

Point of Clarification of State and County Bylaws

Lehigh County Democratic Committee Bylaws, Rule 6 - Section 2(1)(a)

Section 2: Candidates for Elected Offices

1. The County Committee shall support Democrat candidates in offices in Lehigh County and shall remain neutral for all primary elections with the following exceptions:
 - a. candidate is a Democratic incumbent; or
 - b. who has been endorsed by the Pennsylvania Democratic Party or the Democratic National Committee.
2. The County Committee shall publicly identify all candidates who are not registered Democrats and who cross file for offices that permit cross filing.
3. VAN access or resources are permitted only to the Democratic incumbent running in a Democratic primary or the duly endorsed Democratic candidate of the Pennsylvania Democratic Party or the Democratic National Committee. The Lehigh County Democratic Committee is prohibited from giving access to state and federal candidates in accordance with campaign finance rules.

RULE VI

RULES AND BYLAWS

Section 1: Disciplinary Actions

1. Disruption of any committee proceedings that prevent normal business to proceed shall be handled at the discretion of the meeting chairperson.
2. The following actions or omissions constitute misconduct by a committee member that may warrant a reprimand, suspension, or expulsion from membership of the Lehigh County Executive Committee and/or Lehigh County Committee as warranted.
 - a. Refusal or failure to perform any duties or obligations required by these bylaws.
 - b. Attempting to overthrow, instigate, or encourage secession from the Lehigh County Democratic Committee.
 - c. Attempting to instigate others or take actions supporting the candidacy of members of an opposition party during a primary or general election, excepting support for duly registered Democrats who are permitted to cross file.
 - d. Publicly giving false or inaccurate statements about the Lehigh County Democratic Committee, Democratic candidates, or members of the Lehigh County Democratic Committee.

AND Pertaining to the State Committee Bylaws amendment adopted in 2025:

State Committee endorsements for statewide candidates are binding on the state party candidates. (Rule V, Section 6)

SECTION 6. In accordance with Rule III (1) of these rules, all county committees and all

subordinate bodies **shall not endorse candidate's** contrary to an affirmative endorsement by the Pennsylvania Democratic Party (State Committee) endorsement. After the meeting of State Committee to consider endorsement, and where there is no endorsement for an office or the State Committee does not endorse for any office, County Committees and/or subordinate bodies may thereafter endorse pursuant to the rules set forth by those bodies.

AND PA Democratic State Committee Bylaws, Rule I, Section 2(a)(3)

(a) No person shall be eligible to serve as a member or officer of any Democratic committee as provided in Section 1 of this rule who:

(1) holds a political appointive office of profit under an administration, whether city, school district (except teachers), county, state or national opposed to the Democratic Party (except positions of a judicial character or those appointed by the courts or notaries public or commissioners of Deeds or those whose original appointment to said position was made by a Democratic administration or attained through a merit system or a collective bargaining contract.

(2) has entered into an agreement with opponents of the Democratic Party to support such opponents.

(3) by voice, vote, financial support or otherwise has, within two years, supported a candidate in a general or special election opposed to the duly nominated candidate of the Democratic Party in that election, except as provided in paragraph (c) of this Section.