



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: Public Ballot, Ex-Officio, Designated,
28 Appointed, Alternate, Lifetime, and Associate:
- 29 1. Public Ballot 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 Public Ballot 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 they are already a Voting member;
- 71 6) The Director of Clubs unless they are already a Voting member;
- 72 7) The Director of Grassroots Organizing unless they are already Voting
73 member.
- 74 b. Designated members shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges and have
75 the same responsibilities as Public Ballot members of This Committee.
- 76 4. Appointed members of This Committee are members appointed to fill Public Ballot or
77 Ex-Officio vacancies within the body in accordance with Article III, Section 1, B on
78 filling vacancies for This Committee. Appointed members shall be entitled to the
79 same rights and privileges and have the same responsibilities as Public Ballot
80 members of This Committee.
- 81 5. Alternate members, who are appointed by Public Ballot, 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 SDCCDP
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 as a SDCCDP DSCC Executive Board
121 member, who loses their membership eligibility after attending at least one
122 meeting in that role, shall become an Associate Member for as long as they are
123 serving in that role or the duration of the current biennial term whichever comes
124 first. A DSCC Delegation member who is appointed to and has begun their
125 services on a CDP standing committee will be provided an Associate Member
126 position with the same provisos.

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

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

132 E. The Voting members of This Committee are the Public Ballot, Ex-Officio, Designated,
133 Appointed, and Lifetime members. The names of the voting members will be publicly
134 available via the SDCCDP Website.

135 Section 2. Duties of Membership

136 A. It is the duty of Public Ballot, Ex-Officio, Designated, and Appointed members to attend
137 the regular, endorsement, and special meetings of This Committee and to notify their
138 Alternate when they cannot attend.

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

- 141 C. The duties of all members are to:
- 142 1. Attend the regular, endorsement recommendation, and special meetings of their
143 individual Areas.
 - 144 2. Attend the special meetings of their Legislative Caucuses.
 - 145 3. Serve on SDCDP committees.
 - 146 4. Share in the responsibility of raising money for the SDCDP.
 - 147 5. Participate in the candidate endorsement process.
 - 148 6. Assist the SDCDP in communicating with and reaching out to Democrats.
 - 149 7. Support endorsed Democratic candidates endorsed by the SDCDP or the California
150 Democratic Party.
 - 151 8. Share the general duties of building and supporting the Party.
 - 152 9. Be familiar with the Bylaws and Policies and Procedures of the Party.
 - 153 10. Be familiar with the races on the ballot prior to an endorsement or recommendation
154 meeting.
 - 155 11. Review their Central Committee and Area communications.
 - 156 12. Report any changes to their voter registration, membership eligibility, or contact
157 information within fourteen (14) days of the change.

158 Section 3. Terms of Office

- 159 A. The current Chair of This Committee shall administer the Oaths of Office to incoming
160 Central Committee members.
- 161 B. The terms of office of the Central Committee members, with the exception of the
162 Executive Board and ADEM EBoard Members, shall:
- 163 1. Begin at the Biennial Organizational Meeting in their Area in January following
164 certification of the State Primary Election by the Registrar of Voters, and
 - 165 2. Continue as long as they continue to meet their membership qualifications and
166 expire when the Oaths of Office are administered to their successors.
- 167 C. The terms of the Executive Board as officers begin at the end of the Biennial
168 Organizational Meeting of This Committee and continue through the end of the next
169 Biennial Organizational Meeting so long as they continue to be an officer. For officers
170 who are not continuing as members into the new term, their member term shall be
171 extended independent of their qualifying member class.
- 172 D. Member class terms are as follows:
- 173 1. The terms of Public Ballot members will be four years. Their elections will coincide
174 with Presidential Primary elections.
 - 175 2. Ex-Officio terms are determined by their qualifying office:

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

195 Section 4. Oath and Dues

- 196 A. In their capacity as public officials, members are required to swear the Oath or
197 Affirmation of Allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of
198 the State of California.
- 199 B. There shall be biennial dues for Voting and Alternate members of This Committee, in an
200 amount set forth in Policies and Procedures. Lifetime and Associate members have their
201 dues waived.
- 202 C. The dues requirement must be met for a member to be credentialed and eligible to vote
203 or exercise any member rights including the appointment of an alternate.

204 Section 5. Prohibition on Dual Membership

205 There shall be no dual membership.

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

- 209 B. If the person fails to indicate which position he or she elects to occupy, This Committee,
210 by majority vote, shall make the determination.
- 211 C. The Secretary shall certify to the Chair the remaining position(s) as vacant and eligible
212 for election.

213 ARTICLE III. VACANCIES AND REMOVALS

214 Section 1. Definition of Vacancy

- 215 A. A vacancy occurs when a Public Ballot, Ex-Officio, Designated, Appointed, or Alternate
216 member:
- 217 1. Changes voter registration from the district where elected or appointed, or
 - 218 2. Is removed or resigns from This Committee, or
 - 219 3. Is incapacitated or re-registers as other than Democrat, or
 - 220 4. When a Voting member is appointed as a Lifetime member, or
 - 221 5. Upon the death of a Public Ballot, Ex-Officio, Designated, or Appointed member.
- 222 B. A vacancy also occurs when an Assembly District elects fewer Public Ballot members
223 than it is entitled to elect.
- 224 C. A vacancy also occurs when an Assembly, Senate, or Congressional District fails to
225 nominate a candidate or when the nominee or elected official declines to serve on This
226 Committee.

227 Section 2. Replacement

- 228 A. A vacancy in a Public Ballot or Article III, Section 1, C Ex-Officio membership shall be
229 filled by a vote of This Committee no earlier than the first regular meeting of This
230 Committee after the meeting at which either the Secretary or the Chair declares the
231 vacancy. Filling the vacancy shall be the first item on the agenda and shall follow
232 Policies and Procedures Section VI. E. Internal Election Voting Procedure.
- 233 B. In the period between certification of the primary election where Central Committee
234 appears on the ballot and the end of the term, any vacancy in a Public Ballot or Article
235 III, Section 1, C Appointed membership shall be filled by the top vote-getting member-
236 elect not already a Public Ballot, Ex-Officio, or Appointed member of This Committee.
- 237 C. A Legislative Caucus, Article VI, Section 1, may recommend a candidate for
238 replacement of a Public Ballot member or Article III, Section 1, C, Ex-Officio member
239 vacancy occurring in its own district Article VI, Section 2 and shall follow Policies and
240 Procedures Section VII. H. Area or Caucus Nominated Positions.

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

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

245 Section 3. Role of Alternate During Vacancy

246 A. When a Voting member vacancy occurs, with the exception of members removed for
247 cause, the Alternate may continue to serve and vote as the former member's Alternate
248 until a new member is selected in accordance with these Bylaws. Once the new member
249 is seated, the Alternate's membership terminates.

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

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

255 Section 4. Removal by Lack of Attendance

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

258 A. Central Committee Attendance

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

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

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

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

274 B. Area Attendance

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

286 C. Following Removal

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

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

294 A. Any member, other than an incumbent elected official of the California legislature or U.S.
295 Congress, who individually endorses a non-Democratic candidate has removed
296 themselves unless the following criteria are met:

- 297 1. Filing has closed,
298 2. There are no Democrats in the race and
299 3. The Party has completed its endorsements and has not otherwise weighed in.

300 B. If a member is notified by the Party via email their name has been used in an
301 endorsement by a non-Democratic candidate, the member shall write a letter to the
302 candidate requesting the candidate cease and desist from using their name and provide
303 a copy of this letter to the Secretary within seventy-two (72) hours of the date of the
304 email. Absent this letter, the use of their name will be considered an endorsement and
305 the member has removed themselves.

306 C. A member who has removed themselves by endorsement of a non-Democratic
307 Candidate is ineligible for Central Committee membership for the remainder of the
308 biennial term.

309 Section 6. Removal for Cause

- 310 A. Any member, other than an incumbent elected official of the California legislature or U.S.
311 Congress, may be removed for cause by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of This Committee.
- 312 B. Cause shall be defined as:
- 313 1. Where there is an endorsed candidate, campaigning for a non-Democratic candidate
314 or publicly advocating that voters should not vote in that contest;
 - 315 2. Committing the Party to unauthorized expenditures;
 - 316 3. Criminal conviction involving moral turpitude;
 - 317 4. Chronic alcohol or substance abuse affecting ability to serve;
 - 318 5. Violations of this organization's Code of Conduct;
 - 319 6. Engaging in behavior detrimental to the purpose of the Democratic Party; or
 - 320 7. Any other reason set forth in this organization's Policy and Procedures.

321 Section 7. Removal Procedure

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

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

370 ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

371 Section 1. List of Officers and Membership Requirements

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

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

- 379 D. The Most Recent Past Chair is the person whom has most recently served as chair of
380 the SDCDP and whom is a different individual than the current Chair for up to two
381 biennial terms of the SDCDP. No vacancy is created if the Most Recent Past Chair
382 declines to serve.
- 383 E. Officers who lose their Central Committee eligibility during the biennial term, and are
384 otherwise members in good standing, shall continue in their Executive Board role for up
385 to thirty (30) days to secure an Officer eligible membership.

386 **Section 2. Elections**

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

391 B. Elections shall be by a majority vote of This Committee. The vote shall be by voice vote
392 or by show of hands and shall follow Policies and Procedures Section VI. E. Internal
393 Election Voting Procedures.

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

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

398 2. Elections shall be by a majority vote. The vote shall be by voice vote or by show of
399 hands.

400 3. Elections shall be at the Area meetings on the second (2nd) Tuesday in January
401 following the certification of the State Primary Election.

402 4. Vice Chairs shall be ratified by a simple majority of This Committee, either by voice
403 vote or by show of hands. Should This Committee fail to ratify a Vice Chair, a
404 vacancy shall occur and shall be remedied as set forth in Article IV, Section 4.

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

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

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

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

- 414 E. The Director of Grassroots Organizing shall:
- 415 1. Be selected by the GO Team Regional and Countywide Coordinators (not including
416 Data Coordinators) who shall select one nominee for election to the Office of Director
417 of Grassroots Organizing no later than December 15 following the certification of the
418 State Primary Election.
 - 419 2. Director of Grassroots Organizing shall be ratified by a simple majority This
420 Committee, either by voice vote or by show of hands. Should This Committee fail to
421 ratify a Director of Grassroots Organizing, the GO Team Coordinators will be asked
422 to provide a new nominee for ratification. Should This Committee fail to ratify the
423 second nominee, a vacancy shall occur and shall be remedied as set forth in Article
424 IV, Section 4.
- 425 F. The Director of Clubs shall:
- 426 1. Be selected by the Council of Clubs Presidents who shall select one nominee for
427 election to the Office of Director of Clubs at the November Council of Clubs meeting
428 and no later than December 15 following the certification of the State Primary
429 Election.
 - 430 2. Director of Clubs shall be ratified by a simple majority of This Committee, either by
431 voice vote or by show of hands. Should This Committee fail to ratify a Director of
432 Clubs, the Council of Clubs will be asked to provide a new nominee for ratification.
433 Should This Committee fail to ratify the second nominee, a vacancy shall occur and
434 shall be remedied as set forth in Article IV, Section 4.

435 Section 3. Removal of Officers

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

444 Section 4. Vacancies

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

- 451 1. Notice and Election:
- 452 a. The majority of the Executive Board may determine that the timeline merits
453 acceleration and notice the vacancy via email or call a special meeting for this
454 purpose. Otherwise, notice shall be given at the first meeting of This Committee
455 to be held after the vacancy occurs and also by email to the full Central
456 Committee within three (3) business days following the meeting.
- 457 b. A meeting to fill the vacancy requires at least seven (7) days' notice to This
458 Committee.
- 459 c. The election or ratification shall take place at the next regular meeting of This
460 Committee following notice.
- 461 2. For Area Vice Chairs:
- 462 a. During a Vice Chair vacancy, Area meetings will be convened by the Area's
463 previously elected Vice Chair Pro-Tem, ratified Area elected Administration
464 Committee representative, or Area Secretary in that order. In the absence of
465 members in those roles a majority of the Executive Board shall designate a
466 member of the Area to run the meetings.
- 467 b. When following a regular timeline, notice shall be given at the first meeting of the
468 Area or Central Committee to be held after the vacancy occurs and also by email
469 to the full Central Committee within three (3) business days following the
470 meeting.
- 471 c. Nomination and Area election shall take place at the next regular or special
472 meeting of the Area. See Policies and Procedures, Section VII. H. Area or
473 Caucus Nominated Positions.
- 474 3. For Secretary, Controller, or Director of Administration:
- 475 a. At least seven (7) days shall be allowed for application submissions. The process
476 and deadline for applications will be specified in the email notice to all Central
477 Committee members announcing the vacancy.
- 478 b. The Executive Board shall serve as the Nomination Committee for a mid-term
479 vacancy for Secretary, Controller, or Director of Administration.
- 480 4. For Director of Grassroots Organizing:
- 481 a. Notice shall be given via email to the full Central Committee and all GO Team
482 Regional and Countywide Coordinators within three (3) business days after the
483 vacancy occurs.
- 484 b. Nomination shall take place at the next regular meeting of the GO Team
485 Regional and Countywide Coordinators.

- 486 5. For Director of Clubs:
- 487 a. Notice shall be given via email to the full Central Committee and the Clubs
- 488 Council email list within three (3) business days after the vacancy occurs.
- 489 b. Nomination shall take place at the next regular meeting of the Council of Clubs.
- 490 6. The Chair, or their designee, is responsible for sending email notice of any officer
- 491 vacancy through the Central Committee and Area email lists.

492 **Section 5. Duties of Officers**

493 **A. The Chair**

- 494 1. Shall serve as the chief executive officer and official spokesperson of This
- 495 Committee,
- 496 2. Carry out the policies of This Committee and its Executive Board,
- 497 3. Manage, direct, and hire staff, with such hiring to be ratified by the Executive Board,
- 498 4. Serve in the Ex-Officio capacity without a vote on all SDCCDP committees,
- 499 5. Be authorized, subject to Executive Board approval, to create SDCCDP committees in
- 500 addition to those specified in Policies and Procedures, and to appoint Chairs and
- 501 members to those committees, and
- 502 6. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

503 **B. The Area Vice-Chairs**

- 504 1. Shall represent their respective areas on the Executive Board,
- 505 2. Serve as the chief officer and official spokespersons for their areas,
- 506 3. Be responsible for coordinating the political activities of their areas, including
- 507 candidate recruitment and support, endorsement recommendations, grassroots
- 508 organizing, outreach, voter registration, and Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV).
- 509 4. Be prepared to preside in the temporary absence of the Central Committee Chair, if
- 510 elected as Chair Pro-Tem elected pursuant to Article IV Section 4,
- 511 5. Be prepared to act as Chair, should the position of Chair become vacant, until the
- 512 vacancy is filled pursuant to Article IV, Section 2,
- 513 6. Perform other duties of the Chair at the discretion of the Chair,
- 514 7. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board,

- 515 8. Area Vice Chairs may designate another Central Committee member from their Area
516 to serve on the Executive Board in their place in the event of a temporary absence,
- 517 9. In their Areas, Vice-Chairs shall:
- 518 a. Support and coordinate official Party sponsored events and activities such as the
519 annual fundraiser,
- 520 b. Coordinate area fundraising to support candidates, offices, and mailings,
- 521 c. Schedule, notice, and conduct Area meetings as specified in the Policies and
522 Procedures,
- 523 d. Provide guidance and leadership to the Executive Board and This Committee,
- 524 e. Implement the policies of the Executive Board and This Committee,
- 525 f. Develop and refine policy presentations for consideration by the Executive
526 Board,
- 527 g. Review legal and personnel matters for presentation to the Executive Board, and
- 528 h. Carry out any other duties required by these Bylaws.
- 529 10. Submit attendance records and minutes for regular and special meetings to the
530 County Party Secretary.

531 C. The Secretary

- 532 1. Shall maintain all membership records, attendance records and journals of the
533 Central Committee and Executive Board,
- 534 2. Maintain current membership lists of SDCDP committees,
- 535 3. Attend all meetings of This Committee and the Executive Board and take records of
536 the proceeding of such meetings, including records of attendance,
- 537 4. Make available minutes of these meetings to members of This Committee,
- 538 5. Serve on the Credentials Committee, and
- 539 6. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

540 D. The Controller

- 541 1. Shall be responsible for the receipt and custody of This Committee's funds,
- 542 2. Keep the financial record of This Committee,
- 543 3. Present an income statement and balance sheet at each meeting of This Committee,

- 544 4. Allow any member of This Committee to inspect the financial records after the receipt
545 of reasonable notice,
- 546 5. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board, and
- 547 6. The Controller in office at the end of the fiscal year shall be responsible for closing
548 the books for that fiscal year and shall complete any tax forms or financial reporting
549 forms pertaining to all or part of his or her term of office.

550 E. The Director of Administration

- 551 1. Shall keep the Bylaws of This Committee current and consistent with the law,
- 552 2. Draft Policies and Procedures for approval by This Committee,
- 553 3. Chair the Administration Committee, Credentials Committee, and, for the remainder
554 of the 2017-2018 term, Resolutions Committee,¹
- 555 4. Accept, file, and number all proposed Resolutions, proposed Policy and Procedure
556 changes, and proposed Bylaw changes for review by the Administration Committee,
- 557 5. Report the results of this review to This Committee,
- 558 6. Manage Credentials Committee process, and
- 559 7. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

560 F. The Director of Clubs

- 561 1. Shall be responsible for the organization of Democratic Clubs and Democratic
562 support/affinity organizations,
- 563 2. Be the Custodian of the bylaws and membership records of all chartered
564 organizations,
- 565 3. Oversee the budget, income, and expenditures of the Council of Clubs,
- 566 4. Present a coordinated Annual Plan for the development and the activities of
567 Democratic Clubs and Democratic support/affinity organizations to This Committee in
568 accord with the Policies and Procedures,
- 569 5. Support the Council of Clubs and coordinate activities with This Committee in accord
570 with the Annual Plan,

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

571 6. Serve as Ex-Officio without a vote on the Council of Clubs. If the Director of Clubs is
572 also a current Club President s/he can appoint a member of the club to vote on the
573 club's behalf, and

574 7. Perform other duties as directed by the Executive Board.

575 G. The Director of Grassroots Organizing

576 1. Shall serve on the Executive Board as a voting member,

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

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

579 H. The Immediate Past Chair

580 1. Shall serve on the Executive Board as a voting member,

581 2. Preside over the Nomination Committee as part of the Central Committee biennial
582 organization process,

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

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

585 I. The Chair Pro-Tem

586 1. Preside in the absence of the Central Committee Chair,

587 2. Commencing with the Biennial 2019-2020 term², chair the Resolutions Committee,
588 and

589 3. Commencing with the Biennial 2019-2020 term, accept, file, and number all
590 proposed Resolutions for review by the Resolutions committee.

591 Section 6. Auxiliary Authorities

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

595 A. The Treasurer

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

- 596 1. Shall serve under the direction of the Controller and is not automatically a member of
597 the Executive Board,
- 598 2. Not be restricted from holding a separate position on the Executive Board,
- 599 3. Be a registered Democrat, but need not be a member of This Committee,
- 600 4. Be subject to the advice and consent of the Executive Board,
- 601 5. Be ratified by a majority vote of This Committee at its first regular meeting after the
602 appointment is made,
- 603 6. Be responsible for the timely filing of campaign spending records,
- 604 7. Complete any tax forms or financial reporting forms, and
- 605 8. Coordinate with the Controller in the preparation of financial statements by providing
606 campaign spending records and other material considerations.

607 B. The General Counsel

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

615 C. The Parliamentarian

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

618 D. The Media Relations Coordinator

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

- 623 E. This Committee may create additional auxiliary authorities by defining them in Policies
624 and Procedures.

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

627 ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

628 Section 1. Number of Regular Meetings

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

634 Section 2. Area Meetings

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

641 Section 3. Special Meetings

642 Special meetings are limited to the agenda items necessitating the special meeting and may be
643 called by the Chair or as specified in the Policies and Procedures. The notice requirements and
644 procedure shall be set forth in Policies and Procedures.

645 Section 4. Credentialing

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

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

651 Section 5. Quorum

652 A quorum of This Committee shall be composed of a majority of the members of the Central
653 Committee entitled to vote. An Area meeting quorum shall be composed of twenty-five percent
654 (25%) of those members eligible to vote for regular meetings, twenty-five percent (25%) of those
655 members eligible to vote for friendly incumbent recommendation meetings where there is no
656 declared Democratic challenger, and thirty-three percent (33%) of those members eligible to
657 vote for all other endorsement recommendation meetings.

658 Section 6. Participation and Voting

- 659 A. A member must be physically present to participate or vote at any Central Committee
660 meeting, Area meeting, or Legislative Caucus. Proxy and absentee voting are prohibited.
- 661 B. Only members with Area voting eligibility are allowed to vote in Area meetings, cross-
662 area recommendations, or Legislative Caucuses. A member must have attended at least
663 one (1) of the most recent two (2) designated Area regular meetings to maintain Area
664 voting eligibility. Establishing Area voting eligibility shall be set forth in Policies and
665 Procedures.
- 666 C. An Affinity club Associate member has the right to speak in Areas without a credentialed
667 Associate member for that club. Affinity clubs are limited to one vote in any Area or
668 Legislative Caucus.

669 Section 7. Motions

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

674 Section 8. Notice

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

676 ARTICLE VI. CAUCUSES

677 Section 1. Legislative Caucus

678 A. Definition

679 A Legislative Caucus shall include all Public Ballot, Ex-Officio, Designated, Appointed,
680 Lifetime, Alternate, and Associate members of the Central Committee who are
681 registered to vote in said district.

682 B. Vacancies

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

686 ARTICLE VII. AREAS

687 In order to create a more efficient and effective Central Committee, the San Diego County
688 Democratic Central Committee shall be divided into regional areas. Such division will facilitate
689 more grassroots participation through regular Area meetings. Candidate recruitment will be
690 enhanced through this regional process by employing the perspective and knowledge of the
691 local Central Committee members, who will have more time for vetting candidates and ballot

692 measures. The Areas shall then convey the results to the Executive Board. The result will be a
693 streamlined endorsement process when the full Central Committee convenes to deliberate and
694 vote.

695 Section 1. Definition

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

698 Section 2. Membership

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

701 Section 3. Coherence

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

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

707 C. The Areas shall act in a manner that does not conflict with these Bylaws and This
708 Committee's Policies and Procedures.

709 ARTICLE VIII. EXECUTIVE BOARD

710 Section 1. Membership

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

712 Section 2. Duties

713 The Executive Board shall:

714 A. Implement the policies of This Committee,

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

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

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

718 Section 3. Meetings

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

721 change the regular meeting date of the Executive Board upon seventy-two (72) hours' notice to
722 each member of the Executive Board.

723 Section 4. Voting

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

726 Section 5. Quorum

727 A quorum of the Executive Board is composed of a majority of the officers of the Executive
728 Board.

729 ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEES

730 Section 1. Definition

731 D. This Committee has Standing, Special Purpose, and Ad Hoc Committees.

732 E. The makeup, leadership, function, duties, and rules governing these Committees shall
733 be set forth in the Policies and Procedures.

734 F. The Chair may appoint members to serve on any Committee with the consent of the
735 Executive Board and subject to the provisions in the Policies and Procedures.

736 G. "Gender" shall mean one being either "self-identified female" or "other than self-identified
737 female" including gender non-binary and gender non-conforming. "Gender balance" shall
738 mean of the gender necessary to maintain, achieve or improve equal division on a
739 committee.

740 Section 2. Standing Committees

741 A. The Administration Committee to assist in drafting, reviewing, and recommending
742 amendments to the Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, and to serve on the Credentials
743 Committee and as the Resolutions Committee.

744 B. The Club Development Committee to assist the development of Democratic clubs and to
745 provide assistance in the support of chartered clubs.

746 C. The Grassroots Organizing Committee to provide leadership for the SDCDP's precinct
747 based voter contact program known as the Grassroots Organizing (GO) Team.

748 D. The Resolutions Committee to review proposed resolutions submitted for endorsement
749 to This Committee.

750 Section 3. Special Purpose Committees

751 A. The Candidate Support and Assistance Committee (CSAC) supports Democratic
752 candidates for partisan state-level offices.

- 753 B. The Communications Committee to assist in managing and implementing the SDCDP
754 communications plan.
- 755 C. The Credentials Committee to review any credentials concerns or membership eligibility
756 challenges for accordance with the Bylaws and Policies of This Committee.
- 757 D. The Membership Development Committee to increase engagement in the activities of
758 the Party, both by Central Committee members and non-members, and to develop and
759 implement a program ensuring that Central Committee membership reflects the diversity
760 of registered Democrats in San Diego County.
- 761 E. The Nomination Committee to review applicants for the Executive Board as set forth in
762 the Policies and Procedures.
- 763 F. The Voter Registration Committee to develop and implement a plan for increasing
764 Democratic Voter Registration in San Diego County.

765 **Section 4. Ad Hoc Committees**

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

767 **ARTICLE X. DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATIONS**

768 **Section 1. Definition and Purpose**

- 769 A. A Democratic Club is an organization of Democrats allied by defined geographic area,
770 special interest, or cultural community. A Club's purpose is to support and strengthen the
771 Democratic Party through the political development, activity, and advocacy of its
772 membership. A Club's objectives are to foster active interest in the local, state and
773 national Democratic Party, to contribute to San Diego County Democratic Party
774 leadership and responsibility, to support the campaigns of Democratic candidates
775 representing the Club's constituency, and to engage in grassroots outreach, organizing
776 and recruitment within its area, or special interest or cultural community.
- 777 B. A Democratic Coalition is an association of regionally affiliated representatives of the
778 San Diego County Democratic Party Central Committee, California Democratic Party,
779 Democratic Clubs, and Democratic-friendly organizations (such as labor unions). A
780 Democratic Coalition's purpose is to coordinate and promote the common goals of the
781 entities represented, to develop and implement projects that are beneficial to Democrats
782 and Democratic organizations in the region, to support the campaigns of Democratic
783 candidates in the region, and to foster Democratic grassroots organizing efforts in the
784 region. A Democratic Coalition is not a governing body for the entities whose members
785 associate with it.
- 786 C. The Council of Clubs is an informal assembly of Democratic Club and Democratic
787 Coalition presidents or their designated representatives. The Council's purpose is to
788 foster communication and cooperation between Council members, to assist in building
789 the organizational capacity of Clubs and Coalitions, to develop and implement projects

790 that are beneficial to Council members' operations, and engage in other activities as the
791 Council deems appropriate. The Council of Clubs is not a governing body for the entities
792 represented.

793 Section 2. Authorization

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

797 A. This Committee shall charter at most one Democratic Coalition per Central Committee
798 Area.

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

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

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

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

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

816 Section 3. Requirements

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

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

823 C. Non-voting membership may include individuals that are registered as other than
824 Democratic Party.

- 825 D. At least two-thirds (2/3) of all those who make up the Club or Coalition shall be
826 registered Democrats or individuals who have expressed the intention of becoming
827 registered Democrats as soon as they are eligible.
- 828 E. Only registered Democrats, or those who have expressed the intention of becoming
829 registered Democrats as soon as they are eligible, may serve as Club or Coalition
830 officers or vote on Club or Coalition business.
- 831 F. The Club or Coalition's bylaws shall have a process that governs the selection of
832 potential representatives to the CDP and SDCDP.
- 833 G. The Club or Coalition shall meet at least once quarterly and all meeting dates, times,
834 and locations shall be provided to the SDCDP at least fourteen (14) days prior to the
835 meeting for publication on the SDCDP website. A copy of the notice, agenda, and
836 minutes for business meetings or endorsement meetings shall be supplied via email to
837 the Director of Clubs and the SDCDP.
- 838 H. The club shall meet the requirements for endorsements in these Bylaws XIII.
839 Endorsements, Section 8. Rules Concerning Endorsements by Chartered Clubs.
- 840 I. As stated in Section 5 below, the use of the word "Democratic" shall be subject to the
841 approval of the Executive Board when a chartered club or coalition solicits funds.
- 842 J. Additional rules for the appointment and credentialing of Associate members and the
843 chartering process shall be set forth in the Policies and Procedures.

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

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

- 848 A. The Executive Board shall determine if it will give consideration to an allegation and if
849 so, will place it on its agenda for a designated subsequent meeting.
- 850 B. At least twenty (20) days' written notice shall be provided to the president of the affected
851 Club or Democratic Coalition, at the mailing address filed with the Central Committee at
852 application for charter or renewal of charter, specifying the allegation and giving notice of
853 the date the allegation will be heard. The Club or Coalition President or another
854 designee shall be allowed to respond to the allegation at the Executive Board meeting
855 noticed.
- 856 C. The Executive Board, by a two-thirds vote, may recommend to This Committee that it
857 suspend, revoke or deny renewal of the Club or Coalition's charter.
- 858 D. At least thirty (30) days' notice to the members of This Committee and to the President
859 of the affected Club or Coalition shall precede such a recommendation. The notice shall
860 specify the allegation and findings by the Executive Board.

- 861 E. Approval of the Executive Board's recommendation shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote
862 of This Committee by show of hands. Such approval shall be effective immediately.
- 863 F. If This Committee approves the recommendation of the Executive Board to suspend,
864 revoke or deny renewal of a charter, the Secretary shall give said Club or Coalition
865 written notice of the decision.
- 866 G. If a Club or Coalition's charter is revoked or not renewed, no other club or support/affinity
867 organization shall be chartered using the same name for the twelve (12) months
868 immediately following such revocation or denial of renewal.

869 Section 5. Affiliated Organizations

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

874 ARTICLE XI. ANNUAL BUDGET

875 Section 1. Fiscal Year

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

878 Section 2. Budget Process

- 879 A. The Controller shall develop an annual budget in coordination with the Executive Board.
- 880 B. The Executive Board shall present the annual budget to This Committee for ratification
881 by majority vote. The voting shall be by voice vote or by show of hands.
- 882 C. Proposed changes to an approved annual budget shall be sent to the Controller, who
883 shall make a recommendation to the Executive Board.
- 884 1. A proposed amendment less than or equal to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) may be
885 enacted by a simple majority vote of those present at a regular meeting of the
886 Executive Board.
- 887 2. Proposed amendments above one thousand dollars (\$1,000) may not be enacted
888 without the approval of a simple majority of This Committee.
- 889 D. Additional rules, requirements, and responsibilities of the budget process shall be set
890 forth in the Policies and Procedures.

891 **ARTICLE XII. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPENDITURES**

892 **Section 1. Budgeted Expenditures**

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

896 **Section 2. Unbudgeted Expenditures**

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

898 **ARTICLE XIII. ENDORSEMENTS**

899 **Section 1. Resolutions**

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

902 A. All Resolutions shall:

- 903 1. Be signed by a Public Ballot, Ex-Officio, Designated, Appointed, or Alternate member
904 of the Central Committee,
- 905 2. Follow the submission process and format set forth in the Policies and Procedures,
906 and
- 907 3. Be reviewed and recommended by the Resolutions Committee for consideration or
908 by the Chair of the Resolutions Committee for emergency consideration.

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

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

915 **Section 2. Nonpartisan Candidates and Ballot Proposition/Initiatives**

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

- 917 1. The candidate is a registered Democrat,
- 918 2. Endorsements are not given to more candidates than there are open seats for the
919 office,
- 920 3. The office does not extend beyond the San Diego County boundaries,

- 921 4. The candidate has declared their intention to run to the Registrar of Voters, the State
922 of California, This Committee, or the Chair of This Committee,
- 923 5. Reasonable attempts are made to notify all declared candidates who the Party has
924 established with certainty are registered Democrats are notified regarding the date,
925 time, and place of all relevant meetings and of the endorsement process at least five
926 (5) business days in advance of the meeting. A qualified candidate, as defined in
927 Article XIII, Section 2, 4, who declares their intention to run for an office after notice
928 of recommendation or endorsement has been provided to all other candidates will be
929 sent all relevant information and allowed to participate at the discretion of the
930 meeting convener, but in no instance, will said discretion require notice beyond that
931 which has already been given.
- 932 6. A candidate may speak or may designate a Central Committee member to speak or
933 read a letter on their behalf.
- 934 7. The candidate has requested the Central Committee endorsement and returned all
935 required documentation at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting where
936 endorsement or recommendation will be considered.
- 937 8. The filing deadline has passed, unless the candidate is an incumbent or in races that
938 have been identified as strategically critical.
- 939 a. For races that are fully enclosed within an Area, upon recommendation by the
940 Area, This Committee may endorse incumbents early and without a
941 questionnaire.
- 942 b. For races that cross Area boundaries, This Committee may endorse incumbents
943 early and without a questionnaire following a recommendation by the Areas or
944 upon recommendation by the Executive Board.
- 945 c. A race may be designated as strategically critical following a preliminary
946 recommendation by the Area(s), secondary recommendation by the Executive
947 Board, and approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of This Committee.
- 948 d. In special elections, a race may be designated as strategically critical by a two-
949 thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board in lieu of the Area voting to recommend
950 on the designation.
- 951 e. Endorsements in races designated strategically critical may be considered at the
952 next Central Committee meeting following the designations providing all notice
953 and Questionnaire requirements have been met.
- 954 B. This Committee shall approve one or more candidate questionnaires to be completed
955 and submitted prior to endorsement by all eligible non-incumbent nonpartisan
956 candidates for office fully within San Diego County.

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

960 Section 3. Notice for Endorsement and Recommendation Meetings

961 All Central Committee endorsement meetings and Area endorsement recommendation
962 meetings require prior notice to the membership.

963 A. Notice is hereby given: the first two Central Committee meetings occurring after the
964 close of filing, including any extended filing, for Primary, General or Special Elections
965 may consider any race or measure appearing on the ballot for endorsement.

966 B. Notice is hereby given: the first two Area Committee meetings occurring after the close
967 of filing, including any extended filing, for Primary, General or Special Elections may
968 consider any race or measure appearing on the ballot in that Area for a recommendation
969 for endorsement.

970 C. Notice is hereby given: the first two Central Committee meetings following a Primary
971 Election may consider an endorsement in any run-off race lacking an endorsed
972 Democratic candidate.

973 D. Notice is hereby given: the first two Area Committee meetings following a Primary
974 Election may consider a recommendation for endorsement in any run-off race lacking an
975 endorsed Democratic candidate.

976 E. At least fourteen (14) days' notice shall be given prior to the meeting in which This
977 Committee considers an endorsement for a specific candidate race or a ballot measure.

978 F. At least seven (7) days' notice shall be given prior to the meeting in which an Area
979 considers a recommendation for a specific candidate race or a ballot measure.

980 G. The Executive Board may, with at least seven (7) days' notice, call a special meeting of
981 This Committee to consider endorsing a candidate or a ballot measure

982 Section 4. Rules Concerning Recommendations, Endorsements and Ballot 983 Propositions/Initiatives

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

987 A. Areas may make recommendations on Endorsements and Ballot Propositions at
988 meetings held prior to the Central Committee meeting.

989 1. For Countywide and San Diego Citywide races including ballot measures, each Area
990 may make a non-consent recommendation on the race.

991 2. For races where the district is fully contained in an Area, the enclosing Area shall
992 make the recommendation.

- 993 3. For all other races, endorsement recommendation meetings will be hosted in the
994 Area Caucus in which there is a plurality of voters registered as Democrats of the
995 last General Election either Gubernatorial or Presidential.
- 996 a. Central Committee members registered to vote outside of the hosting Area, but
997 inside of the district for which recommendation is being considered, shall also be
998 eligible to vote and shall be notified of the consideration meeting at the same
999 time and in the same manner as the Area's members.
- 1000 b. Vice Chairs shall coordinate their endorsement recommendation meetings so
1001 they will not overlap and all eligible members have the opportunity to participate.
- 1002 c. All cross-area races will be considered before races fully contained in the Area.
- 1003 B. Voting shall be done by voice vote or by show of hands.
- 1004 C. No candidates may be present during debate on their specific endorsement or
1005 recommendation.
- 1006 D. A position on a candidate requires a minimum sixty percent (60%) vote.
- 1007 1. Members shall be presented with a "No Endorsement" option on all votes.
- 1008 2. If no candidate receives a minimum of sixty percent (60%) in the first round of
1009 balloting, a second ballot shall be taken after removing the candidate receiving the
1010 least votes and any candidates receiving zero votes.
- 1011 3. If in the second round of balloting a candidate receives at least fifty percent (50%)
1012 but less than the sixty percent (60%) threshold, subsequent balloting shall continue
1013 after removing the candidate receiving the least votes and any candidates receiving
1014 zero votes.
- 1015 4. Balloting shall continue using the same procedure described in D.3, as long as one
1016 (1) candidate receives at least fifty percent (50%) but less than sixty percent (60%)
1017 and at least one (1) other candidate remains.
- 1018 5. If after the completion of balloting, no candidate has received the minimum required
1019 votes to reach the sixty percent (60%) threshold for endorsement, the position of the
1020 body shall be "No Endorsement".
- 1021 E. A position on a ballot initiative or proposition requires a minimum sixty percent (60%)
1022 vote. Members have the option of voting "No Position." If a motion to endorse or oppose
1023 fails, the position of the body is "No Position."
- 1024 F. If the Executive Board recommends a Consent Agenda of candidates or ballot
1025 measures, acceptance shall require the approval of a minimum sixty percent (60%) vote.

- 1026 G. Any member of This Committee may request that a candidate or ballot measure be
1027 pulled from the Consent Agenda for consideration with a fifty percent (50%) vote.
- 1028 H. Those races pulled from the Consent Agenda shall be handled as non-consent agenda
1029 items in accordance with Part D or E of this section.
- 1030 I. Any endorsement made in a Primary election carries forward with any candidate who
1031 advances to a run-off election for the same office.
- 1032 J. Once the results of a Primary Election are clear, any race lacking an endorsed
1033 Democratic candidate for the General Election run-off may be considered for
1034 recommendation at the next Area meeting and then for endorsement the Central
1035 Committee meeting following that Area meeting.

1036 **Section 5. Ratings for Democratic Candidates**

- 1037 A. Once an Area or This Committee has adopted a no endorsement recommendation, the
1038 endorsement process is complete. There is no requirement to examine the candidates
1039 further; however, the Chair or Vice Chair may entertain a motion to rate each of the
1040 candidates: a) Qualified, b) Unacceptable, or c) No Position.
- 1041 B. If a motion has been made and seconded to rate the candidates, then all candidates
1042 must be reconsidered, one time only, for a rating. Each candidate may be rated
1043 individually. The Central Committee or an Area has the option to rate candidates as a
1044 group or as individuals or in any combination thereof as the body sees fit so long as
1045 each candidate is not examined for a rating more than once. The threshold to pass a
1046 "Qualified" or "Unacceptable" rating is sixty percent (60%).
- 1047 C. When only one previously rated as Qualified candidate advances to a top-two runoff,
1048 they automatically become the endorsed candidate.
- 1049 D. In all other cases, any rating made in a Primary Election does not carry over to the
1050 General Election.

1051 **Section 6. Rescission of Endorsements, Positions, or Ratings**

1052 This Committee by a two-thirds (2/3) vote may rescind any endorsement, position, or rating
1053 previously made in a nonpartisan race.

1054 **Section 7. Rules Concerning Candidates**

1055 This Committee may consider a vote to designate a candidate as "Do not vote for". The
1056 threshold for the designation is sixty percent (60%).

1057 **Section 8. Rules Concerning Endorsements by Chartered Clubs**

- 1058 A. Chartered clubs shall endorse only registered Democrats.
- 1059 B. Non-Democratic candidates may only be rated acceptable or unacceptable.

- 1060 C. Chartered clubs shall notice their full membership that endorsement consideration will be
1061 made in a particular race or races at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.
1062 Notification shall be made by email to the full membership or, absent an email address,
1063 by U.S. Mail or an alternative method as specified in the club's bylaws.
- 1064 D. Reasonable attempts are made by the club to notify and invite all declared candidates
1065 who the Party has established with certainty are registered Democrats regarding the
1066 date, time, and place of the club's meetings and of the club's endorsement process at
1067 least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. A copy of any meeting notice sent to
1068 candidates shall be supplied via email to the Director of Clubs and the SDCDP.
- 1069 E. Requests for information regarding candidates from the club to the Party office must be
1070 made at least seven (7) business days prior to the meeting.
- 1071 F. Endorsements by chartered clubs shall not be construed as the official endorsement of
1072 either the California Democratic Party or the San Diego County Democratic Party. Words
1073 to that effect shall be clearly visible wherever a chartered club's endorsement is referred
1074 to.
- 1075 G. Any publication of endorsements by chartered clubs shall clearly delineate between
1076 endorsed candidates and candidates rated acceptable.

1077 ARTICLE XIV. Elected Officials

1078 Section 1. Vote of No Confidence

1079 This Committee, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, may express no-confidence in an elected
1080 Democratic Official. An Area may make a recommendation, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, that This
1081 Committee express no-confidence in an elected Democratic Official whose district is fully
1082 enclosed in their Area.

1083 Section 2. Request for Resignation

1084 This Committee, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, may request the resignation of an elected
1085 Democratic Official. An Area may make a recommendation, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, that This
1086 Committee request the resignation of an elected Democratic Official whose district is fully
1087 enclosed in their Area.

1088 Section 3. Removal of Friendly Incumbent Endorsement Designation

1089 This Committee may disallow early incumbent endorsement designation to any officeholder who
1090 endorses a non-Democratic candidate in any challenged political race or endorses a non-
1091 Democratic candidate in a non-challenged political race and a Democratic challenger is
1092 subsequently endorsed by the Party who fails to withdraw their endorsement of the non-
1093 Democratic challenger immediately.

- 1094 A. The Chair shall inform said candidate of the removal of consideration for early incumbent
1095 endorsement status upon request of the Executive Board or Area.
- 1096 B. In the event that the candidate appeals this removal, an affirmative majority vote of This
1097 Committee members at a properly noticed meeting shall be required to restore early
1098 incumbent endorsement consideration.
- 1099 C. Candidates who have been removed from early incumbent endorsement consideration
1100 may complete a candidate questionnaire and apply for endorsement consideration
1101 following the filing deadline for the office to which they are incumbent.

1102 ARTICLE XV. Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) 1103 Delegation

1104 Section 1. DSCC Appointment

- 1105 A. As part of the Biennial Organization, the Chair of This Committee and Public Ballot
1106 members shall be automatically elected to serve as a representative of this County
1107 Committee to the State Committee as part of the SDCDP DSCC Delegation, provided
1108 they have submitted written intent that they wish to serve on the DSCC via the member
1109 form.
- 1110 B. Any remaining representatives apportioned to SDCDP by the State Committee shall be
1111 elected at-large from This Committee's Voting, Alternate, and Associate members in
1112 accordance with the Policies of This Committee.
- 1113 C. If there are more interested candidates than there are delegation positions, they will be
1114 added to the DSCC delegation waitlist. New members appointed following the Biennial
1115 Organization may add themselves to the DSCC delegation waitlist via the member form.
- 1116 D. Representatives to the Executive Board of the DSCC will be selected by This Committee
1117 from the SDCDP DSCC Delegation following the CDP Convention in odd-numbered
1118 years in accordance with DSCC requirements and the Policies of This Committee.
- 1119 E. Dual representation is not allowed:
- 1120 1. Members must choose between representation to the CDP via the ADEM
1121 membership or via the SDCDP delegation within five (5) calendar days of their latter
1122 election and notify the SDCDP with written notification via the member form. A
1123 member who fails to notify the SDCDP of their selection has vacated the position in
1124 the SDCDP delegation.
- 1125 2. If a member is elected via the ADEM to an ADEM Executive Board seat, they will
1126 automatically become a Designated member of the SDCDP and any previously
1127 allotted SDCDP delegation position is vacated.
- 1128 F. The names of the delegation members will be publicly available via the SDCDP Website.

- 1129 Section 2. Term and Vacancies
1130 A. Representatives shall serve as part of the SDCDP DSCC Delegation for the remainder
1131 of the biennial term as long as they remain a member of This Committee.
- 1132 B. Vacancies will be declared and filled in accordance with the Policies of This Committee.

1133 ARTICLE XVI. RULES

1134 Section 1. Amendment of the Bylaws or Policies and Procedures

- 1135 A. This Committee may amend these Bylaws with a two-thirds (2/3) vote. Seven (7) days'
1136 notice is required to amend the Bylaws.
- 1137 B. The Policies and Procedures may be amended at any meeting of This Committee with a
1138 sixty percent (60%) vote.
- 1139 C. The process for the submission and review of proposed amendments is set forth in the
1140 Policies and Procedures.

1141 Section 2. Robert's Rules of Order

1142 The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall
1143 govern This Committee, including Areas, caucuses, and committees, in all cases in which they
1144 are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, except that in all
1145 instances a motion to table shall be subject to a two-thirds (2/3) vote.