

# DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY

## RULES COMMITTEE

11/21/2013

### RESOLUTION 2013.6

#### REVISION OF THE DPLC BYLAWS

*Relating to Article VIII – Party Endorsements*

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WHEREAS, The Executive Committee of the Democratic Party of Lane County tasked the Rules Committee with determining the proper rules which should be set by the Party regarding endorsements of candidates and ballot measures, and with drafting any necessary revisions of the DPLC Bylaws to meet their determinations;

WHEREAS, The Rules Committee met for many months—examining each section of Article VIII of the Bylaws, recalling and detailing any problems with past endorsements, anticipating situations the Party may find itself in the future, discussing which rules would best ameliorate any such difficulties, and establishing a consensus regarding the propriety of the issuance of endorsements in various circumstances; and

WHEREAS, The Rules Committee has drafted a revision of the Bylaws, unanimously recommended their adoption by the Central Committee, and discussed these changes and their implications with the Executive Committee, which also recommends passage of the revision.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the DPLC Bylaws, Article VIII – Party Endorsements, be amended to read:

#### ARTICLE VIII – PARTY ENDORSEMENTS

##### A. CRITERIA

- ~~1. The Campaign Services Committee shall develop and recommend criteria for Party endorsements to the Central Committee incorporating provisions of this article.~~
- ~~2. The minimum criteria shall be Democratic voter registration and other factors may be considered by the Campaign Services Committee and Central Committee as deemed~~

30 appropriate.

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32 **B. ENDORSEMENT PROCEDURES**

33 ~~1. The Campaign Services Committee is responsible for developing all processes for~~  
34 ~~endorsement of candidates.~~

35 ~~2. The Platform and Legislative Committee is responsible for developing all processes for~~  
36 ~~endorsement of ballot measures, legislation and local initiatives. All processes will be~~  
37 ~~approved by the Central Committee as a formal procedure, incorporating the provisions~~  
38 ~~of this article.~~

39 ~~3. The Central Committee shall approve any changes to the endorsement process for each~~  
40 ~~election no less than one month prior to each filing date.~~

41 ~~4. Only the Central Committee has the power to make endorsements.~~

42 ~~5. The Central Committee may vote to endorse, oppose, or make a statement of no~~  
43 ~~preference.~~

44 ~~6. Endorsement requests for candidates will be reviewed by the Campaign Services~~  
45 ~~Committee prior to being considered by the Central Committee.~~

46 ~~7. There will be no endorsements considered for statewide elected office.~~

47 ~~8. If the Democratic candidate request endorsement and if he or she is the only democrat~~  
48 ~~running in that partisan or nonpartisan race, endorsement may be granted by the~~  
49 ~~Central Committee.~~

50 ~~9. Endorsements require a simple majority of PCPs present at the Central Committee~~  
51 ~~meeting.~~

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53 **A. Principles of Endorsement**

54 **1. Endorsement of candidates in contested elections is an expression of confidence that a**  
55 **candidate is serious and will mount a viable campaign that adheres to the interests,**  
56 **ideals and principles of the Democratic Party of Lane County.**

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58 **2. To ensure the widest, fairest and most open participation of Democrats in public**  
59 **elections, the Central Committee may endorse any number of candidates in a non-**  
60 **partisan election under this article whom it deems representative of Democratic values**  
61 **and worthy of Party support. The Central Committee shall not endorse candidates in a**  
62 **partisan campaign or in any statewide elected office. Only registered Democrats are**

63 eligible to be endorsed under this Article.

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65 3. The Central Committee also may support, oppose or decline to take a position on local  
66 ballot measures.

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68 **B. Endorsement Procedures**

69 1. Only the Central Committee may endorse a candidate or take a position on a local ballot  
70 measure on behalf of the Democratic Party of Lane County. A motion to endorse a  
71 candidate requires majority support of PCPs voting. A motion to support or oppose a  
72 local ballot measure requires two-thirds support of PCPs voting.

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74 2. To be considered, a candidate first must request endorsement by notifying the Chair,  
75 who shall inform the Campaign Services Committee prior to any vote by the Central  
76 Committee on such request for endorsement. The Campaign Services Committee may  
77 comment to the Central Committee on a requested endorsement of a candidate prior to  
78 the time for voting. For local ballot measures, the Chair shall inform the Platform  
79 Committee of any request for DPLC support of or opposition to proposed measures. The  
80 Platform Committee may comment to the Central Committee on such a request prior to  
81 the time for voting.

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83 3. The Executive Committee shall resolve any dispute over compliance with these bylaws or  
84 the rules and procedures adopted in connection with these bylaws.

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86 **C. Time for Endorsements**

87 The Central Committee may consider requests to endorse a candidate only after the time  
88 to be included on a ballot has commenced and a reasonable time has elapsed for  
89 candidates to organize their campaigns and seek endorsement by the party. Notice of  
90 proposed action on endorsements of candidates and measures shall be given to the  
91 Central Committee with the notice of meeting.

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93 **D. Standing Rules for Conduct of Endorsement**

94 The Campaign Services Committee and the Platform Committee respectively shall  
95 recommend to the Central Committee adoption of rules of order necessary to a fair

96 endorsement process for candidates or measures under this Article, including but not  
97 limited to balloting, speaking, and questioning. The Central Committee shall consider  
98 adoption or amendment of rules not less than 45 days prior to the filing deadline for  
99 candidates for non-partisan office. Once adopted, rules for endorsement shall stand  
100 until repealed or amended by the Central Committee.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type is new; matter  
~~struck through~~ is existing text to be omitted.

**RESOLVED BY THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY,  
ASSEMBLED IN EUGENE, OREGON, NOVEMBER 21, 2013**

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Signed:

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Fahey  
Chair

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Andrew S. Becker  
Secretary

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