

# **WDRC**

## **Electoral Action Committee**

November 11, 2011

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club (WDRC) Electoral Action Committee (EAC) is to provide the endorsement process for California candidates and propositions of interest to and within the geographic reach of the WDRC. The endorsements are based on the principles of the WDRC as stated in the WDRC platform.

### **Endorsement Process**

The process is used as a guide to the WDRC, in order to make informed decisions about candidates and issues before the voters.

### **EAC DECISIONS**

All decisions are made by and become effective with a majority vote of those present at EAC meetings. The EAC may decide to take a vote via e-mail. If a vote is taken by e-mail, the majority of those who vote will be the final decision of the EAC.

### **The EAC will, for every election:**

1. determine which electoral race(s), in its geographical reach, to consider for endorsement
2. review the qualifications of all Democratic candidates in the race(s) being considered for WDRC endorsement
3. review the qualifications of any Democratic candidate a WDRC member recommends (nominates & secures 10 votes at a general WDRC meeting) for consideration
4. Send all of the selected candidates the letter inviting them to request the Candidates' Questionnaire

5. Send the candidates the Questionnaire with a note stating the deadline for returning the questionnaire, and that the candidate can expect a reply from WDRC.

## **Actions**

1. The EAC will send all Democratic candidate(s) in the selected race(s) the Introduction Letter.
2. When a member of the WDRC wants the WDRC to endorse a candidate not within the geographic reach of the WDRC, the EAC will send the Introduction Letter to that candidate.
3. After the EAC receives the requests from the candidate(s) for a WDRC endorsement, the EAC will forward those candidates' the Questionnaire.
4. When the EAC gets the Questionnaire back from the Candidate(s), the EAC will review the Questionnaires and send them to the CC with EAC recommendations.

## **Time Line**

### **A. Primary elections**

Nine (9) months before a primary election the EAC will meet to review the known candidates and issues.

### **B. Elections**

#### **1. Primary Elections**

- a) After a primary election, if the endorsed candidate wins, the EAC's work is complete for that race and the WDRC endorsement process continues for the general election.
- b) If the endorsed candidate does not win the primary, the EAC will repeat the endorsement process using the Questionnaires it has in hand or send new ones to any Democratic candidate who did not receive one for the primary election.

#### **2. General Elections**

The endorsement process as stated above is used.

3. After the endorsement process is completed, the EAC work shifts to voter registration (VR) and get out the vote (GOTV) activities, i.e., precinct work, phone-banking, etc.

**C. Special Elections**

1. If a special election is called, the EAC will meet to review the candidates and issues.
2. As appropriate, the EAC may then implement the endorsement process.

## **CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS**

There are three (3) categories of candidates, each with explicit requirements in order to earn an endorsement.

Generally, for a candidate to be considered for WDRC endorsement the following rules apply; requirements vary, as shown, below:

1. The candidate must return a completed Candidate Questionnaire to the EAC within the established time line.
2. The **invited** candidate must appear in person at the WDRC endorsement meeting. If the candidate cannot appear due to scheduling problems, health reasons, or other unavoidable absence, the EAC will consider whether another person may represent the candidate at the endorsement meeting.
3. Candidates are grouped in three categories, to identify the requirements to qualify for a WDRC endorsement.

Category 1	Candidates for the following offices are eligible for endorsement without a) completing the Candidate Questionnaire or b) attending the WDRC endorsement meeting: US President US Senate California State Constitutional Offices Governor Lt Governor Secretary of State
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Attorney General  
Insurance Commissioner  
Superintendent of Public Education  
Controller  
Treasurer

Category 2      Candidates who are *outside of the WDRC geographic reach*. Candidates for the following offices are eligible for endorsement if a) they complete and return the Candidate Questionnaire, *but* b) they are not required to attend the endorsement meeting:

U.S. Congress  
State Senate  
State Assembly

Category 3      Candidates who are *within the WDRC geographic reach*. Candidates for the following offices are eligible for endorsement if a) they complete and return the Candidate Questionnaire, and b) they attend the WDRC endorsement meeting:

U.S. Congress  
State Senate  
State Assembly  
Local Races