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Bylaws of THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF OREGON

*As adopted, Dec. 2, 2006
As amended, May 19, 2007*

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Index

- * ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE
- * ARTICLE II - AUTHORITY
- * ARTICLE III - PARTICIPATION
- * ARTICLE IV - STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
- * ARTICLE V - STATE PARTY OFFICERS
- * ARTICLE VI - STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS
- * ARTICLE VII - PLATFORM CONVENTIONS
- * ARTICLE VIII - DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE
- * ARTICLE IX - CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT COMMITTEES
- * ARTICLE X - COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEES
- * ARTICLE XI - VACANCIES IN PUBLIC OFFICE
- * ARTICLE XII - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
- * ARTICLE XIII - ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
- * ARTICLE XIV - STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES
- * ARTICLE XV - SPECIAL GROUP CAUCUSES
- * ARTICLE XVI - RESOLUTIONS
- * ARTICLE XVII - FINANCES
- * ARTICLE XVIII - ELECTIONS FOR PUBLIC OFFICE
- * ARTICLE XIX - STANDING RULES
- * ARTICLE XX - NOTICE REQUIREMENTS
- * ARTICLE XXI - BYLAW AMENDMENTS
- * ARTICLE XXII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE

The name of this organization is the Democratic Party of Oregon (DPO). The purpose of the DPO is to:

- * Elect Democratic candidates;
- * Coordinate, encourage, and assist in organizing county Democratic parties;
- * Adopt a Party Platform and work to ensure its enactment into law;
- * Represent the DPO with the Democratic National Committee (DNC) and with Democrats in other states;
- * Promote the interests of the Democratic Party in the State of Oregon.

ARTICLE II - AUTHORITY

The DPO is empowered by state law, (ORS 248.002 – 248.012), and the National Democratic Party Charter to manage its affairs and transact its business. The State Central Committee (SCC) is the governing body of the Party and it may delegate its authority.

44 **ARTICLE III – PARTICIPATION**

45 The DPO ensures the widest and fairest representation of its members in its organization
46 and activities. All rules will be adopted by procedures that assure fair and open participation.
47 Participation in the conduct of DPO business is encouraged regardless of race, sex, age, color,
48 creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, economic status, disability,
49 parenthood, or marital status. All SCC meetings are open to the public.
50

51 **ARTICLE IV - SCC MEMBERSHIP**

52 **Section 1 - Membership**

53 A. Members - Members of the SCC include at least two delegates elected from each
54 county and an additional delegate for each 15,000 registered Democrats or major fraction of
55 15,000 Democrats within the county on the date of the primary election as provided by law.
56 Members also include DPO officers and chairs of the congressional district committees.

57 B. Alternates - When a delegate of a county central committee is unable to attend a
58 meeting of the SCC, an alternate delegate, elected by the county central committee, may attend
59 the meeting with full voting privileges.

60 C. Election of Members - County central committees will elect delegates and alternate
61 delegates to the SCC at their organizational meetings. Vacancies may be filled by county central
62 committee elections at subsequent meetings. The delegates, or in the case of an odd number, the
63 delegates and first alternate, will consist of an equal number of men and women. Remaining
64 alternates are elected in rank order of replacement preference with each successive two alternates
65 consisting of one man and one woman.

66 D. Certification - The Chair of each county central committee certifies the names and
67 addresses of its delegates and alternates to the State Central Committee. Delegates are seated by
68 the SCC if the electing county central committee has been established according to law and these
69 Bylaws.

70 E. Associate Members - Democratic members of the Oregon Legislative Assembly,
71 members of the SCC Executive Committee and members of SCC Standing Committees are
72 Associate Members. Unless they are otherwise entitled to vote, they are not counted in a quorum
73 for a SCC meeting, and are not eligible to vote on business brought before the SCC.
74

75 **Section 2 – Duties**

76 The legislative power of the DPO is vested in the SCC, which:

77 A. Elects the officers of the DPO;

78 B. Fills vacancies in DPO offices;

79 C. Fills vacancies created by the death or resignation of nominees to statewide elective
80 office;

81 D. Approves the budget of the SCC;

82 E. Approves actions of the Executive Committee when required;

83 F. Passes resolutions;

84 G. Recommends, by a two-thirds majority of SCC delegates, alternates and associate
85 members voting, a position on an upcoming initiative or referendum. Recommendations on an
86 initiative or referendum may be made in either of the following ways:

87 1. By mailing a ballot listing the recommendations of the Platform and

88 Resolutions Committee on each ballot measure, or

89 2. At a meeting duly called by the SCC;

90 H. Recommends where and when to call the State Democratic Platform Convention;
91 I. Transacts other business consistent with law, the National Democratic Party Charter,
92 and these Bylaws.

93

94 **Section 3 - Resignation and Removal of Members**

95 A. A member of the SCC may resign by written notice to the Chair of the State Central
96 Committee or the County Chair.

97 B. The SCC may, by a two-thirds vote, require a delegate's constituency to submit the
98 delegate or alternate to a recall vote.

99 C. Delegates who have three consecutive absences from SCC meetings have effectively
100 resigned, and may be replaced or re-appointed by their county central committee. The
101 Credentials Committee notifies the electing body and the individual of the presumed resignation.

102 D. Any delegate or alternate to the SCC may be removed by the county which the
103 delegate represents.

104

105 **ARTICLE V - STATE PARTY OFFICERS**

106 **Section 1 - Officers**

107 The officers of the DPO are a Chair, a female Vice Chair, a male Vice Chair, a Secretary,
108 a Treasurer, and the elected members of the DNC.

109

110 **Section 2 - Eligibility**

111 Any legal resident of the State of Oregon who is a registered Democrat is eligible to
112 become an officer in the DPO, except for someone who is a candidate for, or is an incumbent in,
113 the office of United States Senator, United States Representative, or is in any position elected
114 from the state at large.

115

116 **Section 3 - Nomination and Election**

117 A. Elections for the Chair, Vice Chairs, and Secretary will be held immediately
118 following the adoption of the Bylaws at the organizational meeting.

119 1. A majority of delegates voting are required to elect these officers. All ballots
120 must be signed by the SCC member casting the ballot, in order to comply with DNC
121 rules.

122 2. In order for their names to be printed on the ballots, candidates for Chair, Vice
123 Chairs and Secretary must file a notice of candidacy on a form supplied by the DPO. That
124 form must be filed with the DPO Executive Director not later than 5 p.m., 25 days before
125 the election.

126 3. The DPO will mail a list of all candidates who file by the deadline to members
127 of the SCC 20 days before the organizational meeting.

128 4. Ballots, with the names of the filed candidates, will be provided at the
129 organizational meeting. The ballot will allow for write-in candidates.

130 5. The Treasurer shall be nominated by the Chair and the Vice Chairs and elected
131 by the Executive Committee. That election will occur at the first meeting of the
132 Executive Committee following the organizational meeting.

133 **Section 4 - Terms of Office**

134 The Chair, Vice Chairs, Secretary and Treasurer are elected for a term of two years, or
135 until their successors are elected.

136

137 **Section 5 - Recall**

138 The procedure for recalling any officer (other than Treasurer) is as follows:

139 A. The action is initiated by a petition specifying the gross misconduct or neglect of duty
140 that is the basis of the recall and bears the signatures of 25 or more members, including at least
141 three from each Congressional District;

142 B. As soon as practicable after DPO receives a valid petition, the petitioners must mail
143 notice of the recall petition to the officer involved by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested.

144 C. The petitioners call a meeting of the SCC, and mail a notice of the meeting to the
145 members of the SCC.

146 D. A copy of the petition must be included in the notice of the meeting and the
147 provisional agenda. The petition must include the recall proposal and specific election of a
148 successor to the office as items of business;

149 E. If the petitioners do not mail the notice of the recall petition at least 20 days before the
150 date of the meeting at which the vote is scheduled to be taken, the recall petition may not be
151 considered.

152 F. A motion to grant the petition or to recall the officer must be carried by a two-thirds
153 majority.

154

155 **Section 6 – Vacancies**

156 A. In case of the resignation or death of the State Chair, the Vice Chair appointed by the
157 Executive Committee becomes the Acting State Chair until the next meeting of the SCC, at
158 which time the unexpired portion of the term is filled by a special election.

159 B. The Executive Committee makes a temporary appointment to fill a vacancy in a Vice
160 Chair or Secretary position from the time the vacancy occurs until the unexpired term is filled by
161 a special election at the next SCC meeting. If an incumbent officer is elected State Chair, the
162 vacancy in that officer's position is filled at the same election. A vacancy created by recall or
163 resignation by someone whose recall has been petitioned, is filled at the meeting set for the
164 recall, or at the next regular meeting, whichever occurs first.

165 C. Voting is at an open, public meeting, and a simple majority of those voting is required
166 to elect a replacement. SCC members casting a ballot must sign it to comply with DNC rules.

167 D. If the Executive Committee determines, by two-thirds vote, that the Chair is
168 incapacitated, the Executive Committee will appoint one of the Vice Chairs to be Acting Chair,
169 by majority vote, for successive 30-day periods, until either the incapacity ends or the SCC
170 determines, by two thirds vote, that the incapacity is permanent and removes the Chair.

171

172 **Section 7 - Duties**

173 A. The State Chair:

174 1. Is the CEO and chief spokesperson for the DPO;

175 2. Presides at all meetings of the SCC;

176 3. Calls and chairs the meetings and conference calls of the Executive and
177 Administration committees;

- 178 4. Prepares an agenda for each meeting of the SCC, the Executive Committee, and
179 the Administration Committee;
- 180 5. Appoints the chair and vice chair of all committees, and upon vacancy, replaces
181 them within 30 days;
- 182 6. Appoints, if necessary, the legal counsel of the DPO and a parliamentarian;
- 183 7. Performs those duties assigned by the SCC, the Executive Committee, or the
184 Administration Committee, as well as those customarily delegated to the office of the
185 Chair.
- 186 B. Vice Chairs: Assume the duties of Chair in the State Chair's absence, as determined
187 in Section 6D. The Vice Chair also discharges the responsibilities that the SCC or its Executive
188 Committee, or the Administration Committee assigns.
- 189 C. The Secretary:
- 190 1. Takes and keeps the minutes of all meetings of the SCC, the Executive
191 Committee and the Administration Committee;
- 192 2. Keeps records of the SCC;
- 193 3. Maintains and publishes a copy of the Bylaws and the standing rules;
- 194 4. Maintains rosters of DPO committee and standing committee membership;
- 195 5. Performs such other duties as the SCC and the Executive Committee direct.
- 196 D. The Treasurer:
- 197 1. Is the custodian of all funds and securities of the DPO;
- 198 2. Maintains adequate records of DPO finances of this organization and is
199 responsible for the filing of all required federal and state reports;
- 200 3. Is responsible for the financial affairs of the SCC;
- 201 4. Prepares and submits reports within 30 days of the end of each fiscal year.
- 202 5. Serves as a member of the standing committee on Budget;
- 203 6. At least once each month, to the extent funds are available, pays all outstanding
204 bills. For the purposes of these Bylaws, "outstanding bills" means the bills which have
205 been incurred within the current budget.
- 206 7. Performs other duties as assigned by the SCC or its Executive Committee
207 directs, as well as those which are customarily delegates to the office of Treasurer.
208

209 **Section 8 - Presidential Electors**

210 The Chair and the Vice Chair who is of opposite gender of the chair, serve as Presidential
211 Electors in a Presidential Election year. If the Chair or Vice Chair is unable to serve, the
212 remaining Vice Chair or Secretary, in that order, serve as a Presidential Elector.
213

214 **ARTICLE VI - SCC MEETINGS**

215 **Section 1** – Number of meetings - At least one meeting of the SCC is held in each calendar
216 quarter.
217

218 **Section 2 - Organizational Meeting** - The first meeting of a newly-elected SCC is known as the
219 Organizational Meeting. It is called by the sitting State Chair and is held in the first quarter of
220 the year following a general election to organize and to elect officers.

221 **Section 3 - Call - Meetings are called by the State Chair, or in the Chair's absence or incapacity,**
222 **by the one of the Vice Chairs, or in the absence or incapacity of both, by any other officer of the**
223 **SCC.**
224

225 **Section 4 - Notice - Notice of all meetings is sent by first class mail to all members and**
226 **alternates of the SCC at least 20 days before the meeting date. The notice specifies the time,**
227 **place, address, and provisional agenda of the meeting.**
228

229 **Section 5 - Agenda - The Chair prepares a provisional agenda to be included in the meeting**
230 **notice. The first order of business, following disposition of the minutes, is adoption of an agenda.**
231 **After the agenda is adopted, any change in the number or order of matters to be considered**
232 **requires suspension of the rules by a two-thirds vote.**
233

234 **Section 6 - Quorum – Forty Percent of the members or alternates serving as delegates, constitute**
235 **a quorum, if each congressional district is represented. If the Chair determines that a quorum is**
236 **no longer present, no further business may be conducted.**
237

238 **Section 7 - Voting - Only those members, or their alternates who are present, are eligible to vote,**
239 **except as otherwise entitled under these Bylaws. Unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws,**
240 **decisions are made by a majority of those present and voting.**
241

242 **Section 8 - Teleconference Meetings - Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, an**
243 **emergency meeting may be conducted by telephone or video conference, subject to the approval**
244 **of the Administration Committee.**
245

246 **ARTICLE VII – PLATFORM CONVENTIONS**

247 **Section 1 - Convention Call - A State Democratic Platform Convention is held in each election**
248 **year within forty-five days before or after the Primary Election. The purpose of the State**
249 **Democratic Platform Convention is to adopt a platform for the DPO and to perform other**
250 **functions assigned to it by the SCC or these Bylaws. The Executive Committee calls the**
251 **Convention.**

252 **A. At least 90 days before to the Convention, each county receives notice of how many**
253 **delegates and alternates it is entitled to elect.**

254 **B. Each county central committee elects delegates and alternates at least 30 days before**
255 **the Convention and notifies DPO of the names and addresses of those elected as soon as**
256 **practicable.**

257 **C. At least 20 days before the Convention, the DPO notifies, by mail, each delegate and**
258 **alternate whose name and address are known to the DPO, of the time, place, fees, draft platform,**
259 **proposed rules, and agenda for the convention.**
260

261 **Section 2 – Platform Convention Delegates and Alternates**

262 **A. Each county chooses delegates to the State Democratic Platform Convention on the**
263 **basis of one delegate for each 1,000 registered Democrats or major fraction of 1,000 within the**
264 **county. No county will have fewer than two delegates.**

265 **B. Each county may elect one-half as many alternates as it has delegates. If a county is**
266 **entitled to an odd number of delegates, the number of alternates is rounded up.**

267 C. All statewide Democratic office holders, all incumbent Democratic legislators, U.S.
268 Representatives, U.S. Senators and all DPO officers, including DNC members, are automatic
269 delegates. Automatic delegates do not count against any county's number of delegates.

270 D. Each county central committee may establish its own rules for selecting a delegation
271 chair, filling vacancies in its delegation, seating its own alternates in lieu of delegates, and
272 conducting caucuses at the Convention; except that no county may impose a binding unit rule on
273 any vote cast by the members of any delegation.

274
275 **ARTICLE VIII - DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

276 **Section 1** - The DPO Chair, and the Vice Chair who is of the opposite gender to the chair, shall
277 serve as members of the DNC as provided in the charter of the Democratic Party of the United
278 States.

279
280 **Section 2** – At its fourth-quarter meeting of the DPO in presidential election years, the SCC
281 elects members of the DNC apportioned to the State of Oregon under the National Democratic
282 Party Charter, for a four-year term, which begins as soon as the member is elected.

283
284 **Section 3** - Candidates for DNC member positions must file a notice of candidacy on a form
285 supplied by the DPO. That form must be filed with the DPO Executive Director not later than 5
286 p.m., 25 days before the election. The names of those candidates who have filed will be provided
287 to the SCC in a notice mailed 20 days before the election, and their names will be included on a
288 ballot provided at the SCC meeting. Write-in candidates are allowed.

289
290 **Section 4** - Members of the DNC may be recalled as described in Article V, Section 5.
291

292 **ARTICLE IX - CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT COMMITTEES**

293 **Section 1** - Membership - Members of the Congressional District Committees include at least
294 two delegates from each county within the Congressional District and one delegate for each
295 15,000 Democrats or major fraction of 15,000 Democrats within the county and the
296 Congressional District as of the primary election.

297
298 **Section 2** - Organizational Meeting - Each Congressional District Committee holds its
299 organizational meeting not later than the first quarter of the year following a General Election.
300 The sitting District Chair calls the organizational meeting by the end of the year of a General
301 Election. If the sitting District Chair fails to call the organizational meeting by end of that year,
302 the State Chair calls the meeting.

303
304 **Section 3** - Duties

305 A. At its organizational meeting, each Congressional District Committee elects
306 representatives to serve on the standing committees of the SCC, and adopts bylaws.

307 B. The chairs of the Congressional District Committees serve as Presidential Electors
308 during a Presidential Election year. If the District Chair is unable to serve, the district
309 committee's Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer, in that order, serve as a Presidential Elector.

310 **ARTICLE X - COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEES**

311 **Section 1** – Organization - Each county central committee must reorganize within 25 months of
312 its previous organizational meeting, as required by state law. The sitting County Chair calls the
313 meeting. If the sitting County Chair fails to call the organizational meeting within the time the
314 county bylaws require, the State Chair calls the meeting.

315
316 **Section 2** – County central committees may combine with other county central committees to
317 organize with the consent of each involved county central committee and the SCC. Counties
318 deciding to combine may elect a single set of officers.

319 A. The combined counties will not lose representation in the SCC.

320 B. Delegates and alternates may be elected from the combined counties, as long as a
321 majority of the precinct committee people from each of the combined counties agrees.
322

323 **ARTICLE XI – VACANCIES IN PUBLIC OFFICE**

324 If a vacancy occurs in a public office held by a Democrat or for which a Democrat is
325 nominated, where the DPO or any of its subdivisions is called on to select the person to fill the
326 vacancy, the following procedure is used, unless otherwise provided by state law.
327

328 **Section 1** - Nominating Authority

329 A. The nominating authority for statewide office, including United States Senator, is the
330 SCC.

331 B. The nominating authority for United States Representative is a committee consisting
332 of all precinct committee people residing and representing precincts within the congressional
333 district on the date the vacancy is created. The Congressional District Committee conducts the
334 nominating meeting.

335 C. The nominating authority for county offices is the county central committee.

336 D. The nominating authority for the Oregon Senate or House of Representatives or for
337 other offices not referred to above, consists of Democratic precinct committee persons from the
338 district for which the nomination is being held, as under ORS 171.060. The chair of the
339 Democratic county central committee for the county containing the greatest number of registered
340 Democrats within the district acts as the chair of the committee.
341

342 **Section 2** - Membership and Votes

343 A. The State Chair ascertains the total number of registered Democrats in each county, or
344 part of the county relating to the office, and certifies the numbers to the nominating authority.

345 B. For statewide and congressional vacancies and state legislative vacancies in districts
346 which represent more than one county, each member (or delegate) of the nominating authority
347 has a whole number of votes equal to the total number of registered Democrats from that
348 member's county or relevant portion, divided by the number of members of the nominating
349 authority attending from that county. A fraction resulting from the division is disregarded.

350 C. For a vacancy in a county office, state legislative office in a district entirely within one
351 county, and other offices not mentioned above, each Democratic precinct committee person
352 representing a precinct within the district on the date that the vacancy occurred, has one vote.
353

354 **Section 3** - Voting Procedure

355 A. Only members of the nominating authority are eligible to vote.

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B. Voting combines a secret ballot with a public roll call of the members of the nominating authority.

C. For statewide and congressional vacancies and state legislative vacancies in districts that include more than one county, each member may divide his or her votes among several candidates. The selection of each nominee is by a majority of the total votes authorized in Section 2B. In other cases, the selection is by a majority of those members present and voting.

Section 4 - Meeting Notice - The Chair of the nominating authority calls a special meeting of the appointing authority to fill the vacancy within the period provided by law, and gives notice in writing in at least six days, or in case of an emergency, gives notice by telephone within three days.

ARTICLE XII - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1 - Authority – The Executive Committee has the authority to:

- A. Act for the SCC when time does not permit properly calling a meeting of the SCC; all such actions should be reported to the SCC at its next meeting;
- B. Elect the Treasurer, who serves at the pleasure of the Executive Committee;
- C. Approve paid personnel appointed by the Chair and the Administration Committee;
- D. Determine whether the Chair is paid a salary. The Chair may not participate in or be present at a deliberation concerning the Chair’s compensation.
- E. Approve the expenditures authorized in the current budget, and authorize deviations from the budget not to exceed 5 percent on any budget line item, but may authorize a deviation or any expenditure of revenue not anticipated in the current budget;
- F. Propose a budget based on the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee to the SCC;
- G. Approve proposed budget amendments and deviations not covered by Section E of this Article, subject to approval of the SCC;
- H. Approve all major DPO fundraising programs.
- I. Oversee the establishment and maintenance of special group caucuses.
- J. Carry forward the policies and programs of the DPO and the DNC.

Section 2 - Membership - The members of the Executive Committee are:

- A. The officers of the SCC;
- B. The Chair, or Vice Chair acting as the Chair's alternate, of each standing committee;
- C. Six at-large members elected by SCC delegates from three regional caucuses: one from Region One, two from Region Two, and three from Region Three.
 - 1. Region One comprises Baker, Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Klamath, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco and Wheeler counties.
 - 2. Region Two comprises Benton, Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk, Tillamook and Yamhill counties.
 - 3. Region Three comprises Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties.
 - 4. At-large members are nominated from the floor at a meeting of their regional caucus not later than the first meeting of the SCC following the organizational meeting. These members are elected by majority vote. The regional caucuses may fill vacancies at

401 any meeting of the SCC, or caucus meeting duly called for that purpose. The State Chair
402 shall appoint facilitators to preside over the regional caucus meetings.

403 D. The chair or the chair's designee of each DPO-recognized Special Group Caucus that
404 complies with the criteria for meetings, membership, and activities. as stated in Article XV.

405 E. One SCC delegate elected by each congressional district committee.

406 F. Each Democratic member of Congress, each Democratic statewide elected office
407 holder, and each Democratic member of the Oregon House and Senate.

408

409 **Section 3 - Meetings and Telephone Conferences**

410 A. The Executive Committee meets at least once every quarter to transact DPO business
411 within its jurisdiction but may meet more frequently at the call of the Chair or a majority of its
412 members.

413 B. Notice of Executive Committee meetings must be mailed at least 20 days before the
414 meeting, except for emergency meetings that may be held on shorter notice. Emergency
415 meetings may be telephone conference calls or video-conference meetings. A reasonable effort
416 to contact all members must be made and at least two-thirds of the members contacted. Approval
417 must be obtained from two thirds of those contacted.

418 C. Twelve members of the Executive Committee constitute a quorum.

419

420 **Section 4 - Procedure - Subject to these Bylaws, the Executive Committee may establish its own**
421 **rules procedure.**

422

423 **Section 5 - Resignation and Removal of Members - A member of the Executive Committee, who**
424 **actively and openly supports a non-Democratic candidate for partisan elective office, when a**
425 **Democrat is running for the same office, is subject to removal by a two-thirds vote of the SCC.**

426

427 **ARTICLE XIII - ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

428 **Section 1 – Authority**

429 The Administration Committee:

430 A. Serves as the personnel committee for the DPO, and, under the guidance of the Chair,
431 supervises the Executive Director.

432 B. Upon the recommendation of the Chair, and with the approval of the Executive
433 Committee, employs and releases all paid personnel, provided that no person may be hired for
434 any position which has not been approved by the Executive Committee, and for which funds
435 have not been budgeted as required by these Bylaws.

436 C. When revenues available for campaign purposes exceed those in the budget, may
437 allocate those funds.

438 D. Notwithstanding the provisions of 1B, when unanticipated and unbudgeted revenue is
439 received, may, upon a finding of an immediate need by the Executive Committee, allocate those
440 funds for personnel.

441 E. Develops and implements policies relating to the role of officers, staff and committees
442 in executing the work of the DPO.

443 F. Performs such the other duties as the Executive Committee or SCC may from time to
444 time direct, subject to these Bylaws.

445 **Section 2 - Membership** — The membership of the Administration Committee is the elected
446 officers of the DPO.
447

448 **ARTICLE XIV – STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

449 **Section 1 - Standing Committees -** Each Congressional District Committee elects committee
450 delegates and alternates to the standing committees in the following numbers:

- 451 * Budget Committee: Two delegates, one alternate
- 452 * Campaign Committee: Five delegates, two alternates
- 453 * Credentials Committee: Two delegates, one alternate
- 454 * Finance Committee: Two delegates, one alternate
- 455 * Platform and Resolutions Committee: Five delegates, two alternates
- 456 * Rules Committee: Three delegates, two alternates

457 A. The chairs of the campaign committees of the Oregon House and Senate caucuses are
458 members of the Campaign Committee.

459 B. The Chair of the SCC appoints the chair, vice chair and one voting member of each
460 standing committee. The chair of the standing committee may appoint one voting member of the
461 standing committee, with approval of the Administration Committee.

462 C. In the case of the Finance Committee, the State Chair appoints five members, in
463 addition to the chair and vice chair of the committee. The committee chair appoints another five
464 members, subject to the approval of the Administration Committee.

465 D. A committee member who has two consecutive unexcused absences is removed, and
466 the vacancy filled by the appointing authority. No person may serve on more than one standing
467 committee.

468
469 **Section 2 – Standing Committee vacancies**

470 If a Congressional District Committee has not filled a standing committee position to which it is
471 entitled within two calendar months after the chair of a standing committee has given notice of a
472 vacancy, the State Chair may fill the vacancy with a person from that congressional district.
473

474 **Section 3 - Proxy Voting -** No vote may be cast by proxy in any committee of the DPO.
475

476 **Section 4 - Telephone Conference Meetings -** Standing committees may meet by telephone or
477 videoconference, with the approval of the DPO Chair.
478

479 **Section 5 - Duties of Standing Committees**

480 A. The Budget Committee:

481 1. Prepares an annual budget for the Democratic Party of Oregon for submission
482 to the Executive Committee by November 1, and for the subsequent submission to the
483 State Central Committee at its 4th quarter meeting;

484 2. Makes all necessary reports to the State Central Committee.

485 B. The Campaign Committee:

486 1. Assists with candidate recruitment at all levels;

487 2. Assists county central committees to support their candidates in local and state
488 races;

489 3. Assists candidates and county central committees with training in essential
490 areas such as financial reporting and using the voter file;

- 491 4. With the assistance of staff, operates the State Fair booth, and assists county
492 central committees with operating booths at their county fairs;
493 5. Coordinates an annual inventory of all Democrats who hold partisan or non-
494 partisan offices and who are candidates for office;
495 6. Performs the other functions that may be assigned by the SCC.
496 C. The Credentials Committee:
497 1. Signs up members of the SCC and Executive Committee, designating delegates
498 and alternates.
499 2. Conducts elections for party officers with the assistance of DPO staff;
500 3. Assists with members' registration for special events, and other duties as
501 assigned.
502 D. The Finance Committee:
503 Proposes and coordinates methods of fundraising and with the approval of the
504 Executive Committee, implements them.
505 E. The Platform and Resolutions Committee:
506 1. Recommends resolutions to the SCC;
507 2. Submits a draft platform to the DPO's platform convention;
508 3. Assures that proposed resolutions and platforms are submitted in accordance
509 with the Bylaws and rules of the DPO.
510 4. Recommends ballot measures to the SCC.
511 F. The Rules Committee:
512 1. Reviews the Bylaws regularly and recommends amendments;
513 2. Proposes the rules and procedures for state conventions. Those rules and
514 procedures are to be approved by the delegates of those conventions.
515 3. Reviews the bylaws of prospective special group caucuses to ensure those
516 bylaws meet the goals and Bylaws of the DPO. The committee may recommend approval
517 of the caucus to the SCC.
518

519 **Section 6 - Special Committees -** The State Chair or the SCC may establish special committees.
520 The State Chair appoints chairs, vice chairs and other members of the special committees, with at
521 least one member from each Congressional District. Special committees are responsible to the
522 Chair.
523

524 **ARTICLE XV – SPECIAL GROUP CAUCUSES**

525 The SCC may grant official recognition to a statewide caucus of Democrats sharing
526 demographic or similar identity. Caucuses are meant to encourage people with similar interests
527 to be active in supporting the Democratic Party. The purpose of granting official recognition is to
528 enable the caucus to participate in the policy decisions and the outreach programs of the DPO.
529 Recognition is subject to the following provisions:

530 A. A suggested caucus must present a proposal and a draft mission statement for approval
531 by the Executive Committee;

532 B. Caucus by-laws must be submitted for approval to the SCC through the Rules
533 Committee;

534 C. After approval by the Executive Committee, the proposed Caucus must obtain the
535 signatures of at least 20 percent of the membership of the SCC from at least three congressional

536 districts. The signatures must be submitted to the Rules Committee along with the proposed
537 bylaws of the caucus.

538 D. The Rules Committee reviews the bylaws of prospective special group caucuses to
539 ensure those bylaws meet the goals and Bylaws of the DPO. The committee may recommend
540 approval of the caucus to the SCC;

541 E. To achieve official recognition, the Caucus must be approved by the SCC;

542 F. Each caucus is responsible for complying with the regulations and financial
543 requirements of the SCC;

544 G. Official recognition of a Caucus extends until the SCC votes to remove recognition;

545 H. A caucus will be entitled to a seat on the executive committee when it is first approved
546 and thereafter so long as it annually meets the following standards:

547 1. The caucus shows it has at least 30 active members.

548 2. The caucus meets at least semi-annually, after giving the DPO advance notice
549 of those meetings.

550 3. The caucus makes a report showing substantial activity in addition to the
551 semiannual meetings.

552 I. Membership and full voting rights in an officially recognized caucus is open to all
553 registered Democrats who meet the membership requirements.

554 J. Caucus bylaws must include a statement declaring that the caucus will support only
555 Democratic elected officials and Democratic nominees in partisan races.

556 K. Failure to comply may result in a vote by the SCC to remove recognition of the
557 caucus. If recognition is removed, the caucus may reapply for recognition, through the
558 Executive Committee.

559 L. In the first quarter of every year, each caucus must present the DPO with a report of its
560 membership, attendance and activities for the preceding calendar year.

561

562

ARTICLE XVI - RESOLUTIONS

563 **Section 1** – Submission of resolutions - Any member of the SCC may submit a resolution to the
564 State Chair for consideration at the first meeting of the SCC to take place more than 25 days after
565 the submission.

566 A. These resolutions will be included in the notice of the next meeting and the Chair will
567 submit them to the appropriate committee.

568 B. The committee receiving the resolution may recommend adoption, rejection, or offer a
569 substitute, or make no recommendation.

570 C. If the committee to which the Chair submitted a timely filed resolution fails to bring
571 the resolution to the floor at the next SCC meeting, then the SCC may ask the committee to
572 report, after which the SCC may vote, by a two-thirds majority, to bring the resolution to the
573 floor.

574 D. Resolutions, unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws, require a majority vote.

575

576 **Section 2** – Types of resolutions - A substantive resolution is one that requires the DPO to take
577 action, as opposed to a resolution that expresses a point of view.

578 A. A resolution is initiated by a member of the SCC, submitting it to the Chair.

579 B. A substantive resolution requires a two-thirds majority for passage.

580 **Section 3** – Resolutions submitted after the deadline - Any resolution that has not been submitted
581 to the Chair at least 25 days before a meeting of the SCC requires a two-thirds majority vote for
582 passage.
583

584 **ARTICLE XVII - FINANCES**

585 **Section 1** - Fiscal Year - The fiscal year of the DPO is the calendar year, and the annual budget
586 must be approved by the SCC at a meeting during the fourth quarter of the preceding year.
587 Adoption of the budget may not be amended without the recommendation of the Executive
588 Committee and the approval of the SCC, or by suspension of the rules, and a two-thirds majority
589 vote, of the SCC.
590

591 **Section 2** - Deposits - All DPO funds must be deposited to its credit in such the banks or other
592 depositories as the Administration Committee designates.
593

594 **Section 3** - Treasurer's Bond - The Treasurer must be bonded at all times in an amount fixed by
595 the Administration Committee.
596

597 **ARTICLE XVIII - ELECTIONS FOR PUBLIC OFFICE**

598 **Section 1** - Unless the SCC votes otherwise, only registered Democrats may vote in the
599 Democratic primary.

600 A. A vote to open the Democratic Primary to non-affiliated voters must occur at a State
601 Central Committee meeting held before the statutory deadline.

602 B. Approval requires a two-thirds majority vote of the SCC and will govern only that
603 primary.

604 C. Unless the DNC rules otherwise, nothing in this section allows the opening of a
605 primary ballot that includes the office of President of the United States.
606

607 **Section 2** - Only registered Democrats may receive the Democratic Party's nomination for
608 partisan public office.
609

610 **ARTICLE XIX - STANDING RULES**

611 The SCC may adopt, revise, or cancel rules relating to procedural matters at any time, by
612 majority vote, as long as such rules do not conflict with or negate the provisions of these Bylaws.

613 A. Standing Rules may be considered only on recommendation of the Rules Committee.

614 B. Such rules remain in effect until canceled by:

615 1. A deadline named in the rules;

616 2. By majority vote of the SCC;

617 3. Until re-approved, along with these Bylaws, at the next organizational meeting
618 of the DPO.
619

620 **ARTICLE XX – NOTICE REQUIREMENTS**

621 “Notice” under these Bylaws, unless provided otherwise, may be made in any of the
622 following ways:

623 A. Oral notice, in person or by telephone is effective immediately.

624 B. Written notice, which is effective in three days, means:

625 1. First-class mail, postage paid;

- 626 2. By faxing to a number provided by the person authorized to receive the notice;
627 or,
628 3. E-mail to the last known e-mail address of the person authorized to receive the
629 notice.
630 C. SCC members are responsible for notifying the DPO of changes in their contact
631 information.
632

633 **ARTICLE XXI – BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

634 **Section 1** - These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote at a SCC meeting.
635

636 **Section 2** - Proposed bylaw amendments may be brought before the SCC only in the following
637 ways:

- 638 A. Upon recommendation of the Rules Committee; or,
639 B. By request of 20 members of the SCC, including at least one member from each
640 congressional district.
641

642 **Section 3** - Any request submitted under Section 2B shall be referred to the Rules Committee.
643

- 644 A. The Rules Committee may recommend disposition.
645 B. If by the next SCC meeting the Rules Committee has taken no action, it will be
646 deemed to have recommended that the amendment be tabled until the next meeting of the SCC.
647 That recommendation may be debated.

648 C. If the Rules Committee recommends a modification of the original amendment, the
649 modification is voted on, and if adopted as modified, shall take effect. If the modification is
650 disapproved, a vote is taken on the original proposed amendment without further debate.

651 **Section 4** - No bylaw amendment may be brought to the floor unless notice has been given by
652 the Rules Committee or by its proponents under Section 2B, either at a previous SCC meeting, or
653 by at least 45 days written notice to SCC members.
654

655 **Section 5** – Proposed bylaw amendments may not be amended from the floor, other than by
656 unanimous consent.
657

658 **Section 6** - Notwithstanding these Bylaws, the Rules Committee may propose a bylaw
659 amendment without notice to the SCC, as long as there is unanimous consent of both the Rules
660 Committee and the SCC to bring it to the floor.
661

662 **ARTICLE XXII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

663 Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or by Oregon state law, the rules of
664 procedure contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the DPO in all
665 cases in which they are applicable.