduct a screening process to determine whether suggested candidates are appropriate to receive an early endorsement. The SEER Committee, by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of those present and voting, may vote to recommend a candidate or candidates for early endorsement in a race that has been selected. As with all endorsements, blank ballots, void ballots and abstentions do not count toward the total. The SEER Committee need not recommend candidates for all open seats in a selected race.
  
- f. Consideration of Candidates for Early Endorsement – The SEER Committee’s candidate recommendations shall be considered at a regular meeting of This Committee at which time, subject to the ordinary rules concerning severance, the sole motion before the body will be whether to accept or reject the SEER Committee’s recommendation.
  
- g. Percentage Required for Early Endorsement – This Committee may make an Early Endorsement of a candidate who has been recommended for Early Endorsement by the SEER Committee. Early endorsement requires an affirmative vote of sixty percent (60%) of those members voting any Democrat; blank ballots, void ballots, and abstentions shall not count towards the total.
  
- h. Effect of the Early Endorsement Process on This Committee’s General Endorsement Process
  - (i) Early endorsements shall carry through to the date of the election or subsequent run-off election unless revoked by means outlined in these Constitution and By-Laws.
  
  - (ii) Should early endorsement(s) be granted to fewer candidates than the number of open seats in a given race, other candidates shall be eligible to be considered for endorsement to the remaining seats through the general endorsement process.
  
  - (iii) Otherwise eligible candidates who do not receive an early endorsement shall be eligible to participate and be considered in the general endorsement process.

**Section C. ENDORSEMENT RECOMMENDATION COMMITTEES AND PROCESS**

- 1. **Regional Endorsement Coordinators**
  - a. **Appointment and Jurisdiction**

1 The Chair of This Committee shall appoint one Regional Endorsement  
2 Coordinator for each Region who shall be responsible for coordinating local  
3 endorsements in their Region. If a local race includes portions of more  
4 than one (1) Region, the Chair of This Committee shall determine which of  
5 the Regional Endorsement Coordinators shall be responsible for  
6 coordinating that endorsement.

7 **2. Calendar**

- 8
- 9 a. For all endorsement procedures, a calendar shall be established which  
10 includes the dates of all elections, the date/time/location for Endorsement  
11 Recommendation Committee meetings, and dates by which notice shall be  
12 required to be served for those meetings.
- 13
- 14 b. For Endorsement Recommendation Committees that are Standing  
15 Committees, the chairs of those committees shall be responsible for  
16 creating this calendar.
- 17
- 18 c. For Endorsement Recommendation Committees that are Assembly District  
19 Delegations, the Regional Endorsing Coordinator, in consultation with the  
20 Assembly District Delegation Chair(s), shall be responsible for creating this  
21 calendar for races in or assigned to their respective regions.

22

23 **3. Endorsement Recommendation Committee Meetings, Options and Actions**

24

25 **a. Endorsement Recommendation Options and Required Percentage**

26

27 An Endorsement Recommendation Committee may, upon affirmative vote  
28 of sixty percent (60%) of those present and voting, with blank ballots, void  
29 ballots, and abstentions not being counted toward the total, make any of  
30 the following recommendations:

- 31
- 32 (i) Recommend This Committee endorse a particular candidate or  
33 position.
- 34
- 35 (ii) Recommend This Committee take a position of “No Endorsement”.

36

37 **b. “No Consensus”**

38

39 In the event an Endorsement Recommendation Committee considers a  
40 race and fails to make one of the recommendations set forth in Article XI.  
41 C.3.a. above, the report of the Endorsement Recommendation Committee  
42 shall be “No Consensus”.

43

44 **c. Recommendation of Finding of Unacceptability**

45

46 In rare circumstances, an Endorsement Recommendation Committee may  
47 also recommend This Committee make a finding that a specific candidate  
48 is “Unacceptable”.

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50 **Section D. ENDORSEMENT PROCESS**

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52 **1. Presentation of Endorsement Recommendation Committee Report**

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a. **Consent Calendar**

A consent calendar may be used at the discretion of the Chair of This Committee, provided:

- (i) It is only used for a report of the Candidate Interview Committee, Judicial Interview Committee, and/or Ballot Measure Committee;
- (ii) It is not used by (an) Assembly District Delegation(s); and,
- (iii) It is in writing and distributed at or before the meeting at which the consent calendar is considered.

b. **Endorsement Recommendation Committee Reports Not on a Consent Calendar**

- (i) The chair or designated spokesperson of an Endorsement Recommendation Committee shall present a report on its recommendation(s) including a brief description of its process and setting forth in full the reason for its recommendation(s).
- (ii) Each jurisdiction will be presented and voted on individually.
- (iii) For purposes of this Article XI, a jurisdiction is the County, a city, a school or community college district or any other district (i.e.: a water or library district).
- (iv) At-large offices will be presented and voted on separately from all other offices.

Example A) In a city that has multiple City Council Members that are each elected in separate districts, plus an elected Mayor and Treasurer, all endorsement recommendations will be presented as a single motion.

Example B) In a city that has multiple City Council Members that are elected at-large by all voters in the city, plus an elected Mayor and Treasurer, the endorsement recommendations for Mayor and Treasurer will be presented as a single motion, with all of the recommendations for the at-large City Council presented as a separate motion.

- (v) Any office, including an at-large office, for which the Endorsement Recommendation Committee's report reflects "No Consensus" shall be considered separately under a separate procedure for addressing a "No Consensus" result.

2. **Severance**

1 Candidates, at-large offices and/or ballot measure positions may be severed from  
2 a consent calendar or a motion from an Endorsement Recommendation  
3 Committee upon request of a credentialed member of This Committee seconded  
4 by twenty (20) members who show their voting credentials. No written petitions  
5 are required for this process.  
6

7 A severance request, however denominated, in connection with an at-large race  
8 shall result in all recommendations (candidates or other positions) in that race  
9 being severed and considered separately and individually.  
10

11 A report that the Endorsement Recommendation Committee reached a “No  
12 Consensus” result with respect to an office does not need to be severed as it shall  
13 be dealt with separately under a separate procedure.  
14

15 **3. Order of Consideration**

16 The order of endorsement recommendation consideration shall be as follows:  
17

- 18
- 19 a. All parts of a consent calendar, or Endorsement Recommendation  
20 Committee’s motion, which have not been severed;  
21
  - 22 b. Candidates or positions severed from a consent calendar or Endorsement  
23 Recommendation Committee recommendation, with the first vote being on  
24 the Endorsement Recommendation Committee’s recommendation;  
25

26 In at-large races where severance has been requested and has been  
27 seconded by twenty (20) members, balloting for each seat shall occur  
28 separately and individually considering each recommended candidate or  
29 position, one (1) at a time in alphabetical order by last name. Each of the  
30 Endorsement Recommendation Committee’s recommendations shall be  
31 considered before any other balloting is to occur;  
32

- 33 c. One (1) or more written ballot(s) including all eligible candidates not already  
34 endorsed, with the option of No Endorsement being included in all such  
35 balloting;  
36
- 37 d. Consideration of races or seats under the separate procedure for  
38 addressing a “No Consensus” result;  
39
- 40 d. Ballot measure positions other than “No Consensus”; and  
41
- 42 e. Consideration of ballot measures under the separate procedure for  
43 addressing a “No Consensus” result.  
44

45 **4. Debate**

- 46
- 47 a. Except when presented as a consent calendar or when subject to the  
48 separate procedure for addressing a “No Consensus” result, after the  
49 presentation of an Endorsement Recommendation Committee report, the  
50 members of This Committee shall be given the opportunity to debate the  
51 recommendation. Speakers shall be limited to no more than three (3)  
52 speakers in favor and three (3) speakers opposed, with a time limit of no

1 more than one (1) minute per speaker. The number of speakers or time  
2 allotted may be extended by a majority vote of those present and voting.  
3

- 4 b. In the event a race is severed from an Endorsement Recommendation  
5 Committee's report, debate and the first vote will be held on the  
6 Endorsement Recommendations Committee's recommendation for the  
7 severed race.  
8

9 **5. Failure to Adopt Endorsement Committee Recommendation**

- 10  
11 a. In the event the Endorsement Recommendation Committee's  
12 recommendation is not adopted, This Committee shall consider  
13 endorsement by written ballot.  
14

- 15 b. After the defeat of an endorsement recommendation presented by an  
16 Assembly District Delegation(s), there shall be only one (1) ballot. The  
17 ballot shall include the option of "No Endorsement" and all eligible  
18 candidates who have not yet been endorsed.  
19

20 In at-large races, each member may cast her/his ballot for up to the number  
21 of seats on which no position concerning endorsement has yet been  
22 adopted. The candidates with the highest number of votes up to the  
23 number of seats available for endorsement shall be endorsed; provided  
24 that each endorsed candidate must receive the sixty percent (60%)  
25 minimum threshold of valid ballots cast as set forth in Article XI.A.2. If there  
26 is a tie among such candidates, the tie shall be broken by lot.  
27

28 In the event no candidate is endorsed for an office or a seat in an at-large  
29 race, it shall be deemed that This Committee has taken a position of "No  
30 Consensus."  
31

- 32 c. After the defeat of an endorsement recommendation presented by the  
33 Candidate Interview Committee or the Judicial Interview Committee, there  
34 shall be up to three (3) ballots. "No Endorsement" shall be an option in all  
35 balloting. The first ballot shall include all eligible candidates.  
36

37 (i) In the event no candidate receives the sixty percent (60%) majority  
38 required for endorsement on the first ballot, any candidate not  
39 receiving twenty percent (20%) shall be dropped, and a second  
40 ballot shall be conducted. In the event no candidate receives a sixty  
41 percent (60%) majority on the first ballot, but all candidates receive  
42 at least twenty percent (20%) of the vote, balloting shall cease.  
43

44 (ii) In the event no candidate receives the sixty percent (60%) majority  
45 required for endorsement on the second ballot, any candidate not  
46 receiving twenty percent (20%) shall be dropped and a third ballot  
47 shall be conducted. In the event no candidate receives a sixty  
48 percent (60%) majority on the second ballot, but all candidates  
49 receive at least twenty percent (20%) of the vote, balloting shall  
50 cease.  
51

52 (iii) In the event no candidate is endorsed it shall be deemed that This

Committee has taken a position of “No Consensus”.

- d. If an endorsement recommendation presented by the Ballot Measure Committee is defeated, there shall be only one (1) ballot, which shall include the option of “Yes” (support), “No” (oppose), and “No Endorsement”.

**6. Separate Procedure for Consideration by This Committee of an Endorsement Recommendation Committee Report Reflecting a “No Consensus” Result**

a. Races involving Candidates for Public Office

- (i) After all consideration of the Endorsement Recommendation Committee’s report recommending the endorsement of one or more candidates and any findings that (a) candidate(s) for the office in question is/are unacceptable has been completed, This Committee shall consider by written ballot whether to endorse, notwithstanding the Endorsement Recommendation Committee’s failure to reach a consensus.

- (ii). In considering this question, there shall be only one (1) ballot. The ballot shall include all eligible candidates who have not yet been endorsed and the option of “No Endorsement.”

- (iii). Unless authorized by an affirmative vote, there shall be no presentations by the candidates or their designees or other debate; provided that if any candidate/candidate’s designee is afforded the opportunity to address This Committee, all other qualified candidates must be afforded the same opportunity.

b. Ballot Measures

When the Ballot Measure Committee has considered a ballot measure and failed to reach a consensus, it shall so report. This Committee shall proceed to vote on an endorsement. There shall be only one (1) ballot. The ballot shall include the options of support, oppose and “No Endorsement.”

**7. Waiver of Written Ballot**

The requirement of written ballot may be waived by a majority vote of those present and voting at any stage in the proceedings.

**8. Failure to Endorse**

In the event of a failure of This Committee to endorse or take a position, This Committee’s position shall be “No Consensus”

**9. Determination of Publication**

1 In the event a position of “No Consensus” shall be sustained, or otherwise become  
2 the position of This Committee, the Chair of This Committee shall determine  
3 whether such race shall be listed in any publication of This Committee.

4 **Section E. CHALLENGES**

5  
6 **1. Challenges to Recommendation and Endorsement Process**

7  
8 **a. Standing to Challenge**

9  
10 Any alleged violation of this Article XI, or any other error or omission in the  
11 recommendation process of This Committee's endorsement procedure  
12 must be challenged by any of the following:

- 13  
14 (i) A member of This Committee;  
15  
16 (ii) A candidate whose race is being considered; or,  
17  
18 (iii) In the case of a ballot measure a representative of a qualified  
19 committee primarily formed to support or oppose that ballot  
20 measure;

21  
22 **b. Timing of Challenge**

23  
24 **(i) To Recommendation Process**

25  
26 In order to allow for a timely remedy, any challenge to the  
27 recommendation process should be made to the officer presiding at  
28 the time of the challenge and at the earliest possible point in time.  
29 Except as otherwise provided in Article XI.E.2.b. below, all  
30 challenges to the recommendation process must be made before a  
31 vote to endorse is taken by This Committee.

32  
33 **(ii) To Endorsement Process**

34  
35 Except as otherwise provided in Article XI.E.2.b. below, a challenge  
36 to any error or omission in the endorsement or recommendation  
37 process must be made before the vote to endorse is taken by This  
38 Committee. In the event of such a challenge, the challenge must  
39 be made to the Chair of This Committee prior to a vote to endorse  
40 taking place, and should be in writing.

41  
42 **c. Challenge to Member's Right to Vote**

43  
44 If a timely challenge relates to the eligibility of a member of the  
45 recommending body to vote and the challenged member does not agree  
46 that the challenge should be sustained, the challenged member shall be  
47 allowed to vote a provisional ballot.

48  
49  
50 **2. Appeals and Determinations of Challenges**

51  
52 **a. Composition of Appeals Committee**

1  
2 The validity of any challenge concerning the recommendation or  
3 endorsement process shall be determined by an Appeals Committee  
4 consisting of the Chair of This Committee, its Parliamentarian and one (1)  
5 Rules and Legal Committee Co-Chair selected by the Chair of This  
6 Committee.  
7

8 **b. Authority of Appeals Committee**  
9

10 The Appeals Committee shall have authority to resolve the challenge and  
11 to order such remedy as may be just and equitable. Remedies may  
12 include, but are not limited to, disqualifying a challenged ballot, directing  
13 that a challenged ballot be counted, or directing that endorsement in the  
14 race be considered by This Committee by written ballot containing the  
15 names of all of the candidates determined to be eligible by the Appeals  
16 Committee. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final. In the  
17 event a challenge is filed after the vote to endorse occurs, the Appeals  
18 Committee may determine that compelling unusual circumstances exist  
19 and vote to hear the challenge. In the event such a post-endorsement  
20 appeal is sustained by unanimous vote of the Appeals Committee, the  
21 Appeals Committee may suspend the endorsement.  
22

23 **c. Erroneous Endorsement of Non-Democrats**  
24

25 In the event the Chair of This Committee determines that an endorsed  
26 candidate was not a registered Democrat as of the close of filing or the time  
27 the Endorsement Recommendation Committee first meets, whichever is  
28 earlier, or any time thereafter, the endorsement shall be void.  
29

30 **Section F. COMMUNICATION OF REGISTRATION STATUS**  
31

32 Nothing in this Article XI shall preclude This Committee from communicating to voters that  
33 any candidate for public office is not registered to vote as a Democrat.  
34

35 **Section G. SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR RUNOFF/GENERAL ELECTIONS IN WHICH THIS**  
36 **COMMITTEE HAS NO ENDORSED CANDIDATE AND A CANDIDATE ELIGIBLE FOR**  
37 **ENDORSEMENT IN THE INITIAL/PRIMARY ELECTION REMAINS ELIGIBLE FOR**  
38 **ELECTION**  
39

40 **1. Continued Endorsement of Candidates Still Eligible for Election Who Were**  
41 **Endorsed in the First Round of Voting**  
42

43 Unless properly revoked, the endorsement of a candidate for election in a first  
44 round of voting continues in the second round of voting, however denominated  
45 (e.g. runoff or general election) if that candidate remains eligible for election in the  
46 second round of voting.  
47

48 **2. Endorsement in the Second Round of Voting for Races in Which No**  
49 **Endorsed Candidate is Still Eligible for Election**  
50

51 In a race in which there is a second round of voting, and no endorsed candidate of  
52



1 This Committee remains eligible for election, but one (1) or more candidates  
2 eligible for This Committee's endorsement in the first round of voting remain(s)  
3 eligible for election in the second round of voting, This Committee may endorse a  
4 candidate in the second round of voting. Such an endorsement shall be made  
5 solely in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Article XI.G.  
6

7 a. Request

8  
9 The endorsement process for the second round of voting shall be  
10 commenced only upon request of either:

- 11  
12 (i) A candidate eligible for endorsement in the first round of voting who  
13 remains eligible for election in the second round of voting; or,  
14  
15 (ii) A member of This Committee.  
16

17 b. Notice

18  
19 The Chair of This Committee shall cause written notice of This Committee's  
20 intention to consider endorsement in the second round of voting to be sent  
21 to all candidates who were eligible for This Committee's endorsement in  
22 the first round of voting and who remain eligible for election in the second  
23 round of voting. Such notice shall be provided not less than seven (7) days  
24 before the meeting of This Committee at which such an endorsement is to  
25 be considered.  
26

27 c. Balloting and Debate

28  
29 At the meeting of This Committee at which endorsement in the second  
30 round of voting is to be considered, there shall be only one (1) ballot. The  
31 ballot shall include the option of "No Endorsement" along with the names  
32 of all candidates who were eligible for This Committee's endorsement in  
33 the first round of voting and who remain eligible for election in the second  
34 round of voting. If any candidate receives a sixty percent (60%) affirmative  
35 vote, that candidate shall receive This Committee's endorsement in the  
36 second round of voting in that race.  
37

38 Unless authorized by an affirmative vote, there shall be no presentations  
39 by the candidates or their designees or other debate; provided that if any  
40 candidate/candidate's designee is afforded the opportunity to address This  
41 Committee, all other qualified candidates must be afforded the same  
42 opportunity.  
43

44 d. "No Consensus" Endorsement Where No Candidate Receives a Sixty  
45 Percent (60%) Affirmative Vote

46  
47 If no candidate receives a sixty percent (60%) affirmative vote, This  
48 Committee's endorsement shall be "No Consensus."  
49

50 **Section H. PROVISIONS FOR POLICY COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT IN SPECIAL ELECTIONS**

51  
52 If a special election in Los Angeles County is to take place within thirty (30) days after the

1 close of filing, the Policy Committee may endorse any Democrat who has filed for that  
2 office. Any such endorsement shall require a sixty percent (60%) affirmative vote of those  
3 persons present and voting, blank ballots, void ballots, and abstentions not counting  
4 towards the total. If there is a scheduled meeting of This Committee prior to the election  
5 the Policy Committee may delegate its endorsement power to This Committee.  
6

7 **Section I. RECALL**

8  
9 **1. Motion to Support or Oppose Recall**

10 The motion to support or oppose the recall of an elected public official in a non-  
11 partisan race may be made and seconded without the necessity of prior notice.  
12 This motion requires the affirmative vote of sixty percent (60%) of the members  
13 voting, blank ballots, void ballots, and abstentions not counting towards the total.  
14

15  
16 **2. Motion to Endorse Successor Candidate**

17 A motion to endorse a successor candidate in a recall election is subject to all of  
18 the same provisions of this Article XI that would apply to a motion to endorse a  
19 candidate in a regularly scheduled election.  
20

21  
22 **Section J. PROCEDURE FOR RECONSIDERATION, RESCISSION OR REVOCATION OF**  
23 **ENDORSEMENT**

24  
25 **1. Intent**

26 The following procedures shall be the exclusive procedures governing motions,  
27 however denominated, to Reconsider, Rescind, or Revoke any position resulting  
28 from the Endorsement process set forth in this Article XI. These procedures take  
29 the place of, and supplant, the procedures specified in the edition of Robert's Rules  
30 of Order which governs the proceedings of This Committee.  
31

32  
33 **2. Sole Method**

34 Once the consideration of an endorsement has been terminated, the resulting  
35 position may only be revisited, whether by a motion to Reconsider, Rescind, or  
36 Revoke the resulting position, by the process specified herein or by an appeal or  
37 challenge under Article XI.E. Consideration of an endorsement is terminated by  
38 endorsing a candidate or position, or taking a position of "No Endorsement" or "No  
39 Consensus."  
40

41  
42 **3. Process for Reconsideration, Rescission, or Revocation of an**  
43 **Endorsement Position**

44 The following is the process and pre-requisites of a motion to Reconsider, Rescind,  
45 or Revoke an Endorsement Position:  
46

47  
48 **a. Maker of the Motion**

49 A motion to Reconsider, Rescind, or Revoke an Endorsement Position  
50 may be made by:  
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- (i) Any member of This Committee;
- (ii) A sixty percent (60%) majority vote at a Policy Committee meeting, a quorum being present.

b. Notice of Intent to Make a Motion

- (i) Except when initiated by a sixty percent (60%) majority of the Policy Committee, notice of intention to make a motion for Reconsideration, Rescission or Revocation of an endorsement shall be made in writing and submitted to the Chair of This Committee at This Committee's address of record at least ten (10) days before the next regular meeting of This Committee.
- (ii) Notwithstanding anything in Article XI.J.3.b.(i), no prior notice of intention to make a motion for Reconsideration, Rescission or Revocation of an endorsement is necessary when the motion is made at the same meeting at which the vote concerning the endorsement at issue is being conducted.

c. Content of Notice of Intent to Make a Motion

The notice of intent to make a motion for Reconsideration, Rescission or Revocation of an endorsement must state:

- (i) The name of the maker of the motion or that it is coming from the Policy Committee;
- (ii) The specifics about the subject of the motion;
  - a) If a candidate, the name and jurisdiction of the specific candidate(s);
  - b) If a ballot measure, the title of the measure, the letter or number used to designate the measure on the ballot and the jurisdiction;
  - c) If the position that is the subject of the motion is "No Endorsement" or "No Consensus," the position adopted by This Committee along with the specific office and jurisdiction;
  - d) If the matter is a finding of unacceptability of a candidate, the name and jurisdiction of the specific candidate(s) and the fact that the subject of the motion is the finding of unacceptability shall be identified.
- (iii) The reason for the motion, which must include a specific statement setting forth either:
  - a) New and material information not available to This Committee at the time the original endorsement vote was taken; and/or,

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b) Extraordinary circumstances, which make revisiting an endorsement necessary.

(iv) If applicable, the reason(s) the information was not presented at the same meeting at which the vote concerning the endorsement was conducted.

d. Seconding Requirements

The requirements of seconding a motion to Reconsider, Rescind, or Revoke an Endorsement Position are:

(i) That a second is not needed if the motion comes from the Policy Committee; or

(ii) Affirmative declaration of fifty (50) members of This Committee who show their voting credentials if the motion is made by a single member of This Committee.

e. Notice of Motion

(i) No notice of a motion for Reconsideration, Rescission or Revocation is needed when made at the same meeting at which the vote concerning the endorsement at issue is being conducted.

(ii) In all other cases, at least seven (7) days advance written notice of a motion for Reconsideration, Rescission or Revocation shall be given to the members of This Committee and, if the subject of the motion is an endorsement for a public office, the candidates who were eligible to have received the endorsement of This Committee at the time it was last considered. Notice to such candidates shall include the content of the Notice of Intent to Make a Motion, where applicable.

f. Debate

Once a motion for Reconsideration, Rescission or Revocation of an endorsement position is duly made and seconded, the members of This Committee shall be given the opportunity to debate it.

Before any speakers are recognized from the floor, the maker of the motion shall be afforded up to three (3) minutes to present their position and the affected candidate or ballot measure sponsor shall be afforded up to three (3) minutes to respond. Either side may designate a speaker in their stead.

Thereafter, speakers shall be limited to no more than three (3) speakers in favor and three (3) speakers opposed, with a time limit of no more than one (1) minute per speaker. The number of speakers or time allotted may be extended by a majority vote of those present and voting.

g. Seventy Percent (70%) Affirmative Vote Required.

1  
2 An affirmative vote of seventy percent (70%) of those members present  
3 and voting is necessary to adopt a motion for Reconsideration, Rescission  
4 or Revocation of an endorsement position.  
5

6 h. Effect of Adoption  
7

8 Upon the adoption of a motion for Reconsideration, Rescission or  
9 Revocation of an endorsement position:  
10

- 11 (i) The endorsement shall be considered invalidated and of no force or  
12 effect.  
13
- 14 (ii) This Committee shall immediately proceed to the consideration of  
15 endorsement by way of a single ballot.  
16
- 17 (iii) The ballot shall include all candidates eligible to be considered for  
18 endorsement at the time This Committee made its original  
19 endorsement, including the option of "No Endorsement".  
20
- 21 (iv) In at-large races, ballots shall not include any candidate who has  
22 a current and valid endorsement.  
23
- 24 (v) Failure of any candidate, position, or the option of "No  
25 Endorsement" to receive an affirmative vote of sixty percent (60%)  
26 of those members present and voting shall result in a position of  
27 "No Consensus".  
28

29 i. Suspension of Endorsement  
30

31 Whenever the Chair of This Committee finds that new and material  
32 information not available to This Committee at the time of the original  
33 endorsement vote was taken and /or extraordinary circumstances may  
34 exist and that there may be a need for immediate action, the Chair of This  
35 Committee shall promptly convene the Appeals Committee to consider  
36 appropriate immediate action, including a temporary suspension of This  
37 Committee's endorsement until the next Policy Committee meeting. In the  
38 event of any such finding by the Chair of This Committee, the Policy  
39 Committee, when it next meets, shall hear and decide whether to make a  
40 motion for Reconsideration, Rescission or Revocation and whether to  
41 extend any temporary suspension until that motion can be acted upon by  
42 This Committee.  
43

44 **ARTICLE XII. RESOLUTIONS**

45 **Section A. INTRODUCTION**  
46

- 47 1. The following shall govern the submission of resolutions:  
48
  - 49 a. All resolutions must be typed;
  - 50 b. Twenty (20) copies of each resolution must be provided to the  
51  
52

1 Chair of the Resolutions Committee at least seven (7) days in  
2 advance of the meeting at which it is to be considered;

- 3  
4 c. Whereas clauses must be limited to three (3) or less and resolved  
5 clauses to two (2) or less;  
6  
7 d. All resolutions must contain an "action clause" indicating the  
8 action requested;  
9  
10 e. Resolutions must be no longer than one (1) side of one (1)  
11 typewritten page (8-1/2" x 11").  
12

13 2. The Resolutions Committee shall:

- 14  
15 a. Consider only those resolutions submitted by a member of This  
16 Committee, an Assembly District Committee, a Region, or by an  
17 entity chartered by This Committee.  
18  
19 b. Combine similar resolutions by re-writing.  
20  
21 c. Reject resolutions which repeat past positions unless substantially  
22 new actions are proposed.  
23  
24 d. Consider only those resolutions which by subject matter do not fall  
25 within the scope of the Legislative Action, Policy, Ballot Measures  
26 and Rules and Legal Committee(s).  
27

28 3. Except upon majority vote, the Resolutions Committee shall not consider any  
29 resolutions not in conformity with the foregoing rules.

30  
31 4. Except as otherwise provided below a resolution must first be presented to the  
32 Resolutions Committee. There shall be at least three (3) copies provided.  
33

34 5. For a resolution to be brought up directly on the floor of This Committee it must be  
35 signed by twenty-five (25) Regular Members from at least five (5) Assembly  
36 Districts.  
37

38 **Section B. PASSAGE**

39  
40 1. A resolution approved by the Resolutions Committee shall be brought up  
41 automatically for consideration as part of the Resolutions Committee Report.  
42

43 2. A resolution not approved by the Resolutions Committee must meet the same  
44 signature requirements as one coming directly to the floor. These resolutions shall  
45 be considered during presentation of the report of the Resolutions Committee.  
46

47 3. No resolution shall be passed except upon sixty percent (60%) affirmative vote.  
48  
49

50  
51 **ARTICLE XIII. REGIONS**  
52

1 **Section A. COMPOSITION**

2  
3 This Committee shall have no less than five (5) and no more than seven (7) Regions the  
4 composition of which shall be determined by majority vote of the Committee "no less than  
5 thirty (30) and no more than ninety (90) days before" the Organizational Meeting upon  
6 recommendation of the Policy Committee.  
7

8 **Section B. DUTIES**

- 9
- 10 1. The Region shall implement the duties and functions of This Committee in the local  
11 districts and shall assist in broadening the participation and initiative of the  
12 members in the Region.  
13
  - 14 2. Specifically each Region shall be responsible for:
    - 15 a. Coordinating regional programs developed in the local districts and  
16 carrying out county-wide programs in the Region.  
17
    - 18 b. Regional meetings of certain Standing Committees.  
19
    - 20 c. Such other duties and functions as may contribute to more visible and  
21 viable presence of the Democratic Party in the Region.  
22
  - 23 3. Rules of procedure consistent with these Constitution and By-Laws may be made  
24 by each Region.  
25  
26

27 **Section C. MEMBERSHIP**

- 28
- 29 1. All Regular Members of This Committee residing in a given Region shall be  
30 members of that Region.  
31
  - 32 2. Alternate Members shall be members of the Region in which their Appointing  
33 Member resides, except when serving as an alternate for the Highest Finishing  
34 Democrat or Democratic officeholder whose District extends into Los Angeles  
35 County, but who is not himself/herself registered to vote in Los Angeles County.  
36 In the case of such an exception, the Alternate Member shall be a member of the  
37 Region in which the Alternate Member is registered to vote.  
38
  - 39 3. Club Presidents, Democratic State Central Committee members, elected officials  
40 and other Democratic leaders may be included as non-voting members.  
41  
42

43 **Section D. MEETINGS**

- 44
- 45 1. Each Region shall hold at least one (1) meeting every two (2) months at the call of  
46 the Regional Vice-Chair. All meetings shall be held in the Region or in conjunction  
47 with a regular meeting of This Committee. Failure of the Regional Vice-Chair to  
48 call these meetings will authorize the Policy Committee to remove the Regional  
49 Vice-Chair and authorize new elections.  
50
  - 51 2. Written notice containing the time, place, and agenda shall be sent to each  
52 member at least seven (7) days prior to any meeting.

- 1  
2 3. Within two (2) weeks after any Region meeting the Secretary shall send a copy of  
3 the minutes and a list of those in attendance to the Recording Secretary of This  
4 Committee.  
5

6 **ARTICLE XIV. ASSEMBLY DISTRICT DELEGATIONS**  
7

8 **Section A. MEMBERSHIP**  
9

- 10 1. All Regular Members of This Committee residing in a given Assembly District shall  
11 be members of that Assembly District Delegation.  
12  
13 2. Alternate Members shall be members of the Assembly District Delegation in which  
14 their Appointing Member resides, except when serving as an alternate for the  
15 Highest Finishing Democrat or Democratic officeholder whose District extends into  
16 Los Angeles County, but who is not himself/herself registered to vote in Los  
17 Angeles County. In the case of such an exception, the Alternate Member shall be  
18 a member of the Assembly District Delegation in which the Alternate Member is  
19 registered to vote.  
20

21 **Section B. MEETINGS**  
22

- 23 1. The first meeting of the Delegation shall be called by the previous Chair, if re-  
24 elected to This Committee, or by the Assembly nominee. If the meeting is not  
25 called within two (2) weeks after the Organizational Meeting of This Committee,  
26 the Chair of This Committee shall appoint a member of the Delegation to call the  
27 meeting.  
28  
29 2. Each Delegation shall meet at least every two (2) months at the call of the  
30 Delegation Chair. Failure to call these meetings will authorize the Policy  
31 Committee to remove the Delegation Chair upon request of the Delegation and to  
32 authorize new elections.  
33  
34 3. Written notice containing the time, place, and agenda shall be sent to each  
35 member at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.  
36  
37 4. Two (2) or more Delegations may hold regular or special meetings together.  
38 Meetings maybe held in conjunction with a meeting of a Region or This Committee.  
39  
40 5. Within two (2) weeks after any meeting, the Secretary of the Delegation shall send  
41 a copy of the minutes and a list of those attending to the Recording Secretary of  
42 This Committee.  
43  
44 6. Assembly District Delegation(s) have the following quorum requirements:  
45  
46 a. In the case of a single Assembly District Delegation, a majority of the filled  
47 positions of all Regular Members, with a maximum quorum requirement of  
48 six (6);  
49  
50 b. In the case of a two (2) Assembly District Delegations meeting jointly, a  
51 majority of the filled positions of all Regular Members, with a maximum  
52 quorum requirement of nine (9);



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- c. In the case of a three (3) Assembly District Delegations meeting jointly, a majority of the filled positions of all Regular Members, with a maximum quorum requirement of twelve (12); and
- d. In the case of a four (4) Assembly District Delegations meeting jointly, a majority of the filled positions of all Regular Members, with a maximum quorum requirement of fifteen (15).

*[Note: Regular Members are defined as Elected, Appointed, and Ex-Officio Members. A majority is calculated by first determining the number of filled positions and then subtracting any disqualified members as described in XI.A.10.b above]*

**Section C. RULES**

- 1. Rules of Procedure consistent with these Constitution and By-Laws may be made by each Delegation.
- 2. This Committee may determine any issue or election that any Delegation has been unable to resolve at three (3) or more meetings in which there was voting on the issue or elections.

**ARTICLE XV. CHARTERS**

**Section A. AUTHORITY**

- 1. Pursuant to California Elections Code Section 20201, all organizations which include in any part of their name the name of the Democratic Party and directly or indirectly solicit funds in Los Angeles County for any purpose whatsoever under the representation, either express or implied, that the funds are being solicited for the use of the Democratic Party must first be chartered by one (1) of the following:
  - a. The Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee;
  - b. The California State Democratic Central Committee; or,
  - c. A majority of the members of the California Delegation of the Democratic National Committee.

**Section B. GRANTING**

- 1. Subject to the provisions set forth herein below, This Committee may charter any organization that has as its objective the advancement of the Democratic Party.
- 2. Any charter granted by This Committee shall be effective from the date said charter is granted to the date of the regular meeting in January of the following year, unless revoked as hereinafter provided.
- 3. There shall be three (3) types of organizations eligible for charter:
  - a. A membership organization, including a Democratic Club;

- b. A council made up of representatives from various Democratic Party and chartered organizations; and,
- c. A political action committee.

Eligibility to charter shall also be contingent upon meeting the following requirements;

(i). A membership organization, including a Democratic Club, shall require that its voting members be registered Democrats, or persons ineligible to register as Democrats who express an intent to register as a Democrat upon becoming eligible. It shall also require that its members pay dues, and affirmatively apply for membership in a manner in which the member, at a minimum, is identified by name and address.

A membership organization, including a Democratic Club, may have a category of nonvoting allies who are registered voters who disclosed no preference for a political party (or, prior to that designation, registered as “decline to state”) on their voter registration card. The designation in the organization’s bylaws and any filing with any Democratic Party organization of any such nonvoting members must make their nonvoting status clear.

(ii). Any organization comprised entirely of a specified membership made up of representatives from a Democratic Party Central Committee and/or Democratic Party chartered organizations who are members by virtue of their office/title shall require that its voting members be registered Democrats, or persons ineligible to register as Democrats who express an intent to register as a Democrat upon becoming eligible.

- 4. This Committee may only charter an organization, which has been recommended for chartering by:
  - a. The Organizational Chartering and Development Committee of This Committee; or
  - b. If the organization seeking a charter is a membership organization, including a Democratic Club, the majority of the members of the Assembly District Delegation in which a majority of the members of the organization reside.
- 5. This Committee shall have no authority to grant a charter to an organization which has not complied with the provisions of Article XV.B.4 above.

**Section C. DENIAL AND REVOCATION**

- 1. This Committee shall have the power and authority to deny or revoke a charter of any organization, for cause by majority vote. Cause for denial or revocation shall

1 include:

- 2
- 3 a. The endorsement of a non-Democrat for elective office;
- 4
- 5 b. Use of the name of the Democratic Party without a charter;
- 6
- 7 c. In the case of a "membership" organization, knowing enrollment of a
- 8 person registered to vote as anything other than a member of the
- 9 Democratic Party as a voting member of the organization;
- 10
- 11 d. Transferring of funds from the organization's accounts to an account of a
- 12 non-Democrat running for elective office;
- 13
- 14 e. Acting in violation of State or Federal laws or regulations; and/or
- 15
- 16 f. Taking an affirmative action, or having a stated purpose of the organization,
- 17 which a two-thirds majority of those members of This Committee voting,
- 18 after affording the chartered organization an opportunity to be heard, finds
- 19 to be inimical to the interests of Democratic Party.
- 20
- 21 2. No organization's charter may be revoked without sixty (60) days written notice of
- 22 grounds of revocation having been mailed to the Chair of the organization in
- 23 question, and the rights of response before This Committee having been granted
- 24 to said organization's designated representative. For purposes of this Section the
- 25 Chair shall mean the last person designated in writing to This Committee as Chair.
- 26

27 **Section D. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

28

- 29 1. All organizations which fall under the mandatory chartering provisions of Election
- 30 Code Section 20201 and desire to be chartered by This Committee shall make
- 31 application for such charter in writing. The application shall contain:
- 32
- 33 a. The name of the organization;
- 34
- 35 b. A copy of the Constitution and By-Laws of the organization, and if
- 36 applicable, its Articles of Incorporation, all of which must contain such
- 37 provisions as This Committee may require;
- 38
- 39 c. Agreement by the organization that it will give ten (10) days written notice
- 40 of any and all of its meetings, both regular and special, to:
- 41
- 42 (i) All members of the Assembly District Delegation which
- 43 recommended its charter; or,
- 44
- 45 (ii) The Chair of This Committee and the chair(s) of the Organizational
- 46 Chartering and Development Committee of This Committee if the
- 47 organization was not recommended for charter by an Assembly
- 48 District Delegation.
- 49
- 50 d. The names, addresses, and phone numbers of all persons appearing on
- 51 the organization's Statement of Organization filed with the applicable filing
- 52 officer, including the organization's officers which shall include as a

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minimum a chair and a treasurer.

- e. The identification number(s) used by the organization when filing statements with the Secretary of State, the Fair Political Practices Commission, and/or the Federal Elections Committee.
  - f. A written certificate signed by the President and Secretary of the organization, certifying that each of its members is a registered Democrat or is a person devoted to the principles of the Democratic Party and ineligible to register as a voter because of inability to meet registration requirements. The certificate shall further certify that any such member intends to register as a Democrat immediately upon becoming eligible.
  - g. Individual signatures, addresses and telephone numbers of the organization's members who have not signed another organization's charter application as set forth below:
    - (i) For membership organizations recognized as an affiliate of the California Young Democrats or College Democrats of America: not less than ten (10) members;
    - (ii) For all other membership organizations, including all other Democratic Clubs: not less than twenty (20) members;
    - (iii) Because political action committees are not membership organizations, the only signatures required for political action committees are of a responsible official agreeing to comply with the chartering requirements and making the certifications required by the application form.
  - h. The appropriate chartering fee.
  - i. Unless an organization is a political action committee, it shall also include the following in its application:
    - (i) A complete roster (in hard copy and electronic format, if available) containing the names, addresses, and phone numbers of all its members.
    - (ii) Constitution and By-Laws which contain provisions indicating that the organization has regularly scheduled meetings.
    - (iii) An agreement that the organization will send notice to each member of the Assembly District Delegation in which a majority of the members reside. Said notice shall be given to the Chair of This Committee and the chair(s) of the Organizational Chartering and Development Committee if such organization does not have a majority of its membership in one (1) Assembly District.
2. This Committee may charter by a sixty percent (60%) vote of those present and voting, one (1) organization using the name Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee Political Action Committee. Any group of persons desiring to

1 be chartered by This Committee to use the name Los Angeles County Democratic  
2 Central Committee Political Action Committee shall make written application for  
3 charter. In addition to those items set forth in Article XV.D.1 above, the application  
4 shall contain:  
5

6 a. A copy of the Constitution and By-Laws of the organization and, if  
7 applicable, the Articles of Incorporation. These documents must indicate  
8 that the group having decision-making authority in the organization  
9 consists of at least one (1) person from each Supervisorial District in this  
10 county.

11 b. An agreement that the political action committee will not oppose any  
12 candidate which This Committee has endorsed.

13 c. An agreement that the political action committee will not support or oppose  
14 a proposition, ballot measure or recall in opposition to a position which  
15 This Committee has adopted.  
16  
17  
18

19 3. This Committee, upon recommendation of the Policy Committee, may adjust the  
20 chartering fees. Such adjustments shall be made no more frequently than once  
21 per calendar year. In addition, the Policy Committee shall establish uniform late  
22 application fees/penalties for organizations filing their application for a charter in  
23 an untimely manner may, in its discretion, modify the late application fee/penalty;  
24 provided that no such modification may take effect until the calendar year  
25 immediately following the calendar year in which the modification was adopted.  
26

## 27 **ARTICLE XVI. AMENDMENTS**

28 Proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws must be submitted in writing at  
29 a regular meeting of This Committee, presented thereat, and at the next regular meeting  
30 may be adopted by two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of those members present and  
31 voting, a quorum being present. A notice in writing shall be mailed at least seven (7)  
32 days prior to the meeting at which the vote will be taken to all members of This  
33 Committee.  
34