



DEMOCRATIC PARTY *of* OREGON

Democratic Party of Oregon Democratic National Committeemember Elections

December 2020

Voters' Pamphlet

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List of filed candidates for Democratic Party of Oregon Democratic National Committeemember:

(Candidates are listed in alphabetical order by last name)

Deren Ash

Matt Keating

Travis Nelson

Stephanie Newton

Michelle Elizabeth Risher

Marcia Schneider

Michael C Smith

Frank Smith

Kat Stone

Larry Taylor

Candidate statements in this Voters' Pamphlet are provided by the candidate and are not vetted for accuracy, nor do they necessarily reflect the viewpoints of the Democratic Party of Oregon.

Deren Ash

Statement of Candidacy:

As Democrats, we're doing pretty well, but we need to do better. We won the presidency but it should have been a landslide, and we lost ground in Congress and the state legislature. Instead of disillusioning voters, we need to engage them and earn their trust. Instead of writing off rural areas, we need to focus our efforts here. As your DNC Delegate, I will bring a sense of fairness with an eye toward how voters will view the decisions made by the DNC, especially the presidential nominating process, and work toward the actions necessary to engage voters and earn their trust in Oregon and nationwide. I will be voice for rural Oregon in DPO leadership and will work to ensure that the DPO starts focusing on our rural areas. Working on several rural campaigns, I have experienced the DPO's severe shortcomings. My past service includes Vice Chair and Rules Chair of the Maui Democratic Party, and serving on 4 nonprofit boards including as an officer on 3. Currently, I serve as Vice Chair on the La Pine Park & Recreation District Board, and volunteer at the hospital with my therapy dog, Aspen. Please visit my website for more info about me and what I plan to accomplish as your DNC Delegate.



What specifically did you do to elect Democrats in the 2020 general election?

I worked on Phil Chang's winning campaign for Deschutes County Commissioner, and on the Deschutes Democrats Coordinated Campaign. This included data analysis and modeling to target outreach efforts to non-affiliated voters, managing social media advertising, and managing text messaging campaigns. I also started a NAV outreach campaign that includes identifying left-leaning NAVs through direct outreach and with public records petition data for recruitment, persuasion, and GOTV efforts.

What will you bring to the DNC that other candidates from Oregon wouldn't?

A rural perspective and campaign experience, plus a strong sense of what the voters will perceive as fair. For a rural perspective, I've worked on 6 rural campaigns over the last few years. I've experienced what does and doesn't work, from messaging to outreach methods, from broad strategies to specific tactics, what works in cities and population centers isn't always what we need here. Rural areas need NAVs, but we are greatly impacted by voter disillusionment, in rural Oregon and nationally. While we spend years debating what was and wasn't fair in the past, voters spend those years becoming more disillusioned. We must be solutions-oriented and make decisions, especially in matters that affect the presidential nomination process, that are fair and will earn voter trust.

What strategies do you think the Democratic Party (at all levels) should pursue to make our organization more equitably representative of the demographics of liberal/progressive Americans?

The formation of the Racial Equity, Accountability, and Leadership (REAL) special committee is a good start, and I plan to support REAL's recommendations. Additionally, similar to our concept of gender balance requirements, we should have representation requirements, including SCC membership and committee membership at the DPO level, and DNC membership and committee membership at the DNC level. I've heard people say that such requirements would be too difficult to manage, but I disagree. We may need to change some of our elections processes, but we can figure it out. In Hawaii, we had representation requirements (not just "goals") for national convention delegates. Similar could be done for SCC, committee, and DNC membership.

Additional Information:

deren4dnc.com

Matt Keating

Statement of Candidacy:

DNC Member Matt Keating is active on the Western Caucus, Interfaith Council, LGBT Caucus and, as City Councilor-elect, he serves on the DNC's Democratic Municipal Officials (DMO). In his first term as our DNC Member: "I advocated for vital reinvestment in State Democratic Parties; stood united with Oregon's delegation calling for a Climate Change-themed presidential debate; supported the Unity Commission; lobbied DNC leadership for national Vote by Mail strategies in electoral reform recommendations; traveled to Alabama to elect Doug Jones to U.S. Senate; and proudly co-sponsored DNC Resolutions establishing the Environmental & Climate Crisis Council, protecting LGBT Rights, and mandating the DNC work with Labor Unions." Matt also participated in the DNC's Western States Regional Conference where he supported Mark Kelly for U.S. Senate and the Arizona Democratic Party's coordination with Latinx and Native organizers working to flip AZ blue. During Tanya, Travis, and Matt's tenure as DNC Members, Democrats secured a majority in the U.S. House of Representatives, won four new Secretary of State offices and reclaimed the White House. Two words: thank you!



What specifically did you do to elect Democrats in the 2020 general election?

Advocating for Joe Biden & Kamala Harris (nationally) and Congressman Peter DeFazio (locally), this election cycle Matt recruited and/or trained scores of volunteers and he called voters and recruited volunteers in swing states and throughout Oregon's 4th Congressional District. Matt successfully organized the DPLC's Day(s) of Action for Congressman Peter DeFazio's re-election effort and he led dozens of virtual volunteer teams, scheduling more than 300 vols calling more than 31,132 4th Congressional District voters. From his home office in Eugene, OR, Matt donated resources, time, and energy to elect Oregon Democrats up-and-down the ticket and, like a great many (thank you!), he chipped in his time to GOTV for Biden-Harris in Arizona, Florida, and Georgia.

What will you bring to the DNC that other candidates from Oregon wouldn't?

Matt's leadership roles on prominent campaigns with MoveOn.org (Iowa), Democracy for America (Oregon, Wisconsin), and CREDO (Florida) coupled with his current DNC, DPO, and DMO service give him unparalleled access to delegations and elected officials across our country. These relationships promote shared Oregon values while advancing our progressive agenda on the national stage. Moreover, Matt is one of two incumbent DNC Members and the only candidate with rich media experience as a former broadcaster in Denver, San Diego, and Los Angeles. His media prowess has proved successful for Oregon Democrats as Matt is regularly interviewed by national and local media outlets at Democratic National Conventions and various DNC activities. These earned media opportunities advance Democratic Party values while amplifying the ORdems way to wider audiences.

What strategies do you think the Democratic Party (at all levels) should pursue to make our organization more equitably representative of the demographics of liberal/progressive Americans?

We should not shrink from feeling uncomfortable. We should be bold: tackle the climate crisis; reduce student debt; protect Social Security, pass common-sense firearm safety measures and expand healthcare coverage as a fundamental Right. Speaking of Rights, we must restore the Voting Rights Act, stand firm for fair and equitable wages, promote science, advocate for immigrants and listen intently. We must involve and welcome voices hardly ever invited and we must ensure access to reproductive care remains unfringed. These are not the agenda of the so-called "radical left," these are hallmarks of our Democratic Party of Oregon. This is who we are. Let's be — let's do.

Travis Nelson RN

Statement of Candidacy:

I am the grandson of Louisiana sharecroppers. As a small child my parents moved me and my sister to rural Eastern Washington near the Oregon border in search of a better life and opportunity. After a lot of struggles, I went on to graduate from Kennewick High School and earned degrees in Nursing from Columbia Basin Community College and Washington State University. In 2005 I moved to the Portland area where I specialized in Emergency Nursing, Rehab Nursing and Critical Care. While working as a RN I became involved with my union and went on to serve 2 terms as the 1st Black Co-Chair of my local. For the last 8 years I have worked away from the bedside as a Nurse Labor Representative. I am a proud member of the Oregon Nurses Association, AFL-CIO, Teamsters, Oregon Alliance of Black Nurses, The Urban League, DSA, HCAO, Sierra Club, OLCV, CBTU and The NAACP. I am also a member of the LGBTQ+ community. Joe Biden defeated Trump but tough challenges lie ahead. I believe that my unique voice, activism, & track record are reasons why I should be re-elected to represent Oregon on the DNC.



What specifically did you do to elect Democrats in the 2020 general election?

I gave time, money and energy to get Democrats elected in 2020. In the primary I supported Jaime McLeod Skinner for secretary of state. After the primary was over, I worked to get Shemia Fagan elected. Additionally, I gave financial support to Deb Patterson, Rachel Prusak, Janelle Bynum, Loretta Smith, Cameron Whitten and other candidates. I made phone calls for Eileen Kiely and I called to Arizona, Georgia and South Carolina to help Joe Biden and House and Senate candidates. I also served as a spokesperson for Measure 108 and teamed up with Commissioner JoAnn Hardesty and others on the Portland Police Accountability ballot measure. I am currently doing work to get Warnock and Ossoff elected in Georgia.

What will you bring to the DNC that other candidates from Oregon wouldn't?

One of the reasons I believe that I should be re-elected to the DNC is because representation matters! In my opinion, it is a shame that in Oregon's 161 year history, I am the first Black Person from Oregon to ever serve in DNC Black Caucus leadership. I know that I bring a unique lens to the DNC and DPO that has had an impact. I am a person of color, LGBTQ+, a healthcare professional and labor leader. There have been many times that I have been in a room of heterosexual Caucasian people where I have spoken up for the marginalized and challenged the impact of policy and actions. Also, my experience with healthcare and unions motivates me to advocate for those in need.

What strategies do you think the Democratic Party (at all levels) should pursue to make our organization more equitably representative of the demographics of liberal/progressive Americans?

I'm a big believer that in order to make our party more equitably representative we have to invest in community relationships and practice what we preach! We must go to rural communities and BI-POC communities and spread our people centered message while we are helping! I believe Democrats would do better up and down the ballot, if we took a portion of millions of dollars spent during the last 4 weeks of an election on TV ads and targeted communities around the country for food distribution, child care assistance, housing support, neighborhood cleanups etc. I believe that if people stopped seeing democrats pop up before an election and leave afterward, we would make amazing inroads that allow us to move progressive legislation.

Additional Information:

www.facebook.com/Travis.Nelson.DNCMember

Steph Newton

Statement of Candidacy:

I am a Democrat because I believe that the Democratic Party looks like America. Its strength comes from knowing that what makes America great are the efforts and talents of people of all walks of life. Wrapping up the most recent election cycle, it is no secret that we still have a lot of work to get done and issues that need to be prioritized – things like healthcare, human rights, economic stability, and the environmental crisis. I am proud that the Democratic Party, the party I choose to work within to improve, stands on the right side of history on all of these issues. But we still have so much work to get done. In my professional and volunteer background, my experience is broad and deep. I have served as the chair of the Albany Human Rights Commission for the past 3 years, as the Vice-Chair of the Linn County Democratic Party, as the Chair of the Democratic Party of Oregon Disability Justice Caucus, as a board member of the Albany Community Development Commission, as Chair of the Linn County Communications Committee, as a Precinct Committee Person, as a neighborhood leader, and more. As a young mother, a small business owner, and as a person living in a rural red county, It would give me great pride and purpose to be your voice at the table and for the opportunity to serve you with passion and transparency. I humbly ask for your vote. If you have any questions or would like to chat – please do not hesitate to call or text me at 971-322-9784.



What specifically did you do to elect Democrats in the 2020 general election?

For the 2020 general election, I helped Democrats get elected up and down the ballot by participating in phone banking, text banking, literature drops, writing postcards, volunteering to help with campaign websites, and writing letters to the editor. I also volunteered and used my professional skills to help with digital ads and social media efforts.

What will you bring to the DNC that other candidates from Oregon wouldn't?

I will bring the perspective of a young working parent currently raising a child in a rural community.

What strategies do you think the Democratic Party (at all levels) should pursue to make our organization more equitably representative of the demographics of liberal/progressive Americans?

The Democratic Party can employ several strategies to make our organization more equitably representative of the demographics of liberal/progressive Americans – of which, the most important being reaching out to folks in rural communities, reaching out and energizing the younger generations here in the US, working alongside and including folks with disabilities, and doing more than lip service for racial and social justice.

Michelle Elizabeth Risher

Statement of Candidacy:

I am a vice chair of the Democratic Party of Oregon (DPO), and the highest-ranking transgender person to be elected officer of a state, district, or territorial Democratic party. A lifelong progressive Democrat of over 48 years and the immediate past chair of the DPO Stonewall Caucus, current chair of the Multnomah County Democrats (MCD) LGBT Caucus, and past MCD Budget and Finance chair, I am also active in other DPO/MCD caucuses and events, including organizing the annual joint MCD/DPO Stonewall Caucus entries for Portland Pride. Before moving to Oregon in 2014, I served as a PAC director of the Houston GLBT Political Caucus, as well as its candidate screening chair and a trustee. A former union member and Teamsters' steward, I have written three DPO resolutions regarding LGBTQ+ and trans rights, two of which were adopted by the DNC, and also co-written two other DPO resolutions regarding foreign policy and judicial appointments.



What specifically did you do to elect Democrats in the 2020 general election?

As a trans woman and member of the greater LGBTQ+ community, I reached out to trans and non-binary voters in particular to encourage them to support Democrats up and down the ticket, via a combination of personal, social media, and email outreach. I was also elected as a delegate from my home congressional district to the Democratic National Convention, where I served as a Whip Co-Captain to mobilize Oregon's votes for President-Elect Biden and progressive platform positions. I participated in DNC and ASDC strategy and informational meetings, as well as advising and assisting Oregon's Democratic candidates wherever and however possible.

What will you bring to the DNC that other candidates from Oregon wouldn't?

President-Elect Biden's campaign tweeted last January, "Transgender equality is the civil rights issue of our time." In its entire history, only a single trans person has been elected to the DNC. If elected, I would be only the second trans Democrat elected to the DNC; otherwise, there will be no voice to advocate for the lives and needs of transgender people living in America. Our community is under constant assault by political and religious extremists bent on the disenfranchisement and eradication of trans, non-binary, and intersex people, and yet we have no elected voice in the Democratic Party to stand up for the rights of these marginalized communities. I ask for one of your three votes to be that voice.

What strategies do you think the Democratic Party (at all levels) should pursue to make our organization more equitably representative of the demographics of liberal/progressive Americans?

If the 2020 General Election has shown us anything, it is that while we may have won the presidency, we did not fare as well in other local, state, and federal elections across the U.S. The Democratic Party has for too long hyper-focused on swing states, ignoring voters and state parties alike in so-called Red States, as well as in supposedly-safe Blue States like Oregon. In order to elect Democrats and grow our voter ranks at every level in every state, we need a 50-state strategy to represent voters and potential voters living in the jurisdictions most affected by Republican rule, and to amplify the voices at the cutting edge of progressive politics throughout the nation.

Additional Information:

voterisher.com

Marcia Schneider

Statement of Candidacy:

I bring both a passion for progress in healthcare, climate action, racial justice, education and living wages and a can-do spirit for getting it done! This crazy 2020 year I've focused on engaging non-affiliated voters in our Be a Primary Voter project and bringing out a volunteer force for national and Oregon races through Multnomah Dems virtual campaign office. As a DNC Committeeperson for you, I'm committed to strengthening light blue Oregon. I'd concentrate on winning DNC State Party Innovation funding and sharing successful deep canvassing and service practices from all over to support year-round organizing in all of Oregon's counties. Complementing our Neighborhood Leader program, we'd be able to fund dedicated staff to support organizing beyond the metros, deliver resources and training for local council and board races that build our Blue Bench, and back DPO's caucuses to take on community service and outreach to demonstrate and engage voters in what Democrats do.



What specifically did you do to elect Democrats in the 2020 general election?

Starting in January, we engaged voters early. I led our Be a Primary Voter project with Multnomah Democrats' Campaign and Communications teams targeting nonaffiliated Motor Voters. 110 Volunteers signed up. We made progress - registering 15K new Democrats in Multnomah between January and May. For the general, I built our Virtual Campaign Office. You can still visit - Find ways to help win the Georgia Senate Runoffs at multdems.org/2020hub Every week during the runup to November our team hosted virtual events to engage volunteers - more than 1000 volunteers participated! Calling for Biden-Harris, writing letters and texting to turnout Senate races, Postcards and calls in GA and SC. Calls and texting in Oregon for critical downballot campaigns including Rep Anna Williams, Shemia Fagan, Congressman Peter DeFazio.

What will you bring to the DNC that other candidates from Oregon wouldn't?

My focus is on the very short window we Democrats have to demonstrate to voters that we'll make things better for them. That government can work. I'll call on DNC to help us stay organized across counties and states and across priority issues and interests, to amplify the message and maintain the urgency for action. We can also use communication and organizing already in place, built in the election and the last 4 years - Slack channels, Indivisible, Mobilize and Action networks.... I will lead in building up trust with all Democrats; that even though we're not exactly alike, we're all advancing in the same direction. I believe it's through regular open communication and collaboration on the work that we can pull together for progress.

What strategies do you think the Democratic Party (at all levels) should pursue to make our organization more equitably representative of the demographics of liberal/progressive Americans?

More listening. More service. Democrats stand for values that the majority of the country supports: Everyone should have healthcare; workers deserve living wages, climate action is urgent, systemic racial justice is needed. We stand for opportunity for every American to make a life for themselves - starting businesses, getting a good education, feeling safe in our communities. Now, outside the election cycle it's time to be active in communities that don't vote as Blue. Asking open ended questions, listening non-judgmentally, finding common ground. Using examples of 'bright spots' like East County Rising or Grants Pass to understand motivating messages And Doing Democrat - service, education, encouraging local leaders. In Oregon, we have excellent resources for this outreach in our DPO caucuses, counties and neighborhood leaders.

Additional Information:

sites.google.com/view/marcia-schneider-dnc/home

Frank Smith

Statement of Candidacy:

I aspire to teach youth community organizing and establish a progressive DPO Wikipedia presence. My history includes 1955-2020 Racial, LGBT, and '66-'20 environmental and criminal justice activism. I started precinct walking congressional campaigns and writing LTEs in '66. I helped organize a 4/17/67 anti-war march of 10K, rally of 50K in San Francisco. From '84 to '08 I served on SCCs: CA Vice Chr Enviro Caucus, AK, KS Co-Chr, Progr Caucus & served on Alaska AFSCME & retiree E-Boards. Since 1966 I organized to kill construction of 68 for-profit prisons in 23 states. I won all but three battles. In 1997, helped write & pass nation's first medical marijuana initiative. In 2002 case I began convicted Senator Ted Stevens, 6 "R" legislators, richest Alaskan. I served 2 terms in the KS Silver Haired Legislature. In '05-06 I co-led defeat of anti-evolutionist KS Board of Ed's anti-science, pro-voucher/charter majority. In '15 my KS pro se case caused frackers rollback/bankruptcy.

No photo
submitted

What specifically did you do to elect Democrats in the 2020 general election?

In Oregon, I walked precincts, made phone calls, wrote many published Letters to the Editor, did opposition research, attended regular demonstrations especially worked with Democrats in other states, especially Alaska and Kansas.

What will you bring to the DNC that other candidates from Oregon wouldn't?

I'll be bringing unusually long activist experience, record of success on the ground. My anti-private prison work has substantially constrained the industry and that community organizing translates to Oregon and any other state.

What strategies do you think the Democratic Party (at all levels) should pursue to make our organization more equitably representative of the demographics of liberal/progressive Americans?

Fences need to be mended between liberals and progressives, young and old.

Additional Information:

<https://privateci.org> Google it and my name

Michael C Smith

Statement of Candidacy:

When elected to DNC, I will seek appointment to the Platform Committee. There I will fight for three initiatives: a Green New Deal based on AOC's framework, restoring Medicare for All to the platform, and fighting for Oregon-style gun safety including nationwide permit to purchase and safe storage initiatives. I will also use my soft power as a DNC Member to encourage our state legislature to follow a similar course. Members of the DNC are also members of the DPO Administration. As an Administration member I will use my voice to help address several of the problems DPO faces. In particular: we need to heal the rupture in SCC that started in 2019, and that can only be accomplished by the various factions talking things out. We need to build our parties in red counties, starting with helping with funding, technical support, and winning down-ballot races. Last but not least, we need to figure out better ways to run remote meetings, and I pledge to work with DPO staff to find solutions.



What specifically did you do to elect Democrats in the 2020 general election?

As Chair of the Gun Owners Caucus I spearheaded postcard writing and letter writing efforts in three state legislature races. We targeted our postcards and letters at gun-owning Democrats and progressive NAVs; in particular, GOC volunteers mailed over 2300 pieces to gun owners in HD31 urging them to vote for Brad Witt. That election was decided by less than 500 votes. In addition, I introduced a cost-effective text banking solution to these same three campaigns, including running technical and VAN support for Kat Stone's text bank campaign in SD1. While that campaign did not go as hoped, we learned valuable lessons that will help future campaigns.

What will you bring to the DNC that other candidates from Oregon wouldn't?

My professional and political experience is one of troubleshooting and finding solutions to thorny problems. As DNC member I will use this skill to build coalitions. As a DPO admin member I will use this skill to solve problems within DPO, find consensus among the factions, and bring down the temperature within SCC.

What strategies do you think the Democratic Party (at all levels) should pursue to make our organization more equitably representative of the demographics of liberal/progressive Americans?

In two short years, through hard work and organizing, Stacey Abrams was able to turn Georgia from a somewhat red state into a barely blue state. I believe there is a Stacey Abrams in every state, and they are often organizing BIPOC communities. The National Party organizations need to encourage and develop these leaders; not just with mentoring, but by listening to them, giving their organizations money, and then advocating for policies that will help their communities to flourish after the votes are counted. DPO can, and should, do the same for rural county parties. They feel overlooked, and DPO can help them with fundraising, technical support (particularly VAN), and better encouraging Democratic competition in downballot races where we build our bench.

Additional Information:

MikeSmithForOregon.com

Kat Stone RN

Statement of Candidacy:

I'm a 65 year old resident of rural Oregon. I am twice elected to the Douglas County Transportation Board of Directors, where I currently also serve as Secretary. Most recently I campaigned against Dallas Heard for State Senate District 1. Rural Oregon needs representation that understands the timber industry destruction of our water and air. Rural Oregon is the aerial spray capital, it damages and diseases our health and streams. These unethical business practices are supported and protected by State Republicans, who also are trying to turn Oregon from blue to red. National Republicans are sending funds here as we speak, because they see Oregon as a key state for takeover. The same state Republicans who petitioned for greater Idaho are leading this coup. Right now, many Oregonians in the North don't take this threat seriously. I'm passionate about going to DNC and explaining the fears and concerns of rural Democrats who have always been underrepresented.



What specifically did you do to elect Democrats in the 2020 general election?

In the 2020 General Election I was running as the Democratic candidate for Oregon State Senate District 1. During this time on my campaign I personally held voter registration events, I wrote many letters and text banking for Bernadette Hansen vs Brian Boquist. I supported and worked with Calla Felicity in her run for State House District 2, we both supported each other in debates, and during online and rural political events. I urged in political candidate meetings to vote for Shemia Fagan for Secretary of State. I also supported Vanessa Ogier in her successful race for Grants Pass City Council.

What will you bring to the DNC that other candidates from Oregon wouldn't?

I have first hand, specific knowledge about rural culture, especially in the timber industry, because I was one of the first women to work in the mill. No other candidate is living in truly rural Oregon, nor has this kind of political experience in the county with the most O & C timberlands. I'm committed to environmental conservation and rural communities. The future of climate questions in Oregon will without a doubt be fought on Oregon rural and Southwestern Oregon soil. I have spent 7 years delving into various county budgets and history of the timber industrial complex. I stay current on information and ideas to be used strategically for the advancement of the DNC in this previously overlooked and underserved part of the State.

What strategies do you think the Democratic Party (at all levels) should pursue to make our organization more equitably representative of the demographics of liberal/progressive Americans?

The Democratic Party has been accused of being much like the RNC, of taking corporate and special interest donations, making it less and less able to represent the will of rural America. The DNC needs to recognize that Oregon staying blue is not a given and should send considerable funds and campaign support to the down ballot, rural candidates and measures. Keeping Oregon blue will become increasingly difficult for the DNC as environmental climate change issues and agricultural Wall Street forestry tensions clash. The DNC needs to fast-track young leaders at all levels. Young people who want to lead should be allowed, this is the way for them to learn, and for the party to innovate and compete in a rapidly changing political landscape.

Additional Information:

KatherinStone.com

Lawrence Taylor

Statement of Candidacy:

If elected, I will pursue the following objectives 1) restore democracy and trust in the DNC; 2) as a member of the DPO leadership, I will continue working to ensure all 36 counties are represented – especially rural counties under attack by the TimberUnity movement; and 3) achieve unity within the Democratic Party. The actions of the Democratic Party must align with the vision set out in the Preamble of the Democratic Party Charter. The Democratic Party is the most powerful political party in the world. It must be a role model of democracy for other countries, especially those being threatened by authoritarian governments. I intend to rejoin the caucuses that I belonged to when I previously was a DNC Delegate – The Rural Caucus, the LGBT Caucus, and the Small Business Caucus. I support a continuation of the 50 state strategy to rebuild the Democratic Party in each state. I will work to achieve the best software tools and data for use in elections at all levels of government.



What specifically did you do to elect Democrats in the 2020 general election?

I continued the local campaign work that I did throughout 2020. I spent an enormous number of hours assisting local campaigns. In addition, as Chair of the 1st Congressional District, I organized a workshop with Western States Center on the rise of the TimberUnity movement, which included a discussion on the misinformation that had turned the Cap-and-Trade bill into a weapon used against Democrats. I proudly posted Biden-Harris yard signs next to my house and replaced the signs when they were stolen, in a county where cars were vandalized for having Biden signage.

What will you bring to the DNC that other candidates from Oregon wouldn't?

My participation in the Democratic Party began 24 years ago in 1996. I bring to the role extensive knowledge of all aspects of the Democratic Party. I have been Chair of both urban Multnomah and rural Clatsop County Democratic Party Committees. I am the current CD1 Chair and Presidential Elector, as well as a member of the Rules Committee and former Chair of the Budget Committee. As the only professional registered parliamentarian in the SCC, I would bring unequaled knowledge of the rules and bylaws by which the DNC operates, along with knowledge of my rights as a delegate to the DNC. I have first-hand knowledge of the tactics used by TimberUnity, the biggest threat to the DPO and the Democratic Party nationally.

What strategies do you think the Democratic Party (at all levels) should pursue to make our organization more equitably representative of the demographics of liberal/progressive Americans?

The strength of the Democratic Party is its diversity, which differentiates it from other political parties. This directive already exists in Article 1, Section 4 of the DNC Charter. The DNC should establish a special committee of members from all states and territories to carry out this directive. Similar to the Convention Delegate Selection Plan, the Democratic Party should establish guidelines for equitable representation goals at both the national and state levels. The National and state organizations should then be required to develop plans to achieve these goals, not through identity politics but through the hard work of proactive recruitment and education. Organizations that fail to achieve the diversity goals should be mentored and monitored until the goals are achieved.

Additional Information:

electlarrytaylor.com