

Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee Draft report for SCC comment.

This draft report has been created to seek feedback from the SCC. This draft incorporates the major substantive changes proposed for inclusion in our 2020 State Convention report. Please be aware that we expect further revisions to our report based on the feedback received. Our committee members will be presenting our final draft of the State Convention report to the Congressional District conventions in 2020. Based on feedback received from the Congressional District conventions, further changes may be considered by the committee.

Please submit your feedback no later than December 21, 2019.

Please submit your feedback via Google Forms:

<https://forms.gle/vkSjESBcb8R19AnP6>

(Phonetic alphabet for the end of the address: victor – kilo – SIERRA – juliet – ECHO – SIERRA – BRAVO – charlie – bravo – Eight – ROMEO – One – Nine – ALPHA – november – PAPA - Six)

Sincerely,

Chris Thorp and Jill Garcia

Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee Co-Chairs

Note: additions are underlined and deletions are in ~~striketrough~~. The vertical ellipsis (:) represents unchanged text that isn't included in the report for brevity. The changes are presented in the order in which they appear in the Constitution and Bylaws. Purely conforming, cleanup, or other typographical changes have been omitted from this request for feedback. Each change is presented 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.

Change #1:

The Platform, Issues, and Legislative Affairs committee requested that their section of the Constitution and Bylaws be revised to reflect the actual process used for the past several 2-year cycles.

ARTICLE III

GENERAL RULES AND POLICY

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Section 2. The Platform.

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Subsection E. Adoption and Amendment.

The ongoing platform may be amended by the State Convention, and an Action Agenda ~~item~~ shall be adopted by the State Convention, both by a 60% affirmative vote of all ballots cast, including abstentions, but not including spoiled ballots. Changes to the ongoing platform can only be made by the State Convention.

Bylaw Petition Resolutions–

1. Petition resolutions submitted for adoption at State Convention

Petition resolutions to amend the ongoing platform or add an action agenda item, signed by 250 of the state convention delegates or alternates, representing no fewer than 2 Congressional Districts, and 5 Organizing Units, and turned into the State Platform, Issues, and Legislative Affairs Committee by the Thursday before the state pre-convention committee meetings, will be considered for inclusion in the state Convention Platform report and ballot. The Platform, Issues, and Legislative Affairs Committee shall review the proposed petition resolutions and prepare them for inclusion in the convention report and platform ballot.

2. Petition Resolutions submitted for adoption at State Central Committee

a. Petition resolutions proposing additional action agenda items, representing no fewer than 2 Congressional Districts, and 5 Organizing Units, signed by 250 of the state convention delegates or alternates, and handed in to the convention secretary by the close of business of the convention, will be forwarded to the State Central Committee for consideration.

b. Additional Action Agenda items may be adopted as follows:

~~Additional Action Agenda items may be proposed by~~
~~petition~~ Petition Resolutions proposing additional
action agenda items, signed by at least 40-150
delegates or alternates of to the State Central
Committee, representing no fewer than 2
Congressional Districts, and 5 Organizing Units, and
submitted to the State Platform, Issues, and
Legislative Affairs Committee with a copy to the
State DFL Chair will be forwarded to the State
Central Committee for consideration.

c. Process for State Central Committee consideration

1. The Platform, Issues, and Legislative Affairs Committee shall edit and review the proposed Action Agenda item and submit the revised proposal, if any, and a copy of the original petition, including the names of the original signers, to the State DFL ~~chair~~ Chair for inclusion in the notice of the next State Central Committee meeting.
2. The Platform, Issues, and Legislative Affairs Committee shall present the proposed Action Agenda item to the State Central Committee at its next meeting.
3. No additional Action Agenda item may be considered by the State Central Committee unless it was included in the published notice of that State Central Committee meeting.
4. Any proposal may be removed from consideration, at either the Platform Committee or the State Central Committee level, at any time prior to final approval by a two-thirds vote of the petitioners.

Bylaw Action Agenda Guidelines.

1. No additional Action Agenda item shall be in opposition to the ongoing platform.

5.2. No Action Agenda item shall be considered in any platform process at the state level unless its proposers or petitioners represent no fewer than 2 Congressional Districts, and 5 Organizing Units.

3. An additional Action Agenda item shall be adopted upon receiving a 60% affirmative vote of those voting on the issue at the State Convention or State Central Committee.

6.4. All Action Agenda items are eligible for inclusion in legislative priorities.

7.5. Additional ~~All~~ Action Agenda items shall expire when the next State Convention convenes.

~~8. Additional Action Agenda items are eligible for inclusion in legislative priorities.~~

ARTICLE VII

STATE PARTY ORGANIZATION

Section 6. State Party Standing Committees.

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.

C. Platform, Issues, and Legislative Affairs Committee.

Responsibilities. The Platform, Issues, and Legislative Affairs Committee shall have as minimum objectives:

1. Develop platform criteria and form procedures for the ongoing process of resolutions from the caucuses and an orderly procedure for the convention.
2. Monitor and evaluate for informational purposes the implementation of platform planks by appropriate governmental bodies and report the results to the appropriate party officials.
3. Recommend to the State Central Committee for their approval specific legislative priorities, taken only from the DFL Ongoing Platform or Action Agenda, which shall be utilized in meeting with DFL legislators to discuss the legislative priorities of the DFL Party.
4. Bring to the attention of subsequent caucuses and conventions those platform planks which have, and those which have not, been enacted. It may identify current and timely issues that are not addressed in the platform in order to present them to the appropriate governing bodies.
5. The Committee may develop task forces and may hold hearings between conventions.
6. The Committee shall not issue a resolution or issue statement as an official position of the DFL Party, but may present resolutions to the State Convention, Business Conference, State Central Committee, or State Executive Committee. It may develop a manner for topical issues to be developed and a procedure to recommend to the State Central Committee for action.
7. The Committee shall present specific recommendations for inclusion in the Official Call and act as the state pre-convention committee. The pre-convention committee report shall be available for delegates and alternates in printed form and on the DFL website at least one week before the state convention.
8. The Committee shall advise and coordinate with the Party Affairs and Coordinated Campaign Committee with respect to training concerning resolution writing and organizing unit resolution committee best practices.

ADDENDUM A: RULE BOOK OF THE MINNESOTA DFL PARTY

GENERAL RULES

Action Agenda—Guidelines. No Action Agenda item shall be in opposition to the ongoing platform. No Action Agenda item shall be considered in any platform process at the state level unless its proposers or petitioners represent no fewer than 2 Congressional Districts, and 5 Organizing Units. An Action Agenda item shall be adopted upon receiving a 60% affirmative vote of those voting on the issue at the State Convention or State Central Committee. All Action Agenda items are eligible for inclusion in legislative priorities. All

Action Agenda items shall expire when the next State Convention convenes.

Change #2:

To improve the fairness and transparency at conventions, this change requires that at least one of the convention/business conference co-chair(s) must have been trained and certified by the State Party.

**ARTICLE III
GENERAL RULES AND POLICY**

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

Bylaw At least one convention co-chair presiding at a convention or business conference shall have received training and have been certified by the State DFL Party. Certification will last for a specific amount of time prescribed by the State Party and will require recertification at the end of that period. The State Party will keep a list of those people certified and willing to fulfill these roles, and will make it available for units to use in planning and holding their convention or business conference. A person may ask to be added or removed from the list if they are duly trained and certified. The State Executive Committee, in consultation with State Party Staff, will hear and rule on any challenges to a person being added to, being barred from being added to, or being removed from the list of certified convention officers and will be the final authority on such matters. Additionally, each party unit and commission is strongly urged to have at least one of their leaders go through the training and certification process to provide guidance for their party unit or commission. Party units may request a waiver from this requirement from the State Party Chair in advance of their convention or business conference.

Change #3:

Incorporating feedback received during and the 2018 State Convention, this change will allow the even-numbered year convention of an Organizing Unit or Congressional District to opt to hold a business conference for their odd-numbered year elections (if they optionally choose to have an odd-numbered year convention/business conference).

This opt-in proposal includes additional safeguards to ensure it is strongly supported by the unit's even-numbered year convention.

**ARTICLE III
GENERAL RULES AND POLICY**

Section 4. Convention and Committee Rules.

Subsection G. Annual Conventions.

~~A constitution of an organizing unit~~Organizing Units, as defined in Article V, or of a congressional district and Congressional Districts may allow for annual conventions in their constitutions. ~~If the unit constitution allows for annual conventions,~~ Those units' conventions shall divide the business conducted ~~for biennial conventions~~ as follows: Odd-numbered years — elect the party officers of chair, vice chair, outreach officer (if established in the unit's constitution), secretary, and treasurer, adopt or amend a constitution, endorse in special elections if appropriate, adopt resolutions, and conduct informational and training workshops; Even-numbered years — 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. An organizing unit in its constitution may establish a separate outreach officer.

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% 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.

**ARTICLE V
ORGANIZING UNITS**

Section 1. Organizing Units.

Subsection A. Conventions and Business Conferences.

An organizing unit convention shall be held in each even-numbered year. ~~An organizing unit constitution may allow for annual conventions.~~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 when precinct caucuses are called to order, and Distinguished Party Leader Delegates (as defined in Article III, Section 20). 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 unit convention shall elect organizing unit officers and officials, elect (in accordance with Article III, Section 4) delegates and alternates to the State Convention to serve until the next statewide precinct caucuses, and may adopt or amend the unit constitution, adopt resolutions for platform consideration, and conduct such other business as may come before it. (Annual conventions and business conferences see Article III, Section 4, Subsection G.)

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Section 2. Senate Districts.

For organizing units that are complete senate districts, the senate district convention and organizing unit convention may be held concurrently. If a senate district is not established as an organizing unit, the convention will be held separately. A Senate District may hold a convention or business conference in the odd-numbered year if specified in its constitution.

Subsection A. Conventions and Business Conferences.

In districts electing a member of the State Senate, a convention shall be held each even-numbered year. Such conventions may be held concurrently with house district conventions. In 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 (as defined in Article III, Section 20). Additionally, 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 shall elect senate district officers and officials, shall recruit and may endorse a candidate for the State Senate and aid in the election of the candidate. The convention may conduct such other party business as may come before it. (Annual conventions and business conferences see Article III, Section 4, Subsection G.)

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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 convention ~~may~~ 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 (as defined in Article III, Section 20). Additionally, 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 house district convention shall recruit and may endorse a candidate for the State 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, adopt or amend the house district constitution, and conduct such other business as may come before it. (Annual conventions and business conferences see Article III, Section 4, Subsection G.)

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ARTICLE VI
PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

Section 1. Conventions.

Authority. Congressional district conventions shall be the governing body of the district and shall be held each even-numbered year. ~~A congressional district constitution may allow for annual conventions.~~ 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 of ~~the following persons who reside within the congressional district:~~ State Convention delegates and alternates seated as delegates, who reside in the congressional district organizing unit from which elected, State Party officers at the time of the congressional district convention and Distinguished Party Leader Delegates (as defined in Article III, Section 20). 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 shall elect congressional district party officers and officials. It shall be the function of the convention to endorse a candidate for the United States House of Representatives in accordance with Article III, Section 4. The convention shall elect two persons, either delegates or alternates to the State Convention, for membership on each pre-convention committee established by the State Executive Committee, and two persons either delegates or alternates to the State Convention, to serve as alternates to each pre-convention committee. In presidential election years the convention shall also nominate a presidential elector and an alternate elector not of the same gender identity, and elect the National Convention delegates and alternates allotted the district in accordance with Article III, Section 4, the Bylaws, the Rule Book, and the rules and directives of the State Executive Committee and Democratic National Committee. The convention may adopt or amend a constitution. The convention may adopt petition resolutions for platform consideration and conduct such other business as may come before it. (Annual conventions and business conferences also see Article III, Section 4, Subsection G.)

Change #4:

This change clarifies endorsements in multi-seat races.

Note: this change does not reflect other changes to this section (i.e. it is a free-standing change)

ARTICLE III
GENERAL RULES AND POLICY

Section 4. Convention and Committee Rules.

Subsection H. Official DFL Endorsements.

Official DFL endorsement of a candidate for public office requires a 60 percent affirmative vote of those delegates present and voting at the convention, central committee, or commission making the endorsement, and every ballot shall be a test of a quorum. No convention, central committee, or commission representing a geographical area less than the area competent to elect the public official may endorse a candidate. No one may vote to grant or revoke an endorsement unless they are a resident of the area in which that election will occur. An endorsement given before the primary is valid after the primary only if the candidate's name appears on the general election ballot. The Official DFL endorsement for any endorsee shall terminate upon the swearing in for said office. However, an endorsed candidate sworn in to office shall receive an automatic provisional endorsement for that office, as described in subsection I, if they accept it.

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. 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).

The Minnesota DFL Party at all levels shall not provide support and funds to candidates unless they are duly endorsed, or (1) are seeking an office without party designation, (2) are not running against a duly endorsed candidate, and (3) no DFL convention, committee, or commission has voted on an endorsement for this office. 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 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.

If a candidate who has been endorsed by a unit of the DFL Party gives personal endorsement, financial assistance, or other public support or public assistance to any candidate running against a DFL-endorsed candidate for any public office, or engages in any other act of malfeasance or nonfeasance, the central committee of the unit that endorsed that candidate may revoke the endorsement by a two-thirds majority vote of the members eligible to vote, following the procedures in Article III, Section 17 and the associated Dismissal for Cause headings in the Rule Book.

any public statements or the discharge of any party duties) the DFL endorsed candidates and public ballot questions and~~The Minnesota DFL Party at all levels~~ shall not provide support ~~and or~~ funds to candidates or public ballot questions unless they are duly endorsed, or (1) are seeking an office without party designation, (2) are not running against a duly endorsed candidate, and (3) no DFL convention, committee, or commission has voted on an endorsement for this office. 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 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.

No members of the DFL Party who are elected or appointed to leadership positions within the DFL Party or paid DFL staff at any level may support another candidate in any race in Minnesota if there is an official endorsement in that race.

If a candidate who has been endorsed by a unit of the DFL Party gives personal endorsement, financial assistance, or other public support or public assistance to any candidate running against a DFL-endorsed candidate for any public office, or engages in any other act of malfeasance or nonfeasance, the central committee of the unit that endorsed that candidate may revoke the endorsement by a two-thirds majority vote of the members eligible to vote, following the procedures in Article III, Section 17 and the associated Dismissal for Cause headings in the Rule Book.

Change #5:
This change clarifies the requirement of DFL Party leaders to support endorsed candidates.

Note: this change does not reflect other changes to this section (i.e. it is a free-standing change)

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.

Official DFL endorsement of a candidate for public office requires a 60 percent affirmative vote of those delegates present and voting at the convention, central committee, or commission making the endorsement, and every ballot shall be a test of a quorum. No convention, central committee, or commission representing a geographical area less than the area competent to elect the public official may endorse a candidate. No one may vote to grant or revoke an endorsement unless they are a resident of the area in which that election will occur. An endorsement given before the primary is valid after the primary only if the candidate's name appears on the general election ballot. The Official DFL endorsement for any endorsee shall terminate upon the swearing in for said office. However, an endorsed candidate sworn in-to office shall receive an automatic provisional endorsement for that office, as described in subsection I, if they accept it.

Members of the DFL Party who are elected or appointed to leadership positions within the DFL Party or paid DFL staff at any level must support (in

Change #6:
This change codifies the Letter of Support process.

Note: this change does not reflect other changes to this section (i.e. it is a free-standing change)

ARTICLE III
GENERAL RULES AND POLICY

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Section 4. Convention and Committee Rules.

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The Minnesota DFL Party at all levels shall not provide support and funds to candidates unless they are duly endorsed, or (1) are seeking an office without party designation, (2) are not running against a duly endorsed candidate, (3) have a letter or letters of support from appropriate DFL unit(s), and ~~(3)~~(4) no DFL convention, committee, or commission has voted on an endorsement for this office including a vote 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.

If a candidate who has been endorsed by a unit of the DFL Party gives personal endorsement, financial assistance, or other public support or public assistance to any candidate running against a DFL-endorsed candidate for any public office, or engages in any other act of malfeasance or nonfeasance, the central committee of the unit that endorsed that candidate may revoke the endorsement by a two-thirds majority vote of the members eligible to vote, following the procedures in Article III, Section 17 and the associated Dismissal for Cause headings in the Rule Book.

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Subsection J. Letters of Support.

A DFL Unit may send an Official DFL letter of support to a candidate for their promotional use if the unit contains part or all of the geographic area where the race is being held, there exists no geographically specific unit constitution (see Article X) 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 other units from sending letters of support. The threshold for a candidate seeking public office requires a 60 percent affirmative vote of those delegates present and voting at the convention, central committee, or commission making the decision to send a letter of support. A convention, central committee, or commission representing a geographical area less than the area competent to elect the public official may vote on sending a letter of support to a candidate, but the candidate must receive a letter of support from each unit within the geographical area competent to elect the public official before official party support can be given. No one may vote to grant or revoke a letter of support unless they are a resident of the area in which that election will occur. A letter of support given before the primary is valid after the primary only if the candidate’s name appears on the general election ballot. The Official DFL letter of support for any candidate shall terminate upon the swearing in for said office.

Change #7:

This change clarifies that the highest non-resigning member of the central committee is empowered to call a central committee meeting (e.g. so that the resignation can be accepted). This change also clarifies how gender balance is applied when filling vacancies.

**ARTICLE III
GENERAL RULES AND POLICY**

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Section 5. Central Committee Rules.

Subsection A. Meetings.

Central committees shall meet at least semi-annually. Meetings may be called by the chair, the highest-ranking officer who has not submitted their resignation, or by written petition of a majority of the executive committee.

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Subsection C. Filling Vacancies.

Each central committee is responsible for declaring vacancies in its membership elected at its

governing convention. Each organizing unit's central committee is responsible for declaring vacancies in its membership elected at its precinct caucuses. A vacancy occurs for the following reasons: position not being filled by the governing convention, resignation, death, change of residence to a jurisdiction other than the one from which they were elected, or dismissal for cause.

A majority vote is sufficient to declare a vacancy, although no such declaration is necessary if the position was not filled by the governing convention. The central committee may fill such vacancy only at a meeting properly called with notice of intent to elect. A vacancy may be filled at the meeting at which the vacancy is declared, but only if the notice for that meeting included the intent to elect to fill that vacancy. Only those vacancies specified in the meeting notice may be filled at the meeting. Vacancies shall be filled within 120 days of their occurrence, except that a central committee need not fill a vacancy that occurs in the same calendar year as, and before, the next regular election for that office.

If a vacancy occurs for delegate to any central committee, then the ~~first~~highest-ranked alternate ~~of the same gender identity~~who maintains equal division is raised to delegate and a new last ranking alternate who maintains equal division is elected by the central committee.

Change #8:

This change will allow some types of units to elect to use the defaults in the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws and, thus, reduce maintenance/editing of a local document that is largely a restatement of the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws. This will also help ensure that local unit constitutions do not contain old, non-conforming, provisions that conflict with revisions made at the State-level.

**ARTICLE III
GENERAL RULES AND POLICY**

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Section 7. Party Officer Rules.

Subsection A. Party Officers.

Party officers are chair, vice chair, outreach officer (if established in the unit's Constitution or if an Article V or Article VI unit does not adopt a constitution), secretary, treasurer, and any other party officers as may be specified in the

constitutions of specific 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 ~~4-19~~a range of directors between 7 and 19.

Party officials are all members and their alternates of all party central and executive committees.

Officers and officials take office at the adjournment of the convention or meeting at which they were elected. All party officers elected at organizing unit, congressional and state conventions shall be officers of their respective executive committees and central committees.

Vice chairs shall not be of the same gender identity as the chairs.

A member of the Executive Committee may be designated by the Executive Committee as the Deputy Treasurer, who shall assist the Treasurer and who shall assume the duties of the Treasurer if the office of the treasurer becomes vacant. The Deputy Treasurer will relinquish the duties of the Treasurer upon the filling of the vacancy of the Treasurer.

The order of temporary succession of officers shall be: chair, vice chair, outreach officer, secretary, treasurer, and members of the executive committee in the order listed on the report of the convention or commission electing them.

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Section 14. Party Unit Constitutions.

Except for precincts and commissions held pursuant to Article X, each party organization described in this Constitution and Bylaws ~~shall~~may choose to adopt or may be required to adopt a constitution to govern the conduct of its affairs; ~~which~~Each adopted constitution shall be subordinate to and in compliance with ~~the DFL~~this Constitution and Bylaws and the Official Call. A copy of each adopted constitution, or of any amendment to such constitution, shall be filed with the ~~state~~State DFL Party office, which shall maintain a file of current constitutions of all party organizations. A unit's constitution or any amendment thereto shall not have governing authority unless filed with the State DFL Party office.

A party unit described in Article V or VI (i.e., an organizing unit, senate district, or congressional district) whose constitution does not comply with this Constitution and Bylaws or the Official Call may be required to amend its constitution, in accordance with the procedure in the Rule Book (see "Party Document Changes"). A review of a

challenge relating to an Article V or VI unit shall consider, as the unit’s constitution, either the most recently filed version that complies with this Constitution and Bylaws and the Official Call or the default provision of this Constitution if no compliant version of the unit’s constitution is on file with the State DFL Party office.

ARTICLE V
ORGANIZING UNITS

Section 1. Organizing Units.

Subsection B. Officers.

The ~~party~~ organizing unit officers shall consist of a chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer, directors, and such other officers as may be specified in the organizing unit constitution. A unit may specify in its constitution a number or a range of directors between 7 and 19. Unless specified in the unit’s constitution, a unit shall elect ~~11~~ a range of directors between 7 and 19. An organizing unit in its constitution may establish a separate outreach officer. If the organizing unit does not adopt a constitution, the unit officers will also include an outreach officer. The responsibilities and duties of affirmative action, outreach, and inclusion shall be ~~within the Vice Chair job description~~ duties of the vice chair, unless the organizing unit establishes a separate outreach officer or has not adopted a constitution.

Subsection E. Constitution and Bylaws.

An organizing unit 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 Official Call. In the event no such constitution is adopted, the party organizing unit shall be governed by the default provisions of this Constitution.

An organizing unit may also adopt bylaws concerning matters not expressly governed by nor in conflict with this 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.

Section 2. Senate Districts.

Subsection B. Officers.

The senate district officers shall be a chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer, and such other officers as

may be specified in the senate district constitution. A senate district in its constitution may establish a separate outreach officer. If the senate district does not adopt a constitution, the senate district officers shall also include an outreach officer. The responsibilities and duties of affirmative action, outreach, and inclusion shall be ~~within the Vice Chair job description~~ duties of the vice chair, unless the senate district establishes a separate outreach officer or has not adopted a constitution.

Subsection D. Constitution and Bylaws.

A senate district 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 Official Call. In the event no such constitution is adopted, the senate district shall be governed by the default provisions of this Constitution.

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

ARTICLE VI
PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

Section 2. Officers.

The congressional district officers shall consist of a chair, vice chair, outreach officer, secretary, treasurer, and may specify in its constitution a number or a range of directors that is at least 7. Unless specified in the congressional district constitution, a congressional district shall elect ~~11~~ a range of directors between 7 and 19.

Section 5. 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 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 also adopt bylaws concerning matters not expressly governed by nor in conflict with this 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.

ADDENDUM A: RULE BOOK OF
THE MINNESOTA DFL PARTY

GENERAL RULES

Directors—Range of Directors. When a unit has a range of directors, the unit’s central committee has discretion on whether to declare a vacancy in unfilled director positions so long as (1) at least the minimum number of directors in the range are filled and (2) the elected directors achieve equal division. A central committee must declare and fill vacancies pursuant to Article III, Section 5, Subsection C in order to achieve equal division and/or to elect the minimum number of directors in the unit’s range of directors.

Party Document Changes. Delegates must be provided with both the old and new wording of any proposed constitutional change. Every convention and community organization annual meeting must conform its party constitution, bylaws, and rules to the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws.

Within 30 days following adoption of a new constitution or an amendment ~~of to~~ an existing constitution by such a party organization, the chair of the party organization shall transmit a copy of the new constitution or the amendment(s) to the ~~state~~ State DFL party Party office.

Upon receiving a ~~complaint-challenge alleging~~ that one or more provisions of ~~the constitution of~~ a party unit ~~or community organization—constitution—~~conflicts with this State DFL ~~constitution~~Constitution and Bylaws, the State Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee shall review the unit’s constitution. ~~Any—The committee shall communicate any irregularity of any nature will be communicated—to the party organization’s executive committee for amendment by its central committee within 90 days from the date of notice, and said amendments shall then be forwarded to the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee—at, via the state-State DFL party Party office. In the event any party organization or community organization has not corrected any irregularities within the 90-day period, said organization’s state central committee delegates/alternates shall not be seated at future state central committee meetings until such time as the irregularities have been corrected and forwarded to the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee. In the event the party organization has not corrected any irregularities within the 90-day period, the committee shall notify the unit’s executive committee that its constitution has no governing authority and that the unit is subject, instead, to the default constitutional provisions in the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws, until the unit’s central committee adopts and files a compliant constitution.~~

When a unit’s constitution, or any amendment thereto, is not considered in a review of a challenge solely because it was not filed with the State DFL Party office, any member of the unit may appeal the decision on that challenge on that basis. The State Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee shall review any appeal brought under this paragraph, and may reinstate the constitution or amendment if it determines the

constitution or amendment was properly adopted and that it was not considered in the original review solely because it was not filed with the State DFL Party office. There shall be no time limitation on the filing of an appeal brought under this paragraph.

Change #9:

This change moves election of the 50 at-large State Central Committee members to the congressional district level.

ARTICLE VI
PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

Business. The convention shall elect congressional district party officers and officials. It shall be the function of the convention to endorse a candidate for the United States House of Representatives in accordance with Article III, Section 4. The convention shall elect two persons, either delegates or alternates to the State Convention, for membership on each pre-convention committee established by the State Executive Committee, and two persons either delegates or alternates to the State Convention, to serve as alternates to each pre-convention committee. It shall also elect members at-large from the congressional district to the State Central Committee in accordance with Article VII, Section 4. In presidential election years the convention shall also nominate a presidential elector and an alternate elector not of the same gender identity, and elect the National Convention delegates and alternates allotted the district in accordance with Article III, Section 4, the Bylaws, the Rule Book, and the rules and directives of the State Executive Committee and Democratic National Committee. The convention may adopt or amend a constitution. The convention may adopt petition resolutions for platform consideration and conduct such other business as may come before it. (Annual conventions also see Article III, Section 4, Subsection G.)

ARTICLE VII
STATE PARTY ORGANIZATION

Section 4. State Central Committee.

Membership. The State Central Committee shall consist of the State Executive Committee, ten elected officials as defined in Article VII, Section 2, plus the president and vice-president of the

MYDFL, ~~50 at-large members (whose membership and election shall be defined in the Bylaws) with no alternates for those 50 members, plus 7 members at-large (with no alternates) from each congressional district elected at the district convention in each even-numbered year,~~ plus representatives made up of the chairs and vice chairs of Greater and rural Minnesota Senate Districts that are not Organizing Units as well as alternates for each chair and vice chair, plus the chair and vice chair of the 67 senate districts as well as alternates for each chair and vice chair, plus 464 representatives divided among the organizing units according to the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party Candidates Average Vote (see Bylaw, Article III, Section 11), provided that each organizing unit shall have at least two votes (except an organizing unit without enough DFL Candidates Average Vote to be allotted a vote, the vote and method of electing to be determined by the State Central Committee).

Each organizing unit shall be allotted at least two votes and shall send as its representatives the chair and vice chair as well as an alternate for its chair and vice chair. An organizing unit allotted more than two votes shall also elect delegates-at-large as well as an alternate for each delegate-at-large. Organizing unit representatives shall be elected at even-numbered year conventions and serve a term of two years.

(See Article V and its Bylaws for definition of Organizing Unit as well as lists of Senate Districts and Counties that are Organizing Units.)

In addition, a county-wide DFL organization not subject to Article V as an organizing unit but with a constitution that has been approved in accordance with Article IX, Section 1, shall be allotted one vote. Such vote shall be allotted to the county-wide organization's chair as delegate, with the vice chair acting as alternate, unless its constitution provides for different representatives of the organization.

In addition, each former State Party Chair or Vice Chair shall be an ex-officio voting member of the State Central Committee if they participated in the most recent precinct caucuses and accepts the position.

All members of State Party Standing Committees shall be non-voting members of the State Central Committee.

A poll by mail of the members of the State Central Committee may be taken on specific questions, provided such a poll is voted by the State Executive Committee. In such polls, at least 15 days must elapse between the mailing of ballots and the date set for the tabulation of returns.

For all State Central Committee delegates (including the chair, vice chair, and delegates elected at large), ranked alternates shall be elected, unless otherwise provided.

Process for the Election of SCC Members At-Large for 2020 For the election of SCC members at-large in 2020, who will serve through the adjournment of the 2022 State Convention, the State Chair shall appoint a Nominations Committee approved by the State Executive Committee (with at least one-third of members from counties outside those listed below) to recommend individuals to the DFL State Central Committee for election. To achieve this goal, at least 40 of the at-large members shall be a member of at least one of the following communities: people of color, LGBT, seniors, youth, farmers, labor, veterans, and persons living with disabilities. Additionally, at least 16 delegates shall be from counties outside of Anoka, Hennepin, Ramsey, Dakota, and Washington counties. The at-large members shall be elected at the first State Central Committee meeting to be held after the State Convention in 2020.

Business. The State Central Committee shall fill vacancies among state officers, statewide delegates and alternates to National Conventions, endorsed candidates for statewide office, and statewide nominees for presidential electors. It may reconvene an adjourned State Convention. It may adopt or amend the Bylaws or Rule Book to the Constitution.

Bylaw At-large members shall be elected to ensure representation within the DFL Party to further the goals of affirmative action, outreach, and inclusion ~~from~~ within those communities ~~that are~~ historically ~~under-represented~~ ~~underrepresented~~. ~~For at-large delegates elected at congressional district conventions, at least 5 of the 7 delegates elected at each convention shall be members of at least one of the following communities: people of color, LGBT, seniors, youth, farmers, labor, veterans, and persons living with disabilities. The State Chair shall appoint a Nominations Committee approved by the State Executive Committee (with at least one-third of members from counties outside those listed below) to recommend individuals to the DFL State Central Committee for election. To achieve this goal, at least 40 of the delegates shall be members of at least one of the following communities: people of color, LGBT, seniors, youth, farmers, labor, and persons living with disabilities. Additionally, at least 16 delegates shall be from counties outside of Anoka, Hennepin, Ramsey, Dakota, and Washington counties. The at-large members shall be elected at the first State Central Committee meeting to be held after the State Convention. The term of office of the at-large members of the State Central Committee elected by the State Central Committee shall expire upon the adjournment of the first State Central Committee following the State Convention.~~

Bylaw ~~The term of office for the at-large members of the State Central Committee elected in 2018 expires upon the adjournment of the August 15, 2020 State Central Committee~~

Meeting. The term of office for the at-large members of the State Central Committee elected in 2020 expires upon the adjournment of the 2022 State DFL Convention. The term of office for the at-large members elected in 2022 at congressional district conventions shall begin with the adjournment of the convention at which they were elected.

Change #10:

This change clarifies what happens to a Community Caucus endorsement following the DFL endorsement by the body having jurisdiction.

ARTICLE VIII

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH ORGANIZATIONS
AND CAUCUSES**

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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.

Community Caucuses are authorized to endorse candidates for elective office pursuant to Article III, Section 4, Subsections H and I. However, a Community Caucus's endorsement shall terminate when there has been an endorsement by the official DFL convention, commission, or central committee having jurisdiction, unless the Community Caucus had endorsed the same candidate as the unit. Following an endorsement by the official DFL convention, commission, or central committee having jurisdiction, a Community Caucus may separately endorse the endorsed candidate.

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

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.)

There are several items the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee are considering for our 2020 State Convention report but for which we have not yet adopted a specific set of proposed language. As such, we are seeking feedback on the following general concepts. Depending on the feedback received, these items may or may not appear in our State Convention Report.

Change #100:

This change would aim to codify the DFL Leave of Absence policy.

Our current concept is a general “no excuses” leave of absence policy that would allow units to consider and vote on leaves of absence for their members (such as for medical reasons, or due to a pre-primary campaign conflict). The goal is to balance the operation of the party against the “brain drain” that might otherwise occur without such a policy.

Change #101:

This change would aim to provide better operational continuity by allowing units to have other deputy party officers in addition to the currently allowed “deputy treasurer”.

Our current concept is to add a deputy outreach officer and a deputy secretary to the positions a local unit’s executive committee may designate.

Change #102:

This change would allow units to select a “backup date”, and to reschedule their local unit convention due to inclement weather other unforeseen circumstances.

Change #103:

This change would mirror Change #9, which moves the 50 at-large State Central Committee member election to the Congressional District level, but applies the same move to State Directors.

Change #104:

This change would add the new concept of an “Approved Governing Compact” to allow units to delegate their Article X authority to endorse in “electoral jurisdictions not provided for elsewhere” to the organizing units that cover the jurisdiction. This is somewhat similar to the State Central Committee’s standing authorization of the Hennepin County special endorsing commission.

Change #105:

This change would codify our party’s long-standing option of a convention endorsing “No endorsement” at a 60% threshold. This would clarify the requirement that an affirmative endorsement of “No endorsement” prevents support of all candidates in that race.

This is in contrast to a convention which ends without an endorsement at a lower threshold (e.g. the common convention rules to the effect of “after X ballots, a motion for no endorsement is in order and will pass with a majority vote”) or due to loss of quorum.