



**CAUCUS MEMO**  
2020 Early Vote Process  
Date: October 25, 2019

*This document is subject to revision by the Nevada State Democratic Party.  
Additions or changes to this document will be made available to all campaigns equally.*

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Four early voting days will be held for individuals who for any reason are unable to participate on Caucus Day. Early vote participants must be registered Democrats and will have the opportunity to register to vote or update their voter registration the same day at any early voting location.

Early vote participants may participate in any one of the early voting days. The four early voting days will be held on:

- Saturday, February 15, 2020
- Sunday, February 16, 2020
- Monday, February 17, 2020
- Tuesday, February 18, 2020

Early voting locations and times will be determined by the Nevada State Democratic Party by October 7, 2019 and will be published to the Nevada State Democratic Party's website.

Early voting participants will arrive at locations and record their presidential preference. Early vote participants can vote at any location that is within the county in which they are registered to vote unless an exception is noted for a particular site by the Nevada State Democratic Party.

Early vote participants will be counted as eligible caucus-goers on Caucus Day. Their votes will be used to both determine viability and award delegates. Early vote participant totals will be combined with in-person participant totals to determine the precinct viability threshold on Caucus Day. Early vote participant preferences will be combined with in-person participant preferences to determine presidential preference group viability on Caucus Day.

Early vote participants will have the option to be nominated as a delegate to the County Convention on Caucus Day.

Early vote participants will have their votes counted on Caucus Day alongside other voters in their precinct. Early vote participants do not need to attend their precinct caucus on February 22, 2020 and are ineligible to participate in their precinct caucus.



Early vote participants will be asked to make multiple preference options to account for a case in which their first choice is not viable. All early vote participants are required to make three presidential preference choices when voting early before submitting their preferences. Participants will make their first choice and two additional choices in order of presidential preference. Early vote participants may make up to five total choices in order of preference.

The Nevada State Democratic Party will respect the first choices of early vote participants and only realign an early vote participant if their first choice is not viable on Caucus Day.

### **Determining Viability Threshold**

When determining viability in each precinct, the Permanent Precinct Chair will add the total number of in-person attendees to the total number of early vote participants from the precinct. Viability will be determined using this formula:

**(Early Voters + In-Person Attendees) X (Viability Percentage for the precinct)**

### **First Alignment**

After the in-person attendees have aligned into preference groups, the total number of early vote participants for each group will be added to the total number of supporters for each candidate preference group.

The Permanent Precinct Chair will use the total number of in-person attendees in the group combined with the total number of early vote participants to determine if a candidate's preference group is viable. If a preference group is viable in the first alignment, all voters in that group, including any early vote participants will have their vote counted towards that candidate group and will not be allowed to leave or change groups.

### **Second Alignment**

During the second alignment, in-person attendees who were part of a non-viable group in the first alignment will be given up to 15 minutes to realign. Every in-person participant in that group will need to realign by joining an already viable group, or, if they are able, by forming a viable group with another non-viable group(s). Once all in-person attendees have realigned, any remaining early voters will be automatically realigned with their next viable choice in the room.



## **Awarding Delegates**

For the purposes of awarding delegates, early vote participants will be included in the total number of members within each preference group and will be considered eligible caucus participants.

## **Electing Delegates:**

Early vote participants wishing to run as a delegate to the County Convention may be nominated by an eligible caucus participant in their assigned precinct and considered during the election of delegates at their precinct on Caucus Day. A potential delegate to the County Convention does not need to be present to be nominated and elected as a delegate so long as that person is a registered Democrat residing within that precinct.

## **Flow of the Caucus and Announcement of Early Voters**

### **Step 1: Determining Viability:**

- Before announcing viability, the Permanent Precinct Chair will announce the total number of early vote participants in the precinct.

### **Step 2: First Alignment**

- The Permanent Precinct Chair will give all in-person participants up to fifteen minutes to align into preference groups. After the first alignment has concluded, the Permanent Precinct Chair will count one preference group at a time and announce the number of early vote participants in each preference group. Early vote participants will be added to the in-person participant total to determine if the preference group is viable.

### **Step 3: Final Alignment if Necessary**

- If there is only one non-viable preference group at the conclusion of the first alignment, all voters in that group must realign with a viable group. Early vote participants will be automatically realigned with their next viable choice in the room.
- If there are multiple non-viable groups in the room, those groups may join an already viable group, or, if they are able, form a viable group with another nonviable group(s). The Permanent Precinct Chair will not announce the second or third preference choices of early vote participants prior to the realignment of in-person participants.
- In the case that a non-viable preference from first alignment becomes viable in a second alignment, that preference group will retain the early vote participants who selected the preference group as their first choice.