



HISPANIC CAUCUS

OF THE TEXAS DEMOCRATIC PARTY

BY-LAWS FOR

THE OFFICIAL TEXAS HISPANIC CAUCUS OF THE TEXAS DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party seeks to raise political and civic consciousness by electing Hispanics to all levels of government. The Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party will accomplish this by increasing political participation of individuals in all activities of the Texas Democratic Party (TDP), in particular, expanding Hispanic representation in voter registration, candidate training, activist training, voter education, legislative tracking, and outreach to Democratic Clubs, community and civic organizations.

Article I – Policy and Goals

Section 1: It is the policy of this Hispanic Caucus in the execution of all endeavors, to contribute to the growth and influence of the TDP, establish and maintain an inclusive Hispanic Caucus presence in the party and to support the party candidates for Democratic leadership throughout the state and nation.

Section 2: The Hispanic Caucus will conduct trainings to educate and train interested members and Democrats to participate in candidate and activist training, voter registration, outreach, political education, legislative session training, research, community and civic organizations participation.

Article II – Name

The name of this organization shall be “The Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party” dba Texas Hispanic Caucus.

Article III – Purpose

Section 1: It will be the purpose of this caucus to promote and encourage full participation of the Hispanic Caucus Democrats in the Texas Democratic Party and its affairs at all levels. Further, to initiate, support and advocate for party policies and issues which reflect the interests and welfare of the Hispanic community and to act as the vehicle for the implementation of these policies in the Hispanic community and to give guidance and/or advice regarding the Hispanic “communities” concerns to the Democratic Party structure.

Section 2: This shall include, but not be limited to, participation in the Delegate and Democratic candidates taking appropriate public stands on issues relevant to our communities, and posing, supporting, and, when necessary, opposing legislation relevant to the community.

Article IV – Membership

Section 1: General Membership Eligibility. The Membership of The Official Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party, shall be open to any person supporting and adhering to the bylaws and platform of the Hispanic Caucus and has a Democratic voting history and/or signs an allegiance to the purpose of Official Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party.

Section 2: Candidates for office who wish to speak to the Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party must notify the Hispanic Caucus Chair and 1st Vice Chair Ten (10) days in advance of the State Convention.

Section 3: There shall be four (4) meetings prior to or in conjunction with the quarterly meetings of the Executive Board of the Texas Democratic Party.

Section 4: The Chair of the Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party may call special and emergency meetings to address special and emergency situations.

Section 5: Communication. All communication required in these bylaws, including meeting notices, may be sent electronically unless members indicate otherwise to Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party Executive Board.

Section 6: Members of this Caucus are advised of their obligation to inform the Secretary of any change in their e-mail address.

Section 7: The Chair and at least three Executive Board Members of the Hispanic Caucus shall constitute a quorum for conducting the business of the Caucus and any meeting of the general membership. The Caucus shall use Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised in the conduct of Caucus meetings..

Article V – Organization

The Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party will operate in accordance with its bylaws. The Caucus shall have the following organizational structures:

Section 1: Executive Committee

- (a). The Executive Committee of the Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party will be comprised of the following Elected Officers. The Chair and the 1st Vice Chair shall be gender balanced:
- Chairperson:
 - 1st Vice-Chair
 - 2nd Vice-Chair
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer

The Chair of the Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party will appoint the following Officers:

- Parliamentarian
- Corresponding Secretary
- The Chair of all Standing Committees
- Executive Director
- Sergeant at Arms
- Senior Advisors.

- (b). The Executive Committee shall exercise all powers on behalf of the Caucus. The Executive Committee shall have primary responsibility for the decision making of the Caucus. The Executive Committee must pre-approve all expenditures, all Caucus budgets, all endorsements in which the name of the caucus is used, all Caucus meeting agendas, all Caucus sponsorship of events, all selections of persons or entities to be honored or given awards at any Caucus meetings, all speakers at Caucus meetings, all material policy decisions of the Caucus, and all press releases of the Caucus.
- (c). The incoming Executive Committee shall create a Statement of Goals that sets forth the activities and objectives of the Caucus for that year. Copies of the document will be available to the General Membership on the Caucus website or through the Corresponding Secretary.

Section 2: The Caucus shall be composed of Democrats in good standing. It shall receive and decide all recommendations from the Standing and Special Committees, in addition to the Executive Committee.

Section 3: The Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party shall select gendered-balanced Hispanic Caucus representatives to serve on the Texas Democratic Party State Democratic Executive Committee (SDEC) as non-statutory members to the SDEC Committee. Additionally, the Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party shall select gendered-balanced Hispanic Caucus representatives to serve on the Texas Democratic National Committee (DNC).

Section 4: Any vacancy occurring within the Hispanic Caucus representatives shall be filled by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. The Chair will report its replacement representative(s) to the Texas Democratic Party.

Section 5: The Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party shall nominate a slate of gendered-balanced candidates for State Democratic Party Officers of the State Executive Committee, including, but not limited to: the Chair, Vice-Chair, Vice Chair for Finance, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 6: There shall be the following Standing Committees:

- (a) Finance Committee
- (b) Voter Registration Committee
- (c) Resolutions Committee
- (d) Nomination & Appointments Committee
- (e) Membership and Events Committee
- (f) Platform Committee
- (g) Rules Committee

Section 7: The Chair of the Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party shall appoint the Chairperson of each Standing Committee, with the concurrence of the Caucus Executive Committee. Chairpersons of Standing Committees are nonvoting, ex officio members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee members may volunteer to be members of any Standing Committee.

Article VI – Officers and Members of the Executive Committee

Section 1: Candidates for the Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party Officer Positions must be Democrats and in good standing with the Caucus. Officers shall serve without compensation. A member can serve in consecutive terms in any given officer position. (For purposes of term limits only, officers are): Chair, 1st Vice Chair, 2nd Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer) The term of office for all Officers will be decided by the convention delegation every two years.

We the undersigned, the Progressive Hispanic Democrats (PHD) of Texas, the State Tejano Democrats (STD) and the Mexican American Democrats (MAD) hereby form The Official Texas Hispanic Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party in accordance with the guidelines and stipulations set forth by the Bylaws of this organization.



Established 2004

Progressive Hispanic Democrats (PHD) of Texas

Date



Established 1996

State Tejano Democrats (STD)

Date



Established 1972

Mexican American Democrats (MAD)

Date