

## **Democratic National Convention goes virtual/remote**

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## Michael --

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones safe and well.

Today, the Democratic National Convention Committee announced significant changes to the 2020 National Convention in Milwaukee. These changes follow a nearly unanimous vote by DNC Members to allow flexibility to the National Convention rules in light of COVID-19.

Here are the changes and other announcements made today:

- Our nominee will accept the nomination in person in Milwaukee.
- After consulting with public health officials about the COVID-19 pandemic, convention organizers have determined that state delegations should not plan to travel to Milwaukee and should plan to conduct their official convention business remotely.
  - The DNC will be in touch with delegations in the coming weeks to share more information about the processes being developed.
- A process is being developed to ensure all delegates can cast their votes on all convention matters, including the presidential nomination, remotely during the convention.
- National Convention standing committee meetings will take place virtually as well, with the meetings tentatively set for the last week of July.

- The DNC will pursue creating broadcast satellite cities, locations, and landmarks, as companion events to the festivities in Milwaukee.
- Convention programming will include both live broadcasts and curated content from Milwaukee and other satellite locations.
- Convention hotels will no longer be located hours outside Milwaukee, reflecting the much smaller number of people expected to attend.
- The Convention team has hired two nationally-renowned epidemiologists and infectious disease experts, Dr. W. Ian Lipkin and Dr. Larry Brilliant, who will advise on efforts to protect the health and safety of convention staff, attendees, and Wisconsin residents.
- U.S. Representative Bennie Thompson was announced as the Permanent Chair of the 2020 Democratic National Convention.
- The DNC will launch a series of engagement campaigns that invite Americans across the country to add their voices to convention programming.
- Convention proceedings will move from Fiserv Forum to the Wisconsin Center, the convention center located in downtown Milwaukee.
- All official auxiliary events, such as welcome receptions and events for volunteers, have been eliminated to ensure that we deliver a Convention that poses no unnecessary risk to public health.

As has been my custom since joining the DNC in 2016, I posted this information to social media as soon as I received it.

In my capacity as Chair of the DNC Youth Council, I received an invitation to meet virtually with DNC and Convention staff to talk about these changes. I livetweeted this discussion on my Twitter account, which you can read by clicking here. A big focus of this conversation centered around preserving the experience for Convention delegates, many of whom would have been attending their first National Convention. Staff said that they are committed to providing that same sort of experience for all delegates this year, and they promised to work with the DNC Council and Caucus Chairs to make this happen.

I promise to do my part to make this Convention as much of a rewarding and educational organizing opportunity as I can. I will continue to keep you updated as more information becomes available.

As always, if you have any questions or just want to talk about the DNC, you can reach me by email, Facebook, Twitter, or text/call me at (510) 717-8260.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and the California Democratic Party on the DNC.

Your ally in activism,

Michael Kapp

Member, Democratic National Committee

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Chair, DNC Youth Council

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