

## Convention Standing Rules

### Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO Constitutional Convention

July 16 - 18, 2024

#### General

1. Attendees should be seated before the scheduled starting time for the meeting and before the ending time of each recess.
2. Guests will be seated at the rear of the meeting hall.
3. No literature may be distributed without prior approval of the president or the secretary-treasurer. All literature must be distributed by a sergeant-at-arms and only if it includes a union bug.
4. All electronic devices must be silenced during each meeting of the convention and each committee meeting.
5. All announcements must be submitted to the chair or the secretary-treasurer in writing.
6. The president may make adjustments to the items on the agenda that are outside of the business meetings.

#### Motions and Debate

7. Those who wish to speak in favor of the pending motion will use a microphone labeled "For". Those who wish to speak against the pending motion will use a microphone labeled "Against".
8. A motion, request for information, or parliamentary inquiry can be made at any microphone.
9. As much as possible, the chair will alternate between delegates speaking in favor and against and will rotate among the microphones.
10. The same microphone can be used by the maker of the motion for the first speech in debate on the motion. After this, the chair should recognize a delegate at an "Against" microphone.
11. When recognized by the chair, a delegate will first state the delegate's name, status (delegate, WSLC office held, or WSLC past office held), union, and local number.
12. Each speech in debate is limited to two minutes.
13. A point of order may be raised at any microphone. Alternatively, a delegate may rise, say "Point of order!" in a loud voice, and then approach any microphone; the chair will then recognize the delegate for the purpose of stating the point of order.
14. A delegate who has raised a point of order will be seated until the chair has ruled on the point of order.
15. The previous question (to close debate) may not be moved until at least two speakers in favor and at least two speakers opposed have had the opportunity to speak.
16. When recognized for a request for information, the delegate will be permitted one question and one follow-up question, and then must yield the floor.

#### Voting

17. Each delegate will receive a voting card when registering at the registration desk. Lost voting cards will not be replaced.
18. Each vote will initially be taken by raising the voting card while remaining seated unless a different voting method has been ordered by the assembly.
19. If a rising vote is taken, the chair will give alternate instructions for those who have difficulty standing.

### **Roll-Call Votes**

20. Once any votes have been cast during a roll-call vote, the convention may not recess or adjourn until the result of the vote is announced.

### **Committee Meetings**

21. Credentialed delegates, alternates, and guests may attend any committee meeting.
22. Credentialed delegates may have voice during the meetings if called upon by chair, and only committee members will have vote.

### **Resolutions**

23. A convention committee may amend a resolution, put a resolution into proper form, eliminate duplication when similar resolutions are introduced, and ensure that all resolutions relating to a specific subject will be offered in a logical sequence.
24. A convention committee may choose to withhold a resolution from the convention by a three-fourths vote. Withheld resolutions will be reported to the convention, and the convention may order the committee to report a withheld resolution by a majority vote.
25. During a committee report to the convention, only the *resolved* clauses will be read. By a majority vote, the delegates may order the preamble of a specific resolution to be read.

### **Amendment of Governing Documents**

26. The constitution and bylaws committee is authorized to correct section designations, punctuation, and cross-references and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the convention in connection with the amendment of the constitution or the COPE bylaws.

### **Minutes**

27. A special committee will be appointed for the purpose of approving the minutes of the convention.