



BYLAWS

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1 **ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE**

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. The policies, procedures, and rules for the
17 governance and operation of the Central Committee shall be set forth in the Policies and
18 Procedures.

19 **Section 4. Areas**

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

24 **ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP**

25 **Section 1. Membership**

- 26 A. All members shall be registered to vote as Democrats in San Diego County.
- 27 B. There shall be seven (7) classes of membership: Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated,
28 Appointed, Alternate, Lifetime, and Associate:
- 29 1. Elected members, who are qualified to serve pursuant to the Election Code of
30 California and are elected in partisan Presidential Primary Elections to represent
31 their Assembly District on This Committee.

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

- 67 4) Assembly District Representatives to the Executive Board of the CDP
68 (hereinafter ADEM EBoard Member);
- 69 5) The most recent Chair of This Committee who is a different individual from
70 the Current Chair unless he or she is already an Elected Member;
- 71 6) The Director of Clubs unless he or she is already an Elected Member;
- 72 7) The Director of Grassroots Organizing unless he or she is already an Elected
73 Member.
- 74 b. Designated members shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges and have
75 the same responsibilities as Elected members of This Committee.
- 76 4. Appointed members of This Committee are members appointed to fill Elected or Ex-
77 Officio vacancies within the body in accordance with Article III, Section 1, B on filling
78 vacancies for This Committee. Appointed members shall be entitled to the same
79 rights and privileges and have the same responsibilities as Elected members of This
80 Committee.
- 81 5. Alternate members, who are appointed by Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated, or
82 Appointed members of This Committee.
- 83 a. Alternates shall be registered in San Diego County in the same district their
84 appointer represents on This Committee. Notice of appointment plus payment of
85 the dues shall be recorded with the Secretary before the Alternate may serve.
- 86 b. An Alternate shall have all the rights of the appointer, except voting in the Central
87 Committee meetings when their appointer is present and the power of
88 appointment, when the appointer is absent.
- 89 c. An Alternate serves at the pleasure of their appointer or may be removed from
90 This Committee under the conditions of Article III.
- 91 6. Lifetime members, who are nominated by the Chair and approved by the body.
92 Lifetime membership is an honorary position with the right to vote.
- 93 7. Associate members have an organizational role in the County Democratic Party and
94 are not already members in another membership class. Associates members may be
95 appointed by a Club, through the GO Team, by the Executive Board, or by these
96 Bylaws. Associate members' voting rights are limited to their designated Area
97 meetings; they have the right to speak at Central Committee meetings.
- 98 a. A President of a chartered Democratic Club or Coalition, and the GO Team
99 Regional and Countywide Coordinators, are Associate Members of This
100 Committee. If a Club or Coalition President is already a member, chooses not to
101 serve, or becomes a member in a different class, the club or coalition may
102 choose to appoint a different Associate to serve their term using the process

103 defined in the club's bylaws. When chartering, all clubs will designate the Area
104 that the club will caucus with and the club's Associate Member will serve in that
105 Area for the purposes of quorum and voting.

106 b. Affinity clubs that would like to have representation in more than one Area shall
107 petition This Committee to add Club Associate positions with the rationale for
108 added Area representation. If the position is approved by This Committee, said
109 position would be filled according to the club's bylaws for filling SDCDP
110 representative positions with a club member who is registered to vote in the
111 Area. Any additional positions extinguish if the appointee does not fulfill their
112 participation duties in the area or if the club ceases to be chartered.

113 c. EBoard Appointed Associate members shall be subject to acceptance by the
114 Executive Board. Candidates for Associate membership may be recommended
115 for consideration to the Executive Board by the Chair or by the Vice Chair for
116 their specific Area. The Chair must provide at least thirty (30) days advance
117 notice to the Area Vice Chair. If the Associate member ceases to be a registered
118 voter in the Area, their Associate membership extinguishes.

119 d. A member serving in a Central Committee ratified organizational role as an
120 Officer, a Standing Committee member, or a DSCC Delegation member, who
121 loses their membership eligibility, shall become an Associate Member for the
122 duration of the biennial term.

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

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

128 E. The voting members of This Committee are the Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated,
129 Appointed, and Lifetime members. The names of the voting members will be publicly
130 available via the SDCDP Website.

131 Section 2. Duties of Membership

132 A. It is the duty of Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated, and Appointed members to attend the
133 regular, endorsement, and special meetings of This Committee and to notify their
134 Alternate when they cannot attend.

135 B. It is the duty of Alternate members to attend the regular, endorsement, and special
136 meetings of This Committee whenever their appointer is not able to attend.

137 C. The duties of all members are to:

138 1. Attend the regular, endorsement recommendation, and special meetings of their
139 individual Areas.

- 140 2. Attend the special meetings of their Legislative Caucuses.
- 141 3. Serve on SDCDP committees.
- 142 4. Share in the responsibility of raising money for the SDCDP.
- 143 5. Participate in the candidate endorsement process.
- 144 6. Assist the SDCDP in communicating with and reaching out to Democrats.
- 145 7. Support endorsed Democratic candidates endorsed by the SDCDP or the California
- 146 Democratic Party.
- 147 8. Share the general duties of building and supporting the Party.
- 148 9. Be familiar with the Bylaws and Policies and Procedures of the Party.
- 149 10. Be familiar with the races on the ballot prior to an endorsement or recommendation
- 150 meeting.

151 Section 3. Terms of Office

- 152 A. The current Chair of This Committee shall administer the Oaths of Office to incoming
- 153 Central Committee members.

- 154 B. The terms of office of the Central Committee members, with the exception of the
- 155 Executive Board and ADEM EBoard Members, shall:
 - 156 1. Begin at the Biennial Organizational Meeting in their Area in January following
 - 157 certification of the State Primary Election by the Registrar of Voters, and

 - 158 2. Continue as long as they continue to meet their membership qualifications and
 - 159 expire when the Oaths of Office are administered to their successors.

- 160 C. The terms of the Executive Board as officers begin at the end of the Biennial
- 161 Organizational Meeting of This Committee and continue through the end of the next
- 162 Biennial Organizational Meeting so long as they continue to be an officer. For officers
- 163 who are not continuing as members into the new term, their member term shall be
- 164 extended independent of their qualifying member class.

- 165 D. Member class terms are as follows:
 - 166 1. The Terms of Assembly District Elected members will be four years. Their elections
 - 167 will coincide with Presidential Primary elections.

 - 168 2. Ex-Officio terms are determined by their qualifying office:
 - 169 a. Incumbent public officers begin their term when they take public office.
 - 170 b. The highest finishing Democrat members begin their term when they would have
 - 171 taken public office had they won.

 - 172 3. Designated member terms are determined by their qualifying office:

- 173 a. DNC members, officers of the CDP, CDP Regional Directors begin their term
174 when they take their DNC or CDP office.
- 175 b. ADEM EBoard Members begin their term at the Biennial Organizational Meeting.
176 The outgoing ADEM Eboard Member serves an extended term that includes the
177 Area Biennial Organizational Meeting.
- 178 c. As previously stated, Past Chair, Director of Clubs, and the Director of
179 Grassroots Organizing serve an extended term that coincides with their term as
180 an officer.
- 181 4. Ex-Officio and Designated member terms last as long as the individual holds the
182 office, or in the case of highest finishing Democrats for the same term for the office
183 for which they were a candidate.
- 184 5. Alternate members serve at the pleasure of their appointer for the same term as their
185 appointer.
- 186 6. Associate member terms are coincident with their term in the qualifying body that
187 appointed them to This Committee.

188 Section 4. Oath and Dues

- 189 A. In their capacity as public officials, members are required to swear the Oath or
190 Affirmation of Allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of
191 the State of California.
- 192 B. There shall be biennial dues for Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated, Appointed, and
193 Alternate members of This Committee, in an amount set forth in Policies and
194 Procedures. Lifetime and Associate members have their dues waived.
- 195 C. The dues requirement must be met for a member to be credentialed and eligible to vote
196 or exercise any member rights including the appointment of an alternate.

197 Section 5. Prohibition on Dual Membership

198 There shall be no dual membership.

- 199 A. A person who becomes eligible for membership on more than one basis shall, within
200 thirty (30) days of such duality, inform the Secretary of the eligibility and identify the
201 position that he or she wishes to occupy.
- 202 B. If the person fails to indicate which position he or she elects to occupy, This Committee,
203 by majority vote, shall make the determination.
- 204 C. The Secretary shall certify to the Chair the remaining position(s) as vacant and eligible
205 for election.

206 ARTICLE III. VACANCIES AND REMOVALS

207 Section 1. Definition of Vacancy

- 208 A. A vacancy occurs when an Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated, Appointed, or Alternate
209 member:
- 210 1. Changes voter registration from the district where elected or appointed, or
 - 211 2. Is removed or resigns from This Committee, or
 - 212 3. Is incapacitated or re-registers as other than Democrat, or
 - 213 4. Upon the death of an Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated, or Appointed member.
- 214 B. A vacancy also occurs when an Assembly District elects fewer Elected members than it
215 is entitled to elect.
- 216 C. A vacancy also occurs when an Assembly, Senate, or Congressional District fails to
217 nominate a candidate or when the nominee or elected official declines to serve on This
218 Committee.

219 Section 2. Replacement

- 220 A. A vacancy in an Elected or Article III, Section 1, C Ex-Officio membership shall be filled
221 by a vote of This Committee no earlier than the first regular meeting of This Committee
222 after the meeting at which either the Secretary or the Chair declares the vacancy. Filling
223 the vacancy shall be the first item on the agenda.
- 224 B. In the period between certification of the primary election where Central Committee
225 appears on the ballot and the end of the term, any vacancy in an AD Elected or Article
226 III, Section 1, C Appointed membership shall be filled by the top vote-getting member-
227 elect not already an Elected, Ex-Officio, or Appointed member of This Committee.
- 228 C. A Legislative Caucus, Article VI, Section 1, may recommend a candidate for
229 replacement of an Elected member or Article III, Section 1, C, Ex-Officio member
230 vacancy occurring in its own district Article VI, Section 2.
- 231 1. If there is only one candidate for a vacancy, election shall be by voice vote.
 - 232 2. If there is more than one candidate, election shall be by voice vote or by show of
233 hands.
 - 234 3. If no candidate receives a majority vote, a run-off election shall be held between the
235 two candidates receiving the most votes, either by voice vote or by show of hands.
 - 236 4. If there are multiple vacancies in a Legislative Caucus, each vacancy will be
237 considered separately and in series.

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

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

242 Section 3. Role of Alternate During Vacancy

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

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

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

253 Section 4. Removal by Lack of Attendance

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

256 A. Central Committee Attendance

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

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

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

268 4. After a member's second consecutive absence or third total absence from Central
269 Committee meetings, the member may petition the Executive Board to be excused
270 for their most recent absence as set forth in the Policies and Procedures.

271 B. Area Attendance

- 272 1. All members, with the exception of incumbent elected official of the California
273 legislature or U.S. Congress and Lifetime members, have attendance requirements
274 at Area meetings.
- 275 2. Area Attendance is used to establish and maintain Area voting eligibility as defined in
276 Article V, Section 6. Participation and Voting.
- 277 3. Any member with an Area attendance requirement who has been absent from all
278 Area meetings in the last one hundred eighty (180) days has failed to meet the
279 minimum level of attendance and has removed themselves.
- 280 4. After a member's second absence from their Area meetings, the member may
281 petition the Executive Board to be excused for their most recent absence as set forth
282 in the Policies and Procedures.

283 C. Following Removal

- 284 1. A member who has removed themselves will be sent list of dates they were absent
285 by the SDCDP office. Should the member wish to petition the Executive Board to
286 correct the record, the petition must be made within fourteen (14) days of the date of
287 they were emailed of the list of absences.
- 288 2. A member who has removed themselves by lack of attendance is ineligible for
289 Central Committee membership for the remainder of the biennial term.

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 1. Filing has closed,
295 2. There are no Democrats in the race and
296 3. The Party has completed its endorsements and has not otherwise weighed in.
- 297 B. 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 seventy-two (72) hours of the date of the
301 email. Absent this letter, the use of their name will be considered an endorsement and
302 the member has removed themselves.
- 303 C. A member who has removed themselves by endorsement of a non-Democratic
304 Candidate is ineligible for Central Committee membership for the remainder of the
305 biennial term.

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

318 Section 7. Removal Procedure

- 319 A. The Secretary shall refer the matter to the Credentials Committee to consider
320 recommending removal and shall notify the member via email of the pending action and
321 will include the written challenge.
- 322 B. The Credentials Committee will meet for a technical review of the Bylaws, Policies and
323 Procedures and the written challenge to the membership. If the Credentials Committee
324 determines by a sixty percent (60%) vote that the challenge as presented meets the
325 criteria for grounds for removal, the Credentials Committee shall prepare a list of the
326 relevant Bylaws and Policies and Procedures. The meeting should be held within
327 fourteen (14) days of the date the member was notified.
- 328 C. If the Credentials Committee has determined the challenge meets the criteria for the
329 grounds for removal, the Chair will schedule a meeting with the Executive Board, the
330 affected member, and the member who made the challenge to review the facts and
331 circumstances of the challenge and the material provided by the Credentials Committee.
332 The meeting should be held within seven (7) days of the date the Credentials Committee
333 meeting and may be added to the agenda of an already scheduled Executive Board
334 meeting.
- 335 1. The affected member may appear in person or may supply a written response to the
336 membership challenge, and any persons wishing to support or deny the request, with
337 the Chair having the option to limit the number of persons who may appear before
338 them.
 - 339 2. Following the presentation, the room will be cleared for deliberations and vote by the
340 Executive Board.

- 341 3. If any member of the Executive Board is either an affected member or the member
342 who made the challenge, they must recuse themselves from the deliberations and
343 the vote. If both the Chair and Chair Pro-Tem have recused themselves, the
344 Executive Board will elect a different Executive Board member to chair the
345 deliberations and voting.
- 346 4. A vote to recommend removal of the member requires two-thirds (2/3) of the
347 Executive Board voting in favor of removal. If the Executive Board does not reach a
348 two-thirds (2/3) vote, the member retains their membership. The Secretary will notify
349 the affected member of the decision.
- 350 5. The Executive Board may vote to recommend a censure of the member with a two-
351 thirds (2/3) vote in favor of the censure. If the Executive Board does not reach a two-
352 thirds (2/3) vote, there will be no censure. The Secretary will notify the affected
353 member of the decision.
- 354 D. If the Executive Board has recommended removal or a censure, the matter will be taken
355 up for consideration at the next Central Committee meeting as the first item on the
356 agenda and prior to filling any vacancies. The affected member shall be offered the
357 opportunity to appear before This Committee and show cause why removal is
358 unwarranted.
- 359 E. Any vote taken shall be by show of hands.
- 360 F. Upon removal or censure by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of This Committee, the Secretary
361 shall notify the affected person of This Committee's action.
- 362 G. If a member has been removed, said former member is ineligible for Central Committee
363 membership for the remainder of the biennial term.
- 364 H. If a member resigns or is removed by their appointer during the credentials challenge,
365 said former member is ineligible for Central Committee membership for the remainder of
366 the biennial term.

367 ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

368 Section 1. List of Officers and Membership Requirements

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

- 371 A. Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated, Appointed, Lifetime, and Alternate members are eligible
372 to serve as officers.
- 373 B. Each Area as defined in Article VII, Section 1 shall have a Vice Chair.
- 374 C. The Directors shall be the Director of Administration, the Director of Clubs, and the
375 Director of Grassroots Organizing.

- 376 D. The Most Recent Past Chair is the person whom has most recently served as chair of
377 the SDCDP and whom is a different individual than the current Chair for up to two
378 biennial terms of the SDCDP. No vacancy is created if the Most Recent Past Chair
379 declines to serve.
- 380 E. Officers who lose their Central Committee eligibility during the biennial term, and are
381 otherwise members in good standing, shall continue in their Executive Board role for up
382 to thirty (30) days without a vote at any Area or Legislative Caucus.

383 Section 2. Elections

- 384 A. All officers shall be elected at the Central Committee Biennial Organizational Meeting in
385 January following certification of the State Primary Election. The terms of the incumbent
386 officers shall expire and the newly elected officers shall assume their positions at the
387 adjournment of that meeting.
- 388 B. Elections shall be by a majority vote of This Committee. The vote shall be by voice vote
389 or by show of hands.
- 390 C. The Area Vice Chairs shall be members of the Central Committee who are members of
391 the Area caucus that they represent.
- 392 1. The four Area Vice Chairs shall be elected separately by the Central Committee
393 members who caucus in their respective areas.
- 394 2. Elections shall be by a majority vote. The vote shall be by voice vote or by show of
395 hands.
- 396 3. Elections shall be at the Area meetings on the second (2nd) Tuesday in January
397 following the certification of the State Primary Election.
- 398 4. Vice Chairs shall be ratified by a simple majority of This Committee, either by voice
399 vote or by show of hands. Should This Committee fail to ratify a Vice Chair, a
400 vacancy shall occur and shall be remedied as set forth in Article IV, Section 4.
- 401 D. The Executive Board positions for Secretary, Controller and the Director of
402 Administration shall:
- 403 1. Be nominated by the Nomination Committee as set forth in the Policies and
404 Procedures. If there is only one candidate for an office, election shall be by voice
405 vote.
- 406 2. If there is more than one candidate, election shall be by voice vote or by show of
407 hands.
- 408 3. If no candidate receives a majority vote, a run-off election shall be held between the
409 two candidates receiving the most votes, either by voice vote or by show of hands.

- 410 E. The Director of Grassroots Organizing shall:
- 411 1. Be selected by the GO Team Regional and Countywide Coordinators (not including
412 Data Coordinators) who shall select one nominee for election to the Office of Director
413 of Grassroots Organizing no later than December 15 following the certification of the
414 State Primary Election.
- 415 2. Director of Grassroots Organizing shall be ratified by a simple majority This
416 Committee, either by voice vote or by show of hands. Should This Committee fail to
417 ratify a Director of Grassroots Organizing, the GO Team Coordinators will be asked
418 to provide a new nominee for ratification. Should This Committee fail to ratify the
419 second nominee, a vacancy shall occur and shall be remedied as set forth in Article
420 IV, Section 4.

421 F. The Director of Clubs shall:

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

431 **Section 3. Removal of Officers**

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

440 **Section 4. Vacancies**

- 441 A. At the beginning of each Executive Board term, the Executive Board will elect a Chair
442 Pro-Tem from among the four Vice-Chairs. In the absence of the Chair, the Chair Pro-
443 Tem shall preside. In the absence or inability of said Pro-Tem, another Chair Pro-Tem
444 shall be elected in the same manner.
- 445 B. When there is a vacancy for an officer position, the position shall be filled in the manner
446 set forth in Article IV, Section 2 with the exception of its calendar provisions.

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

479 Section 5. Duties of Officers

480 A. The Chair

- 481 1. Shall serve as the chief executive officer and official spokesperson of This
482 Committee,
- 483 2. Carry out the policies of This Committee and its Executive Board,
- 484 3. Manage, direct, and hire staff, with such hiring to be ratified by the Executive Board,
- 485 4. Serve in the Ex-Officio capacity without a vote on all SDCDP committees,
- 486 5. Be authorized, subject to Executive Board approval, to create SDCDP committees in
487 addition to those specified in Policies and Procedures, and to appoint Chairs and
488 members to those committees, and
- 489 6. 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. Area Vice Chairs may designate another Central Committee member from their Area
503 to serve on the Executive Board in their place in the event of a temporary absence,
- 504 9. In their Areas, Vice-Chairs shall:
 - 505 a. Support and coordinate official Party sponsored events and activities such as the
506 annual fundraiser,
 - 507 b. Coordinate area fundraising to support candidates, offices, and mailings,

- 508 c. Schedule, notice, and conduct Area meetings as specified in the Policies and
509 Procedures,
- 510 d. Provide guidance and leadership to the Executive Board and This Committee,
- 511 e. Implement the policies of the Executive Board and This Committee,
- 512 f. Develop and refine policy presentations for consideration by the Executive
513 Board,
- 514 g. Review legal and personnel matters for presentation to the Executive Board, and
- 515 h. Carry out any other duties required by these Bylaws.
- 516 10. Submit attendance records and minutes for regular and special meetings to the
517 County Party Secretary.

518 C. The Secretary

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

527 D. The Controller

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

- 537 E. The Director of Administration
- 538 1. Shall keep the Bylaws of This Committee current and consistent with the law,
 - 539 2. Draft Policies and Procedures for approval by This Committee,
 - 540 3. Chair the Administration Committee, Credentials Committee, and, for the remainder
541 of the 2017-2018 term, Resolutions Committee,¹
 - 542 4. Accept, file, and number all proposed Resolutions, proposed Policy and Procedure
543 changes, and proposed Bylaw changes for review by the Administration Committee,
 - 544 5. Report the results of this review to This Committee,
 - 545 6. Manage Credentials Committee process, and
 - 546 7. 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 This Committee in
555 accord with the Policies and Procedures,
- 556 5. Support the Council of Clubs and coordinate activities with This Committee in accord
557 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

¹ These Bylaws will be updated accordingly following the Biennial organization to update the duties.

- 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 I. The Chair Pro-Tem

- 573 1. Preside in the absence of the Central Committee Chair,
574 2. Commencing with the Biennial 2019-2020 term², chair the Resolutions Committee,
575 and
576 3. Commencing with the Biennial 2019-2020 term, accept, file, and number all
577 proposed Resolutions for review by the Resolutions committee.

578 Section 6. Auxiliary Authorities

579 The Chair shall have the power to appoint or remove a General Counsel and a Media Relations
580 Coordinator. These appointees have no voting rights unless they are already a member of This
581 Committee.

582 A. The Treasurer

- 583 1. Shall serve under the direction of the Controller and is not automatically a member of
584 the Executive Board,
585 2. Not be restricted from holding a separate position on the Executive Board,
586 3. Be a registered Democrat, but need not be a member of This Committee,
587 4. Be subject to the advice and consent of the Executive Board,

² These Bylaws will be updated to remove "Commencing with the Biennial 2019-2020 term," following the Biennial organization.

- 588 5. Be ratified by a majority vote of This Committee at its first regular meeting after the
589 appointment is made,
- 590 6. Be responsible for the timely filing of campaign spending records,
- 591 7. Complete any tax forms or financial reporting forms, and
- 592 8. Coordinate with the Controller in the preparation of financial statements by providing
593 campaign spending records and other material considerations.

594 **B. The General Counsel**

- 595 1. Shall be licensed to practice law in the state of California,
- 596 2. Be a registered Democrat, but need not be a member of This Committee,
- 597 3. Attend Steering Committee, Executive Board, and Central Committee meetings in an
598 advisory capacity only,
- 599 4. Be subject to the advice and consent of the Executive Board, and
- 600 5. Be ratified by a majority vote of This Committee at its first regular meeting after the
601 appointment is made.

602 **C. The Parliamentarian**

- 603 1. Shall assist the Chair regarding Robert's Rules of Order,
- 604 2. Be a registered Democrat, but need not be a member of This Committee.

605 **D. The Media Relations Coordinator**

- 606 1. Shall be subject to the advice and consent of the Executive Board,
- 607 2. Be a registered Democrat, but need not be a member of This Committee, and
- 608 3. Be ratified by a majority vote of This Committee at its first regular meeting after the
609 appointment is made.

610 E. This Committee may create additional auxiliary authorities by defining them in Policies
611 and Procedures.

612 F. Nothing shall prevent This Committee from approving compensation for the holder of a
613 contracted position.

614 **ARTICLE V. MEETINGS**

615 **Section 1. Number of Regular Meetings**

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

621 Section 2. Special Meetings

622 Special meetings may be called either by the Chair or by a petition signed by a majority of the
623 members of This Committee entitled to vote. Special meetings are limited to the agenda items
624 necessitating the special meeting. The notice requirements and procedure shall be set forth in
625 Policies and Procedures.

626 Section 3. Area Meetings

627 The Areas shall meet at least once every ninety (90) days on dates that do not conflict with
628 Central Committee meetings. The date, time, and location of Area meetings shall be determined
629 by vote of the Area's members. The Biennial Organizational Area Meeting is the first regular
630 Area meeting of the new term and takes place in January following the certification of the
631 Statewide Primary Election. An Area meeting may also be an endorsement recommendation
632 meeting if it has been noticed in accord with Article XIII, Section 3.

633 Section 4. Credentialing

634 A. A roster of credentialed members shall be prepared prior to each regular meeting of This
635 Committee and shall be used for all meetings that are held prior to the next regular
636 meeting of This Committee.

637 B. Credentialing policies including changes to the credentialed roster during the period shall
638 be set forth in Policies and Procedures.

639 Section 5. Quorum

640 A quorum of This Committee shall be composed of a majority of the members of the Central
641 Committee entitled to vote. An Area meeting quorum shall be composed of twenty-five percent
642 (25%) of those members eligible to vote for regular meetings, twenty-five percent (25%) of those
643 members eligible to vote for friendly incumbent recommendation meetings where there is no
644 declared Democratic challenger, and thirty-three percent (33%) of those members eligible to
645 vote for all other endorsement recommendation meetings.

646 Section 6. Participation and Voting

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

649 B. Only members with Area voting eligibility are allowed to vote in Area meetings, cross-
650 area recommendations, or Legislative Caucuses. A member must have attended at least
651 one (1) of the most recent two (2) designated Area regular meetings to maintain Area

652 voting eligibility. Establishing Area voting eligibility shall be set forth in Policies and
653 Procedures.

654 C. An Affinity club Associate member has the right to speak in Areas without a credentialed
655 Associate member for that club. Affinity clubs are limited to one vote in any Area or
656 Legislative Caucus.

657 Section 7. Motions

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

662 Section 8. Notice

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

664 ARTICLE VI. CAUCUSES

665 Section 1. Legislative Caucus

666 A. Definition

667 A Legislative Caucus shall include all Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated, Appointed,
668 Lifetime, Alternate, and Associate members of the Central Committee who are
669 registered to vote in said district.

670 B. Vacancies

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

674 ARTICLE VII. AREAS

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

683 Section 1. Definition

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

686 Section 2. Membership

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

689 Section 3. Coherence

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

692 B. If Areas create leadership positions that mirror the directorships on This Committee –
693 e.g., Secretary – those individuals shall work with their counterparts on This Committee
694 to ensure coherence and effectiveness.

695 C. The Areas shall act in a manner that does not conflict with these Bylaws and This
696 Committee’s Policies and Procedures.

697 ARTICLE VIII. EXECUTIVE BOARD

698 Section 1. Membership

699 The Executive Board shall consist of the officers of This Committee.

700 Section 2. Duties

701 The Executive Board shall:

702 A. Implement the policies of This Committee,

703 B. Develop and refine policy presentations for consideration by This Committee,

704 C. Review legal and personnel matters for presentation to This Committee, and

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

706 Section 3. Meetings

707 The Executive Board shall meet in a manner set forth in the Policies and Procedures. The Chair
708 of the Central Committee or a majority of the board members may call a special meeting or
709 change the regular meeting date of the Executive Board upon seventy-two (72) hours’ notice to
710 each member of the Executive Board.

711 Section 4. Voting

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

714 Section 5. Quorum

715 A quorum of the Executive Board is composed of a majority of the officers of the Executive
716 Board.

717 ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEES

718 Section 1. Definition

- 719 D. This Committee has Standing, Special Purpose, and Ad Hoc Committees.
- 720 E. The makeup, leadership, function, duties, and rules governing these Committees shall
721 be set forth in the Policies and Procedures.
- 722 F. The Chair may appoint members to serve on any Committee with the consent of the
723 Executive Board and subject to the provisions in the Policies and Procedures.
- 724 G. "Gender" shall mean one being either "self-identified female" or "other than self-identified
725 female" including gender non-binary and gender non-conforming. "Gender balance" shall
726 mean of the gender necessary to maintain, achieve or improve equal division on a
727 committee.

728 Section 2. Standing Committees

- 729 A. The Administration Committee to assist in drafting, reviewing, and recommending
730 amendments to the Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, and to serve on the Credentials
731 Committee and as the Resolutions Committee.
- 732 B. The Club Development Committee to assist the development of Democratic clubs and to
733 provide assistance in the support of chartered clubs.
- 734 C. The Grassroots Organizing Committee to provide leadership for the SDCDP's precinct
735 based voter contact program known as the Grassroots Organizing (GO) Team.
- 736 D. The Resolutions Committee to review proposed resolutions submitted for endorsement
737 to This Committee.

738 Section 3. Special Purpose Committees

- 739 A. The Candidate Support and Assistance Committee (CSAC) supports Democratic
740 candidates for partisan state-level offices.
- 741 B. The Communications Committee to assist in managing and implementing the SDCDP
742 communications plan.
- 743 C. The Credentials Committee to review any credentials concerns or membership eligibility
744 challenges for accordance with the Bylaws and Policies of This Committee.
- 745 D. The Membership Development Committee to increase engagement in the activities of
746 the Party, both by Central Committee members and non-members, and to develop and

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

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

752 F. The Voter Registration Committee to develop and implement a plan for increasing
753 Democratic Voter Registration in San Diego County.

754 Section 4. Ad Hoc Committees

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

756 ARTICLE X. DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATIONS

757 Section 1. Definition and Purpose

758 A. A Democratic Club is an organization of Democrats allied by defined geographic area,
759 special interest, or cultural community. A Club's purpose is to support and strengthen the
760 Democratic Party through the political development, activity, and advocacy of its
761 membership. A Club's objectives are to foster active interest in the local, state and
762 national Democratic Party, to contribute to San Diego County Democratic Party
763 leadership and responsibility, to support the campaigns of Democratic candidates
764 representing the Club's constituency, and to engage in grassroots outreach, organizing
765 and recruitment within its area, or special interest or cultural community.

766 B. A Democratic Coalition is an association of regionally affiliated representatives of the
767 San Diego County Democratic Party Central Committee, California Democratic Party,
768 Democratic Clubs, and Democratic-friendly organizations (such as labor unions). A
769 Democratic Coalition's purpose is to coordinate and promote the common goals of the
770 entities represented, to develop and implement projects that are beneficial to Democrats
771 and Democratic organizations in the region, to support the campaigns of Democratic
772 candidates in the region, and to foster Democratic grassroots organizing efforts in the
773 region. A Democratic Coalition is not a governing body for the entities whose members
774 associate with it.

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

782 Section 2. Authorization

783 A Democratic Club or Democratic Coalition shall charter biennially with This Committee to be
784 authorized as the Democratic Club for a defined geographic area, special interest or cultural
785 community, or the Democratic Coalition for a specific region.

786 A. This Committee shall charter at most one Democratic Coalition per Central Committee
787 Area.

788 B. This Committee shall charter clubs with a geographic focus. These clubs are typically
789 named for the community and boundaries may overlap. These clubs are known as
790 Geographic Clubs and caucus in the Area they represent.

791 C. This Committee may charter a Democratic Club that seeks to address a unique
792 population, cultural community, special interest, or demographic. These clubs are known
793 as Affinity Clubs and have a countywide voice. Affinity clubs designate the Area where
794 their primary member will caucus and may seek and be approved for additional
795 representation in other Areas.

796 D. This Committee may charter a Democratic Club affiliated with an educational institution.
797 These clubs are known as Academic Clubs and caucus in the Area where the institution
798 is located.

799 E. Club charters and additional Affinity Club Associate memberships shall be considered
800 through September of a Statewide or Presidential election year. New club chartering
801 shall resume with the January Biennial Organization meeting.

802 F. The Executive Board, upon recommendation by the Director of Clubs, may renew a
803 club's charter when all requirements have been met and the next regular Central
804 Committee meeting is at least forty-five (45) days from the previous meeting.

805 Section 3. Requirements

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

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

812 C. Membership may include individuals that are registered as other than Democratic Party.

813 D. At least two-thirds (2/3) of all those who make up the Club or Coalition shall be
814 registered Democrats or individuals who have expressed the intention of becoming
815 registered Democrats as soon as they are eligible.

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

- 819 F. The Club or Coalition’s bylaws shall have a process that governs the selection of
820 potential representatives to the CDP and SDCDP.
- 821 G. The Club or Coalition shall meet at least once quarterly and all meeting dates, times,
822 and locations shall be provided to the SDCDP at least fourteen (14) days prior to the
823 meeting for publication on the SDCDP website. A copy of the notice, agenda, and
824 minutes for business meetings or endorsement meetings shall be supplied via email to
825 the Director of Clubs and the SDCDP.
- 826 H. The club shall meet the requirements for endorsements in these Bylaws XIII.
827 Endorsements, Section 8. Rules Concerning Endorsements by Chartered Clubs.
- 828 I. As stated in Section 5 below, the use of the word “Democratic” shall be subject to the
829 approval of the Executive Board when a chartered club or coalition solicits funds.
- 830 J. Additional rules for the appointment and credentialing of Associate members and the
831 chartering process shall be set forth in the Policies and Procedures.

832 **Section 4. Suspension, Revocation and/or Denial of a Club or Coalition’s Charter.**

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

- 836 A. The Executive Board shall determine if it will give consideration to an allegation and if
837 so, will place it on its agenda for a designated subsequent meeting.
- 838 B. At least twenty (20) days’ written notice shall be provided to the president of the affected
839 Club or Democratic Coalition, at the mailing address filed with the Central Committee at
840 application for charter or renewal of charter, specifying the allegation and giving notice of
841 the date the allegation will be heard. The Club or Coalition President or another
842 designee shall be allowed to respond to the allegation at the Executive Board meeting
843 noticed.
- 844 C. The Executive Board, by a two-thirds vote, may recommend to This Committee that it
845 suspend, revoke or deny renewal of the Club or Coalition’s charter.
- 846 D. At least thirty (30) days’ notice to the members of This Committee and to the President
847 of the affected Club or Coalition shall precede such a recommendation. The notice shall
848 specify the allegation and findings by the Executive Board.
- 849 E. Approval of the Executive Board’s recommendation shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote
850 of This Committee by show of hands. Such approval shall be effective immediately.
- 851 F. If This Committee approves the recommendation of the Executive Board to suspend,
852 revoke or deny renewal of a charter, the Secretary shall give said Club or Coalition
853 written notice of the decision.

854 G. If a Club or Coalition's charter is revoked or not renewed, no other club or support/affinity
855 organization shall be chartered using the same name for the twelve (12) months
856 immediately following such revocation or denial of renewal.

857 Section 5. Affiliated Organizations

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

862 ARTICLE XI. ANNUAL BUDGET

863 Section 1. Fiscal Year

864 The Fiscal Year of This Committee shall run from January 1, through December 31, of each
865 calendar year.

866 Section 2. Budget Process

867 A. The Controller shall develop an annual budget in coordination with the Executive Board.

868 B. The Executive Board shall present the annual budget to This Committee for ratification
869 by majority vote. The voting shall be by voice vote or by show of hands.

870 C. Proposed changes to an approved annual budget shall be sent to the Controller, who
871 shall make a recommendation to the Executive Board.

872 1. A proposed amendment less than or equal to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) may be
873 enacted by a simple majority vote of those present at a regular meeting of the
874 Executive Board.

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

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

879 ARTICLE XII. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPENDITURES

880 Section 1. Budgeted Expenditures

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

884 Section 2. Unbudgeted Expenditures

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

886 ARTICLE XIII. ENDORSEMENTS

887 Section 1. Resolutions

888 This Committee may consider and take public positions on any matter of general public concern
889 as resolutions.

890 A. All Resolutions shall:

- 891 1. Be signed by an Elected, Ex-Officio, Designated, Appointed, or Alternate member of
892 the Central Committee,
- 893 2. Follow the submission process and format set forth in the Policies and Procedures,
894 and
- 895 3. Be reviewed and recommended by the Resolutions Committee for consideration or
896 by the Chair of the Resolutions Committee for emergency consideration.

897 B. Resolutions that are heard on an emergency basis, are related to legislation, or pertains
898 to local initiatives need a minimum sixty percent (60%) vote to be adopted by This
899 Committee, all other resolutions will be adopted by a majority vote.

900 C. Should the Resolutions Committee decline to recommend a resolution or the Chair of the
901 Resolutions Committee decline a late submission for emergency consideration, This
902 Committee, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, may take up the resolution.

903 Section 2. Nonpartisan Candidates and Ballot Proposition/Initiatives

904 A. This Committee may endorse candidates for nonpartisan offices providing:

- 905 1. The candidate is a registered Democrat,
- 906 2. Endorsements are not given to more candidates than there are open seats for the
907 office,
- 908 3. The office does not extend beyond the San Diego County boundaries,
- 909 4. The candidate has declared their intention to run to the Registrar of Voters, the State
910 of California, This Committee, or the Chair of This Committee,
- 911 5. Reasonable attempts are made to notify all declared candidates who the Party has
912 established with certainty are registered Democrats are notified regarding the date,
913 time, and place of all relevant meetings and of the endorsement process at least five
914 (5) business days in advance of the meeting. A qualified candidate, as defined in
915 Article XIII, Section 2, 4, who declares their intention to run for an office after notice
916 of recommendation or endorsement has been provided to all other candidates will be

917 sent all relevant information and allowed to participate at the discretion of the
918 meeting convener, but in no instance, will said discretion require notice beyond that
919 which has already been given.

920 6. A candidate may speak or may designate a Central Committee member to speak or
921 read a letter on their behalf.

922 7. The candidate has requested the Central Committee endorsement and returned all
923 required documentation at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting where
924 endorsement or recommendation will be considered.

925 8. The filing deadline has passed, unless the candidate is an incumbent or in races that
926 have been identified as strategically critical.

927 a. For races that are fully enclosed within an Area, upon recommendation by the
928 Area, This Committee may endorse incumbents early and without a
929 questionnaire.

930 b. For races that cross Area boundaries, This Committee may endorse incumbents
931 early and without a questionnaire following a recommendation by the Areas or
932 upon recommendation by the Executive Board.

933 c. A race may be designated as strategically critical following a preliminary
934 recommendation by the Area(s), secondary recommendation by the Executive
935 Board, and approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of This Committee.

936 d. In special elections, a race may be designated as strategically critical by a two-
937 thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board in lieu of the Area voting to recommend
938 on the designation.

939 e. Endorsements in races designated strategically critical may be considered at the
940 next Central Committee meeting following the designations providing all notice
941 and Questionnaire requirements have been met.

942 B. This Committee shall approve one or more candidate questionnaires to be completed
943 and submitted prior to endorsement by all eligible non-incumbent nonpartisan
944 candidates for office fully within San Diego County.

945 C. Positions on ballot initiatives and propositions may be taken by This Committee.
946 However, This Committee shall not take a position on any statewide initiative that is
947 contrary to that of the Central Committee of the California Democratic Party.

948 Section 3. Notice for Endorsement and Recommendation Meetings

949 All Central Committee endorsement meetings and Area endorsement recommendation
950 meetings require prior notice to the membership.

- 951 A. Notice is hereby given: the first two Central Committee meetings occurring after the
 952 close of filing, including any extended filing, for Primary, General or Special Elections
 953 may consider any race or measure appearing on the ballot for endorsement.
- 954 B. Notice is hereby given: the first two Area Committee meetings occurring after the close
 955 of filing, including any extended filing, for Primary, General or Special Elections may
 956 consider any race or measure appearing on the ballot in that Area for a recommendation
 957 for endorsement.
- 958 C. Notice is hereby given: the first two Central Committee meetings following a Primary
 959 Election may consider an endorsement in any run-off race lacking an endorsed
 960 Democratic candidate.
- 961 D. Notice is hereby given: the first two Area Committee meetings following a Primary
 962 Election may consider a recommendation for endorsement in any run-off race lacking an
 963 endorsed Democratic candidate.
- 964 E. At least fourteen (14) days' notice shall be given prior to the meeting in which This
 965 Committee considers an endorsement for a specific candidate race or a ballot measure.
- 966 F. At least seven (7) days' notice shall be given prior to the meeting in which an Area
 967 considers a recommendation for a specific candidate race or a ballot measure.
- 968 G. The Executive Board may, with at least seven (7) days' notice, call a special meeting of
 969 This Committee to consider endorsing a candidate or a ballot measure

970 **Section 4. Rules Concerning Recommendations, Endorsements and Ballot**
 971 **Propositions/Initiatives**

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

- 975 A. Areas shall make recommendations on Endorsements and Ballot Propositions at
 976 meetings held prior to the Central Committee meeting.
- 977 1. For Countywide and San Diego Citywide races including ballot measures, each Area
 978 may make a non-consent recommendation on the race.
- 979 2. For races where the district is fully contained in an Area, the enclosing Area shall
 980 make the recommendation.
- 981 3. For all other races, endorsement recommendation meetings will be hosted in the
 982 Area Caucus in which there is a plurality of voters registered as Democrats of the
 983 last General Election either Gubernatorial or Presidential.
- 984 a. Central Committee members registered to vote outside of the hosting Area, but
 985 inside of the district for which recommendation is being considered, shall also be
 986 eligible to vote and shall be notified of the consideration meeting at the same
 987 time and in the same manner as the Area's members.

- 988 b. Vice Chairs shall coordinate their endorsement recommendation meetings so
989 they will not overlap and all eligible members have the opportunity to participate.
- 990 c. All cross-area races will be considered before races fully contained in the Area.
- 991 B. Voting shall be done by voice vote or by show of hands.
- 992 C. No candidates may be present during debate on their specific endorsement or
993 recommendation.
- 994 D. A position on a candidate requires a minimum sixty percent (60%) vote.
- 995 1. Members shall be presented with a "No Endorsement" option on all votes.
- 996 2. If no candidate receives a minimum of sixty percent (60%) in the first round of
997 balloting, a second ballot shall be taken after removing the candidate receiving the
998 least votes and any candidates receiving zero votes.
- 999 3. If in the second round of balloting a candidate receives at least fifty percent (50%)
1000 but less than the sixty percent (60%) threshold, subsequent balloting shall continue
1001 after removing the candidate receiving the least votes and any candidates receiving
1002 zero votes.
- 1003 4. Balloting shall continue using the same procedure described in D.3, as long as one
1004 (1) candidate receives at least fifty percent (50%) but less than sixty percent (60%)
1005 and at least one (1) other candidate remains.
- 1006 5. If after the completion of balloting, no candidate has received the minimum required
1007 votes to reach the sixty percent (60%) threshold for endorsement, the position of the
1008 body shall be "No Endorsement".
- 1009 E. A position on a ballot initiative or proposition requires a minimum sixty percent (60%)
1010 vote. Members have the option of voting "No Position." If a motion to endorse or oppose
1011 fails, the position of the body is "No Position."
- 1012 F. If the Executive Board recommends a Consent Agenda of candidates or ballot
1013 measures, acceptance shall require the approval of a minimum sixty percent (60%) vote.
- 1014 G. Any member of This Committee may request that a candidate or ballot measure be
1015 pulled from the Consent Agenda for consideration with a fifty percent (50%) vote.
- 1016 H. Those races pulled from the Consent Agenda shall be handled as non-consent agenda
1017 items in accordance with Part D or E of this section.
- 1018 I. Any endorsement made in a Primary election carries forward with any candidate who
1019 advances to a run-off election for the same office.

1020 J. Once the results of a Primary Election are clear, any race lacking an endorsed
1021 Democratic candidate for the General Election run-off may be considered for
1022 recommendation at the next Area meeting and then for endorsement the Central
1023 Committee meeting following that Area meeting.

1024 Section 5. Ratings for Democratic Candidates

1025 A. Once an Area or This Committee has adopted a no endorsement recommendation, the
1026 endorsement process is complete. There is no requirement to examine the candidates
1027 further; however, the Chair or Vice Chair may entertain a motion to rate each of the
1028 candidates: a) Qualified, b) Unacceptable, or c) No Position.

1029 B. If a motion has been made and seconded to rate the candidates, then all candidates
1030 must be reconsidered, one time only, for a rating. Each candidate may be rated
1031 individually. The Central Committee or an Area has the option to rate candidates as a
1032 group or as individuals or in any combination thereof as the body sees fit so long as
1033 each candidate is not examined for a rating more than once. The threshold to pass a
1034 "Qualified" or "Unacceptable" rating is sixty percent (60%).

1035 C. When only one previously rated as Qualified candidate advances to a top-two runoff,
1036 they automatically become the endorsed candidate.

1037 D. In all other cases, any rating made in a Primary Election does not carry over to the
1038 General Election.

1039 Section 6. Rescission of Endorsements, Positions, or Ratings

1040 This Committee by a two-thirds (2/3) vote may rescind any endorsement, position, or rating
1041 previously made in a nonpartisan race.

1042 Section 7. Rules Concerning Candidates

1043 This Committee may consider a vote to designate a candidate as "Do not vote for". The
1044 threshold for the designation is sixty percent (60%).

1045 Section 8. Rules Concerning Endorsements by Chartered Clubs

1046 A. Chartered clubs shall endorse only registered Democrats.

1047 B. Non-Democratic candidates may only be rated acceptable or unacceptable.

1048 C. Chartered clubs shall notice their full membership that endorsement consideration will be
1049 made in a particular race or races at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.
1050 Notification shall be made by email to the full membership or, absent an email address,
1051 by U.S. Mail or an alternative method as specified in the club's bylaws.

1052 D. Reasonable attempts are made by the club to notify and invite all declared candidates
1053 who the Party has established with certainty are registered Democrats regarding the
1054 date, time, and place of the club's meetings and of the club's endorsement process at

- 1055 least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. A copy of any meeting notice sent to
1056 candidates shall be supplied via email to the Director of Clubs and the SDCDP.
- 1057 E. Requests for information regarding candidates from the club to the Party office must be
1058 made at least seven (7) business days prior to the meeting.
- 1059 F. Endorsements by chartered clubs shall not be construed as the official endorsement of
1060 either the California Democratic Party or the San Diego County Democratic Party. Words
1061 to that effect shall be clearly visible wherever a chartered club's endorsement is referred
1062 to.
- 1063 G. Any publication of endorsements by chartered clubs shall clearly delineate between
1064 endorsed candidates and candidates rated acceptable.

1065 ARTICLE XIV. Elected Officials

1066 Section 1. Vote of No Confidence

1067 This Committee, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, may express no-confidence in an elected
1068 Democratic Official. An Area may make a recommendation, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, that This
1069 Committee express no-confidence in an elected Democratic Official whose district is fully
1070 enclosed in their Area.

1071 Section 2. Request for Resignation

1072 This Committee, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, may request the resignation of an elected
1073 Democratic Official. An Area may make a recommendation, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, that This
1074 Committee request the resignation of an elected Democratic Official whose district is fully
1075 enclosed in their Area.

1076 Section 3. Removal of Friendly Incumbent Endorsement Designation

1077 This Committee may disallow early incumbent endorsement designation to any officeholder who
1078 endorses a non-Democratic candidate in any challenged political race or endorses a non-
1079 Democratic candidate in a non-challenged political race and a Democratic challenger is
1080 subsequently endorsed by the Party who fails to withdraw their endorsement of the non-
1081 Democratic challenger immediately.

- 1082 A. The Chair shall inform said candidate of the removal of consideration for early incumbent
1083 endorsement status upon request of the Executive Board or Area.
- 1084 B. In the event that the candidate appeals this removal, an affirmative majority vote of This
1085 Committee members at a properly noticed meeting shall be required to restore early
1086 incumbent endorsement consideration.
- 1087 C. Candidates who have been removed from early incumbent endorsement consideration
1088 may complete a candidate questionnaire and apply for endorsement consideration
1089 following the filing deadline for the office to which they are incumbent.

1090 ARTICLE XV. Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC)
1091 Delegation

1092 Section 1. DSCC Appointment

- 1093 A. The Chair of This Committee and AD Elected members shall be automatically elected to
1094 serve as a representative of this County Committee to the State Committee, provided
1095 they have submitted intent that they wish to serve on the DSCC on their member form or
1096 via email to the Chair.
- 1097 B. Any remaining representatives apportioned to SDCDP by the State Committee shall be
1098 elected at-large from This Committee's Ex Officio, Appointed, Lifetime, Alternate, and
1099 Associate members in accordance with the Policies of This Committee.
- 1100 C. Members who are not elected as part of the DSCC Delegation will be placed on the
1101 DSCC Alternates list.
- 1102 D. Representatives to the Executive Board of the DSCC will be selected from the DSCC
1103 Delegation in accordance with DSCC requirements.
- 1104 E. Dual representation is not allowed:
- 1105 1. Members must choose between representation to the CDP via the ADEM
1106 membership or via the SDCDP delegation within five (5) calendar days of their latter
1107 election so that alternates may be promptly appointed to fill the position.
- 1108 2. If a member with dual membership runs for an Executive Board position via the CDP
1109 and wins the position, they will automatically become an Ex-Officio CDP EBoard
1110 Member of the SDCDP and are no longer eligible to be part of the SDCDP
1111 delegation to the CDP. If they previously held an AD Elected member position with
1112 the SDCDP, that position will be declared vacant.
- 1113 3. If a member with dual membership runs for a SDCDP allotted CDP Executive Board
1114 positions and wins the position, they automatically relinquish their ADEM
1115 membership and must notify the CDP within five (5) calendar days. A failure to
1116 relinquish within five (5) calendar days will result in the member being removed from
1117 the SDCDP EBoard delegation and a vacancy will be declared.
- 1118 F. Representatives shall serve on the DSCC for a two-year term as long as they remain a
1119 member of This Committee.
- 1120 G. Subsequent to the Biennial Organizational Meeting, requests to be added to the
1121 Alternates list must be made via email to the Chair or the Executive Director.
- 1122 H. Vacancies will be declared and filled in accordance with the Policies of This Committee.

1123 **ARTICLE XVI. RULES**

1124 **Section 1. Amendment of the Bylaws or Policies and Procedures**

- 1125 A. This Committee may amend these Bylaws with a two-thirds (2/3) vote. Seven (7) days'
1126 notice is required to amend the Bylaws.
- 1127 B. The Policies and Procedures may be amended at any meeting of This Committee with a
1128 sixty percent (60%) vote.
- 1129 C. The process for the submission and review of proposed amendments is set forth in the
1130 Policies and Procedures.

1131 **Section 2. Robert's Rules of Order**

1132 The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall
1133 govern This Committee, including Areas, caucuses, and committees, in all cases in which they
1134 are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, except that in all
1135 instances a motion to table shall be subject to a two-thirds (2/3) vote.