

Snohomish Democrats Qtr Meeting

Standing Rules on the Approval of Resolutions

Adopted May 21, 2011

I. Purpose.

These rules define how the Snohomish County Democratic Central Committee approves resolutions. These rules do not apply to resolutions adopted during precinct caucuses or a county Democratic convention.

II. Who may propose a resolution.

The following may propose a resolution for approval:

- A. Member of the Snohomish County Democrats. Anyone meeting any of the membership types listed in Article I, Section E of the By-Laws of the Snohomish County Democratic Central Committee.
- B. Legislative District Organization. Any state legislative district organization that operates under the rules established by the Washington State Democratic Central Committee whose district covers Snohomish County in whole or in part.

III. What body approves a resolution for the Snohomish County Democratic Central Committee.

The following may approve a resolution for the Snohomish County Democratic Central Committee:

- A. The Central Committee. The Central Committee will be the primary forum for considering and approving resolutions on behalf of the organization. The Central Committee may also revoke the approval of a resolution approved by the Executive Board.
- B. The Executive Board. If urgent, the Executive Board may approve a resolution for the organization. A resolution approved by the Executive Board may also be directed to the Central Committee for ratification.

IV. Part of the resolution voted on and approved.

The only parts of the resolution that are voted upon are:

- A. The name of the resolution.
- B. What is being resolved (clauses contain the word "resolved").

Resolutions are intended to address one issue. Any supporting or background information (sometimes given as "whereas" clauses before what is being resolved) are not voted upon or approved. It is encouraged to present any background information separately from the part of the resolution being voted upon to reduce confusion on what is being voted upon.

V. Construction.

- A. Wording when approved by the Central Committee.
 1. The first or only resolved clause begins with these words:
Be it resolved by the Snohomish County Democratic Central Committee....
 2. If there is more than one resolved clause, each one after the first begins with these words:
Be it further resolved by the Snohomish County Democratic Central Committee....
- B. Wording when approved by the Executive Board .
 1. The first or only resolved clause begins with these words:
Be it resolved by the Executive Board of the Snohomish County Democratic Central Committee....
 2. If there is more than one resolved clause, each one after the first begins with these words:
Be it further resolved by the Executive Board of the Snohomish County Democratic Central Committee....
- C. If the Central Committee is ratifying an action by the Executive Board, the resolved clause begins with these words:

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1. Be it resolved that the Snohomish County Democratic Central Committee ratifies the resolution called [insert name] approved by the Executive Board of the Snohomish County Democratic Central Committee on [insert date], which said the following: [insert resolution approved by the Executive Board] .

VI. Responsibilities of the Resolutions Committee.

- A. The Resolutions Committee will review each proposed resolution for:
 1. Timely submission.
 2. Proper submission as specified in Section V.
 3. For reasonable, attainable and limited scope of action.
 4. Any action resolved must be within the power of the Chair and the committee.
- B. The resolutions Committee will amend or reject any resolution that has not met all the above criteria.

VII. The Disposition of the Resolution .

Following adoption of a resolution by the SCDCC appropriate action will be taken by the Chair and the Corresponding Secretary, including, but not limited to the transmission of the resolution to affected officials, media, and other affected bodies.

VIII. The Approval Process for a Resolution.

Resolutions and Platform Committee

- A. A resolution must be submitted to the Resolutions Committee for consideration. This committee works with the proposing member to perfect the naming and wording of the resolution.
- B. This committee may do the following with a proposed resolution:
 1. Approve the resolution as perfected by the committee for consideration with a recommendation for approval.
 2. Approve the resolution for consideration, including a resolution perfected by the committee, but making no recommendation.
 - (a) Resolutions will not necessarily reflect changes from the original.
 3. Recommend against approval of the resolution.
 4. Take no action on the resolution.
- C. Publication of Resolutions
 1. This committee must receive a resolution one month in advance of a Central Committee meeting. The committee recommends action directly to the Central Committee no later than one week prior to a meeting of the Central Committee. All resolutions and their recommendations will be posted on line at that time.
 2. If time sensitive, the resolution is needed one week in advance of an Executive Board meeting. The committee will determine if an issue is time sensitive and should be considered at the Executive Board. The Resolution shall be posted on line 48 hours prior to the Executive Board meeting.
- D. Central Committee
 1. The Resolutions and Platform Committee determines whether to forward a resolution on to the Central Committee. Resolutions coming from committee require no further need of motion and second.
 - (a) If the committee takes a neutral position (with or without recommendation pro or con), the Central Committee must approve the consideration of a resolution by a simple majority vote. The approval of the motion to consider requires only a simple majority in this case. After the motion to consider passes, the approval of such a resolution follows normal approval procedures.

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(b) If the committee recommends against approval of a resolution or has not forwarded a resolution for consideration, the Central Committee may approve consideration by a two-thirds majority vote. If a vote to consider the resolution is approved, the approval of the resolution follows normal procedure.

2. In certain circumstances the Central Committee can vote on resolutions from the floor. To vote on the approval of a resolution at the same meeting where it is first proposed requires approval of amending the original resolution by the addition of an emergency clause. This emergency clause must pass by a two-thirds majority. The wording of the emergency clause must be substantially like the following:

Be it further resolved that the Snohomish County Democratic Central Committee finds that this matter is of an urgent nature, and directs that the resolution be approved at the same meeting where the resolution was first proposed.

E. Executive Board.

The Executive Board may take the following actions on a resolution:

1. Approve or reject the resolution, including approve as amended.
2. Send the resolution to the Central Committee for action with or without a recommendation.

A resolution sent by the Executive Board to the Central Committee in any manner does not require the approval of a motion to consider by the Central Committee. The action of the Executive Board is considered the motion and second when reporting to the Central Committee.

Gary Sell
Recording Secretary
Snohomish County Democrats