



# The Snohomish County Democratic Convention Rules

2018 Washington State Democrats Caucus and Convention Cycle

## AGENDA

The Snohomish County Democratic Convention shall be held at the Labor Temple, 2810 Lombard Avenue, Everett, WA, 98201, on Sunday, April 22, 2018, in the downstairs room.

12:00 PM	- Setup Begins (volunteer helpers)
12:05 PM to 12:50 PM	- Platform Committee Meeting (upstairs room) <b>- Last chance to add language to the Platform.</b>
Not Before 1:00PM	- Temporary Chair Convenes the Snohomish County Democratic Convention - Call to Order and Flag Salute - Welcome Message from State Chair and other VIP Presentations
Not Before 1:10PM	- Platform Presentation (no motions allowed yet) <b>- Super final last chance to add Platform language we really mean it this time!</b>
Not Before 2:00PM  4:30 PM Cut-off	- Adopt Credentials Report - Adopt Rules Report - Elect Permanent Convention Chair - Move the Adoption of the Platform - Consider Amendments to Strike Specific Platform Language - Platform Vote.
After Platform Adoption	- Resolutions - Good of the Order - Adjourn
Before 5:00PM	Clean Up and Vacate the Building

All possible efforts shall be made to ensure maximum participation of African Americans, Hispanic/Latinx/Latinos, Enrolled Native Americans, Asian/Pacific Americans, and People with Disabilities. Other Constituencies of Concern include but are not limited to women, youth (considered separately to include both those between the ages of 17 and 24 and those between 17 and 36), persons over 65 years of age, LGBTQ+, and persons of economic disadvantage.



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The Snohomish County Democratic Convention shall be held at the Labor Temple, 2810 Lombard Avenue, Everett, WA, 98201, on Sunday, April 22, 2018. Set-up begins at 12:00PM, call-to-order at 1:00PM, credentials at 2:00PM, and ending by 5:00 PM.

The platform committee shall convene from 12:05PM to 12:50PM to accept and track late platform changes. The platform committee will have already convened several times in the prior days and weeks.

**CHARTER.** This County Convention is chartered as a separate and distinct organization from the County Party, and is governed by the Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan. The Chair of the County Democratic Party shall serve as the Temporary Chair of the County Convention.

To vote at the Convention, an individual must be a resident, registered voter in Snohomish County, affirm that they are a Democrat by signing on a registration sheet, and agree to public record of their attendance at the meeting.

Registered voters include all registered voters and any 17-year-old who will be eligible to vote on or before November 6, 2018. Registered voters also include any eligible individual who completes a voter registration form while signing in to attend the Convention. Individuals who are not qualified to register to vote because of residence, citizenship, or age shall be allowed to participate in the platform discussion, but may not vote on rules, matters of order, or resolutions.

**Payment of any fee shall not be a condition of participation or election.** Please help defray the expenses for rental of this venue, document copies, and other supplies by contributing to the Snohomish County Democratic Party.

**Prior to the Report of the Credentials Committee, changes to the platform shall be allowed by consensus collaboration in consultation with the Platform Committee, who shall be responsible for tracking changes.**

**After the Report of the Credentials Committee, any amendments to add language to the platform except scrivener's errors shall be out-of-order.**

**A "Motion to Suspend the Rules to Allow Additions to the Platform" upheld by a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> affirmative vote shall suspend this rule limited to a specific portion of the platform and this rule shall remain in force for the remainder of the platform.**



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**PRESENTATION.** At the discretion of the Temporary Chair, the Chair of the Platform Committee may present the proposed platform starting as early as 1:10 PM. ***Presenters shall read the entire proposed platform out loud with gusto, including recent changes.*** No motion to adopt the platform may be considered until the entire platform has been presented and the report of the Credentials Committee has been accepted.

**CREDENTIALS.** The Chair of the Credentials Committee shall present the report of the Credentials Committee no earlier than 2:00PM, which shall include the following:

- A. Presentation of challenged voters wishing to be seated by the Snohomish County Convention. Challenges shall proceed in alphabetic order until all challenges are resolved. If the challenged voter is not sustained by a simple majority, they shall be ineligible to vote. A challenged voter may not vote on the question of their own challenge.
- B. The total number of Registered voters seated at the time the report is given.
- C. The total number of Registered voters constituting a quorum. A quorum shall consist of 30% of the total number of Registered voters seated at the time the report is given. The Credentials Committee may seat unchallenged voters arriving after the Credentials Committee report, but these late arrivals shall not alter the quorum number.

**VOTING.** Votes shall be cast by raising credentials; voters shall lower their credentials when directed by a teller to do so. Disabled voters may be assisted as needed. Voice votes are allowed when easy and obvious.

**RULES.** The Chair of the Rules Committee shall present the report of the Rules Committee, which shall include these Convention Rules and the Convention Agenda, after the Credentials Report is adopted.

**PERMANENT CHAIR.** The Temporary Chair shall preside over the election of the Permanent chair unless the Temporary Chair is a candidate for Permanent Chair, in which case the Temporary Chair shall pass the gavel.

Any voting member of the Convention may nominate themselves or accept a nomination by another voting member for the position of Permanent Convention Chair. Nominations, seconding speeches, and speeches by the candidate on their own behalf, shall not total more than three (3) combined minutes per nominee. A majority of those voting is required to elect. If no person has a majority, the candidate receiving the least votes shall be dropped and balloting shall be repeated using the remaining names. Ties shall be broken by lot. This procedure shall be repeated until a candidate receives a majority of those voting.



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**OFFICERS.** The Permanent Chair shall appoint a permanent Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, Time Keeper, Teller, and Parliamentarian. Assistants or committees may be appointed to assist these officers in their work.

**PLATFORM.** The Platform Committee shall transmit a draft platform to the Chair of the Snohomish County Democratic Party at least 10 days prior to the Convention for online publication.

The Convention Chair shall entertain a motion from the Platform Chair to place the entire platform before the body for adoption. The primary business of the Convention is the adoption of the Platform.

Motions to adopt portions of the platform without adopting the entire platform shall be out-of-order. Motions to end debate on the question adoption of the entire platform shall be out-of-order. At 4:30PM, debate regarding the adoption of the Platform shall be cut-off and a vote shall be taken on its adoption.

A simple majority is required to strike language or to adopt the Platform. The Chair retains the prerogative to bring up specific items to focus debate and action. Nominally, the Chair will read each platform section heading in turn, with a pause between sections, in order to entertain motions to amend the platform by striking specific language. This is intended to *focus* debate, not to *limit* debate. **(HINT: Silence is Quick!)**

Debate shall alternate pro and con, limited to a maximum of two speakers for and two speakers against. Typically, the first speaker will speak in favor of the motion (pro) to strike language. Each speaker shall be limited to one minute, or to a different time limit determined at the sole prerogative of the Chair, provided that all speakers on a specific topic are provided the same amount of time. One extension of four additional speakers per issue, two pro and two con, may be allowed at the sole prerogative of the Chair.

**RESOLUTIONS.** Resolutions may not be considered until after the Platform has been adopted. Any resolution not considered by the Convention shall be automatically referred to the County Democratic Party.

**OTHER RULES.** The motion “to table” shall be out of order at all times. Proxy voting shall not be allowed. The Unit Rule shall not be permitted at any time. Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall prevail in other matters not specifically covered herein or in the 2018 Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan. Nothing in these rules shall be inconsistent with the 2018 Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan.

**RESULTS.** This Convention hereby directs the Snohomish County Democratic Party to publish the results of this Convention. Publications shall include a video presentation of the final platform, to be read with gusto.