



## WASHINGTON STATE DEMOCRATS

### How to Read Washington's March 10<sup>th</sup> Primary Results

The Washington State Democrats will be allocating our 89 national delegates to the National Convention in Milwaukee with a **mail-in primary for the first time** in our history. This is an exciting opportunity to expand the Democratic electorate and the influence of Washington State voters on the national selection process. The below information will help you interpret results as they come in.

#### General Principles

- The **voting period** for Washington State runs from **Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> until Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**. That means that the Nevada Caucus, South Carolina Primary, and all of Super Tuesday occur while Washington residents had ballots in hand.
- Candidates are assigned **delegates** to the National Convention **only** if they receive 15% or more of the vote.
- Delegates are assigned by **both** the **statewide** and **Congressional District** results for each candidate. This means that even if your preferred candidate does not pass the 15% threshold statewide, they may pass it in your Congressional District and receive delegates.

#### Election Night

- The first batch of results on Election Night will likely reflect only a small subset of the final results. Remember election night in California, 2018; Democrats picked up **seven** (7) seats between election day and ballot certification two weeks later. Expect these kinds of swings in Washington State, and definitely **don't** consider the Election Night results as final.
- The State Party expects many voters will retain their ballots until after Super-Tuesday, on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. As a result, do not be surprised by significant shifts to the initial results once the ballots submitted after March 3<sup>rd</sup> are tabulated.
- Because delegates are assigned both statewide, and by Congressional District, and results will shift, don't expect anyone to be able to make a prediction of how many delegates each candidate may receive. The **State Party will issue the final allocations** after certification; any other predictions are not final.

#### After Election Night

- The Washington **Secretary of State will certify results** no later than Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, providing final allocation of the vote by Legislative District, Congressional District and statewide levels. The State Party will release final delegate allocations as quickly as possible after results have been certified.
- Check back regularly on results to see if your candidate of choice is still above 15% statewide.
- Once results have been certified, consider running for a delegate to support your preferred candidate at both State and National Convention; get more information at [www.waelectioncenter.com](http://www.waelectioncenter.com)!