# Delegate

Selection Process for the 2020 Democratic National Convention

**Maine Dems** 



#### Welcome!

The Maine Democratic Party believes that Democrats participating at every level – from attending a caucus through running for national delegate – deserve to know how this process works.

It's a bit complicated but we'll try to keep it brief enough to allow time for questions.



## Agenda

- Presidential primary election
- Municipal caucuses
- About Maine's national delegation
- Running for national delegate
- State Convention
- National Convention
- Contact information



## Important Dates

**Feb. 7:** Forms to run for national delegate become available on MDP website.

March 3:

Presidential primary

March 8: Municipal caucuses

May 15: Filing deadline to run for national delegate

May 29-30: State convention

June 9: Primary

July 13-16: National convention

**Nov. 3:** General election



## Presidential Primary Election: March 3



#### Maine's New Presidential Primary, March 3



- Maine has switched from a caucus to a primary for deciding how to allocate Maine's 24 pledged national delegates.
- A presidential primary is just like any other election, except only registered Democrats can vote. Don't forget to vote!
- People who are members of other parties must re-register as a Democrat by Tuesday, 2/14, in order to vote.
- People unenrolled in a political party, or unregistered, may register as a Democrat any time up to and including election day, right at the polls

## How will Maine's 24 pledged delegates be distributed among primary candidates?



- Proportionally, based on their share of the primary vote in each Congressional District, and statewide
- Candidates must earn at least 15% of the vote in either CD or statewide to earn any delegates
- Official results will be released by the Secretary of State, probably in early April



# Municipal Caucuses: March 8



#### Caucuses give Democrats the opportunity to:

- Elect municipal officers
- Elect representatives to County Committees
- Elect State Convention delegates
- Meet candidates
- Learn about ballot issues
- Start organizing to WIN in 2020!





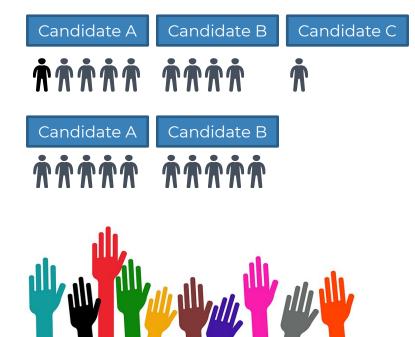






#### State delegate selection

- Caucus attendees will split into groups based on their favored presidential candidate.
- After each candidate's share of the supporters is counted, attendees will have an opportunity to switch groups. If your group is too small to qualify for a delegate, you can join another group, or try to persuade more people to join yours.
- Each group will then select people as delegates and alternates, with the number of delegates based on their candidate's level of support.



## Wait, if there's a primary, why are we electing state delegates based on presidential preference?

- The primary determines the NUMBER of national delegates each presidential candidate gets. It does not determine WHO those delegates are.
- Delegates to the Maine State Convention elected at caucus will elect the actual people to fill the national slots, voting only to fill the slots assigned to the candidate they supported at the caucuses.



# What if my candidate doesn't win any delegates or drops out?

If you are a state delegate for a candidate who doesn't end up winning any delegates in the primary, or drops out of the race, you have until May 15 to change to one of the remaining candidates.

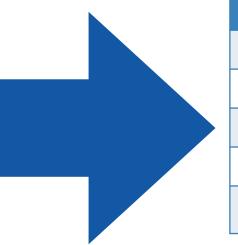
Presidential preference change forms will be available on the MDP website after the March 8 caucuses, and MUST BE RETURNED BY MAY 15.



## Maine's Delegation to the Democratic National Convention



#### Maine's Pledged National Delegates



Туре	Number	Allocated By
1 <sup>st</sup> CD	9	1 <sup>st</sup> District primary results
2 <sup>nd</sup> CD	7	2 <sup>nd</sup> District primary results
PLEO*	3	Statewide primary results
At-Large**	5	Statewide primary results
Maine's Total Pledged Delegates:	24	

<sup>\*</sup> PLEO delegates are Democratic elected officials and leaders in the Maine Democratic Party.



<sup>\*\*</sup> Alternates are elected along with the At-large delegates. Each presidential candidate earning enough votes to have national delegates will also have an alternate.

#### Maine's Unpledged National Delegates

- There are eight automatic, unpledged delegates:
  - Gov. Janet Mills
  - U.S. Reps. Chellie Pingree and Jared Golden
  - Maine Democratic Party officers Kathleen Marra and Erik Gundersen
  - MDP's DNC members, Sen. Troy Jackson and Rep. Diane Denk.
  - Former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell
- Under new DNC rules, automatic delegates will not vote unless there is a second round of voting in the national convention.
- The entire delegation must be balanced by gender.







- The delegates at the Maine State Democratic Convention will elect the delegates to attend the Democratic National Convention on behalf of the presidential candidates.
- ANY DEMOCRAT can run to be a national delegate. You do not need to be a state delegate to run for national delegate. All interested Democrats are encouraged to run!





#### How to qualify as a national delegate candidate

Filing forms will be available from the MDP beginning Feb. 7. Those running for more than one type of national delegate position must take out papers and gather the required signatures for all positions they are pursuing.

Delegate Type	Signatures Required	From	Due
Congressional District	25	State Convention Delegates & Alternates from District	
At-Large	25	State Convention Delegates & Alternates	MAY 15
PLEO	7	Democratic State Committee members	

Candidates for national delegate will be posted on the MDP website.



#### Other things you can run for at State Convention:

Position	Slots Available	Signatures Required	From
Democratic State Committee	Varies by county	10	State Convention Delegates & Alternates from your County
Democratic National Committee	2	25	State Convention Delegates & Alternates
Presidential Elector, CD1	2	25	State Convention Delegates & Alternates from CD1
Presidential Elector, CD2	2	25	Democratic State Committee members from CD2



# In order to win as a national delegate candidate, you will need to campaign.

To have the best chance at winning, you should:

- Attend County Committee and Municipal Committee meetings to collect signatures and let people know that you are running, and why you would make a great national candidate
- Attend the State Convention, where you will be allowed space to campaign



### Representation Goals

The goal is to do our best to make sure Maine's delegation to the national convention looks like Maine Democrats. Candidates for national delegate who meet one or more of these goals may pick as many as apply to them.

African American	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Hispanic/ Latinx	Native American	LGBTQ+	People w/ disabilities	Youth
1	1	1	1	7	4	7

These are goals, not quotas. We need to do our very best to meet or exceed these goals to bring a diverse delegation to Milwaukee.





#### Running to be a delegate, Q&A

Q. Can I run as more than one type of delegate?

A. Yes! For instance, you can run to be a Congressional District and At-Large delegate (but can only win one)

Q. Can a person qualify for more than one of the goal categories?

A. Yes! E.g. disabled and young, Hispanic and transgender, Asian and gay Q. If I don't fit any of those representation goal categories, can I still run and win?

A. Yes! While we seek to elevate under-represented groups, all are welcome



# 2020 Maine Democratic State Convention



## The 2020 Maine Democratic State Convention will be May 29 - 30, at the Cross Center in Bangor

**Friday, May 29**: Convention organization, great workshops for activists and volunteers, national delegate elections begin.

Saturday, May 30: Election of Democratic State and National Committee representatives, election of national convention delegates, and a platform will be enacted.



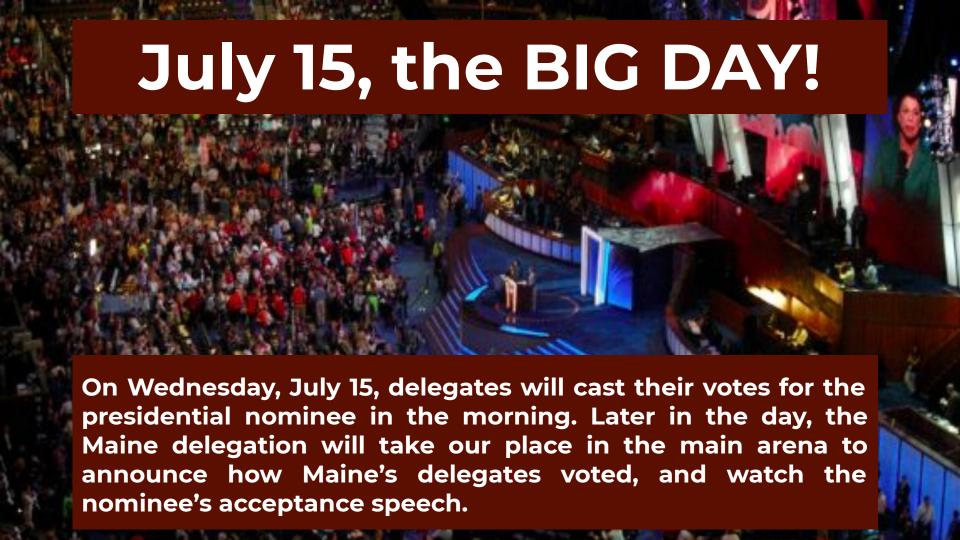
The 2020 **National** Democratic Convention: July 13-16, Milwaukee, WI



#### What happens at the National Convention?

- Every morning, the Maine state delegation will meet for breakfast, receive credentials, and get info about the day
- <u>Each day</u> will include meetings with presidential candidate groups, seminars, and issue groups
- Every evening there will be lots of parties, concerts, and opportunities to rub elbows with the stars of the convention.





#### **Convention Costs**



- National delegates are responsible for the cost of attending the National Convention.
- It is <u>HIGHLY</u> recommended you stay with the delegation to save costs and ensure you get your credentials each day.
- If cost is a barrier for you, many national delegates have been able to fundraise to meet Convention costs. The MDP may be able to offer limited assistance.



#### **Review**

- March 3 presidential primary: Candidates must get at least 15 percent of the vote to have national delegates.
- March 8 municipal caucuses: Caucus attendees gather according to their own presidential preference, and elect state delegates. Attendees are also elected to municipal party officer and county party member.
- May 15 deadlines:
  - Filing to run for congressional district, party-leader and elected official, and at-large national delegates. These forms are available Feb. 7.
  - Filing to change presidential preference, if your presidential candidates does not have national delegates to elect.
- May 29-30 state convention
  - Elect Maine's national delegates, presidential electors and DNC members
  - Elect Democratic State Committee members
  - Enact a platform



#### **More Information:**

## Maine Democratic Party website: www.mainedems.org

Under the "Delegate Selection" button, you will find:

- Delegate Selection Plan
- Filing forms
- This presentation



## Training

Trainers will be coming to county and municipal parties to give training sessions from November 2019 through February 2020, and webinars will be held in February. Trainers will also set up sessions with groups having an affinity with Democrats. If you have questions or would like to schedule a training session, please contact:

Lisa Roberts

MDP Executive Director

lisa@mainedems.org

Wayne Kinney, Affirmative Action Committee Chair, at <u>j.wayne.kinney@gmail.com</u>



### Thank you!

Whatever your role in Maine's 2020 Democratic vote – from registering and voting to running for national delegate – you are important and needed.

Please sign up at mainedems.org to volunteer, and consider donating to the Democratic Party, and the Democratic candidates of your choice.

- Kathleen Marra, MDP Chair



#### **Credits**

Pat Washburn,
Affirmative Action
Committee Member

Lisa Roberts,
MDP Executive Director

Wayne Kinney, Executive Committee Member, Rules Committee Member, and Chair of Affirmative Action Committee

April Thibodeau, MDP Political Affairs & Training Director

