



## OFFICIAL CALL TO THE 2018 37th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

**Rainier Beach Community Center, Sunday March 25 at 1 p.m.  
(includes Proposed Agenda and Rules)  
2018 Washington State Democrats Caucus and Convention Cycle**

March 15, 2018

Dear 37<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Resident,

If you identify with the Democratic Party, this is your call to attend the 37th Legislative District Democratic Caucus, commencing at 1:00pm on Sunday, March 25, 2018 at Rainier Beach Community Center, 8825 Rainier Ave., S. Seattle, WA 98118.

**Registration starts at 1:00 p.m.; Call to order is at 1:45 p.m.**

This Caucus is for all residents of the 37th Legislative District who identify as Democrats and are or will be eligible to vote in the **November 6, 2018** General Election. The Credentials Committee will seat all qualified attendees.

**The requested registration donation is \$20.00.** This donation is to help defray the expenses of location rental, copies of documents, and other supplies provided to the attendees. **Payment of this registration donation shall not be a condition of participation or election as a delegate or alternate. For those who cannot give the registration donation amount, a lesser contribution is encouraged and will be appreciated.** Attendees are strongly encouraged to sign in by 2:00pm to ensure their ability to vote on the business of the Caucus.

The principal business of the Caucus is the election of delegates and alternates to the Washington State Democratic Convention June 15-16 in Wenatchee, Washington. There will be a total of 14 delegates and 7 alternates elected. Any registered voter of the 37th District (or resident who will be qualified to vote on November 6, 2018) can run for election as a delegate to the Convention.

Additionally, the Caucus will adopt the Platform of the 37th District Democrats as well as any resolutions submitted to the Caucus by attendees or residents of the 37th Legislative District.

For more information and to download the Proposed Agenda, Proposed Rules, the current Platform with the draft Platform to follow, please visit our website, [www.37dems.org](http://www.37dems.org).

I look forward to seeing you at Rainier Beach Community Center on Sunday, March 25, 2018 at 1:00 pm.

Sincerely,

Alec Stephens

Chair, 37th Legislative District Democrats



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### **PROPOSED AGENDA**

1. 1:00 pm - Registration
2. 1:45 pm - Call to Order
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Welcome from District Chair and Temporary Chair (or Designee)
5. Recognition of Office Holders and Dignitaries (Additional candidates and individuals may be given recognition and a brief opportunity to address the body at convenient points, at the discretion of the Chair)
6. Credentials Report (Not Earlier than 2:30 p.m.)
7. Adoption of Agenda and Rules
8. Election of Permanent Chair
9. Appointment of Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, Parliamentarian, and Tally Committee
10. Election of Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention<sup>1</sup>
  - A. Nomination of Delegate Candidates
  - B. Delegate Candidate 1 Minute Speeches
  - C. Voting for Delegates—Ballots must include 14 Different Nominated Candidates if more than 14 people are nominated and shall be gender balanced.
  - D. If only 14 people or less are nominated, the delegation shall be elected by acclamation
11. Adoption of Platform
12. Adoption of Resolutions (Following adoption of the Entire Platform)
13. Good of the Order & Adjournment

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the 2018 Washington State Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan, the LD Chair and the Male and Female State Committee Representatives from the LD are automatic delegates to the State Convention.



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### **Proposed Rules for 37th Legislative District Caucus**

1. The 37<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Caucus shall be held on Sunday, March 25, 2018, commencing at 1:45 p.m. (with registration starting at 1 p.m.).
2. To vote at the 37th Legislative District Caucus an individual must be a resident, registered voter in the 37<sup>th</sup> Legislative District and affirm that they are a Democrat by signing on the registration sheet and agree to public record of their attendance at the meeting.
  - A. **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 37th Legislative District Caucus.
  - B. 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, resolutions or for the election of delegates or alternates, nor may they be elected as delegates or alternates.
3. There will be a suggested registration donation for all participants to the Legislative District Caucus of \$20. This donation is to help defray the expenses of location rental, copies of documents, and other supplies provided to the attendees. **Payment of this registration donation shall not be a condition of participation or election as a delegate or alternate. For those who cannot give the registration donation amount, a lesser contribution is encouraged and will be appreciated.**
4. The Legislative District Chair or the Chair's designee shall serve as the Temporary Chair of the Legislative District Caucus.
5. The Chair or designee of the Credentials Committee shall present the report of the Credentials Committee no earlier than 2:30 p.m., which shall include the total number of eligible voters in attendance at the Caucus at the time the report is given.
6. The Credentials Committee may seat additional eligible voters arriving after the Initial Credentials Committee report.



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7. The Chair or designee of the Rules Committee shall present the report of the Rules Committee.
8. In all matters of debate, speakers recognized by the Chair shall be limited to 2 minutes, with no more than 2 speakers on each side of any question.
9. Voting on all questions, other than election of Delegates and Alternates, shall be by show of voting credential.
10. Any voting member of the Caucus may nominate themselves or be nominated by another voting member for the position of Permanent Caucus Chair. Nominations, seconding speeches and speeches by the candidate on their own behalf shall not total more than three (3) minutes per nominee. A majority of those voting is required to elect. If no person has a majority, the candidate receiving the least votes is dropped and balloting shall be repeated using the remaining names. This procedure shall be repeated until a candidate receives a majority of those voting. In case of a tie vote, the tie shall be broken by lot or coin toss.
11. The Permanent Caucus Chair shall appoint a Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, Time Keeper, Tally Committee Chair, and Parliamentarian. Assistants or Committees may be appointed to assist these caucus officers in their work, as volume dictates.
12. The election of State Convention delegates and alternates:
  - A. The 37th Legislative District Caucus shall elect 14 delegates and 7 alternates.
  - B. Each candidate for State Convention delegate or alternate must be a resident registered voter, as defined in Section 2 of these rules, in the 37th Legislative District.
  - C. Each candidate for State Convention delegate or alternate shall be nominated individually. No second is required. A candidate who is not present must signify in advance, in writing individually to the 37th Legislative District, that they will serve if elected and that they are a Democrat and are willing to be known as such. The letter of any absent candidate shall be read by the Caucus Chair and shall constitute a nomination, no second required. All other nominations shall be made by signing the nomination list at the registration table. Each candidate shall have up to one minute (including the time spent by the Chair reading an



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absent candidate's nomination letter) for speech on their behalf. The Chair, at their sole discretion, may reduce the amount of speaking time, as long as all candidates are provided the same amount of time, based upon number of candidates and any other pertinent factors.

- D. Voting shall be by written ballot and a ballot to be counted must have all potential positions filled, contain only the names of persons nominated, and have no duplications. The ballot must not differ by more than one in the number of men and women selected. (These requirements prevent a candidate for delegate from skewing the vote by only voting for themselves and leaving the other positions blank). A plurality of those present and voting is required to elect. In case of a tie vote, the assignment of a delegate position shall be by lot or coin toss.
  - E. State Convention alternates shall be selected from the same set of ballots used for the election of delegates. The candidate for delegate receiving the most votes after all delegate slots are filled shall become alternate number one, and the alternate receiving the next most votes shall be alternate number two, and so forth. (Voting for alternates is done at the same time as voting for delegates).
  - F. The delegation elected shall differ by no more than one (disregarding any positions won by non-binary gender persons) between the number of women and number of men in both the delegate and alternate categories unless there are an insufficient number of nominees from one gender to fill the available positions. (Example: If the legislative district caucus can elect 10 delegates but 3 men and 7 women are running then the women can take the delegates spots that the men are unable to fill, and the delegation will consist of 3 men and 7 women).
  - G. If there are the same number of candidates seeking election to the State Convention as the number of positions available or fewer, they may be elected by acclamation.
13. At the discretion of the Permanent Caucus Chair, consideration of the platform may commence without suspension of the rules. Consideration of all resolutions shall be out of order until the adoption of the 2018 Platform of the 37<sup>th</sup> District Democratic Party is completed.



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14. Resolutions shall be submitted to the Secretary's table, in writing (typed or print letters), no later than the start of Delegate Candidate speeches. The Platform committee may consolidate like resolutions. The Platform Chair will present resolutions for consideration by the body in the order submitted except for such consolidation.
15. The Platform shall be taken up consistent with the Rules for Consideration of the Platform as adopted later in this document.
16. Any resolution not considered by the Caucus shall be referred to the next meeting of the 37<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats.
17. The motion "to table" shall be out of order at all times.
18. A quorum shall consist of 30% of the number eligible to vote as shown on the credentials report, as most recently amended. Once a quorum is established, it may not be challenged until the election of delegates has been completed.
  - A. The Tally Chair, in consultation with the Permanent Caucus Chair, may suspend counting of State Convention delegates and alternates ballots and inform the Caucus about where and when it will resume counting.
  - B. If this option is implemented, ballots and ballot documentation shall be sealed securely in an envelope or box, the seal signed by the Permanent Caucus Chair, the Tally Chair, and a third selected member, and not re-opened until the count resumes with the seal inspected beforehand.
19. The Permanent Caucus Chair shall appoint a representative tally committee to serve under the Tally Chair. All ballots shall be returned to the Permanent Caucus Chair and thereupon provided for safekeeping to the elected Legislative District/County Chair if that person is a different individual from the Caucus Chair. The ballots shall be retained by the Legislative District/ County Chair until the State Convention has adjourned.



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20. The Unit Rule shall not be permitted at any time.
21. Proxy voting shall not be allowed.
22. All possible efforts shall be made to insure maximum participation of African Americans, Hispanic/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.
23. 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.
24. Nothing in these rules shall be inconsistent with the 2018 Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan.
25. The Legislative District Caucus shall adjourn at 6 pm, if not earlier, if delegate elections have been completed.



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### **Proposed Rules for Consideration of the Platform**

1. The Platform Committee of the 37<sup>th</sup> District Caucus shall transmit the draft platform to the Legislative District Chair, who is the Temporary Chair of the Caucus.
2. The Permanent Caucus Chair (or their designee) shall call upon the Chair (or co-chairs) of the Platform Committee to place the Platform before the body for adoption. (The presentation of the platform may be done through a video).
3. The Permanent Caucus Chair or their designee shall read each section heading and ask members of the Caucus who disagree with language within a section to flag the item for debate and removal as not representing the sentiment of the majority at this time. Motions to delete language requires 4 seconds.
4. Amendments (or motions) to add language to the platform will not be in order.
5. After asking members to flag the language of platform sections for debate, the Permanent Caucus Chair may call for a vote on the platform, omitting those flagged sections for further discussion, debate and action.
6. The Permanent Caucus Chair shall bring up flagged sections for debate and action.
7. Debate shall alternate pro and con, limited to a maximum of four speakers for and four speakers against the issue or the main platform, each speaker to speak no more than one minute at the sole prerogative of the chair, provided that all speakers on a specific topic are provided the same amount of time. Following debate of the flagged language in a section, a final vote will be taken to include the section as is or as amended.
8. Removal of flagged language will be by simple majority of those voting.
9. In the event the platform is not passed at the LD Caucus, the platform may be considered by 37<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats at its next regular meeting.