



CALIFORNIA
DEMOCRATIC
PARTY

CHAIRMAN
SENATOR (RET)
JOHN BURTON

Memorandum

TO: Candidates Participating in the Endorsing Caucuses
FROM: Chris Masami Myers / Dennis Raj
DATE: February 1, 2012
RE: Assembly, Senate, and Congressional Endorsing Caucuses at State Convention

Endorsing caucuses will be held in the following districts:

AD 09	AD 51	AD 72	CD 26
AD 36	AD 56	SD 15	CD 30
AD 47	AD 57	SD 31	CD 35
AD 50	AD 69	CD 08	CD 52

This is a public vote via signed written ballot. Non-incumbent candidates need sixty percent (60%) and incumbents need a majority (50% + 1) of credentialed and voting delegates, who are registered to vote in the respective district, or their qualified proxy, to secure the caucus recommendation for endorsement. However, if two or more incumbents are seeking the endorsement of the same caucus, each candidate will need at least sixty percent (60%) to secure the endorsement recommendation.

When and where will the endorsing caucuses take place?

The endorsing caucuses are tentatively scheduled between 4:45pm to 6:45pm on Saturday, February 11th in San Diego at the Convention Center. For exact times and locations, please refer to the official convention agenda, which will be distributed at convention. We should have a final list of exact times and locations by Friday, February 3rd.

Which districts and candidates are qualified to participate in the endorsing caucuses?

- Any district in which one of the candidates in the district received more than 50%, but less than 70% of the vote at the pre-endorsement conference (held January 21-22).
- Any district in which the name of the candidate recommended was removed from the consent calendar by 20% of the members of the Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) who live in the district or by 20% of the DSCC statewide filing a letter of objection with the State Chair in the Sacramento office no later than 5:00pm, January 31, 2012
- Any district in where a proper challenge was filed.

Only candidates who were qualified for endorsement at the pre-endorsement conference will be allowed to participate in the endorsement caucus.





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Who is eligible to vote in the endorsement caucus?

Only DSCC members or their qualified proxies who are credentialed (registered, dues paid and checked in) by 1:00pm, Saturday, February 11th are eligible to vote. Remember, no person may exercise more than one vote.

How does appointing a proxy work?

- A member elected by a County Central Committee (DSCC ID # starts with 4) may only give his/her proxy to another member of the same County Central Committee who is **not** already a DSCC member.
- A member elected through the ADEM elections (DSCC ID # starts with 7) may only give his/her proxy to a Democrat registered in the same Assembly District who is **not** already a DSCC member.
- All other DSCC members may only give his/her proxy to any registered California Democrat who is **not** already a DSCC member.
- In all cases, a DSCC member may **not** also be a proxy holder – no person may exercise more than one vote.
- In all cases, a DSCC member should give his/her proxy to a member of the same sex whenever possible.
- In order for a proxy to be credentialed, the dues and registration must be paid.

In what district is a proxy qualified to vote?

The proxy votes in the Assembly, Senate, and Congressional district in which the person (delegate) for **whom he/she is a proxy is registered to vote (i.e. the DSCC members' districts).**

Can a voter vote-by-mail at the endorsing caucus?

No. Unlike the pre-endorsement conference, vote-by-mail will not be allowed at the endorsing caucus.

Does a candidate or candidate's representative get to speak at the endorsing caucus?

Each candidate or his or her representative will be allowed a 2-minute presentation.

How is the speaking/ballot order determined?

It is determined by random draw. The random drawing for speaking order as well as the order on the butcher tally sheets and ballots will be conducted in the Sacramento office of the CDP at 5:00 pm, Friday, February 3rd, 2012.

Will I have access to the convention floor?

If you didn't submit your request by the January 31st deadline, you will be allowed two campaign credentials for the convention floor. You can pick up your credentials from the "Honored Guest" table in Registration.

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Will I be able to distribute materials?

Yes, candidates may distribute campaign materials in public walkways throughout the Hilton San Diego Bayfront and the San Diego Convention Center. No signs are to be placed on walls, windows or curtains, or stuck on the floor. Do not place signs inside the Convention Center or hotels. Any damage created by incorrectly placed signs will result in a \$50 minimum charge (per sign), to be paid by the candidate or organization(s) mentioned on the signs. Any damage done by any candidate(s) or organization(s) stickers (or other materials) incorrectly placed (anything other than on a person is considered incorrect) will result in a \$50 minimum charge (per violation), to be paid by the candidate or organization(s) mentioned on the materials.

How many votes does a candidate need to secure a place on the Consent Calendar?

Non-incumbent candidates need 60% and incumbents need a majority, of credentialed and voting delegates, to secure the caucus recommendation for endorsement. However, in the case that two or more incumbents are seeking the endorsement at the same caucus, all candidates will need 60% to secure the endorsement recommendation.

What happens if no candidate reaches the above threshold of the vote?

The State Committee shall take the position of "no consensus" for endorsement.

How may a recommendation for endorsement be removed?

If a candidate is recommended but receives less than two-thirds of the vote at the caucus, an endorsement recommendation can be pulled by filing a form signed by 300 DSCC members with the CDP by 11:00pm on Saturday February 11th to the staff room at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront in Sapphire 400. The form will be provided by the CDP after the results of the caucus.

If the endorsed candidate received at least two-thirds of the vote at the caucus, formal objection must be upon written motion by sufficient members of the relevant caucus (minimum 10 if an Assembly District or minimum 20 if a State Senate or Congressional District), or upon written motion and second by members of a Pre-Primary Endorsement Review Committee. This written motion must be filed with the Secretary of This Committee by 8:00pm on February 11th to the staff room at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront in Sapphire 400. If properly filed, the relevant Pre-Primary Endorsement Review Committee shall meet at 8:00am the morning prior to the ratification vote. Presentations for the motion by the filer and against the motion by the endorsed candidate shall be no more that five (5) minutes each. Such a motion for formal objection to the ratification of an endorsing caucus decision may be adopted by the relevant committee by a majority of the committee present and voting.

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What happens to candidates who receive an endorsement recommendation?

Those candidates that have been recommended for endorsement at the pre-endorsing conference before the convention and candidates recommended at the endorsing caucus will go on the consent calendar to be ratified by the convention body on Sunday.

What happens when an endorsement recommendation is pulled?

Any recommendations that are successfully pulled after the endorsing caucuses will be considered prior to the consent calendar.

Further Information

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Chris Myers or Dennis Raj at 916-442-5707 or e-mail them at chris@cadem.org or dennis@cadem.org

The CDP By-Laws supersedes any information provided by staff regarding the endorsement process. A current copy can be found on our website at www.cadem.org.

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