



Memorandum

To: Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) Members, Federal and State Democratic Candidates, and Interested Parties
From: Political Department
Date: June 2022
Re: 2022 Post-Primary Endorsement Process General Information

Introduction

Pursuant to the California Democratic Party (CDP) By-Laws, if a CDP-endorsed candidate in the Primary Election advances to the General Election in a race, that endorsement remains in effect. Otherwise, the Post-Primary endorsement process will be held in the manner outlined in this memo for federal and state offices, including U.S. House, State Assembly, and State Senate (even-numbered districts), depending on whether (1) one Democratic candidate (Party Preference: Democratic) advances to the General Election and that candidate did not receive the pre-Primary endorsement, or (2) two Democratic candidates (Party Preference: Democratic) advance to the General Election and neither candidate received the Pre-Primary endorsement. For more information, visit the CDP Endorsements page: www.cadem.org/endorsements.

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1. One Democratic Candidate Advancing to the General Election

Overview

If only one Democratic candidate in an election contest is advancing to the General Election, one of the following would apply and no Post-Primary Endorsing Caucus will be held.

Democratic Candidate Previously Endorsed in the Primary Election

All endorsed Democratic candidates advancing to the General Election will retain their endorsements.

Democratic Candidate Previously Sought Endorsement Consideration But Not Endorsed

If the Democratic candidate applied for the CDP Pre-Primary endorsement but did not receive it, this candidate will become the CDP endorsed candidate, subject to the objection process outlined below.

Democratic Candidate Did Not Previously Seek Endorsement Consideration

If the Democratic candidate did not seek CDP Pre-Primary endorsement consideration, the candidate may file for CDP endorsement within two (2) days of the Secretary of State's certification of the Primary Election results (by 5:00 PM on Sunday, July 17, 2022). The deadline for the Secretary of State's certification of Primary Election results is no later than 38 days after the Primary Election, which is Friday, July 15, 2022. The candidate will become the CDP endorsed candidate fifteen (15) days after the Secretary of State certification of the Primary Election (Saturday, July 30, 2022), subject to the objection process outlined below.

Filing for Post-Primary Endorsement

To file for endorsement, a candidate must submit a signed CDP Post-Primary Endorsement Candidate Registration Form and submit the appropriate non-reimbursable filing fee (U.S. House: \$350, State Senate: \$500, State Assembly: \$250) by Sunday, July 17, 2022, 5:00 PM. Additionally, candidates seeking CDP endorsement consideration shall affirm in writing that they have read the most current CDP Platform. The CDP adopts Platform every two years. The current Platform was adopted on March 6, 2022. The platform is available online at www.cadem.org/platform. CDP Post-Primary Candidate Registration Form will be available on CDP Endorsements webpage after the Primary Election at www.cadem.org/endorsements.

Objection/Appeal Process

- **Filing** – Any Letter of Objection must be made in writing and filed within fifteen (15) days after the Secretary of State's certification of the Primary Election results (by 5:00 PM on Saturday, July 30, 2022) to have the endorsement reviewed by the Election Appeals Committee. The deadline for the Secretary of State's certification of Primary Election results is no later than 38 days after the Primary Election, which is Friday, July 15, 2022. The filing shall be made to CDP Secretary and must be signed by 20% of the qualified DSCC Members resident in the relevant district. The filing should be sent to Secretary secretary@cadem.org, cc Chair Rusty Hicks (chair@cadem.org), Election Appeals Committee ElectionAppealsCommittee@cadem.org. It can also be sent via fax to (916) 442-5715 or via mail to: 1830 9th St., Sacramento, CA 95811. Please note that the deadline is a *received by* deadline.
- **Letter of Objection Served on the Candidate** – The letter of objection must also be served on the candidate in question by the objecting parties by first class mail at the same time that the letter of objection is filed with the CDP Secretary.
- **Elections Appeals Committee** – If an objection is filed, an Election Appeals Committee will make the final determination at a meeting no later than five (5) days after an objection has been filed. The Election Appeals Committee shall be composed of the statewide officers; the Regional Director(s) of the relevant district, two (2) Executive Board members, appointed by the State Chair, from each of the following committees: Rules, Credentials, and Voter Services.

2. In the case of a race where two Democrats advance to the general and one of them is already the endorsed candidate, that endorsement shall remain in effect.

3. Two Democrats Advance to the General Election and No Pre-Primary Endorsement Was Made – Endorsing Caucus to Be Held

U.S. House, State Senate, and State Assembly

Overview

If two Democratic candidates in a U.S. House, State Senate, or State Assembly election contests advance to the General Election and neither candidate received CDP Pre-Primary endorsement, the CDP Chair calls a Post-Primary Endorsing Caucus in the relevant district. The exact date and time for each virtual Post-Primary Endorsing Caucus will be made public by July 12, 2022, to be held either Saturday, July 23, 2022, or Sunday, July 24, 2022.

Eligible Candidates

Only candidates who are registered Democrats advancing to the General Election and have requested endorsement consideration are eligible to be considered at the Post-Primary Endorsing Caucus.

Filing for Post-Primary Endorsement Consideration

To file for endorsement, a candidate who did not previously file must submit a signed CDP Post-Primary Endorsement Candidate Registration Form and submit the appropriate non-reimbursable filing fee (U.S. House: \$350, State Senate: \$500, State Assembly: \$250) by July 17, 2022. CDP Post-Primary Candidate Registration Form will be available on CDP Endorsements webpage after the Primary Election at www.cadem.org/endorsements.

Eligible Voters

Eligible voters are qualified DSCC Members resident in the relevant district as of January 18, 2022 for the 2022 CDP State Convention. DSCC Members who were eligible but have since the appointing deadline died, moved, changed their registration to a district other than the district the election is occurring, or resigned may be replaced by the appropriate appointing authority.

A candidate can obtain a list of eligible voters once the candidate has submitted a completed CDP Post-Primary Endorsement Candidate Registration Form and paid the appropriate filing fee.

At the Post-Primary Endorsing Caucus – Voting (Note: 2022 Caucuses Will Be Virtual Not In-Person)

- **Quorum** - Fifty percent plus one of the credentialed members of an Endorsing Caucus shall constitute a quorum, whether in-person or voting by mail.
- **Voting** - Votes are public per DNC By-Laws and CDP By-Laws. Voting at the Endorsing Caucus is by signed written ballot, the results of which shall be read off as though it were a roll call vote. Members must be present at the Endorsing Caucus to vote or send in their vote-by-mail ballot to the Regional Director/Convener chairing the Endorsing Caucus. No proxy voting is allowed.
- **Valid Votes** - Per CDP By-Laws, in order to vote, and have one's vote counted, at any meeting of This Committee, a member must have timely: (1) paid their dues to the CDP, or had them waived, (2) completed and returned to the proper authority any ballot that may be issued, and (3) agreed in writing to abide by the Code of Conduct. Each member may vote for one of the candidates who has filed to participate in the endorsement process or vote for "No Endorsement" on the ballot.
- **Threshold** - A candidate must receive at least 60% (sixty percent) of the votes of the Endorsing Caucus members present and voting to be endorsed. "No Endorsement" is counted as a vote; however, pursuant to *Robert's Rules of Order*, an abstention will not be counted. If no candidate receives 60% and "No Endorsement" fails to achieve a majority, it is deemed that the Endorsing Caucus has failed to make an endorsement and the position is "No Consensus."

- **One Endorsed Candidate** - The Endorsing Caucus may not endorse more candidates for an office than the number to be elected for that office.
- **Endorsement** - The decision of the Endorsing Caucus shall become the official endorsement of the California Democratic Party and is effective at the end of the Endorsing Caucus.

Objection/Appeal Process:

- **Filing** - Any objection must be made in writing and filed within two (2) days of the Endorsing Caucus by 5:00 PM with CDP Chair Rusty Hicks and must be signed by either: (1) a majority of the five statewide officers or (2) 20% of the DSCC members of the Endorsing Caucus of the relevant district. The filing should be sent to Secretary (secretary@cadem.org), cc Chair Rusty Hicks (chair@cadem.org), Election Appeals Committee (ElectionAppealsCommittee@cadem.org). It can also be sent via fax to (916) 442-5715 or via mail to: 1830 9th St., Sacramento, CA 95811. Please note that the deadline is a *received by* deadline.
- **Elections Appeals Committee** - If an objection is filed, an Election Appeals Committee will make the final determination at a meeting no later than five (5) days after an objection has been filed. The Election Appeals Committee shall be comprised of the statewide officers; the Regional Director(s) of the relevant district, two (2) Executive Board members, appointed by the State Chair, from each of the following committees: Rules, Credentials, and Voter Services.

Further Information

More information is available on the CDP Endorsements webpage at www.cadem.org/endorsements. If you have any questions, please feel free to email endorsements@cadem.org or contact (916) 442-5707.

*The CDP By-Laws supersede any information provided by staff regarding the endorsement process. A current copy can be found on our website at www.cadem.org. *This memo may be updated based on amendments made to the By-Laws regarding the CDP endorsement process or logistics planning details.*

2022 CDP Post-Primary Endorsement Key Dates

June 7 (Tues)	California Statewide Direct Primary Election
July 8-10	CDP Executive Board Meeting (JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE, 900 W Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90015). For more information: www.cadem.org/our-party/executive-board
July 15 (Fri)	Primary Election Certification: Deadline for the Secretary of State's certification of Primary Election results
July 16 (Sat)	Post-Primary Endorsing Caucus Ballots emailed to eligible voters
July 17 (Sun)	5:00 PM deadline for Democratic candidates who did not previously seek Pre-Primary endorsement consideration to file for CDP Post-Primary endorsement to the General Election
July 23	CDP Post-Primary Virtual Endorsing Caucuses in relevant districts (Exact Times https://cadem.org/endorsements/)
July 25 (Mon)	5:00 PM deadline to file an objection must be made in writing and filed within two (2) days of the Endorsing Caucus. Must be signed by either: (1) a majority of the five statewide officers or (2) 20% of the DSCC members of the Endorsing Caucus of the relevant district.
July 30 (Sat)	5:00 PM deadline to file Letter of Objection for election contests in which one Democratic candidate advances to the General Election but (1) was not previously endorsed during Pre-Primary endorsement process or (2) did not previously seek Pre-Primary endorsement consideration
August 17 (Wed)	Political Party Endorsements: 5:00 PM deadline to include political party endorsements in the official sample ballot