



2026.22

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - CAUCUSES

WHEREAS, the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO (WSLC) exists to strengthen relationships among affiliated organizations, encourage cooperation and solidarity, assist affiliates in addressing common challenges, and build collective power for working people across Washington State; and,

WHEREAS, Washington's labor movement has grown increasingly diverse and interconnected, with affiliates representing workers across a wide range of industries, occupations, sectors, and workplaces; and,

WHEREAS, workers increasingly face common challenges and opportunities related to organizing, collective bargaining, workforce development, technological change, economic inequality, public policy, and worker power that often extend beyond traditional industry boundaries; and,

WHEREAS, the future strength of organized labor depends upon our ability to build relationships, strengthen solidarity, share information, and foster collaboration across unions, industries, sectors, regions, and generations of workers; and,

WHEREAS, creating flexible opportunities for affiliates to connect, learn from one another, exchange information, and collaborate around shared interests strengthens the labor movement and better positions affiliates to meet the challenges of a changing economy and workforce; and,

WHEREAS, the WSLC seeks to ensure that its structures for affiliate engagement remain responsive, inclusive, adaptable, and reflective of the needs of today's workforce and tomorrow's labor movement; now therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 9, Subordinate sections and financial aid, is amended by substituting the following:

9 Industry and sector caucuses

- 9.1 **Purpose.** A caucus may be established as a forum for affiliated organizations to communicate, share information,

build relationships, strengthen solidarity, and foster collaboration across industries and sectors.

- 9.2 **Authority.** A caucus has no independent authority and does not exercise any governance, representational, financial, legislative, political, organizing, bargaining, or policy-making functions of the council or its affiliates.
- 9.3 **Participation.** Participation in a caucus is voluntary and does not create any authority, obligations, duties, or responsibilities for affiliates.
- 9.4 **Creation.** The council president in consultation with the Executive Board may establish one or more caucuses, combine caucuses, modify the list of caucuses, rename a caucus, suspend a caucus, or dissolve a caucus as necessary to reflect changes in industries, occupations, workforce trends, affiliate participation, and the needs of the council and its affiliates. Once established, the list of caucuses will be published and available to affiliates.
- 9.5 **Membership.** An affiliate may participate in one or more caucuses based upon the affiliate's industry, sector, jurisdiction, workforce, or interests. To become a member of a caucus, an affiliate will send a written notice to the council secretary-treasurer, stating a desire to become a member of the caucus. The affiliate's membership in the caucus will continue until the affiliate sends written notice to the council secretary-treasurer, stating that the affiliate withdraws from the caucus. The council secretary-treasurer will send the current list of member affiliates to the caucus chair and secretary whenever the chair or secretary request it and whenever there is a change in the list.
- 9.6 **Leadership duties.** The officers of each caucus are a chair and a secretary. These officers will convene meetings, facilitate discussion, support communication among participating affiliates, perform the duties described in the constitution, and carry out the instructions from the caucus. The chair and the secretary will also perform the duties described in the parliamentary authority for a presiding officer and a secretary, respectively. The chair and secretary have no authority to act on behalf of the council or any

affiliate; they may act on behalf of the caucus only when instructed by the caucus or to carry out its decisions.

- 9.7 **Leadership appointment.** The chair and secretary are appointed by the council president for a term of two years or until their successors are appointed, and their term of office begins at the close of the regular convention in even-numbered years. When making appointments, the president seeks to promote broad participation and representation across affiliates, industries, geographic regions, and the diversity of Washington's labor movement. The chair and secretary of a caucus should be members of different affiliates whenever possible.
- 9.8 **Leadership removal.** A caucus chair or secretary may be removed by the council president with cause.
- 9.9 **Meetings at convention.** A caucus meeting may be held during the regular convention at the request of at least two of the caucus's member affiliates. The request for a caucus meeting must be sent in writing to the caucus secretary at least 30 days prior to the opening of the regular convention. The caucus secretary will immediately send notice of the caucus meeting to the council secretary-treasurer. The council secretary-treasurer will send notice of a caucus meeting to each of the caucus's member affiliates at least 14 days prior to the convention.
- 9.10 **Other meetings.** Additional caucus meetings will be held at any time during the year at the request of at least two of the caucus's member affiliates. The request for a caucus meeting must be sent in writing to the caucus secretary. The caucus chair will schedule the meeting, which must be no later than 30 days after the secretary receives the requests. The caucus secretary will send notice to each of the caucus's member affiliates at least 10 days prior to the caucus meeting. A caucus meeting may be conducted in person or electronically.
- 9.11 **Quorum.** At least one individual member, not counting the caucus chair or secretary, from each of two or more member affiliates constitutes a quorum.

9.12 **Council assistance.** The council may provide support in scheduling and facilitating caucus meetings; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 4, Convention, section 4.31, Resolutions, is amended by striking out “affiliate, the executive board, or a subordinate section” and inserting “affiliate or the executive board”; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 4, Convention, is amended by striking out section 4.33, Resolutions from subordinate sections, and renumbering the subsequent sections accordingly; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 8, Executive board, is amended by striking out section 8.8, Authority over section funds, and renumbering the subsequent sections accordingly; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 11, Per capita taxes and fees, section 11.7, Revenue credited to general fund, is amended by striking out “the organization and defense fund as described in 11.8 and”; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 11, Per capita taxes and fees, is amended by striking out section 11.8, Revenue credited to organization and defense fund, and renumbering the subsequent sections accordingly; and be it finally,

RESOLVED, that constitution section 17, Amendments, section 17.2, Proposals, is amended by striking out “a subordinate section”.