



2026 Statewide Endorsement Procedures & Information for Candidates

February 12, 2026

TO: Statewide Candidates Nominated for CRP Endorsement
FROM: Scott Winn, CRP Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer
RE: CRP Endorsement Procedures

In advance of the CRP 2026 Convention, April 10-12, in San Diego, this memo outlines the expectations and important information for candidates participating in the endorsement process for full transparency.

Before Convention

- Review the banner and sign policy on the CRP website. These policies will be strictly enforced by CRP Convention Staff and the hotel staff.
- Make sure you are aware of the important deadlines at convention, including the deadline on Saturday at noon for proxies, and the deadline at 8:00pm on Saturday to pay dues and register for the convention.
- To be eligible for endorsement, statewide candidates must:
 - Be continuously registered as a Republican for at least one year prior to the date of the convention.
 - Obtain nominations, submitted online through the CRP's endorsement portal, from at least 200 delegates in good standing no later than 11:59pm on March 11, 2026, (30 days before the convention).

Statewide Candidate Endorsement Information Meeting: April 6, 2026, 5:30pm

- Meeting will take place via Zoom on Monday, April 6, 2026, at 5:30pm.
- At this time, we will review the election procedures, go over expectations for candidates, and answer any questions.
- This meeting is mandatory for all nominated candidates or their representative. Please rsvp to membership@cagop.org by 5pm on Friday, April 3, 2026. The Zoom link will be sent to attendees who have RSVP'd prior to the meeting. During the Candidate Endorsement Information Meeting, speaking order for the Saturday Candidate Forum will be determined by a random drawing among all nominated candidates, regardless of the office they are seeking.
- During the Candidate Endorsement Information Meeting, if more than one candidate qualifies for endorsement in any given race, lots will be drawn to determine ballot number for electronic voting on Sunday.

Statewide Candidate Forum - Walk-Through:

- Friday, April 10, 2026, Time TBD (time will be emailed to candidates)
- We will be holding a walk-through for the nominated candidates.
- This is your chance to stand on the stage and test the microphone.
- If you are unable to attend, your advance representative is encouraged to attend.

Because of our scheduling at convention, we cannot offer any other time for a walk through so you or your advance representative needs to attend during the designated time frame.

Statewide Candidate Forum: Saturday, April 11, 2:00pm – 4:00pm

- Saturday, April 11, 2026, 2:00pm
- Room: Eventide
- Nominated Candidates will hold in a designated meeting room (Meeting room name TBD). Please arrive there no later than 1:30pm. We will reserve 5 seats for each candidate in the front section stage right (left as you are facing the stage.)
- Candidates will be introduced by Announcer, in the order determined at the Candidate Endorsement Information Meeting.
- Candidate speeches are limited to 5 minutes. There will be a monitor with a timer that starts at the commencement of each speech.
- Speeches should focus on candidate's agenda, biography, and reasons for running. Presentation may not include negative comments about other Republican candidates or disparaging remarks about the Republican Party. Negative comments about Democrats are allowed.
- A candidate may choose to show a television Commercial or other video, within the allotted 5 minutes. (Again, no negative messages against other Republicans or the Republican Party.) If a candidate wants to use a video, it must be provided no later than Monday, April 6, 2026, at 5:00pm. Email a link to download the video to convention@cagop.org.
- Candidates will need to cue the video from the podium.

General Session: Sunday, April 12, 2026, 9:00am

- Voting for Endorsements will be electronic. Convention staff and representatives from Option Technologies, our contracted electronic voting vendor, will distribute voting devices to delegates and proxy holders as they enter the meeting room.
- Endorsements will be considered after Proxies & Credentials, Rules, and Resolutions have reported.
- There will be no nomination speeches.
- The chair will open the voting, and the voters will have a reasonable amount of time to cast their votes using their electronic voting devices. At the Candidate Endorsement Information Meeting, each candidate will be assigned a number to enter on the voting device. Once the chair ascertains that voting has concluded, she will close the roll and ask for a tally of the vote.
The final vote will then be displayed on the screen, visible to delegates on the floor.
- Each nominee for endorsement may appoint one observer to observe the electronic voting tabulation. This designated observer may observe Option Technologies only during voting for endorsement of the specified office. Please email the name of your observer to convention@cagop.org by 5pm on Monday, April 6.

Attached to this document are more detailed voting rules and procedures. These will be provided to the delegates through our website.

Thank you for your service to our party! We look forward to a smooth endorsement process at convention.

**California Republican Party 2026 Convention
General Session**

April 12, 2026

Statewide Endorsements Voting Procedures

1. Each Delegate may vote for only one Eligible Candidate for each statewide office in any given round of voting.
2. If more than two Eligible Candidates are seeking the CRP Endorsement for the same statewide office, there may be multiple voting rounds. The option to vote for “no endorsement” shall be included in each round of voting. The rules of procedure for such voting shall be set by the Chair, approved by the Board and distributed to the Delegates, not less than thirty (30) days prior to the CRP Endorsement Convention.
3. The Eligible Candidate who receives the least votes in the preceding round shall be removed from consideration for the next successive round of voting, provided, however, that if one candidate or “no endorsement” receives sixty (60) percent or more of the votes of those present and voting, no further rounds of voting shall be deemed necessary, regardless of the number of Eligible Candidates remaining.
4. In the absence of an Eligible Candidate achieving the sixty (60) percent threshold of votes present and voting at the commencement of any given endorsement voting sessions, Delegates will vote in successive rounds until only two Eligible Candidates remain.
5. When there are only two remaining Eligible Candidates, the Delegates shall conduct a final vote (“Final Vote”).
6. If no Eligible Candidate receives the endorsement vote of sixty (60) percent or more of those present and voting in the Final Vote, then no Eligible Candidate shall receive the CRP Endorsement for that office prior to the Primary Election.
7. If there is only one Eligible Candidate, the single round of voting to endorse shall include an option of “no endorsement,” and the Eligible Candidate shall only be endorsed upon achieving 60% or more of those present and voting in that single round.
8. During the pendency of any session of the voting process, the body shall not entertain any procedural motions whose purpose is to delay or stop the voting, such as a motion to adjourn or motion to table, but rather shall continue the voting process until it is completed, with the only exceptions being force majeure making further voting impossible or impractical, as determined by the Chairman determining to adjourn the voting to a later time during the same Endorsement Convention due to scheduling or timing constraints at a given endorsement voting session.
9. Voting will be done by handheld electronic voting device, provided by Option Technologies, a third-party electronic voting vendor. At the Candidate Endorsement Information Meeting, each candidate will be assigned a number to enter on the voting device.
10. Delegates who have paid delegate dues for the 2025/2026 term and have registered for the 2026 Convention will be permitted to vote. Each of these delegates may carry up to two (2) proxies. Associate delegates are not eligible to cast his/her own vote. Associate delegates who have paid associate delegate dues for the 2025/2026 term and have registered for the 2026

Convention will be permitted to carry up to two (2) proxies. Each delegate and proxy holder must obtain his/her convention badge and any valid proxy badges prior to voting. Badges can be obtained at the convention credential pickup desk, Friday, April 10 – Sunday, April 12. Proxy badges can be obtained at the Proxy desk starting at 7:00 am on Sunday, April 12 until voting closes in the General Session.

11. Each delegate and each proxy holder will receive a voting device upon entering the convention floor. Devices will only be given to those holding a blue delegate badge and/or purple proxy badge. If a delegate is assigned multiple proxies, that delegate will receive the corresponding number of voting devices (max. 2 proxies, in addition to their own vote).
12. Associate Delegates will not receive a voting device unless holding proxies for delegates, in which case they will be given the number of devices for the number of proxies being held (max. 2 proxies).
13. Each delegate and proxy badge will have a bar code to identify the voter associated with that badge. This bar code will be scanned and linked to each voting device(s) received upon entering the convention floor. Delegates and proxy holders will not need to log into his/her voting devices since the bar code links the voter information to the device.
14. Sample/trivia questions will be facilitated prior to the start of voting to allow delegates and proxy holders to become familiar with the voting devices. Designated staff wearing bright green hats will be available throughout the General Session room to assist with questions about using the devices.
15. The Chairwoman will call for each endorsement vote.
16. On screens will be the codes for voting, e.g. press 1 for Elizabeth Jones, 2 for Michael Smith, 3 for no endorsement. These codes will be assigned to each candidate during the Candidate Endorsement Information Meeting.
17. Voting will begin upon instruction by the Chairwoman. Once voting for an office begins, delegates and proxy holders will be given a minimum of 60 seconds to vote in each round for each office at the discretion of the Chairwoman. The number of delegates and proxy holders who have voted will be displayed on a screen visible to all attendees. The Chairwoman can close the vote accordingly.
18. Delegates and proxy holders will select the number associated with the candidate they chose to vote for in each race and enter that number into the electronic voting device.
19. We will have aides on the floor with special hats to provide technical assistance.
20. Instructions on using the voting devices will be presented to the voters on the screens in the General Session before voting occurs and paper instructions will be placed on each chair.
21. The number of votes and percentages for each candidate will be displayed on a screen in the General Session shortly after the close of each vote. The results of which delegates and proxy holders voted for each candidate will be available following the convention. They can be requested by emailing membership@cagop.org
22. If a delegate or proxy holder wishes to leave the room during the General Session, they must leave the voting device(s) at the designated CRP table in the rear of the room. Staff will assign

a claim check number and store the device(s) until the voter returns to the designated table. To claim the voting device(s), the delegate or proxy holder must return to the designated table and present the assigned claim check ticket. Devices must stay in the General Session room.

23. Each nominee for endorsement may appoint one observer to observe the electronic voting tabulation. This designated observer may observe Option Technologies only during voting for endorsement of the specified office. At the conclusion of the convention, the voting records may be requested by any delegate by emailing membership@cagop.org.

California Republican Party 2026 Convention

Registration, Credentials, and Proxies Procedures

Below are some guidelines and deadlines to remember regarding the procedure for voting by proxy at a California Republican Party convention.

Only Delegates in good standing of the California Republican Party State Central Committee are eligible to proxy their vote for the General Session.

Only Delegates appointed on or before March 24, 2026, and Associate Delegates appointed on or before March 31, 2026, are eligible to carry a proxy.

For a proxy vote to be valid, **all of the following must take place:**

- The dues of the Delegates or Associate Delegates carrying the proxy must be paid in full.
- Only original signatures are accepted (no faxes).
- The Delegate or Associate Delegate carrying the proxy must be registered to attend the convention. **The deadline to register for the 2026 Convention is 8:00pm on Saturday, April 11, 2026.**
- If the Delegate proxying their vote has also registered for the convention, **their badge must be surrendered in order for the proxy to be valid.** Delegates are asked to surrender his/her badge by 8:00pm on Saturday, April 11, 2026. If the delegate plans to participate in convention activities on Saturday evening or before General Session on Sunday, Convention staff will issue a guest badge to use as a valid credential to attend convention activities.
- A maximum of two proxies may be held by a Delegate or Associate Delegate.
- The proxy badge must be picked up in order to vote.
- Identification **must** be shown to pick up a proxy badge.

DEADLINES

- The deadline for submitting proxy forms at the Convention registration area is **12 noon Saturday, April 11, 2026.** The deadline is strictly enforced.
- Proxy forms received via mail at the CRP Headquarters **before 5:00pm on Tuesday, April 7, 2026,** will also be accepted.
- Proxy badges can be picked up beginning at **7:00am on Sunday, April 12, 2026, at the proxy desk.**
- The deadline to pick up a proxy badge is when voting is complete.

A tentative list of proxies with problems will also be posted around 4:00pm on Saturday. If you have submitted a proxy form or expect to vote by proxy at Sunday's General Session, please review these lists carefully.

Most proxy problems can be easily resolved during the day on Saturday, and even Sunday morning. More serious problems may require the attention of CRP Proxies & Credentials Committee; the Committee's scheduled meetings are posted in the convention schedules.

Electronic Voting



At our Convention we will use electronic handsets to register our votes quickly and accurately. These voting handsets look a bit like a TV remote control, but instead of pushing buttons to change channels, we'll be pushing buttons to enter "yes", "no", and "abstain"; for statewide candidate endorsements we will select a number assigned to each candidate. Your selection will be wirelessly transmitted to a computer that will record all votes and tabulate the final results of each ballot. The results will be announced by the Chair.

The voting system is secure and accurate. **It is not connected to the internet or Wi-Fi access points.** Every voting message is encrypted two-way communication between the wireless handset and a base station and that contains unique encoded identifiers for each device. A personalized encrypted confirmation message is sent as a second transmission to each device in real time. The devices do not operate over standard public Wi-Fi networks. Instead, they use secure, dedicated radio frequency technology. Each device transmits votes directly to a secure, encrypted base station that is offline and isolated from external internet networks, eliminating any hacking risk. Votes recorded electronically are securely stored and immediately verified.

The system generates an auditable digital record of every transaction, which allows results to be reviewed and verified post-vote. Though not traditional paper ballots, our system still maintains records of individual votes for audit and recount purposes, preserving vote integrity. You can be confident your vote is accurately recorded.

We'll start the meeting off with a "test vote" to get everyone comfortable with the procedure. The Chair will pose a question and give approximately 60 seconds to vote. During this interval, you'll be able to change your vote should you wish to do so. The system counts only the last button you pushed: For most rule and bylaw proposals, the "1" button will be for "Yes", and the "2" button will be for "No". When it is time to vote on statewide candidate endorsements, a number will be assigned to each candidate, announced by the chair, and displayed on the screen. When the voting interval is over, the Chair will indicate that the vote is complete and will announce the results.

If you do not want to participate in a particular vote, do not push any buttons during the voting period. If you make a mistake in voting, simply vote again. **The system will tabulate the last vote that you enter.** If you inadvertently turn your handset off by pushing the power button in its lower-right corner; push this button again to turn your handset back on. Pushing any of your handset's other buttons will have no effect and will be treated as invalid.

If you need to leave the meeting space (ex: to use the restroom), please leave your handset with a convention team member at the Check-In/Check-Out desk near the doors. They will hand you a receipt for your device so that you can get your device back when you check back in. If you mistakenly take the handset when the meeting is over, please return it as soon as possible to the convention staff.

Every individual handset has been tested before the session, so the probability of a handset failing is very low. Extensive pre-convention testing and real-time encrypted confirmations ensure transparency, accuracy, and delegate confidence. Any delegate experiencing a device issue is able to notify a member of convention staff. That said, if pushing your handset's 1 button or 2 button during a vote does not produce the word "Received" on its display to confirm that your vote has been tabulated, you can go with a convention staff member to the voting help desk for a replacement and you can be issued a new handset. We do not expect this to happen but are prepared for this eventuality.

We provide transparent, real-time reporting of vote results projected onto the main screens during the session. Each statewide candidate eligible for endorsement will have the ability to assign one observer per candidate to oversee the elections process with the Election Officer. Candidate-assigned observers are able to be physically present in the designated space for observing the process for that candidate's specific election. Additionally, detailed records are securely stored and can be reviewed under established procedures if verification or audits are required.

Previous conventions using this vendor and these specific device models have had no device issues. Any issues that have arisen using these specific device models have been found to be user error or unsubstantiated claims of device failure, which upon our standard audit of the results have been proven to be false or a misunderstanding of how the devices work. There is a transaction record for every device and every vote that is auditable. Voting for statewide endorsements and committee reports are recorded votes. The California Republican Party makes raw voting data available after convention has ended to voting delegate members to ensure transparency.

We understand delegate concerns, and value trust in our voting process above all. The California Republican Party's commitment to accuracy, transparency, and security in this process ensures that your confidence in the integrity of our election remains strong.

Electronic Voting at the Convention

Getting Ready

- Every voter will receive a handset.
- Turn on your handset with the Power Button.

Voting

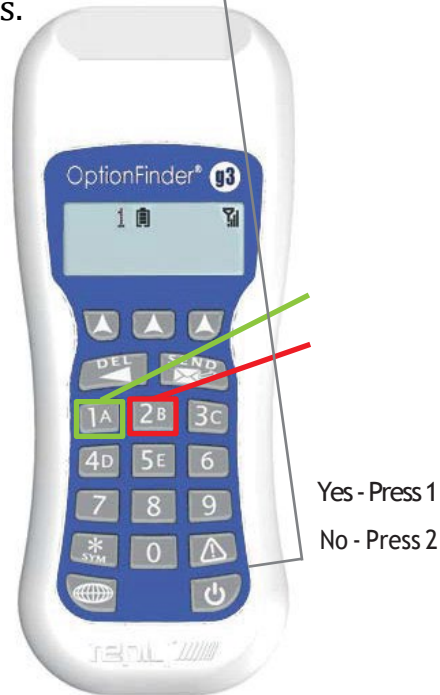
- The Presiding Officer will announce the start of a vote.
Press 1 for **Yes**
Press 2 for **No**
Or press the number that corresponds to the candidate you'd like to select. This number will be displayed on the screens.
- To change your vote, simply vote again.
- The last vote showing on your handset will be counted.
- If you have a problem with voting ask a Teller for help.

During the Meeting

- Keep your handset with you.
If you need to leave the room check it with a team member at the door.

After the Meeting

- Return your handset to the bin near the exit.



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