

Green Party of California

General Assembly Decision Process

Seeking Consensus

Verify that quorum exists:

- 80% of registered delegates must be present.
- Quorum is often verified as part of a roll call vote. If proposals are in immediate succession, delegates have not required quorum be counted for each proposal.

After the proposal is presented, clarifying questions are collected for the presenters to answer.

These questions clarify the intent and meaning of the proposal so delegates fully understand what they're being asked to decide.

Concerns and affirmations are collected for the presenter's response:

- Concerns are recorded.
- Presenters (and participants) attempt to resolve concerns, then amend the proposal with the resolution.
- Facilitators test for any remaining concerns, or new concerns on the amendment. Those concerns are processed as time allows.
- At any time, the presenter may ask those delegates with concerns if they will "stand aside" and allow the decision to move forward. These stand-aside concerns are recorded in the minutes.

If concerns cannot be resolved within the allotted time, the presenter has the following options:

- Return the proposal to committee to address the concerns.
- Create an ad-hoc group of interested persons to resolve concern.
- Request additional plenary session time.
- Use the voting option.

Voting Option

When the presenters choose the voting option, the following process is used:

- Restate the proposal in its final amended form.
- Allow a few minutes for counties to caucus on their vote.
- Conduct a roll call vote of delegates present. 80% of delegates must be present with their delegate card to vote.
- Votes are announced and recorded as called out by the delegates.
- Vote results are reported to the assembly. The proposal must pass two tests:

Abstention Test – A minimum number of affirmative (yes) votes must be received:

Min. YES votes = (approval threshold %) X (decision quorum %) X (registered delegates)

Approval Test – Of the total YES+NO votes, a minimum percent must be YES:

80% for a policy decision or bylaws change.

66.67% for a business or procedural item.

If there is disagreement over which threshold applies, the higher percentage is used.

