

BYLAWS
WASHINGTON STATE
42nd LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE
June 11, 2022

We, the Democrats of the 42nd Legislative District, State of Washington, believe in the ideals expressed in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States of America – That all power to govern resides with the people. In accordance with the National Charter of the Democratic Party of the United States, we organize and pledge ourselves to promote a truly representative party open to all who support its principles.

We further pledge to make every effort to encourage informed participation in the political process and to protect individual rights, civil liberties, our environment, and social and economic justice for all. To this end, we shall work cooperatively with all Democratic organizations.

Article I Name

The name of this organization shall be the Washington 42nd Legislative District Democratic Committee (Hereafter referred to as 42nd LDDC)

Article II Purpose

Under the authority of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the State of Washington, the 42nd LDDC is the governing body of the 42nd legislative district Democratic Party and is responsible for conducting Party affairs at the legislative district level.

The purpose of this organization is to provide for active participation in the democratic process and to elect 42nd Legislative District (42nd LD) Democrats to office.

Article III Membership and Dues

Section 3.1 Membership shall consist of:

- a) Elected Precinct Committee Officers (PCO's) in the 42nd LD who are duly certified by the County Auditor in accordance with state law.
- b) Appointed Precinct Committee Officers in the 42nd LD, who are duly certified by the County Auditor in accordance with state law.
- c) Precinct Captains in the 42nd LD, who are appointed by Whatcom County Democratic Central Committee.
- d) General members of the 42nd LDDC shall be any Democrat registered to vote in the 42nd LD and who pays their dues to the Treasurer of the 42nd LDDC.

- e) Democrats, not registered to vote in the 42nd LD, may become Associate members entitled to a voice but no vote upon payment of annual dues.

Section 3.2 Membership Dues:

- a) Membership dues for all members are due and payable during the calendar month of January each year. Each member must pay their own dues.
- b) By State law, PCOs are not required to pay dues but are encouraged to do so.
- c) The amount of annual dues shall be established and may be changed by a majority vote of the membership on recommendation of the 42nd LDDC Executive Board.

Section 3.3 No member may use their title of office or identify themselves as representing the 42nd LDDC or any of the subordinate bodies unless authorized by the Executive Board or the membership.

Article IV Officers

Section 4.1 The Officers of the 42nd LDDC shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, two State Committee Members. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson must not be of the same gender. The two State Committee Members must not be of the same gender.

Section 4.2 Qualification and Manner of Election: Officers shall be elected by January of odd numbered years in a manner that is consistent with state law, Roberts Rules of Order, revised and applicable State Democratic Committee Rules. Voting on vacancies that occur midterm, are restricted to duly elected or appointed Precinct Committee Officers.

- a) Nominees must be paid members of the 42nd LDDC.
- b) The Nominating Committee shall consist of no more than five (5) members of the 42nd LDDC and will be appointed in October of even-numbered years and report their nominations to the 42nd LDDC at the November meeting. The Nominating Committee, at its discretion, may place one or more names in nomination for each position. Nominations also will be accepted from the floor at the November and December meetings.

Section 4.3 Terms of office shall be two (2) years.

Section 4.4 The duties of elected officers shall be those usual to such offices and those directed by the State Committee.

Section 4.5 Vacancies in the offices of the 42nd LDDC shall be filled by election at the next meeting following creation of the vacancy after giving elected and appointed Committee members at least 10 (ten) days notice. The Chairperson may declare an office vacant if its incumbent has been absent from two (2) successive regular meetings without giving notice.

Section 4.6 The Chair of the 42nd LDDC is prohibited from accepting anything of value, including but not limited to paid employment, from candidates who are eligible for 42nd LDDC endorsement. This prohibition does not extend to attendance at campaign events that offer food or drink. The Chair is also prohibited from

endorsing or making donations to candidates while they can still be considered for endorsement. The Chair shall not be prohibited from donating to their own campaign.

Article V Meeting and Voting Procedures

Section 5.1 Meetings:

- a) Regular meetings shall be held no less than every three (3) months. Members shall be given reasonable notice of meeting times and places. All meetings are open to the public and shall attempt to be wheelchair accessible. Meetings shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order revised.
- b) The Chairperson of the Executive Board may call for special meetings. The Chairperson must call a special meeting of the 42nd LDDC upon receipt of a petition signed by no less than twelve percent (12%) of the elected and paid membership (Article III, Section 3.1) of the 42nd LDDC.
- c) A meeting includes a virtual meeting conducted using a digital teleconferencing system which supports the normal order where attendees can interact with attendees, be recognized, speak and vote. In person meetings are preferred, but virtual meetings may be necessary to conduct the business of the organization.

Section 5.2 Voting Procedures:

- a) Members of the 42nd LDDC, specified in Article III, are entitled to vote on all matters except as specifically provided otherwise in this Section. General members can vote 14 days after they initially joined the 42nd LDDC. Associate members shall have a voice but no vote in the business of the 42nd LDDC
- b) per the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the State of Washington:
 - (1) Only duly elected Precinct Committee Officers may elect officers to the 42nd LDDC at the reorganization meeting.
 - (2) Only Appointed and duly elected Precinct Committee Officers may elect officers to fill vacancies that occur midterm.
 - (3) Only appointed and duly elected Precinct Committee Officers may vote to adopt or amend the bylaws of the 42nd LDDC
- c) The Secretary shall maintain the following lists of committee members:
 - (1) Elected and duly appointed Precinct Committee Officers (Article III, Section 3.1) 3.1 (a) and (b))
 - (2) General and Associate Committee members (Article III Section 3.1 (c) and (d))

Section 5.3 Quorum:

- a) A quorum of the 42nd LDDC shall consist of 10% of members who are eligible to vote as specified in Article III Section 3.1 (a), (b) and (c).
- b) A quorum of PCO's shall consist of 12% of the existing PCO's.

Article VI Executive Board

Section 6.1 Voting Membership: The Executive Board consists of the officers of the 42nd LDDC.

Section 6.2 Meetings:

- a) Insofar as possible, the Executive Board shall meet at a regular time and place.
- b) A record of actions taken by the Executive Board shall be kept and be read at the next regular meeting of the 42nd LDDC.

Section 6.3 Duties:

- a) The Executive Board shall review the budget.
- b) Designate those persons who are authorized to disburse the funds of the 42nd LDDC and to sign checks for such disbursement and shall designate a depository for any funds of the 42nd LDDC.
- c) Carry on the business of the 42nd LDDC between regular meetings of that body.

Section 6.4 Members of the Executive Board acting as a formal consultant or advisor to a campaign must disclose that involvement to the Executive Board, and recuse themselves from any relevant discussions and votes.

Article VII Committees

Section 7.1 Special Committee: The Chairperson may appoint special committees as necessary to conduct business on behalf of the 42nd LDDC.

Section 7.2 Standing Committee: The Chairperson, with the approval of the elected members of the Executive Board, shall appoint a chairperson for the standing committee, of which there will be five (5). Each committee shall consist of no fewer than three (3) members. The Chair shall be a non-voting ex officio member of each committee.

- a) **Fundraising Committee**: Assume responsibility for financing the 42nd LDDC by conducting fundraising events.
- b) **Membership Committee**:
 - a. Work to increase the membership of the 42nd LDDC.
 - b. Assist the Chair in the recruitment of PCO's.
- c) **Candidates Committee**: Identify and/or recruit individuals interested in seeking public elected office.
- d) **Inclusion and Outreach Committee**: Provide and coordinate issues, projects, plans and programs involving diversity within the 42nd LDDC.

- e) Issues and Action Committee: Research issues to produce resolutions for consideration by the 42nd LDDC. Inform and educate members on adopted resolutions and recommend political action consistent with 42nd LDDC approved positions, resolutions and endorsements.

Section 7.3 Committee members shall disclose any conflicts of interest to the Committee Chair and to the other Committee members. Conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to: being a candidate for office (except for PCO), being closely related to a candidate, being in a long-term relationship with a candidate, acting as a formal consultant or advisor to a campaign. Committee members with a conflict of interest shall recuse themselves from discussions and voting on matters where their conflict of interest exists.

Article VIII Fiscal

Section 8.1 All funds of the 42nd LDDC shall be deposited by the Treasurer in an approved depository.

Section 8.2 All disbursements shall be made by check signed by the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson or the Treasurer.

Section 8.3 The Treasurer shall keep such books as are necessary to reflect the receipts, expenditures, assets and liabilities of the 42nd LDDC.

Section 8.4 The books of the 42nd LDDC shall be audited annually by an auditing committee appointed by the Chairperson. That committee shall report its results to the 42nd LDDC.

Article IX Amendments

Section 9.1 These Bylaws shall be reviewed at least every two (2) years by a special committee; but may be amended at any regular meeting of the 42nd LDDC provided that the amendment has been read at a prior regular meeting. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Precinct Committee Officers present and voting are required to amend at the second reading of the proposed change.

Section 9.2 All questions of procedure shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order, revised, except in those cases when alternative rules have been specifically provided for in the Bylaws.

Article X Caucus

The 42nd LDDC Caucus shall be held each even numbered year according to rules set by the Washington State Democratic Central Committee.