

Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee State Convention Report

First, we would like to thank the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee (CBRC) members for their hard work and countless hours of meetings that went into this draft set of proposed changes. Every two years, we undertake revisions to our party's governing documents to help ensure continued success in meeting the goals of our party. The changes presented in this report represent the culmination of that work.

This report is prepared for members to present to delegates and alternates at their respective congressional district conventions. These presentations are intended to allow delegates and alternates an opportunity to preview and share views on the proposed changes prior to their consideration at the 2024 State Convention. The committee may consider further changes to the report at its May 19 meeting.

Each change is presented with a brief description and some background information. The changes are listed in the order in which they appear in the Constitution and Bylaws. Each change is proposed independently. That is to say, if unrelated changes occur in the same section of the constitution, each revision is shown under only one change heading.

~~Stricken text~~ indicates proposed deletions of current language. Underscored text indicates proposed insertion of new language. The vertical ellipsis (∴) represents unchanged text that isn't included in the proposal for brevity.

Please note These are only *proposed* changes and nothing in this document will take effect unless the State Convention chooses to adopt one or more of the proposals.

The committee looks forward to the opportunity to present these proposed changes to delegates and alternates at congressional district conventions, to address their questions, and to receive feedback in turn.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Friedrich and Tim O'Brien
Co-Chairs, Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee

Proposed Change #1 – Age Eligibility:

This proposed change is intended to clarify the minimum ages needed to be elected to certain positions within the party. This change would set the minimum age for any party position at 16 years old. It further requires convention delegates and alternates to be at least 18 years old by the general election in a given year.

The proposed change would also limit eligibility for election as a chair, vice chair, or treasurer to persons at least 18 years old by the general election. This requirement is recommended for these roles due to their responsibility for compliance with campaign finance rules.

The proposed deletion of the bylaw in Article IV was recommended by the CBRC State Law Review Subcommittee. The court case cited in the bylaw was decided pursuant to a section of statute that has since been repealed.

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ARTICLE I
OUR PARTY

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Section 3. Eligibility for Party Office.

Persons at least 16 years old who reside within the boundaries of a DFL party organization and meet the membership requirements of Article I, Section 2, are eligible for election to party office within that organization, except as limited by Article III, Section 7. There shall be no other age requirement for party office except as provided in Article III, Section 4, Subsection K; Article III, Section 7, Subsection B; and Article IV, Section 1.

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ARTICLE III
GENERAL RULES AND POLICY

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Section 4. Convention and Committee Rules.

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Subsection K. Limitations for Delegate Positions.

Only persons who will be at least 18 years old by the November general election in a given year are eligible for election as delegates or alternates to any DFL convention at any level in that year. Any persons not meeting the above age requirement who hold positions that entitle them to automatic delegate or alternate credentials at any conventions may only serve in a non-voting capacity at those conventions.

Section 7. Party Officer Rules.

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Subsection B. Limitation for Party Office.

Only persons who will be at least 18 years old by the November general election in a given year are eligible for election as chair, vice chair, or treasurer at any level in that year. Persons must be at least 16 years old to be eligible for election to any other party office.

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ARTICLE IV
PRECINCT PARTY ORGANIZATION

Section 1. Precinct Caucuses.

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~~Bylaw Pursuant to the direction of the 2018 State Convention, the ruling issued by the Minnesota Court of Appeals on January 3, 2022, in Minnesota Democratic Farmer-Labor Party v. Simon (Case Numbers A21-0330 and A21-0403), and a decision by the January 2022 DFL State Central Committee, any person who will be 18 years of age by the next general election and meets the residency and party affiliation requirements may fully participate in their precinct caucus.~~

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ADDENDUM A: RULE BOOK OF THE
MINNESOTA DFL PARTY

GENERAL RULES

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~~Eligibility for Party Office—Age. There is no age limit to be eligible for election to DFL party office except at the precinct level as provided in Article IV, Section 1. Only persons who will be at least 18 years old by the November general election in a given year are eligible for election as chair, vice chair, or treasurer at any level in that year. Persons must be at least 16 years old to be eligible for election to any other party office.~~

Only persons who will be at least 18 years old by the November general election in a given year are eligible for election as delegates or alternates to any DFL convention at any level in that year. Any persons not meeting the above age requirement who hold positions that entitle them to automatic delegate or alternate status at any convention may only serve as non-voting delegates.

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Proposed Change #2 – Platform and Endorsements Articles:

This change is a reorganization of existing contents in the Constitution and Bylaws. It moves the platform and endorsement rules to their own articles III and IV.

The platform article simply moves the contents of Article III, Section 2 to its own article and

recodes the subsections accordingly. The new endorsements article consolidates endorsement rules found in Article III, Section 4, Subsections H, I, and J; Article III, Section 5, Subsection B; Article III, Section 15; and the DFL Rule Book. It also codifies currently understood principles regarding the endorsement process, which may not have been explicitly stated in the Constitution and Bylaws before.

Note 1 Other changes proposed in this report would, if adopted, affect the rules reflected in the language of this proposed change. If adopted, the language proposed here will be updated to conform with the substance of the State Convention’s decisions on related provisions, following the organizational framework established here.

Note 2 The CBRC is currently considering further reorganizational changes. It is not yet known whether they will, if adopted, be incorporated into this report or be presented separately. In the latter case, this change would be removed from this document and moved to the reorganizational report.

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ARTICLE III
THE PLATFORM

[Contents moved from Article III, Section 2]

Subsection A. Section 1. Ongoing Platform.

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Subsection B. Section 2. DFL Action Agenda.

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Subsection C. Lower Level Section 3. Lower-Level Resolutions.

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Subsection D. Section 4. Accountability.

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Subsection E. Section 5. Adoption and Amendment.

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ARTICLE IV
ENDORSEMENTS AND PARTY SUPPORT

Section 1. DFL Endorsements.

The DFL endorsement constitutes the party’s official position on a public election. An endorsement requires the party to provide official support for a candidate for public office and prohibits support for other candidates in that race. The number of persons endorsed for any office may not exceed the number of positions to be elected. The endorsement in any election terminates upon the swearing in for the office elected.

Section 2. Endorsing Authority.

The DFL State Convention possesses the primary authority to endorse candidates for public office. The State Convention delegates this authority to each endorsing convention, central committee, and commission of the party through this Constitution and Bylaws.

Endorsing Conventions. The State Convention retains the primary authority to endorse candidates for statewide public office. Every congressional district and state senate district are established as endorsing units under this constitution, and each senate district organizes its house districts’ conventions. This Constitution may establish additional jurisdictions as endorsing units. These party organizations hold conventions every election year to consider the endorsements of candidates and support the endorsed candidates in their respective jurisdictions.

Central Committee Endorsements. The endorsing authority in a given jurisdiction devolves to a central committee in between conventions. The central committee may endorse before the primary election in a regular election year only if:

- a. the convention has met to consider the endorsement,
- b. the convention did not endorse any candidate in the race, and
- c. the convention did not prohibit the central committee from endorsing.

Under these circumstances, the central committee must consider endorsing in the election within 30 days after the convention adjourns. The central committee may endorse within 18 days after the primary if the endorsement is vacant. The central committee may also endorse candidates in special elections and may confer provisional endorsements in non-election years.

Other Jurisdictions. The Constitution may also establish other processes for supporting candidates in jurisdictions not established as endorsing units. In these jurisdictions, special endorsing commissions may endorse candidates, and letter of support committees may issue letters of support to candidates.

Bylaw Community Caucuses. Community caucuses designated under this Constitution and Bylaws are empowered to endorse candidates. However, an endorsement by a community caucus does not constitute an endorsement by the DFL Party officially conferred under this article. No candidate, campaign, or individual elected or appointed to a position within the DFL Party may misrepresent a community caucus’ endorsement as an official DFL endorsement.

Section 3. Endorsement Process.

The endorsement process at all levels of the party must afford fairness and transparency to all eligible candidates.

Candidate Eligibility. A convention, central committee, or commission may only endorse candidates who are eligible to appear on the primary election ballot or, if not applicable, the general election ballot. No person who is an active member of another political party may be considered for endorsement.

Geographic Representation. A convention, central committee, or commission voting to endorse a candidate must represent the entire geographic area competent to elect the candidate to the office. Only residents of the area in which an election will occur may vote on the endorsement in that election.

Vote Required. A convention, central committee, or commission may endorse a candidate for public office by a 60 percent affirmative vote of the delegates/members present and voting, excluding blanks, abstentions, and spoiled ballots. A quorum must be present and voting in order to confer an endorsement.

Bylaw Multiple Offices. The number of persons endorsed for any office may not exceed the number of positions to be elected. If more than one candidate is to be elected to the same position on the ballot, the endorsing body may endorse one person per seat to be elected. However, if the endorsing convention, central committee, or commission endorses for some but not all of those positions, all non-endorsed candidates shall be treated as running against the endorsed candidate(s).

Bylaw Ranked Choice. A convention may use ranked choice voting when considering an endorsement. However, a candidate must receive 60 percent of first-ranked votes to receive an endorsement on a ranked ballot. Reallocated votes may only be used in a drop rule and may not be counted toward the 60 percent affirmative vote required to confer an endorsement.

Bylaw No Endorsement. An endorsing body that meets to consider an endorsement may adjourn without an endorsement or affirmatively vote for no endorsement. When this occurs for a given election, the DFL Party takes no official position on that election, and all party units, as well as community caucuses, must immediately cease providing support to candidates in that race.

Balloting for No Endorsement. “No Endorsement” shall always be a valid option on a written ballot for endorsement and must appear on all printed or electronic ballots for endorsement. For the purposes of any drop rule, “No Endorsement” shall not be considered a candidate on a ballot. If the option of “No Endorsement” receives at least 60 percent of the votes on a ballot, then no candidate shall be endorsed prior to the primary.

Motion for No Endorsement. A motion for no endorsement dispenses with further consideration of the endorsement for that office at that meeting and is adopted by a majority vote of the delegates/members present and voting. The rules and/or governing documents for the convention, central committee meeting, or commission may establish special rules of order for the consideration of this motion.

The motion for no endorsement may be qualified, or accompanied by a separate motion, to instruct a central committee not to endorse any candidate for the office prior to the primary. The convention or commission may adopt this motion by a majority vote. In the absence of any direction to the contrary by a convention, a central committee of the proper geographic area may endorse candidates between conventions. An instruction by the convention that the central committee not endorse shall be effective through the primary election, unless otherwise stated by the convention.

Section 4. Provisional Endorsement.

[Contents inserted from Article III, Section I]

The DFL Party may support or fund a candidate for an office, in a calendar year when the office will not appear on the general election ballot if ~~the endorsing jurisdiction’s convention or central committee confers~~ the candidate has received a provisional endorsement. A candidate who is sworn into office with the DFL endorsement shall receive an automatic provisional endorsement unless they choose not to accept it.

A convention, central committee, or commission with endorsing authority in the jurisdiction may also confer a provisional endorsement by a 90 percent vote at a meeting properly called with notice of intent to provisionally endorse. The process of provisional endorsement is subject to ~~Subsection H, above all other requirements for endorsements in election years.~~

A provisional endorsement will expire at the end of the day on December 31st of the calendar year prior to the next election cycle for said office. The central committee of the unit conferring a provisional endorsement may terminate such endorsement at any time by majority vote. A provisional endorsement may not be conferred under this ~~Subsection~~ section, or if already conferred will automatically terminate, when another DFL candidate submits a written statement to the unit chair or to the State ~~Chair~~ DFL chair stating they are running for the endorsement.

Bylaw Acceptance of an automatic provisional endorsement shall be deemed valid when it is given by the endorsee personally and explicitly either on the record at a convention or a central or executive committee meeting of the party organization having jurisdiction over the endorsement or in writing to its chair or secretary.

Section 5. Letters of Support.

[Insert all contents from Article III, Section 4, Subsection J]

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Bylaw A letter of support or similar form of support given by a community caucus does not constitute a DFL Party letter of support and is not governed under the above section.

Section 6. Public Ballot Questions.

[Insert all contents from Article III, Section 15]

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Section 7. Actions Contrary to an Endorsement.

An endorsement requires the State DFL Party, all DFL Party units, all individuals elected or appointed to positions within the DFL Party, and all paid DFL Party staff to support a candidate for public office in public statements and in the execution of any party duties. Failure to satisfy this requirement constitutes nonfeasance.

An endorsement also prohibits the above DFL individuals and entities, as well as DFL-endorsed candidates, from providing support to candidates running against DFL-endorsed candidates. This prohibition extends to support for any position on a Public Ballot Question contrary to a DFL-endorsed position. Support under this section may include, but is not limited to, direct voter contact, donations and participation in fundraising activities, public or widely distributed statements of support, and distribution of campaign materials. Actions that violate this prohibition constitute malfeasance.

Party Officials. Individuals elected or appointed to positions within the DFL Party who commit malfeasance or nonfeasance under this section are subject to discipline or dismissal for cause.

Candidates. The central committee responsible for a given electoral jurisdiction may, by a two-thirds vote, revoke the endorsement or letter of support from a candidate in that jurisdiction who engages in any act of malfeasance or nonfeasance. Revocation of an endorsement or letter of support shall follow dismissal for cause procedures. Only residents of the area in which an election will occur may vote on the revocation of an endorsement or letter of support from a candidate in that election.

Protected Activities. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to prohibit recruitment of candidates. The DFL Party may support, defend, or cooperate with a public official elected with the party's endorsement, letter of support, or nomination, or who caucuses with the DFL Party in the body to which the official is elected. This

support, defense, or cooperation is permitted only to the extent it does not give the elected official an unfair advantage in seeking an endorsement or otherwise interfere with the endorsement process.

ARTICLE III V

GENERAL RULES AND POLICY

[Renumber articles in sequence, and correct internal references]

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Section 2. The Platform.

[Strike all contents, moved to new Article III]

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Section 3. Convention and Committee Rules.

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Subsection H. Official DFL Endorsements.

[Strike all contents]

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Subsection I. Provisional Endorsement.

[Strike all contents, moved to new Article IV, Section 4]

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Subsection J. Letters of Support.

[Strike all contents, moved to new Article IV, Section 5]

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[Renumber subsections in sequence, and correct internal references]

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Section 15. Public Ballot Questions.

[Strike all contents, moved to new Article IV, Section 6]

[Renumber sections in sequence, and correct internal references]

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ADDENDUM A: RULE BOOK OF THE MINNESOTA DFL PARTY

GENERAL RULES

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Automatic Provisional Endorsement Acceptance.

Acceptance of an automatic provisional endorsement shall be deemed valid when it is given by the endorsee personally, explicitly, and in a form that can be publicly substantiated: either on the record at a convention or a meeting of the Central Committee having jurisdiction over the endorsement, or its Executive Committee, or in writing to its Chair or Secretary.

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Endorsement—Medical Emergency. In the event a nominated candidate for endorsement or their immediate family member experiences a medical condition requiring immediate attention, the chair shall immediately call for a vote on

postponement of the endorsement to a time certain, which shall require a majority vote to pass. All other business of the convention will commence per the approved rules and agenda; the only item to be postponed to a time certain is the candidate endorsement in question. The State DFL Party will help the local unit with fees, logistics, and other related issues as a result of the endorsement being rescheduled.

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Proposed Change #3 – Required Business Conferences:

This change would provide for business conferences in all party units. A business conference is a special meeting of the unit central committee held in the odd-numbered year for the purpose of electing the unit officers, except for directors; these are often called the “table officers.” Each unit’s convention would still elect the unit’s directors.

Business conferences arguably foster more sustainable leadership for party units. Electing the chair, vice chair, etc. outside of the campaign year gives them time to prepare and execute a strategy for volunteer and voter engagement. Central committee members are more likely than the convention delegates 1) to be interested in these elections, 2) to have direct experience both with the candidates themselves, and 3) to understand the skills and commitment needed in these roles. Conducting these elections at business conferences rather than conventions would allow more time at conventions for endorsements and delegate elections.

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**ARTICLE III
GENERAL RULES AND POLICY**

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**Section 4. Convention and Committee Rules.
Subsection A. General Rules.**

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Bylaw A party unit may request a variance in convention and business conference scheduling from the windows stated in the Official Call for extraordinary circumstances. The State DFL Chair and a Vice Chair, acting jointly, may approve such a request.

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~~Subsection G. Annual Conventions.~~

~~Organizing Units, Senate Districts, and Congressional Districts may allow for annual conventions in their constitutions. Those units’ conventions shall divide the business conducted between even and odd numbered years. In odd-numbered years, the business shall be to elect the party officers of chair, vice chair, outreach officer~~

~~(if established in the unit’s constitution), secretary, treasurer and any other officers listed for odd-numbered year conventions; adopt or amend a constitution; endorse in special elections if appropriate; adopt resolutions; and conduct informational and training workshops. In even-numbered years, the business shall be to elect remaining party officers authorized by the constitution with the exception of those listed for odd-numbered year conventions, endorse a candidate for public office if appropriate, adopt or amend a constitution, adopt resolutions for platform consideration, elect delegates and alternates to the next higher unit convention, and conduct such other business as may come before it.~~

~~A business conference may be held in place of an odd-numbered year convention if specified in the unit constitution. An amendment to a unit’s constitution providing for a business conference may only be adopted by a 60 percent affirmative vote at the unit’s convention held in an even-numbered year. A business conference may perform all of the duties of the odd-numbered year convention except for amending the unit constitution. The persons eligible to vote at business conferences will be the members of the unit central committee (with their alternates serving as alternates to the business conference) when the business conference is called to order.~~

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**ARTICLE V
ORGANIZING UNITS**

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Section 1. Organizing Units.

Subsection A. Conventions ~~and Business Conferences.~~

An organizing unit convention shall be held in each even-numbered year. ~~Organizing units may hold a convention or business conference in the odd-numbered year if specified in its constitution.~~

Authority. The unit convention shall be the governing body of the organizing unit.

Membership. Unit conventions shall be composed of the following persons who reside within the organizing unit: precinct delegates and alternates seated as delegates; the chair and vice chair of the organizing unit, as well as of any senate district organization that is not an organizing unit, when precinct caucuses are called to order; and Distinguished Party Leader ~~Delegates~~ delegates (as defined in Article III, Section 19). ~~Business conference voting members shall be the members of the unit’s central committee with their alternates~~

~~servicing as alternates to the business conference.~~

Business. The unit convention:

1. shall elect organizing unit ~~officers and officials~~ directors;
2. shall elect delegates and alternates (allocated in accordance with Article III, Section 4) to the State Convention to serve until the next statewide precinct caucuses;
3. shall elect members and alternates to the State Central Committee in accordance with Article VII, Section 4;
4. may adopt or amend the unit constitution;
5. may adopt resolutions for local consideration and select resolutions to submit for potential consideration by the state convention or the state party's ongoing platform and action agenda; and
6. may conduct such other business as may come before it.

~~(For the division of business of annual conventions or business conferences see Article III, Section 4, Subsection G.)~~

Subsection B. Business Conferences.

Each organizing unit shall hold a business conference in each odd-numbered year.

Authority. The organizing unit business conference shall be a special meeting of the organizing unit central committee convened for the purpose of conducting the regular elections of organizing unit officers, except for the directors.

Membership. The voting members of the organizing unit business conference shall be the members of the organizing unit central committee, with their alternates serving as alternates to the business conference.

Business. The organizing unit business conference:

1. shall elect organizing unit officers, except for the directors; and
2. may consider any other business that could otherwise be considered by the organizing unit central committee.

[Reletter subsections in sequence]

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Section 2. Senate Districts.

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Subsection A. Conventions and Business Conferences.

A senate district convention shall be held at least in each even-numbered year. Such conventions may be held concurrently with its house district conventions. In even-numbered years in which the

district does not elect a senator, the house district conventions may become sessions of the senate district convention.

Authority. The senate district convention shall be the governing body of the senate district party.

Membership. Senate district conventions shall be composed of the following persons who reside within the senate district: precinct delegates and alternates seated as delegates and Distinguished Party Leader ~~Delegates~~ delegates (as defined in Article III, Section 19). Additionally, senate district and organizing unit chairs and vice chairs when precinct caucuses are called to order, that reside in the district, shall be delegates. ~~Business conference voting members shall be the members of the unit's central committee with their alternates serving as alternates to the business conference.~~

Business. The senate district convention:

1. shall ~~elect~~ fill vacancies among the senate district officers and officials;
2. shall recruit and may endorse a candidate for the ~~State~~ Minnesota Senate and aid in the election of the candidate; and
3. may conduct such other party business as may come before it.

~~(For the division of business of annual conventions or business conferences see Article III, Section 4, Subsection G.)~~

Subsection B. Business Conferences.

A senate district business conference shall be held in each odd-numbered year. For organizing units that are complete senate districts, the organizing unit business conference elects the officers for the senate district. If a senate district is not established as an organizing unit, the business conference will be held separately.

Authority. The senate district business conference shall be a special meeting of the senate district central committee or special committee convened for the purpose of conducting the regular elections of senate district officers, except for any directors.

Membership. The voting members of the senate district business conference shall be the members of the senate district central committee or special committee, with their alternates serving as alternates to the business conference.

Business. The senate district business conference:

1. shall elect senate district officers, except for any directors; and
2. may consider any other business that could

otherwise be considered by the senate district central or special committee.
[Reletter subsections in sequence]

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Section 3. House Districts.

If a house district is not established as an organizing unit, it will not adopt a constitution or elect officers, and it will operate under the authority of the senate district.

Subsection A. Conventions ~~and Business Conferences.~~

~~In districts electing a member of the State House of Representatives, a~~ A house district convention shall be held each even-numbered year. Such conventions may be held concurrently with the convention of the senate district. ~~A house district established as an Organizing Unit may hold a convention or business conference in the odd-numbered year if specified in its constitution.~~

Authority. The house district convention shall be the governing body of the house district party.

Membership. House district conventions shall be composed of the following persons who reside within the house district: precinct delegates and alternates seated as delegates and Distinguished Party Leader ~~Delegates~~ delegates (as defined in Article III, Section 19). Additionally, senate district and organizing unit chairs and vice chairs when precinct caucuses are called to order, ~~that who~~ reside in the district, shall be delegates. ~~Business conference voting members shall be the members of the unit's central committee with their alternates serving as alternates to the business conference.~~

Business. The house district convention shall recruit and may endorse a candidate for the ~~State Minnesota~~ House of Representatives and aid in the election of the candidate. ~~If the house district is established as an organizing unit, the convention:~~

- ~~shall elect house district officers;~~
- ~~may adopt or amend the house district constitution; and~~
- ~~may conduct such other business as may come before it.~~

~~(For the division of business of annual conventions or business conferences see Article III, Section 4, Subsection G.)~~

**ARTICLE VI
PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS**

Section 1. Conventions.

Each congressional district shall hold a convention in each even-numbered year.

Authority. Congressional district conventions shall be the governing body of the congressional district party. ~~and shall be held each even-numbered year. Congressional Districts may hold a convention or business conference in the odd-numbered year if specified in its constitution.~~

Membership. Congressional district conventions shall ~~be composed~~ consist of State Convention delegates and alternates seated as delegates who reside in the congressional district. ~~Business conference members shall be the delegates of the unit's central committee with their alternates serving as alternates to the business conference.~~

Business. The convention:

1. shall recruit and may endorse a candidate for the United States House of Representatives;
2. shall elect congressional district party ~~officers and officials~~ directors;
3. shall elect two state directors in accordance with Article VII, Section 3;
4. shall elect members of the State Standing Committees in accordance with Article VII, Section 6;
5. shall elect members of the State Central Committee in accordance with Article VII, Section 4;
6. shall elect two persons as voting delegates and two persons as alternates to each State pre-convention committee from among those persons who are either delegates or alternates to the State Convention;
7. may adopt or amend a constitution and any bylaws;
8. may conduct such other business as may come before it; and
9. shall, in presidential election years:
 - a. elect delegates and alternates to the National Convention (allotted to the district in accordance with Article III, Section 4, the ~~Bylaws~~ bylaws, the DFL Rule Book, and the Democratic National Committee National Delegate Selection Rules); and
 - b. nominate a presidential elector and an alternate elector not of the same gender identity.

~~(For the division of business of annual conventions or business conferences see Article III, Section 4, Subsection G.)~~

Section 2. Business Conferences.

Each congressional district shall hold a business conference in each odd-numbered year.

Authority. The congressional district business conference shall be a special meeting of the congressional district central committee convened for the purpose of conducting the regular elections of congressional district officers, except for any directors.

Membership. The voting members of the congressional district business conference shall be the members of the congressional district central committee, with their alternates serving as alternates to the business conference.

Business. The congressional district business conference:

1. shall elect congressional district officers, except for directors; and
2. may consider any other business that could otherwise be considered by the congressional district central committee.

[Renumber sections in sequence]

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Section 5.6. Constitution and Bylaws.

A convention may choose to adopt a constitution to govern the conduct of its affairs, which shall be subordinate to and in compliance with this Constitution and Bylaws and the Official Call. In the event a congressional district does not adopt a constitution, the congressional district shall be governed by this Constitution.

A congressional district may adopt bylaws concerning matters not expressly governed by nor in conflict with this Constitution and Bylaws and the congressional district constitution, even if the congressional district has not adopted a constitution. Bylaws may be adopted or amended by a majority vote of the congressional district convention or by a 60 percent affirmative vote at a meeting of the congressional district central committee. A copy of any proposed changes in the bylaws must be included in the central committee meeting notice.

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ARTICLE IX

OTHER ELECTORAL JURISDICTIONS WITH APPROVED CONSTITUTIONS

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Section 2. Conventions.

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Business. Other electoral jurisdiction conventions shall elect unit ~~officers and officials~~ directors, and may adopt or amend the unit

constitution, and conduct such other business as may come before it.

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Section 3. Business Conferences.

Each unit authorized under this article shall hold a business conference once every two years. Unless otherwise specified in the unit constitution, the unit business conference shall be held in odd-numbered years. If the unit holds a convention to consider endorsement(s) in a year when it would otherwise hold a business conference, the convention may conduct those officer elections, with proper notice, and the business conference need not be held that year.

Authority. The unit business conference shall be a special meeting of the unit central committee convened for the purpose of conducting the regular elections of unit officers, except for the directors.

Membership. The voting members of the unit business conference shall be the members of the unit central committee or special committee, with their alternates serving as alternates to the business conference.

Business. The unit business conference:

1. shall elect unit officers, except for directors; and
2. may consider any other business that could otherwise be considered by the unit central committee.

[Renumber sections in sequence]

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ADDENDUM A: RULE BOOK OF THE MINNESOTA DFL PARTY

GENERAL RULES

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~~Annual Conventions. An organizing unit, senate district, or congressional district shall hold a convention in an odd-numbered year if its constitution provides for annual conventions. Unless otherwise specified, conventions held in odd-numbered years shall be prepared and conducted according to the same procedures as conventions held in even-numbered years. The delegates and alternates elected to the party unit's convention held in an even-numbered year shall be the delegates and alternates to the convention held the following year.~~

~~An approved city or county DFL organization that is not an organizing unit may conduct a convention in an odd-numbered year; however, that is not an "annual convention" as defined in Article III.~~

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~~Pre-convention Committees—Annual Conventions. If established for the annual convention held in an odd-numbered year, each odd-numbered year pre-convention committee shall have the same members as the previous even-numbered year pre-convention committee. The unit central committee may fill~~

~~any vacancies on pre-convention committees with eligible persons (See “Pre-convention Committees—Eligibility” in this Rule Book). If the unit establishes any new pre-convention committee(s) for the odd-numbered year convention, the unit central committee shall elect the members for the new pre-convention committee(s). The odd-numbered year pre-convention committees are distinct committees from the even-numbered year pre-convention committees and thus not subject to any previously made decisions and must elect new leadership.~~

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Proposed Change #4 – Endorsements Language Updates:

These changes update some of the language regarding endorsements in multi-seat races, add examples of prohibited support for non-endorsed candidates, and clarify the effect of a “No Endorsement” vote by a convention.

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**ARTICLE III
GENERAL RULES AND POLICY**

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Section 4. Convention and Committee Rules.

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Subsection H. Official DFL Endorsements.

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If more than one candidate is to be elected to the same position on the ballot, ~~more than one person may be endorsed for that position the endorsing body may endorse one person per seat to be elected.~~ However, if the official DFL convention, commission, or central committee having jurisdiction endorses for some but not all of said same positions, all non-endorsed candidates shall be treated as running against the endorsed candidate(s).

Except as provided below, in any public statements or the discharge of any party duties, members of the DFL Party who are elected or appointed to leadership positions within the DFL Party at every level, DFL Party units at every level, and paid DFL staff must support the DFL-endorsed candidates and public ballot questions and shall not provide support or funds to non-endorsed candidates or public ballot questions. Examples of prohibited support for non-endorsed candidates or public ballot questions may include, but are not limited to direct voter contact, donations and participation in fundraising activities, public or widely distributed statements of support, and distribution of campaign materials. In any public statements or the discharge of any party duties, these members of the DFL Party

and DFL Party units may support a candidate who has a letter of support. In any public statements or the discharge of any party duties, these members of the DFL Party and DFL Party units may support a candidate who meets all of the following criteria: (1) the candidate is seeking an office without party designation; (2) the candidate is not running against a duly endorsed candidate; and (3) no DFL convention, committee, or commission has considered endorsement for the office ~~or, voted specifically for “no endorsement”~~. Nothing in this provision shall be interpreted to prohibit recruitment of candidates. The Party may support, defend, or cooperate with a public official elected with the Party’s endorsement, letter of support, or nomination, or who caucuses with the Party in the body to which the official is elected, as long as such support, defense or cooperation does not give the elected official an unfair advantage in seeking an endorsement or otherwise interfere with the endorsement process.

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Section 7. Party Officer Rules.

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Subsection C. Limitations on Activities.

The State DFL chair and vice chairs and paid employees of the State DFL Party shall refrain from endorsing or promoting the endorsement of candidates prior to their official endorsement by the appropriate party organization. The chair and vice chair of each other party unit shall refrain from endorsing or promoting the endorsement of candidates in their party unit or any lower-level unit prior to the official endorsement by the appropriate party organization ~~or in cases where the endorsing body voted specifically for “No Endorsement.”~~ Nothing in this provision shall be interpreted to prohibit recruitment of candidates. The State DFL chair and vice chairs and paid employees of the State DFL Party shall support only candidates endorsed by the appropriate party organization.

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Proposed Change #5 – Letters of Support Updates:

These changes would update the language governing the letter of support process to clarify the significance of a letter of support and to simplify how the process is explained in party documents.

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**ARTICLE III
GENERAL RULES AND POLICY**

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Section 4. Convention and Committee Rules.

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Subsection J. Letters of Support.

~~Only a letter of support special committee may send a letter of support to a candidate for their promotional use if there exists no DFL party unit for the race for which they are sending a letter, no special endorsing commission has been called for the race, or the special endorsing commission did not endorse and did not bar the letter of support special committee from sending a letter of support. The letter of support special committee must vote by a 60 percent affirmative vote to issue a letter of support. A candidate who receives a valid letter of support may advertise that they have received a letter of support from the DFL Party and may purchase access to the DFL Voter File. A letter of support does not constitute an Official DFL endorsement. No candidate, campaign, or individual elected or appointed to a position within the DFL party may misrepresent a letter of support as an Official DFL endorsement. A letter of support issued before the primary is valid after the primary only if the candidate's name appears on the general election ballot. A letter of support for any candidate shall terminate upon the swearing in for said office. If a candidate who has been issued a letter of support by the DFL Party gives personal endorsement, financial assistance, or other public support or public assistance to any candidate running against a DFL endorsed or officially supported candidate for any public office, or engages in any other act of malfeasance or nonfeasance, the appropriate letter of support special committee may revoke the letter of support by a two thirds vote of the members eligible to vote, following the dismissal for cause procedures.~~

A DFL letter of support identifies a candidate who supports the principles of the DFL Party and allows the party to support their candidacy for nonpartisan public office. A letter of support does not constitute a DFL endorsement. Multiple candidates may receive a letter of support in any election. A candidate who receives a letter of support may advertise that they have received a letter of support from the DFL Party. No candidate, campaign, or individual elected or appointed to a position within the DFL party may misrepresent a letter of support as a DFL endorsement.

Candidate Eligibility. Only candidates for nonpartisan public office who are eligible to appear on the primary election ballot or, if not applicable, the general election ballot may receive a letter of support. No person who is an active member of another political party may receive a letter of support. A letter of support issued before the primary is valid after the primary only if the candidate's name appears on the general election ballot.

Letter of Support Process. A candidate seeking a letter of support should contact the chair of the DFL Party unit responsible for that electoral jurisdiction. A letter of support committee [Revise term throughout] for the electoral jurisdiction may, by a 60 percent affirmative vote, issue a DFL letter of support to one or more candidates in a given race. Only residents of the area in which an election will occur may vote to issue letters of support in that election.

The committee may not issue letters of support when a special endorsing commission has been called for that race. If the special endorsing commission then fails to endorse in that race, the letter of support committee may issue letters of support in the race, provided the commission did not bar the committee from doing so.

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**ARTICLE X
OTHER ELECTORAL JURISDICTIONS
WITHOUT APPROVED CONSTITUTIONS**

Section 1. Electoral Jurisdictions Not Provided for Elsewhere.

In an electoral jurisdiction for which a Constitution constitution does not otherwise provide a means of endorsement, the central committee of the party having the smallest jurisdiction which includes the smallest party unit that includes the entire electoral jurisdiction shall be responsible for the party's affairs in elections in that electoral jurisdiction. This responsibility includes calling special endorsing commissions and letter of support committees.

If the smallest jurisdiction is the entire state, If the electoral jurisdiction includes more than one congressional district, the chair of the Congressional District congressional district containing which contains the largest number share of the electoral jurisdiction's precincts population shall be responsible for calling special endorsing commissions and/or letter of support special committee meetings, unless otherwise provided in

the ~~Bylaws~~ bylaws. The congressional district chair of the ~~Congressional District~~ shall call a special endorsing commission and/or letter of support special committee meeting if demanded by at least one ~~Congressional District~~ congressional district central committee that includes a portion of the electoral jurisdiction.

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Section 3. Letter of Support—~~Special~~ Committee. [Revise term throughout]

Authority.—A ~~letter of support special committee for an election in an electoral jurisdiction for which a Constitution does not otherwise provide a means of endorsement may be called by the central committee~~ The chair of a unit having jurisdiction may call a letter of support committee to consider issuing letters of support to candidates for nonpartisan office for which a constitution does not otherwise provide a means of endorsement. The chair must call a letter of support committee at the request of the unit central committee.

Membership. The members and alternates to the ~~Organizing Unit organizing unit~~ central committee(s) who reside within the electoral jurisdiction shall be members and alternates to the letter of support ~~special~~ committee.

Business. The letter of support ~~special~~ committee ~~shall attempt to solicit all eligible candidates for consideration and consider issuing~~ may issue a letter of support to candidate(s) for each nonpartisan office open for election within their electoral jurisdiction.

Letters of support involving an election in a subjurisdiction of such an electoral jurisdiction may be made by ~~delegates to members of~~ the letter of support ~~special~~ committee who reside within the subjurisdiction.

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Proposed Change #6 – Second Vice Chairs and Other Officers:

Some local party units have requested the ability to elect second vice chairs; some have already created the position in their constitutions. Currently, only the state party is permitted to have a second vice chair. This change would allow units to establish first and second vice chairs in their constitutions.

This change would also update this subsection to include the positions of communications officer and data and technology officer in the list of unit officers and in the order of temporary succession.

All units are currently required to elect or appoint someone to these roles.

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**ARTICLE III
GENERAL RULES AND POLICY**

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**Section 7. Party Officer Rules.
Subsection A. Party Officers.**

~~Party officers~~ Except at the state level, the party officers of any DFL unit or organization are the chair, vice chair (or first and second vice chairs if established in the constitution), outreach officer (if established in a unit's Constitution the constitution or if an Article V or Article VI unit does not adopt a constitution), secretary, treasurer, communications officer, data and technology officer, and any other party officers as may be specified in the constitutions of DFL party organizations. A unit may specify in its constitution a number or a range of directors. Unless specified in the unit's constitution, a unit shall elect a range of directors between 7 and 19.

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Except as otherwise noted, vice chairs shall not be of the same gender identity as the chairs. At least one precinct vice chair shall not be of the same gender identity as the precinct chair. ~~The State First Vice Chair~~ A first vice chair shall not be of the same gender identity as the ~~State Chair chair~~. ~~The State Second Vice Chair~~ A second vice chair may be of the same gender identity as the ~~State Chair chair~~.

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Except at the state level, following each unit's regular election of its chair, the first central or executive committee meeting shall elect from among its executive committee members individuals to fulfill the duties of: communications officer; and data and technology officer. Units may, instead, designate named officers in the unit's constitution to be elected at their convention to serve in these roles.

Except for State Party officers, the order of temporary succession of officers shall be: chair, first vice chair, second vice chair, outreach officer, secretary, treasurer, communications officer, data and technology officer, and members of the executive committee in the order listed on the report of the convention or commission that elected them. The order of temporary succession of State Party officers shall be: chair, first vice chair, second vice chair, outreach officer, secretary, treasurer, and members of the executive committee in the order

listed on the report of the convention or commission that elected them.

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Proposed Change #7 – Public Ballot Questions Updates:

The committee received feedback on its draft report from members of the State Central Committee. One point of feedback was a suggestion to allow letters of support for local ballot measures.

This change simplifies the process by which the DFL takes a position on a public ballot question, such as a state constitutional amendment, city charter amendment, or school levy referendum. Instead of having a separate process, this change would allow the party to support a position using either an endorsement (i.e. by a convention, special endorsing commission, or central committee) or a letter of support.

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ARTICLE III

GENERAL RULES AND POLICY

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Section 15. Public Ballot Questions.

For purposes of this section, the term “Public Ballot Question” means local election ballot questions such as school board levies, local charter changes or local referenda; State Constitutional amendments; or recall attempts as outlined in the Minnesota State Constitution. The DFL Party may take a formal position on any Public Ballot Question in the same manner as it provides official party support to candidates for public office in the electoral jurisdiction that will vote on the Public Ballot Question. The question before the body must clearly state whether the party is urging the public to cast a “yes” or a “no” vote on the particular question. If available, the actual language that will appear on the election ballot must be provided to the delegates/members. The process for taking a formal DFL Party position on any Public Ballot Question and, if desired, placing the question on the official DFL Sample Ballot, is as follows: A Convention or Central Committee of a party unit may, at least 35 days prior to the election, take a formal stand on a Public Ballot Question by a 60 percent affirmative vote. The motion before the body must clearly state whether the party unit is urging the public to cast a “yes” or a “no” vote on the particular question. If available, the actual language that will appear on the election ballot must be provided to the

~~delegates/members. When a Central Committee is the body being asked to take a position, the notice of the meeting must indicate that taking an official position on a Public Ballot Question will be considered at the meeting.~~

~~—The Convention or Central Committee of the DFL party unit having the smallest jurisdiction which includes the entire electoral district that will vote on the Public Ballot Question is the body that will have authority for taking an official stand on that question and determining whether that stand will appear on the official DFL Sample Ballot. Only the members of that body who reside in the electoral district will vote on the Public Ballot Question will be eligible to vote on taking the position.~~

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Proposed Change #8 – Clarifying Levels of the Party:

This change would enumerate some additional electoral jurisdictions in which the party organizes. Other provisions in the party documents refer to “lower-level” and “higher-level” units, conventions, committees, etc. (See Art. III, § 7(C); § 9; and § 19 for examples). This change would clarify how those references apply to these different jurisdictions.

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ARTICLE III

GENERAL RULES AND POLICY

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Section 17. Ranking of DFL levels.

The levels of the DFL are ranked from highest to lowest as follows: ~~State, Congressional, Organizing Unit, any Endorsing Jurisdiction not otherwise referenced in this list (such as metro counties or rural senate districts), and Precinct~~ state, congressional district, organizing unit, senate district, house district, county, other electoral jurisdictions larger than a senate district in population, city, other electoral jurisdictions smaller than a senate district in population, ward, and precinct. At each level, any constitutionally established bodies are ranked from highest to lowest as follows: ~~Caucus/Convention, Central Committee, and Executive Committee~~ caucus/convention, central committee, and executive committee.

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Proposed Change #9 – Official State Party Records:

This proposed change clarifies that the state party committees must keep the official versions of their committee documents with the state party headquarters.

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ARTICLE III
GENERAL RULES AND POLICY
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Section 20. Repository of Official DFL Records.

State DFL governing bodies (State Convention, State Central Committee, and State Executive Committee) and all of their respective standing committees must keep all of their official minutes, documents, files, and any confidential material at the Minnesota DFL state party headquarters in the custody of the DFL executive director and/or their designee.

Proposed Change #10 – History Committee Updates:

The History Committee requested these updates to their section in the bylaws. These updates would:

1. codify the membership of the committee,
2. establish a term of appointment for the members of the committee,
3. clarify the committee’s responsibilities,
4. enumerate the duties of the historian, and
5. formalize the process for soliciting and recommending nominees for the Hall of Distinguished Service.

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ARTICLE VII
STATE PARTY ORGANIZATION
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Section 2. DFL Elected Officials’ Delegates/Directors.

The State DFL Chair shall convene a convocation of elected public officials prior to the congressional district conventions. In a presidential election year, the convocation shall be held the first Saturday following the date of the precinct caucuses. To be eligible to participate in the convocation, elected public officials must consider themselves members of the DFL party and must have participated in the DFL precinct caucus in the year the Convention occurs. The business of the convocation shall be to elect three directors to serve on the State Executive Committee for a term of two

years, 10 members to serve on the State Central Committee for a term of two years, two members to serve on the History Committee for a term of two years, and five delegates from each Congressional District to serve as delegates at-large to all DFL conventions and endorsing commissions whose boundaries include their residence. No alternates shall be elected. The aforementioned delegates/directors shall serve on the appropriate committees at all levels of the party. This convocation shall fulfill the delegate election guidelines applicable under the Constitution and Bylaws. An individual who is serving as a member or alternate to the State Central Committee or State Executive Committee at the time of their election on a partisan ballot shall become an alternate to the members elected to the same body under this section for the remainder of the term.

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Section 6. State Party Standing Committees.
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I. History Committee/~~Historian.~~

Membership. The State DFL History Committee shall consist of: ~~the Historian and any other members that the State Party Chair appoints. The Committee nominates members for admission to the Hall of Distinguished Service, and performs such other duties as the Central Committee or the Chair assigns.~~

1. the State DFL historian;
2. the State DFL secretary;
3. two members from each congressional district appointed by the State DFL chair (in consultation with the State DFL historian);
4. up to one member nominated by each Community Outreach Organization/Caucus and appointed by the State DFL chair (in consultation with the State DFL historian);
5. two elected officials as defined in Article VII, Section 2; and
6. any additional persons nominated by the State DFL historian and appointed by the State DFL chair.

Members listed in item 3 above shall be appointed in each even-numbered year after an application process that starts no later than eight weeks before the first State Central Committee meeting following the State Convention. Members in item 4 shall be nominated by their respective entities and be appointed by the time of the same State Central Committee meeting as those of item 3. All members in items 3-6 shall serve a term beginning at the adjournment of the first State Central Committee meeting above and serve until the adjournment of the first State Central Committee meeting following the next State Convention in the following even-numbered year.

Historian. ~~The Chair appoints a Historian, who chairs the History Committee, and performs such other duties as the Central Committee or the Chair assigns. The State DFL historian shall be appointed by the State DFL chair. The historian shall serve at the pleasure of the State DFL chair for a term of office to coincide with the term of the State DFL chair who appointed them. The historian shall chair the History Committee and perform such other duties as the State Central Committee, State Executive Committee, or the State DFL chair may assign. Such other duties may include but not be limited to~~

working with the Minnesota Historical Society regarding archival transfers, historic preservation of important DFL artifacts or records, and conducting research to provide the State DFL chair with historical context for current issues and topics of interest to the DFL.

Responsibilities. The History Committee shall elect a co-chair, who shall not be of the same gender identity as the historian, from among its members to assist the historian with committee operations and reporting. The History Committee shall have the responsibility to nominate members for induction into the Hall of Distinguished Service. The History Committee shall have other such responsibilities and perform such other duties as the State Central Committee, State Executive Committee, or the State DFL chair assigns.

Hall of Distinguished Service. The highest honor that the Central Committee confers is admission to the Hall of Distinguished Service. The Committee may annually admit up to four members after a report from the History Committee. The highest honor that the State Central Committee may confer upon a member of the DFL is admission to the Hall of Distinguished Service. The State Central Committee may, upon the recommendation of the History Committee, admit annually up to four new members. The History Committee shall solicit and review nominations and report their recommendations to the State Central Committee. The History Committee shall establish a nominations process and evaluation matrix that at minimum has clear and transparent criteria that is widely promulgated throughout the DFL Party membership.

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Proposed Change #11 – SCC Email List:

Members and alternates serving on the State Central Committee (SCC) are granted access to an email listserv these persons can use to communicate with all other SCC members and alternates. It is currently used to share business for upcoming meetings, information about fundraising and volunteer events, and updates from the State DFL Party.

It also serves as a discussion forum for members to exchange views about a variety of topics. These exchanges have become heated at times, to the point that state party officers or staff have needed to temporarily close the listserv to new posts.

This proposed change would remove the listserv’s function as a discussion forum and limit its use to sending out notices, providing updates and information from staff, and distributing proposals for new business from SCC members.

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ARTICLE VII

STATE PARTY ORGANIZATION

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Section 3. State Party Officers.

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Bylaw All candidates for state party office shall declare their self-identified racial and gender identities.

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Secretary. The Secretary shall be in charge of all the files and records of the party and of preparation of necessary documents. The Secretary shall preserve such files and records and open them for examination at convenient and appropriate times at the request of any duly elected State Central Committee member.

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Email list. The Secretary will maintain an email list, such as the Google Groups list “dfl-state-central,” ~~for the Central Committee’s members and business for the purpose of sending out official notices, key updates, information from the Minnesota DFL staff, and new business from State Central Committee members.~~ This list is the Party’s principal medium of communication with, ~~and forum for the exchange of views among,~~ the Central Committee’s members. This list is open only to each incumbent member; the staff; each federal or state constitutional officer or legislator who was elected with the Party’s endorsement or nomination, or who caucuses with the Party; each candidate endorsed or nominated by the Party to whom the list will be open if elected; each other member of a Standing Committee, established under the constitution or bylaws, or of a subcommittee established under the rules of the Central Committee or Executive Committee; and any other party member whose access the Chair, Secretary, Central Committee, or Executive Committee approves. The Secretary manages the list, with assistance from the Chair, Vice Chairs, Outreach Officer, and Treasurer, as needed. Subject to the Central Committee’s review, these officers may collectively make rules for the list, ~~and after a warning may moderate or otherwise restrict the access of any participant who violates any such rule.~~ Members may consent to meeting notice by way of the email list.

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Proposed Change #12 – List Policy Updates

These changes are intended to clarify critical features of the DFL List Policy, define proper usage of DFL lists and rosters, and standardize the process for requesting these materials. Most of the other changes eliminate redundant or confusing language without changing the substance of the policy.

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ARTICLE VII

STATE PARTY ORGANIZATION

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Section 4. State Central Committee.

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~~**Bylaw — Roster.** The roster is available to any party officer in any party unit, regardless of whether the roster covers the officer’s unit, for fundraising and other Party business. If a member notifies the Secretary in writing that they prefer their email address not be public, then the Secretary will honor that preference, as long as the member lets the Party publish their~~

postal address. If a member notifies the Secretary in writing that they prefer that their postal address not be public, and that they waive notice by postal mail and will accept notice by email, then the Secretary will honor that preference and will publish only the member's email address and not their postal address. The Secretary will communicate any notice that they receive from a member under this bylaw to the secretary or chair of any lower level party unit in which the member serves. The secretary will register members and issue credentials for each meeting. The roster is presumed correct without a report to or action by the meeting, but any member may appeal to the meeting the secretary's failure to register or issue credentials to them, or challenge the secretary's registration or issuance of credentials to another member.

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ADDENDUM A: RULE BOOK OF THE MINNESOTA DFL PARTY

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DFL LIST AND ROSTER POLICY

Section 1. Purpose and Scope. This List and Roster Policy is adopted for the primary purpose of helping elect DFL candidates to public office and, with that primary purpose in mind, for the purposes of ensuring equal and fair access to lists and related information for all units and candidates. ~~This policy covers the lists of all DFL units, including the State Party.~~ This policy covers precinct caucus lists (see Section ~~2~~ 4), rosters (see Section ~~3~~ 5), and volunteer lists (see Section ~~4~~ 6). This policy does not cover the voter file, or any other proprietary database, ~~which the United Democratic Fund maintains or manages; or any donor list, fundraising list, or other special purpose list (see Section 5).~~

Section 2. Authorized Users.

Candidates and interested members, as defined below, may request access to lists and rosters controlled under this policy.

Public Office Candidate. A "public office candidate" means a candidate for elected public office person who is (A) seeking elected public office at the next election in Minnesota for that office, who (A) (B) has complied with all requirements for registering, reporting, and filing under the applicable election laws and campaign-finance laws; (B) (C) is seeking the DFL endorsement or, nomination, or letter of support; and (C) (D) is not running against a candidate that the Party party has endorsed; and (E) shares and supports DFL Party principles and values.

Party Office or Appointee Candidate. A "party office or appointee candidate" means a person who is (A) seeking election or appointment to a specified office or other position within the DFL Party; (B) a DFL Party member in good standing; and (C) in compliance with all relevant requirements for that election or appointment.

Interested Member. An "interested member" means any DFL member who requests access to a roster of members of a convention or governing committee who represents the requestor.

Section 3. Proper Usage and Misuse.

All DFL party officers who originate, enter, report, or have access to data governed under this policy are responsible for using such data only for official party purposes in accordance with their defined powers and duties under applicable party documents. Party officers may not share such data except as

authorized under this policy. Improper usage and actions contrary to this policy constitute malfeasance.

Candidates and interested members who have obtained data under this policy are responsible for using such data in accordance with this policy. These persons may use these data to contact party members to:

- a. promote the election, nomination, endorsement, or other official support of a public office candidate;
- b. promote the election, endorsement, or appointment of a party office or appointee candidate;
- c. recruit staff and/or volunteers to assist with either of the above activities; or
- d. disseminate information relevant to upcoming elections, endorsements, or other business before a DFL convention, commission, committee, or office.

Each communication made using data obtained under this policy, must clearly and truthfully identify the source of the communication by name.

A candidate or interested member who obtains data under this policy may not share such data with any other persons or entities, except for those working or volunteering with their campaign for the purposes outlined above. All candidates and interested members who obtain such data must take reasonable steps to prevent unauthorized access by other persons or entities.

No data obtained under this policy may be used to promote the election of any candidate for public office who does not support the principles of the DFL Party, is an active member of another political party, or is running against a DFL-endorsed candidate.

Use of data obtained under this policy for purposes other than those outlined above, or contrary thereto, shall constitute misuse. Use of such data in violation of any other provisions of this policy or the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws shall also constitute misuse.

Section 2 4. Precinct Caucus Attendee Lists

Sign-in sheets. The Party will supply a sign-in sheet for each precinct caucus, on which each member participating in the caucus must (1) furnish at least their name and the postal address at which they vote, and (2) sign a statement showing that they satisfy the requirements for participating in the caucus. The sign-in sheet will also include space for the member's telephone number and e-mail address, with a statement that the Party and its candidates may contact the member by e-mail for organizing and other campaign-related purposes.

Fee. The State Party Chair, in consultation with the State Party Treasurer, may establish a fee that a candidate must pay for access to a caucus list. The fee should approximately recapture the cost of compiling and maintaining the lists, without earning an excessive return on that investment. The Party will post the fee schedule on its website. The Chair, in consultation with the Treasurer, may adjust the fee, but no adjustment increasing the fee will take effect until at least 30 days after the increase is posted on the website.

Precinct Caucus Attendee List. Precinct caucus in-person and non-attendee participation forms are protected at all times.

Availability. The information from precinct caucus lists is available, upon request to the relevant party chair after reasonable notice, to each public office candidate who (1) is endorsed, provisionally endorsed, or provided with a letter of support, and (2) is seeking an office for which the members in that precinct can vote, without fee. Each unit chair or their designee whose unit has jurisdiction over that precinct and each precinct party officer of the same precinct are given access to a

precinct caucus attendee list, without a fee. No person may take photographs or otherwise capture information from precinct caucus sign-in sheets or other attendance forms, unless acting on behalf of the party.

Public office candidates who are unendorsed or without a letter of support must pay an applicable fee before being given access to a precinct caucus list. Information in precinct caucus lists is not available to candidates seeking party office or appointments or to any other interested party member.

E-mail access. The DFL Party will not disclose the actual email addresses from the caucus lists to an unendorsed candidate, ~~but~~. The party may sell access in the form of the right to forward a message to the listed members via email through the Party party. Each such communication must let any member opt-out of any future electronic mailing ~~via the Party~~ from that candidate's campaign via the party.

Availability. ~~The information from the caucus sign-in sheets for a precinct is available, upon request after reasonable notice, to (1) each candidate seeking an office for which the members in that precinct can vote, upon payment of any applicable fee (if established by the unit's executive or central committee); (2) each endorsed candidate seeking an office for which the members in that precinct can vote, without a fee; and (3) each party officer whose unit covers that precinct, without a fee.~~

Section 3.5. Rosters

"Roster" defined. ~~For this policy's purposes, a~~ A "roster" means any directory or other list of party members elected or appointed as officers, committee members, delegates, ~~or alternates by that unit to any office, or other office of a convention, endorsing commission, central committee, or executive committee, or committee~~ within the DFL. A "roster" does not include a precinct caucus attendee list or any other list. The party may publish any such list in a printed, electronic, or online directory.

Accountable representatives. Availability. ~~By accepting their election or appointment, the officers, delegates, alternates, and other members of the Party's party's conventions, commissions, and governing committees, who represent and lead the Party's party's members and who make in making decisions on their behalf, As such, these elected or appointed members exercise a semi-public role in which they are accountable to the constituencies that elected or appointed them and to the constituencies that their decisions affect. Whenever Therefore, whenever a convention, commission, or a governing committee meets, any candidate for public or party office and any other interested DFLer who so requests is authorized users (see Section 2) are entitled to communicate (at their own expense) with the members to whom notice was given, in the same manner in which the Party party sent the notice, if they reside in the jurisdiction of that convention, commission, or committee. The unit secretary and other officers must furnish to any qualifying candidate for public or party office or to any other interested DFLer who so requests the mailing or other list or interested member roster that was used in sending the notice, if so requested. A unit must also provide rosters to another unit if the unit's central or executive committee so requests them. The Party may publish any such list in a printed, electronic, or online directory.~~

Availability to party officers. ~~Any roster is available to any party officer in any unit, regardless of whether the roster covers the officer's unit, for fundraising and other Party business.~~

Withholding address contact information.

~~**E-mail address.** If an officer, committee member, delegate, or alternate whose name appears on a roster notifies All officers, committee members, delegates, or alternates whose names appear on a roster must allow the electing unit's secretary to publish their contact information. However, these persons may notify their electing unit's secretary in writing that they prefer that either their e-mail or postal address (but not both) not be public, then the Party will honor that preference, as long as the member lets the Party publish their postal address.~~

~~**Postal address.** If an officer, committee member, delegate, or alternate whose name appears on a roster notifies their electing unit's secretary in writing that they prefer that their postal address not be public, and that they waive notice by postal mail and will accept notice by e-mail, then the secretary will honor that preference and will publish only the individual's e-mail address and not their postal address.~~

~~**Waiver of notice.** Any request for withholding of an email or postal address constitutes a waiver of notice by that contact method and acceptance of notice by another method.~~

~~**Notice-Notification to other units.** The electing unit's chair or secretary will communicate any notice that they receive from an the withholding request of any officer, committee member, delegate, or alternate under this Section to the secretary or chair of any lower-level or higher-level unit, as applicable, on which the officer, committee member, delegate, or alternate automatically serves by operation of their position.~~

~~**Register.** The unit secretary, with input from the other officers (and the staff at the State Party), will keep a register of the rosters that the party furnishes, noting when, to whom, and on what basis each roster was furnished.~~

~~**Section 4.6. Volunteer Lists.** For this policy's purposes, a A "volunteer list" means any list generated from the database that the unit maintains of its members, activists, and volunteers. A volunteer list is available, after appropriate training, to (1) each unit's chair and vice chair, and up to one other member that the unit designates as its volunteer list manager, with respect to their unit; and (2) each endorsed~~

~~**Availability.** A volunteer list that a unit maintains is available to that unit's chair, vice chair, and any other member(s) that the unit designates as its volunteer list manager(s). After appropriate training, a volunteer list is available, without fee, to each public office candidate with an endorsement, and their campaign staff, with respect to the jurisdiction in which the candidate is seeking election. A volunteer list is generally not available to any candidate other than an endorsed candidate. The unit chair, after notice to the unit's executive committee, may make a volunteer list available to other candidates on terms comparable to the terms for availability of a caucus list (including the provisions as to a fee, an agreement, and opting out), as long as any such list is available on the same terms to all candidates for a given office.~~

~~**Section 5.7. Special-Purpose Lists.** For this policy's purposes, a A "special-purpose list" means any list that an officer or employee generates for a particular purpose not otherwise governed under this policy, such as fundraising. A "special-purpose list" would include, for example, a list of (1) guests invited to a meeting or other event, (2) members or guests who attend a meeting or other event, or (3) prospective donors or volunteers.~~

~~**Availability.** The unit need not disclose any special purpose list except as its central committee, executive committee, or chair directs. If the unit does disclose a special-purpose list to any unendorsed candidate, then it must disclose that list on the same terms to any other candidate seeking the~~

same office. The unit reports the contributions that it receives, and the donors from which it receives them, as the law requires. That information is available in the public record as the law provides. The unit need not otherwise publish or share its list of donors or prospective donors.

Section 8. Request Agreements and Prior Use Review.

Persons requesting access to a DFL list or roster must sign a request agreement. No such access may be granted to any person who has previously misused any list or roster as determined by the unit chair or, upon successful appeal, the State DFL chair.

The request agreement shall state:

- a. the name and contact information of the requestor;
- b. the name of any campaign or organization on whose behalf the request is made;
- c. the office sought by the candidate, if a campaign;
- d. the requestor's position with the campaign or organization, if applicable;
- e. the list or roster requested;
- f. the purpose for which the list or roster is requested;
- g. that the requestor, by signing, confirms all information stated in the agreement is correct;
- h. that the requestor has the authority of the campaign or organization to request and use the list or roster, if applicable;
- i. that the requestor agrees to use this list exclusively for the purpose specified;
- j. that the requestor and any campaign or organization they represent agrees to not sell the list or roster, or share it with anyone outside themselves or, if applicable, the campaign or organization; and
- k. that the requestor and any campaign or organization they represent understands they are bound by all relevant provisions of the DFL List and Roster Policy.

Record Keeping. The unit secretary shall maintain a record of each request agreement; whether the request was granted and, if not, the reason the request was denied; and any misuse of the list or roster.

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Proposed Change #13 – Chairs Emeriti on the State Executive Committee

The State DFL chair is empowered to nominate individuals for the honor of being designated as chairs emeriti by the State Convention. This change would add those designated chairs emeriti as members of the State Executive Committee.

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ARTICLE VII

STATE PARTY ORGANIZATION

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Section 5. State Executive Committee.

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Membership. The State Executive Committee shall consist of the state party officers, the finance chair, the chair and vice chair of each congressional

district, three voting directors elected by DFL elected officials (as defined in Article VII, Section 2), the president of the MYDFL, Chairs Emeriti members, and voting directors elected by each of the other Community Caucuses (as provided in Article VIII, Section 2). It shall also include as non-voting members, the chair(s) of each constitutionally authorized Standing Committee, and members of the National Committee not elected by the State Convention or State Central Committee. In addition, the most recent former ~~State Party Chair~~ state party chair, assuming they were not removed from office, shall be a voting member of the State Executive Committee if they participated in the most recent precinct caucuses and accepts the position. The former ~~State Party Chair~~ state party chair shall not be an ex-officio member of any lower-level executive committees.

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Proposed Change #14 – Reports of Standing Committees:

This new language helps clarify the role of state party standing committees and codifies existing understandings of the State Executive Committee's authority with respect to reports of these committees.

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ARTICLE VII

STATE PARTY ORGANIZATION

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Section 6. State Party Standing Committees.

State party standing committees are established to assist with the governance and operation of the party. These committees report to the governing bodies of the state party and make recommendations as appropriate. No standing committee has the authority to make binding decisions on behalf of the party, except as explicitly provided for in this Constitution and Bylaws.

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Bylaw All standing committee reports to the State Central Committee may be reviewed ~~or~~ and amended by the State Executive Committee. The State Executive Committee may also recommit, with or without instructions, or indefinitely postpone any standing committee reports to the State Central Committee, with the exception of those reports required under this Constitution and Bylaws.

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Proposed Change #15 – State Party Standing Committees Cleanup:

These changes update the names of standing committees in line with previously adopted changes and reorders the committee bylaws to match their order in constitutional language. The change also splits the bylaws under Article VII, Section 6 into one defining individual committees’ membership and responsibilities and another providing general rules for state party standing committees.

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**ARTICLE VII
STATE PARTY ORGANIZATION**

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Section 5. State Executive Committee.

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Business. The State Executive Committee shall be responsible to the State Central Committee for the general management of the party’s business. It may also establish temporary committees. It may elect an attorney or human resources professional to the Personnel Advisory Committee pursuant Article VII, Section 6, Bylaw sub-item F. It shall establish a budget, including salaries, subject to State Central Committee approval. The State Executive Committee shall decide any appeal of a challenge decision issued by the full membership of a Standing Committee in accordance with rules for appeals adopted by the State Executive Committee.

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Section 6. State Party Standing Committees.

State party standing committees shall include but not be limited to: Outreach and Inclusion Committee; Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee; Platform and Issues Committee; Party Affairs and Coordinated Campaign Committee; Nominations and Search Committee; Budget Committee; Personnel Advisory Committee; Operations Committee; Code of Conduct Committee; and History Committee; and shall function as described in the below Bylaws. The State Central Committee may establish other standing committees through the Bylaws. No alternates shall be elected.

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~~Bylaw—In 2022 the State Chair, in consultation with the State Executive Committee, shall appoint four members from each Congressional District to the newly created Nominations and Search Committee no later than six weeks before the first State Central Committee Meeting following the 2022 State Convention.~~

~~In 2024, and in all subsequent bienniums, each Congressional District will elect its four members at the Congressional District Convention held in even-numbered years.~~

~~Bylaw In 2022 the The term for members of the newly created 2022-2024 Nominations and Search Committee will begin began at the adjournment of the 2022 State ~~DFL~~ Convention and shall end at the adjournment of the first State Central Committee meeting following the 2024 State ~~DFL~~ Convention.~~

~~Bylaw All committee members shall serve a term commencing at the adjournment of the first State Central Committee meeting following the State Convention held in even-numbered years. The term of office of the standing committee members shall expire upon the adjournment of the first State Central Committee following the State Convention held in the next even-numbered year. All committees shall present their recommendations to the appropriate governing bodies. No alternates shall be elected.~~

Bylaw State Party Standing Committee Membership and Responsibilities.

A. Outreach and Inclusion Committee.

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~~**I-I. Code of Conduct Committee.**~~

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~~**I-J. History Committee/Historian.**~~

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Bylaw General Provisions for State Party Standing Committees.

A. Terms of Office. All state party standing committee members shall serve a term commencing at the adjournment of the first State Central Committee meeting following the State Convention held in even-numbered years and expiring upon the adjournment of the first State Central Committee meeting following the State Convention held in the next even-numbered year.

K-B. Resignation by Unexcused Absence. Any member of a standing committee, other than ~~ex officio~~ ex officio members, who shall have three consecutive unexcused absences from committee meetings, if notified by the committee after two such absences, shall be considered to have resigned, and the position shall be declared vacant.

L-C. Vacancies. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appropriate central committee or other body responsible for filling vacancies in such position.

M-D. “Twin Cities Metro Area” Defined. For the purposes of ~~this~~ bylaws governing state party standing committees, “Twin Cities Metro Area” is defined as the set of Minnesota counties under the current jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Council, as authorized by statute.

Bylaw—E. Reports and Recommendations. All committees shall present their recommendations to the appropriate governing bodies. All standing committee reports to the State Central Committee may be reviewed or amended by the State Executive Committee. Any proposal by any other DFL task force or committee within the authority of a state party committee shall be made available to the appropriate committee prior to the next State Central Committee meeting.

~~Bylaw Any proposal by any other DFL task force or committee within the authority of a state party Committee shall~~

~~be made available to the appropriate Committee prior to the next State Central Committee meeting.~~

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Proposed Change #16 – Party Affairs Committee Updates:

The Party Affairs and Coordinated Campaign Committee requested these updates to their section in the bylaws. The committee sought to change their name to simply the “Party Affairs Committee” because the current name has led to confusion about its role in directing or advising the DFL Coordinated Campaign. In reality, the committee has little contact with or influence over the Coordinated Campaign, which is run by the United Democratic Fund. These updates would bring the description of the committee’s responsibilities into line with the reality of the work it does.

Note If this change is adopted, all references to the “Party Affairs and Coordinated Campaign Committee” will be updated to read “Party Affairs Committee” throughout the document.

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**ARTICLE VII
STATE PARTY ORGANIZATION**

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Section 6. State Party Standing Committees.

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D. Party Affairs ~~and Coordinated Campaign~~ Committee.

Membership. The Party Affairs ~~and Coordinated Campaign~~ Committee shall consist of:

1. two members elected by the State Executive Committee;
2. two members elected by each congressional district in even-numbered years; ~~and~~
3. 11 members (at least four from outside the Twin Cities Metro Area, as defined below) elected by the State Central Committee; ~~and~~
- 3.4. ~~the DFL training and party affairs director, as an ex officio non-voting member.~~

Responsibilities. The Party Affairs ~~and Coordinated Campaign~~ Committee shall have ~~as the following~~ minimum ~~objectives~~ responsibilities:

1. ~~Work~~ The committee shall work with the ~~DFL State Chair, Party Affairs Director, and the Coordinated Campaign Director~~ state party chair and the training and party affairs director to facilitate close coordination of policies and initiatives of party activities ~~and related campaign activities.~~
2. ~~Work~~ The committee shall work with DFL staff and relevant committees to conduct ~~trainings~~ training for party organizations, leaders, and volunteers.
3. ~~Serve~~ The committee shall serve as liaisons between local party units and officers, and the State DFL staff

to facilitate communication between DFL staff and party officers.

~~4. Be responsible for working with the State Chair to encourage the Coordinated Campaign and local party units to exchange the necessary support to be successful in achieving their respective goals, and for advocating that the Coordinated Campaign and local party officers understand and respect each other’s goals.~~

~~5.4. Review~~ The committee shall review the biennial reports of the ~~Community Outreach Organizations~~ community outreach organizations and community caucuses and make ~~recommendations~~ appropriate reports to relevant governing bodies of the party for each ~~(continuing with Community Outreach Organization status, awarding Community Caucus status for the next biennium, or proposing dissolution of inactive Community Outreach Organizations).~~

5. The committee shall work with the DFL training and party affairs director to survey party units at all levels, to assess strengths or weaknesses of the party at all levels, to put together plans to remedy weaknesses identified in infrastructure and to facilitate the exchange of best practices between party units across the state.

6. The committee shall work with the DFL training and party affairs director to study and recommend structures for party organization throughout the state.

7. The committee shall advise and coordinate with the State DFL Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee with respect to training and compliance concerning the calls, constitutions, bylaws, and rules, as well as with respect to the oversight of entities authorized by Article VIII of this Constitution.

8. The committee shall coordinate with the State DFL Platform and Issues Committee with respect to training concerning resolution writing and organizing unit resolution committee best practices.

9. The committee shall coordinate with the State DFL Outreach and Inclusion Committee with respect to training on affirmative action, outreach, and inclusion.

Proposed Change #17 – Community Outreach Organizations:

The Party Affairs and Coordinated Campaign Committee (PACCC) solicited feedback from community outreach organizations and community caucuses on the most recent biennial reviews of these groups. These changes are based on that feedback, as well as the experience of the CBRC with reviewing the governing documents of these organizations.

The changes proposed remove the PACCC from any perceived role of adjudicating the reports and activities of these organizations. Instead, any decision to recommend the downgrading or de-recognition of an organization would run through the State Executive Committee. The proposed changes would also allow for new organizations to be considered for caucus status after one year of existence, rather than two.

The changes coming from CBRC clarify some of the requirements for the governing documents of community outreach organizations.

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ARTICLE VII

STATE PARTY ORGANIZATION

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Section 6. State Party Standing Committees.

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B. Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee.

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Responsibilities. The Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee shall have as minimum objectives:

- 1. Perform periodic reviews of the following documents in relation to the Constitution and Bylaws of the DFL Party, with a view toward resolving any conflicts with the Constitution:
 - a. The National Charter of the Democratic Party.
 - b. The DFL Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Plan.
 - c. Delegate Selection Rules for the Democratic National Convention.
 - d. Minnesota Election Laws.
 - e. Governing documents of organizations authorized in Article VIII;
 - e-f. Constitutions of subordinate DFL organizations, as prescribed in Article IX, Section 1-; and
 - f-g. Standing Rules of the DFL State Executive and Central Committees.

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- 5. ~~Advise~~ The committee shall advise and coordinate with Party Affairs and Coordinated Campaign Committee with respect to training and compliance concerning the calls, constitutions, bylaws, and rules, as well as with respect to the oversight of entities authorized by Article VIII of this Constitution.

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ARTICLE VIII

COMMUNITY OUTREACH ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITY CAUCUSES

As detailed in this Article, the DFL Party may advance its electoral goals by ~~forming formally~~ authorizing organizations (known as “Community Outreach Organizations”) whose purpose is to reach out to, organize, and represent communities within Minnesota that are not geographically defined, with an emphasis on communities that have been historically disenfranchised or underrepresented. Community Outreach Organizations that meet certain criteria will, on approval by the State Central Committee, be recognized as Community Caucuses, a periodically renewable status that confers on them certain additional, limited powers, including endorsement and the possibility of representation on the State Executive Committee.

Each Community Outreach Organization or Caucus exists to embody and strengthen the relationship between its community and the DFL Party and to deepen their mutual commitment, understanding, and accountability; to integrate and mobilize the community within the Party and the Party within the community; to encourage and develop leaders within the community who can run for public office, assume Party leadership positions, and carry the Party’s message back to the community; to engage the community in the electoral process through voter registration, voter education, candidate endorsements (within the limits detailed in this Article), campaign support, and get-out-the-vote efforts; to remind the Party of and help it fulfill its obligations of outreach, inclusion, and affirmative action; and to help unify the Party by finding common cause with the Party’s other communities.

Annual meetings of community outreach organizations and community caucuses shall be defined as constitutionally required meetings and be subject to the rules which apply to conventions in Article III. All other meetings of community outreach organizations shall be subject to the rules which apply to committee meetings in Article III.

No organization proposing to be a community outreach organization or community caucus may use the initials “DFL” or the name “Democratic–Farmer–Labor” in its name until it has satisfied all of the conditions required by this article and been duly authorized by the State Central Committee.

Section 1. Authorized Community Outreach Organizations.

The State Central Committee may authorize a new Community Outreach Organization within the Party if it meets all of the following criteria:

- 1. It has at least 25 members who meet the requirements of Article I, Section 2.
- 2. It represents a community within the Party which is not defined by its geography (i.e., a geographic area in Minnesota smaller than the entire state).
- ~~3.—It has not yet been authorized under this article.~~
- ~~4.3.~~ It has adopted governing documents which are approved by the DFL State Party Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee. Said governing documents shall:
 - a. define what constitutes active membership (or membership in good standing) in the organization ~~(including payment for dues and stating that dues are voluntary);~~

- b. clearly state that any dues or fees are always voluntary;
- c. not include dues, fees, or waiver thereof as a requirement for active membership;

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Each Community Outreach Organization shall be subject to the requirements of this section even if it has not adopted conforming changes to its constitution.

~~5.4.~~ It has obtained the approval of the State Executive Committee, which has determined that authorization of the organization advances the electoral goals of the Party.

~~6.5.~~ It has obtained approval of the State Central Committee after satisfying the criteria in Paragraphs-items 1-54, above.

~~Annual meetings of Community Outreach Organizations shall be subject to the rules which apply to conventions in Article III. All other meetings of community outreach organizations shall be subject to the rules which apply to committee meetings in Article III.~~

~~No organization proposing to be a Community Outreach Organization or Community Caucus may use the initials "DFL" or the name "Democratic-Farmer-Labor" in its name until it has satisfied all of these conditions:~~

Bylaw The following Community Outreach Organizations have been authorized: African American Caucus, Asian American Pacific Islander Caucus, Disability Caucus, Environmental Caucus, Feminist Caucus, Hmong American Caucus, Movimiento, formerly known as the Latino Caucus, Minnesota Asian Indian Democratic Association, Minnesota Young DFL, Muslim Caucus, Native Peoples Caucus, Progressive Caucus, Rural Caucus, Senior Caucus, Somali American Caucus, Stonewall DFL, and Veterans and Military Families Caucus. (Last amended 12 August 2023).

Section 2. Community Caucuses.

A Community Caucus is a Community Outreach Organization which, pursuant to Section 3, has been determined to be a Community Caucus following review of its most recent biennial report. In the case of a newly formed or reformed community outreach organization, this report shall cover the most recent full year or more of its existence.

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Community Caucus status must be renewed each biennium. A Community Caucus that fails to file a biennial report, or whose report does not ~~pass review~~ meet the requirements under Section 3 shall revert to a Community Outreach Organization ~~or be dissolved following review by the State Central~~

~~Committee.~~

A community outreach organization may apply for community caucus status after one full year or more of existence as a community outreach organization. The organization may apply by submitting a report equivalent to the biennial report described in Section 3 covering the most recent full year or more of its existence as a community outreach organization.

Each Community Caucus, except MYDFL, is allotted one voting director to the State Executive Committee. ~~(Per Article VII, Section 5, the President of MYDFL is an automatic member of the State Executive Committee.)~~

Bylaw July 1, 2023 – 2025 Community Caucuses. The following Community Outreach Organizations have attained the status of Community Caucus for the 2023-2025 biennium: African American Caucus, Asian American Pacific Islander Caucus, Disability Caucus, Environmental Caucus, Hmong American Caucus, Movimiento, formerly known as the Latino Caucus, Minnesota Asian Indian Democratic Association, Minnesota Young DFL, Muslim Caucus, Native People’s Caucus, Progressive Caucus, Rural Caucus, Senior Caucus, Stonewall DFL, and Veterans and Military Families Caucus. (Last amended 12 August 2023).

~~**Bylaw July 1, 2021 – 2023 Community Caucuses.** The following Community Outreach Organizations have attained the status of Community Caucus for the 2021-2023 biennium: Disability Caucus, Environmental Caucus, Hmong American Caucus, Minnesota Asian Indian Democratic Association, Minnesota Young DFL, Muslim Caucus, Native Peoples Caucus, Rural Caucus, Senior Caucus, Stonewall DFL, and Veterans Caucus.~~

Bylaw. The voting director to the State Executive Committee from each Community Caucus (further referenced as “Voting Director”) shall be one of the following:

1. a person elected from among its members at the annual meeting of the Community Caucus. ~~If elected as a separate position the Voting Director, who~~ shall be an ~~additional~~ automatic member of the Community Caucus’s executive committee;
2. a specific officer named in the Community Caucus’s approved governing documents; or
3. a person elected by the Caucus’ executive committee from among its officers, if stated in the Community Caucus’s approved governing documents.

The term of a Community Caucus’s Voting Director shall be two years and shall be from July 1 of the odd-numbered year, or from the first date of the organization’s community caucus status, whichever is later, through June 30 of the following odd-numbered year. Starting in 2025 the Voting Director’s term shall begin at their election at the Annual Meeting of the Community Caucus in the odd-numbered year, or, in the event of a subsequently authorized community caucus, the even-numbered year, and shall end at the time of the Annual Meeting of the Community Caucus ~~two years later in the subsequent odd-numbered year~~. In the event of a vacancy, the highest-ranking officer of the organization shall serve as the Voting Director for that caucus for no more than 120 days following the occurrence creating the vacancy. The term of the Voting

Director shall immediately terminate if the Community Caucus is determined to have lost its Community Caucus status before the end of the Voting Director's two-year term. To be eligible, each Community Caucus voting director to the State Executive Committee must have participated at their most recent statewide precinct caucus.

Section 3. Biennial Reports to Renew Authorization.

Each Community Outreach Organization previously authorized under Section 1 must file a biennial report or, in the case of a newly authorized community outreach organization, an equivalent report for its term of existence of one year or more, with the State Party Affairs and Coordinated Campaign Committee in order to renew its Section 1 authorization and, if appropriate, its Section 2 ~~designation-authorization~~ as a Community Caucus. Any change in Community Outreach Organization or Community Caucus status is effective upon the adjournment of the meeting at which the action is taken. ~~Reports~~ Biennial reports shall cover the period of January 1 of an odd-numbered year through December 31 of the following even-numbered year, and shall be filed on or before January 31 of the following odd-numbered year. Reports for newly authorized community caucuses or community outreach organizations shall cover the period from the date of authorization through December 31 of the following even-numbered year and shall be filed on or before the immediately subsequent January 31. The report shall contain:

1. a list of the officers of the organization at the end of the reporting period;
2. either (i) a copy of the active membership roster as of the end of the reporting period (including member name, ~~membership date~~, address, and either phone number or email) or (ii) a certification from State Party staff following their review of that roster (certifying information required in the "Criteria for a Community Caucus" Bylaw, below);
- ~~3. the number of active members at the beginning and end of the reporting period;~~
- ~~4.~~ 3. copies of its current governing document(s), including bylaws and other subordinate documents, approved by the State DFL Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee within the biennium and in effect at the end of the reporting period;
- ~~5.~~ 4. a financial statement covering ~~both years of~~ the reporting period;
- ~~6. an activities report detailing the completion of activities, such as those described in the~~

~~"Criteria for a Community Caucus" Bylaw, below; and~~

5. an identification and brief description of activities held during the reporting period; and
- ~~7.~~ 6. any additional information the caucus wishes to report-

If any Community Outreach Organization (including any Community Caucus) has not filed a report that complies with these requirements by January 31 of ~~an odd-numbered~~ the applicable year, then the State Party Affairs and Coordinated Campaign Committee shall remind the organization in writing about this requirement. If a complete report is not received by the State Party Affairs and Coordinated Campaign Committee within 60 days after the reminder has been sent, then the State Party Affairs and Coordinated Campaign Committee must notify the organization (by notice mailed to the last known address of the organization's chair and through at least two other methods) ~~that it is subject to dissolution by the State Central Committee under the terms of this Article. The proposed dissolution shall appear on the agenda for the first State Central Committee meeting held at least 30 days after the State Party Affairs and Coordinated Campaign Committee mailed notice of the proposed dissolution.~~ that the organization is out of compliance with this Constitution and consideration of actions in response will appear on the agenda of the next State Executive Committee meeting. Possible actions by the State Executive Committee include suspension of all rights as a community outreach organization or community caucus until a satisfactory report has been filed with the State DFL Party Affairs Committee, reorganization of the organization under the auspices of the State Executive Committee, and recommendation that the State Central Committee change the organization's status as a community outreach organization or community caucus.

Bylaw Guidelines for Reports. The State DFL Party Affairs Committee may, in partnership with community outreach organizations and caucuses, develop guidelines for reports. Any guidelines for reports covering a given biennium must be published no later than July 1 of the even-numbered year of that biennium. Such guidelines do not constitute rules and do not impose additional requirements for reports or for community outreach organizations and community caucuses beyond those described in this Constitution and Bylaws.

Bylaw Review of Reports. The report of each Community Outreach Organization (whether or not it has attained the status of Community Caucus) shall be reviewed by the DFL State Party Affairs and Coordinated Campaign Committee based upon the criteria below. The Committee may adopt

~~interpretative rules to guide its review in consultation with Community Outreach Organizations. Such rules must be adopted and disseminated to Community Outreach Organizations by July 1 of the even numbered year of the reporting period to be valid for the review. The State DFL Party Affairs Committee shall review the report of each community outreach organization or community caucus based upon the criteria below.~~ This review shall be completed, and the results communicated back to the organization, in time for the results of the review and the Committee’s recommendation to be placed on the agenda for the next State Central Committee meeting, but no later than 30 days prior to the next State Central Committee meeting. The DFL State Party Affairs and Coordinated Campaign Committee shall review all reports and submit its recommendations for consideration at the first State Central Committee meeting held after the Business Conference in odd-numbered years, unless the report is submitted more than 45 days late. Reviews of such late reports shall be completed and the results communicated back to the organization, in time for the results of the review and the Committee’s recommendation to be placed on the agenda for the second State Central Committee meeting after the Business Conference.

Bylaw Criteria for a Community Caucus. To be considered a Community Caucus for the current biennium, a Community Outreach Organization’s biennial report shall show that it met the following four criteria during the previous biennium (for existing Community Caucuses) or during the just-ended ~~even numbered~~ year (for organizations seeking to become new Community Caucuses):

1. It maintained an active membership of at least 25 individuals;
2. It organized in multiple representative community locations seeking both metro and greater Minnesota membership representation, when available;
3. It held meetings at least ~~four~~ five times per year (~~in addition to including~~ the annual meeting of its full membership); and
4. It completed at least three activities per year that meaningfully engaged its membership and the community. ~~Examples of such activities include, but are not limited to:~~
 - a. ~~Hosting or co-hosting a fundraising event for the organization or the party;~~
 - b. ~~(Existing Community Caucuses only.) Endorsing a candidate and actively engaging at least 5 percent of eligible voters within the endorsee’s district;~~
 - c. ~~Sponsoring or co-sponsoring a public exhibit, membership drive, or information session about the organization itself or about the DFL Party;~~
 - d. ~~Conducting a program of mentorship for new members throughout the year; or~~
 - e. ~~Hosting or co-hosting a culturally relevant issue-based educational or advocacy event in the community at large.~~

Bylaw The State Party shall partner with Community Outreach Organizations and Community Caucuses, upon request, to build capacity to conduct activities ~~enumerated in Paragraph 4 of the preceding Bylaw.~~

Section 4.—Dissolution Revocation of Authorization.

The State Central Committee may ~~dissolve~~ revoke a Community Outreach Organization’s or Community Caucus’s authorization for ~~any~~ cause,

provided that notice of the proposed ~~dissolution~~ revocation is included in the timely notice of the meeting ~~distributed as provided in Article III, Section 8, Subsection A,~~ and a copy of said notice is mailed to the last known address of the organization’s or caucus’s chair by the same deadline. If the authorization of an organization is ~~dissolved~~ revoked, it shall no longer be either a Community Caucus or Community Outreach Organization.

Bylaw The State Party shall remove from the website the name of any organization ~~which is dissolved whose authorization is revoked~~ under this ~~Section~~ section.

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Proposed Change #18 – Other Electoral Jurisdictions (City and County units) Updates:

This change would apply to those party units authorized separately from the organizing units, senate districts, and congressional districts; currently, these are all the city units and Anoka, Ramsey, Sherburne, and Scott Counties.

Three important changes are:

- 1) to authorize each unit’s constitution may designate additional at-large delegates to its convention, beyond those now defined in Section 2;
- 2) to permit these units to authorize a range of directors in line with other party units; and
- 3) to clarify the process by which these units amend their constitutions, adopt bylaws, and submit these documents for approval by the CBRC.

The remaining changes are intended only to clean up outdated language.

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**ARTICLE IX
OTHER ELECTORAL JURISDICTIONS
WITH APPROVED CONSTITUTIONS**

Section 1. Other Electoral Jurisdictions

In an electoral jurisdiction not otherwise established in this Constitution, the State Central Committee may establish a unit by approving that unit’s constitution. ~~Other electoral jurisdictions shall submit constitution amendments adopted by the unit to the State Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee for approval.~~

Bylaw The following other electoral jurisdictions have constitutions that have been approved: Anoka County, Brooklyn

Center City, Brooklyn Park City, Duluth City, Maplewood City, Minneapolis City, Ramsey County, Richfield City, Roseville City, Saint Paul City, Scott County, and Sherburne County.

Section 2. Conventions.

~~An other electoral jurisdiction convention. The convention for each unit authorized under this article shall be held as specified in the unit constitution.~~

Authority. The unit convention shall be the governing body of the unit.

Membership. Delegates and alternates shall be elected in proportion to the ~~Democratic Farmer-Labor DFL~~ Party Candidates Average Vote (defined in Article III, Section 11) and for a remaining fraction thereof. However, no ~~unit precinct~~ shall be allocated fewer than two delegates.

For an electoral jurisdiction equivalent to, or smaller than, a ~~senatorial senate~~ district in population, the delegates and alternates elected at precinct caucuses within that jurisdiction shall be delegates and alternates to the convention.

For an electoral jurisdiction larger than a ~~senatorial senate~~ district in population, excluding cities of the first class, the delegates and alternates to the State Convention who reside within the jurisdiction, or the convention delegates and alternates elected at either precinct caucuses or organizing unit conventions within that jurisdiction shall be delegates and alternates to the convention.

For cities of the first class, the delegates and alternates to convention shall be elected in accordance with their constitution. The date and arrangements of these caucuses and conventions shall be established by the central committee having jurisdiction.

In addition, the membership of all other electoral jurisdiction conventions shall include Distinguished Party Leader Delegates (as defined in Article III, Section 19).

~~Each unit's constitution may provide for one or more at-large delegates without alternates in addition to those listed above.~~

Business. Other electoral jurisdiction conventions shall elect unit ~~officers and officials directors~~, and may adopt or amend the unit constitution, and conduct such other business as may come before it.

Section 3. Officers.

The party unit officers shall consist of a chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer, directors, and such other officers as may be specified in the unit constitution. A unit shall specify in its constitution a

number or a range of directors between 7 and 19.

Section 4. Central Committee.

Authority. The unit central committee shall be the governing body of the unit between conventions.

Membership. Unless otherwise specified in the unit constitution, for an electoral jurisdiction equivalent to, or smaller than, a ~~senatorial senate~~ district in population, the unit central committee shall consist of the executive committee, precinct chairs, and each member of the higher level central committees residing within the unit.

Unless otherwise specified in the unit constitution, for an electoral jurisdiction larger than a ~~senatorial senate~~ district in population, the unit central committee shall consist of the executive committee and each member of the congressional district executive committee(s) residing within the unit.

Section 5. Executive Committee.

Authority. The unit executive committee shall be the governing body of the unit between meetings of the central committee.

Membership. Unless otherwise specified in the unit constitution, for an electoral jurisdiction equivalent to, or smaller than, a ~~senatorial senate~~ district in population, the unit executive committee shall include the unit officers and each member of the higher level executive committee residing within the unit.

Unless otherwise specified in the unit constitution, for an electoral jurisdiction larger than a ~~senatorial senate~~ district in population, the unit executive committee shall include the unit officers and the highest-ranking member of each higher level executive committee residing within the unit.

Section 6. Constitution and Bylaws.

Once approved by the State Central Committee, the constitution of a unit authorized under this article may be amended by a majority vote of the unit convention. The constitution shall be subordinate to and in compliance with this Constitution and Bylaws and the Official Call.

Unless otherwise specified in the unit constitution, a unit may adopt bylaws concerning matters not expressly governed by nor in conflict with this Constitution and Bylaws and the unit constitution. Bylaws may be adopted or amended by a majority vote of the unit convention or by a 60 percent affirmative vote at a meeting of the unit central committee. A copy of any proposed changes

in the bylaws must be included in the central committee meeting notice. A unit constitution may further restrict the ability of the unit central committee to adopt bylaws.

Each unit authorized under this article must submit its constitution and any bylaws to the State DFL Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee for approval at least once every even-numbered year. The unit must also submit its constitution and any bylaws following the adoption of each amendment of the constitution and following the adoption or amendment of any bylaws.

Section ~~6~~ 7. Operations of Other Electoral Jurisdictions.

Other electoral jurisdictions shall follow the election laws and guidelines of regular caucuses and conventions, including the general rules and policies in Article III hereof.

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Proposed Change #19 – Other Electoral Jurisdictions (City and County) Endorsement Rule:

This change would apply to endorsements in those party units authorized separately from the organizing units, senate districts, and congressional districts; currently, these are all the city units and Anoka, Ramsey, Sherburne, and Scott Counties.

Under this change, endorsements in these units could only be issued by a single 60 percent affirmative vote of the delegates at a convention or the members at a central committee meeting. Successive ballots (second, third, fourth, etc. ballots) on the endorsement would be prohibited. Instead, if no candidate is endorsed on the first ballot, then there is no endorsement. However, the top two candidates who received at least 15 percent of the vote on the first ballot would automatically receive a letter of support.

This change aims to reduce the occurrence of lengthy, caustic conventions in these units. It also seeks to reduce divisions within the party by requiring a clear consensus for the party to take a position in a given race. This way, volunteers would not be required to take a leave of absence or resign their position to work for a candidate in a closely contested election where no single candidate enjoys consensus support within the party.

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ARTICLE IX

OTHER ELECTORAL JURISDICTIONS WITH APPROVED CONSTITUTIONS

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Section 2. Conventions.

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Business. Other electoral jurisdiction conventions shall elect unit officers and officials, and may adopt or amend the unit constitution, and conduct such other business as may come before it.

Single-Ballot Endorsement. Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution and Bylaws to the contrary, conventions for electoral jurisdictions shall endorse or issue letters of support to candidates for public office. The convention may take only one ballot on endorsement in any race, and there shall be no reallocation of votes.

Letters of Support. Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution and Bylaws to the contrary, if no candidate is endorsed on that ballot, a letter of support shall be issued to the top two candidates who received at least 15 percent of the vote.

A letter of support issued under this procedure entails all the rights, privileges, and limitations of a letter of support issued by a letter of support committee. It also constitutes an exception to the usual prohibition against party units and officials providing support to unendorsed candidates after a convention meets and does not endorse any candidate in a given race.

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Proposed Change #20 – Delegation of Constitutional Amending Authority to SCC:

This proposed change would codify the practice of the State Convention referring the consideration of amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws to the following meeting of the State Central Committee (SCC). The State Convention has frequently adopted a motion to this effect in the past, which it has always been entitled to do. This change would clarify that, in such a circumstance, the SCC will have been properly delegated that authority to amend the Constitution. It would also raise the quorum threshold for an SCC meeting considering constitutional changes under this section.

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**ARTICLE XI
AMENDING PROCEDURES FOR
CONSTITUTION**

This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the delegates at any State Convention of the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party. The State Convention may, by a simple majority vote, delegate the business of amending this Constitution to the State Central Committee to occur at its first meeting following the State Convention. The threshold for quorum at such a State Central Committee meeting shall be one third of the voting membership with 40 percent of organizing units represented. Amendments will take effect upon adjournment of the Convention or meeting at which it was adopted.

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Proposed Change #21 – Precinct Caucus Accommodations:

This proposed change would transfer the responsibility for accommodations at precinct caucuses from the state party to the local party units. This change would conform the documents both to practice and to practical realities. The committee believes each local unit is best positioned to work with individuals requesting accommodations at the precinct caucuses the unit conducts.

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**ADDENDUM A: RULE BOOK OF THE
MINNESOTA DFL PARTY**

GENERAL RULES

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Accessibility—Requests for Accommodation. (...)

Requests for accommodation at ~~precinct caucuses~~, State Central Committee meetings, State Executive Committee meetings, State Standing Committee meetings, State Conventions, and other State DFL-sponsored activities (for example: fundraising events, political rallies, and election night parties) shall be submitted to the State DFL Party office. Requests for accommodation at events, meetings, precinct caucuses, and conventions sponsored by all other party units and Community Outreach Organizations shall be submitted to the chair of the unit/organization.

The State DFL Party shall be responsible for expenses incurred in fulfilling reasonable requests for accommodation at State DFL-sponsored activities ~~and precinct caucuses~~. All other party units and Community Outreach Organizations shall be responsible for expenses incurred in fulfilling reasonable requests for accommodation at their events, meetings, and conventions.

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Proposed Change #22 – Reorganization of Contents:

This resolution of the State Convention would direct the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee (CBRC) to undertake a process of drafting non-substantive changes to the Constitution and Bylaws to improve its clarity and organization. It would further empower the State Central Committee to adopt these changes upon the report of the CBRC, which would be presented no later than the meeting where the next Official Call is considered.

The resolution aims to reorganize the contents of the Constitution and Bylaws to make their order more intuitive and to find simpler ways to express the ideas contained in the document. It also allows for this work to be taken up before the normal timeframe when the CBRC would be recommending substantive revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws.

Note The CBRC is considering rescinding this proposed change if the committee completes this process of reorganization and adds those recommended changes to this report at its May 19 meeting.

**RESOLUTION OF THE DFL STATE
CONVENTION**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE STATE CONVENTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC-FARMER-LABOR PARTY OF MINNESOTA:

1. The Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee is directed to draft and propose amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws to improve its clarity by removing obsolete and inconsequential provisions, by improving its organization, and by correcting grammar and style of language, but without making any substantive changes in the effect of the document;
2. The Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee shall report these proposed amendments to the State Central Committee for consideration no later than the meeting where the 2026-2027 Official Call is proposed; and

3. The State Central Committee shall be empowered to adopt these proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws with immediate effect upon adjournment of the meeting at which they were adopted.

Revision history:

Revision 000: Initial report

Revision 001: Corrected an engrossing error in Change #19

Revision 002: Removed an unrelated change from Change #19