



# BYLAWS

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# 1 ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE

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## 2 Section 1. Name

3 The name of This Committee is the San Diego County Democratic Party Central Committee (the  
4 Central Committee). The Central Committee is a committee within the meaning of California  
5 Government Code and Elections Code. The Central Committee may refer to itself as the San  
6 Diego County Democratic Party (SDCDP). These Bylaws refer to the Central Committee as This  
7 Committee.

## 8 Section 2. Purpose

9 The purpose of the Central Committee is: to promote the growth and development of the  
10 Democratic Party; to actively support ballot measure propositions as long as they do not conflict  
11 with positions adopted by the Democratic State Central Committee; to actively support and elect  
12 Democratic candidates, including candidates for nonpartisan offices; and to carry out  
13 Democratic Party campaigns consistent with the Democratic State Central Committee.

## 14 Section 3. Consistency with Statutory Law

15 These Bylaws shall, to the extent consistent with applicable law, govern the organization,  
16 operation, and function of the Central Committee.

## 17 Section 4. Areas

18 In order to create a more efficient and effective organization, the Central Committee shall be  
19 divided into four regions as set forth in Article VII. While the purpose and intent of this action is  
20 to make the Central Committee responsive to the unique characteristics of each area, there  
21 shall be uniformity of policy and principle in all areas to ensure coherence.

# 22 ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

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## 23 Section 1. Membership

- 24 A. All members shall be registered to vote as Democrats in San Diego County.
- 25 B. There shall be six (6) classes of membership: Elected, Ex-Officio, Appointed, Alternate,  
26 Lifetime, and Associate:
- 27 1. Elected members, who are qualified to serve pursuant to the Election Code of  
28 California and are elected in partisan Presidential Primary Elections to represent  
29 their Assembly District on This Committee.
  - 30 2. Ex-Officio members:
    - 31 a. Ex-Officio members of This Committee shall be the following if they reside in and  
32 are registered to vote in San Diego County:

- 33 1) Incumbent office holders referenced in Article II, Section 2, a, of the Bylaws of  
34 the California Democratic Party (CDP) who are registered as Democrats  
35 including statewide officers, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Members of  
36 the State Board of Equalization, Members of the State Legislature, Members  
37 of the United States Senate, Members of the United States House of  
38 Representatives;
- 39 2) The highest finishing registered Democrat in the most recent election for the  
40 offices in the previous paragraph determined as follows:
- 41 a) The registered Democrat in a voter-nominated election who received the  
42 highest number of votes in the general or special election;
- 43 b) Should there be no registered Democrat among the “top-two” in the  
44 general or special election, the registered Democrat who received the  
45 highest number of votes in the top-two open primary;
- 46 c) Should there be no registered Democrat or should the highest finishing  
47 Democrat decline to serve, the Ex-Officio position will be treated as a  
48 vacancy and filled in accordance with these Bylaws.
- 49 3) Statewide Chairs, Co-Chairs, or Presidents of CDP standing committees,  
50 chartered statewide Democratic Party Organizations, or CDP Caucuses;
- 51 4) Members of the Democratic National Committee;
- 52 5) State Officers of the California Democratic Party;
- 53 6) Assembly District Representatives to the Executive Board of the CDP  
54 (hereinafter ADEM EBoard Member);
- 55 7) The most recent Chair of This Committee who is a different individual from  
56 the Current Chair unless he or she is already an Elected Member;
- 57 8) The Director of Clubs unless he or she is already an Elected Member;
- 58 9) The Director of Grassroots Organizing unless he or she is already an Elected  
59 Member.
- 60 b. Incumbent office holders of, and the most recent voter-nominated candidate for,  
61 the United States House of Representatives, the State Board of Equalization, the  
62 State Senate, and the State Assembly, whose districts extend into San Diego  
63 County, but who are themselves not registered to vote in San Diego County,  
64 shall have the right to appoint a voting alternate, provided such an alternate is  
65 registered to vote as a Democrat in San Diego County.
- 66 c. Ex-Officio members shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges as Elected  
67 members of This Committee.

- 68 3. Appointed members of This Committee are members appointed to fill Elected or Ex-  
69 Officio vacancies within the body in accordance with Article III, Section 1, B on filling  
70 vacancies for Central Committee. Appointed members shall be entitled to the same  
71 rights and privileges and have the same responsibilities as Elected or Ex-Officio  
72 members of This Committee.
- 73 4. Alternate members, who are appointed by Elected, or Ex-Officio, or Appointed  
74 members of the Central Committee.
- 75 a. Alternates shall meet the same district registration requirements of their  
76 appointers. Notice of appointment plus payment of the dues shall be recorded  
77 with the Secretary before the Alternate may serve.
- 78 b. An Alternate shall have all the rights of the appointer, except voting in the Central  
79 Committee meetings when their appointer is present and the power of  
80 appointment, when the appointer is absent.
- 81 c. An Alternate serves at the pleasure of their appointer or may be removed from  
82 the Central Committee under the conditions of Article III.
- 83 5. Lifetime members, who are nominated by the Chair and approved by the body.  
84 Lifetime membership is an honorary position: without dues or the power of  
85 appointment, yet does still have a vote.
- 86 6. Associate members have an organizational role in the County Democratic Party and  
87 are not already members in another membership class. Associate members' voting  
88 rights are limited to their designated Area meetings; they have the right to speak at  
89 Central Committee meetings and in other Areas.
- 90 a. A President of a chartered Democratic Club or Coalition, and the GO Team  
91 Regional and Countywide Coordinators, are Associate Members of the Central  
92 Committee. Their dues are waived. If a Club or Coalition President is already a  
93 member, chooses not to serve, or becomes a member in a different class, the  
94 club or coalition may choose to appoint a different Associate to serve their term  
95 using the process defined in the club's bylaws. When chartering, all clubs will  
96 designate the Area that the club will caucus with and the club's Associate  
97 Member will serve in that Area for the purposes of quorum and voting.
- 98 b. EBoard Appointed Associate members shall be subject to acceptance by the  
99 Executive Board and payment of dues. Candidates for Associate membership  
100 may be recommended for consideration to the Executive Board by the Chair or  
101 by the Vice Chair for their specific Area. The Chair must provide thirty (30) days  
102 advance notice to the Area Vice Chair. If the Associate member ceases to be a  
103 registered voter in the Area, their Associate membership extinguishes.
- 104 c. Affinity clubs that would like to have representation in more than one Area shall  
105 petition the Executive Board to add EBoard Appointed Associate positions with

106 the rationale for added Area representation. If the position is approved by the  
107 Executive Board, the dues shall be waived. Said position would be filled  
108 according to the club's bylaws for filling SDCCDP representative positions with a  
109 club member who is registered to vote in the Area. Each club is limited to one  
110 vote in any Area or Legislative Caucus. Any additional positions created by the  
111 Executive Board extinguish before the biennial organization, if the appointee  
112 does not fulfill their participation duties in the area, or if the club ceases to be  
113 chartered.

114 C. Any Elected, Ex-Officio, or Appointed member who wishes to exercise membership  
115 rights, including the right to appoint an Alternate member, must meet the dues  
116 requirement of This Committee.

117 D. All members are members of This Committee's Legislative Caucus where they are  
118 registered to vote and a member of This Committee's Area Caucus as defined in  
119 ARTICLE VII - AREAS of these Bylaws.

120 E. The names of current Elected, Ex-Officio, or Appointed members will be publicly  
121 available via the SDCCDP Website.

## 122 Section 2. Duties of Membership

123 A. It is the duty of Elected, Ex-Officio, and Appointed members to attend the regular,  
124 endorsement, and special meetings of the Central Committee and to notify their  
125 Alternate when they cannot attend.

126 B. It is the duty of Alternate members to attend the regular, endorsement, and special  
127 meetings of the Central Committee whenever their appointer is not able to attend.

128 C. The duties of all members are to:

129 1. Attend the regular, endorsement recommendation, and special meetings of their  
130 individual Areas.

131 2. Attend the special meetings of their Legislative Caucuses.

132 3. Serve on SDCCDP committees.

133 4. Share in the responsibility of raising money for the SDCCDP.

134 5. Participate in the candidate endorsement process.

135 6. Assist the SDCCDP in communicating with and reaching out to Democrats.

136 7. Support endorsed Democratic candidates endorsed by the SDCCDP or the California  
137 Democratic Party.

138 8. Share the general duties of building and supporting the Party.

139 9. Be familiar with the Bylaws and Policies and Procedures of the Party.

140 10. Be familiar with the races on the ballot prior to an endorsement or recommendation  
141 meeting.

142 Section 3. Terms of Office

- 143 A. The current Chair of the Central Committee shall administer the Oaths of Office to  
144 incoming Central Committee members.
- 145 B. The terms of office of the Central Committee members, with the exception of the  
146 Executive Board and ADEM EBoard Members, shall:
- 147 1. Begin at the Biennial Organizational Meeting in their Area in January following  
148 certification of the State Primary Election by the Registrar of Voters, and
- 149 2. Continue as long as they continue to meet their membership qualifications and  
150 expire when the Oaths of Office are administered to their successors.
- 151 C. The terms of the Executive Board as officers begin at the end of the Biennial  
152 Organizational Meeting of the Central Committee and continue through the end of the  
153 next Biennial Organizational Meeting so long as they continue to be an officer. For  
154 officers who are not continuing as members into the new term, their member term shall  
155 be extended independent of their qualifying member class.
- 156 D. Member class terms are as follows:
- 157 1. The Terms of Assembly District Elected members will be four years. Their elections  
158 will coincide with Presidential Primary elections.
- 159 2. Ex-Officio terms are determined by their qualifying office:
- 160 a. Incumbent public officers begin their term when they take public office.
- 161 b. The highest finishing Democrat members begin their term when they would have  
162 taken public office had they won.
- 163 c. DNC members, officers of the CDP, CDP Regional Directors begin their term  
164 when they take their DNC or CDP office.
- 165 d. ADEM EBoard Members begin their term at the Biennial Organizational Meeting.  
166 The outgoing ADEM Eboard Member serves an extended term that includes the  
167 Area Biennial Organizational Meeting.
- 168 e. As previously stated, Past Chair, Director of Clubs, and the Director of  
169 Grassroots Organizing serve an extended term that coincides with their term as  
170 an officer.
- 171 f. Ex-Officio terms last as long as the individual holds the office, or in the case of  
172 highest finishing Democrats for the same term for the office for which they were a  
173 candidate.
- 174 3. Alternate members serve at the pleasure of their appointer for the same term as their  
175 appointer.



176 4. Associate member terms are coincident with their term in the qualifying body that  
177 appointed them to This Committee.

#### 178 Section 4. Oath and Dues

179 A. In their capacity as public officials, members are required to swear the Oath or  
180 Affirmation of Allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of  
181 the State of California.

182 B. There shall be biennial dues for Elected, Ex-Officio, Appointed, Alternate, and Appointed  
183 Associate members of the Central Committee, in an amount set forth in Policies and  
184 Procedures. Until their dues requirement is met, members shall not be allowed a vote or  
185 to exercise member rights at any meeting of the Central Committee or the Area Caucus.

#### 186 Section 5. Prohibition on Dual Membership

187 There shall be no dual membership.

188 A. A person who becomes eligible for membership on more than one basis shall, within  
189 thirty (30) days of such duality, inform the Secretary of the eligibility and identify the  
190 position that he or she wishes to occupy.

191 B. If the person fails to indicate which position he or she elects to occupy, the Central  
192 Committee, by majority vote, shall make the determination.

193 C. The Secretary shall certify to the Chair the remaining position(s) as vacant and eligible  
194 for election.

## 195 ARTICLE III - VACANCIES AND REMOVALS

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### 196 Section 1. Definition of Vacancy

197 A. A vacancy occurs when an Elected, Ex-Officio, Appointed, or Alternate member:

198 1. Changes voter registration from the district where elected or appointed, or

199 2. Is removed or resigns from the Central Committee, or

200 3. Is incapacitated or re-registers as other than Democrat, or

201 4. Upon the death of an Elected, Ex-Officio, or Appointed member.

202 B. A vacancy also occurs when an Assembly District elects fewer Elected members than it  
203 is entitled to elect.

204 C. A vacancy also occurs when an Assembly, Senate, or Congressional District fails to  
205 nominate a candidate or when the nominee or elected official declines to serve on the  
206 Central Committee.

207 Section 2. Replacement

208 A. A vacancy in an Elected or Article III, Section 1, C Ex-Officio membership shall be filled  
209 by a vote of the Central Committee no earlier than the first regular meeting of the Central  
210 Committee after the meeting at which either the Secretary or the Chair declares the  
211 vacancy. Filling the vacancy shall be the first item on the agenda.

212 B. In the period between certification of the primary election where Central Committee  
213 appears on the ballot and the end of the term, any vacancy in an AD Elected or Article  
214 III, Section 1, C Appointed membership shall be filled by the top vote-getting member-  
215 elect not already an Elected, Ex-Officio, or Appointed member of This Committee.

216 C. A Legislative Caucus, Article VI, Section 1, may recommend a candidate for  
217 replacement of an Elected member or Article III, Section 1, C, Ex-Officio member  
218 vacancy occurring in its own district Article VI, Section 2.

219 1. If there is only one candidate for a vacancy, election shall be by voice vote.

220 2. If there is more than one candidate, election shall be by voice vote or by show of  
221 hands.

222 3. If no candidate receives a majority vote, a run-off election shall be held between the  
223 two candidates receiving the most votes, either by voice vote or by show of hands.

224 4. If there are multiple vacancies in a Legislative Caucus, each vacancy will be  
225 considered separately and in series.

226 D. A vacancy among the Area Vice Chairs shall be filled in accordance with Article IV,  
227 Section 4, B, 2.

228 E. Any other Ex-Officio member vacancy shall be filled by the respective electing body.

229 Section 3. Role of Alternate During Vacancy

230 A. When an Elected, Ex-Officio, or Appointed member vacancy occurs, with the exception  
231 of members removed for cause, the Alternate may continue to serve and vote as the  
232 former member's Alternate until a new member is selected in accordance with these  
233 Bylaws. Once the new member is seated, the Alternate's membership terminates.

234 B. If the Alternate chooses not to serve or they become an Article III.1.A vacancy  
235 themselves, the position will remain vacant until a new member is selected in  
236 accordance with these Bylaws.

237 C. If they choose to run to fill the vacancy, the Alternate will not have a vote for the  
238 purpose of filling the vacancy at any Legislative Caucus or Central Committee Meeting.

239 Section 4. Removal by Lack of Attendance

240 A member may remove themselves by lack of attendance at either Central Committee or Area  
241 meetings.

- 242 A. Central Committee Attendance
- 243 1. All Elected and Appointed members have attendance requirements at Central  
244 Committee meetings. The presence of a member's Alternate fulfills the obligation of  
245 representing the Democratic voters, but does excuse an absence.
- 246 2. Any Elected or Appointed member, with absences from three (3) consecutive or four  
247 (4) total Central Committee meetings in a calendar year has failed to meet the  
248 minimum level of attendance and has removed themselves.
- 249 3. All Alternates, including Ex-Officio Alternates, have a Central Committee attendance  
250 requirement when their appointing member is absent. Any Alternate member with  
251 absences from three (3) consecutive or four (4) total Central Committee meetings in  
252 a calendar year when serving in lieu of their appointer has failed to meet the  
253 minimum level of attendance and has removed themselves.
- 254 B. Area Attendance
- 255 1. All members, with the exception incumbent elected official of the California  
256 legislature or U.S. Congress and Lifetime members, have attendance requirements  
257 at Area meetings.
- 258 2. Any member, other than incumbent elected officials of the California legislature or  
259 U.S. Congress, with absences from three (3) consecutive or four (4) total Area  
260 Committee meetings in a calendar year has failed to meet the minimum level of  
261 attendance and has removed themselves.
- 262 C. After a member's second consecutive absence or third absence total from either Central  
263 Committee meetings or their Area meetings, the member may petition the Executive  
264 Board regarding said absence. Petitions must be received within fourteen (14) days of  
265 the absence.
- 266 D. A member who has removed themselves will be sent list of dates they were absent by  
267 the SDCDP office. Should the member wish to petition the Executive Board to correct  
268 the record, the petition must be made within fourteen (14) days of the date of they were  
269 emailed of the list of absences.
- 270 E. A member who has removed themselves by lack of attendance cannot be reseated until  
271 the term in which they removed themselves has expired.

## 272 Section 5. Removal by Endorsement of a non-Democratic Candidate

- 273 A. Any member, other than an incumbent elected official of the California legislature or U.S.  
274 Congress, who individually endorses a non-Democratic candidate has removed  
275 themselves unless the following criteria are met:
- 276 1. Filing has closed,

- 277 2. There are no Democrats in the race and
- 278 3. The party has completed its endorsements and has not otherwise weighed in.
- 279 B. If a member is notified by the party via email their name has been used in an  
280 endorsement by a non-Democratic candidate, the member shall write a letter to the  
281 candidate requesting the candidate cease and desist from using their name and provide  
282 a copy of this letter to the Secretary within three (3) days of the date of the email. Absent  
283 this letter, the use of their name will be considered an endorsement and the member has  
284 removed themselves.
- 285 C. A member who has removed themselves by endorsement of a non-Democratic  
286 Candidate cannot be reelected until the term in which they removed themselves has  
287 expired.

## 288 Section 6. Removal for Cause

- 289 A. Any member, other than an incumbent elected official of the California legislature or U.S.  
290 Congress, may be removed for cause by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Central  
291 Committee.
- 292 B. Cause shall be defined as:
- 293 1. Where there is an endorsed candidate, campaigning for a non-Democratic candidate  
294 or publicly advocating that voters should not vote in that contest;
- 295 2. Committing the Party to unauthorized expenditures;
- 296 3. Criminal conviction involving moral turpitude;
- 297 4. Chronic alcohol or substance abuse affecting ability to serve;
- 298 5. Violations of this organization's Code of Conduct;
- 299 6. Engaging in behavior detrimental to the purpose of the Democratic Party; or
- 300 7. Any other reason set forth in this organization's Policy and Procedures.

## 301 Section 7. Removal Procedure

- 302 A. The Secretary shall refer the matter to the Credentials Committee to consider  
303 recommending removal and shall notify the member via email of the pending action and  
304 will include the written challenge.
- 305 B. The Credentials Committee will meet for a technical review of the Bylaws, Policies and  
306 Procedures and the written challenge to the membership. If the Credentials Committee  
307 determines by a sixty percent (60%) vote that the challenge as presented meets the  
308 criteria for grounds for removal, the Credentials Committee shall prepare a list of the  
309 relevant Bylaws and Policies and Procedures. The meeting should be held no later than  
310 fourteen (14) days of the date the member was notified.

- 311 C. If the Credentials Committee has determined the challenge meets the criteria for the  
312 grounds for removal, the Chair will schedule a meeting with the Executive Board, the  
313 affected member, and the member who made the challenge to review the facts and  
314 circumstances of the challenge and the material provided by the Credentials Committee.  
315 The meeting should be held no later than seven (7) days of the date the Credentials  
316 Committee meeting and may be added to the agenda of an already scheduled Executive  
317 Board meeting.
- 318 1. The affected member may appear in person or may supply a written response to the  
319 membership challenge, and any persons wishing to support or deny the request, with  
320 the Chair having the option to limit the number of persons who may appear before  
321 them.
- 322 2. Following the presentation, the room will be cleared for deliberations and vote by the  
323 Executive Board.
- 324 3. If any member of the Executive Board is either an affected member or the member  
325 who made the challenge, they must recuse themselves from the deliberations and  
326 the vote. If both the Chair and Chair Pro-Tem have recused themselves, the  
327 Executive Board will elect a different Executive Board member to chair the  
328 deliberations and voting.
- 329 4. A vote to recommend removal of the member requires two-thirds (2/3) of the  
330 Executive Board voting in favor of removal. If the Executive Board does not reach a  
331 two-thirds (2/3) vote, the member retains their membership. The Secretary will notify  
332 the affected member of the decision.
- 333 D. If the Executive Board has recommended removal, the matter will be taken up for  
334 consideration at the next Central Committee meeting as the first item on the agenda and  
335 prior to filling any vacancies. The affected member shall be offered the opportunity to  
336 appear before the Central Committee and show cause why removal is unwarranted.
- 337 E. Any vote taken shall be by show of hands.
- 338 F. Upon removal by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Central Committee, the Secretary shall  
339 notify the affected person of the Central Committee's action.
- 340 G. If a member has been removed, said former member cannot be elected or appointed to  
341 the Central Committee until the term of the Central Committee in which the member was  
342 removed has expired.

## 343 ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

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### 344 Section 1. List of Officers and Membership Requirements

345 The officers of the Central Committee are Chair, four Vice-Chairs, Secretary, Controller, three  
346 Directors, and the Most Recent Past Chair.

- 347 A. Each Area as defined in Article VII, Section 1 shall have a Vice Chair.

348 B. The Directors shall be the Director of Administration, the Director of Clubs, and the  
349 Director of Grassroots Organizing.

350 C. The Most Recent Past Chair is the person whom has most recently served as chair of  
351 the SDCDP and whom is a different individual than the current Chair for up to two  
352 biennial terms of the SDCDP. No vacancy is created if the Most Recent Past Chair  
353 declines to serve.

## 354 Section 2. Elections

355 A. All officers shall be elected at the Central Committee Biennial Organizational Meeting in  
356 January following certification of the State Primary Election. The terms of the incumbent  
357 officers shall expire and the newly elected officers shall assume their positions at the  
358 adjournment of that meeting.

359 B. Elections shall be by a majority vote of the Central Committee. The vote shall be by  
360 voice vote or by show of hands.

361 C. The Area Vice Chairs shall be members of the Central Committee who are members of  
362 the Area caucus that they represent.

363 1. The four Area Vice Chairs shall be elected separately by the Central Committee  
364 members who caucus in their respective areas.

365 2. Elections shall be by a majority vote. The vote shall be by voice vote or by show of  
366 hands.

367 3. Elections shall be at the Area meetings on the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Tuesday in January  
368 following the certification of the State Primary Election.

369 4. Vice Chairs shall be ratified by a simple majority of the Central Committee, either by  
370 voice vote or by show of hands. Should the Central Committee fail to ratify a Vice  
371 Chair, a vacancy shall occur and shall be remedied as set forth in Article IV, Section  
372 4.

373 D. The Executive Board positions for Secretary, Controller and the Director of  
374 Administration shall:

375 1. Be nominated by the Nomination Committee as set forth in the Policies and  
376 Procedures. If there is only one candidate for an office, election shall be by voice  
377 vote.

378 2. If there is more than one candidate, election shall be by voice vote or by show of  
379 hands.

380 3. If no candidate receives a majority vote, a run-off election shall be held between the  
381 two candidates receiving the most votes, either by voice vote or by show of hands.

382 E. The Director of Grassroots Organizing shall:

383 1. Be selected by the GO Team Regional and Countywide Coordinators (not including  
384 Data Coordinators) who shall select one nominee for election to the Office of Director  
385 of Grassroots Organizing no later than December 15 following the certification of the  
386 State Primary Election.

387 2. Director of Grassroots Organizing shall be ratified by a simple majority the Central  
388 Committee, either by voice vote or by show of hands. Should the Central Committee  
389 fail to ratify a Director of Grassroots Organizing, the GO Team Coordinators will be  
390 asked to provide a new nominee for ratification. Should the Central Committee fail to  
391 ratify the second nominee, a vacancy shall occur and shall be remedied as set forth  
392 in Article IV, Section 4.

393 F. The Director of Clubs shall:

394 1. Be selected by the Council of Clubs Presidents who shall select one nominee for  
395 election to the Office of Director of Clubs at the November Council of Clubs meeting  
396 and no later than December 15 following the certification of the State Primary  
397 Election.

398 2. Director of Clubs shall be ratified by a simple majority of the Central Committee,  
399 either by voice vote or by show of hands. Should the Central Committee fail to ratify  
400 a Director of Clubs, the Council of Clubs will be asked to provide a new nominee for  
401 ratification. Should the Central Committee fail to ratify the second nominee, a  
402 vacancy shall occur and shall be remedied as set forth in Article IV, Section 4.

### 403 Section 3. Removal of Officers

404 A. An officer may be removed by a sixty percent (60%) vote of all members of the Central  
405 Committee entitled to vote. All voting with regard to the removal of an officer shall be by  
406 voice vote or by show of hands.

407 B. An officer may be removed by a sixty percent (60%) vote of the Executive Board after  
408 four (4) absences from regular meetings of the Executive Board.

409 C. An officer may be removed if he or she fails to file plans required by these Bylaws more  
410 than thirty (30) days after the date that such a plan has been requested in writing by the  
411 Executive Board.

### 412 Section 4. Vacancies

413 A. At the beginning of each Executive Board term, the Executive Board will elect a Chair  
414 Pro-Tem from among the four Vice-Chairs. In the absence of the Chair, the Chair Pro-  
415 Tem shall preside. In the absence or inability of said Pro-Tem, another Chair Pro-Tem  
416 shall be elected in the same manner.

417 B. When there is a vacancy for an officer position, the position shall be filled in the manner  
418 set forth in Article IV, Section 2 with the exception of its calendar provisions.

- 419 1. For all positions except Area Vice Chair, Director of Clubs, and Director of  
420 Grassroots Organizing:
- 421 a. Notice shall be given at the first meeting of the Central Committee to be held  
422 after the vacancy occurs and also by email to the full Central Committee within  
423 three (3) business days following the meeting.
- 424 b. Nomination and election shall take place at the next regular meeting of the  
425 Central Committee.
- 426 2. For Area Vice Chairs:
- 427 a. Notice shall be given at the first meeting of the Area or Central Committee to be  
428 held after the vacancy occurs and also by email to the full Central Committee  
429 within three (3) business days following the meeting.
- 430 b. Nomination and election shall take place at the next regular meeting of the Area.
- 431 c. The Central Committee shall ratify the newly elected Vice Chair at the first  
432 meeting of the Central Committee to follow the Area election.
- 433 3. For Secretary, Controller, or Director of Administration:
- 434 a. At least seven (7) days shall be allowed for application submissions. The process  
435 and deadline for applications will be specified in the email notice to all Central  
436 Committee members announcing the vacancy.
- 437 b. The Executive Board shall serve as the Nomination Committee for a mid-term  
438 vacancy for Secretary, Controller, or Director of Administration.
- 439 4. For Director of Grassroots Organizing:
- 440 a. Notice shall be given via email to the full Central Committee and all GO Team  
441 Regional and Countywide Coordinators within three (3) business days after the  
442 vacancy occurs.
- 443 b. Nomination shall take place at the next regular meeting of the GO Team  
444 Regional and Countywide Coordinators.
- 445 5. For Director of Clubs:
- 446 a. Notice shall be given via email to the full Central Committee and the Clubs  
447 Council email list within three (3) business days after the vacancy occurs.
- 448 b. Nomination shall take place at the next regular meeting of the Council of Clubs.
- 449 6. The Chair, or their designee, is responsible for sending email notice of any officer  
450 vacancy through the Central Committee email list.



451 Section 5. Duties of Officers

452 A. The Chair shall:

- 453 1. Serve as the chief executive officer and official spokesperson of the Central  
454 Committee,
- 455 2. Carry out the policies of the Central Committee and its Executive Board,
- 456 3. Manage, direct, and hire staff, with such hiring to be ratified by the Executive Board,
- 457 4. Serve in the Ex-Officio capacity without a vote on all SDCCDP committees,
- 458 5. Be authorized, subject to Executive Board approval, to create SDCCDP committees in  
459 addition to those specified in Policies and Procedures, and to appoint Chairs and  
460 members to those committees,
- 461 6. The Chair can recommend to the Executive Board an additional member for a  
462 Standing Committee to be added as the need arises and the Executive Board of the  
463 Party by a majority vote can approve the recommendation and the new member can  
464 be added subject to that committee's membership qualifications and ratification by  
465 majority vote of that committee, and
- 466 7. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

467 B. The four Area Vice-Chairs (North, South, East, and Central) shall:

- 468 1. Represent their respective areas on the Executive Board,
- 469 2. Serve as the chief officer and official spokespersons for their areas,
- 470 3. Be responsible for coordinating the political activities of their areas, including  
471 candidate recruitment and support, endorsement recommendations, grassroots  
472 organizing, outreach, voter registration, and Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV).
- 473 4. Be prepared to preside in the temporary absence of the Central Committee Chair, if  
474 elected as Chair Pro-Tem elected pursuant to Article IV Section 4,
- 475 5. Be prepared to act as Chair, should the position of Chair become vacant, until the  
476 vacancy is filled pursuant to Article IV, Section 2,
- 477 6. Perform other duties of the Chair at the discretion of the Chair,
- 478 7. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board,
- 479 8. Be members of the Central Committee as defined in Article II, Sections 1 through 4,
- 480 9. Area Vice Chairs may designate another Central Committee member from their Area  
481 to serve on the Executive Board in their place in the event of a temporary absence,

- 482 10. In their Areas, Vice-Chairs shall:
- 483 a. Support and coordinate official Party sponsored events and activities such as the  
484 annual fundraiser,
- 485 b. Coordinate area fundraising to support candidates, offices, and mailings,
- 486 c. Schedule, notice, and conduct Area meetings as specified in the Policies and  
487 Procedures,
- 488 d. Provide guidance and leadership to the Executive Board and Central Committee,
- 489 e. Implement the policies of the Executive Board and the Central Committee,
- 490 f. Develop and refine policy presentations for consideration by the Executive  
491 Board,
- 492 g. Review legal and personnel matters for presentation to the Executive Board, and
- 493 h. Carry out any other duties required by these Bylaws.
- 494 11. Submit attendance records and minutes for regular and special meetings to the  
495 County Party Secretary.

496 C. The Secretary shall:

- 497 1. Maintain all membership records, attendance records and journals of the Central  
498 Committee and Executive Board,
- 499 2. Maintain current membership lists of SDCDP committees,
- 500 3. Attend all meetings of the Central Committee and the Executive Board and take  
501 records of the proceeding of such meetings, including records of attendance,
- 502 4. Make available minutes of these meetings to members of the Central Committee,
- 503 5. Serve on the Credentials Committee, and
- 504 6. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

505 D. The Controller shall:

- 506 1. Be responsible for the receipt and custody of the Central Committee's funds,
- 507 2. Keep the financial record of the Central Committee,
- 508 3. Present an income statement and balance sheet at each meeting of the Central  
509 Committee,

- 510 4. Allow any member of the Central Committee to inspect the financial records after the  
511 receipt of reasonable notice,
- 512 5. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board, and
- 513 6. The Controller in office at the end of the fiscal year shall be responsible for closing  
514 the books for that fiscal year and shall complete any tax forms or financial reporting  
515 forms pertaining to all or part of his or her term of office.

516 E. The Director of Administration shall:

- 517 1. Keep the Bylaws of the Central Committee current and consistent with the law,
- 518 2. Draft Policies and Procedures for approval by the Central Committee,
- 519 3. Accept, file, and number all proposed Resolutions, proposed Policy and Procedure  
520 changes, and proposed Bylaw changes for review by the Administration Committee,
- 521 4. Report the results of this review to the Central Committee,
- 522 5. Manage Credentials Committee process, and
- 523 6. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

524 F. The Director of Clubs shall:

- 525 1. Be responsible for the organization of Democratic Clubs and Democratic  
526 support/affinity organizations,
- 527 2. Be the Custodian of the bylaws and membership records of all chartered  
528 organizations,
- 529 3. Oversee the budget, income, and expenditures of the Council of Clubs,
- 530 4. Present a coordinated Annual Plan for the development and the activities of  
531 Democratic Clubs and Democratic support/affinity organizations to the Central  
532 Committee in accord with the Policies and Procedures,
- 533 5. Support the Council of Clubs and coordinate activities with the Central Committee in  
534 accord with the Annual Plan,
- 535 6. Serve as Ex-Officio without a vote on the Council of Clubs. If the Director of Clubs is  
536 also a current Club President s/he can appoint a member of the club to vote on the  
537 club's behalf, and
- 538 7. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

539 G. The Director of Grassroots Organizing shall:

- 540 1. Serve on the Executive Board as a voting member,

541 2. Act in an advisory capacity to the current administration, and

542 3. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

543 H. The Immediate Past Chair shall:

544 1. Serve on the Executive Board as a voting member,

545 2. Preside over the Nomination Committee as part of the Central Committee biennial  
546 organization process,

547 3. Act in an advisory capacity to the current administration, and

548 4. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

549 Section 6. Auxiliary Authorities

550 A. The Chair shall have the power to appoint or remove a Treasurer, a General Counsel, a  
551 Parliamentarian, and a Media Relations Coordinator. These appointees have no voting  
552 rights unless they are already a member of the Central Committee.

553 1. The Treasurer shall:

554 a. Serve under the direction of the Controller and is not automatically a member of  
555 the Executive Board,

556 b. Not be restricted from holding a separate position on the Executive Board,

557 c. Be a registered Democrat, but need not be a member of the Central Committee,

558 d. Be subject to the advice and consent of the Executive Board,

559 e. Be ratified by a majority vote of the Central Committee at its first regular meeting  
560 after the appointment is made,

561 f. Be responsible for the timely filing of campaign spending records,

562 g. Complete any tax forms or financial reporting forms, and

563 h. Coordinate with the Controller in the preparation of financial statements by  
564 providing campaign spending records and other material considerations.

565 2. The General Counsel shall:

566 a. Be licensed to practice law in the state of California,

567 b. Be a registered Democrat, but need not be a member of the Central Committee,

568 c. Attend Steering Committee, Executive Board, and Central Committee meetings  
569 in an advisory capacity only,

- 570 d. Be subject to the advice and consent of the Executive Board, and
- 571 e. Be ratified by a majority vote of the Central Committee at its first regular meeting
- 572 after the appointment is made.
- 573 3. The Parliamentarian shall:
- 574 a. Assist the Chair regarding Robert's Rules of Order,
- 575 b. Be a registered Democrat, but need not be a member of the Central Committee.
- 576 4. The Media Relations Coordinator shall:
- 577 a. Be subject to the advice and consent of the Executive Board,
- 578 b. Be a registered Democrat, but need not be a member of the Central Committee,
- 579 and
- 580 c. Be ratified by a majority vote of the Central Committee at its first regular meeting
- 581 after the appointment is made.
- 582 B. The Central Committee may create additional auxiliary authorities by defining them in
- 583 Policies and Procedures.
- 584 C. Nothing shall prevent the Central Committee from approving compensation for the
- 585 holder of a contracted position.

## 586 ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

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### 587 Section 1. Number of Regular Meetings

588 The Central Committee shall hold at least nine (9) meetings in an election year and at least six

589 (6) meetings in non-election years. The Biennial Organizational Meeting is the first regular

590 meeting of the new term and takes place in January following the certification of the Statewide

591 Primary Election. A regular meeting may also be an endorsement meeting if it has been noticed

592 in accord with these Bylaws Article XIII, Section 3.

### 593 Section 2. Special Meetings

594 Special meetings may be called either by the Chair or by a petition signed by a majority of the

595 members of the Central Committee entitled to vote. Special meetings are limited to the agenda

596 items necessitating the special meeting. The notice requirements and procedure shall be set

597 forth in Policies and Procedures.

### 598 Section 3. Area Meetings

599 The Areas shall meet at least three (3) times per year on dates that do not conflict with Central

600 Committee meetings. The date, time, and location of Area meetings shall be determined by vote

601 of the Area's members. The Biennial Organizational Area Meeting is the first regular Area

602 meeting of the new term and takes place in January following the certification of the Statewide  
603 Primary Election. An Area meeting may also be an endorsement recommendation meeting if it  
604 has been noticed in accord with these Bylaws Article XIII, Section 3.

#### 605 Section 4. Quorum

606 A quorum of the Central Committee shall be composed of a majority of the members of the  
607 Central Committee entitled to vote. An Area meeting quorum shall be composed of twenty-five  
608 percent (25%) of those members eligible to vote for regular meetings, twenty-five percent (25%)  
609 of those members eligible to vote for friendly incumbent recommendation meetings where there  
610 is no declared Democratic challenger, and thirty-three percent (33%) of those members eligible  
611 to vote for all other endorsement recommendation meetings.

#### 612 Section 5. Proxy and Absentee Voting

613 Neither proxy voting nor absentee voting shall be permitted in any meeting of the Central  
614 Committee, at any Area Meetings, or at any Caucus.

#### 615 Section 6. Motions

616 The number of votes required to pass a motion, make a recommendation, or make an  
617 endorsement will be based on those present and voting unless otherwise specified in these  
618 Bylaws or Policies and Procedures. In all instances, a motion to table shall be subject to a two-  
619 thirds (2/3) vote.

#### 620 Section 7. Notice

621 The Notice requirements and procedure shall be set forth in Policies and Procedures.

## 622 ARTICLE VI - CAUCUSES

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### 623 Section 1. Legislative Caucus

#### 624 A. Definition

625 A Legislative Caucus shall include all Elected, Ex-Officio, Appointed, Alternate, Lifetime,  
626 and Associate members of the Central Committee who reside in said district.

#### 627 B. Vacancies

628 The Area Vice Chair with the largest number of registered Democrats in the district will  
629 serve as the presiding officer for the relevant caucus for the purposes of making a  
630 recommendation to fill a vacancy in the district.

## 631 ARTICLE VII - AREAS

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632 In order to create a more efficient and effective Central Committee, the San Diego County  
633 Democratic Central Committee shall be divided into regional areas. Such division will facilitate  
634 more grassroots participation through regular Area meetings. Candidate recruitment will be

635 enhanced through this regional process by employing the perspective and knowledge of the  
636 local Central Committee members, who will have more time for vetting candidates and ballot  
637 measures. The Areas shall then convey the results to the Executive Board. The result will be a  
638 streamlined endorsement process when the full Central Committee convenes to deliberate and  
639 vote.

#### 640 Section 1. Definition

641 The Central Committee shall be divided into four Areas – North, South, East, and Central –  
642 whose boundaries shall be defined and set forth in the Policies and Procedures.

#### 643 Section 2. Membership

644 Central Committee members as defined in Article II, Section 1 shall have the right to vote on  
645 official Central Committee business in front of their respective areas.

#### 646 Section 3. Coherence

647 A. The duly elected leader (Vice Chair) of each Area shall sit on the Executive Board of the  
648 San Diego County Democratic Party.

649 B. If Areas create leadership positions that mirror the directorships on the Central  
650 Committee – e.g., Secretary – those individuals shall work with their counterparts on the  
651 Central Committee to ensure coherence and effectiveness.

652 C. The Areas shall act in a manner that does not conflict with these Bylaws and the Central  
653 Committee's Policies and Procedures.

## 654 ARTICLE VIII - EXECUTIVE BOARD

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#### 655 Section 1. Membership

656 The Executive Board shall consist of the officers of the Central Committee.

#### 657 Section 2. Duties

658 The Executive Board shall:

659 A. Implement the policies of the Central Committee,

660 B. Develop and refine policy presentations for consideration by the Central Committee,

661 C. Review legal and personnel matters for presentation to the Central Committee, and

662 D. Carry out any other duties required by these Bylaws.

#### 663 Section 3. Meetings

664 The Executive Board shall meet in a manner set forth in the Policies and Procedures. The Chair  
665 of the Central Committee or a majority of the board members may call a special meeting or

666 change the regular meeting date of the Executive Board upon three (3) days' notice to each  
667 member of the Executive Board.

#### 668 Section 4. Voting

669 Neither proxy voting nor absentee voting shall be permitted at any Executive Board meeting.  
670 However, this prohibition shall not be construed as to disallow electronic voting.

#### 671 Section 5. Quorum

672 A quorum of the Executive Board is composed of a majority of the officers of the Executive  
673 Board.

## 674 ARTICLE IX - COMMITTEES

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### 675 Section 1. Definition

- 676 A. The Central Committee has Standing, Special Purpose, and Ad Hoc Committees.
- 677 B. The makeup, leadership, function, duties, and rules governing these Committees shall  
678 be set forth in the Policies and Procedures.
- 679 C. The Chair may appoint members to serve on any Committee with the consent of the  
680 Executive Board.

### 681 Section 2. Standing Committees

- 682 A. The Administration Committee to assist in drafting bylaws, policies and procedures, and  
683 to serve as the Credentials and Resolutions Committees.
- 684 1. The Credentials Committee to review any credentials concerns or membership  
685 eligibility challenges for accordance with the Bylaws and Policies of This Committee.
- 686 2. The Resolutions Committee to review proposed resolutions submitted for  
687 endorsement to the Central Committee.
- 688 B. The Club Development Committee to assist the development of Democratic clubs and to  
689 provide assistance in the support of chartered clubs.
- 690 C. The Grassroots Organizing Committee to provide leadership for the SDCDP's precinct  
691 based voter contact program known as the Grassroots Organizing (GO) Team.

### 692 Section 2. Special Purpose Committees

- 693 A. The Communications Committee to assist in managing and implementing the SDCDP  
694 communications plan.
- 695 B. The Membership Development Committee to increase engagement in the activities of  
696 the Party, both by Central Committee members and non-members, and to develop and



697 implement a program ensuring that Central Committee membership reflects the diversity  
698 of registered Democrats in San Diego County.

699 C. The Nomination Committee consisting of the Most Recent Past Chair and one elected  
700 representative from each of the four (4) Areas will meet to review applicants for the  
701 Executive Board as set forth in the Policies and Procedures.

702 D. The Voter Registration Committee to develop and implement a plan for increasing  
703 Democratic Voter Registration in San Diego County.

704 E. The Candidate Support and Assistance Committee (CSAC) supports Democratic  
705 candidates for partisan state-level offices.

### 706 Section 3. Ad Hoc Committees

707 Ad Hoc Committees may be created in accord with the Policies and Procedures.

## 708 ARTICLE X - DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATIONS

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### 709 Section 1. Definition and Purpose

710 A. A Democratic Club is an organization of Democrats allied by defined geographic area,  
711 special interest, or cultural community. A Club's purpose is to support and strengthen the  
712 Democratic Party through the political development, activity, and advocacy of its  
713 membership. A Club's objectives are to foster active interest in the local, state and  
714 national Democratic Party, to contribute to San Diego County Democratic Party  
715 leadership and responsibility, to support the campaigns of Democratic candidates  
716 representing the Club's constituency, and to engage in grassroots outreach, organizing  
717 and recruitment within its area, or special interest or cultural community.

718 B. A Democratic Coalition is an association of regionally affiliated representatives of the  
719 San Diego County Democratic Party Central Committee, California Democratic Party,  
720 Democratic Clubs, and Democratic-friendly organizations (such as labor unions). A  
721 Democratic Coalition's purpose is to coordinate and promote the common goals of the  
722 entities represented, to develop and implement projects that are beneficial to Democrats  
723 and Democratic organizations in the region, to support the campaigns of Democratic  
724 candidates in the region, and to foster Democratic grassroots organizing efforts in the  
725 region. A Democratic Coalition is not a governing body for the entities whose members  
726 associate with it.

727 C. The Council of Clubs is an informal assembly of Democratic Club and Democratic  
728 Coalition presidents or their designated representatives. The Council's purpose is to  
729 foster communication and cooperation between Council members, to assist in building  
730 the organizational capacity of Clubs and Coalitions, to develop and implement projects  
731 that are beneficial to Council members' operations, and engage in other activities as the  
732 Council deems appropriate. The Council of Clubs is not a governing body for the entities  
733 represented.

734 [Section 2. Authorization](#)

735 A Democratic Club or Democratic Coalition shall annually charter with the Central Committee to  
736 be authorized as the Democratic Club for a defined geographic area, special interest or cultural  
737 community, or the Democratic Coalition for a specific region.

738 A. The Central Committee shall charter no more than four Democratic Coalitions,  
739 representing 1) Central San Diego County, 2) East San Diego County, 3) North San  
740 Diego County and 4) South San Diego County respectively.

741 B. The Central Committee shall charter clubs with a geographic focus. These clubs are  
742 typically named for the community and boundaries may overlap. These clubs are known  
743 as Geographic Clubs.

744 C. The Central Committee may charter a Democratic Club that seeks to address a unique  
745 population, cultural community, special interest, or demographic. These clubs are known  
746 as Affinity Clubs.

747 D. The Central Committee may charter a Democratic Club affiliated with an educational  
748 institution. These clubs are known as Academic Clubs.

749 [Section 3. Requirements](#)

750 A. Membership shall be open to all Democrats regardless of race, religion, national origin,  
751 sex or sexual orientation, or gender identity.

752 B. To charter, the Club or Coalition must have at least twenty (20) members who are  
753 registered Democrats in San Diego County or have expressed the intention of becoming  
754 registered Democrats in San Diego County as soon as they are eligible to vote.

755 C. A club or organization may have Associates who are not members of the Democratic  
756 Party.

757 D. At least two-thirds (2/3) of all those who make up the Club or Coalition (both members  
758 and associates) shall be registered Democrats or individuals who have expressed the  
759 intention of becoming registered Democrats as soon as they are eligible.

760 E. Only registered Democrats, or those who have expressed the intention of becoming  
761 registered Democrats as soon as they are eligible, may serve as Club or Coalition  
762 officers or vote on Club or Coalition business.

763 F. The Club or Coalition's bylaws shall have a process that governs the selection of  
764 potential representatives to the CDP and SDCDP.

765 G. The Club or Coalition shall meet at least once quarterly and all meeting dates, times,  
766 and locations shall be provided to the SDCDP at least fourteen (14) days prior to the  
767 meeting for publication on the SDCDP website.

768 [Section 4. Suspension, Revocation and/or Denial of a Club or Coalition’s Charter.](#)

769 If, assuming the alleged facts are true, good cause exists for suspension, revocation or denial of  
770 renewal of a charter, such allegations shall first be presented to the Executive Board at its  
771 regularly scheduled meeting according to the procedure provided below:

- 772       A. The Executive Board shall determine if it will give consideration to an allegation and if  
773       so, will place it on its agenda for a designated subsequent meeting.
- 774       B. A minimum of twenty (20) days’ written notice shall be provided to the president of the  
775       affected Club or Democratic Coalition, at the mailing address filed with the Central  
776       Committee at application for charter or renewal of charter, specifying the allegation and  
777       giving notice of the date the allegation will be heard. The Club or Coalition President or  
778       another designee shall be allowed to respond to the allegation at the Executive Board  
779       meeting noticed.
- 780       C. The Executive Board, by a two-thirds vote, may recommend to the Central Committee  
781       that it suspend, revoke or deny renewal of the Club or Coalition’s charter.
- 782       D. A thirty (30) day notice to the members of the Central Committee and to the President of  
783       the affected Club or Coalition shall precede such a recommendation. The notice shall  
784       specify the allegation and findings by the Executive Board.
- 785       E. Approval of the Executive Board’s recommendation shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote  
786       of the Central Committee by show of hands. Such approval shall be effective  
787       immediately.
- 788       F. If the Central Committee approves the recommendation of the Executive Board to  
789       suspend, revoke or deny renewal of a charter, the Secretary shall give said Club or  
790       Coalition written notice of the decision.
- 791       G. If a Club or Coalition’s charter is revoked or not renewed, no other club or support/affinity  
792       organization shall be chartered using the same name for the twelve (12) months  
793       immediately following such revocation or denial of renewal.

794 [Section 4. Affiliated Organizations](#)

795 Pursuant to Elections Code Section 20201, the Executive Board may permit any organization to  
796 use the title Democrat or Democratic in its name when soliciting for the use of the Democratic  
797 Party; however, the organization shall not, by itself, constitute a representation that funds  
798 solicited by that organization are being solicited for the use of the Democratic Party.

799 [ARTICLE XI - ANNUAL BUDGET](#)

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800 [Section 1. Fiscal Year](#)

801 The Fiscal Year of the Central Committee shall run from January 1, through December 31, of  
802 each calendar year.

803 Section 2. Budget Process

- 804 A. The Controller shall develop an annual budget in coordination with the Executive Board.
- 805 B. The Executive Board shall present the annual budget to the Central Committee for  
806 ratification by majority vote. The voting shall be by voice vote or by show of hands.
- 807 C. Proposed changes to an approved annual budget shall be sent to the Controller, who  
808 shall make a recommendation to the Executive Board.
- 809 1. A proposed amendment less than or equal to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) may be  
810 enacted by a simple majority vote of those present at a regular meeting of the  
811 Executive Board.
- 812 2. Proposed amendments above one thousand dollars (\$1,000) may not be enacted  
813 without the approval of a simple majority of the Central Committee.
- 814 D. Additional rules, requirements, and responsibilities of the budget process shall be set  
815 forth in the Policies and Procedures.

816 ARTICLE XII - REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPENDITURES

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817 Section 1. Budgeted Expenditures

818 Usual and ordinary operating expenditures that are authorized in accordance with a ratified  
819 annual budget may be paid upon approval by the Chair of the Central Committee or by the  
820 affected Area Vice Chair.

821 Section 2. Unbudgeted Expenditures

822 Shall be made in accordance with the Policies and Procedures.

823 ARTICLE XIII - ENDORSEMENTS

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824 Section 1. Resolutions

825 The Central Committee may consider and take public positions on any matter of general public  
826 concern as resolutions. All Resolutions shall:

- 827 A. Be signed by an Elected, Ex-Officio, Appointed, or Alternate member of the Central  
828 Committee,
- 829 B. Follow the format set forth in the Central Committee Policies and Procedures,
- 830 C. Be submitted to the Director of Administration at least seven (7) calendar days prior to  
831 the Central Committee meeting at which consideration is requested, and

- 832 D. Be considered by the Administration Committee before submission to the Central  
833 Committee
- 834 1. The Director of Administration may determine that immediate consideration of a  
835 resolution received less than seven (7) calendar days prior to a Central Committee  
836 meeting is warranted because of its emergency nature and forego review by the  
837 Administration Committee for consideration, and bring it directly to the Central  
838 Committee.
- 839 2. Should the Administration Committee decline to recommend a resolution or the  
840 Director of Administration decline a late submission for emergency consideration, the  
841 Central Committee, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, may take up the resolution.
- 842 E. Resolutions recommended to the full Central Committee for consideration for  
843 endorsement will be distributed via email to the Central Committee at least two (2)  
844 calendar days prior to the meeting at which it is to be considered. A limited number of  
845 printed copies shall be available at the Central Committee meeting.

## 846 Section 2. Nonpartisan Candidates and Ballot Proposition/Initiatives

- 847 A. The Central Committee may endorse candidates for nonpartisan offices providing:
- 848 1. The candidate is a registered Democrat,
- 849 2. Endorsements are not given to more candidates than there are open seats for the  
850 office,
- 851 3. The office does not extend beyond the San Diego County boundaries,
- 852 4. The candidate has declared their intention to run to the Registrar of Voters, the State  
853 of California, the Central Committee, or the Chair of this Party,
- 854 5. Reasonable attempts are made to notify all declared candidates who the Party has  
855 established with certainty are registered Democrats are notified regarding the date,  
856 time, and place of all relevant meetings and of the endorsement process at least five  
857 (5) business days in advance of the meeting. A candidate may speak or may  
858 designate a Central Committee member to speak or read a letter on their behalf.
- 859 6. The candidate has requested the Central Committee endorsement and returned all  
860 required documentation at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting where  
861 endorsement or recommendation will be considered.
- 862 7. The filing deadline has passed, unless the candidate is an incumbent or in races that  
863 have been identified as strategically critical.
- 864 a. For races that are fully enclosed within an Area, upon recommendation by the  
865 Area, the Central Committee may endorse incumbents early and without a  
866 questionnaire.

- 867                   b. For races that cross Area boundaries, the Central Committee may endorse  
868 incumbents early and without a questionnaire following a recommendation by the  
869 Areas or upon recommendation by the Executive Board.
- 870                   c. A race may be designated as strategically critical following a preliminary  
871 recommendation by the Area(s), secondary recommendation by the Executive  
872 Board, and approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Central Committee.
- 873                   d. In special elections, a race may be designated as strategically critical by a two-  
874 thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board in lieu of the Area voting to recommend  
875 on the designation.
- 876                   e. Endorsements in races designated strategically critical may be considered at the  
877 next Central Committee meeting following the designations.
- 878           B. Positions on ballot initiatives and propositions may be taken by the Central Committee.  
879 However, the Central Committee shall not take a position on any statewide initiative that  
880 is contrary to that of the Central Committee of the California Democratic Party.

### 881 Section 3. Notice for Endorsement and Recommendation Meetings

882 All Central Committee endorsement meetings and Area endorsement recommendation  
883 meetings require prior notice to the membership.

- 884           A. Notice is hereby given: the first Central Committee meeting occurring after the close of  
885 filing, including any extended filing, for Primary, General or Special Elections may  
886 consider any race or measure appearing on the ballot for endorsement.
- 887           B. Notice is hereby given: the first Area Committee meeting occurring after the close of  
888 filing, including any extended filing, for Primary, General or Special Elections may  
889 consider any race or measure appearing on the ballot in that Area for a recommendation  
890 for endorsement.
- 891           C. At least fifteen (15) days' notice shall be given prior to the meeting in which the Central  
892 Committee considers an endorsement for a specific candidate race or a ballot measure.
- 893           D. The Executive Board may, with at least seven (7) days' notice, call a special meeting of  
894 the Central Committee to consider endorsing a candidate or a ballot measure

### 895 Section 4. Rules Concerning Recommendations, Endorsements and Ballot 896 Propositions/Initiatives

897 The rules outlined in this section apply to full Central Committee endorsement meetings and  
898 Area endorsement recommendation meetings. Only the Central Committee can make an  
899 endorsement and the Areas recommend endorsements to that body.

- 900           A. Areas shall make recommendations on Endorsements and Ballot Propositions at  
901 meetings held prior to the Central Committee meeting.
- 902                   1. For Countywide and San Diego Citywide races including ballot measures, each Area  
903 may make a non-consent recommendation on the race.

- 904 2. For races where the district is fully contained in a SDCDP Area, the enclosing Area  
905 shall make the recommendation.
- 906 3. For all other races, endorsement recommendation meetings will be hosted in the  
907 Area Caucus in which there is a plurality of voters registered as Democrats of the  
908 last General Election either Gubernatorial or Presidential.
- 909 a. Central Committee members registered to vote outside of the hosting Area, but  
910 inside of the district for which recommendation is being considered, shall also be  
911 eligible to vote and shall be notified of the consideration meeting at the same  
912 time and in the same manner as the Area's members.
- 913 b. Vice Chairs shall coordinate their endorsement recommendation meetings so  
914 they will not overlap and all eligible members have the opportunity to participate.
- 915 c. All cross-Area races will be considered before races fully contained in the Area.
- 916 B. Voting shall be done by voice vote or by show of hands.
- 917 C. No candidates may be present during debate on their specific endorsement or  
918 recommendation.
- 919 D. A position on a candidate requires a minimum sixty percent (60%) vote.
- 920 1. Members shall be presented with a "No Endorsement" option on all votes.
- 921 2. If no candidate receives a minimum of sixty percent (60%) in the first round of  
922 balloting, a second ballot shall be taken after removing the candidate receiving the  
923 least votes and any candidates receiving zero votes.
- 924 3. If in the second round of balloting a candidate receives at least fifty percent (50%)  
925 but less than the sixty percent (60%) threshold, subsequent balloting shall continue  
926 after removing the candidate receiving the least votes and any candidates receiving  
927 zero votes.
- 928 4. Balloting shall continue using the same procedure described in D.3, as long as one  
929 (1) candidate receives at least fifty percent (50%) but less than sixty percent (60%)  
930 and at least one (1) other candidate remains.
- 931 5. If after the completion of balloting, no candidate has received the minimum required  
932 votes to reach the sixty percent (60%) threshold for endorsement, the position of the  
933 body shall be "No Endorsement".
- 934 E. A position on a ballot initiative or proposition requires a minimum sixty percent (60%)  
935 vote. Members have the option of voting "No Position." If a motion to endorse or oppose  
936 fails, the position of the body is "No Position."

- 937 F. If the Executive Board recommends a Consent Agenda of candidates or ballot  
938 measures, acceptance shall require the approval of a minimum sixty percent (60%) vote.
- 939 1. Any member of the Central Committee may request that a candidate or ballot  
940 measure be pulled from the Consent Agenda for consideration with a fifty percent  
941 (50%) vote.
- 942 2. Those races pulled from the Consent Agenda shall be handled as non-consent  
943 agenda items in accordance with Part D or E of this section.
- 944 G. Any endorsement made in a Primary election carries forward with any candidate who  
945 advances to a run-off election for the same office.

#### 946 Section 5. Ratings for Democratic Candidates

- 947 A. Once an Area or the Central Committee has adopted a no endorsement  
948 recommendation, the endorsement process is complete. There is no requirement to  
949 examine the candidates further; however, the Chair or Vice Chair may entertain a motion  
950 to rate each of the candidates: a) Qualified, b) Unacceptable, or c) No Position.
- 951 B. If a motion has been made and seconded to rate the candidates, then all candidates  
952 must be reconsidered, one time only, for a rating. The Central Committee or an Area has  
953 the option to rate candidates as a group or as individuals or in any combination thereof  
954 as the body sees fit so long as each candidate is not examined for a rating more than  
955 once. The vote is yea or nay on the question. The threshold to pass a Qualified rating is  
956 sixty percent (60%).
- 957 C. When only one previously rated as Qualified candidate advances to a top-two runoff,  
958 they automatically become the endorsed candidate.
- 959 D. In all other cases, any rating made in a Primary election does not carry over to the  
960 General Election. The endorsement process will begin anew once the Primary election  
961 no longer has uncertainty about which candidates will move forward to the General  
962 Election and at least one Democratic candidate exists for the seat then the candidate(s)  
963 must be re-examined for an endorsement. The candidate(s) will be considered for  
964 recommendation at the next Area meeting and then for endorsement the Central  
965 Committee meeting following that Area meeting. No additional notice shall be required.

#### 966 Section 6. Rescission of Endorsements, Positions, or Ratings

967 The Central Committee, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote may rescind any endorsement, position, or  
968 rating previously made in a nonpartisan race

#### 969 Section 7. Rules Concerning Candidates

970 The Central Committee may consider a vote to designate a candidate as "Do not vote for". The  
971 threshold for the designation is sixty percent (60%).

#### 972 Section 8. Rules Concerning Endorsements by Chartered Clubs



- 973 A. Chartered clubs shall endorse only registered Democrats.
- 974 B. Non-Democratic candidates may only be rated acceptable or unacceptable.
- 975 C. Chartered clubs shall notice their full membership that endorsement consideration will be  
976 made in a particular race or races at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.  
977 Notification shall be made by email to the full membership or, absent an email address,  
978 by U.S. Mail or an alternative method as specified in the club's bylaws.
- 979 D. Reasonable attempts are made by the club to notify and invite all declared candidates  
980 who the Party has established with certainty are registered Democrats regarding the  
981 date, time, and place of the club's meetings and of the club's endorsement process at  
982 least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Requests for information regarding  
983 candidates from the club to the Party office must be made at least seven (7) business  
984 days prior to the meeting.
- 985 E. Endorsements by chartered clubs shall not be construed as the official endorsement of  
986 either the California Democratic Party or the San Diego County Democratic Party. Words  
987 to that effect shall be clearly visible wherever a chartered club's endorsement is referred  
988 to.
- 989 F. Any publication of endorsements by chartered clubs shall clearly delineate between  
990 endorsed candidates and candidates rated acceptable.

## 991 ARTICLE XIV - Elected Officials

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### 992 Section 1. Vote of No Confidence

993 The Central Committee, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, may express no-confidence in an elected  
994 Democratic Official. An Area may make a recommendation, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, that the  
995 Central Committee express no-confidence in an elected Democratic Official whose district is  
996 fully enclosed in their Area.

### 997 Section 2. Request for Resignation

998 The Central Committee, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, may request the resignation of an elected  
999 Democratic Official. An Area may make a recommendation, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, that the  
1000 Central Committee request the resignation of an elected Democratic Official whose district is  
1001 fully enclosed in their Area.

## 1002 ARTICLE XV - Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC)

### 1003 Delegation

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#### 1004 Section 1. DSCC Appointment

- 1005 A. The Chair of the Party and AD Elected members shall be automatically elected to serve  
1006 as a representative of this County Committee to the State Committee, provided they  
1007 have submitted intent that they wish to serve on the DSCC on their member form or via  
1008 email to the Chair.
- 1009 B. Any remaining representatives apportioned to SDCDP by the State Committee shall be  
1010 elected at-large from This Committee's Ex Officio, Appointed, Lifetime, Alternate, and  
1011 Associate members in accordance with the Policies of This Committee.
- 1012 C. Members who are not elected as part of the DSCC Delegation will be placed on the  
1013 DSCC Alternates list.
- 1014 D. Representatives to the Executive Board of the DSCC will be selected from the DSCC  
1015 Delegation in accordance with DSCC requirements.
- 1016 E. Dual representation is not allowed:
- 1017 1. Members must choose between representation to the CDP via the ADEM  
1018 membership or via the SDCDP delegation within five (5) calendar days of their latter  
1019 election so that alternates may be promptly appointed to fill the position.
- 1020 2. If a member with dual membership runs for an Executive Board position via the CDP  
1021 and wins the position, they will automatically become an Ex-Officio CDP EBoard  
1022 Member of the SDCDP and are no longer eligible to be part of the SDCDP  
1023 delegation to the CDP. If they previously held an AD Elected member position with  
1024 the SDCDP, that position will be declared vacant.
- 1025 3. If a member with dual membership runs for a SDCDP allotted CDP Executive Board  
1026 positions and wins the position, they automatically relinquish their ADEM  
1027 membership and must notify the CDP within five (5) calendar days. A failure to  
1028 relinquish within five (5) calendar days will result in the member being removed from  
1029 the SDCDP EBoard delegation and a vacancy will be declared.
- 1030 F. Representatives shall serve on the DSCC for a two-year term as long as they remain a  
1031 member of the Central Committee.
- 1032 G. Subsequent to the Biennial Organizational Meeting, requests to be added to the  
1033 Alternates list must be made via email to the Chair or the Executive Director.
- 1034 H. Vacancies will be declared and filled in accordance with the Policies of This Committee.

## 1035 ARTICLE XVI - RULES

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### 1036 Section 1. Amendment of the Bylaws

1037 The Central Committee may amend these Bylaws with a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

- 1038 A. The amendment shall be filed with the Director of Administration at a regular meeting no  
1039 less than twenty-eight (28) days before the meeting at which the amendment is voted  
1040 upon, and referred to the Administration Committee at that time.
- 1041 B. If the Administration Committee does not approve the referred amendment, the  
1042 amendment may be presented from the floor with the consent of a majority of those  
1043 present.
- 1044 C. If the Administration Committee, during its review of the referred amendment, develops  
1045 and approves an alternative amendment within the scope of the original amendment, the  
1046 revised amendment may be presented from the floor with the consent of a majority of  
1047 those present.
- 1048 D. Amendments shall be made available electronically to all members of the Central  
1049 Committee at least seven (7) days prior to the Central Committee meeting. Any member  
1050 who wishes to have a printed copy shall make that request at least three (3) business  
1051 days prior to the Central Committee meeting.

## 1052 Section 2. Central Committee Policies and Procedures

1053 The policies, procedures, and rules for the governance and operation of the Central Committee  
1054 shall be set forth in the Policies and Procedures. The Policies and Procedures may be amended  
1055 at any meeting of the Central Committee with a sixty percent (60%) vote.

- 1056 A. A written copy of the amendment shall be made available to all members of the Central  
1057 Committee in attendance.
- 1058 B. The Administration Committee need not be consulted prior to offering an amendment.
- 1059 C. The Administration Committee has the option of making Amendments made available  
1060 electronically to all members of the Central Committee at least seven (7) days prior to  
1061 the Central Committee meeting. Any member who wishes to have a printed copy shall  
1062 make that request at least three (3) business days prior to the Central Committee  
1063 meeting.
- 1064 D. No notice shall be required to amend the Policies and Procedures.

## 1065 Section 3. Robert's Rules of Order

1066 The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall  
1067 govern the Central Committee, including Areas and Committees, in all cases in which they are  
1068 applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, except that in all instances  
1069 a motion to table shall be subject to a two-thirds (2/3) vote.