



BYLAWS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF OREGON

ARTICLE 1 - NAME AND PURPOSE

The name of this organization shall be the Democratic Party of Oregon. The purpose of the Democratic Party of Oregon shall be to:

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

ARTICLE 2 - AUTHORITY

The Democratic Party of Oregon shall have all power not inconsistent with law and the National Democratic Party Charter to manage its affairs and transact its business. The State Central Committee shall be the governing body of the Party.

ARTICLE 3 - AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The Democratic Party of Oregon shall ensure the widest and fairest representation of its members in its organization and activities. All rules shall be adopted by procedures that assure the fair and open participation of all interested people. Discrimination in the conduct of Party affairs on the basis of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, economic status, disability, parenthood, or marital status shall be prohibited. All Party meetings shall be open to the public.

ARTICLE 4 - STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - Membership

- A. Members - Members of the State Central Committee shall include at least two (2) delegates elected from each county and one additional delegate for each 15,000 registered Democrats or major fraction thereof within the county as of the date of the primary election as provided by law.
- B. Alternates - When a delegate of a county central committee is unable to attend a meeting of the State Central Committee, an alternate delegate, elected by the county central committee, may attend the meeting with full voting privileges.
- C. Election of Members - County central committees will elect delegates and alternate delegates to the State Central Committee at their organization meetings. Vacancies may be filled by county central committee elections at subsequent meetings. The delegates, or in the case of an odd number, the delegates and first alternate, shall consist of an equal number of men and women. Remaining alternates shall be elected in rank order of replacement preference with each successive two alternates consisting of one man and one woman.
- D. Certification - The Chair of each county central committee shall certify to the State Central Committee the names and addresses of its delegates and alternates. Alternates shall be listed in rank order of replacement preference. Delegates shall be seated on the State Central Committee if the electing county central committee has been established according to law and the bylaws of the county central committee are in compliance with these Bylaws.
- E. Associate Members - Democratic members of the Oregon Legislative Assembly, mem-

bers of the Executive Committee of the State Central Committee, and the membership of the Standing Committees of the State Central Committee shall be Associate Members of the State Central Committee. Associate Members shall not be counted in establishing a quorum for a State Central Committee meeting; and shall not be eligible to vote on motions brought before the State Central Committee.

Section 2 - Duties - The legislative power of the Democratic Party of Oregon shall be vested in the State Central Committee. It shall:

- A. Elect the officers of the Democratic Party of Oregon.
- B. Fill vacancies in State Party offices.
- C. Fill vacancies created by the death or resignation of nominees to statewide elective office.
- D. Approve the budget of the State Central Committee.
- E. Approve actions of the Executive Committee when required.
- F. Pass substantive resolutions, and may, by a two-thirds majority, make recommendations on upcoming initiatives or referendums.
- G. Make recommendations on the calling of the State Democratic Convention.
- H. Transact other business not inconsistent with law, the National Charter, and these Bylaws.

Section 3 - Resignation and Removal of Members

A. A member of the State Central Committee may resign by written notice to the Chair of the State Central Committee and the County Chair, and such resignation shall be effective immediately.

B. The State Central Committee shall have the power by a two-thirds vote, to require a delegate's constituency to submit him or her to a recall vote, after a notice and opportunity for public hearing. The reasons for recall of the delegate shall be presented to the county party by the State Central Committee.

C. Any delegate to the State Central Committee who openly supports any non-Democratic candidate for partisan elective office shall be immediately subject to removal by the organization which the delegate represents.

D. Delegates who have three (3) consecutive absences from State Central Committee meetings are considered as having resigned from the State Central Committee. The DPO shall notify the electing body and the individual of the resignation.

ARTICLE 5 - STATE PARTY OFFICERS

Section 1 - Officers - The officers of the Democratic Party of Oregon shall be a Chair, a Vice Chair, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Section 2 - Eligibility - Any legal resident of the State of Oregon who is a registered Democrat and who is neither a candidate for, nor incumbent in, the office of United States Senator, United States Representative, or any position elected from the state at large, shall be eligible to hold the above offices, except that the State Chair and Vice Chair shall be of opposite sex.

Section 3 - Nomination and Election - The officers shall be nominated from the floor. All officers shall be elected at the organizational meeting of the State Central Committee, immediately following the adoption of the Bylaws. Voting shall be by secret ballot at an open and public meeting and a simple majority shall be required to elect.

Section 4 - Term of Office - The officers shall be elected for a term of two (2) years, until their successors are elected.

Section 5 - Recall - The procedure for recalling any officer shall be as follows:

- A. The action shall be initiated by a petition specifying gross misconduct or neglect of duty that is the basis of the recall and bearing the signatures of twenty-five (25) or more members including at least three from each Congressional District;
- B. The petitioners shall be empowered to call a meeting of the State Central Committee;
- C. A copy of the petition shall be included in the notice of the meeting and the provisional

agenda shall include the recall proposal and specific election of a successor to the office as an item of business; and

D. A motion to grant the petition or to recall the officer shall be carried by a majority of those present and voting.

E. If the notice of the recall proposal is not mailed at least twenty (20) days prior to the date of the meeting at which the vote is proposed to be taken, the proposal may not be considered.

F. Notice of the recall proposal shall be mailed Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, to the officer involved as soon as practicable after the receipt of a valid petition. In any event, such notice shall be mailed not less than twenty (20) days prior to the meeting at which the recall vote is to be taken.

Section 6 - Vacancies

A. In case of the resignation or death of the State Chair, the Vice Chair shall become the Acting State Chair until the next meeting of the State Central Committee, at which time any unexpired portion of the term shall be filled by special election. The Executive Committee shall make temporary appointments to fill vacancies in the positions of Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer from the time such vacancies occur until the unexpired terms can be filled by special election at the next meeting of the State Central Committee. Should any incumbent officer be elected State Chair, the vacancy in that office shall be filled at the same election. A vacancy taking place after a meeting has been called to consider the recall of an officer shall be filled at the meeting, whether that officer resigns or is recalled. Voting shall be by secret ballot at an open and public meeting and a simple majority shall be required to elect.

B. In the case of incapacity of the Chair, the Executive Committee shall have the power, by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, to appoint the Vice Chair as the temporary Acting Chair for a period or periods of thirty (30) days until the incapacity ends or until the full State Central Committee determines the incapacity is permanent and removes him/her from office.

Section 7- Duties

A. State Chair - The State Chair shall:

- (1) Preside at all meetings of the State Central Committee;
- (2) Call and chair all meeting and conference calls of the Executive and Administration Committees;
- (3) Prepare a provisional agenda for each meeting of the State Central Committee, the Executive Committee, and the Administration Committee;
- (4) Appoint the chair and vice chair of all committees and upon vacancy, shall replace same within 30 days;
- (5) Appoint the legal counsel of the Democratic Party of Oregon and a parliamentarian;
- (6) Perform such duties as may be assigned by the State Central Committee, the Executive Committee, or the Administration Committee, as well as those which are customarily delegated to the office of Chair.

B. Vice Chair - In the absence of the State Chair, or in the event of his or her inability to act, as determined by the Executive Committee, the Vice Chair may perform the duties of State Chair. The Vice Chair shall also discharge such responsibilities as the State Central Committee or its Executive Committee may assign.

C. Secretary - The Secretary shall be responsible for the minutes of all meetings of the State Central Committee and its Executive Committee, keep records of the Central Committee, maintain a copy of standing orders, maintain current rosters of DPO and subordinate committee membership, and perform such other duties as the State Central Committee and the Executive Committee direct.

D. Treasurer - The Treasurer shall:

- (1) Be the custodian of all funds and securities of the Democratic Party of Oregon;
- (2) Maintain adequate records pertaining to the finances of this organization and file all required federal and state reports;
- (3) Be responsible for the financial affairs of the State Central Committee;
- (4) Prepare and submit an annual report for each fiscal year within thirty (30) days of its closure;
- (5) Serve as a member of the standing committee on Finance;
- (6) At least once each month, to the extent funds are available, pay all outstanding bills. For the purposes of these Bylaws, "outstanding bills" means the bills which have been

- duly incurred within the current budget, as permitted by these Bylaws. The Treasurer shall, subject to approval of the Executive Committee, design and establish a system of verification and certification of expenditures, which shall be followed in all cases unless, for expenditures over \$100, the Executive Committee, or for expenditures of \$100 or less, the Administration Committee, expressly approves a deviation therefrom for a named expenditure; and
- (7) Perform such duties as may be assigned by the State Central Committee or its Executive Committee, as well as those which are customarily delegated to the office of treasurer.

Section 8 - Presidential Electors - The Chair and Vice Chair shall serve as Presidential Electors during a Presidential Election year. If the Chair or Vice Chair are unable to serve, the Secretary or Treasurer, in that order, shall serve as Presidential Electors.

ARTICLE 6 - STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Section 1 - Number - At least one (1) meeting of the State Central Committee shall be held in each calendar quarter.

Section 2 - Organizational Meeting - The initial meeting of a newly-elected State Central Committee shall be known as the organizational meeting. It shall be called by the retiring State Chair, or as provided by statute, and shall be held not earlier than fifty-five (55) and not later than seventy-five (75) days after a general election for the purpose of organizing and electing officers.

Section 3 - Call - Meetings shall be called by the State Chair, or in the Chair's absence or incapacity, by the Vice Chair, or in the absence or incapacity of both, by any other officer of the State Central Committee or in any event by fifteen (15) members.

Section 4 - Notice - Notice of all meetings shall be given by first class mail to all members and alternates of the State Central Committee at least twenty (20) days prior to the date of the meeting. The notice shall specify the time, place, with address, and provisional agenda of the meeting.

Section 5 - Agenda - The person(s) calling the meeting shall prepare a provisional agenda to be included in the meeting notice. The first order of business, following disposition of the minutes, shall be adoption of an agenda. It shall require suspension of the rules by a two-thirds vote to authorize any change in the number or order of matters to be considered at a meeting once the agenda has been adopted.

Section 6 - Quorum - Thirty Percent of the members or alternates serving as delegates shall constitute a quorum, provided that each congressional district is represented. Upon ascertainment by the Chair that a quorum is no longer present, no further business may be conducted.

Section 7 - Voting - Only those members, or their alternates, who are present shall be eligible to vote.

Section 8 - Teleconference Meetings - Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, in event of an emergency, meetings may be conducted by means of telephone or video conference, subject to approval by the Chair.

ARTICLE 7 - CONVENTIONS

Section 1 - Convention Call - A State Democratic Convention shall be held in each election year at least thirty (30) days prior to the Primary Election. The Executive Committee shall call the Convention.

A. At least ninety (90) days prior to the Convention, each county shall receive notice of how many delegates it is entitled to elect.

B. Each county central committee shall cause an election to be held at least thirty (30) days prior to the Convention for the election of delegates and alternates to the Convention, and as soon as practicable thereafter shall notify the State Central Committee as to the names and addresses of those elected.

C. At least twenty (20) days prior to the Convention, the State Central Committee shall

cause notice of the time, place, fees, draft platform and tentative rules and agenda for the convention to be mailed to each delegate and alternate whose name and address are known to the State Central Committee.

Section 2 - Convention Delegate

A. Delegates to the State Democratic Convention shall be chosen by each county on the basis of one (1) delegate for each 1,000 registered Democrats or major fraction thereof within the county. No county shall have less than two (2) delegates.

B. Each county may elect one-half as many alternates as it has delegates. In the event a county is entitled to an odd number of delegates, the number of alternates shall be rounded to the next highest whole number.

C. All statewide Democratic Office Holders, all incumbent Democratic Legislators, US Representatives, US Senators and all DPO Officers, including DNC delegates, shall be automatic delegates. Automatic Delegates shall not count against any county's quota.

D. Each county central committee may establish its own rules with respect to such matters as the selection of a delegation chair, the filling of vacancies in the delegation to which it is entitled, the seating of its own alternates in lieu of delegates, and the conduct of caucuses at the Convention; provided that nothing herein shall be construed to permit the application of a binding unit rule upon any vote cast by the members of any delegation.

Section 3 - Purpose - The purpose of the State Democratic Convention shall be to adopt a platform for the Democratic Party of Oregon and to perform any other functions assigned to it by these By-laws.

ARTICLE 8 - DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Section 1 - The Chair and the Vice Chair of the Democratic Party of Oregon shall serve as members of the Democratic National Committee as provided in the National Democratic Party Charter.

Section 2 - Members of the Democratic National Committee apportioned to the State of Oregon as provided in the National Democratic Party Charter shall be elected by the State Central Committee by a majority vote of the delegates present and voting. Such members shall serve for a term of four (4) years; and this term of office shall commence at the next meeting of the Democratic National Committee following the General Election in which the President of the United States is elected.

Section 3 - The Democratic National Committee Members shall be elected at a regular meeting of the State Central Committee during the fourth quarter of a Presidential Election year.

Section 4 - Members of the Democratic National Committee may be removed or recalled in the same manner as State Central Committee Officers.

ARTICLE 9 - CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT COMMITTEES

Section 1 - Membership - Members of the Congressional District Committees shall include at least two (2) delegates from each county within the Congressional District and one additional delegate for each 15,000 Democrats or major fraction thereof within the county and the Congressional District as of the primary Election.

Section 2 - Organizational Meeting - Each Congressional District Committee shall hold its organizational meeting not earlier than fifty-five (55) days and not later than seventy-five (75) days following the General Election. It shall be called by the retiring District Chair, or by the State Chair if the retiring District Chair fails to designate the time and place for the organizational meeting during the month of November following the General Election.

Section 3 - Duties

A. At its organizational meeting, each Congressional District Committee shall elect members to serve on the standing committees of the State Central Committee, elect two (2) representatives and two (2) alternates to the State Executive Committee and adopt bylaws.

B. The Chairs of the Congressional District Committees shall serve as Presidential Electors during a Presidential Election year. If the Chair is unable to serve, the Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer, in that order, shall serve as the Presidential Elector.

ARTICLE 10 - COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEES

Each County Central Committee shall hold its organizational meeting not earlier than ten (10) days nor later than fifty (50) days after the General Election. It shall be called by the retiring County Chair, or by the State Chair if the retiring County Chair fails to designate the time and place for the organizational meeting within four (4) days following the General Election.

ARTICLE 11 - FINANCE COUNCIL

The Finance Council consists of Democrats who are major contributors to the Democratic Party of Oregon upon payment of annual dues as established by the Executive Committee. They shall elect their own Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. The Finance Council shall perform such functions as may be assigned by the Chair of the Democratic Party of Oregon.

ARTICLE 12 - VACANCIES

In the event of a vacancy in any public office or in the Democratic Nomination for any public office, where the Democratic Party of Oregon or any subdivision thereof is called upon to select the person or persons to fill such a vacancy, the following procedure shall be used, unless otherwise provided by State Law.

Section 1 - Nominating Authority

A. The nominating authority for statewide office, including United States Senator, shall be the State Central Committee.

B. The nominating authority for United States Representative shall be a committee consisting of all precinct committee persons residing and representing precincts within the Congressional District as of the date the vacancy is created. The Congressional District Committee shall conduct the meeting.

C. The nominating authority for county offices shall be the County Central Committee.

D. The nominating authority for the Oregon Senate or House of Representatives or for other offices not referred to above, shall be a committee consisting of the Democratic precinct committee persons representing the precincts within the district, as provided by ORS 171.060, and chaired by the Chair of the Democratic County Central Committee of the county containing the greatest number of registered Democrats within the district.

Section 2 - Membership and Votes

A. The State Chair shall ascertain the total number of registered Democrats in each county, or relevant part thereof, relating to the office. This shall be certified to the nominating authority.

B. In the case of statewide and Congressional vacancies and state legislative vacancies in districts which represent more than one (1) county, each member (or delegate) of the nominating authority shall have a whole number of votes equal to the total number of registered Democrats from that member's county or relevant portion thereof, divided by the number of members of the nominating authority in attendance from that county. Any fraction resulting from the above division shall be disregarded.

C. In the case of a vacancy in county office, state legislative office in districts entirely within one (1) county and other offices not mentioned above, each Democratic Precinct Committee person representing a precinct within the district, as of the date that the vacancy occurred, shall have one vote.

Section 3 - Voting Procedure - Only members shall be eligible to vote.

A. Voting shall combine a secret ballot with a public roll call of the members, of the nominating authority.

B. In the case of statewide and Congressional vacancies and state legislative vacancies in districts which represent more than one (1) county, each member may divide his or her votes among several candidates, and the selection of each person shall be by a majority of the total votes authorized in Section 2 B. In other cases, the selection shall be by a majority of those members present and voting.

Section 4 - Meeting Notice - The Chair of the nominating authority shall call a special meeting of the appointing authority to fill the vacancy within the time period provided by law, and providing at least six (6) days written notice, or in the case of an emergency, three (3) days actual notice.

ARTICLE 13 - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Section 1 - Authority - There shall be an Executive Committee of the State Central Committee which shall have the power to:

- A. Act for the State Central Committee when time does not permit a proper calling of a meeting of the Central Committee, provided the actions are submitted to the State Central Committee for endorsement or rejection at its next meeting;
- B. Approve or disapprove the appointment of paid personnel by the State Chair and the Administration Committee;
- C. Approve all expenditures authorized within the current budget, and authorize deviations from the budget not to exceed five (5) percent on any budget line item, provided that in no case shall such a deviation authorize any expenditure outside of the total budget, or any expenditure of revenue not contemplated in the current budget;
- D. Through the Administration Committee, oversee the normal business and political activity of the State Party and its central staff;
- E. Recommend a budget, based on the recommendations of the Budget Committee, to the State Central Committee;
- F. Initially approve all proposed amendments to the budget, and all deviations therefrom not covered by Section C of this Article, subject to the approval of the State Central Committee;
- G. Initially approve all major fundraising activities of the State Party, subject to the approval of the State Central Committee;
- H. Carry forward the policies and programs of the National and State Democratic Parties.

Section 2 - Membership - The members of the Executive Committee shall be:

- A. The officers of the State Central Committee;
- B. Members of the Democratic National Committee from Oregon;
- C. Two (2) representatives (or their elected alternates) from each Congressional District elected by the respective Congressional District Committee;
- D. The Chair, or Vice Chair acting as the Chair's alternate, of each standing committee;
- E. Each Democratic Member of Congress and each Democratic statewide elective office holder or their designees may hold a voting membership on the Executive committee.
- F. Three (3) members of the Oregon House and two (2) members of the Senate, to be selected by the respective caucuses of the House and Senate;
- G. The elected Chair of the Young Democrats or an elected alternate;
- H. An elected representative of the Oregon Federation of Democratic Women's Clubs or an elected alternate.

Section 3 - Meetings and Telephone Conferences

- A. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once every quarter, but may meet more frequently at the call of the Chair or a majority of the members of the Committee, as may be necessary to transact that business of the party within its jurisdiction.
- B. Notice of any meetings of the Executive Committee shall be mailed at least twenty (20) days before the meeting, except as authorized by this Section. Emergency meetings may be held on shorter notice, including telephone (conference call) or video-conference meetings, by making a reasonable effort to contact all members, actually notifying at least two-thirds of the members, and obtaining approval of at least two-thirds of the members attending the meeting.
- C. Twelve (12) members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4 - Procedure - Subject to these Bylaws, the Executive Committee shall establish its own rules procedure.

Section 5 - Resignation and Removal of Members - Any officer or member of the Executive Committee of the State Central Committee who openly supports any non-Democratic candidate for partisan elective office shall be subject to removal by a two-thirds vote of the State Central Committee.

ARTICLE 14 - ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Section 1 - Authority

A. The Administration Committee shall serve as the personnel committee for the Party, and, under the guidance of the Chair, shall supervise the activities of all central staff.

B. The Administration Committee shall, upon the recommendation of the Chair, and with the approval of the Executive Committee, employ and release all paid personnel provided that no person shall be hired for any position which has not been approved by the Executive Committee, and for which funds have not been budgeted as required by these Bylaws.

C. The Administration Committee shall perform such other duties as the Executive Committee may from time to time direct, subject to these Bylaws.

Section 2 - Membership - The membership of the Administration Committee shall be the elected officers of the State Party.

ARTICLE 15 - OTHER COMMITTEES

Section 1 - Standing Committees - The Standing Committees of the State Central Committee shall be:

- A. Rules
- B. Platform and Resolutions
- C. Organization
- D. Finance
- E. Campaign and Legislation
- F. Public Relations
- G. Budget

Section 2 - Standing Committee Membership - Each Congressional District shall elect three (3) delegates and may elect two (2) alternates to serve as members of each standing committee. In addition, the chairs of the campaign committees of the House and Senate caucuses shall be members of the Campaign Committee. The Chair of the State Central Committee shall appoint the Chair, Vice Chair and one (1) additional voting member of each standing committee. Any committee member who has two (2) consecutive unexcused absences shall be removed, and the vacancy filled, by the appointing authority. In the case of an appointment by the Chair of the State Central Committee, the Chair may make a new appointment. No person may serve on more than one (1) standing committee.

Section 3 - Proxy Voting - No vote may be cast by proxy in any committee of the Democratic Party of Oregon.

Section 4 - Telephone Conference Meetings - In event of an emergency standing committee meetings may be conducted by means of telephone or videoconference, subject to approval by the Chair of the DPO.

Section 5 - Duties of Standing Committees

- A. Rules Committee - The Rules Committee shall:
 - (1) Review the Bylaws regularly and recommend amendments as needed; and
 - (2) Provide for approval by each convention the procedure under which the State Convention will operate.
- B. Platform and Resolutions Committee - The Platform and Resolutions Committee shall:
 - (1) Submit proposed resolutions to the State Central Committee;
 - (2) Submit proposed platforms and resolutions to all conventions of the Democratic Party of Oregon; and
 - (3) Assure that proposed resolutions and platforms are submitted in accordance with the standing rules of the Democratic Party of Oregon.
 - (4) Shall invite bids for hosting state Democratic Platform Conventions.
- C. Organization Committee - The Organization Committee shall:
 - (1) Assist in developing and strengthening the party organization at all levels;
 - (2) Provide coordination between the State Central Committee and the county and district organizations;
 - (3) Serve as the Credentials Committee for the Democratic Party of Oregon. The Organization Chair and the three (3) members elected by the Congressional

District in which any State or Congressional District meeting is held shall serve as the Credentials Committee for that meeting.

- D. Finance Committee - The Finance Committee shall:
- (1) Propose and coordinate methods of fundraising and with the approval of the State Executive Committee, implement them.
- E. Campaign and Legislative Committee - The Campaign and Legislative Committee shall:
- (1) Assist in candidate recruitment at all levels;
 - (2) Make suggestions for overall campaign strategy;
 - (3) Recommend allocation of campaign resources, after consulting with candidates and county organizations; and
 - (4) Provide campaign services and coordination.
 - (5) Monitor Federal, State and Local legislation, including initiative petitions.
 - (6) Perform such other functions as may be assigned by the Central Committee.
 - (7) Lobby for the State Party's legislative agenda.
- F. Public Relations Committee - The Public Relations Committee shall:
- (1) Be responsible for the State Fair Booth of the Democratic Party of Oregon, including securing required staffing;
 - (2) Coordinate a calendar of events of interest to Democrats for distribution to State Central Committee members each calendar quarter; and
 - (3) Perform such other public relations functions as the Party may direct.
- G. Budget Committee - The Budget Committee shall:
- (1) Prepare an annual budget for the Democratic Party of Oregon for submission to the Executive Committee by November 1, and for the subsequent submission to the State Central Committee at its 4th quarter meeting;
 - (2) Secure an annual audit of financial records; and
 - (3) Make all necessary reports to the State Central Committee.

Section 6 - Special Committees - There shall be such special committees as the State Chair or the State Central Committee shall establish, including a committee for young Democrats. The State Chair shall appoint Chairs and Vice Chairs of special committees, and shall appoint the other members of such committees with at least two (2) members from each Congressional District. Special committees shall be immediately responsible to the State Chair.

ARTICLE 16 - REFERRAL OF SUBSTANTIVE RESOLUTIONS

Any member of the State Central Committee may submit a substantive policy resolution to the State Chair for consideration at the first meeting of the State Central Committee to take place more than twenty-five (25) days after the submission of the resolution. All such resolutions shall be included in the notice of the next meeting and shall be submitted by the Chair to the appropriate committee. The committee receiving the resolution may recommend adoption, rejection, or offer a substitute, or make no recommendation. The resolution shall be voted on at the first meeting of the State Central Committee after notice of the resolution has been mailed to its members. If the committee to which the Chair submitted the resolution fails to report back thereon before the time for consideration thereof by the State Central Committee, it shall be deemed to have made no recommendation thereon.

A substantive resolution which has not been submitted to the Chair at least twenty-five (25) days before a meeting of the State Central Committee shall require a two-thirds vote for passage. "Issue Opinions" dealing with a substantive issues which was the principal focus of the program at any meeting of the State Central Committee may be voted upon at that meeting, without reference to this Article.

ARTICLE 17 - FINANCES

Section 1 - Fiscal Year - The fiscal year of the Democratic Party of Oregon shall be the calendar year, and the annual budget shall be approved by the State Central Committee at a meeting during the fourth quarter of the preceding year. Thereafter, the budget shall not be amended without the recommendation of the Executive Committee except by suspension of the rules, and a two-thirds

majority vote, of the State Central Committee.

Section 2 - Deposits - All funds of the Democratic Party of Oregon shall be deposited to its credit in such banks or other depositories as the Executive Committee shall designate.

Section 3 - Treasurer's Bond - The Treasurer shall be bonded at all times in an amount fixed by the Executive Committee.

Section 4 - Authorization of Contracts - The approval of the State Central Committee shall be required for any recurring payment, contract, or group of related contracts which are not authorized by the budget, unless it would not obligate the Party to payments of more than \$50 per month for more than a year, or beyond the next organizational meeting.

ARTICLE 18 - ELECTIONS FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

Section 1 - Unless the State Central Committee votes otherwise, only registered Democrats may vote in the Democratic primary. At the regular third quarterly meeting of each odd-numbered year, the State Central Committee may consider permitting voters registered as non-affiliated or "not a member of a party" the privilege of voting in the Democratic primary occurring in the next even-numbered year. Approval will require a two-thirds vote of the State Central Committee and will govern only that primary. Nothing in this section shall allow the opening of a primary ballot that includes the office of President of the United States.

Section 2 - Only registered Democrats may receive the nomination of the Democratic Party of Oregon for partisan public office.

ARTICLE 19 - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules of procedure contained in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the Democratic Party of Oregon in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are consistent with the laws of the State of Oregon and these Bylaws.

ARTICLE 20 - AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the State Central Committee, provided that:

- A. The proposed amendment has been first submitted in writing to the Rules Committee, which shall review it and make a recommendation to the Central Committee;
- B. No amendment may be considered unless a copy in final form, scriveners errors excepted, after review and recommendation by the Rules Committee, has been mailed to each member with the meeting notice for the next Central Committee meeting;
- C. No amendments may be considered by the Central Committee unless copies of the mailed notice are signed by at least five members representing at least three counties and at least two congressional districts;
- D. The proposed amendment shall be favored by a two-thirds vote;
- E. Mailing requirements can be suspended if an emergency has been declared, by a two-thirds vote.

ARTICLE 21 - STANDING ORDERS

Separate from these bylaws will be a supplementary set of rules entitled "Standing Orders" which will be subject to change upon majority vote.