

Standing Rules for Endorsements by the 11th Legislative District Democrats (Approved March 20, 2018)

Member Certification:

A member of the executive board will check-in the members and verify those eligible to vote. To be eligible to vote, a member must:

- A. reside in the 11th Legislative District;
- B. be either a current elected or a current appointed PCO or requested membership to the 11th Legislative District Democrats at least four (4) weeks prior to the endorsement meeting date.

Each eligible voting member will receive distinguishable voting credentials and ballots for votes that require them.

Pre-meeting procedures:

1. Before each endorsements meeting, the executive board of the 11th Legislative District Democrats will create a tally committee to count votes at the endorsement meeting.

Candidate endorsements:

Eligibility of Candidates:

To be eligible for endorsement:

1. The candidate or representative must request endorsement from the membership; and
2. The candidate must have filled out the King County Democrats questionnaire; and
3. A member must make a motion to endorse the candidate and the motion must be seconded by another member; and

4. With the exception of candidates running for a non-partisan office, all candidates seeking endorsements from the 11th Legislative District Democrats must publicly declare themselves a Democrat.

Endorsements of Candidates:

1. Candidates will only be eligible for endorsement by the 11th Legislative District Democrats at the following meetings:
 - a. Primary Election Endorsement Meeting
 - b. General Election Endorsement meeting
 - c. Special Election Endorsement Meeting
2. An endorsement given during our primary election endorsement meeting is still valid for the general election.
3. We will consider each candidate individually for endorsement.
 - a. We may possibly endorse only a single candidate in a race, but we will not “sole endorse”.
 - b. Dual / multi endorsements will not be considered, since each candidate’s endorsement vote is conducted individually.
 - c. We will not endorse by slate.
4. Endorsing a candidate by acclamation will be allowed for races in which only one eligible candidate has applied for endorsement.
5. An incumbent may be considered for an early endorsement (defined as being prior to the closing date to file for that position) provided that the candidate is otherwise eligible and is running to retain the current position.

Statements by Members During The Endorsement Meeting:

1. The maker of a motion to endorse shall make a statement (up to one minute) supporting the motion.
2. Only voting members may make a statement (up to one minute) in opposition to or in favor of the motion to endorse, with members speaking in turn against or for (Against/For/Against). The lack of speakers on one side of the motion will not prevent speakers on the other side of the motion from being allowed to speak. There will be a limit of total 4 speakers including the maker of the motion.
3. No member may speak more than once in favor of or in opposition to a single motion to endorse.
4. Members speaking, including the maker of the motion, may not cede their allotted time to another speaker.

5. At the Chair's discretion, preference may be granted to members who reside in the municipality, County Council District, Special Purpose District, or Congressional District for the race under consideration.

Voting - Candidates

1. Voting will be done by raised hand or verbal vote, unless any voting member requests a secret ballot.
 - a. Motions for acclamation will only be accepted for races in which there is only one eligible candidate who has applied for endorsement.
 2. Candidates and campaign staff who meet member voting eligibility requirements will be allowed to vote in their own as well as and other races.
 3. In order to receive the endorsement of the District, a candidate must receive at least 2/3 of the ballots cast.
 4. Each candidate's endorsement vote will be conducted individually. No slate votes will be allowed. No dual / multi endorsement votes for multiple candidates will be allowed even if a candidate's endorsement vote fails.
 5. Candidates who do not receive a minimum vote of 2/3 of the ballots cast do not receive the endorsement of the 11th Legislative District Democrats.
 - a. Candidates who fail to get the endorsement of the 11th Legislative District Democrats during our Primary Endorsement meeting may be reconsidered at our General Election Endorsement meeting.
 6. **Motions to suspend these rules in an effort to put forth a motion to sole endorse a candidate or to endorse an ineligible candidate shall be out of order.**
 7. **Motions to suspend these rules to dual or multi-endorse candidates for a race shall be out of order.**
 8. **Motions to suspend these rules to reconsider a failed endorsement shall be out of order.**
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Ballot measure endorsements:

Endorsements of ballot measures:

1. The Chair shall call, in sequence, for:
 - a. a motion in favor of the ballot measure,
 - b. a motion opposing the ballot measure.
2. If only one motion, either for or against, on a ballot measure is made, then the membership may dispense with balloting and endorse by acclamation.

3. If the motion receives 2/3 support, then the moved position on the ballot measure receives the endorsement, either favoring or opposing, of the 11th Legislative District Democrats.

Statements by Members During The Endorsement Meeting:

1. The maker of a motion to endorse shall make a statement (up to one minute) supporting the motion.
2. Only voting members may make a statement (up to one minute) in opposition to or in favor of the motion to endorse, with members speaking in turn against or for (Against/For/Against). The lack of speakers on one side of the motion will not prevent speakers on the other side of the motion from being allowed to speak. There will be a limit of total 4 speakers including the maker of the motion.
3. No member may speak more than once in favor of or in opposition to a single motion to endorse.
4. Members speaking, including the maker of the motion, may not cede their allotted time to another speaker.
5. At the Chair's discretion, preference shall be granted to members who reside in the municipality, County Council District, Special Purpose District, or Congressional District for the ballot measure under consideration, if applicable.

Voting - Ballot Measure endorsements

1. Voting will be done by raised hand or verbal vote, unless any voting member requests a secret ballot.
2. No slate votes will be allowed.
3. Results
 - a. If a ballot measure receives a 2/3 vote in favor of the measure, then the 11th Legislative District Democrats officially endorse the ballot measure.
 - b. If a ballot measure receives a 2/3 vote in opposition of the measure, then the 11th Legislative District Democrats officially oppose the ballot measure.
 - c. If a ballot measure receives neither a 2/3 vote in favor nor a 2/3 vote opposed to the measure, then the 11th Legislative District Democrats officially take no position on the ballot measure.

Endorsement Benefits For Campaigns

1. The 11th Legislative District Democrats will post their list of endorsed candidates to the following locations:
 - a. The 11th Legislative District Democrats monthly newsletter
 - b. The 11th Legislative District Democrats Facebook Page
 - c. The 11th Legislative District Democrats Twitter Account
 - d. The website at <http://www.11thdems.org>
 2. The endorsed candidates may list the 11th Legislative District Democrats endorsement in their campaign literature and digital media presence
 3. The 11th Legislative District Democrats will provide a logo in digital format for use on signs, literature or other media.
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Issues not covered under these rules

1. Any issues not covered under these endorsement rules are covered under the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.