

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

RULES COMMITTEE REPORT

5/14/2020 – DPSC Zoom

The following draft is a proposed Bylaws Amendment for the Rules Committee to consider. This amendment would more appropriately authorize virtual, electronic, and telephonic Central Committee meetings, and may come before the Central Committee for a vote at the next, June Central Committee meeting. This report is to serve as notice of a possible vote on this amendment.

BYLAWS AMENDMENT 2020-01

Amending Article VII, Section 9 by striking Section 9 and adding a new Section 9

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County adopts the following amendment to Article VII, Section 9 of the Constitution of the Democratic Party of Sacramento County by deleting the current Section 9 and adding a new Section 9:

[Note: additions are **bolded**, deletions are ~~struck through~~, and explanations of the changes are in *italics*]

SECTION 9. MEETING BY ELECTRONIC MEANS

A. The Central Committee may meet and conduct business by electronic means if all of the following requirements are met:

- 1. The Executive Board determines that an emergency prevents the Central Committee from safely meeting in person.**
- 2. All members are given at least five days prior notice that the meeting will be conducted by electronic means and are provided with instructions on how to join the meeting, participate, and vote.**
- 3. The Central Committee meeting is held in an electronic medium that allows members to fully participate in the meeting by simultaneous audio communication or instantaneous written communication and that is accessible to all voting members. The Chair or Executive Board shall determine which electronic medium to use.**
 - a. Acceptable types of electronic media include, but are not limited to, phone conferencing or video conferencing in which communication is conducted by audio.**

- b. “Fully participate” includes, but is not limited to, being recognized to make or second motions, speak in debate, make reasonable inquiries, and vote.**
- 4. The meeting host does not use their control over the electronic medium to deny a member the right to fully participate in the meeting. Examples include, but are not limited to, blocking or delaying a member’s entrance into the medium, refusing to recognize a member, muting a member who has the floor, etc.**
- 5. The electronic medium permits non-member Democrats to join and observe the meeting, unless the meeting is held in executive session. The meeting host may require non-members to identify themselves or otherwise demonstrate that they are bona fide attendees prior to being permitted to join the meeting.**
- 6. Voting is conducted in that electronic medium, or in a separate electronic medium, either orally or in a manner that securely records a member’s vote and identifies the member who cast that vote. The Chair shall announce when voting opens and closes and shall provide members a reasonable amount of time to vote prior to announcement of the result.**
- B. The Executive Board or a committee may meet and conduct business by electronic means, subject to the same restrictions specified in Paragraphs 2 through 6, inclusive, of Subsection A, if the Chair or Executive Board authorizes meeting by electronic means.**
- C. The Executive Board or a committee may permit a member to attend an in-person meeting of the Executive Board or committee by electronic means, and vote orally, if authorized by the Chair or Executive Board.**
- D. Notwithstanding any other rule, a vote taken during a meeting conducted by electronic means that would otherwise be required to be taken by written ballot may instead be taken by roll call vote or by an electronic voting method that records the vote and identifies the member who cast that vote, as specified in Paragraph 6 of Subsection A.**
- E. An action adopted in compliance with the requirements of this section has the same force as if the action were taken at an in-person meeting.**