

1 **BYLAWS of the 35<sup>th</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS**

2 (APPROVED September 28, 2021)

3 **DRAFT of Proposed Amendments from Bylaws Committee**  
4 **Oct. 4, 2021**

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**BYLAWS**

60 The 35<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats, in order to support the principles and ideals  
61 of the Democratic Party, shall establish an open forum of respectful debate,  
62 encourage informed citizen participation in the political process, and elect  
63 Democrats to public office.

64 **ARTICLE I. NAME**

65 This organization, established under the charter and bylaws of the Democratic Party  
66 of the State of Washington, shall be known as the 35th Legislative District  
67 Democrats, hereinafter referred to as the "35th Dems".

68 **ARTICLE II. MISSION STATEMENT**

69 The mission of this organization shall be:

- 70 A. To express the Democratic Party's basic principles of inclusion and diversity  
71 by welcoming all 35th Legislative District citizens who share Democratic  
72 values in organizational activities.
- 73 B. To contribute to the development and advancement of the ideas and  
74 principles that constitute the core values of the Democratic Party.
- 75 C. To promote such actions as to ensure that all levels of government function  
76 for the common good of both its current citizens and future generations.
- 77 D. To build and maintain an effective local Democratic organization for the  
78 purpose of:
- 79 a. Recruiting, supporting, and electing candidates to office who reflect the  
80 values and positions of the 35th Dems.
- 81 b. Promoting positions on issues of public policy that are consistent with the  
82 values and positions of the 35th Dems.
- 83 c. Advise and assist approved and endorsed Democratic candidates for  
84 national, state, and local offices within the 35th LD.
- 85 d. Maximizing the Democratic vote in all elections.
- 86 E. The 35th Dems is an organization of inclusion, encouraging the fullest  
87 participation of all Democrats, without regard to race, sex, age, color, creed,  
88 national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity,  
89 economic status, or disability.

90 **ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP**

91 **Section 1. MEMBERS OF THE 35th DEMS.**

92 Membership in this organization is open to all Democrats who are:

- 93 A. Registered voters in the 35<sup>th</sup>, upon receipt of their annual dues.
- 94 B. Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs) in the 35<sup>th</sup> (who are automatically  
95 members.)
- 96 C. The following shall be exempt from dues:
- 97 a. Membership is granted to the Chairs of the County Democratic Central  
98 Committees of those counties having precincts within the 35th Legislative  
99 District, and
- 100 b. All publicly elected Democratic officials residing in one of the counties of  
101 the 35th LD shall be honorary, non-voting members, with speaking  
102 privileges at all meetings of the 35th Dems.

103 **Section 2. DUES.**

104 Annual dues for the 35<sup>th</sup> Dems (which shall be approved annually by the General  
105 Membership) are credited for membership for the calendar year (January 1 through  
106 December 31) in which they are received, except that dues received in November  
107 or December may be credited for membership in the following year.

- 108 A. The Executive Board, by majority vote (50%+1), may grant full membership  
109 with reduced or 100% waived dues to a person who requests a reduction.

110 Note: This provision shall be included in all descriptions of membership,  
111 membership forms, and dues payment systems.

112 **Section 3. VOTING PRIVILEGES.**

113 All members shall have full voting privileges on matters coming before the body  
114 with the following exceptions as per Statutes of the State of Washington, State  
115 Party Charter and Bylaws, and these Bylaws:

- 116 A. Only Precinct Committee Officers may vote to elect or remove officers.  
117 B. Only Precinct Committee Officers may vote to recommend appointments to  
118 fill vacancies for public office.  
119 C. Only Democrats who are members of the 35th Dems at least twenty-eight  
120 (28) calendar days prior to the 35th Dem's meeting where voting will take  
121 place, are eligible to vote on candidate endorsements/approvals and  
122 positions on non-candidate ballot measures.  
123 D. Potential Conflict of Interest: Any declared candidate for partisan office, who  
124 is a member of the 35th Dems, must refrain from voting on endorsements or  
125 candidate contributions for that specific office. If the candidate holds an  
126 officer position, and advances in the primary, their 35th Dem office shall be  
127 considered vacant following certification of the Washington State Primary  
128 Election.  
129

130 **ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS**

131 **Section 1. ELIGIBILITY FOR 35<sup>TH</sup> DEMS' ELECTED OFFICERS.**

132 Any member in good standing of the 35th Dems shall be eligible to hold any office,  
133 provided the Chair and Vice Chair self-identify as different genders, which shall be  
134 defined as male, female and gender non-binary.

135 **Section 2. ELECTED OFFICERS.**

136 The elected officers of this organization, who shall be elected at each Re-  
137 organization (Re-org) meeting, shall consist of the following:

- 138 A. Chair  
139 B. Vice Chair who self-identifies as a different gender than the Chair.  
140 C. Secretary  
141 D. Treasurer  
142 E. Two (2) State Committee members who self-identify as different genders.

143 **Section 3. APPOINTED OFFICERS.**

144 Appointed officers shall consist of the following:

- 145 A. A Sergeant-at-Arms, appointed by the Chair.
- 146 B. A Parliamentarian, appointed by the Chair.
- 147 C. Appointed officers serve at the pleasure of the Chair and may be dismissed
- 148 by the Chair.
- 149 a. Appointed officers shall serve terms concurrent with the Chair who
- 150 appointed them.

151 **Section 4. TERMS OF OFFICE.**

152 The officers of this organization shall serve terms of office as follows:

- 153 A. Elected officers shall serve two-year terms beginning immediately with the
- 154 Re-org meeting at which they are elected and ending at the following Re-org
- 155 meeting upon election of their successor, with the following exceptions:
- 156 a. An officer elected in between Re-org meetings shall serve until the
- 157 following Re-org meeting;
- 158 b. In case of resignation or death; and
- 159 c. Removal from office by the membership.

160 **Section 5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.**

161 Any member of the 35th Dems may nominate another member for office. Election

162 of officers shall be by one of the following methods:

- 163 A. Regular election of officers shall:
- 164 a. Occur at each Re-org meeting.
- 165 b. Be conducted by secret paper ballot or identifiable and auditable
- 166 electronic ballot, except that when there is only one nominee for an
- 167 office the election may be by voice vote.
- 168 c. Require a simple majority (50% +1) of Precinct Committee Officers
- 169 present and voting for election.
- 170 B. Special election of officers shall be conducted in the same manner as regular
- 171 elections with the following exception:
- 172 a. They shall occur at the next regular meeting of the 35th Dems
- 173 following a vacancy in office, provided that the Precinct Committee
- 174 Officers have received official notice at least seven (7) days prior to
- 175 the meeting. Official notice may be sent electronically.
- 176 c. Only PCOs within the 35th LD are eligible to vote in the election of officers.

177 **Section 6. RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE.**

178 Removal of an officer from office or a member from the Executive Board may be

179 accomplished by the following methods:

- 180 A. Any officer or member of the Executive Board may resign from office by
- 181 submitting a written resignation to the Executive Board.

- 182 B. Any officer or member of the Executive Board may be removed from office  
183 for failure to discharge the duties of the office to the satisfaction of the  
184 membership, provided:
- 185 a. The charges for removal are in writing and signed by at least five (5)  
186 PCOs within the 35th LD.
  - 187 b. A special meeting shall be called to address the removal of an officer;  
188 notice of said meeting must be mailed or emailed to the officer so  
189 charged and to 35<sup>th</sup> Dem members at least seven (7) days before the  
190 meeting at which the charges are to be addressed.
  - 191 c. The officer charged shall have the opportunity to address the  
192 membership.
  - 193 d. Two-thirds of the PCOs present and voting must vote in favor of  
194 removal from office.

## 195 **ARTICLE V. DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

### 196 **Section 1. CHAIR.**

197 The Chair shall:

- 198 A. Serve as the chief administrative officer and official spokesperson of this  
199 organization.
- 200 B. Preside at all meetings of the 35th Dems, as well as those of the Executive  
201 Board.
- 202 C. Call for and propose agenda for:
  - 203 a. All meetings of the 35<sup>th</sup> Dems and Executive Board.
  - 204 b. The re-org meeting following the general election in even numbered  
205 years.
  - 206 c. Caucuses and other conventions.
- 207 D. Appoint all committee Chairs, (with the exception of the Campaign  
208 Committee and the Nominating Committee); may serve as a non-voting  
209 member of all committees except the Nominating committee.
- 210 E. Maintain an up-to-date list of committee membership for each committee.
- 211 F. Appoint a Parliamentarian and a Sergeant-at-Arms. The Chair may not serve  
212 in either capacity.
- 213 F. May appoint a Deputy Treasurer, with approval of the 35th Dems.
- 214 G. Encourage the Chair of any County Democratic Central Committee (of those  
215 counties having precincts within the 35th LD) to appoint persons to fill PCO  
216 vacancies and may make recommendations regarding potential PCOs to fill  
217 such vacancies.
- 218 H. Maintain a complete up-to-date contact list of all precinct committee officers  
219 of the 35th Dems.
- 220 I. Sign checks on the treasury when the Treasurer is not available.
- 221 J. Perform all other duties pertaining to the office of Chair.

### 222 **Section 2. VICE CHAIR.**

223 The Vice Chair shall:

- 224 A. Assist the Chair in discharging the duties of that office.  
225 B. Perform the duties of the Chair in the absence or inability of that officer to  
226 act.  
227 C. Assume the office of Chair in case of a vacancy in that office until the  
228 vacancy is filled.  
229 D. If a Chair resigns in the middle of a term, and the Vice-Chair does not want  
230 to advance to the Chair position, the Vice-Chair can remain Vice-Chair  
231 regardless of the gender of the newly elected Chair for the remainder of the  
232 term. When the next reorganization happens in December of even-  
233 numbered years, then the Chair and Vice-Chair will have to be different  
234 genders.  
235 E. The Vice Chair shall acquire from the County organizations a database of  
236 elected positions throughout the 35th LD.  
237 F. The Vice-Chair shall be a member of the Campaign Committee.

238 **Section 3. SECRETARY.**

239 The Secretary shall:

- 240 A. Send notices to all members of membership and executive board meetings of  
241 the 35th Dems.  
242 B. Keep minutes of the 35th Dems and Executive Board meetings.  
243 C. Maintain copies of:  
244 a. All approved by-laws and/or amendments,  
245 b. The Washington State Democratic Central Committee (WSDCC)  
246 Charter & Bylaws,  
247 c. Relevant sections of the Revised Code of Washington (RCWs),  
248 d. The current WSDCC Platform, as it is considered the 35th Dems'  
249 Platform.  
250 D. Maintain copies of the formal reports generated by the officers and  
251 committees of the 35th Dems, and resolutions approved by the body.  
252 E. Maintain a combined list of PCOs and Members.  
253 F. Keep a list of all attendees to the 35th Dem and Executive Board meetings  
254 and events.

255 **Section 4. TREASURER**

256 **(and DEPUTY TREASURER if appointed by the Chair and approved by the**  
257 **35th Dems).**

258 The Treasurer and/or Deputy Treasurer shall:

- 259 A. Receive all monies of the 35th Dems, issue receipts for monies received upon  
260 request  
261 B. Keep an accurate record of payments made electronically or by check., as  
262 authorized by the approved budget or by majority vote of the 35th Dems.  
263 C. Make a complete financial report at all meetings or at any time upon the  
264 request of any member of the 35th Dems.

- 265 D. Keep records and file all reports required for compliance with the Public  
266 Disclosure Commission (PDC) and Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Provide  
267 for the inspection of the books as authorized by the PDC.  
268 E. Chair the budget committee which shall prepare a budget for submission to  
269 the 35<sup>th</sup> Dems for adoption.  
270 F. Maintain a list of those persons who have paid their annual dues for the 35th  
271 Dems and provide it to the Secretary.  
272 G. Provide the books for, and cooperate fully with, audits.  
273 H.

274 **Section 5. LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT STATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS (2) OF**  
275 **DIFFERENT GENDERS.**

276 The State Committee members, who shall self-identify as different genders, shall:

- 277 A. Act as liaison officers between the State Democratic Party and the 35th  
278 Dems.  
279 B. Attend all meetings of the Washington State Democratic Central Committee  
280 and report on those proceedings to the 35th Dems.  
281 C. ~~Arrange for a proxy, who is of their same gender and a member of the 35<sup>th</sup>~~  
282 ~~Dems~~~~See to it that their proxy, who is of their same gender, is sent with~~  
283 ~~another member of the 35th Dems, to attend~~ any WSDCC meeting they  
284 are unable to attend. Failure to attend any two consecutive meetings of the  
285 WSDCC in person or by proxy is grounds for removal from office.

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286 **Section 6. SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.**

287 The Sergeant-at-Arms shall:

- 288 A. Assist the Chair in keeping order in the meeting. At the direction of the  
289 Chair, if any person present is disruptive in any way, the Sergeant-at-Arms  
290 will ask the member to please refrain or leave the meeting. The Sergeant-  
291 at-Arms may find it necessary, under guidance from the Chair, to lead the  
292 person to the exit, taking great care not to use any force whatsoever.

293 **\*\*NOTE:** Please see the Washington Stage Democrats' Code of Conduct for types  
294 of behavior not allowed.

295 **Section 7. PARLIAMENTARIAN.**

296 The Parliamentarian shall:

- 297 A. Maintain a copy of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, latest edition, as  
298 well as a copy of these Bylaws.  
299 B. Advise the Chair on matters of parliamentary procedure and the contents of  
300 these Bylaws.

301 **ARTICLE VI. EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- 302 A. The Executive Board shall consist of the elected and appointed officers listed  
303 in these Bylaws. Additionally, there will be one member from each of the  
304 Democratic Central Committees of those counties with one or more precincts



305 in the 35th LD. The county's representative member may be its Chair or its  
306 Chair's designee. The Chair of the 35<sup>th</sup> shall extend the invitation to each of  
307 the County Chairs.

308 B. The elected Campaign Committee Chair and the appointed Webmaster or the  
309 Communications Chair shall serve on the Executive Board.

310 C. The Executive Board shall meet at the call of the Chair. All members of the  
311 Executive Board must be notified at least seven (7) days in advance of an  
312 Executive Board meeting. A quorum shall consist of five (5) members of the  
313 Executive Board, of which three must be elected 35th LD Dem officers.

314 D. The proposed agenda shall be included in the notice of the meeting.

315 **Section 1. LIMITATIONS.**

316 The Executive Board cannot negate any action taken by the 35th Dems.

317 **Section 2. EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIR AND SUCCESSION.**

318 The Chair of the 35th Dems shall be the Chair of the Executive Board, and in that  
319 officer's absence the succession shall be as follows: Vice-Chair, Secretary,  
320 Treasurer.

321 ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

322 Washington State Democrats' Code of Conduct shall apply to all members of the  
323 35th Dems participating in party-managed events or meetings.

324 Meetings of the 35th Dems are open to all Democrats, the public, and the press.

325 A. In the event that public emergency or natural disaster makes in-person  
326 gatherings unlawful or impractical, the 35<sup>th</sup> Dems may transact their business  
327 in virtual meeting places or other alternatives to physical gatherings of  
328 members, subject to reasonable rules adopted by the organization for such  
329 operations as provided that such additional rules, if any, governing the  
330 conduct of such meeting shall not be inconsistent with any rules adopted by  
331 the Washington State Democratic Central Committee relating to such  
332 operations.

333 **Section 1: VOTING & QUORUM.**

334 Each member shall have one vote, unless a weighted vote is called for a specific  
335 reason as required and defined by the Washington State Democratic Central  
336 Committee.

337 Proxy and absentee voting are prohibited.

338 The members present shall constitute a quorum for a regular quarterly meeting,  
339 provided that seven (7) days' notice has been made.

340

341 **Section 2: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.**

- 342 A. In all matters not expressly covered by these Bylaws, the WSDCC Charter  
343 and Bylaws, or the Revised Code of Washington, *Robert's Rules of Order*  
344 *Newly Revised*, latest edition, shall govern all 35th Dem meetings and all  
345 meetings of the Executive Board.

346 **Section 3: REGULAR MEETINGS.**

- 347 A. The regular meeting of the 35th Dems shall be held at least quarterly, and  
348 within one of the counties of the 35th LD, with meeting dates selected at the  
349 discretion of the Chair. Electronic attendance may be allowed at the  
350 discretion of the Chair.  
351 B. Written or electronic notices for regular meetings shall be sent to all  
352 members at least seven (7) days in advance of each meeting.

353 **Section 4: RE-ORG MEETING.**

- 354 A. The re-org meeting, including election of officers and adoption of bylaws, will  
355 take place between December 1 and 18 in even-numbered years.  
356 B. PCOs who were elected that year must be notified at least two weeks in  
357 advance of the re-org meeting, with the date set by the Executive Board.  
358 C. Only PCOs elected for the upcoming 2-year cycle may vote for officers in the  
359 re-org. If there are two or more candidates for one office, the election shall  
360 be conducted by secret ballot. Ballots need not be signed when voting for  
361 officers.  
362 a. The re-org meeting shall be convened by one of the officers present, in  
363 the following order: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer.  
364 b. The convening officer shall preside for the purpose of the election of a  
365 Chair pro tem.  
366 c. The Chair pro tem shall preside for the purpose of election of officers.  
367 d. Thereafter, all newly elected Officers will assume their positions  
368 immediately following the election.  
369 e. The first order of business following the election of officers shall be the  
370 adoption of bylaws. The 35th Dems shall operate under the old bylaws  
371 until new bylaws are adopted.

372

373 **Section 5: SPECIAL MEETINGS.**

- 374 A. A special meeting may be called at any time by the Chair, or in the Chair's  
375 absence or incapacity, by the Vice-Chair, or by any other officer in the  
376 absence or incapacity of the Chair and Vice-Chair.  
377 B. A special meeting may be called by request of one-third of the membership.  
378 Members must be notified in writing or electronically at least seven (7) days  
379 in advance of a special meeting.  
380 C. The call must state the reason for the special meeting.

381 **ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES**

- 382 A. The Chair has the authority to appoint committee chairs, who may, in turn,  
383 appoint additional committee members (with the exception of the Nominating  
384 Committee and the Campaign Committee, whose members shall be elected  
385 at a special or regular meeting of the 35<sup>th</sup> Dems).
- 386 B. Diversity in committee membership for each committee should reflect  
387 differences in status and of county of residence where practical. Committees  
388 may be established as needed and remain in existence until their objectives  
389 have been met.
- 390 C. Each committee chair shall provide the 35<sup>th</sup> Dems Chair with a list of  
391 committee members and notify the Chair of changes in membership.  
392

393 **Section 1: The 35th Dem Committees MAY include:**

394 Audit, Budget, Bylaws, Campaign, Communications, Diversity, Fundraising,  
395 Legislative, Nominating, Program/Forum, as defined:

- 396 A. **AUDIT COMMITTEE:** The Treasurer’s books shall be audited at least  
397 annually in November by a committee of three or more with the cooperation  
398 of the Treasurer, who shall not be a member of the Audit Committee. This  
399 audit should include a review of income, expenditures, and reports to the  
400 Public Disclosure Commission, as well as backup documentation for the  
401 same.
- 402 B. **BUDGET COMMITTEE:** This Committee, chaired by the Treasurer, shall  
403 propose a budget for the organization within the first quarter of each year.
- 404 C. **BYLAWS COMMITTEE:** The bylaws may be reviewed as needed by a  
405 committee who shall bring recommendations to the members.
- 406 D. **CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE:** This committee and its Chair, whose members  
407 shall be nominated and elected at the first meeting of the 35th Dems  
408 following the Re-org, shall recruit Democratic candidates to run for offices of  
409 State Senator and State Representative in the 35th Legislative District. The  
410 Campaign Committee shall not exceed 7 members, including the Committee  
411 Chair and the 35<sup>th</sup> Dems’ Vice Chair.  
412

413 Any member who has three or more unexcused absences within a calendar  
414 year shall be subject to removal from the Campaign Committee at the  
415 discretion of the Campaign Committee Chair in consultation with the Chair of  
416 the 35<sup>th</sup> Dems.

417  
418 In the case of a vacancy, the 35<sup>th</sup> LD Chair shall appoint an interim  
419 committee member; an election shall be held at the next meeting of the 35<sup>th</sup>  
420 Dems.  
421

422 Additionally, the committee may:

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- 423 a. Provide information to all candidates who are Democrats and share our  
424 values.
- 425 b. Educate endorsed and approved candidates on Issues of the 35th  
426 District, events and activities, our membership and other helpful  
427 information throughout the district.
- 428 c. Provide training and mentorship to potential candidates, especially for  
429 35th Legislative positions.
- 430 d. Acquire from the 35th Vice-Chair a database of elected positions  
431 throughout the 35th LD for potential legislative candidates.
- 432 e. May not include candidates for elective partisan office (with the  
433 exception of PCO) nor paid campaign workers.
- 434 f. The Campaign Committee Chair shall serve as a member of the  
435 Executive Board.
- 436 g. Campaign committee protocols shall not be considered part of the  
437 bylaws but shall be attached to and maintained with the bylaws in the  
438 POLICIES section. (See also ARTICLE IX)
- 439
- 440 E. **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:** The 35th Chair, at their discretion, may  
441 appoint a Communications Chair or Co-Chairs who shall have oversight over  
442 and shall coordinate all messaging for newsletters, website, press releases  
443 and electronic communications, such as email, Mailchimp, social media, and  
444 any other publicity deemed necessary. The Communications Chair may  
445 create subcommittees as needed.
- 446 F. **DIVERSITY COMMITTEE:** This Committee shall promote a diverse  
447 membership to represent the diversity of the population in the 35th LD. The  
448 Committee shall also promote diversity awareness in the 35th LD Dems  
449 organization and diversity, inclusion, and equity in the public institutions of  
450 the 35th LD.
- 451 G. **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:** This committee shall plan fund-raising events  
452 and create subcommittees as needed for each event. The subcommittees  
453 shall schedule and conduct the events.
- 454 H. **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE:** The committee shall track state legislation and  
455 keep members informed in a timely fashion of pending legislation and  
456 initiatives relevant to the 35th LD. This committee may not lobby on behalf  
457 of the 35th Dems.
- 458 I. **NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** This committee, whose members shall be  
459 nominated and elected at a meeting of the 35th Dems, will make  
460 recommendations of qualified candidates for 35th Dem officers to the  
461 members in advance of its biennial reorg meeting. All nominees must have  
462 agreed to be considered for such service. There may be more than one  
463 candidate per office. Executive Board members may not constitute a majority  
464 of this committee.
- 465 J. **PROGRAM/FORUM COMMITTEE:** Shall recommend speakers for meetings  
466 and fundraising events and may organize issue forums

467 **Section 2. COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

468 Chairs of committees shall present progress reports to the Executive Board as  
469 requested by the Chair of the 35th Dems.

470 **Section 3. COMMITTEE EXPENDITURES.**

471 No committee shall incur any expenditure involving this organization unless  
472 authorized by the 35th Dems.

473 **Section 4. CONTINUITY OF RECORDS.**

474 Retiring Committee Chairs must relinquish all books, records, and supplies upon  
475 retirement.

476 **ARTICLE IX. ENDORSEMENTS, OPPOSITION, OR APPROVAL.**

477

478 **Section 1. CANDIDATES.**

479 The 35th Dems may take action with respect to the endorsement of, approval of, or  
480 opposition to candidates seeking elected office, as outlined below. These actions  
481 may take place with or without a request from the candidate.

482 Only 35th LD members may vote on any of these actions:

- 483 A. "Endorsement" of a candidate with possible financial support of the 35th  
484 Dems requires two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting.  
485 a. Endorsements are constrained to one candidate for the same office in  
486 a primary or general election.  
487 b. Only endorsed candidates may seek financial assistance.
- 488 B. "Approval" of a candidate requires a simple majority (50%+1) of those  
489 present and voting. Approvals may be granted to more than one candidate  
490 for the same office in a primary election.  
491 a. "Approval" will allow candidates access to mailing lists and other  
492 assistance as the Executive Board feels is prudent.
- 493 C. "Opposition" to a candidate requires two-thirds of those present and voting.
- 494 D. Neither the candidate nor any paid Campaign workers shall be eligible to vote  
495 to endorse, approve, or oppose any candidate in that office due to conflict of  
496 interest.
- 497 E. No action equates to no official support for or opposition to a candidate by  
498 the 35th Dems.
- 499 F. The 35<sup>th</sup> Dems may authorize additional contributions to campaigns by  
500 majority vote.
- 501 G. Additionally, in even numbered years, after the last regularly scheduled  
502 membership meeting and before the date of the general election, the  
503 Executive Board may authorize additional contributions to endorsed  
504 candidates only to the extent of revenues exceeding those spelled out in the  
505 approved budget.

506 **Section 2. BALLOT MEASURES.**

507 The 35th Dems, upon a 2/3 majority of those present and voting, may take the  
508 following actions with respect to support for levy proposals, initiatives, or other  
509 ballot measures:

- 510 A. Endorsement and support for the measure
- 511 B. Opposition and support against the measure
- 512 C. Financial assistance may be available.
- 513 D. Paid campaign workers for the ballot measure shall not be eligible to vote on  
514 any issue for which they are paid.
- 515 E. No action equates to no official support for or opposition for a ballot issue by  
516 the 35th Dems.

517 **Section 3. PROCEDURE FOR SEEKING ENDORSEMENT OR APPROVAL.**

518 Ballot Issue Committees seeking endorsement or approval from the 35th Dems  
519 shall contact the 35th Chair, who shall present the request to the Executive Board.

520 Candidates seeking endorsement or approval from the 35th Dems shall contact the  
521 35th Dems Chair or the 35th Dems Vice-Chair, who shall present the request to the  
522 Campaign Committee. The following shall apply:

- 523 A. Submit a written application electronically or by mail.
- 524 B. Appear in person or virtually before the Campaign Committee.
- 525 C. The Chair of the Campaign Committee shall make the candidates'  
526 applications available to the entire Campaign Committee, who shall serve as  
527 the Screening Committee and shall rule on each candidate's eligibility by a  
528 simple majority of those present and voting.
- 529 D. Incumbent elected officials may not be required to submit an application at  
530 the discretion of the Chair of the Campaign Committee.
- 531 E. Eligibility for endorsement or approval shall be based on:
  - 532 a. Good citizenship
  - 533 b. Qualifications for the position sought
  - 534 c. Past and present political affiliation
  - 535 d. Length of service to the 35th Dems
  - 536 e. Candidate's commitment to the race
  - 537 f. Incumbent or non-incumbent status
- 538 F. The Executive Board may work with the Campaign Committee to develop  
539 criteria to determine the above eligibility.
- 540 G. From the list of candidates recommended by the Campaign Committee, the  
541 Executive Board shall recommend candidates to the membership for  
542 Endorsement, Approval or Opposition.
- 543 H. Endorsements, Approvals, and Oppositions may be withdrawn from  
544 candidates by the 35th Dems with the same voting requirements that it took  
545 to endorse, approve, or oppose them, respectively.

- 546 I. All 35th Dem Endorsements, Approvals, and Oppositions shall terminate at  
547 the end of the election cycle for which they were granted (Primary or  
548 General).  
549 I. Endorsed candidates may receive campaign funds as available,  
550 recommended by the Executive Board and approved by the membership,  
551 with priority for 35th LD candidates.  
552 J. Approved candidates may receive non-financial aid.

553 **ARTICLE X: APPOINTMENTS TO PARTISAN ELECTIVE OFFICE**

554 **Section 1. Vacancy in a public office.**

555 When a vacancy occurs in a partisan elective office and it is the responsibility of the  
556 Democratic PCOs of the 35th LD to present recommendations for appointment as  
557 provided by law, the following shall apply:

- 558 A. All candidates for appointment shall present to the Chair of the 35th Dems a  
559 completed application form provided by the Chair.  
560 B. The Chair shall make the candidates' applications available to the entire  
561 Executive Board, who shall serve as the Screening Committee and shall rule  
562 on each candidate's eligibility by a simple majority of those present and  
563 voting.  
564 C. Eligibility shall be the same criteria as for candidates for election from the  
565 35th LD.  
566 D. From the list of eligible candidates to fill a Democrat vacancy in elective  
567 office, the Executive Board shall recommend for final consideration of the  
568 Democrat PCOs of the 35th LD no less than three candidates.  
569 E. From the list of eligible candidates provided by the Executive Board, the  
570 elected Democratic PCOs of the 35th LD shall vote to recommend to the  
571 appropriate authority the names of the top three candidates.

572 **ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS**

573 **Section 1. AMENDMENT PROCEDURES.**

574 These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by two-thirds of the  
575 members present, provided that notice of such proposed action was given at least  
576 two (2) weeks in advance. A copy of the proposed amendment(s) shall be available  
577 with the meeting notice.

578 Formatting changes made to these bylaws do not constitute an amendment and  
579 therefore do not need to be approved by the membership.

580 **ARTICLE XII. AUTHORITY OF BYLAWS**

581 The 35th Dems shall fulfill its mission under rules and procedures spelled out in  
582 these bylaws and/or in policies approved by the 35th Dems supporting these  
583 bylaws. Such policies shall be initially approved, subsequently amended or deleted  
584 by majority vote (50%+1) of the attending and voting members.

585 **Section 1. REPLACEMENT CLAUSE.**

586 These bylaws supersede and replace any previous bylaws passed by the 35th Dems.

587 **Section 2. CONFLICTS OF AUTHORITY.**

588 Where these bylaws conflict with the Statutes or Regulations of the State of  
589 Washington or the charter, bylaws, or rules of State or National Democratic Party  
590 Organizations, the higher authority shall take precedence.

591 **ARTICLE XIII. POLICIES**

592 Policies are the operating principles of the 35<sup>th</sup> Dems and shall not be considered  
593 part of the bylaws but shall be attached to and maintained with the bylaws.

594 A. Policies may be amended, added or removed at any meeting of the 35<sup>th</sup>  
595 Dems by majority vote (50% +1) of those present.

596 **ARTICLE XIV. HISTORY OF BYLAWS**

597 It is the responsibility of the Secretary of the 35th Dems to maintain copies of ALL  
598 approved by-laws and/or amendments. Such copies must include date of adoption,  
599 and all amendment dates shall be listed in these bylaws.

600 Revised bylaws will be submitted to the state Democrats after approval.

601 These bylaws were adopted on (fill in date adopted here), and have been amended  
602 as recorded below (the most recent is listed first):

603

604 Sept 28, 2021 (adopted)

605 November 27, 2020 (re-formatted)

606 February 23, 2019 (adopted)