

Progressive Democrats Workshop for the 2006 TEXAS STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION, Fort Worth, TX

For updates, links, & to download this document: <http://www.paa-tx.org/node/1296>
Also check the TDP web site at: <http://txdemocrats.org/Convention06>

Tentative Schedule of Events

Thursday, June 8

- 2 p.m. State Democratic Executive Committee Meeting - Hilton Hotel, 815 Main St., Ft. Worth
6 p.m. [Convention Kick-Off Reception](#) - Hilton Hotel (Purchase individual tickets for \$50 per person by clicking [here](#))

Friday, June 9

- 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Special Interest [Caucus Meetings - Convention Center](#) (see schedule/list below)
10 a.m. Credentials Distribution begins - Convention Center
3-5 p.m. Senate District Caucus Meetings - Convention Center
6 p.m. Call to Order, keynote speeches - Convention Center
Credentials committee meets at time (Friday after the SD caucuses) and place announced by the chair at the end of the SDEC meeting on Thursday.
After convention recesses for the evening: Senate District Caucus Meetings resume, if needed

Saturday, June 10

- 8 a.m. Permanent Convention Committees Meet - Convention Center (Rules, Platform, Resolutions and Nominations for SDEC and Party Officers) (Resolutions and Platform committees usually continue until afternoon)
8:30 a.m. [Blue Star Breakfast](#) - Convention Center (Tickets are \$25 per person and can be reserved/purchased via a link on the TDP web site) - optional
9:30 a.m. Workshops - Convention Center (see schedule/list below)
11 a.m. Convention reconvenes, speeches, committee reports - Convention Center
late afternoon (usually): adjourn

Refer to the party rules, Art. IV, Sec. D (excepted in this document) for more details on what happens during the convention.

***Information on the various special events sponsored by caucuses and candidates will be available during the caucus meetings, at the booths in the exhibit hall, and many folks will be passing out flyers.**

TENTATIVE Caucus, Workshop, & Committee Meeting Schedule (all held at the Convention Center)
Verify meeting room locations when you pick up your credentials and convention schedule.

Special Interest Caucuses - Friday June 9, 2006, 9 AM – 3 PM

CAUCUS	TIME	LOCATION
How to Find Democrats - TDP Voter File	9:00 am - 3:00 pm	105
Progressive Hispanics Democrats	9:00 am - 10:00 am	204 A
List Serve Caucus	9:00 am - 11:00 am	110 B
Democratic Vets Board	9:00 am - 12:00 n	202 B
Asian American Democrats of Texas & CONAC	9:00 am - 11:00 am	112
Stem Cell Research	10:00 am - 11:00 am	202 D
Energy Caucus *	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	111
Democracy for Texas	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	121 B
Pro Choice Caucus *	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	113 B
Tejano Democrats Caucus	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	202 A
Mexican American Democrats	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	200
Coalition of New American Communities (CONAC)	12:00 n - 3:00 pm	102

Texas Young Democrats *	12:00 n - 1:00 pm	121 D
Grass Roots Training	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	203 C
CD 10 Caucus	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	201 A
Coalition of Black Democrats	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	201 C
Progressive Populist Caucus	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	121 C
Network of Spiritual Progressives Caucus *	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	113 A
TSTA	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	101
Wes Clark Caucus	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	113 B
Stonewall Democrats	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	121 A
Pro-Life Democrats Caucus	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	111
Small Business Caucus	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	110 B
Death Penalty Caucus	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	112
Computer/Technology Caucus	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	110 A
Hispanic Caucus	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	100
Motorcycle Rights Caucus	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	Ballroom B
Labor Caucus	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	202 D
Environmental Caucus	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	116
Democratic Veterans	1:00 pm - 3 :00 pm	202 B
CWA	2:00 pm - 2:20 pm	202 D
United Steel Workers	2:20 pm - 3:00 pm	202 D
Peace in Iraq	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	204 B
Peace in Iraq	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	204 B
County Chairs 101	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	204 A
County Chairs Budget	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	204 A
Universal Health Care	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	202 C

Workshop Schedule – Saturday morning, June 10, 2006

Grass Roots Training	9:30 am - 10:45 am	203 C
Compliance Workshop	9:30 am - 11:00 am	116
Texas Freedom Network	9:30 am - 11:00 am	100
Consumer Caucus	9:30 am - 11:00 am	112
How to Find Democrats - TDP Voter File	9:30 am - 12:00 n	105
Non-Urban/Ag/East/West Texas	10:00 am - 11:00 am	201 B
Women's Caucus	10:00 am - 11:00 am	101
County Chairs	10:00 am - 11:00 am	204 B

Committee Schedule

Credentials	6/9 - TBA pm	121 F
Rules	6/10 - 8:00 am	121 F
Resolutions	6/10 - 8:00 am	121 A
Platform	6/10 - 8:00 am	121 B
Nominations	6/10 - 8:00 am	121 E

SENATORIAL DISTRICT (SD) CAUCUSES (very important!) - Friday, June 9, 3-5 PM Each meets from 3-5 PM Friday, and continues after the convention recesses that evening if necessary (if all business was not finished by 5 PM).

<u>SD #</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>SD #</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>SD #</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>SD #</u>	<u>Room</u>
SD 1	201 A	SD 2	121 D	SD 3	203 B	SD 4	202 C
SD 5	204 B	SD 6	204 A	SD 7	Ballroom B	SD 8	Ballroom C
SD 9	116	SD 10	121 A	SD 11	Ballroom A	SD 12	121 F
SD 13	121 B	SD14	102	SD 15	203 C	SD 16	201B
SD 17	101	SD 18	110 A	SD 19	121 E	SD 20	202 A
SD 21	100	SD 22	110 B	SD 23	200	SD 24	104 (change from 122)
SD 25	202 B	SD 26	121 C	SD 27	201 C	SD 28	202 D
SD 29	203 A	SD 30	113 A & B	SD 31	111		

SD Caucus Agenda (From TDP Rules IV.D.6.c&g)

1. Call to Order (usually by an SDEC Member from the SD)
2. Election of Permanent Chair of the caucus, and chair appoints Clerk to keep notes
3. Election of Permanent Credentials Committee Member
4. Election of Other Permanent Committee Members (one member from each SD): Committees are Platform, Resolutions, Rules, Nominations-State Party Offices
5. Election of SDEC Committee Members (one woman and one man from each SD)

CREDENTIALS SIGN-IN

If you attended your county or senatorial district convention you will remember being given a card (or credentials) on a string to identify you as a delegate. The same method will be used at this state convention. You must pick-up your credentials in person. Go to the booth for your Senatorial District (SD) at the Convention Center. Be prepared to show your voter's registration certificate and an ID, although you may not need these. Credentials distribution is scheduled to begin at 10 AM Friday, but you may be able to get your credentials early (before the caucuses start at 9 AM). Expect a line at your SD booth.

You do NOT need your credentials to attend the special interest caucuses (9 AM to 3 PM Friday). If you don't have your credentials or the line is too long, just go to the caucuses in which you are interested, and pick up your credentials later. You DO need your credentials to vote on everything during your SD caucus Friday afternoon and during later votes in the convention. For most SD's, if you don't get your credentials before the SD caucuses at 3 PM on Friday, you can get them at your SD caucus meeting room at the beginning of your caucus, but don't be late or your credentials may be given to an alternate who got there before you. Check with your SD delegation chair or SD chair to make sure when you can get them.

Alternate Delegates

This year, most or all alternate delegates will become delegates due to the relatively small number of alternates, and because there are always a number of delegates who don't show up for the convention. If you are an alternate, you should report early to your SD booth to see if you can be elevated to a delegate position that has been held by another person who has given prior notice that they will not be coming to the convention. Alternates should also check back with their SD booth before the SD caucuses begin on Friday afternoon at 3:00 pm because at that time, alternates will be elevated to delegates for the positions for which the original delegate has not claimed his or her credential.

If there are alternates from your SD who do not become delegates by the time of the SD caucuses:

DELEGATES SHOULD TRY TO COORDINATE WITH LIKE-MINDED ALTERNATES from your SD so that if you need to leave the convention you can turn your credential over to that alternate. Don't forget to exchange mobile phone numbers, if you have them. On Saturday, even if you are leaving the convention for just an hour, try to turn your credentials over to a like-minded alternate in case an important vote comes up on the floor of the convention during your absence.

Visitors

Non-delegates are welcome to attend any of the convention activities, but may need to pick up non-delegate credentials at the main credentials booth on Friday.

What to Bring to the Convention

We suggest you bring a sack lunch (or at least some substantial snacks) for both Friday and Saturday, as there is no lunch break either day, and if you leave to go eat you may miss something important. This is especially true if you are elected to be on the Resolutions or Platform committees, as these committee meetings often go from 8 am Saturday until mid-afternoon. You may also want to bring a camera, long sleeve shirt or light jacket, water bottle, and an extra tote bag.

Web Sites for Texas Democratic Convention Attendees

Note: Links to the web sites below are at <http://www.paa-tx.org/node/1296>

Texas Democratic Party home page: <http://www.txdemocrats.org/>

Texas Democratic State Convention info: <http://www.txdemocrats.org/06convention/index.php>

Texas Democratic Party structure and Rules (Note: this is a new location): <http://www.txdemocrats.org/aboutthetdp/rules>

Information on the Fort Worth Convention Center (FWCC) may be found at :

<http://www.fortworth.com/02meetplan/0202conveventfac/020201convcenter/020201convcenter.shtml>

This includes local (Fort Worth) maps, info on the area around the convention center, hotels, and transportation information.

Excerpts from 2006 Texas Democratic Party Rules relevant to this year's state convention (starting on page 24)

Article IV – Party Conventions

D. State Convention

4. Purpose.

(a) The purpose of the State Convention shall be to elect a State Chair, First Vice Chair, Vice Chair for Finance, Secretary and Treasurer; to elect the 62 members of the SDEC from their respective senatorial districts; to adopt a platform which embodies the basic principles of the Democratic Party and which sets forth its positions on current issues of statewide significance for the November General Election; to announce the nominations for Governor and other state offices; and to attend to any other appropriate business.

5. Officers and Committees.

(b) Permanent Officers.

(1) The Permanent Officers of the Convention shall be a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Parliamentarian. The Convention may elect such additional Permanent Officers as the SDEC may recommend to carry on Convention business. (2) The SDEC shall, by majority vote, nominate a Permanent Chair, a Permanent Vice Chair of the opposite sex, a Permanent Secretary and a Parliamentarian at least one month before the State Convention.

Additional nominations accompanied by a petition signed by at least one percent of the duly elected Delegates to the Convention shall be accepted from the floor of the State Convention from any Delegate. No Delegate may sign more than one nominating petition for any given office.

(3) The Permanent Officers of the Convention shall be elected by a majority of the State Convention Delegates. Each Permanent Officer shall be voted on separately and not as part of a slate.

(c) **Temporary Credentials Committee.** A Temporary Credentials Committee composed of members shall be appointed by the State Chair, who shall also appoint the Committee Chair. Its duties shall be to hold such preliminary meetings and hearings as it deems necessary to gather facts about challenges to the credentials of individual Delegates or delegations to the State Convention and to report to the SDEC, which shall establish the Temporary Roll of the Convention. This written report shall also be submitted to the Permanent Credentials Committee of the State Convention to expedite the latter's work and avoid undue delays in the orderly progress of the Convention. The State Chair shall ensure that the Temporary Credentials Committee is broadly representative of the state's population in terms of geography, age, sex, ethnic identity, race, and philosophical persuasion.

(d) Temporary Resolutions Committees

(1) The Chair shall convene a Temporary Resolutions Committee to consider and recommend to the State Convention Permanent Resolutions Committee, Permanent Platform Committee and Permanent Rules Committee resolutions submitted by County and Senatorial District Conventions.

(2) The Temporary Resolutions Committee shall consist of one member of the SDEC from each Senate District. The members of each district shall decide which member shall serve. If both wish to serve, the State Chair shall conduct a coin toss to determine the member to serve. If neither is able to serve, the State Chair shall appoint a replacement from that district with the advice and consent of the applicable SDEC committee members where the vacancy occurred. The State Chair shall appoint the Chair of the Committee. The Chair does not have to be chosen from among those selected as members of the Committee. (3) The Temporary Resolutions Committee shall meet at a time and place and as often as necessary as determined by the State Chair. A quorum of the Committee shall be 10 members.

(4) All resolutions passed by a County or Senatorial District Convention shall be submitted with the minutes of the Convention to the State Party Chair. The Chair shall refer all such resolutions to the Temporary Resolutions Committee.

(5) The Temporary Resolutions Committee shall determine if any resolutions or substantially similar resolutions have passed multiple County or Senatorial District Conventions. Any such resolution shall be referred directly to the Permanent Resolutions Committee for consideration. Any other resolution that was submitted by a convention shall be considered by the committee and must obtain a 2/3 vote of the quorum present at the meeting to be recommended to the Permanent Resolutions Committee at the State Convention for consideration. The Temporary Resolutions Committee shall have the discretion to non-substantively rewrite and format resolutions to make them appropriate for consideration. Such changes and formatting shall not require a vote of the committee for the changes to be made.

(8) All resolutions that pertain to the Rules of the Texas Democratic Party, party procedural matters or other party governance issues shall be referred by the Temporary Resolutions Committee to the Permanent Rules Committee of the State Convention.

(9) Any resolution that considers an idea or policy that should be considered for inclusion in the Party Platform shall be referred by the Temporary Resolutions Committee to the Permanent Platform Committee of the State Convention.

(f) Permanent Committees.

(1) **Composition.** The Permanent Committees of the State Convention shall be those on Credentials, Nominations, Platform, Resolutions, and Rules. ... Each Permanent Committee except Credentials shall be composed of 34 members, one member to be elected to each Committee by each Senatorial District Caucus and three members to be appointed by the Permanent Convention Chair. The Permanent Credentials Committee shall consist of 33 members, one elected by each Senatorial District Caucus, and the Permanent Chair and Secretary appointed by the State Chair.

(2) **Temporary Chair.** The Permanent Convention Chair shall designate one member of each Permanent Committee to be Temporary Chair. The Temporary Credentials Committee Chair shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Permanent Credentials Committee but shall not vote unless that person is one of the members elected by a Caucus or one of the two officers appointed by the State Chair.

(3) **Order of Business.** The first order of business of each Permanent Committee shall be to elect a Permanent Chair and a Permanent Secretary from among its membership.

(g) **Duties.** The duties of the Permanent Committees shall be as follows:

(1) The Permanent Credentials Committee shall make recommendations to the Convention as to the final resolution of all challenges regarding the credentials of Delegates to the State Convention.

(2) The Nominations Committee shall nominate the officers of the SDEC and the SDEC members recommended by their respective

Senatorial District Caucuses and, in presidential years, the DNC representatives. In presidential years, the duties of the Nominations Committee for At- Large Delegates to the National Convention shall be those implied by its title or as assigned by the National Party Rules.

(3) The Platform Committee shall write and recommend to the Convention a Party platform for the November General Election.

(4) The Resolutions Committee shall consider and recommend all resolutions submitted to the Convention, other than those within the proper jurisdiction of the Platform Committee.

(5) The Rules Committee shall consider and recommend any proposed amendments to the permanent Party Rules and shall assist the Convention Chair and Parliamentarian, at their request, in interpreting the applicability of these Rules to questions of organization and procedure at the Convention.

6. Order of Business. The order of business at the State Convention shall be as follows: (a) Call to order by the State Chair following the State Democratic Executive Committee on Thursday for the purpose of announcing temporary roll and convention procedures. This shall occur in the same location and upon adjournment of the SDEC meeting. No votes of the full Convention shall occur until after the Friday evening Opening Ceremonies.

(b) SDEC Report on the Temporary Roll.

(c) State Chair announces the time and place for Senate District Caucuses to be held. The Senate District Caucus shall elect one member to each of the following Permanent Committees of the Convention and other positions as listed:

(1) Credentials Committee

(2) Platform Committee

(3) Resolutions Committee

(4) Rules Committee

(5) Nominations Committee for SDEC officers and SDEC members recommended by Senatorial District Caucuses, and in presidential years, members of the Democratic National Committee and Presidential Electors

(6) Recommendation for SDEC Committeeman

(7) Recommendation for SDEC Committeewoman

(d) State Chair announces time and location for the Permanent Credentials Committee to meet. Chair announces the Chair's appointment of a Permanent Chair and a Secretary of such Committee. The Permanent Credentials Committee shall begin its deliberations at the appointed hour or as soon thereafter as a quorum is established. Members arriving after the Committee has made a decision on any given challenge may not vote on a motion to reconsider, but may vote and debate on all other motions subsequent to their arrival.

(e) State Chair announces time certain for Opening Ceremonies.

(f) State Chair announces that the convention stands at recess until the Opening Ceremonies...

(g) Each Senate District Caucus is held at the time and place on Friday assigned by the State Chair. The Caucus may be called to order by either SDEC member or, if absent, by any delegate from said District. The Caucus shall elect

a Permanent Chair of the Caucus. The Permanent Chair shall appoint a clerk to fill out all necessary forms and reports of caucus results. The election of the Permanent Credentials Committee member shall precede any other elections. All Caucuses shall recess one hour before the stated opening ceremony time. Any caucuses who have not completed their business shall reconvene no sooner than 10 minutes after recess of the full Convention on Friday night at a place decided by the Caucus Chair in consultation with the State Chair or their designee.

(h) State Chair calls Convention back to order at previously announced time, followed by presentation of colors, the national and state anthems, and the invocation. (Texas Election Code, Section 174.094).

(j) State Chair introduces the Temporary Officers of the State Convention and turns over the gavel to the Temporary Chair, if different from the State Chair.

(k) Remarks by Temporary Chair, Welcome Address, etc. and speeches by invited dignitaries.

(l) Report of the Permanent Credentials Committee and action on report.

m) Report from the SDEC on its nomination for Permanent Convention Chair, followed by nominations from the floor.

(n) Election of Permanent Convention Chair.

(o) Permanent Chair assumes duties.

(p) Permanent Chair announces the Chair's appointment of Temporary Chairs and two additional members of each Permanent Committee and announces where the Committees will meet the following morning at 8 am.

(r) Permanent Chair further announces that the Convention will recess until the following morning so that the Permanent Convention Committees may transact their business.

(s) Senatorial District Caucus Chairs deliver written report on the results of their Caucuses to the Chair or designee immediately upon completion of their caucuses. Any Senate District that did not finish its business during the afternoon caucus shall deliver any partial reports to the Chair or designee before the Opening Ceremonies and the remainder of the information upon conclusion of the caucus.

(t) Chair announces location of any Senate District Caucuses that did not finish their business during the afternoon.

(u) Convention reconvenes on the second day of the Convention, and the Permanent Chair calls the Convention back to order.

(v) Report from the SDEC on its nominations for Permanent Officers of the Convention (other than Permanent Chair) followed by nominations from the floor.

(w) Election of Permanent Officers (other than Permanent Chair).

(x) Report of Rules Committee and action on report.

(y) Report of Nominations Committee and action on report, including the Committee's nominations for State Party Officers and for SDEC members recommended by their respective Senatorial District Caucuses and, in presidential years, the Committee's recommendations for National Committee members and Presidential Electors.

(z) Permanent Chair reads list of Senatorial District nominees to SDEC, followed by formal vote of ratification by Convention.

(bb) Report of Platform Committee and action on report.

(cc) Report of Resolutions Committee and action on report.

(dd) Announcements and further business.

(ee) Adjournment.

Because of the uncertainty of the length of any particular Permanent Committee meeting, the Permanent Chair may take Committee reports out of this order. Further, the Reports of any Committee may be divided and partial reports given and adopted as necessary. Specifically, the report of the Committee on Resolutions can be made by the Chair of the Resolutions Committee forwarding individual resolutions as they are recommended by the Committee to the Permanent Chair for action.

11. Succession of Alternates to Delegate Status. The succession of Alternates to Delegate status at the State Convention shall be governed by the following provisions:

(a) A Delegate who is to be absent or resigns may select from among the Alternates of the county, if elected by a County Convention, or senatorial district, if elected by a Senatorial District Convention, from which the Delegate was elected, the particular Alternate of the same political preference (in non-presidential years) or presidential preference (in presidential years), if possible, who shall assume Delegate status. Ex-officio Delegates (Article IV.D.3) shall not be replaced if absent.

(b) If a Delegate is unable to, or fails to, select the Alternate to assume Delegate status, the delegation shall select an Alternate who meets the criteria described above.

(c) A vacant Alternate position shall not be filled.

(d) When the Alternate is selected by the Delegate, the date for determining that the Delegate and the Alternate have the same political preference (in a non-presidential year) or the same presidential preference (in a presidential year) shall be their preferences as of the date when the Delegate selects an Alternate.

ARTICLE VI ADOPTION, STATUS, AMENDMENT, PUBLICIZING OF RULES AND PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

B. Amendment

1. These Rules may be permanently amended, altered, or repealed only by a majority vote of the State Convention.

2. Between State Conventions, they may be temporarily changed for good cause by three-fourths vote of the SDEC; provided, however, that the vote to amend shall constitute three-fourths of the entire Committee membership and also provided that each member of the SDEC receive written notice including the full text of any proposed amendments at least one month in advance of a meeting held for this purpose. All such amendments shall be presented to the next State Convention for approval, although they shall be in effect and binding until such Convention is held.

3. If any amendment attached by the SDEC be rejected by the State Convention, it may not be proposed again until the following State Convention. 32

D. Parliamentary Authority

The parliamentary authority for the Texas Democratic Party, its clubs and affiliated organizations shall be the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*. The parliamentary authority shall govern all meetings, committees and conventions except where superseded by federal and state laws and these Rules.

Ft. Worth information for TDP convention attendees, from Linda Foley:

There is a "trolley" that runs around downtown and I think the fare is just a dollar to go from one end of town to the other. Not sure if it goes so far as the Stockyards, just a couple miles north of downtown. Lots of BBQ, bars and Mexican Restaurants there. Joe T. Garcia's being one of the best-known with great outdoor gardens, pool, wonderful ambience and Margaritas BUT THEY DO NOT TAKE CREDIT CARDS.

Downtown street parking is free on the weekends and after 6 pm weeknights and in Sundance Square (3 lots) and at a few large parking garages in the downtown area after 5 pm . . .one across the street from Bass Hall.....another a block over from Throckmorton (main n-s street).

Try "The T" for bus schedules: <http://www.the-t.com/Routes/routes.html>

The TRE - - commuter rail - - runs between downtownw Ft Worth and Dallas and that station is just a couple of blocks from the convention center - - actually one is south of the Convention center and the other stop is at the Transmodal Center a couple of block east.

Lots of restaurants in easy walking distance of downtown (Chili's, Billy Miners/hamburgers and peanut shells on the floor, Italian Angeluna, Italian Deli, Uno's Italian, Bennigans, Tommy's Hamburgers, Chinese, Mexican, Risky's BBQ, Razoo's, Steaks, La Madeleine, Flying Saucer (beer) and Pour House (beer)), Barnes & Noble Bookstore with Starbucks inside, 8.0 and outdoor music venue, and two multi-screen movie theaters, as well as comedy improv theater downtown (Three Day Weekend,) Jubilee Theater and one other live theater venue downtown.

Lon Burnam says there will be a showing of the Tom DeLay movie at a movie theater downtown on Thursday night after the opening reception.