



BYLAWS

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ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. Name

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

Section 2. Purpose

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

Section 3. Consistency with Statutory Law

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

Section 4. Areas

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

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership

A. All members shall be registered to vote as Democrats in San Diego County.

B. There shall be seven (7) classes of membership: Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated, Appointed, Alternate, Lifetime, and Associate:

1. Elected members, who are qualified to serve pursuant to the Election Code of California and are elected in partisan Presidential Primary Elections to represent their Assembly District on This Committee.

2. Ex-Officio members:

a. Ex-Officio members of This Committee shall be the following if they reside in and 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 as an Appointed position in accordance with these
49 Bylaws.
- 50 3) Ex-Officio members shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges as
51 Elected members of This Committee.
- 52 b. Incumbent office holders of, and the most recent voter-nominated Democratic
53 candidate for, the United States House of Representatives, the State Board of
54 Equalization, the State Senate, and the State Assembly, whose districts extend
55 into San Diego County, but who are themselves not registered to vote in San
56 Diego County, shall have the right to appoint a voting alternate, provided such an
57 alternate is registered to vote as a Democrat in San Diego County.
- 58 3. Designated members:
- 59 a. Designated members shall be the following if they reside in and are registered to
60 vote in San Diego County:
- 61 1) Statewide Chairs, Co-Chairs, or Presidents of CDP standing committees,
62 chartered statewide Democratic Party Organizations, or CDP Caucuses;
- 63 2) Members of the Democratic National Committee;
- 64 3) State Officers of the California Democratic Party;
- 65 4) Assembly District Representatives to the Executive Board of the CDP
66 (hereinafter ADEM EBoard Member);

- 67 5) The most recent Chair of This Committee who is a different individual from
68 the Current Chair unless he or she is already an Elected Member;
- 69 6) The Director of Clubs unless he or she is already an Elected Member;
- 70 7) The Director of Grassroots Organizing unless he or she is already an Elected
71 Member.
- 72 b. Designated members shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges and have
73 the same responsibilities as Elected members of This Committee.
- 74 4. Appointed members of This Committee are members appointed to fill Elected or Ex-
75 Officio vacancies within the body in accordance with Article III, Section 1, B on filling
76 vacancies for Central Committee. Appointed members shall be entitled to the same
77 rights and privileges and have the same responsibilities as Elected members of This
78 Committee.
- 79 5. Alternate members, who are appointed by Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated, or
80 Appointed members of the Central Committee.
- 81 a. Alternates shall be registered in San Diego County in the same district their
82 appointer represents on the Central Committee. Notice of appointment plus
83 payment of the dues shall be recorded with the Secretary before the Alternate
84 may serve.
- 85 b. An Alternate shall have all the rights of the appointer, except voting in the Central
86 Committee meetings when their appointer is present and the power of
87 appointment, when the appointer is absent.
- 88 c. An Alternate serves at the pleasure of their appointer or may be removed from
89 the Central Committee under the conditions of Article III.
- 90 6. Lifetime members, who are nominated by the Chair and approved by the body.
91 Lifetime membership is an honorary position: without dues or the power of
92 appointment, yet does still have a vote.
- 93 7. Associate members have an organizational role in the County Democratic Party and
94 are not already members in another membership class. Associate members' voting
95 rights are limited to their designated Area meetings; they have the right to speak at
96 Central Committee meetings and in other Areas.
- 97 a. A President of a chartered Democratic Club or Coalition, and the GO Team
98 Regional and Countywide Coordinators, are Associate Members of the Central
99 Committee. Their dues are waived. If a Club or Coalition President is already a
100 member, chooses not to serve, or becomes a member in a different class, the
101 club or coalition may choose to appoint a different Associate to serve their term
102 using the process defined in the club's bylaws. When chartering, all clubs will

103 designate the Area that the club will caucus with and the club's Associate
104 Member will serve in that Area for the purposes of quorum and voting.

105 b. EBoard Appointed Associate members shall be subject to acceptance by the
106 Executive Board and payment of dues. Candidates for Associate membership
107 may be recommended for consideration to the Executive Board by the Chair or
108 by the Vice Chair for their specific Area. The Chair must provide thirty (30) days
109 advance notice to the Area Vice Chair. If the Associate member ceases to be a
110 registered voter in the Area, their Associate membership extinguishes.

111 c. Affinity clubs that would like to have representation in more than one Area shall
112 petition the Executive Board to add EBoard Appointed Associate positions with
113 the rationale for added Area representation. If the position is approved by the
114 Executive Board, the dues shall be waived. Said position would be filled
115 according to the club's bylaws for filling SDCDP representative positions with a
116 club member who is registered to vote in the Area. Each club is limited to one
117 vote in any Area or Legislative Caucus. Any additional positions created by the
118 Executive Board extinguish before the biennial organization, if the appointee
119 does not fulfill their participation duties in the area, or if the club ceases to be
120 chartered.

121 C. Any member who wishes to exercise membership rights, including the right to appoint an
122 Alternate member, must meet the dues requirement of This Committee.

123 D. All members are members of This Committee's Legislative Caucus where they are
124 registered to vote and a member of This Committee's Area Caucus as defined in Article
125 VII of these Bylaws.

126 E. The names of current Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated, and Appointed members will be
127 publicly available via the SDCDP Website.

128 Section 2. Duties of Membership

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

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

134 C. The duties of all members are to:

135 1. Attend the regular, endorsement recommendation, and special meetings of their
136 individual Areas.

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

138 3. Serve on SDCDP committees.

139 4. Share in the responsibility of raising money for the SDCDP.

- 140 5. Participate in the candidate endorsement process.
141 6. Assist the SDCDP in communicating with and reaching out to Democrats.
142 7. Support endorsed Democratic candidates endorsed by the SDCDP or the California
143 Democratic Party.
144 8. Share the general duties of building and supporting the Party.
145 9. Be familiar with the Bylaws and Policies and Procedures of the Party.
146 10. Be familiar with the races on the ballot prior to an endorsement or recommendation
147 meeting.

148 **Section 3. Terms of Office**

- 149 A. The current Chair of the Central Committee shall administer the Oaths of Office to
150 incoming Central Committee members.
- 151 B. The terms of office of the Central Committee members, with the exception of the
152 Executive Board and ADEM EBoard Members, shall:
- 153 1. Begin at the Biennial Organizational Meeting in their Area in January following
154 certification of the State Primary Election by the Registrar of Voters, and
- 155 2. Continue as long as they continue to meet their membership qualifications and
156 expire when the Oaths of Office are administered to their successors.
- 157 C. The terms of the Executive Board as officers begin at the end of the Biennial
158 Organizational Meeting of the Central Committee and continue through the end of the
159 next Biennial Organizational Meeting so long as they continue to be an officer. For
160 officers who are not continuing as members into the new term, their member term shall
161 be extended independent of their qualifying member class.
- 162 D. Member class terms are as follows:
- 163 1. The Terms of Assembly District Elected members will be four years. Their elections
164 will coincide with Presidential Primary elections.
- 165 2. Ex-Officio terms are determined by their qualifying office:
- 166 a. Incumbent public officers begin their term when they take public office.
- 167 b. The highest finishing Democrat members begin their term when they would have
168 taken public office had they won.
- 169 3. Designated member terms are determined by their qualifying office:
- 170 a. DNC members, officers of the CDP, CDP Regional Directors begin their term
171 when they take their DNC or CDP office.

- 172 b. ADEM EBoard Members begin their term at the Biennial Organizational Meeting.
173 The outgoing ADEM Eboard Member serves an extended term that includes the
174 Area Biennial Organizational Meeting.
- 175 c. As previously stated, Past Chair, Director of Clubs, and the Director of
176 Grassroots Organizing serve an extended term that coincides with their term as
177 an officer.
- 178 4. Ex-Officio and Designated member terms last as long as the individual holds the
179 office, or in the case of highest finishing Democrats for the same term for the office
180 for which they were a candidate.
- 181 5. Ex-Officio and Designated members of this committee who have paid dues and are
182 otherwise in good standing shall become Associate members as defined in these
183 Bylaws (Article II, Section 1, Paragraph 7) upon termination of their qualifying office.
184 They shall remain at a minimum an associate member for as long as their dues were
185 originally paid. Should they obtain Central Committee membership through a
186 different mechanism during the duration of their paid dues, that membership shall be
187 considered paid for that duration.
- 188 6. Alternate members serve at the pleasure of their appointer for the same term as their
189 appointer.
- 190 7. Associate member terms are coincident with their term in the qualifying body that
191 appointed them to This Committee.

192 Section 4. Oath and Dues

- 193 A. In their capacity as public officials, members are required to swear the Oath or
194 Affirmation of Allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of
195 the State of California.
- 196 B. There shall be biennial dues for Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated, Appointed, Alternate,
197 and Appointed Associate members of the Central Committee, in an amount set forth in
198 Policies and Procedures. Until their dues requirement is met, members shall not be
199 allowed a vote or to exercise member rights at any meeting of the Central Committee or
200 the Area Caucus.

201 Section 5. Prohibition on Dual Membership

202 There shall be no dual membership.

- 203 A. A person who becomes eligible for membership on more than one basis shall, within
204 thirty (30) days of such duality, inform the Secretary of the eligibility and identify the
205 position that he or she wishes to occupy.
- 206 B. If the person fails to indicate which position he or she elects to occupy, the Central
207 Committee, by majority vote, shall make the determination.

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

210 ARTICLE III. VACANCIES AND REMOVALS

211 Section 1. Definition of Vacancy

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

223 Section 2. Replacement

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

244 E. Any other Ex-Officio or Designated member vacancy shall be filled by the respective
245 electing body.

246 Section 3. Role of Alternate During Vacancy

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

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

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

257 Section 4. Removal by Lack of Attendance

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

260 A. Central Committee Attendance

261 1. All Elected, Designated, and Appointed members have attendance requirements at
262 Central Committee meetings. The presence of a member's Alternate fulfills the
263 obligation of representing the Democratic voters, but does not excuse an absence.

264 2. Any Elected, Designated, or Appointed member, with absences from three (3)
265 consecutive or four (4) total Central Committee meetings in a calendar year has
266 failed to meet the minimum level of attendance and has removed themselves.

267 3. All Alternates, including Ex-Officio Alternates, have a Central Committee attendance
268 requirement when their appointing member is absent. Any Alternate member with
269 absences from three (3) consecutive or four (4) total Central Committee meetings in
270 a calendar year when serving in lieu of their appointer has failed to meet the
271 minimum level of attendance and has removed themselves.

272 B. Area Attendance

273 4. All members, with the exception incumbent elected official of the California
274 legislature or U.S. Congress and Lifetime members, have attendance requirements
275 at Area meetings.

- 276 5. Any member, other than incumbent elected officials of the California legislature or
277 U.S. Congress, with absences from three (3) consecutive or four (4) total Area
278 Committee meetings in a calendar year has failed to meet the minimum level of
279 attendance and has removed themselves.
- 280 B. After a member's second consecutive absence or third absence total from either Central
281 Committee meetings or their Area meetings, the member may petition the Executive
282 Board regarding said absence. Petitions must be received within fourteen (14) days of
283 the absence.
- 284 C. A member who has removed themselves will be sent list of dates they were absent by
285 the SDCDP office. Should the member wish to petition the Executive Board to correct
286 the record, the petition must be made within fourteen (14) days of the date of they were
287 emailed of the list of absences.
- 288 D. A member who has removed themselves by lack of attendance cannot be reseated until
289 the term in which they removed themselves has expired.

290 **Section 5. Removal by Endorsement of a non-Democratic Candidate**

- 291 A. Any member, other than an incumbent elected official of the California legislature or U.S.
292 Congress, who individually endorses a non-Democratic candidate has removed
293 themselves unless the following criteria are met:
- 294 B. Filing has closed,
- 295 C. There are no Democrats in the race and
- 296 D. The party has completed its endorsements and has not otherwise weighed in.
- 297 E. If a member is notified by the party via email their name has been used in an
298 endorsement by a non-Democratic candidate, the member shall write a letter to the
299 candidate requesting the candidate cease and desist from using their name and provide
300 a copy of this letter to the Secretary within three (3) days of the date of the email. Absent
301 this letter, the use of their name will be considered an endorsement and the member has
302 removed themselves.
- 303 F. A member who has removed themselves by endorsement of a non-Democratic
304 Candidate cannot be reseated until the term in which they removed themselves has
305 expired.

306 **Section 6. Removal for Cause**

- 307 A. Any member, other than an incumbent elected official of the California legislature or U.S.
308 Congress, may be removed for cause by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Central
309 Committee.
- 310 B. Cause shall be defined as:

- 311 1. Where there is an endorsed candidate, campaigning for a non-Democratic candidate
312 or publicly advocating that voters should not vote in that contest;
- 313 2. Committing the Party to unauthorized expenditures;
- 314 3. Criminal conviction involving moral turpitude;
- 315 4. Chronic alcohol or substance abuse affecting ability to serve;
- 316 5. Violations of this organization's Code of Conduct;
- 317 6. Engaging in behavior detrimental to the purpose of the Democratic Party; or
- 318 7. Any other reason set forth in this organization's Policy and Procedures.

319 **Section 7. Removal Procedure**

- 320 A. The Secretary shall refer the matter to the Credentials Committee to consider
321 recommending removal and shall notify the member via email of the pending action and
322 will include the written challenge.
- 323 B. The Credentials Committee will meet for a technical review of the Bylaws, Policies and
324 Procedures and the written challenge to the membership. If the Credentials Committee
325 determines by a sixty percent (60%) vote that the challenge as presented meets the
326 criteria for grounds for removal, the Credentials Committee shall prepare a list of the
327 relevant Bylaws and Policies and Procedures. The meeting should be held no later than
328 fourteen (14) days of the date the member was notified.
- 329 C. If the Credentials Committee has determined the challenge meets the criteria for the
330 grounds for removal, the Chair will schedule a meeting with the Executive Board, the
331 affected member, and the member who made the challenge to review the facts and
332 circumstances of the challenge and the material provided by the Credentials Committee.
333 The meeting should be held no later than seven (7) days of the date the Credentials
334 Committee meeting and may be added to the agenda of an already scheduled Executive
335 Board meeting.
- 336 1. The affected member may appear in person or may supply a written response to the
337 membership challenge, and any persons wishing to support or deny the request, with
338 the Chair having the option to limit the number of persons who may appear before
339 them.
- 340 2. Following the presentation, the room will be cleared for deliberations and vote by the
341 Executive Board.
- 342 3. If any member of the Executive Board is either an affected member or the member
343 who made the challenge, they must recuse themselves from the deliberations and
344 the vote. If both the Chair and Chair Pro-Tem have recused themselves, the
345 Executive Board will elect a different Executive Board member to chair the
346 deliberations and voting.

- 347 4. A vote to recommend removal of the member requires two-thirds (2/3) of the
348 Executive Board voting in favor of removal. If the Executive Board does not reach a
349 two-thirds (2/3) vote, the member retains their membership. The Secretary will notify
350 the affected member of the decision.
- 351 5. The Executive Board may vote to recommend a censure of the member with a two-
352 thirds (2/3) vote in favor of the censure. If the Executive Board does not reach a two-
353 thirds (2/3) vote, there will be no censure. The Secretary will notify the affected
354 member of the decision.
- 355 D. If the Executive Board has recommended removal or a censure, the matter will be taken
356 up for consideration at the next Central Committee meeting as the first item on the
357 agenda and prior to filling any vacancies. The affected member shall be offered the
358 opportunity to appear before the Central Committee and show cause why removal is
359 unwarranted.
- 360 E. Any vote taken shall be by show of hands.
- 361 F. Upon removal or censure by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Central Committee, the
362 Secretary shall notify the affected person of the Central Committee's action.
- 363 G. If a member has been removed, said former member cannot be elected or appointed to
364 the Central Committee until the term of the Central Committee in which the member was
365 removed has expired.

366 ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

367 Section 1. List of Officers and Membership Requirements

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

- 370 A. Each Area as defined in Article VII, Section 1 shall have a Vice Chair.
- 371 B. The Directors shall be the Director of Administration, the Director of Clubs, and the
372 Director of Grassroots Organizing.
- 373 C. The Most Recent Past Chair is the person whom has most recently served as chair of
374 the SDCDP and whom is a different individual than the current Chair for up to two
375 biennial terms of the SDCDP. No vacancy is created if the Most Recent Past Chair
376 declines to serve.

377 Section 2. Elections

- 378 A. All officers shall be elected at the Central Committee Biennial Organizational Meeting in
379 January following certification of the State Primary Election. The terms of the incumbent
380 officers shall expire and the newly elected officers shall assume their positions at the
381 adjournment of that meeting.

- 382 B. Elections shall be by a majority vote of the Central Committee. The vote shall be by
383 voice vote or by show of hands.
- 384 C. The Area Vice Chairs shall be members of the Central Committee who are members of
385 the Area caucus that they represent.
- 386 1. The four Area Vice Chairs shall be elected separately by the Central Committee
387 members who caucus in their respective areas.
- 388 2. Elections shall be by a majority vote. The vote shall be by voice vote or by show of
389 hands.
- 390 3. Elections shall be at the Area meetings on the second (2nd) Tuesday in January
391 following the certification of the State Primary Election.
- 392 4. Vice Chairs shall be ratified by a simple majority of the Central Committee, either by
393 voice vote or by show of hands. Should the Central Committee fail to ratify a Vice
394 Chair, a vacancy shall occur and shall be remedied as set forth in Article IV, Section
395 4.
- 396 D. The Executive Board positions for Secretary, Controller and the Director of
397 Administration shall:
- 398 1. Be nominated by the Nomination Committee as set forth in the Policies and
399 Procedures. If there is only one candidate for an office, election shall be by voice
400 vote.
- 401 2. If there is more than one candidate, election shall be by voice vote or by show of
402 hands.
- 403 3. If no candidate receives a majority vote, a run-off election shall be held between the
404 two candidates receiving the most votes, either by voice vote or by show of hands.
- 405 E. The Director of Grassroots Organizing shall:
- 406 1. Be selected by the GO Team Regional and Countywide Coordinators (not including
407 Data Coordinators) who shall select one nominee for election to the Office of Director
408 of Grassroots Organizing no later than December 15 following the certification of the
409 State Primary Election.
- 410 2. Director of Grassroots Organizing shall be ratified by a simple majority the Central
411 Committee, either by voice vote or by show of hands. Should the Central Committee
412 fail to ratify a Director of Grassroots Organizing, the GO Team Coordinators will be
413 asked to provide a new nominee for ratification. Should the Central Committee fail to
414 ratify the second nominee, a vacancy shall occur and shall be remedied as set forth
415 in Article IV, Section 4.

- 416 F. The Director of Clubs shall:
- 417 1. Be selected by the Council of Clubs Presidents who shall select one nominee for
418 election to the Office of Director of Clubs at the November Council of Clubs meeting
419 and no later than December 15 following the certification of the State Primary
420 Election.
- 421 2. Director of Clubs shall be ratified by a simple majority of the Central Committee,
422 either by voice vote or by show of hands. Should the Central Committee fail to ratify
423 a Director of Clubs, the Council of Clubs will be asked to provide a new nominee for
424 ratification. Should the Central Committee fail to ratify the second nominee, a
425 vacancy shall occur and shall be remedied as set forth in Article IV, Section 4.

426 **Section 3. Removal of Officers**

- 427 A. An officer may be removed by a sixty percent (60%) vote of all members of the Central
428 Committee entitled to vote. All voting with regard to the removal of an officer shall be by
429 voice vote or by show of hands.
- 430 B. An officer may be removed by a sixty percent (60%) vote of the Executive Board after
431 four (4) absences from regular meetings of the Executive Board.
- 432 C. An officer may be removed if he or she fails to file plans required by these Bylaws more
433 than thirty (30) days after the date that such a plan has been requested in writing by the
434 Executive Board.

435 **Section 4. Vacancies**

- 436 A. At the beginning of each Executive Board term, the Executive Board will elect a Chair
437 Pro-Tem from among the four Vice-Chairs. In the absence of the Chair, the Chair Pro-
438 Tem shall preside. In the absence or inability of said Pro-Tem, another Chair Pro-Tem
439 shall be elected in the same manner.
- 440 B. When there is a vacancy for an officer position, the position shall be filled in the manner
441 set forth in Article IV, Section 2 with the exception of its calendar provisions.
- 442 1. For all positions except Area Vice Chair, Director of Clubs, and Director of
443 Grassroots Organizing:
- 444 a. Notice shall be given at the first meeting of the Central Committee to be held
445 after the vacancy occurs and also by email to the full Central Committee within
446 three (3) business days following the meeting.
- 447 b. Nomination and election shall take place at the next regular meeting of the
448 Central Committee.
- 449 2. For Area Vice Chairs:

- 450 a. Notice shall be given at the first meeting of the Area or Central Committee to be
451 held after the vacancy occurs and also by email to the full Central Committee
452 within three (3) business days following the meeting.
- 453 b. Nomination and election shall take place at the next regular meeting of the Area.
- 454 c. The Central Committee shall ratify the newly elected Vice Chair at the first
455 meeting of the Central Committee to follow the Area election.
- 456 3. For Secretary, Controller, or Director of Administration:
- 457 a. At least seven (7) days shall be allowed for application submissions. The process
458 and deadline for applications will be specified in the email notice to all Central
459 Committee members announcing the vacancy.
- 460 b. The Executive Board shall serve as the Nomination Committee for a mid-term
461 vacancy for Secretary, Controller, or Director of Administration.
- 462 4. For Director of Grassroots Organizing:
- 463 a. Notice shall be given via email to the full Central Committee and all GO Team
464 Regional and Countywide Coordinators within three (3) business days after the
465 vacancy occurs.
- 466 b. Nomination shall take place at the next regular meeting of the GO Team
467 Regional and Countywide Coordinators.
- 468 5. For Director of Clubs:
- 469 a. Notice shall be given via email to the full Central Committee and the Clubs
470 Council email list within three (3) business days after the vacancy occurs.
- 471 b. Nomination shall take place at the next regular meeting of the Council of Clubs.
- 472 6. The Chair, or their designee, is responsible for sending email notice of any officer
473 vacancy through the Central Committee email list.

474 Section 5. Duties of Officers

475 A. The Chair

- 476 1. Shall serve as the chief executive officer and official spokesperson of the Central
477 Committee,
- 478 2. Carry out the policies of the Central Committee and its Executive Board,
- 479 3. Manage, direct, and hire staff, with such hiring to be ratified by the Executive Board,
- 480 4. Serve in the Ex-Officio capacity without a vote on all SDCDP committees,

- 481 5. Be authorized, subject to Executive Board approval, to create SDCDP committees in
482 addition to those specified in Policies and Procedures, and to appoint Chairs and
483 members to those committees,
- 484 6. The Chair can recommend to the Executive Board an additional member for a
485 Standing Committee to be added as the need arises and the Executive Board of the
486 Party by a majority vote can approve the recommendation and the new member can
487 be added subject to that committee's membership qualifications and ratification by
488 majority vote of that committee, and
- 489 7. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

490 B. The Area Vice-Chairs

- 491 1. Shall represent their respective areas on the Executive Board,
- 492 2. Serve as the chief officer and official spokespersons for their areas,
- 493 3. Be responsible for coordinating the political activities of their areas, including
494 candidate recruitment and support, endorsement recommendations, grassroots
495 organizing, outreach, voter registration, and Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV).
- 496 4. Be prepared to preside in the temporary absence of the Central Committee Chair, if
497 elected as Chair Pro-Tem elected pursuant to Article IV Section 4,
- 498 5. Be prepared to act as Chair, should the position of Chair become vacant, until the
499 vacancy is filled pursuant to Article IV, Section 2,
- 500 6. Perform other duties of the Chair at the discretion of the Chair,
- 501 7. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board,
- 502 8. Be members of the Central Committee as defined in Article II, Sections 1 through 4,
- 503 9. Area Vice Chairs may designate another Central Committee member from their Area
504 to serve on the Executive Board in their place in the event of a temporary absence,
- 505 10. In their Areas, Vice-Chairs shall:
- 506 a. Support and coordinate official Party sponsored events and activities such as the
507 annual fundraiser,
- 508 b. Coordinate area fundraising to support candidates, offices, and mailings,
- 509 c. Schedule, notice, and conduct Area meetings as specified in the Policies and
510 Procedures,
- 511 d. Provide guidance and leadership to the Executive Board and Central Committee,

- 512 e. Implement the policies of the Executive Board and the Central Committee,
513 f. Develop and refine policy presentations for consideration by the Executive
514 Board,
515 g. Review legal and personnel matters for presentation to the Executive Board, and
516 h. Carry out any other duties required by these Bylaws.
- 517 11. Submit attendance records and minutes for regular and special meetings to the
518 County Party Secretary.

519 C. The Secretary

- 520 1. Shall maintain all membership records, attendance records and journals of the
521 Central Committee and Executive Board,
522 2. Maintain current membership lists of SDCDP committees,
523 3. Attend all meetings of the Central Committee and the Executive Board and take
524 records of the proceeding of such meetings, including records of attendance,
525 4. Make available minutes of these meetings to members of the Central Committee,
526 5. Serve on the Credentials Committee, and
527 6. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

528 D. The Controller

- 529 1. Shall be responsible for the receipt and custody of the Central Committee's funds,
530 2. Keep the financial record of the Central Committee,
531 3. Present an income statement and balance sheet at each meeting of the Central
532 Committee,
533 4. Allow any member of the Central Committee to inspect the financial records after the
534 receipt of reasonable notice,
535 5. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board, and
536 6. The Controller in office at the end of the fiscal year shall be responsible for closing
537 the books for that fiscal year and shall complete any tax forms or financial reporting
538 forms pertaining to all or part of his or her term of office.

539 E. The Director of Administration ~~shall:~~

- 540 1. Shall keep the Bylaws of the Central Committee current and consistent with the law,

- 541 2. Draft Policies and Procedures for approval by the Central Committee,
542 3. Accept, file, and number all proposed Resolutions, proposed Policy and Procedure
543 changes, and proposed Bylaw changes for review by the Administration Committee,
544 4. Report the results of this review to the Central Committee,
545 5. Manage Credentials Committee process, and
546 6. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

547 F. The Director of Clubs

- 548 1. Shall be responsible for the organization of Democratic Clubs and Democratic
549 support/affinity organizations,
550 2. Be the Custodian of the bylaws and membership records of all chartered
551 organizations,
552 3. Oversee the budget, income, and expenditures of the Council of Clubs,
553 4. Present a coordinated Annual Plan for the development and the activities of
554 Democratic Clubs and Democratic support/affinity organizations to the Central
555 Committee in accord with the Policies and Procedures,
556 5. Support the Council of Clubs and coordinate activities with the Central Committee in
557 accord with the Annual Plan,
558 6. Serve as Ex-Officio without a vote on the Council of Clubs. If the Director of Clubs is
559 also a current Club President s/he can appoint a member of the club to vote on the
560 club's behalf, and
561 7. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

562 G. The Director of Grassroots Organizing

- 563 1. Shall serve on the Executive Board as a voting member,
564 2. Act in an advisory capacity to the current administration, and
565 3. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

566 H. The Immediate Past Chair

- 567 1. Shall serve on the Executive Board as a voting member,
568 2. Preside over the Nomination Committee as part of the Central Committee biennial
569 organization process,
570 3. Act in an advisory capacity to the current administration, and

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

572 Section 6. Auxiliary Authorities

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

576 A. The Treasurer

- 577 a. Shall serve under the direction of the Controller and is not automatically a
578 member of the Executive Board,
- 579 b. Not be restricted from holding a separate position on the Executive Board,
- 580 c. Be a registered Democrat, but need not be a member of the Central Committee,
- 581 d. Be subject to the advice and consent of the Executive Board,
- 582 e. Be ratified by a majority vote of the Central Committee at its first regular meeting
583 after the appointment is made,
- 584 f. Be responsible for the timely filing of campaign spending records,
- 585 g. Complete any tax forms or financial reporting forms, and
- 586 h. Coordinate with the Controller in the preparation of financial statements by
587 providing campaign spending records and other material considerations.

588 B. The General Counsel

- 589 i. Shall be licensed to practice law in the state of California,
- 590 j. Be a registered Democrat, but need not be a member of the Central Committee,
- 591 k. Attend Steering Committee, Executive Board, and Central Committee meetings
592 in an advisory capacity only,
- 593 l. Be subject to the advice and consent of the Executive Board, and
- 594 m. Be ratified by a majority vote of the Central Committee at its first regular meeting
595 after the appointment is made.

596 C. The Parliamentarian

- 597 n. Shall assist the Chair regarding Robert's Rules of Order,
- 598 o. Be a registered Democrat, but need not be a member of the Central Committee.

599 D. The Media Relations Coordinator

- 600 p. Shall be subject to the advice and consent of the Executive Board,
- 601 q. Be a registered Democrat, but need not be a member of the Central Committee,
602 and
- 603 r. Be ratified by a majority vote of the Central Committee at its first regular meeting
604 after the appointment is made.
- 605 E. The Central Committee may create additional auxiliary authorities by defining them in
606 Policies and Procedures.
- 607 F. Nothing shall prevent the Central Committee from approving compensation for the
608 holder of a contracted position.

609 ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

610 Section 1. Number of Regular Meetings

611 The Central Committee shall hold at least nine (9) meetings in an election year and at least six
612 (6) meetings in non-election years. The Biennial Organizational Meeting is the first regular
613 meeting of the new term and takes place in January following the certification of the Statewide
614 Primary Election. A regular meeting may also be an endorsement meeting if it has been noticed
615 in accord with these Bylaws Article XIII, Section 3.

616 Section 2. Special Meetings

617 Special meetings may be called either by the Chair or by a petition signed by a majority of the
618 members of the Central Committee entitled to vote. Special meetings are limited to the agenda
619 items necessitating the special meeting. The notice requirements and procedure shall be set
620 forth in Policies and Procedures.

621 Section 3. Area Meetings

622 The Areas shall meet at least three (3) times per year on dates that do not conflict with Central
623 Committee meetings. The date, time, and location of Area meetings shall be determined by vote
624 of the Area's members. The Biennial Organizational Area Meeting is the first regular Area
625 meeting of the new term and takes place in January following the certification of the Statewide
626 Primary Election. An Area meeting may also be an endorsement recommendation meeting if it
627 has been noticed in accord with these Bylaws Article XIII, Section 3.

628 Section 4. Quorum

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

635 Section 5. Participation and Voting

636 A member must be physically present to participate or vote at any Central Committee meeting,
637 Area meeting, or Legislative Caucus. Proxy and absentee voting are prohibited.

638 Section 6. Motions

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

643 Section 7. Notice

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

645 ARTICLE VI. CAUCUSES

646 Section 1. Legislative Caucus

647 A. Definition

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

650 B. Vacancies

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

654 ARTICLE VII. AREAS

655 In order to create a more efficient and effective Central Committee, the San Diego County
656 Democratic Central Committee shall be divided into regional areas. Such division will facilitate
657 more grassroots participation through regular Area meetings. Candidate recruitment will be
658 enhanced through this regional process by employing the perspective and knowledge of the
659 local Central Committee members, who will have more time for vetting candidates and ballot
660 measures. The Areas shall then convey the results to the Executive Board. The result will be a
661 streamlined endorsement process when the full Central Committee convenes to deliberate and
662 vote.

663 Section 1. Definition

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

666 Section 2. Membership

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

669 Section 3. Coherence

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

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

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

677 ARTICLE VIII. EXECUTIVE BOARD

678 Section 1. Membership

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

680 Section 2. Duties

681 The Executive Board shall:

682 A. Implement the policies of the Central Committee,

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

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

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

686 Section 3. Meetings

687 The Executive Board shall meet in a manner set forth in the Policies and Procedures. The Chair
688 of the Central Committee or a majority of the board members may call a special meeting or
689 change the regular meeting date of the Executive Board upon three (3) days' notice to each
690 member of the Executive Board.

691 Section 4. Voting

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

694 Section 5. Quorum

695 A quorum of the Executive Board is composed of a majority of the officers of the Executive
696 Board.

697 ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEES

698 Section 1. Definition

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

704 Section 2. Standing Committees

- 705 A. The Administration Committee to assist in drafting bylaws, Policies and Procedures, and
706 to serve as the Credentials and Resolutions Committees.
 - 707 1. The Credentials Committee to review any credentials concerns or membership
708 eligibility challenges for accordance with the Bylaws and Policies of This Committee.
 - 709 2. The Resolutions Committee to review proposed resolutions submitted for
710 endorsement to the Central Committee.
- 711 B. The Club Development Committee to assist the development of Democratic clubs and to
712 provide assistance in the support of chartered clubs.
- 713 C. The Grassroots Organizing Committee to provide leadership for the SDCDP's precinct
714 based voter contact program known as the Grassroots Organizing (GO) Team.

715 Section 3. Special Purpose Committees

- 716 A. The Communications Committee to assist in managing and implementing the SDCDP
717 communications plan.
- 718 B. The Membership Development Committee to increase engagement in the activities of
719 the Party, both by Central Committee members and non-members, and to develop and
720 implement a program ensuring that Central Committee membership reflects the diversity
721 of registered Democrats in San Diego County.
- 722 C. The Nomination Committee consisting of the Most Recent Past Chair and one elected
723 representative from each of the four (4) Areas will meet to review applicants for the
724 Executive Board as set forth in the Policies and Procedures.
- 725 D. The Voter Registration Committee to develop and implement a plan for increasing
726 Democratic Voter Registration in San Diego County.
- 727 E. The Candidate Support and Assistance Committee (CSAC) supports Democratic
728 candidates for partisan state-level offices.

729 Section 4. Ad Hoc Committees

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

731 ARTICLE X. DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATIONS

732 Section 1. Definition and Purpose

733 A. A Democratic Club is an organization of Democrats allied by defined geographic area,
734 special interest, or cultural community. A Club's purpose is to support and strengthen the
735 Democratic Party through the political development, activity, and advocacy of its
736 membership. A Club's objectives are to foster active interest in the local, state and
737 national Democratic Party, to contribute to San Diego County Democratic Party
738 leadership and responsibility, to support the campaigns of Democratic candidates
739 representing the Club's constituency, and to engage in grassroots outreach, organizing
740 and recruitment within its area, or special interest or cultural community.

741 B. A Democratic Coalition is an association of regionally affiliated representatives of the
742 San Diego County Democratic Party Central Committee, California Democratic Party,
743 Democratic Clubs, and Democratic-friendly organizations (such as labor unions). A
744 Democratic Coalition's purpose is to coordinate and promote the common goals of the
745 entities represented, to develop and implement projects that are beneficial to Democrats
746 and Democratic organizations in the region, to support the campaigns of Democratic
747 candidates in the region, and to foster Democratic grassroots organizing efforts in the
748 region. A Democratic Coalition is not a governing body for the entities whose members
749 associate with it.

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

757 Section 2. Authorization

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

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

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

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

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

772 Section 3. Requirements

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

791 Section 4. Suspension, Revocation and/or Denial of a Club or Coalition's Charter.

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

795 A. The Executive Board shall determine if it will give consideration to an allegation and if
796 so, will place it on its agenda for a designated subsequent meeting.

797 B. A minimum of twenty (20) days' written notice shall be provided to the president of the
798 affected Club or Democratic Coalition, at the mailing address filed with the Central
799 Committee at application for charter or renewal of charter, specifying the allegation and
800 giving notice of the date the allegation will be heard. The Club or Coalition President or
801 another designee shall be allowed to respond to the allegation at the Executive Board
802 meeting noticed.

- 803 C. The Executive Board, by a two-thirds vote, may recommend to the Central Committee
804 that it suspend, revoke or deny renewal of the Club or Coalition's charter.
- 805 D. A thirty (30) day notice to the members of the Central Committee and to the President of
806 the affected Club or Coalition shall precede such a recommendation. The notice shall
807 specify the allegation and findings by the Executive Board.
- 808 E. Approval of the Executive Board's recommendation shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote
809 of the Central Committee by show of hands. Such approval shall be effective
810 immediately.
- 811 F. If the Central Committee approves the recommendation of the Executive Board to
812 suspend, revoke or deny renewal of a charter, the Secretary shall give said Club or
813 Coalition written notice of the decision.
- 814 G. If a Club or Coalition's charter is revoked or not renewed, no other club or support/affinity
815 organization shall be chartered using the same name for the twelve (12) months
816 immediately following such revocation or denial of renewal.

817 Section 5. Affiliated Organizations

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

822 ARTICLE XI. ANNUAL BUDGET

823 Section 1. Fiscal Year

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

826 Section 2. Budget Process

- 827 A. The Controller shall develop an annual budget in coordination with the Executive Board.
- 828 B. The Executive Board shall present the annual budget to the Central Committee for
829 ratification by majority vote. The voting shall be by voice vote or by show of hands.
- 830 C. Proposed changes to an approved annual budget shall be sent to the Controller, who
831 shall make a recommendation to the Executive Board.
- 832 1. A proposed amendment less than or equal to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) may be
833 enacted by a simple majority vote of those present at a regular meeting of the
834 Executive Board.

835 2. Proposed amendments above one thousand dollars (\$1,000) may not be enacted
836 without the approval of a simple majority of the Central Committee.

837 D. Additional rules, requirements, and responsibilities of the budget process shall be set
838 forth in the Policies and Procedures.

839 ARTICLE XII. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPENDITURES

840 Section 1. Budgeted Expenditures

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

844 Section 2. Unbudgeted Expenditures

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

846 ARTICLE XIII. ENDORSEMENTS

847 Section 1. Resolutions

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

850 A. Be signed by an Elected, Ex-Officio, Appointed, or Alternate member of the Central
851 Committee,

852 B. Follow the format set forth in the Central Committee Policies and Procedures,

853 C. Be submitted to the Director of Administration at least seven (7) calendar days prior to
854 the Central Committee meeting at which consideration is requested, and

855 D. Be considered by the Administration Committee before submission to the Central
856 Committee

857 1. The Director of Administration may determine that immediate consideration of a
858 resolution received less than seven (7) calendar days prior to a Central Committee
859 meeting is warranted because of its emergency nature and forego review by the
860 Administration Committee for consideration, and bring it directly to the Central
861 Committee.

862 2. Should the Administration Committee decline to recommend a resolution or the
863 Director of Administration decline a late submission for emergency consideration, the
864 Central Committee, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, may take up the resolution.

865 E. Resolutions recommended to the full Central Committee for consideration for
866 endorsement will be distributed via email to the Central Committee at least two (2)
867 calendar days prior to the meeting at which it is to be considered. A limited number of
868 printed copies shall be available at the Central Committee meeting.

869 Section 2. Nonpartisan Candidates and Ballot Proposition/Initiatives

- 870 A. The Central Committee may endorse candidates for nonpartisan offices providing:
- 871 1. The candidate is a registered Democrat,
 - 872 2. Endorsements are not given to more candidates than there are open seats for the
873 office,
 - 874 3. The office does not extend beyond the San Diego County boundaries,
 - 875 4. The candidate has declared their intention to run to the Registrar of Voters, the State
876 of California, the Central Committee, or the Chair of this Party,
 - 877 5. Reasonable attempts are made to notify all declared candidates who the Party has
878 established with certainty are registered Democrats are notified regarding the date,
879 time, and place of all relevant meetings and of the endorsement process at least five
880 (5) business days in advance of the meeting. A qualified candidate, as defined in
881 Article XIII, Section 2, 4, who declares their intention to run for an office after notice
882 of recommendation or endorsement has been provided to all other candidates will be
883 sent all relevant information and allowed to participate at the discretion of the
884 meeting convener, but in no instance, will said discretion require notice beyond that
885 which has already been given.
 - 886 6. A candidate may speak or may designate a Central Committee member to speak or
887 read a letter on their behalf.
 - 888 7. The candidate has requested the Central Committee endorsement and returned all
889 required documentation at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting where
890 endorsement or recommendation will be considered.
 - 891 8. The filing deadline has passed, unless the candidate is an incumbent or in races that
892 have been identified as strategically critical.
 - 893 a. For races that are fully enclosed within an Area, upon recommendation by the
894 Area, the Central Committee may endorse incumbents early and without a
895 questionnaire.
 - 896 b. For races that cross Area boundaries, the Central Committee may endorse
897 incumbents early and without a questionnaire following a recommendation by the
898 Areas or upon recommendation by the Executive Board.

- 899 c. A race may be designated as strategically critical following a preliminary
900 recommendation by the Area(s), secondary recommendation by the Executive
901 Board, and approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Central Committee.
- 902 d. In special elections, a race may be designated as strategically critical by a two-
903 thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board in lieu of the Area voting to recommend
904 on the designation.
- 905 e. Endorsements in races designated strategically critical may be considered at the
906 next Central Committee meeting following the designations providing all notice
907 and Questionnaire requirements have been met.
- 908 B. The Central Committee shall approve one or more candidate questionnaires to be
909 completed and submitted prior to endorsement by all eligible non-incumbent nonpartisan
910 candidates for office fully within San Diego County.
- 911 C. Positions on ballot initiatives and propositions may be taken by the Central Committee.
912 However, the Central Committee shall not take a position on any statewide initiative that
913 is contrary to that of the Central Committee of the California Democratic Party.

914 Section 3. Notice for Endorsement and Recommendation Meetings

915 All Central Committee endorsement meetings and Area endorsement recommendation
916 meetings require prior notice to the membership.

- 917 A. Notice is hereby given: the first Central Committee meeting occurring after the close of
918 filing, including any extended filing, for Primary, General or Special Elections may
919 consider any race or measure appearing on the ballot for endorsement.
- 920 B. Notice is hereby given: the first Area Committee meeting occurring after the close of
921 filing, including any extended filing, for Primary, General or Special Elections may
922 consider any race or measure appearing on the ballot in that Area for a recommendation
923 for endorsement.
- 924 C. At least fourteen (14) days' notice shall be given prior to the meeting in which the Central
925 Committee considers an endorsement for a specific candidate race or a ballot measure.
- 926 D. At least seven (7) days' notice shall be given prior to the meeting in which an Area
927 considers a recommendation for a specific candidate race or a ballot measure.
- 928 E. The Executive Board may, with at least seven (7) days' notice, call a special meeting of
929 the Central Committee to consider endorsing a candidate or a ballot measure

930 Section 4. Rules Concerning Recommendations, Endorsements and Ballot 931 Propositions/Initiatives

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

- 935 A. Areas shall make recommendations on Endorsements and Ballot Propositions at
936 meetings held prior to the Central Committee meeting.
- 937 1. For Countywide and San Diego Citywide races including ballot measures, each Area
938 may make a non-consent recommendation on the race.
- 939 2. For races where the district is fully contained in a SDCDP Area, the enclosing Area
940 shall make the recommendation.
- 941 3. For all other races, endorsement recommendation meetings will be hosted in the
942 Area Caucus in which there is a plurality of voters registered as Democrats of the
943 last General Election either Gubernatorial or Presidential.
- 944 a. Central Committee members registered to vote outside of the hosting Area, but
945 inside of the district for which recommendation is being considered, shall also be
946 eligible to vote and shall be notified of the consideration meeting at the same
947 time and in the same manner as the Area's members.
- 948 b. Vice Chairs shall coordinate their endorsement recommendation meetings so
949 they will not overlap and all eligible members have the opportunity to participate.
- 950 c. All cross-Area races will be considered before races fully contained in the Area.
- 951 B. Voting shall be done by voice vote or by show of hands.
- 952 C. No candidates may be present during debate on their specific endorsement or
953 recommendation.
- 954 D. A position on a candidate requires a minimum sixty percent (60%) vote.
- 955 1. Members shall be presented with a "No Endorsement" option on all votes.
- 956 2. If no candidate receives a minimum of sixty percent (60%) in the first round of
957 balloting, a second ballot shall be taken after removing the candidate receiving the
958 least votes and any candidates receiving zero votes.
- 959 3. If in the second round of balloting a candidate receives at least fifty percent (50%)
960 but less than the sixty percent (60%) threshold, subsequent balloting shall continue
961 after removing the candidate receiving the least votes and any candidates receiving
962 zero votes.
- 963 4. Balloting shall continue using the same procedure described in D.3, as long as one
964 (1) candidate receives at least fifty percent (50%) but less than sixty percent (60%)
965 and at least one (1) other candidate remains.
- 966 5. If after the completion of balloting, no candidate has received the minimum required
967 votes to reach the sixty percent (60%) threshold for endorsement, the position of the
968 body shall be "No Endorsement".

- 969 E. A position on a ballot initiative or proposition requires a minimum sixty percent (60%)
970 vote. Members have the option of voting "No Position." If a motion to endorse or oppose
971 fails, the position of the body is "No Position."
- 972 F. If the Executive Board recommends a Consent Agenda of candidates or ballot
973 measures, acceptance shall require the approval of a minimum sixty percent (60%) vote.
- 974 G. Any member of the Central Committee may request that a candidate or ballot measure
975 be pulled from the Consent Agenda for consideration with a fifty percent (50%) vote.
- 976 H. Those races pulled from the Consent Agenda shall be handled as non-consent agenda
977 items in accordance with Part D or E of this section.
- 978 I. Any endorsement made in a Primary election carries forward with any candidate who
979 advances to a run-off election for the same office.

980 **Section 5. Ratings for Democratic Candidates**

- 981 A. Once an Area or the Central Committee has adopted a no endorsement
982 recommendation, the endorsement process is complete. There is no requirement to
983 examine the candidates further; however, the Chair or Vice Chair may entertain a motion
984 to rate each of the candidates: a) Qualified, b) Unacceptable, or c) No Position.
- 985 B. If a motion has been made and seconded to rate the candidates, then all candidates
986 must be reconsidered, one time only, for a rating. The Central Committee or an Area has
987 the option to rate candidates as a group or as individuals or in any combination thereof
988 as the body sees fit so long as each candidate is not examined for a rating more than
989 once. The vote is yea or nay on the question. The threshold to pass a Qualified rating is
990 sixty percent (60%).
- 991 C. When only one previously rated as Qualified candidate advances to a top-two runoff,
992 they automatically become the endorsed candidate.
- 993 D. In all other cases, any rating made in a Primary election does not carry over to the
994 General Election. The endorsement process will begin anew once the Primary election
995 no longer has uncertainty about which candidates will move forward to the General
996 Election and at least one Democratic candidate exists for the seat then the candidate(s)
997 must be re-examined for an endorsement. The candidate(s) will be considered for
998 recommendation at the next Area meeting and then for endorsement the Central
999 Committee meeting following that Area meeting. No additional notice shall be required.

1000 **Section 6. Rescission of Endorsements, Positions, or Ratings**

1001 The Central Committee, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote may rescind any endorsement, position, or
1002 rating previously made in a nonpartisan race

1003 **Section 7. Rules Concerning Candidates**

1004 The Central Committee may consider a vote to designate a candidate as “Do not vote for”. The
1005 threshold for the designation is sixty percent (60%).

1006 Section 8. Rules Concerning Endorsements by Chartered Clubs

1007 A. Chartered clubs shall endorse only registered Democrats.

1008 B. Non-Democratic candidates may only be rated acceptable or unacceptable.

1009 C. Chartered clubs shall notice their full membership that endorsement consideration will be
1010 made in a particular race or races at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.
1011 Notification shall be made by email to the full membership or, absent an email address,
1012 by U.S. Mail or an alternative method as specified in the club’s bylaws.

1013 D. Reasonable attempts are made by the club to notify and invite all declared candidates
1014 who the Party has established with certainty are registered Democrats regarding the
1015 date, time, and place of the club’s meetings and of the club’s endorsement process at
1016 least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Requests for information regarding
1017 candidates from the club to the Party office must be made at least seven (7) business
1018 days prior to the meeting.

1019 E. Endorsements by chartered clubs shall not be construed as the official endorsement of
1020 either the California Democratic Party or the San Diego County Democratic Party. Words
1021 to that effect shall be clearly visible wherever a chartered club’s endorsement is referred
1022 to.

1023 F. Any publication of endorsements by chartered clubs shall clearly delineate between
1024 endorsed candidates and candidates rated acceptable.

1025 ARTICLE XIV. Elected Officials

1026 Section 1. Vote of No Confidence

1027 The Central Committee, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, may express no-confidence in an elected
1028 Democratic Official. An Area may make a recommendation, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, that the
1029 Central Committee express no-confidence in an elected Democratic Official whose district is
1030 fully enclosed in their Area.

1031 Section 2. Request for Resignation

1032 The Central Committee, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, may request the resignation of an elected
1033 Democratic Official. An Area may make a recommendation, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, that the
1034 Central Committee request the resignation of an elected Democratic Official whose district is
1035 fully enclosed in their Area.

1036 Section 3. Removal of Friendly Incumbent Endorsement Designation

1037 The Central Committee may disallow early incumbent endorsement designation to any
1038 officeholder who endorses a non-Democratic candidate in any challenged political race or
1039 endorses a non-Democratic candidate in a non-challenged political race and a Democratic
1040 challenger is subsequently endorsed by the Party who fails to withdraw their endorsement of
1041 the non-Democratic challenger immediately.

1042 A. The Chair shall inform said candidate of the removal of consideration for early incumbent
1043 endorsement status upon request of the Executive Board or Area.

1044 B. In the event that the candidate appeals this removal, an affirmative majority vote of the
1045 Central Committee members at a properly noticed meeting shall be required to restore
1046 early incumbent endorsement consideration.

1047 C. Candidates who have been removed from early incumbent endorsement consideration
1048 may complete a candidate questionnaire and apply for endorsement consideration
1049 following the filing deadline for the office to which they are incumbent.

1050 ARTICLE XV. Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) 1051 Delegation

1052 Section 1. DSCC Appointment

1053 D. The Chair of the Party and AD Elected members shall be automatically elected to serve
1054 as a representative of this County Committee to the State Committee, provided they
1055 have submitted intent that they wish to serve on the DSCC on their member form or via
1056 email to the Chair.

1057 E. Any remaining representatives apportioned to SDCCDP by the State Committee shall be
1058 elected at-large from This Committee's Ex Officio, Appointed, Lifetime, Alternate, and
1059 Associate members in accordance with the Policies of This Committee.

1060 F. Members who are not elected as part of the DSCC Delegation will be placed on the
1061 DSCC Alternates list.

1062 G. Representatives to the Executive Board of the DSCC will be selected from the DSCC
1063 Delegation in accordance with DSCC requirements.

1064 H. Dual representation is not allowed:

1065 1. Members must choose between representation to the CDP via the ADEM
1066 membership or via the SDCCDP delegation within five (5) calendar days of their latter
1067 election so that alternates may be promptly appointed to fill the position.

1068 2. If a member with dual membership runs for an Executive Board position via the CDP
1069 and wins the position, they will automatically become an Ex-Officio CDP EBoard
1070 Member of the SDCCDP and are no longer eligible to be part of the SDCCDP

- 1071 delegation to the CDP. If they previously held an AD Elected member position with
 1072 the SDCDP, that position will be declared vacant.
- 1073 3. If a member with dual membership runs for a SDCDP allotted CDP Executive Board
 1074 positions and wins the position, they automatically relinquish their ADEM
 1075 membership and must notify the CDP within five (5) calendar days. A failure to
 1076 relinquish within five (5) calendar days will result in the member being removed from
 1077 the SDCDP EBoard delegation and a vacancy will be declared.
- 1078 I. Representatives shall serve on the DSCC for a two-year term as long as they remain a
 1079 member of the Central Committee.
- 1080 J. Subsequent to the Biennial Organizational Meeting, requests to be added to the
 1081 Alternates list must be made via email to the Chair or the Executive Director.
- 1082 K. Vacancies will be declared and filled in accordance with the Policies of This Committee.

1083 **ARTICLE XVI. RULES**

1084 **Section 1. Amendment of the Bylaws**

1085 The Central Committee may amend these Bylaws with a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

- 1086 A. The amendment shall be filed with the Director of Administration at a regular meeting no
 1087 less than twenty-eight (28) days before the meeting at which the amendment is voted
 1088 upon, and referred to the Administration Committee at that time.
- 1089 B. If the Administration Committee does not approve the referred amendment, the
 1090 amendment may be presented from the floor with the consent of a majority of those
 1091 present.
- 1092 C. If the Administration Committee, during its review of the referred amendment, develops
 1093 and approves an alternative amendment within the scope of the original amendment, the
 1094 revised amendment may be presented from the floor with the consent of a majority of
 1095 those present.
- 1096 D. Proposed bylaw changes affecting chartered clubs and/or the Council of Clubs shall be
 1097 routed to the Director of Clubs for review by the Council of Clubs prior to consideration
 1098 by the Administration Committee. The Council of Clubs shall have thirty (30) days to
 1099 review and comment on the proposed By-law changes prior to Administration Committee
 1100 action.
- 1101 E. Amendments shall be made available electronically to all members of the Central
 1102 Committee at least seven (7) days prior to the Central Committee meeting. Any member
 1103 who wishes to have a printed copy shall make that request at least three (3) business
 1104 days prior to the Central Committee meeting.

1105 Section 2. Central Committee Policies and Procedures

1106 The policies, procedures, and rules for the governance and operation of the Central Committee
1107 shall be set forth in the Policies and Procedures. The Policies and Procedures may be amended
1108 at any meeting of the Central Committee with a sixty percent (60%) vote.

1109 A. A written copy of the amendment shall be made available to all members of the Central
1110 Committee in attendance.

1111 B. The Administration Committee need not be consulted prior to offering an amendment.

1112 C. The Administration Committee has the option of making Amendments made available
1113 electronically to all members of the Central Committee at least seven (7) days prior to
1114 the Central Committee meeting. Any member who wishes to have a printed copy shall
1115 make that request at least three (3) business days prior to the Central Committee
1116 meeting.

1117 D. No notice shall be required to amend the Policies and Procedures.

1118 Section 3. Robert's Rules of Order

1119 The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall
1120 govern the Central Committee, including Areas and Committees, in all cases in which they are
1121 applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, except that in all instances
1122 a motion to table shall be subject to a two-thirds (2/3) vote.