

## **REPUBLICAN PARTY OF STANISLAUS COUNTY ENDORSEMENT POLICY**

The Republican Party of Stanislaus County Central Committee may endorse Republican candidates to provide support in both partisan and non-partisan elections. To facilitate the consideration of endorsements of Republican candidates, the Republican Party of Stanislaus County ("RPSC") hereby adopts the following Rules for Endorsements. Note that (1) endorsements and (2) suspension of some or all of these rules can be obtained by majority vote of the Central Committee at any regularly called meeting unless these rules provide for a super-majority. That super-majority is of the members in attendance, not of the total RPSC.

1. No endorsement of a candidate shall be made prior to the close of the filing deadline for office that the candidate is seeking unless 2/3 of the RPSC vote to consider an earlier endorsement. If the RPSC votes to consider endorsements prior to the close of the filing deadline, a candidate must receive at least 2/3 vote of the RPSC to be endorsed.
2. Endorsements are made for a particular election and constitute the RPSC's recommendations for voters in Stanislaus County. As such, the endorsement expires on the date of the election and does not carry over to future elections.
3. If a candidate who receives the RPSC's endorsement subsequently (but before the election) does something which would result in the removal of a member of the RPSC from the RPSC, the RPSC can revoke its endorsement.
4. With the exception set forth in Rule 8, the RPSC shall not endorse more candidates for an office than can be voted for, for that office.
5. Republican candidates with no Republican opponent: the RPSC may endorse such Republican candidates by majority of the vote of the committee.
6. Incumbent Republican candidates seeking endorsement by the RPSC shall be treated the same as a non-incumbent candidate.
7. Any RPSC member may request removal of a candidate from consideration. A majority vote is required to remove a candidate from consideration for endorsement.
8. In a general election, where both candidates running for an office are Republicans, a 2/3 vote is required to endorse either candidate. In this one instance, if 2/3 of the RPSC votes in favor, the RPSC can endorse both candidates. This rule is not intended to apply to races where there are multiple open seats. See Rule No. 12.
9. A Republican candidate who during the last election cycle has endorsed a non-Republican candidate in any race where there was a Republican opponent, or publicly announces that he/she voted for a non-Republican in the last election, shall not be eligible for endorsement by the RPSC unless 3/4 of the RPSC votes to exempt the

candidate from this rule.

10. The RPSC will not endorse a non-Republican for any public office unless both (1) there is no Republican running, and (2) there is a 3/4 vote of the RPSC to endorse.
11. In partisan and non-partisan races where the RPSC has declined to endorse the Republican candidate, individual committee members may support or endorse a non-Republican candidate so long as they do so individually and do not implicate the RPSC. That means, among other things, the endorsement cannot identify the individual member as a member of the RPSC. RPSC Members can as individuals support Republican Candidates other than the candidate the RPSC endorsed.
12. In a race where there is more than one seat up for election, the RPSC may endorse the same number of Republican candidates as seats available. The RPSC shall not endorse more candidates than there are offices to fill. In any primary election, it shall be deemed that there are two seats to fill for each office. The RPSC shall not endorse any non-Republican candidate without a 3/4 vote of the RPSC.
13. The RPSC may convene sub-committees to interview candidates for various offices. These sub-committees shall announce the dates and times of interviews to all RPSC Members, and any RPSC Member shall be allowed to attend and participate. Each such sub-committee shall announce its rules and procedures prior to any interview taking place. The sub-committee shall make any endorsement recommendation to the RPSC, which alone can make the decision to endorse.