

Rules for the 2021 California Democratic Party Convention

1. The primary purpose of this biennial Convention is to organize the newly-elected constituted Democratic State Central Committee (This Committee) and elect Statewide Officers and Regional Directors. Matters not heard at the Convention will be received by the Secretary and held over to the next meeting of the Executive Board.
2. The Chair of This Committee shall be the Chair of the Convention and the Secretary of This Committee shall be Secretary of the Convention. In the absence of the Chair of This Committee, the Vice-Chair of This Committee of a self-identified gender other than that of the Chair, shall serve as the Presiding Officer and Chair of the Convention. In the event more than one Vice-Chair should fit that description, they shall act as Co-Chairs.
3. Delegates to the Convention shall be those members of the Democratic State Central Committee, or their qualified proxies, as specified in the Bylaws of This Committee, and are on, or had a right to be on, the Final Certified Roster of Members as of **February 23, 2021**.
4. This Convention will be held in accordance with Article III-A of the Bylaws of This Committee and the Policy Statement by the Rules Committee of the California Democratic Party on the Open Meeting Rule Adopted in Committee – July 14, 2018.
5. Certification of a delegate’s Credentials shall be in accordance with Article III-A of the Bylaws of This Committee.
6. No one will be granted access to the “floor” who is not a delegate, or proxy holder, except by special authorization of the State Chair.
7. In order to vote, and have one’s vote counted, a member must have timely:
 - a. paid their dues and fees to This Committee, or had them waived,
 - b. registered for the meeting, if registration was required,
 - c. obtained their credential prior to the closing of credentialing, if credentials were issued for the meeting,
 - d. completed and returned to the proper authority any ballot that may be issued,
 - e. agreed in writing to abide by the Code of Conduct, and,
 - f. signed any written ballot, if written ballots are used.
8. Proxies shall be subject to those rules set forth in the bylaws of This Committee and accordingly, shall vote in those districts where their appointing members are eligible to participate.

9. The Credentials Committee shall issue its final report and place the official voting list of delegates in the hands of the Convention Secretary subsequent to the close of registration and prior to the agendaized credentials report.
10. Election of Statewide Officers and Other State Officers (hereinafter: “Regional Directors”).
 - a. All Statewide Officers shall be elected by the entire membership of This Committee eligible to participate in the election.
 - b. Regional Directors shall be elected by Regional Caucuses, comprised of all members of This Committee resident in the respective regions eligible to participate in the election.
 - c. The election of all officers shall take place via signed written ballot sent to members of This Committee no later than **Wednesday, March 24, 2021**, and received by the Secretary of This Committee no later than **Wednesday, 5:00 p.m., April 21, 2021**.
 - d. The filing of Notices of Intent-to-Run Declarations in accordance with Article III-A of the Bylaws of This Committee is a prerequisite to being an eligible candidate for election.
 - e. Election shall be determined upon receiving a majority of votes cast.
 - f. In the event no candidate receives a majority of votes cast, a runoff election (2nd ballot) shall be held between the two persons receiving the largest number of votes actually cast for all candidates who have been duly nominated for and accepted the nomination for the office involved in accordance with the procedures in Article III-A of the bylaws of This Committee. Ballots, with the names of persons in contested run-off races, shall be sent to members of This Committee no later than **Monday, May 3, 2021**.
 - g. **In order to be considered, a ballot in contested run-off races must be received by the Secretary of This Committee no later than Monday, at 5:00 p.m., on May 31, 2021, and the member must have complied with Rule 7 above.**
 - h. Based upon Article Nine, Section 12 of the Charter of the Democratic Party of the United States of America; Resolution of the DNC Rules Committee adopted on June 23, 1994; Article XIII, Section 9 of the Bylaws of This Committee, and the Policy Statement by the Rules Committee of the California Democratic Party on the Open Meeting Rule Adopted in Committee – July 14, 2018; no vote by secret ballot shall take place at this convention.
11. The Resolutions adopted by the members of This Committee and the Executive Board of the California Democratic Party are expressions of philosophical beliefs and principles

that the Party wishes to declare. Any resolution involving a local issue will be referred to the appropriate local Democratic Party entity.

12. **Pursuant to Article V, Section 5 (c), the Resolutions Committee has established and publish the procedures for the proposition of resolutions, which are available on the CDP WEB Site.**

13. **ADDITIONAL RESOLUTION PROCEDURES FOR 2021 CONVENTION**

a. Form:

- (1) All resolutions must be typed.
- (2) Inducement (e.g., Whereas) clauses shall be limited to three (3) or less fewer, and resolve clauses shall be limited to two (2) or fewer.
- (3) Resolutions must be no longer than one (1) 8-1/2" x 11" typewritten page.
- (4) All resolutions must be adopted by a County Central Committee, or a Chartered Democratic Club or sponsored by twenty-five (25) members of This Committee, or a majority of the members of This Committee who meet at a Regional Meeting as described in Article III, Section 4d of the CDP's Bylaws.
- (5) Resolutions that call for a change in the CDP Bylaws or platform, or state the endorsement or support of a candidate for public office or opposition to a candidate who is a registered Democrat, or mandates or restricts the spending of money by the CDP, shall be ruled out of order and will neither be heard by the Resolutions Committee nor be able to reach the floor by way of Section 12, d (Late/Floor Resolutions) below.

b. Timely Resolutions:

- (1) Resolutions must be received by the State Chair of the Party in Sacramento, by 5p.m., thirty (30) calendar days prior to a meeting of This Committee, except as provided in subsection (c) below.
- (2) Copies of resolutions submitted according to the above procedure shall be mailed by the State Chair of the Party to all members of the Resolutions Committee prior to a meeting of This Committee.

c. Resolutions Committee will present prioritized resolutions in the committee report to the convention body.

d. Late Resolutions will not be accepted at any virtual meeting of This Committee, unless approved by the Chair of This Committee.

e. Floor Resolutions

- (1) Twenty-five (25) copied of each resolution must be provided to the Resolutions Committee by the sponsor(s) of the resolution.

- (2) All resolutions to be considered at the **2021 Convention** of This Committee must be presented for consideration at the Resolutions Committee meeting preceding the general session. **A late resolution, shall be considered by the Resolutions Committee at the next Executive Board Meeting of This Committee.**
 - (3) Any resolution heard by the Resolutions Committee, failing to obtain approval, may be brought to the floor **of the next Executive Board** meeting of This Committee with the signatures of three hundred (300) members of This Committee on forms approved by the Resolutions Committee **submitted no later than seven (7) days after the adjournment of the Resolutions Committee. No resolution failing to obtain approval of the Resolutions Committee shall be brought to the Floor of the general session of This Convention.**
 - f. Resolutions pending at the close of a Convention of This Committee shall be referred to the Executive Board of This Committee. All such resolutions shall first be presented to the Resolutions Committee for recommendation to the Executive Board. The Resolutions Committee shall recommend: adoption, adoption with amendment, or rejection. Such resolutions shall be presented to the Executive Board for consideration in its original form unless the sponsor agrees to the amendment(s) recommended by the Resolutions Committee.
13. The By-Laws and Rules of the California Democratic Party, and the Procedures for the Proposition of Resolutions referred to in Article V, Section 5, c, of the Bylaws and Rules of the California Democratic Party shall govern over these Rules for the 2021 California Democratic Party Convention in the event of a conflict.
 14. Any matter not provided for in these Rules for the 2021 California Democratic Party Convention, or in the Proposition of Resolutions referred to in Article V, Section 5, c, of the Bylaws and Rules of the California Democratic Party, shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.