



December 2017

Dear Democratic Candidate for Statewide Office:

As Chair of the California Democratic Party (CDP), I believe it is essential that our statewide candidates conduct their campaigns in a positive manner that does not damage other Democrats and weaken our Party. Thus, following in the tradition begun by former Chair John Burton, I respectfully request that the Democratic candidates for statewide offices agree not to seek the Party's pre-primary endorsement consideration at the 2018 CDP State Convention.

As California Democrats, we are blessed with many great candidates running for statewide offices. Each of you are dedicated, qualified public servants and California will be a better place when you or your fellow Democrats are elected. You are the leaders who will help keep California as a shining Big Blue Beacon of Hope for the rest of the nation.

The CDP State Convention is a time when we need Democrats to come together with the goal of electing a Democrat to every seat possible in November. I recognize that the choice is yours to seek the CDP's endorsement consideration. However, given the 60 percent vote threshold required to receive the CDP endorsement at the State Convention, and the option of "No Endorsement" on the endorsement ballot, the chances of any one candidate in a competitive contest securing the endorsement are highly unlikely. The time, money, and effort a candidate might spend seeking the endorsement would almost certainly be better spent communicating with California voters.

In the event that any Democratic candidate in a given statewide election contest requests CDP endorsement consideration, all Democratic candidates in that election contest, regardless of their previous response to this request, may seek endorsement consideration, subject to CDP viability assessment and eligibility rules for statewide candidates. For more information about our endorsement process, please visit the CDP Endorsements webpage at [www.cadem.org/endorsements](http://www.cadem.org/endorsements).

Please kindly consider this request and contact CDP Political Director Clark Lee by Friday, January 12, 2018, at [clark@cadem.org](mailto:clark@cadem.org) or (916) 442-5707 to let us know whether you still plan to seek the CDP's pre-primary endorsement.

Thank you for your service and leadership.

Democratically yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Bauman".

Eric C. Bauman  
Chair