

# TEMPORARY AND PROPOSED RULES (Rev 000)

## 2022 SENATE DISTRICT 52 DFL CONVENTION

### GOVERNING AUTHORITY AND AGENDA

1. **Subordination.** Upon all matters not governed by the Official Call, the State DFL Party Constitution and Bylaws, the Senate District Constitution, and these Rules, *Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised* shall govern. Provisions of the Official Call shall take precedence over any other party rules at any level wherever a conflict exists.
2. **Agenda and Rules.** A **majority vote** of the convention is required to adopt these rules and the agenda. Once adopted, these rules and the agenda shall govern unless suspended or modified by a **two-thirds vote** of the convention.
3. **Quorum.** The quorum for conducting any business of the convention is a **majority of the registered delegates**. If the absence of a quorum is suggested, its presence is established by a counted vote or by a written ballot. The Convention Chair(s) shall place the convention in recess for **10 minutes** before any motion to adjourn the convention for lack of quorum is entertained.

### SEATING OF DELEGATES

4. **Registration.** Registration of delegates to the convention shall continue until adjournment. Newly registered delegates may not enter while the floor is frozen.
5. **Delegation Chairs.** Each precinct delegation shall elect one or more delegation chairs for purposes of ballot voting. The Convention Chair(s) shall instruct the convention as to the duties the delegation chairs will be expected to perform during the convention. The name of each delegation chair shall be reported promptly to the Convention Secretary. Any delegate shall be eligible for election as delegation chair.
6. **Seating of Delegates.** All registered delegates on the temporary roll shall be seated.
7. **Credentials Challenges.** The convention shall hear and resolve any challenges regarding delegate seating pursuant to the Official Call.
  - a. **Committee Report.** The Credentials Committee Chair(s) shall report to the convention on each challenge, including the committee's recommended resolution to the challenge, which shall be reflected on the temporary roll.
  - b. **Debate.** Following the committee report, speakers on behalf of both the challenged delegation and the challenging delegation shall each be allowed **3 minutes** in total to present their positions, with the challenged delegation speaking last. The convention shall then proceed to debate from the floor according to normal speaking limits.
  - c. **Resolution.** After debate on the challenge has ended, the convention will vote on whether the challenged

delegation should be seated. No delegation shall vote on a challenge related to that delegation's seating.

- d. **Receipt of Credentials.** Any delegates entitled to be seated after all challenges have been resolved shall go to the registration table with their delegation chair so that proper seating can be arranged.
8. **Registration Inside Convention Hall.** As soon as practical after verification of a quorum, the Credentials Committee shall continue registration of delegates from inside the convention hall so as to permit its members to maintain a consistent and accurate delegate count by precincts while participating as convention delegates.
9. **Floor Access.** Visitors shall be seated separately from delegates and shall not be allowed on the convention floor during the convention.
10. **Floor Passes—Campaigns.** No more than **5 floor passes** shall be issued by the Credentials Committee Chair(s) to each candidate seeking the DFL endorsement at this convention. Individuals with campaign floor passes shall not be permitted on the floor when it is frozen.
11. **Floor Passes—Accommodations.** Special floor passes shall be issued for an interpreter or other personal care assistant for any delegate who submits a request to the Credentials Committee. Such persons may be seated in close proximity to the delegate they are assisting, but shall play no role in the convention.

### GENERAL CONVENTION RULES

12. **Adjournment.** The convention shall not adjourn before completing the following business:
  - a. Elections of Senate District officers specified in the Constitution,
  - b. Elections of State Central Committee members and alternates,
  - c. Consideration of State Senate and State House endorsements, and
  - d. Elections of State Convention delegates and alternates.
13. **Convention Chair(s).** The convention shall elect one or more Convention Chair(s), with equal division, by plurality vote or as the convention determines.
14. **Convention Assistants.** The Convention Chair(s) shall appoint a convention secretary and may appoint parliamentarians, timekeepers, tellers, sergeants-at-arms, and other assistants as needed to conduct convention business.
15. **Equal Division by Gender Identity.** The Convention Chair(s) shall ensure that each election complies with the requirements regarding equal division located in the Equal Division section of the State DFL Rule Book (Addendum A

of the Minnesota DFL Constitution and Bylaws). For State Convention delegate and alternate elections and for State Central Committee elections, there shall be an equal division by gender identity. Even numbered allocations shall be equally divided. Odd numbered allocations shall be as equally divided as possible. If both delegate and alternate allocations are odd numbered, the difference in gender representation among delegates must be reversed in favor of the underrepresented gender identity among the alternates.

16. **Voting Methods.** Voting in contested elections and endorsements shall be done by written ballot. In the event of a tie vote in an election, there will be a run-off ballot including only the names of the tied candidates; if a tie still exists, it will be broken by lot. All other voting shall be by voice vote or uncounted division unless a written ballot vote is requested by the Convention Chair or by **one-third of the delegates present**.
17. **Ballot Distribution.** On matters to be determined by written ballot, convention tellers shall distribute ballots to each precinct's delegation chair(s). Ballots shall be distributed only to seated delegates. The delegation chairs shall return these ballots to the tellers.
18. **Prayer Breaks.** The convention shall recess for scheduled prayer breaks. No business shall be conducted during a prayer break.
19. **Smoking/Vaping.** Smoking, vaping, and use of intoxicants is prohibited on the convention floor. No smoking or vaping is allowed in the hallways adjacent to the convention hall, or outside the main entry to the building.
20. **Signs, Literature, Demonstrations, and Order in Convention Hall.** No person may place any banners or posters on the convention platform or in any way obstruct the view of the platform by delegates. All signs and other materials must comply with the rules of the convention facility, and with any additional rules and procedures established by the Senate District Central Committee. Campaign literature may not be distributed in the convention hall during balloting. No moving demonstrations are permitted during balloting. There shall be no disruptive demonstrations in the galleries. Whistles, air horns, bull horns, and strobe lights or other similar devices will not be allowed during the convention in the convention hall. Each delegation will be responsible for collecting materials and garbage.
21. **Respect.** Participants shall treat all others present at the convention site with respect at all times. Failure to treat others with respect or to follow the instructions of convention officials shall result in removal from the convention and forfeiture of delegate status.

#### SPEECH AND DEBATE RULES

22. **Recognition.** No delegate may speak until recognized by the Convention Chair. Speakers will first state their name and

precinct, and may state their pronouns. Speakers should always address the Chair. No person may speak more than once on an item of business until all others on that side who wish to do so have had an opportunity.

23. **Speaking Limits—Debate.** Unless otherwise provided for in these rules, no delegate shall speak for more than **2 minutes** on any item. The chair will rotate speaking privileges among floor microphones and between proponents and opponents of a measure to the extent possible. Debate will terminate when **3 speakers** have been heard on each side.
24. **Dropped or Withdrawn Candidates.** A properly nominated candidate for endorsement who is dropped under the appropriate drop rule, or who voluntarily withdraws, may address the convention for up to **3 minutes** immediately after withdrawing, or before or immediately after the ballot result is announced.
25. **Motions to Table.** Any motion to table shall be considered as though it were a motion to postpone indefinitely. A motion to postpone indefinitely does not preclude amendments to the main motion.
26. **Motions to Reconsider, Object to Consideration.** The motions “to reconsider and enter on the minutes” and “to object to consideration” are not in order. The motion to reconsider is in order and will require a **two-thirds vote**.
27. **Amendments in Writing.** Any amendment to a motion or resolution which removes, changes, or adds **5 or more words** must be submitted in writing to the Convention Chair(s) before being considered.
28. **Dignitary Speeches.** Incumbent DFL office holders, declared DFL candidates, and other party dignitaries may address the convention at the discretion of the Convention Chair(s) for up to **5 minutes** each.

#### ELECTIONS FOR PARTY OFFICE

29. **Nominations.** The Nominations Committee shall place in nomination the committee's recommendations. Other nominations shall be made from the floor by name only and without speeches or seconds.
30. **Candidate Speeches.** In contested elections for Senate District officer roles, except Directors, candidates or their representative(s) may address the convention for up to **2 minutes** each. There shall be no speeches from candidates for Senate District Directors or State Central Committee members and alternates, unless the convention, by a **majority vote**, entertains candidate speeches of up to **30 seconds** each in a given election. No one else may speak on behalf of or against any candidates for party office.
31. **Acclamation.** If the number of nominees in any election for party office does not exceed the number of positions to be elected, the convention may elect the nominee(s) by acclamation.

32. **Chair, Vice Chair, etc.** The Senate District Chair, Vice Chair (not of the same gender identity as the Chair), Outreach and Inclusion Officer, Secretary, Treasurer and Communications Officer shall be elected by a **majority vote**. Voting will be conducted by separate ballot for each position. If none of the nominees for an office receive a majority vote on a ballot, the nominee with the **least number of votes** will be dropped on the next ballot, provided that at least **two candidates** remain on that ballot.

33. **Directors.** The convention shall elect Directors as specified in the Senate District Constitution, with equal division. If a contest exists, the Chair will ask for a show of hands on proportional voting.

a. **Proportional Voting.** If delegates sufficient to elect one Director request proportional voting for Directors, the convention will use the Walking Subcaucus system provided in the Official Call, following the rules stated in the Walking Subcaucus section of these rules.

b. **Non-Proportional Voting.** If proportional voting is not used, the convention will elect Directors by **plurality vote** or as the convention determines. The convention may, by a **majority vote**, entertain candidate speeches of up to **30 seconds** each.

34. **State Central Committee.** The convention shall, as a whole, elect State Central Committee members and alternates. The total delegation and any automatic members are specified in the 2022-2023 Official Call. One alternate shall be elected for each member, including any automatic members. Alternates are ranked without regard to gender identity. If a contest exists and more than three members are to be elected by the convention, the Chair will ask for a show of hands on proportional voting.

a. **Proportional Voting.** If enough delegates to elect one member request proportional voting, the convention will use the Walking Subcaucus system provided in the Official Call, following the rules stated in the Walking Subcaucus section of these rules. Alternates shall be ranked according to the size of each subcaucus.

b. **Non-Proportional Voting.** If proportional voting is not used, the convention will elect State Central Committee members and alternates by **plurality vote** or as the convention determines. The convention may, by a **majority vote**, entertain candidate speeches of up to **30 seconds** each.

#### SENATE DISTRICT ENDORSEMENT RULES

35. **Nominations.** Candidates for State Senate endorsement shall be nominated by name only and without speeches or seconds.

36. **Candidate Speeches.** Each candidate for endorsement (and/or their representative(s)) shall be allowed no more than **5 minutes** to address the convention. No others may speak on behalf of or against the candidate.

37. **Question and Answer.** If there is a contest, a question-and-answer period shall occur after candidate

speeches.

a. **Submission in Writing.** All other questions must be submitted in legible writing before the completion of candidate speeches.

b. **Screening of Questions.** The Convention Chair(s) or their designee(s) shall randomly draw and screen all questions and eliminate any that are duplicative or not in compliance. All questions must be:

i. General in nature and addressed to all candidates,

ii. Cover a single topic,

iii. Not in the nature of a personal attack, and

iv. Possible to answer within a **1-minute** period.

The remaining questions shall be handed to the Chair to be asked in turn.

c. **Asking Questions.** The Convention Chair shall not read any preliminary remarks, statements or explanations included with the question. The order of response for the first question will be established by lot and will rotate for each subsequent question.

d. **Time Limits.** Each candidate shall be allowed **1 minute** to answer each question. The question-and-answer period will last for up to **30 minutes**. The period shall be extended to allow all candidates to answer the final question.

38. **Endorsement Threshold.** Endorsement of a candidate for State Senate requires a **60% affirmative vote** of the Senate District Convention.

39. **Drop Rule.** Candidates receiving less than **10%** will be dropped after the **1st** ballot. On subsequent ballots, the drop threshold will be raised by **5 percentage points** each ballot. In addition, after the **4<sup>th</sup>** ballot, the lowest remaining candidate will be dropped regardless of vote share. However, in no case will this drop rule be used to reduce the number of candidates remaining on the ballot to less than **two**.

40. **Minimum Number of Ballots.** The Senate District Convention shall not adjourn without endorsing a candidate for Senate until at least **3 ballots** for the endorsement have been completed. The convention may adjourn prior to this time either by a **two-thirds vote** or if a quorum is not present (see rule 3).

41. **Motion for No Endorsement.** If no candidate for endorsement has received 60% of the votes cast after **5 ballots**, a motion to have no endorsement will be in order at any time thereafter and is adopted by a **majority vote**. If the motion for no endorsement is adopted, balloting for the Senate endorsement shall terminate, and the Senate District Central Committee shall not endorse in that race until after the primary election, unless only one DFL candidate has not suspended their campaign before the primary.

42. **Maximum Number of Ballots.** If no candidate for Senate has received 60% of the votes cast after **7 ballots**, then balloting shall terminate, and the convention shall not endorse a candidate for Senate.

## HOUSE DISTRICT ENDORSEMENT RULES

43. **House District Conventions.** The Senate District Convention shall recess into two House District Conventions, convened and chaired by the Senate District Convention Chair(s). All appointed assistants to the Senate District Convention shall continue serving in their roles for each House District Convention. The business of each House District Convention shall be the endorsement of a candidate for the State House of Representatives from that House District, and any other business authorized by the Senate District Constitution. Each House District Convention may recess in between ballots to permit the Senate District Convention to reconvene and proceed with other business on its agenda. Each House District Convention shall adjourn upon completion of its business.
44. **State House Endorsements.** Endorsement of a candidate for State House of Representatives by each House District Convention shall be done using the procedures in the section titled "Senate District Endorsement Rules," substituting "House" for "Senate."

## STATE CONVENTION DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

45. **Election Procedures.** The number of state delegates and alternates to be elected by the convention is specified in the 2022-2023 Official Call. The procedures to be used in the election of delegates and alternates to the Congressional District and State Conventions are as follows:
- Acclamation.** If the Convention Chair determines that no more want to serve than there are delegate positions, the election shall be by acclamation.
  - Proportional Voting.** If a contest exists, the Convention Chair shall ask for a show of hands on proportional voting. If enough delegates to elect one member request proportional voting, the convention will use the Walking Subcaucus system provided in the Official Call, following the rules stated in the Walking Subcaucus section of these rules. In addition, each subcaucus must indicate the gender identity of all delegates and alternates for the purposes of equal division within the delegation.
  - Non-Proportional Voting.** If proportional voting is not used, the convention will elect State Convention delegates by **plurality vote** or as the convention determines. Any ties are broken by lot. The convention may, by a **majority vote**, entertain candidate speeches of up to **30 seconds** each.
  - Ranking of Alternates.** Alternates will be nominated and elected in a similar fashion to delegates. Alternates must be ranked by the convention or subcaucus (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, etc.) for use in alternate upgrading at the Congressional District and State Conventions. Alternates are ranked without regard to gender identity.
46. **Special Meeting of Delegates and Alternates.** The Convention Chair(s) shall convene and chair a special meeting of the newly elected State Convention delegates and

alternates immediately after the Senate District Convention adjourns. All appointed assistants to the Senate District Convention shall continue to serve in their roles for the special meeting.

- Delegation Co-Chairs.** The State Convention delegates and alternates shall elect **2 delegation co-chairs**, with equal division, to facilitate upgrading and balloting at the Congressional District and State Conventions.
- Preconvention Committee Members.** Unless otherwise specified by Congressional District, the State Convention delegates and alternates shall elect up to **2 members and 2 alternates**, with equal division, to serve on each Congressional District preconvention committee.

## WALKING SUBCAUCUS

47. **Time Limits for Walk Periods.** If a Walking Subcaucus system is used, delegates will have an initial period of **15 minutes** after subcaucus nominations are completed to move to the subcaucus of their choice. If all remaining subcaucuses are viable on the first count, then there shall be no second count. If any subcaucus is not viable on the first count, the Chair will announce an additional **5 minutes** during which delegates can move among the remaining subcaucuses.
48. **Equal Division.** If elections for State Convention delegates and alternates or State Central Committee members and alternates take place by subcaucus and the resulting delegation is not equally divided by gender identity, an odd-numbered subcaucus selected by lot from among those that elected more delegates of the over-represented gender identity will be instructed by the Convention Chair(s) to exchange one delegate of the over-represented gender identity for its highest ranking alternate of a different gender identity in the case of State Convention delegates, and to replace a person it had elected with a person of a different gender identity in any other case. Any delegate reduced to alternate status will become the highest ranking alternate of that subcaucus. If equal division by gender identity is still not achieved, the process will be repeated with another odd-numbered subcaucus.
49. **Convention Chair Duties.** The Convention Chair(s) shall ensure that all Walking Subcaucuses are moving smoothly and assist those that are running behind.

## PLATFORM AND RESOLUTIONS

50. **Reading of Platform Statement.** The Platform Statement in the Official Call shall be read to the convention before ballots for resolutions can be accepted.
51. **Resolutions.** The Senate District can forward to the State Platform, Issues, and Legislative Affairs Committee a number of resolutions equal to 2 times the number of State Convention delegates allocated to the Senate District Convention, or 20 resolutions, whichever is larger. The resolutions to be forwarded by the Senate District must be selected from among those resolutions adopted by the

precinct caucuses from precincts wholly or partially within the Senate District.

52. **Comment and Advocacy.** There shall be no time set aside for special consideration or debate of any specific resolution(s). Instead there shall be a Comment and Advocacy Period, during which time any delegate may speak, for one time and one time only, for up to **45 seconds**, for or against any resolution or resolutions they choose. The Chair may, at their discretion, entertain Comment and Advocacy speeches during delays in convention business or other times in advance of the period's place on the agenda. The Comment and Advocacy Period shall end when the convention has heard up to **30 minutes** in total of speeches on resolutions.

53. **Procedure for Selection.** The procedure for selecting the resolutions to be forwarded to the State Platform, Issues, and Legislative Affairs Committee is as follows:

Delegates will vote on resolutions using the ballot prepared by the Resolutions Committee. Each ballot must be legibly signed. To remain in consideration, a resolution must receive at least a **60% affirmative vote** of the convention. In calculating vote totals, abstentions shall be counted as part of the vote (in effect making them "no" votes). If more than the allowed number of resolutions receive the necessary 60% vote, the resolutions that received the highest percentage vote (with any ties for last place decided by lot) will be the resolutions forwarded to the State Platform, Issues, and Legislative Affairs Committee.