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FW: CDP E-Board and information regarding 2012 Conventions

1 message

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Dear CDP delegates,

We had a very successful Executive Committee meeting over the weekend of November 19-21. We clarified rules for endorsements, passed 17 resolutions, recertified the Progressive Caucus and discussed the upcoming pre-endorsement caucuses (ours will be on Saturday, January 21, from 1pm to 5 pm), talked about the upcoming CDP convention to be held February 10,11, 12 in San Diego (if you are going be SURE TO MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS SOON) and discussed the 2012 Democratic National Convention in Charlotte on September 3-6 and how to try to become a delegate.

The Pre-endorsement process: Endorsements from the primary will carry over to the run-off in November. Elected officials can now only switch ½ of their appointed delegates to another district . December 8th is the deadline for delegate switching of this sort. Candidates seeking endorsements should file forms and pay fees to the CDP by January 13. Membership in the CDP state committee is still by old districts but voting for endorsements will be based on the new districts in which the CDP delegate lives. To gain the CDP endorsement in January, a candidate must receive 70% of the vote. If this does not happen but one candidate gets over 50% of the vote, there will be another opportunity for endorsement at the CDP Convention. At the convention an incumbent will require a simple majority for endorsement and a non-incumbent will have to get 60%. If any candidates manages to receive 70% of the vote in January and thus qualifies for endorsement, he/she will go on a consent calendar for the Convention. That early pre-endorsement can, however, be challenged and removed from the consent calendar

Region 5 now contains the following districts: AD's 24 (21), 25 (20) 27 (23) and 28 (22). For Senate: 13 (11) and 15 (13) Congress: 17 (15) 18 (14) and 19 (16). The numbers in brackets are the former numbers for the incumbents or if there is no incumbent as in the Senate Districts, they refer to the general area of the former number.

There are several ways to become a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in September. The surest way is to become a District Level Delegate. Here you run against other potential delegates within your Congressional District. The number of delegates is decided by population and presidential voting from the 2004 and 2008 elections. For instance, CD 14 (Eshoo) will have 3 females, four males and one female alternate. However, this is based on the old formula and may change as we'll be dealing with the new districts!

Beginning on February 27th you can file Form A with the CDP (available on the website) but be reminded that you must have an original signature on the form so it is best to download it and mail it in. It is due by April 11, 2012 at 5 pm. Then your job consists of getting every Democrat who lives in your Congressional District to come to a caucus to be held some time on Sunday, April 29th to vote for you. The winners will be decided on that day by the people who get the most votes. It is a real organizing challenge.

Finally you must be available to attend the mandatory Statewide Delegation Meeting somewhere in the state on June 24th.

If you do not manage to become a District Level Delegate, you can apply to become an At-Large Delegate or a PLEO which consists of party leaders and elected officials. The CDP is eager to have a balanced delegation that is representative of the state and of our party so there are affirmative action opportunities available as an At-Large-Delegate. Application for either of these delegate slot positions can be made between February 27th and June 13. Announcement of selection of the At-Large delegates will be made at the statewide Delegation meeting on June 24th.

If you haven't been to a convention and can afford the expense, I would certainly recommend you try to become a District Level Delegate on April 29th. And if finances are tight, a number of delegates in the past have raised money to help them make the trip.

Finally, the CDP warned all of us about an unconscionable initiative that is working its way towards the November ballot in 2012. It is called something like Paycheck Protection and would have the effect of making it impossible for labor unions to contribute to candidates or parties. Since over 70% of the CDP's financing comes from unions, this would be a disaster for us and the candidates we support. Please be on the lookout for signature gatherers and warn people not to sign.

There will be lots more information coming up in the next few months, all leading up to the critical battles next year to retain or regain our Democratic majorities, to put the state on a firm financial footing and to re-elect our President. Please do not hesitate to contact me when you have any questions and I'll try to stay closely connected also. My phone is [650-948-8259](tel:650-948-8259) and the email is ejt@thurberfamily.com

Warm regards,

Emy

Emily Thurber, CDP Regional Director, Region 5