**2014 36th Legislative District Caucus**

**Proposed Rules**

1. The Legislative District Caucus shall be held on Sunday, March 9, 2014 commencing at 1:00 pm, at the Sunset Hill Community Center, 3003 NW 66th St., Seattle, WA.

1. To vote at the Legislative District Caucus an individual must be a resident, registered voter in the 36th Legislative District and sign a registration sheet stating that he/she is a Democrat, and agrees to public display of her/his attendance at the meeting. Registered voters includes all registered voters and any 17 year old who will be eligible to vote on November 4, 2014. Registered voters also includes any individuals who complete a voter registration form while signing in to attend the Legislative District Caucus. Individuals who are not qualified to register to vote because of residence or citizenship shall be allowed to participate in the platform discussion, but may not vote on resolutions or for the election of delegates or alternates, nor may they be elected as delegates or alternates.

3. There is no registration fee for participating in the caucus.

4. The Legislative District Chair or the Chair’s designee shall serve as the Temporary Chair of the Legislative District Caucus.

1. The Chair of the Credentials Committee shall present the report of the Credentials Committee which shall include:
2. The total number of eligible voters in attendance at the Caucus at the time the report is given.
3. These proposed Rules shall be presented and adopted by the caucus. Amendments are allowed only insofar as they do not conflict with Washington State Democratic Party rules governing the caucuses.
4. Any voting member of the Caucus may nominate themselves or be nominated by another voting member for the position of Permanent Chair. Nominations, seconding speeches and speeches by the candidate on his or her own behalf shall not total more than two (2) minutes per nominee. A majority 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.
5. The Permanent Chair shall appoint a Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, Time Keeper, and Parliamentarian.
6. The Chair shall announce the allocation of State Convention delegates and alternates including the following information:
7. The total number eligible to vote at the Caucus.
8. The election of State Convention delegates and alternates:
9. Each candidate for State Convention delegate or alternate must be a resident registered voter in the Legislative District.
10. 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 that he/she will serve if elected and that he/she is a Democrat and is 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 sub-caucus chair reading an absent candidate’s nomination letter) for speech on his/her behalf.
11. Voting shall be by signed ballot and a ballot to be counted must have all positions filled with no duplications. (This prevents a candidate for delegate from skewing the vote by only voting for themselves and leaving the other positions blank). A simple plurality of those present and voting is required to elect. The chair shall provide the ballots. After the votes are collected and tallied, the person receiving the most votes shall have been elected, the person receiving the next most votes shall have been elected, and so forth until all allotted delegate and alternate positions are filled. In case of a tie vote, the assignment of a delegate or alternate position shall be by lot. Each delegation elected shall be equally divided between women and men in both the delegate and alternate categories unless there are an insufficient number of nominees from one gender to fill available positions.
12. The platform will be presented at the Legislative District Caucus by the Platform and Resolutions Committee Chair. The platform will be considered by section. Motions to subtract language from the platform will be in order; motions to add or move platform language will not be in order.
13. Resolutions will be presented as time allows, with resolutions considered by the Platform and Resolutions Committee discussed first. Resolutions presented from the floor will be considered only as time allows.
14. Discussion and adoption of platform and resolutions will be limited to 60 minutes.
15. Consideration of the platform and resolutions or introduction of guests may commence at the discretion of the Chair, without suspension of the rules.
16. Debate of all motions shall alternate pro and con, limited to three speakers for and three speakers against any motion, with each speaker to speak no more than one minute.
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.
19. The Chair shall appoint a representative tally committee. All ballots shall be returned to the Chair and shall be retained by the Chair until the State Convention has adjourned.
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 ethnic minorities, women, youth, persons over 65 years of age, lesbians and gays, Labor, persons with a high school education or less, disabled, and persons of economic disadvantage.
23. Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall prevail in other matters not specifically covered herein.

\* The Unit Rule is a rule of procedure at a national political convention under which a state's entire vote must be cast for the candidate preferred by a majority of the state's delegates.

Allowing the unit rule at your caucus or convention would mean that all delegates would be chosen for one candidate. This would be in conflict with the current system which allows for proportional representation.