



To: Candidates for the Assembly, State Senate, or Congress
From: Yvette Martinez and Unique Wilson
Date: April 2020
Re: Post-Primary Endorsement Information

Introduction

Pursuant to the California Democratic Party (CDP) Bylaws, if a CDP-endorsed candidate in the Primary Election advances to the General Election in a race, that endorsement remains in effect. Otherwise, the post-Primary endorsement process will be held in a manner outlined in this memo for federal and state offices, including U.S. House, State Assembly, and State Senate (odd-numbered districts), depending on whether one Democratic candidate advances to the General Election and that candidate did not receive the pre-Primary endorsement, or two Democratic candidates advance to the General Election and neither candidate received the pre-Primary endorsement.

One Democratic Candidate Advancing to the General Election

Overview

If only one Democratic candidate in an election contest is advancing to the General Election, one of the following would apply and no post-Primary endorsing caucus will be held. This applies to all federal and state election contests (U.S. House, State Assembly, and State Senate (odd-numbered districts)).

Democratic Candidate Previously Endorsed in the Primary Election

If a candidate was endorsed in the Primary Election and that candidate advances to the General Election, the endorsement remains in effect for the General Session.

Democratic Candidate Previously Sought Endorsement was Not Endorsed Pre-Primary

If the Democratic candidate previously sought CDP pre-Primary endorsement consideration but did not receive CDP endorsement, this candidate will become the CDP endorsed candidate, subject to the objection process outlined below.

Democratic Candidate Did Not Previously Seek Endorsement Consideration

If the Democratic candidate did not seek CDP pre-Primary endorsement consideration, the candidate may file for CDP endorsement within two days of the Secretary of State's certification of the Primary Election results (by 5:00 PM on Sunday, April 26, 2020). **Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Governor Gavin Newsom signed an executive order extending the canvass period for the March 3, 2020 Primary to April 24, 2020.** The candidate will become the endorsed candidate fifteen days after the Secretary of State certification of the Primary Election (Saturday, May 9, 2020), subject to the objection process outlined below.



Filing for post-Primary Endorsement

To file for endorsement, a candidate must submit a signed CDP Post-Primary Endorsement Candidate Registration Form and submit the appropriate non-reimbursable filing fee (U.S. House: \$350, State Assembly: \$250, State Senate: \$500) by Sunday, April 26, 2020, 5:00 PM. Additionally, candidates seeking CDP endorsement consideration shall affirm in writing that they have read the most current CDP Platform. The CDP adopts its Platform every two years. The current Platform was adopted on November 17, 2019. The platform is available online at <https://www.cadem.org/our-party/standing-committees/platform-committee>. CDP post-Primary Candidate Registration Form is available online on the CDP Endorsements webpage at www.cadem.org/endorsements.

Objection/Appeal Process

- **Filing** – Any Letter of Objection must be made in writing and filed within fifteen days after the Secretary of State’s certification of the Primary Election results (by 5:00 PM on Saturday, May 9, 2020) to have the endorsement reviewed by the Election Appeals Committee. The deadline for the Secretary of State’s certification of Primary Election results is Friday, April 24, 2020. The filing should be made to Secretary Jenny Bach (secretary@cadem.org), cc Chair Rusty Hicks (rusty@cadem.org), Executive Director Yvette Martinez (Yvette@cadem.org), and Party Resources Manager Unique Wilson (unique@cadem.org). It can also be sent via fax to (916) 442-5715 or via mail to 1830 – 9th Street Sacramento, CA 95811. Please note that the deadline is a *received by* deadline.
- **Letter of Objection Served on the Candidate** – The letter of objection must also be served on the candidate in question by the objecting parties by first class mail at the same time that the letter of objection is filed with the CDP Secretary.
- **Election Appeals Committee** – If an objection is filed, an Election Appeals Committee will make the final determination at a meeting no later than five days after an objection has been filed. The Election Appeals Committee shall be comprised of the Statewide Officers; the Regional Director(s) of the relevant district, two Executive Board members, appointed by the State Chair, from each of the following committees: Rules, Credentials, and Voter Services.

Two Democrats Advance to the General Election – Endorsing Caucus To Be Held

Overview

If two Democratic candidates in a U.S. House, State Assembly, or State Senate election contest advance to the General Election and neither candidate received the CDP pre-Primary endorsement, the CDP Chair calls a post-Primary Endorsing Caucus in the relevant district. The exact date, time, and location for each post-Primary endorsing caucus will be made public in March 2020, to be held between DATE – DATE. The 2020 March Primary produced no need for these types of post-Primary Endorsing Caucuses.



Eligible Candidates

Only candidates who are registered Democrats advancing to the General Election and request post-Primary endorsement consideration are eligible to be considered at the post-Primary endorsing caucus.

Filing for Post-Primary Endorsement Consideration

To file for endorsement, a candidate must submit a signed CDP Post-Primary Endorsement Candidate Registration Form and submit the appropriate non-reimbursable filing fee (U.S. House: \$350, State Assembly: \$250, State Senate: \$500) prior to the beginning of the post-Primary endorsing caucus meeting. Additionally, candidates seeking CDP endorsement consideration shall affirm in writing that they have read the most current CDP Platform. The CDP adopts its Platform every two years. The current Platform was adopted on November 17, 2019. The Platform is available online at www.cadem.org/platform. The CDP Post-Primary Candidate Registration Form will be available on the CDP Endorsements webpage after the Primary Election at www.cadem.org/endorsements. Pre-Primary filing fees do not carry over: candidates who participated in the pre-Primary endorsement process must request to seek the post-Primary endorsement. www.cadem.org/platform

Eligible Voters

Eligible voters are qualified DSCC Members resident in the relevant district as of the date of eligibility for the 2019 State Endorsing Convention. DSCC Members who were eligible but have since the appointed deadline died, moved, changed their registration to a district other than the district the election is occurring, or resigned may be replaced by the appropriate appointing authority.

A candidate can obtain a list of eligible voters once the candidate has submitted a completed CDP Post-Primary Endorsement Candidate Registration Form and paid the appropriate filing fee.

At the Post-Primary Endorsing Caucus – Voting

- **Quorum** – Fifty percent plus one of the credentialed members of an Endorsing Caucus shall constitute a quorum. Whether in-person or voting by mail.