

## **Special Committee - Gender Equity**

**Members appointed by the Chair:** Chrissy Erguiza, Garrett Fleenor, Dan Franks, Barbara Glazer, and Shabba Woodley

### **Background**

After the 2018 Organization meeting, serious concerns were raised about the interpretation of Special Rule #4, the Election Process for Delegates to the Democratic Party of Oregon's Central Committee and the First Congressional District's Central Committee.

Motivations to solve delegation elections rules were brought forward by members of the Rules Committee and Resolutions & Platform Committee; Central Committee Members approved a motion to form a Special Committee to develop recommendations on how best to ensure all-party elections are conducted fairly and inclusively, especially in respect to gender identity.

### **The mission of the Special Committee:**

To ensure fair, gender-equitable delegation elections, as well as cleaning up the process of elevating alternate delegates, to the DPO SCC and CD1CC.

### **The Special Committee Recommends**

1. Instructing the Rules Committee to dispense with Special Rules of Order #4 and re-write it adequate time for the next Organization meeting.
2. Define delegate election eligibility at 50%-1, which will create a non-binary gender category and further ensure each gender representation does not exceed 50%.  
(See note)\*
3. Clarifying the process for elevating alternate delegates when there are vacancies or when a delegate resigns through the order of seniority (when elected and determined by the number of votes received) and having a solution to ensure that there is gender balance.

### **Some FAQ's**

We have 11 delegates to the DPO SCC. The Chair is an automatic delegate.

*Fun fact!* We have already been using this method for replacements of delegate and alternate delegate elections for the State Central Committee and Congressional District 1 Central Committees earlier this summer!

**How long was the open comment period?** It was open for 5 weeks and we received six submissions.

\*Further refinement will be left up to the Rules Committee to consider a 50+1 in the situation when there are NO non-binary candidates running.