

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

Rule I. Budgeting and Disbursement of Money	2
Section 1. Disbursement	2
Section 2. Petty Cash	2
Section 3. Bonding	2
Section 4. Motions or Resolutions from the Members for Expenditures	3
Section 5. Finance Committee	3
Section 6. Budget	3
Rule II. Resolutions	4
Section 1. Format and Submission for Consideration	4
Section 2. Amendments to Resolutions	4
Rule III. Debate on Motions	4
Section 1. Length of Speeches on Motions	4
Section 2. Time-keeper	5
Rule IV. Travel	5
Rule V. Contribution Limits	5
Rule VI. Committee Manuals	5
Rule VII. Written Annual Reports	5
Rule VIII. Democratic Party Officer Candidate Endorsements	6
Section 1. Applicability	6
Section 2. Definition	6
Section 3. How to Request an Endorsement	6
Section 4. Requests to the Executive Board	6
Section 5. Candidates Recommended for Endorsement	7
Section 6. How the Members May Endorse Candidates	7
Section 7. Duties of the Chair	7
Rule IX. Candidate Endorsements	7
Section 1. Applicability	7
Section 2. Definition	8
Section 3. Criteria for Application for Endorsement	8
Section 4. Procedures for Applying for Endorsement	8
Section 5. Endorsement Committee	9
Section 6. Endorsement Committee Action	10
Section 7. Consideration of Endorsement by the Members	11
Section 8. Duties of the Chair	11
Section 9. Reconsidering or Rescinding an Endorsement	11
Rule X. Judicial Office Candidate Endorsements	12
Section 1. Applicability	12
Section 2. Definition	12
Section 3. Criteria for Application for Endorsement	12
Section 4. Procedures for Applying for Endorsement	12
Section 5. Endorsement Committee	13
Section 6. Endorsement Committee Action	13
Section 7. Consideration of Endorsement by the Members	13

As adopted December 9th, 2010, and amended April 14, 2011.

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

Section 8. Duties of the Chair	13
Section 9. Reconsidering or Rescinding an Endorsement.....	13
Rule XI. Ballot Measure Endorsements	14
Section 1. Applicability	14
Section 2. Definition	14
Section 3. Criteria for Application for Endorsement	14
Section 4. Procedures for Applying for Endorsement.....	15
Section 5. Endorsement Committee.....	15
Section 6. Endorsement Committee Action	15
Section 7. Consideration of Endorsement by the Members	16
Section 8. Duties of the Chair	16
Section 9. Reconsidering or Rescinding a Ballot Measure Endorsement	16
Rule XII. Precinct Committee Officers.....	17
Rule XIII. Adoption of Standing Rules.....	17

Rule I. Budgeting and Disbursement of Money

Section 1. Disbursement

- All funds must be disbursed by check.
- All checks must be signed by the treasurer.
- A check register must be kept accurately to facilitate the tracking of funds.
- Expenditures of a customary and ordinary nature shall be approved by the Chair, and disbursed by the Treasurer, with oversight by the Executive Board. Examples of customary and ordinary expenses are payment of rent for meeting rooms, rental of post office box, liability insurance, web site hosting and de minimis reimbursement for copies and mailings. Expenditures will be enumerated for the Executive Board monthly.
- Expenditures, not of a customary or ordinary nature shall be approved by the Executive Board, and disbursed by the Treasurer. Examples of these expenditures are campaign donations, robo calls, budget requests from any committees.
- Members may request reimbursement for expenses they have incurred and paid for on behalf of the organization. Reimbursement will follow the above approval requirements. Reimbursement will not be honored without all necessary receipts.

Section 2. Petty Cash

The treasurer may establish and maintain a petty cash fund in an amount of up to one hundred (100) dollars, for the purpose of incidental disbursements.

Section 3. Bonding

As adopted December 9th, 2010, and amended April 14, 2011.

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

The treasurer shall be bonded in an amount to be set by the Executive Board. The 44th Legislative District Democrat's treasury shall pay for the bond.

Section 4. Motions or Resolutions from the Members for Expenditures

Any motion or resolution to spend money made by any member of the 44th LD Democrats at a general or special meeting and passed by a majority vote is considered a pledge subject to Executive Board consideration.

The Executive Board may caucus on the matter immediately following the meeting, and may defer fulfillment of the pledge until the next general meeting. If the Executive Board concurs with the pledge, or fails to consider the matter prior to the next general meeting, the pledge shall be fulfilled by the Treasurer.

If the Executive Board defers fulfillment of the pledge, the body may override the Executive Board by at 2/3 vote at the next general or special meeting, and the pledge shall be fulfilled by the Treasurer. If an attempted override fails, or is not attempted at the next general meeting, the pledge is rescinded. A notification of the rescinded pledge may be sent to the intended recipient of the pledge. Rescinding a pledge does not prevent a new motion regarding the matter.

Section 5. Finance Committee

Any committee engaged in fundraising must submit a proposed budget of revenues and expenses in writing to the treasurer, who chairs the finance committee, and to the Executive Board. The treasurer and the finance committee must review all proposed budgets. If a proposed budget is found to be sound, it shall be recommended by the finance committee to the Executive Board. If the proposed budget is found not to be sound, the finance committee shall work with the committee proposing the budget to produce a revised, sound budget, which may then be presented to the Executive Board for approval.

Section 6. Budget

Subsection 1. Committee Budgets Any committee requiring the expenditure of 44th LD Democrat's funds operates with an approved budget as follows:

- Standing committee budgets are part of the annual budget. The Executive Board may make additional appropriations to that budget.
- Special committee budgets are approved by the Executive Board at the time of the creation of special committees.

Subsection 2. Amending Committee Budgets The Executive Board may amend any committee budget for fiscal but not for punitive reasons.

As adopted December 9th, 2010, and amended April 14, 2011.

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

Subsection 3. Staying within Budget No committee may exceed its budget. No committee may commit to expenditures exceeding its budget, or outside its budget scope without the prior approval of the Executive Board.

Subsection 4. Committee Reports After any event requiring the expenditure of funds, the committee chair shall submit a final, written report, within sixty (60) days, to the treasurer and to the chair, of all expenditures and income. The report shall also include a brief narrative evaluation of the event, with recommendations, including budgetary recommendations, for holding a similar event in the future.

Rule II. Resolutions

Section 1. Format and Submission for Consideration

A resolution is required to be submitted in writing (typed), in the proper format (as per Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised), to the Executive Board for approval prior to its introduction at a general meeting. A resolution may be submitted in writing to the any member of the Executive Board of the 44th. The Executive Board must consider any properly framed resolution from any member of the 44th at its next scheduled meeting. Any resolution submitted in writing during an Executive Board meeting must be considered by the Board at that meeting. The only permissible delay in consideration of a resolution shall occur in the event that the member presenting the resolution voluntarily requests either a later consideration of the resolution or a withdrawal of the resolution prior to a vote by the Executive Board. Should the Executive Board vote to recommend the presentation of the resolution to the members, the resolution shall be included on the agenda for the next general meeting, and the text of the resolution shall be posted on the website of the 44th Legislative Democrats, with a notice of its upcoming presentation to the members.

Section 2. Amendments to Resolutions

The Executive Board may recommend, but may not compel, amendments before the presentation of any resolution to the members. Once a resolution has been presented to the members at a general meeting, any member may move to amend a resolution.

Rule III. Debate on Motions

Section 1. Length of Speeches on Motions

The length of time that each member may speak for or against a motion is limited to two (2) minutes. Questions posed to a speaker by other members shall not be included in the two minute limit; however, the question period shall be limited to two (2) minutes. Each member may speak only once on a motion that is on the floor until everyone who wishes

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

to speak has spoken. Then a speaker may be recognized by the chair to speak a second time on that same motion; however, a second speech, which may include questions, is limited to one (1) minute.

Section 2. Time-keeper

The parliamentarian shall function as time-keeper. In the event of the absence of the parliamentarian, the sergeant-at-arms shall function as time-keeper. In the event of the absence of both of these officers, the chair may appoint a time-keeper.

Rule IV. Travel

Only the Executive Board may authorize the following:

1. official travel for any member on behalf of the 44th LD Democrats
2. reimbursement for official travel

Rule V. Contribution Limits

Membership dues are discussed in the By-laws (Article II, Section 5); however, any member who wishes to make a larger contribution to the 44th Legislative Democrats may do so. In accordance with the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission (WAC 390-05-400, effective 1/1/04), there is no maximum contribution limit per year for an individual. Organizations that wish to contribute to the 44th LD Democrats should consult the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission for the regulations about and limits to contributions.

Rule VI. Committee Manuals

Each standing committee chair is required to create a committee manual, or if one already exists, to add to and/or revise that manual. Each committee's manual shall be the procedures and policies manual by which that committee functions. No committee rule shall violate the By-laws, the Standing Rules or the Policies and Procedures of the 44th Legislative District Democrats. Committee chairs shall present their manuals to the Executive Board for approval no later than the Executive Board meeting in March of each year. The only exception to this deadline shall be in the first year of implementation of this rule (2005), when the Board may set individual deadlines for the production of each committee's manual.

Rule VII. Written Annual Reports

As adopted December 9th, 2010, and amended April 14, 2011.

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

Every officer and committee chair is required to submit an annual written report of activities and issues dealt with during that year by that officer and/or committee chair and/or committee, which will become part of the permanent archival record of the 44th Legislative District Democrats. Reports are due at the Executive Board meeting preceding the annual re-organization meeting. These reports or a synopsis thereof shall be presented to the members at the annual re-organization meeting.

Rule VIII. Democratic Party Officer Candidate Endorsements

Section 1. Applicability

This rule pertains to the endorsement process for officer candidates in the Snohomish County Democratic Party and Washington State Democratic Party. However, this rule does not pertain to candidates for precinct committee officer.

Section 2. Definition

The term 'endorsement' by the 44th Legislative District Democrats of a candidate for a Democratic Party office means that the candidate is given explicit approval by the members of the 44th LD Democrats to use the name of this organization in any public or private list or publication of organizations who have chosen to endorse that candidate.

The use of any term other than the word 'endorsement' signifies that the candidate has not met the criteria for 'endorsement' outlined in this standing rule.

Section 3. How to Request an Endorsement

Candidates for elected offices in the Democratic Party at the county and state levels may request the endorsement of the membership of the 44th Legislative District Democrats. The request for endorsement shall be made by the candidate in one or more of the following ways:

- In writing to the Executive Board or to the members of the 44th,
- In person to the Executive Board or to the members of the 44th, or
- Via a surrogate, designated by the candidate, who appears on the candidate's behalf at the Executive Board or at a general meeting.

Section 4. Requests to the Executive Board

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

If the request for endorsement is made to the Executive Board of the 44th, it shall be the responsibility of the chair to inform the members at the next general meeting of the request for endorsement.

Section 5. Candidates Recommended for Endorsement

After the receipt of a request or requests for endorsement, the Executive Board may, if it chooses, through a majority vote, suggest or recommend an endorsement for one or more candidates for any Democratic Party county or state elected office. The Executive Board is prohibited from endorsing any candidate for any Democratic Party office at the county or state level. Such endorsement power is reserved to the general membership.

Section 6. How the Members May Endorse Candidates

The members of the 44th LD Democrats shall choose to endorse candidates for Democratic Party elected offices at the county and state levels in the following way:

- All members in good standing shall be eligible to vote.
- The members shall determine by a 2/3 majority vote at a general meeting whether or not the 44th should commit to an endorsement for a particular office.
- If the members choose to vote to endorse for a particular office, a written ballot shall be used, upon which the members may vote to endorse zero, one, or more candidates.
- An endorsement shall be given to any candidate who receives a simple majority of the votes cast.

Section 7. Duties of the Chair

The chair of the 44th shall be responsible to inform any candidate who receives an endorsement from the membership of the 44th of that endorsement, in writing, within seven (7) days of the vote of endorsement. He or she shall also be responsible to inform any candidate who has sought the endorsement of the 44th, and who has failed to receive that endorsement, of that fact, in writing, within seven (7) days of the vote of the membership.

Rule IX. Candidate Endorsements

Section 1. Applicability

This rule pertains to the endorsement process for candidates in partisan and nonpartisan races, for local, county, Washington State and/or U.S. national legislative and executive

As adopted December 9th, 2010, and amended April 14, 2011.

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

branch offices. However, this rule does not pertain to candidates for precinct committee officer, or for any judicial offices.

The 44th LD Democrats have a duty to consider candidates in all partisan and nonpartisan races for all jurisdictions that lie wholly or in part within the 44th Legislative District. However, the 44th LD Democrats may also endorse candidates in jurisdictions outside the 44th Legislative District.

Section 2. Definition

The term 'endorsement' by the 44th Legislative District Democrats of a candidate means that the candidate is given explicit approval by the members of the 44th LD Democrats to use the name of that organization in any public or private list or publication of organizations who have chosen to endorse that candidate.

The use of any term other than the word 'endorsement' signifies that the candidate has not met the criteria for 'endorsement' outlined in this standing rule.

Endorsements are not exclusive. More than one candidate may be endorsed simultaneously in the same race.

Endorsements for candidates for partisan office are limited to only those candidates who publicly and officially declare that they prefer the Democratic Party. However, endorsements are not limited to only the officially nominated Democratic Party candidate.

Any officially nominated Democratic Party candidate seeking partisan office for a jurisdiction that lies wholly or in part within the 44th Legislative District shall be automatically entitled to an endorsement from the 44th Legislative District Democrats for the office sought, unless rescinded.

Section 3. Criteria for Application for Endorsement

The candidate for office who is seeking endorsement must:

- Publicly support the principles and goals of the Democratic Party,
- Be a member of the Democratic Party at the legislative district, county and state levels, and be able to offer proof of membership,
- Be legally qualified to run for the office sought, and
- Have declared their candidacy to the Public Disclosure Commission, or have filed as a candidate for that office with the appropriate election authority.

Section 4. Procedures for Applying for Endorsement

As adopted December 9th, 2010, and amended April 14, 2011.

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

Candidates who have met the criteria listed in Section 3. (above) may request an endorsement in one or more of the following ways:

- In writing to the Executive Board and/or to the members of the 44th,
- In person to the Executive Board and/or to the members of the 44th, or
- Via a surrogate, designated by the candidate, who appears on the candidate's behalf at the Executive Board and/or at a general meeting.

Candidates requesting an endorsement are strongly encouraged to include a signed letter with attached information about their campaign.

The signed letter from the candidate should:

- 1) Request an endorsement,
- 2) State support of the principles and goals of the Democratic party,
- 3) Pledge to maintain membership in the Democratic party at their LD, county, and state levels,
- 4) Promise to support the Democratic Party's nominee for the office sought, in case a different candidate is nominated, and
- 5) Discuss their level of support of the Democratic Party platforms at the LD, County, and State levels, including specific objections, if any.

The attached campaign information should include:

- 1) Proof of membership in the LD, county, and state Democratic parties appropriate to the office sought,
- 2) A list of the candidate's campaign staff,
- 3) A list of all endorsements received and/or sought,
- 4) An explanation of the candidate's plan for how he/she will support other Democratic Party candidates running for office,
- 5) An explanation of how the candidate will help Democrats recruit new members, particularly at the local level,
- 6) A promise that if the office for which he/she is running has the opportunity to make appointments, the candidate will require his/her appointees to maintain membership in their legislative district, county and state Democratic Party organizations,
- 7) A copy of the candidate's voting record, if he/she has previously held public office, and
- 8) An electronic image of the candidate suitable for posting on the 44th LD's website and newsletter.

Section 5. Endorsement Committee

As adopted December 9th, 2010, and amended April 14, 2011.

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

Subsection 1. Constitution of the Committee The endorsement committee, which is a special committee and not a standing committee, shall be composed of no fewer than 3 and no more than 7 members of the Executive Board. An odd number of committee members is recommended, but not mandatory. Members of the Executive Board may volunteer or be appointed by the chair for the endorsement committee. The membership of the committee shall be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

Subsection 2. Multiple Endorsement Committees The Executive Board may, by a majority vote, constitute more than one endorsement committee at the same time. However, no candidate and/or issue may be considered by more than one endorsement committee. In the event of multiple committees, the Executive Board shall, by majority vote decide which candidates and/or issues shall be considered by each committee. The members of each endorsement committee shall elect their committee chair by a majority vote.

Subsection 3. Committee Charter The endorsement committee shall be given a clearly defined, written charter as specified in Article V, Section 2 of the By-laws. This charter shall include a list of candidates and/or issues to be considered by the committee, the beginning and ending dates of the life of the committee, deadlines for completion of committee deliberations, and the budget, if any, of the committee. The creation of the charter is the responsibility of the chair; however, the chair may delegate the responsibility for the creation of the charter to another Executive Board member. All such charters must be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

Section 6. Endorsement Committee Action

The endorsement committee shall make a reasonable effort to invite declared candidates to seek an endorsement from the 44th LD Democrats.

The endorsement committee shall determine, to the best of its ability, whether the candidate meets the criteria for the application for endorsement and has fulfilled the steps listed in the procedures for applying for endorsement. Once the information that the committee has received in writing has been verified and considered, the committee shall interview the candidate, preferably in person. The committee shall then deliberate, and may take one of the following steps:

- Recommend that the members endorse the candidate,
- Recommend that the members not endorse the candidate,
- Pass consideration on to the members without recommendation, or
- Choose to take no action on a candidate.

The endorsement committee may reconsider its action without approving a vote to reconsider, upon the receipt of additional information about a candidate.

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

Section 7. Consideration of Endorsement by the Members

Action by the endorsement committee shall be reported to the Executive Board members at the next Executive Board meeting, and to members at the next general meeting, providing that due notice of the committee's action is posted on the website at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the general meeting, and that action on the endorsement is included as an item on the general meeting's agenda.

Subsection 1. If the Endorsement Committee Recommends Endorsement: This is reported to the members, and as the result of a motion to endorse, a vote shall be taken. An endorsement shall be awarded if a majority of the members present vote to endorse.

Subsection 2. If the Endorsement Committee Recommends Against Endorsement: This is reported to the members, along with a summary of the reasons against endorsement. A member must make a motion not to endorse or to endorse for further discussion to take place.

Subsection 3. If the Endorsement Committee Passes Consideration on to the Members with no Recommendation: This is reported to the members without comment. A member must make a motion to endorse or not to endorse for further discussion to take place.

Section 8. Duties of the Chair

The chair of the 44th Legislative District Democrats shall be responsible to inform any candidate who receives an endorsement from the membership of the 44th LD Democrats of that endorsement, in writing, within seven (7) days of the vote of endorsement. He or she shall also be responsible to inform any candidate who has sought the endorsement, and who has failed to receive that endorsement, of that fact, in writing, within seven (7) days of the vote of the membership.

The chair shall direct the communications committee to take appropriate action to inform voters of the various endorsements awarded by the 44th Legislative District Democrats.

Section 9. Reconsidering or Rescinding an Endorsement

If the Endorsement Committee changes its recommendation regarding an endorsement after the members have taken action, the members may reconsider the matter at the next general meeting without approving a vote to reconsider the previous action.

At a general meeting following an endorsement, any member who has previously voted with the majority may move to reconsider the issue of the endorsement. The motion to reconsider the motion to endorse may be debated, and then must pass by a majority vote

44th Legislative District Democrats Standing Rules 2011 to 2012

of the members present in order to consider a new motion on the issue of the endorsement.

Any endorsement shall be automatically rescinded if the candidate fails to file for the office sought, or if the candidate is otherwise removed from the ballot.

Any motion to rescind a candidate endorsement requires a 2/3 vote of the members present at a general meeting, and seven (7) days prior written notice to the candidate.

Rule X. Judicial Office Candidate Endorsements

Section 1. Applicability

This rule pertains to the endorsement process for candidates who are running for judicial offices.

The 44th LD Democrats have a duty to consider all declared candidates in judicial races in jurisdictions that lie wholly or in part within the 44th Legislative District. However, the 44th LD Democrats may also endorse candidates in jurisdictions outside the 44th Legislative District.

Section 2. Definition

The term 'endorsement' by the 44th Legislative District Democrats of a candidate for a judicial office means that the candidate is given explicit approval by the members of the 44th LD Democrats to use the name of that organization in any public or private list or publication of organizations who have chosen to endorse that candidate.

The use of any term other than the word 'endorsement' signifies that the candidate has not met the criteria for 'endorsement' outlined in this standing rule.

Section 3. Criteria for Application for Endorsement

Candidates for judicial office must:

- Consent to receive an endorsement,
- Be legally qualified to run for the office sought, and
- Have declared their candidacy to the Public Disclosure Commission, or have filed as a candidate for that office with the appropriate election authority.

Section 4. Procedures for Applying for Endorsement

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

Judicial candidates are ethically barred from directly requesting an endorsement from any political party, or professing public support for the principles, goals, or platform of a political party.

Member(s) in good standing of the 44th LD Democrats may request the endorsement of a judicial candidate, but only with the prior permission of that judicial candidate. The member(s) shall act on the candidate's behalf in endorsement matters.

The member may request an endorsement on behalf of the candidate in one or more of the following ways:

- In writing to the Executive Board and/or to the members of the 44th, or
- In person to the Executive Board and/or to the members of the 44th.

Judicial candidates who grant permission to be considered for endorsement are strongly encouraged to include a signed letter with attached information about their campaign.

The signed letter from the candidate should state their consent to receive an endorsement, and give reasons why he or she is the best candidate.

The attached campaign information should include:

- 1) A list of the candidate's campaign staff,
- 2) A list of all endorsements received and/or sought, and
- 3) An electronic image of the candidate suitable for posting on the 44th LD's website and newsletter.

Section 5. Endorsement Committee

See Rule IX, Section 5.

Section 6. Endorsement Committee Action

See Rule IX, Section 6.

Section 7. Consideration of Endorsement by the Members

See Rule IX, Section 7.

Section 8. Duties of the Chair

See Rule IX, Section 8.

Section 9. Reconsidering or Rescinding an Endorsement

As adopted December 9th, 2010, and amended April 14, 2011.

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

See Rule IX, Section 9.

Rule XI. Ballot Measure Endorsements

Section 1. Applicability

This rule pertains to the endorsement process regarding ballot measures other than candidate elections. This broadly includes all initiatives, referenda, constitutional amendments, levies, and other ballot measures pertaining to any local, city, county, state, national, school, fire, EMS, water, sewer, taxation or other district that appear on any special, primary, or general election ballot. This rule also pertains to initiative petitions seeking to place a ballot measure on a ballot.

The 44th LD Democrats have a duty to promptly consider all ballot measures in all jurisdictions that lie wholly or in part within the 44th Legislative District. However, the 44th LD Democrats may also endorse ballot measures in jurisdictions outside the 44th Legislative District.

Section 2. Definition

The term “ballot measure” means any applicable act specified by Section 1 of this rule.

The term “sense” means a preferred voting response appropriate to that ballot measure. For example, “YES”, “NO”, “APPROVE”, “LEVY YES”, “SIGN”, or “DECLINE TO SIGN”.

The term “committed” means that the final text of the ballot measure is officially known, and is not subject to change, except by court order. For example, the measure may have been officially filed with the appropriate election authority, a governing entity may have voted to place the ballot measure on a ballot, or a petition may have been filed with the Secretary of State’s office so that signature gathering may begin.

The term 'endorsement' by the 44th LD Democrats of a ballot measure means that a sponsoring organization that agrees with the sense of the endorsed position is given explicit approval by the members of the 44th LD Democrats to use the name of this organization in any public or private list or publication of organizations who have chosen to endorse the same position on that ballot measure.

The use of any term other than the word 'endorsement' signifies that the ballot measure has not met the criteria for 'endorsement' outlined in this standing rule.

Section 3. Criteria for Application for Endorsement

As adopted December 9th, 2010, and amended April 14, 2011.

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

All ballot measure endorsements shall explicitly indicate the sense of the endorsement.

To be considered, the final text or form of the ballot measure must have been committed.

Section 4. Procedures for Applying for Endorsement

Ballot measure endorsements shall be in resolution form, according to Rule II. The resolution shall explicitly indicate the sense of the endorsement for each ballot measure. Multiple ballot measure endorsements may be included in the same resolution.

Ballot measure endorsements may originate from within the endorsement committee. It is the duty of the endorsement committee to actively work to discover new initiatives and other ballot measures.

Any member(s) in good standing of the 44th LD Democrats may request the endorsement of any ballot measure in writing or in person to the executive board, the endorsement committee, and/or to the members of the 44th.

A sponsoring organization need not exist for a ballot measure endorsement to be considered, regardless of the sense of the endorsement. Sponsoring organizations are encouraged to please contact the chair of the 44th LD Democrats for endorsement requests, or to work through any member in good standing of the 44th LD Democrats.

Section 5. Endorsement Committee

See Rule IX, Section 5.

Section 6. Endorsement Committee Action

The endorsement committee has a duty to lead prompt and appropriate ballot measure endorsement actions, and to be especially alert regarding statewide initiative petitions and local school district levies.

The endorsement committee shall consider each ballot measure with respect to the principles and goals of the Democratic party, and the 44th LD, Snohomish County, and Washington State Democratic Party platforms.

For each ballot measure, the endorsement committee may take one of the following steps:

- Recommend that the members endorse the ballot measure in a definite sense,
- Recommend that the members not endorse the ballot measure in any definite sense,
- Pass consideration of the ballot measure on to the members without recommendation, or

As adopted December 9th, 2010, and amended April 14, 2011.

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

- Choose to take no action on a ballot measure.

The endorsement committee shall present their findings in the form of resolutions, according to Rule II. The endorsement resolutions should include a summary of the reasons for endorsing that particular sense of the ballot measure.

The endorsement committee may reconsider its action without approving a vote to reconsider, upon the receipt of additional information about a ballot measure.

Section 7. Consideration of Endorsement by the Members

Action by the endorsement committee shall be reported to the Executive Board members at the next Executive Board meeting, and to members at the next general meeting, according to Rule II.

An endorsement shall be awarded if a majority of the members present vote to approve the endorsement resolution.

Section 8. Duties of the Chair

The chair of the 44th Legislative District Democrats shall be responsible to inform relevant sponsoring organizations that agree with the sense of an awarded ballot measure endorsement, in writing, within seven (7) days of the vote of endorsement.

In the case of sponsoring organizations that come into existence after the vote of endorsement, the chair shall be responsible to inform that sponsoring organization, in writing, as soon as practicable.

The chair shall also be responsible to inform any sponsoring organization or member who has sought the endorsement, and who has failed to receive that endorsement, of that fact, in writing, within seven (7) days of the vote of the membership.

The chair shall direct the communications committee to take appropriate action to inform voters of the various endorsements awarded by the 44th Legislative District Democrats.

Section 9. Reconsidering or Rescinding a Ballot Measure Endorsement

If the Endorsement Committee changes its recommendation regarding a ballot measure endorsement after the members have taken action, the members may reconsider the matter at the next general meeting without approving a vote to reconsider the previous action.

After the members have taken action to endorse a ballot measure in a definite sense, any motion to rescind, or to reverse the sense of, that ballot measure endorsement requires a

As adopted December 9th, 2010, and amended April 14, 2011.

44th Legislative District Democrats

Standing Rules

2011 to 2012

new endorsement resolution, which must pass by a 2/3 majority vote of the members present at a general meeting.

However, a new endorsement resolution is not required if the chair determines that the proposed change would be trivial, such as a synonymous change to the sense of the ballot measure endorsement, an amendment due to a court order, or a newly filed ballot measure that is substantially the same as the endorsed ballot measure.

Rule XII. Precinct Committee Officers

The 44th LD Democrats may not endorse candidates for precinct committee officer.

However, the 44th LD Democrats have a duty to actively work to recruit precinct committee officers to serve the various precincts within the 44th legislative district, and the webmaster may post a list of anticipated precinct committee officer candidates on the website. However, such actions do not constitute an endorsement.

Rule XIII. Adoption of Standing Rules

These Standing Rules, adopted on the 9th Day of December 2010, are amended this 14th Day of April, 2011.

X _____

Signature of 44th Legislative District Democrats Chair Date