

1 **46TH DISTRICT DEMOCRATS BYLAWS**

2  
3 **ARTICLE I – NAME**

4 The name of this organization shall be the 46th District Democrats.

5  
6 **ARTICLE II – POLICY**

7 **Section 1:** This organization shall function continuously and shall operate under the applicable Bylaws and  
8 Rules of the King County Democratic Central Committee (KCDCC) and the State and National Democratic  
9 Parties.

10  
11 **Section 2:** The purpose of the organization shall be to promote citizen participation in the affairs of the  
12 Democratic Party and to support the party's political objectives of social and economic justice.

13  
14 **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

15 **Section 1:** All elected, appointed and acting Democratic Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs) registered to vote  
16 in the 46th District shall be members of the organization.

17  
18 **Section 2:** Any other registered voter of the 46th Legislative District who declares himself or herself to be a  
19 Democrat may become a voting member upon payment of current organization dues. Those who were not  
20 members in the preceding calendar year shall be eligible to vote twenty-one (21) days after receipt of dues.

21  
22 **Section 3:** Annual dues for members shall be (a) \$15.00 for individual members; (b) \$25.00 for families; and (c)  
23 \$3.00 for those who are retired, low income, or students. Membership dues may be reviewed on an annual basis by  
24 the District Executive Board. If, upon such review, the District Executive Board believes a dues adjustment should  
25 be made, a motion to that effect shall be made to the membership at the next regular membership meeting,  
26 following notice as required by Article IV of these Bylaws. Dues apply for the calendar year from January through  
27 December.

28  
29 **ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS**

30 **Section 1:** The regular monthly meeting shall be held on the third Thursday of each month. The District  
31 Executive Board may change the date and place for a particular regular monthly meeting, so long as all members  
32 are notified at or before the regular monthly meeting preceding the monthly meeting to be changed.

33  
34 **Section 2:** A special meeting may be called by twenty-five percent (25%) of the membership, twenty-five percent  
35 (25%) of the PCOs, or by the Chair.

36  
37 **Section 3:** Written notice of the time, place and purpose of each regular or special meeting shall be mailed to  
38 each member no later than ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting.

39  
40 **Section 4:** Notice of any election to fill a vacancy in any elected office, or any proposed amendment to these  
41 Bylaws, or any proposed dues changes, or any endorsement of a candidate or a ballot issue, or any donation or  
42 contribution of funds in support of any candidate, ballot issue or group (except an official Democratic Party  
43 organization), shall be included in the meeting notice mailed to each member no less than ten (10) days prior to the  
44 meeting at which such business is to be transacted. The deadline for the inclusion of items in the monthly District  
45 Newsletter shall be included within the preceding month's newsletter.

46  
47 **Section 5:** A quorum shall be declared by the Chair to exist at any regular or special meeting of the membership  
48 when twenty-five (25) members are present. Once a quorum has been established for a duly called meeting, it may  
49 not be questioned until action on the items indicated in the written notice has been taken.

50  
51 **ARTICLE V – OFFICERS**

1 **Section 1:** Officers of the organization shall include the following, to be elected by majority vote of eligible  
2 voters present at the biennial reorganization meeting – or, to fill a vacancy, at another District meeting – after  
3 appropriate notice as required by Article IV of these Bylaws:

- 4 a. Chair
- 5 b. 1st Vice-Chair
- 6 c. Female Delegate to the KCDCC Executive Board
- 7 d. Male Delegate to the KCDCC Executive Board
- 8 e. Female Alternate to the KCDCC Executive Board
- 9 f. Male Alternate to the KCDCC Executive Board
- 10 g. Female Delegate to the State Democratic Central Committee (WSDCC)
- 11 h. Male Delegate to the WSDCC

12 Only elected or appointed PCOs may be elected to the offices listed in Subparagraphs a-f of this Section, while any  
13 member in good standing may be elected to the offices listed in Subparagraphs g and h. However, only elected or  
14 appointed PCOs may vote for any of the foregoing offices.

15  
16 **Section 2:** Additional officers shall include the following, to be elected by majority vote of eligible voters  
17 present at the biennial reorganization meeting – or, to fill a vacancy, at another District meeting – after appropriate  
18 notice as required by Article IV of these Bylaws:

- 19 a. Two (2) 2nd Vice-Chairs
- 20 b. Secretary
- 21 c. Treasurer
- 22 d. Sergeant-at-Arms
- 23 e. Five (5) District Executive Board Members-at-Large

24 Any member in good standing may be elected to the foregoing offices.

25  
26 **Section 3:** All officers shall serve until the next biennial reorganization meeting or until their successors are duly  
27 elected and installed.

28  
29 **Section 4:** The Chair shall preside over the meetings of the organization and shall be the chief executive officer  
30 and represent the District on the Executive Board of the KCDCC.

31  
32 **Section 5:** The 1st Vice-Chair shall serve in the absence of the Chair and perform other duties as may be  
33 assigned by the Chair. The two (2) 2nd Vice-Chairs shall perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the  
34 Chair.

35  
36 **Section 6:** The Secretary shall take the minutes of District and District Executive Board meetings, and shall  
37 maintain these records for public inspection. The Secretary shall also assist the Chair in managing the  
38 organization's incoming and outgoing correspondence.

39  
40 **Section 7:** The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection, recording, safekeeping and disbursement of the  
41 organization's financial resources. The Treasurer shall manage the organization's bank account(s) and prepare  
42 appropriate reports to the Public Disclosure Commission. The Treasurer shall make an oral financial report at each  
43 regular District meeting and submit a written report monthly for filing in the minute book.

44  
45 **Section 8:** The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be responsible for maintaining order at District meetings and shall take  
46 charge of arranging tables, chairs and other meeting hall facilities.

47  
48 **Section 9:** The five (5) District Executive Board Members-at-Large shall perform such duties as may be assigned  
49 to them by the Chair.

50  
51 **Section 10:** The two (2) Delegates to the KCDCC Executive Board shall consist of one female delegate and one  
52 male delegate as listed in Article V, Section 1 of these Bylaws. The two (2) Alternates to the KCDCC Executive

1 Board shall likewise consist of one female delegate and one male delegate as listed in Article V, Section 1 of these  
2 Bylaws.

3  
4 **Section 11:** The two (2) Delegates to the WSDCC shall represent the District on the WSDCC and report back on  
5 the business of that committee.

#### 6 7 **ARTICLE VI – VOTING**

8 **Section 1:** Elected, appointed and acting PCOs shall be entitled to vote at all District meetings. In accordance  
9 with state law (RCW Chapter 29.42, Political Parties) and the Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the State of  
10 Washington (Article IX, Legislative District Organizations), only elected and appointed PCOs may vote for the  
11 offices listed in Article V, Section 1 of these Bylaws, or to fill legislative vacancies or adopt or amend District  
12 Bylaws.

13  
14 **Section 2:** All members in good standing shall be entitled to vote for the offices listed in Article V, Section 2 of  
15 these Bylaws, and on all other items up for consideration at District meetings. Those who are not PCOs may vote,  
16 provided that the appropriate annual dues have been received at least twenty-one (21) days in advance of the  
17 meeting at which the vote is held.

18  
19 **Section 3:** Proxies shall not be recognized in voting on any District business.

#### 20 21 **ARTICLE VII – VACANCIES IN OFFICE**

22 Whenever a vacancy in an elected office shall occur, the Chair may appoint a temporary replacement  
23 to serve until the next District meeting at which time, after notice as required by Article IV of these Bylaws, a new  
24 officer shall be elected.

#### 25 26 **ARTICLE VIII – REMOVAL OF OFFICERS**

27 **Section 1:** A District meeting may be called for the purpose of removing any officer upon the written request of  
28 twenty-five percent (25%) of the PCOs. Notice of this meeting must be deposited in the mail to all PCOs at least  
29 ten (10) days in advance. At this meeting, the officer (or officers) concerned may be removed by a majority vote  
30 of PCOs attending.

31  
32 **Section 2:** Elected officers other than the District Chair, 1st Vice Chair, Delegates/Alternates to the KCDCC  
33 Executive Board and Delegates to the WSDCC may be removed by the District Chair for failure to perform  
34 properly the functions of their office. Unexcused absence from two (2) consecutive District or two (2) consecutive  
35 District Executive Board meetings shall be grounds for removal. Notice of removal and the grounds therefore shall  
36 be given in writing to be effective immediately, provided that the decision of the District Chair must be sustained  
37 by a majority vote of the membership of the organization present at a regular meeting, following written notice as  
38 required by Article IV of these Bylaws.

#### 39 40 **ARTICLE IX – APPOINTED AND ACTING PRECINCT COMMITTEE OFFICERS**

41 **Section 1:** All PCOs, to vote in PCO organizations, must reside or be duly elected in their own precinct, except  
42 that acting PCOs may be appointed to serve vacant precincts. An acting PCO must live in the District but need not  
43 live in the precinct. He or she shall have full voting rights except for the election of KCDCC officers or for the  
44 adoption of KCDCC bylaws. An acting PCO shall be superseded by appointment of a resident in the precinct.

45  
46 **Section 2:** The KCDCC Chair shall appoint only PCOs approved by the District organization. Within fifteen  
47 (15) days of such approval the District Chair shall submit the application to the KCDCC Chair, who shall take  
48 action on the appointments within fifteen (15) days of their submittal. If the KCDCC Chair has reason to deny  
49 such an appointment, he or she shall refer the matter back to the District organization, stating the reasons in writing  
50 within fifteen (15) days.

1 **Section 3:** All applications for appointed or acting PCOs shall be supported by at least ten (10) signatures of  
2 voters registered in the precinct which they propose to represent. These applications shall be submitted to the  
3 District organization at the next District meeting. When more than one application for the same precinct position  
4 is submitted in any District meeting, they shall be voted on at the same time.  
5

#### 6 **ARTICLE X – AREA COORDINATORS**

7 **Section 1:** The function of the Area Coordinators shall be to coordinate the -precinct work in subareas of the  
8 46th District. As directed by the District Chair, each Area Coordinator shall be responsible for working closely  
9 with elected, appointed or acting PCOs and recruiting and training acting PCOs where necessary to fill vacancies.  
10

11 **Section 2:** Area Coordinators shall be appointed by and serve at the discretion of the District Chair, provided that  
12 such appointments shall be subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the District Executive Board  
13 present and voting at a meeting of such board.  
14

#### 15 **ARTICLE XI – NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

16 **Section 1:** The Newsletter Editor shall prepare and disseminate District Newsletters and other public  
17 announcements with respect to the organization's business, including notification to the membership regarding the  
18 time, place and purpose of meetings.  
19

20 **Section 2:** The Newsletter Editor shall be appointed by and serve at the discretion of the District Chair, provided  
21 that such appointment shall be subject to a majority confirmation of the members of the District Executive Board  
22 present and voting at a meeting of such Board.  
23

#### 24 **ARTICLE XII – DISTRICT EXECUTIVE BOARD**

25 **Section 1:** All elected officers and the newsletter editor shall be voting members of the District Executive Board,  
26 which shall be responsible for implementing policies and transacting business approved by the membership.  
27

28 **Section 2:** Executive Board meetings shall be held at regular intervals at the call of the Chair and shall be  
29 announced in the District Newsletter. All such meetings shall be open to the membership. A quorum shall consist  
30 of a majority of the members of the Executive Board.  
31

#### 32 **ARTICLE XIII – EXPENDITURE OF DISTRICT FUNDS**

33 **Section 1:** No expenditure of funds of the 46th District Democratic Organization in excess of two hundred fifty  
34 dollars (\$250.00) shall be made except by check signed by two (2) of the following three (3) officers: District  
35 Chair, First Vice-Chair and Treasurer.  
36

37 **Section 2:** Expenditures of one hundred fifty Dollars (\$150.00) or less for regular, ongoing District expenses or a  
38 project or purpose approved by the District membership may be authorized in advance by the District Executive  
39 Board. The Board may also authorize in advance any reasonable expenditure arising out of the organization of a  
40 fund-raiser event approved by the District membership. All other expenditures, excluding campaign donations in  
41 any amount for candidates and ballot issues, must be authorized by a majority vote at a District meeting, following  
42 notice as required by Article IV of these Bylaws.  
43

44 **Section 3:** The District Chair shall appoint, each January, an Audit Committee of three (3) non-Executive Board  
45 members to review the District's financial records and present a report to the membership at the next regular  
46 meeting. These appointments shall be subject to confirmation by the District membership.  
47

#### 48 **ARTICLE XIV – COMMITTEES**

49 **Section 1:** There shall be four (4) standing committees and such additional committees as the Chair may from  
50 time to time appoint. The District Chair shall appoint all committee members and committee chairs and shall serve  
51 as an ex-officio voting member of all committees.  
52

1 **Section 2:** The Program Committee shall be a standing committee responsible for the development of District  
2 meeting programs.

3  
4 **Section 3:** The Research Committee shall be a standing committee responsible for developing population and  
5 registered voter statistics, historical election results, voting analyses, opinion poll data and such other information  
6 as will provide a political profile of the 46th District for the purpose of targeting political campaigns. The  
7 Research Committee shall coordinate its efforts with related activities of the WSDCC, KCDCC, and other  
8 interested District organizations.

9  
10 **Section 4:** The Finance Committee shall be a standing committee with responsibility for developing an annual  
11 budget and recommendations for fund raising strategies to support the political and program objectives of the  
12 organization.

13  
14 **Section 5:** The Membership Committee shall be a standing committee with responsibility for facilitating the  
15 growth and satisfaction of the membership.

16  
17 **ARTICLE XV – RESOLUTIONS**

18 Proposed resolutions must be submitted in writing to the District Newsletter Editor by the Newsletter  
19 deadline, and published in the Newsletter, prior to the regular District meeting at which they are to be considered.  
20 This requirement of advance written notice may be suspended upon two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership  
21 present and voting at a duly called meeting,

22  
23 **ARTICLE XVI – SUPPORT OF CANDIDATES AND BALLOT ISSUES**

24 **Section 1:** The District Chair shall call endorsement meetings to be held annually (1) after the close of the filing  
25 period for candidates in the November general election but before the primary election date; and (2) after the  
26 primary election date but before the November general election.

27  
28 **Section 2:** The District Executive Board may make recommendations to the membership for endorsement. No  
29 such recommendations shall be made except upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of Executive Board members  
30 present and voting at a regular meeting of the board.

31  
32 **Section 3:** The District Executive Board shall propose and the general membership shall adopt voting procedures  
33 for the purpose of endorsing candidates and issues.

34  
35 **Section 4:** Endorsement of candidates in special elections, decisions regarding contributions to candidates for  
36 special elections, and endorsements or contributions to ballot issues to be decided in a special election may also be  
37 considered at any other District meeting, given notice as required by Article IV of these Bylaws.

38  
39 **Section 5:** The membership at any meeting may, by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those members present and  
40 voting, delegate to the District Executive Board the authority to:

- 41 a. Make a post-primary endorsement in any specified race; and/or
- 42
- 43 b. Approve the distribution of funds, in the time period between a District meeting and an election, to
- 44 any group in support of any candidate or ballot issue in accordance with priorities for such
- 45 distribution established by the District and in accordance with the provisions of federal, state, and
- 46 local law.
- 47
- 48

49 Any such endorsement or approval of distribution of funds by the Board shall be by a two-thirds (2/3) majority  
50 vote of Board members present and voting at a duly called Executive Board meeting, and shall be exempt from the  
51 notice provisions of Article IV of these Bylaws and from the expenditure provisions of Section 2 of Article XIII of  
52 these Bylaws. Any such action by the Board shall be included in the next monthly District Newsletter.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29

**Section 6:** Candidates shall not be considered for endorsement unless they have declared both their past and present party affiliation (with the exception of candidates for judicial office), and have timely completed and returned any Candidate Questionnaire distributed to such candidates by the District Executive Board. Responses to candidate questionnaires shall be posted and made available for review at endorsement meetings.

**Section 7:** The 46th District Democrats shall endorse only those candidates having declared affiliation with the Democratic Party, with the exception of candidates for judicial office.

**Section 8:** No motion for endorsement shall carry and no contribution shall be authorized, at any District meeting, except by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those members present and voting.

**ARTICLE XVII – AMENDMENT AND SUSPENSION OF BYLAWS**

**Section 1:** These Bylaws shall function continuously.

**Section 2:** These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those present and voting at a duly called District meeting after notice as required by Article IV of these Bylaws.

**Section 3:** These Bylaws may be suspended only for the purpose of waiving the requirement of advance written submission of proposed resolutions as set forth in Article XV of these Bylaws, which suspension must be supported by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at a duly called meeting

**ARTICLE XVIII – RULES OF ORDER**

In any situation not expressly covered by the rules of higher Party authority or these Bylaws, Robert’s Rules of Order, Revised, most recent edition, shall prevail.

*As Adopted with Amendments: February, 1985; November, 1986; February, 1987; June, 1992; March, 1993; July, 1993; April, 1995; January 2000; June 2002; November 2002.*