

**Proposed Amendments  
To the Constitution of the  
Republican Party of Minnesota**

**This document was properly submitted, under the constitutional requirements, to the committee and included the red-lined proposed removals and the bold underlined additions. That document may be found by scrolling down the home page at:**

**<https://rebuildthemngop.com/>**

**(The online document now includes comments to help new delegates understand the purpose of / reason for the changes.)**

**This document was submitted with proposed amendments to the Bylaws, also properly submitted to the committee.**

**This Constitution and Bylaws Committee has violated the Constitutional requirement to report out every proposal received to the named Party unit. (See Constitution Article XVI, Sections 2-3.)**

**Their failure does NOT prevent the consideration and passage of any or all of this document by the Convention. In fact, the State Convention now has a duty to prove the order of authority, as required my MN Stat 202a.12, remains in force at the MNGOP.**

***The State Convention is the final authority over the affairs of the Party. The MN Supreme Court has determined the Convention is also the only body with the authority to resolve intraparty disputes.***

**We encourage the Convention to review this document and then adopt it as the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota. This proposed Constitution eliminates nearly all opportunities for the administrative and managing bodies to continue to jeopardize the future of the Republican Party of Minnesota.**

# REPUBLICAN PARTY OF MINNESOTA CONSTITUTION

## Preamble

The Republican Party of Minnesota (the Party) welcomes into its party all Minnesotans who are concerned with the implementation of honest, efficient, responsive government. The party believes in these principles as stated in the Declaration of Independence: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these rights are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Therefore, it is the party committed to equal representation and opportunity for all and preservation of the rights of each individual. It is the purpose of this constitution (the Constitution) to ensure that the Party provides equal opportunity for full participation in our civic life for all Minnesota residents who believe in these principles regardless of age, race, sex, religion, social or economic status.

## PRINCIPLES

**I. Individual Rights & Freedoms** All people are created equal and inherently endowed with certain “unalienable rights” including “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” We embrace the Bill of Rights and acknowledge that free people, working toward their God-given potential, will make this state and nation strong.

**II. Economic Prosperity** Economic prosperity is expanded through the creativity, drive, and entrepreneurial spirit of free individuals and free markets. The State should only collect taxes to fund essential government functions, not to transfer wealth.

**III. Limited and Accountable Government** Keeping government functions at the lowest possible governing level respects the rights and autonomy of individuals to govern themselves and keeps decisions closest to those affected. All levels and branches of government should be transparent and limited to their respective roles, in accordance with the Constitution.

**IV. Family** Families are the foundational core in the creation of a peaceful and prosperous society. Human life, born and unborn, is inherently valuable and sacred, deserving of protection and respect until natural death. We uphold the fundamental rights of parents and guardians to make decisions about their children’s lives.

**V. Education** A Thriving society requires educated citizens prepared to be contributing members of society. Parents are primarily responsible for the education of their children and should be empowered to direct their children’s education.

**VI. Stewardship and Productivity of Property** Private ownership of property fosters prosperity through productivity and the stewardship of resources. Public resources should be utilized for the benefit of all Minnesotans.

**VII. Justice & Rule of Law** We support the rule of law and a justice system that treats every citizen equally. We insist upon the impartial, consistent application of the laws.

**VIII. National Security** A strong national defense and secure borders promote a peaceful and safe society.

## ARTICLE I

### Name and Object

#### SECTION 1: Name.

The name of this organization shall be ~~be~~ The Republican Party of Minnesota (The Party).

#### SECTION 2: Purpose

The purpose of the Party shall be the maintenance of government by and for the people according to the Constitution and the laws of the United States and the State of Minnesota, and the Constitution and Bylaws of the Party. The Party shall ensure adherence to the principles which form the foundation of The Party and are listed in this Constitution. To achieve this objective the Party shall organize and support party units within all political divisions of Minnesota, including counties, municipalities, school districts and other special or regional districts. These local party units will coordinate efforts to elect Republicans to public office and to ensure Republicans seek appointment to boards and commissions that influence all aspects of life in Minnesota.

## ARTICLE II

### Membership, Dues and Rights

#### SECTION 1: Membership.

The membership of the Party shall be composed of all citizens of the State of Minnesota who support the general principles of the Party Constitution and voted for a majority of Republican candidates in the last general election or intend to vote for a majority of Republican candidates in the next general election. (MN Stat 200.02, Subd. 17) No member of another political party may participate in any caucus, convention or committee meeting of the Party.

#### SECTION 2: Dues.

Neither payment of dues nor a financial contribution shall be required as a condition of membership.

#### SECTION 3: Rights.

Nothing in this Constitution, the Party Bylaws, rules for any Party meeting or convention or the constitutions, bylaws or meeting rules of any Party subunit shall be construed to deny or abridge the rights of any eligible Republican to participate in any Party caucus, primary, committee meeting or convention or any subunit meeting or convention, where he or she is entitled by law or Party Constitution to participate.

- A. Because the State Convention is the final arbiter of disputes within the Party, all persons elected to be a delegate or alternate to the State Convention shall be permitted to register as a guest for all meetings and conventions called by the Party or a subunit of the Party.
- B. To ensure disputes within and between subunits may be addressed at the most local level, all delegates and alternates elected to their BPOU Convention shall be permitted to register as a guest at BPOU and Congressional District meetings and conventions for the purpose of remaining informed about matters that may come before those conventions.
- C. The State Party and its subunits may provide a link to State Convention, BPOU or Congressional District delegates and alternates who ask to observe any meeting or convention that may be related to an intraparty dispute.
  1. Those delegates and alternates may be required to sign in to the meeting or convention using their full name and to remain visible in the live camera window throughout the

**meeting. The Party or subunit may disconnect any participant or observer from any online meeting who turns off their camera or is no longer visible to the organizer after taking a screen shot of the screen to prove the delegate or alternate was no longer visible. If disconnected, a person may attempt to log in to the meeting again and restore the connection.**

## ARTICLE III

### Congressional and Legislative Redistricting Committee

#### SECTION 1: **Redistricting Committee.**

**The State Convention shall establish and maintain a standing committee to develop an operating policy and procedure manual, which shall be updated as needed to ensure The Party is properly preparing for the next redistricting period. The State Convention shall elect the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Redistricting Committee, in years 3, 6 and 9 following the census, who each shall be limited to three consecutive terms of office.**

#### SECTION 2: **Membership.**

The Redistricting Committee shall consist of **the chair and vice chair, two delegates and two alternates** from each Congressional District **and any other person(s) the committee determines necessary, by a majority vote of the current members, to the committee. All Republican legislators serving on the House and Senate Subcommittee on Redistricting shall be considered members of the Party Redistricting Committee. These members may send a representative to participate in committee meetings on their behalf.** It is recommended that the **members** have actual Congressional District and/or Basic Political Organizational Unit (BPOU) apportionment experience.

#### SECTION 3: **Redistricting Manual.**

The redistricting manual shall be prepared by the Redistricting Committee and submitted to the **State Convention for approval** for approval. The Executive Committee shall **distribute** the redistricting manual to the State Central Committee no later than January 1 of each census year **and provide a digital link to the manual to the State Convention and State Central Delegates and Alternates as well as all members of the Redistricting Committee.**

**SECTION 4:** Following the approval of the redistricting manual by the **State Convention**, in all cases concerning redistricting in which it is not in conflict with the Constitution and bylaws of the Republican Party of Minnesota, the manual shall govern Congressional and Legislative redistricting matters for the current redistricting process.

## ARTICLE IV

### **The Basic Political Organizational Unit (BPOU) and Delegation of Power**

#### SECTION 1: **Basic Unit.**

The Party shall be organized into **Basic Political Organizational Units (BPOUs)**, i.e., one of the following: County, House District, or Senate District except that in any county containing four or more entire House Districts the county must organize as House or Senate Districts. For BPOUs located within the 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (as defined following the 2020 Census), the BPOUs may be organized to contain more than one Senate District, so long as the entirety of each such Senate District is contained within a single Congressional District. This combined BPOU organization may take the place of the Minneapolis City Committee created by Article X, Section 4.

#### SECTION 2: **Organization.**

It shall be the responsibility of the BPOU committees to assist all endorsed Republicans seeking public office at least partly within their respective units, to expand the membership of the party within their respective units, and to organize or cause to be organized each ward, precinct, or other voting district in their unit. The form of enrollment shall be prescribed by the State Executive Committee **(SEC), following approval by the State Central Committee (SCC). This enrollment form must be in full compliance with MN state law and the Party's governing documents and** shall be uniform throughout the state. No qualifications for membership shall be imposed except as provided by this Constitution, **in compliance with state law. (MN Stat 200.02, Subd, 17)** Opportunity for enrollment shall be open at all times to all voters who are eligible for membership under Article II.

### **SECTION 3: Management.**

The management of the affairs of the Party within each basic political organizational unit shall be vested in the BPOU committee, subject to the direction of state and Congressional District authorities as to matters within the scope of their respective functions **as specifically stated in this Constitution and in all applicable subsections of MN Stat 200.02 and 202a.12.**

### **SECTION 4: Territorial Realignment.**

- A. A county committee of a county containing fewer than four (4) entire House Districts may disband the county organization and reorganize itself along either Senate or House District lines, by adding a portion of an adjoining county or allocating part of the county's territory to another BPOU. A county committee may also realign its territory by adding a portion of an adjoining county and/or allocating part of its territory to another BPOU. The procedure shall be by approval of at least sixty (60%) of the county convention of each of the involved counties, provided that notice of such proposal for reorganization was issued in the call of the convention. The county convention shall submit its transitional plans including proposed distribution of funds to accomplish such reorganization to the Congressional District and State Executive Committees for their review. The new organization shall have all of the rights and responsibilities of a BPOU. Such reorganization shall continue until the next state-wide redistricting or until the county form of organization is restored by a convention of the precinct Delegates within the original county lines called by authority of the Republican Party of Minnesota State Executive Committee or any Republican Party of Minnesota state convention. No BPOU that is organized as a County BPOU can be forced to reorganize as a House District or Senate District.
- B. If a Senate District or House District crosses county lines, it shall be able to separate from any County BPOU Organization to form a new BPOU with approval of at least sixty percent (60%) of the seated precinct Delegates contained within the mentioned Senate or House District and within the county, at the yearly county convention. This intention must be submitted in writing to the county BPOU organization at least twenty (20) days prior to the county convention date. The county BPOU organization must place this notice of such proposal for reorganization in the call of the convention. The precinct Delegates wishing to secede shall submit its transitional plans including proposed distribution of funds to accomplish such reorganization to the Congressional District and State Executive Committees for their review prior to the county convention. The new organization shall have all of the rights and responsibilities of a BPOU. Such reorganization shall continue until the next state-wide redistricting or until the county form of organization is restored by a convention of the precinct Delegates within the original county lines called by authority of the State Party Executive Committee or any Republican Party of Minnesota State Convention.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Caucus Participation**

#### **SECTION 1. Eligible participants.**

Only those individuals who are or will be eligible to vote at the time of the next state general election may vote or be elected a delegate, alternate or officer at the Republican precinct caucus. An eligible voter may vote or be elected a delegate or officer only in the precinct where the voter resides at the time of the caucus. **Residency shall be determined by the individual's current State ID or Driver's License.**

## **SECTION 2. Agreement with party principles.**

Only those persons who are in agreement with the principles of the party as stated in the Minnesota Republican Party's Constitution, and who either voted or affiliated with the party at the last state general election or intend to vote or affiliate with the party at the next state general election, may participate in the Republican precinct caucus. **(MN Stat 200.02 Subd. 17)**

## **SECTION 3. Decision by caucus vote.**

In case the right of a person to participate at the precinct caucus is challenged, the question of the right to participate shall be decided by a vote of the precinct caucus **using the requirements of membership as provided in Article II, Section 1 of this Constitution. The person challenged may be required to certify, under penalty of perjury, their agreement to and compliance with the requirements for membership as stated in MN Stat 200.02, Subd. 7.** A person so challenged may not vote on the question of their **own** right to participate.

# **ARTICLE VI**

## **Conventions, Endorsements and Elections - General Provisions**

### **SECTION 1: Business and Call of a Convention.**

- A. Conventions shall transact such business as is specified in the call of the convention and may transact such other business as a majority of the convention may determine.
- B. The call for a **State, BPOU or Congressional District** Convention shall be issued at least ten (10) days prior to the convention. **A call for** an endorsing convention for a special election or for a post-primary endorsing convention shall be issued at least five (5) days prior to the convention. **All** convention calls and reports required to be mailed prior to a convention may be issued electronically by email.
- C. A valid convention Call must include **the name of the** issuing committee **or the title and name of the issuing officer, who must be authorized by this Constitution** to issue the Call, **the date the issuing committee passed a motion to call the convention, and the date** of issuance.

### **SECTION 2: Registration.**

- A. Business meetings shall not be used to raise funds to support the Party or any Party subunit. Notwithstanding Article II, Sections 2 and 3, registration fees **for a required business meeting of the Party** may be assessed **to** Delegates and Alternates attending a **meeting or** convention **as follows:**
  1. **The proportion of the line-item budget for the convention in the most recently approved budget for the Party unit calling the meeting, minus the expected payment from candidates and stakeholders who pay fees for things including but not limited to tables, advertising and rooms or spaces. The projected cost shall be divided by the number of delegates to the convention. Following every meeting, convention or event, there shall be a final reconciliation of the receipts and expenditures to determine any shortfall or excess. Any excess funds received as the result of compulsory fees to participate in a business meeting shall be divided proportionally between the total number of delegates and alternates who paid a fee to the organizing unit.**

- B. Once a Delegate or a seated Alternate has registered for the convention **and picked up their credentials, in person at the convention**, they remain part of the voting strength of the convention even if they leave the convention prior to the convention's official adjournment. **Following the close of registration and the approval of the final credentials report, the voting strength of the convention shall apply to all votes, including motions, resolutions, changes to the constitutions or bylaws, endorsements and elections.**
- C. A convention may close registration of Delegates and Alternates only if the convention call states the time at which registration will close.
- D. **If a meeting or convention at any level of the Party does not close registration, there shall be an updated credentials report given prior to any vote to amend the constitutions or bylaws and any vote for endorsement or election.**
  - 1. **To verify current voting strength, every delegate and seated alternate from the previous credentials report must be verified as being present and on the floor, and all delegates and seated alternates who completed registration after the most recent credentials report must be added to the credentials report. This report must identify, by BPOU, the number of seated alternates from the prior credentials report and, if applicable, the number of seated alternates, by BPOU, who were cross-seated but have now been unseated or moved due to registration changes. Once updated, the most recent credentials report shall determine the voting strength of the convention until the next required credentials report.**

### SECTION 3: Elections and Endorsements

#### A. General Rules.

- 1. **All elections between 2 or more candidates for any office within the Party organization, including subunits, shall be by secret ballot.**
- 2. **The requirements for the elective office within the Party or its subunits shall be only those requirements provided for by state law and the Party Constitution. Any related Nominations Committee report must be limited to objective information. The delegate body has the authority to reject any portion of a committee report or the report in its entirety.**
- 3. **Delegates and Alternates have a duty to research candidates for office and to ask questions of those candidates about their experience and ability to fill the position.**
- 4. Votes may be cast for any person who by law is eligible for **endorsement for or** election to the office under consideration and who is eligible under this Constitution to seek the endorsement **or office**. Ballots may also be cast stating 'no preference', **"abstention"** or 'undecided', indicating no endorsement. Unintelligible ballots, or ballots cast for an ineligible person, or a fictional character shall not be **individually counted but the total number of those ballots returned shall be included in the total number of ballots cast. The number of ballots cast for each candidate, including each write-in candidate, shall be tallied and that number shall be divided by the voting strength to determine each candidate's percentage of the vote. Percentages must not be rounded up. There will be no endorsement of any candidate who does not receive at least a minimum of 60% of the voting. No preprinted ballot shall be allowed unless an option for 'write in candidate' and 'no preference', 'undecided' or 'no endorsement' is included.**

#### B. Endorsements.

##### 1. General Rules.

- a. It shall first be determined by a majority vote whether endorsement shall be considered for an

office. Voting on a candidate for endorsement for an office shall be by secret ballot, using paper ballots, as per MN Stat 204B.36.

- b. The convention or committee may decide by a two-thirds (2/3) vote to endorse by a rising vote for any office for which there is only one (1) candidate.
- c. A motion of no endorsement may be adopted by a majority vote. The rules of a convention may limit how often or when such a motion may be made. However, on any round of voting for endorsement, a motion of no endorsement shall be considered. adopted if a majority of the ballots (excluding blanks) or a majority of the votes on a voice vote (excluding abstentions) is for 'no', 'none' or 'no endorsement'.
- d. Excepting the 60% requirement in this Article, BPOU or Congressional District constitutions may establish different rules of endorsement for conventions relating to legislative districts or other areas entirely within the respective BPOU or Congressional District.
- e. An endorsement may carry with it the commitment of party resources, finances and volunteers only when made at a convention that is representative of the entire electorate for the office. In the case of a proposal for endorsement of a candidate whose constituency is not coterminous with the territory of the convention, only those Delegates residing within such constituency shall vote upon the proposal. An endorsement for public office at a convention below the level of the one that is representative of the entire electorate for the office shall be no more than an expression of the sentiment of the convention.

### **C. Pre-Primary Endorsement.**

- 1. If the public office sought by the candidate is legally partisan, the candidate must agree prior to being considered for pre-primary endorsement to seek the office as a Republican if they receive the endorsement.
- 2. Any candidate for any elective public office may be granted pre-primary endorsement by any state, Congressional District, BPOU or other authorized convention if they receive a sixty percent (60%) vote of the convention and if the sixty percent (60%) is greater than or equal to at least a majority of the registered.
- 3. Delegates and seated Alternates as established by the last report of the credentials. committee preceding such a vote.
- 4. Only one candidate may be endorsed per seat for a particular office.
- 5. When more than one candidate is nominated for endorsement for an office, none of the candidates for that office shall be voted upon separately.

### **D. Rules for Minnesota Supreme Court and Minnesota Court of Appeals Endorsements.**

- 1. As to candidates for judicial office, the Party shall at its state convention consider whether to endorse candidates for the Minnesota Supreme Court and the Minnesota Court of Appeals. The nominations committee shall report whether any candidate for endorsement has met the requirements of Article VI, Sec. 3.
- 2. After the report of the nominations committee, the State convention shall proceed to the vote on whether endorsement should be considered. The convention may only vote to endorse a candidate who has first satisfied the requirements of Article VI, Sec. 3.
- 3. If the state convention votes affirmative on consideration of endorsement, the Delegates shall vote on endorsement of a person for that particular office of the Minnesota Supreme Court and the Minnesota Court of Appeals. Endorsement may be conferred upon any person who by law is eligible for election to the office and who is eligible under this Constitution to seek endorsement,

even if such candidate has not sought endorsement by the Party or has communicated that such candidate does not desire and/or will not use Party endorsement.

4. Except where they conflict with the special rules stated in this paragraph, the provisions of Article V, Section 3, A. and B. apply to endorsing candidates for the Minnesota Supreme Court and the Minnesota Court of Appeals.

#### **E. Endorsement By State Central Committee.**

If a primary election for any Minnesota statewide office or for United States Senator results in the selection of a nominee other than the Republican-endorsed candidate, a meeting of the State Central Committee shall be called by the Chair or by the State Executive Committee within five (5) days after the certification of the primary election results by the State Canvassing Board. The purpose of this meeting shall be to consider a post primary endorsement of the nominee(s) winning the primary election. Such a meeting may also consider post primary endorsement of a Republican nominee for any other statewide office or United States Senator for which no pre-primary endorsement was made. The Chair or the State Executive Committee may call a meeting of the State Central Committee at any time after the State Convention to consider Republican endorsement by the State Central Committee of any candidate for statewide office or for United States Senator, if (1) the State Convention did not endorse any candidate for that office and such candidate's candidacy for that office had not been announced prior to the State Convention *or* (2) the endorsed candidate dies, withdraws, or is otherwise ineligible for election to the office sought. Any endorsement by the State Central Committee shall require a sixty percent (60%) vote of the registered Delegates (including seated Alternates) at such State Central Committee meeting and such vote shall be greater than or equal to at least a majority of the registered Delegates and seated Alternates at such meeting as established by the last report of the credentials committee preceding such vote.

#### **F. Vacancies In Nominations.**

In the event of the death or withdrawal of an endorsed nominee for statewide office prior to the primary, or in the event of the death or withdrawal of candidate after the primary, but twenty-one (21) days prior to the general election, the State Central Committee shall consider the endorsement of a substitute nominee or candidate. The call for the meeting 5 of 22 shall be issued at least five days prior to the scheduled meeting. In the event the candidate withdraws or dies less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the general election, the State Executive Committee shall consider endorsement of a substitute candidate. Any endorsement by the State Central Committee shall require a sixty percent (60%) vote of the committee and such vote shall be greater than or equal to at least a majority of the registered Delegates and seated Alternates as established by the last report of the credentials committee preceding such vote. Any endorsement by the State Executive Committee shall require a sixty percent (60%) vote of the committee and such vote must be greater than or equal to at least a majority of the members of the committee.

#### **G. Legislative District Endorsing Conventions.**

1. A legislative district endorsing convention wholly within a given BPOU may be held subject to the provisions of said BPOU constitution and/or bylaws, provided said provisions are not in conflict with state statutes or the Party Constitution.
2. Where a legislative district crosses BPOU lines, but lies wholly within a Congressional District, the Congressional District Executive Committee may issue the call for an endorsing convention and appoint the convener.
3. Where a legislative district crosses BPOU and Congressional District lines, the State Executive Committee may issue the call for an endorsing convention and appoint the convener.

4. In the event that a majority of the precinct chairs from a legislative district which crosses BPOU, or Congressional District lines should sign a petition requesting an endorsing convention and specifying the convener, the chair(s) of the Congressional District or Chair, on behalf of the respective executive committee which has jurisdiction as specified in Section 3. F. 2. or 3. F. 3. of this Article, shall issue the call for such convention.
5. In the event that all of the BPOU committees from a legislative district that crosses BPOU, or Congressional District lines should request an endorsing convention, then the chairs of the respective BPOUs on behalf of their committees may issue a joint call for such an endorsing convention and appoint the convener.
6. Eligible voters at legislative district endorsing conventions shall be the Delegates or their Alternates who reside within the legislative district and who were duly elected at the most recent Party precinct caucus.
7. Should the Delegates and Alternates qualified to vote at a legislative district convention not all be elected based on the same ratio of the Republican vote count, then those Delegates and Alternates elected based on the highest ratio of the vote count shall be counted as one (1) vote and those Delegates and Alternates elected on a lesser ratio of the vote count shall have the percentage of one (1) vote based on their percentage of the highest elected ratio of the vote count.

#### **H. County and County District Endorsing Conventions.**

1. For a county containing four or more entire House Districts a county convention may be held solely for the purpose of endorsement for county offices elected on a countywide basis. A county district convention may be held solely for the purpose of endorsements for county offices such as County Commissioner if elected by districts.
2. If a county or county district office lies wholly within a BPOU, a county convention shall be called by the BPOU committee.
3. If a county or county district office crosses BPOU lines but lies wholly within a Congressional District the convention may be called by the Congressional District Executive Committee unless otherwise provided for in the Congressional District constitution.
4. If a county office crosses BPOU and Congressional District lines, the convention may be called by the State Executive Committee.
5. Should a county or county district consist of more than one (1) BPOU, a request for a county convention must be submitted by the committees of a majority of the BPOUs to:
  - a. Congressional District Executive Committee, unless otherwise provided for in the Congressional District constitution, if a county lies wholly within a Congressional District; or
  - b. State Executive Committee, if the county office crosses Congressional District lines.
6. In the event that all of the BPOU committees from a county or county district office that crosses BPOU, or Congressional District lines should request an endorsing convention, then the chairs of the respective BPOUs on behalf of their committees may issue a joint call for such an endorsing convention and appoint the convener.
7. Eligible voters at a county or county district convention shall consist of those Delegates and Alternates who reside within a county or county district and who were duly elected at the most recent Republican Party precinct caucus held within the county or county district.
8. Should the Delegates and Alternates qualified to vote at the county or county district convention

not all be elected based on the same ratio of the Republican vote count, then those Delegates and Alternates elected based on the highest ratio of the vote count shall be counted as one (1) vote and those Delegates and Alternates elected on a lesser ratio of the vote count shall have the percentage of one (1) vote based on their percentage of the highest elected ratio of the vote count.

9. For Hennepin County the Hennepin County subcommittee shall allocate the number of Delegates and Alternates for a county or county district convention based on the Republican Party vote in the last general election for President or Governor. For Ramsey County the Congressional District committee shall allocate the number of Delegates and Alternates for a county or county district convention based on the Republican Party vote in the last general election for President or Governor.

#### **I. City, Ward, Township, School Board, and Judicial District Endorsing Conventions.**

1. For cities, townships, and judicial districts not included in Article X, Section 4, a city, ward, township, school board, or judicial endorsing convention may be held for the purpose of endorsing candidates for city offices, township offices, school board, and judicial office and the provisions in Article V, Section 3, I., 1- 9 shall only apply to such cities, townships and school districts.
2. An endorsing convention for such a city, ward, township or school district wholly ~~7 of 22~~ within a given BPOU may be held subject to the provisions of said BPOU constitution and/or bylaws, provided said provisions are not in conflict with state statutes or the Party State Constitution.
3. An endorsing convention for such a city, ward, township, school district, or judicial district wholly within a given Congressional District may be held subject to the provisions of said Congressional District constitution and/or bylaws, provided said provisions are not in conflict with state statutes or the Party State Constitution.
4. Where such a city, ward, township, school district, or judicial district crosses BPOU lines, but lies wholly within a Congressional District, the Congressional District Executive Committee may issue the call for an endorsing convention and appoint the convener.
5. Where such a city, ward, township, school district, or judicial district crosses BPOU and Congressional District lines, the State Executive Committee may issue the call for an endorsing convention and appoint the convener.
6. In the event that a majority of the precinct chairs from such a city, ward, township, school district, or judicial district which crosses BPOU or Congressional District lines should sign a petition requesting an endorsing convention and specifying the convener, the chair(s) of the Congressional District or Chair, on behalf of the respective executive committee which has jurisdiction as specified in Section 3. I. 4. or 3. I. 5. of this Article, shall issue the call for such convention.
7. In the event that all of the BPOU committees from such a city, ward, township, school district, or judicial district that crosses BPOU or Congressional District lines should request an endorsing convention, then the chairs of the respective BPOUs on behalf of their committees may issue a joint call for such an endorsing convention and appoint the convener.
8. Eligible voters at such city, ward, township, school district, or judicial district endorsing conventions shall be the Delegates or their Alternates who reside within the city, ward, township or school district and who were duly elected at the most recent Republican Party of Minnesota precinct caucus held within the political boundaries of the legislative district.
9. Should the Delegates and Alternates qualified to vote at such a city, ward, township, school, or judicial district convention not all be elected based on the same ratio of the Republican vote

count, then those Delegates and Alternates elected based on the highest ratio of the vote count shall be counted as one (1) vote and those Delegates and Alternates elected on a lesser ratio of the vote count shall have the percentage of one (1) vote based on their percentage of the highest elected ratio of the vote count.

#### J. Recommended Status

1. Any candidate for any non-partisan elective public office may be recommended for office, provided that the following conditions are met:
  - a. The candidate shall be vetted by a process approved by the BPOUs or CDs that lie partially or wholly within the district represented by the office being sought and
  - b. The candidate shall receive a sixty percent (60%) vote of approval from the executive committees of a majority of the BPOUs or CDs in the applicable jurisdiction.
2. An endorsement supersedes a recommendation for any given position.
3. A BPOU or CD could choose to recommend multiple candidates for a local position or could choose not to recommend at all.
4. Support for candidates that have been recommended, according to the procedure in this section, shall include the following:
  - a. Access to voter information held by the Party, but limited to voters in the district represented by the office being sought, and
  - b. Any other resources available to the Party.

#### SECTION 4: Seating of Alternates.

Once the temporary organization has been established, the first order of business of a state, **BPOU** or Congressional District convention shall be the seating of Alternates. The permanent voting roll of the **State, BPOU or Congressional District** convention shall be composed of the **registered** Delegates of each BPOU who actually are present, and in the absence of any Delegate to the convention, an Alternate shall be seated according to the procedure established by the constitution or bylaws of the BPOU. **If a Delegate completes registration for the convention after the alternates have been seated or leaves the floor temporarily and then** returns to the floor of the convention, he or she will be seated immediately.

#### SECTION 5: Election and Terms of Delegates.

- A. **All BPOU Delegates elected at the precinct caucuses in the general election years shall remain the BPOU Convention delegates until the following Precinct caucus in the next general election year. Upon election of officers, delegates and alternates by the attendees of the precinct caucus, the precinct chair is required to certify those election results directly to the Chair of the State Central Committee and the BPOU Chair. (MN Stat 202a.18) If a precinct chair either fails or refuses to certify the delegates and alternates as required, the precinct caucus attendees may, by affidavit, submit the names of the delegates and alternates elected at their caucus to the BPOU Chair and the Chair of the State Central Committee. If there is a dispute about who is a delegate or alternate to the BPOU, the delegates and alternates identified by a majority of the documented attendees of the caucus shall be seated. Only the State Convention has the authority to resolve any further disputes within the Party. (MN Stat 202a.12) There is no process to remove or de-credential a delegate or alternate elected at a precinct caucus to serve the BPOU Convention.**
- B. **Each BPOU Convention shall elect State Convention and Congressional District Delegates and Alternates, per its Constitution, in the general election year following the election of the BPOU**

**Convention Delegates and Alternates at the precinct caucuses. These elections must occur in the general election year and may occur annually as directed by the BPOU Constitution. State Convention and Congressional District Delegates and Alternates shall be delegates and alternates elected to the BPOU Convention at the Precinct Caucuses. The BPOU Convention shall determine if the State Convention and Congressional District Delegates and Alternates are the same BPOU delegates and alternates or if there shall be a separate election held for each of the Conventions. The Delegates to the State Convention and Congressional District Convention may not be removed or de-credentialed by any body of the Party other than the BPOU Convention. Any removal of a delegate or alternate must comply with state law and this constitution.**

- C. All affiliate Delegates and Alternates shall serve a two (2) year term or until their successors are elected. An affiliate Delegate or Alternate may not be a regular party. Delegate or Alternate to the same convention. Affiliate Delegates and Alternates to Congressional District conventions must reside in the Congressional District and must be elected by the affiliate members who reside in the Congressional District and will be legally qualified voters in the next general election.
- D. In compliance with the rules of the Republican National Convention, no Delegate or Alternate may be an automatic Delegate or Alternate. Each Delegate or Alternate must be elected by their respective convention. Delegates and Alternates to the Republican National Convention may be bound to cast their vote for a particular candidate. The State executive committee will have the authority to create binding rules for the state and congressional districts. The rules will be in accordance with rules promulgated by the Republican National Committee.

#### **SECTION 6: Vacancies.**

At all levels within the Party a vacancy shall occur in a Delegate's position upon their death, resignation or removal from the geographical area from which they were elected, or upon the failure of the body having the power of election to fill such position, if no duly elected Alternate is available to fill the vacancy. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original Delegate or Alternate was elected.

**SECTION 7:** Nothing in this Article is intended to affect the right of the convention to authorize, by rule, the Delegates present to vote the entire voting strength of the BPOU.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **State Convention and Party Administration**

#### **SECTION 1: Duty of the State Convention**

**The final authority over the affairs of each major political party is vested in the party's state convention. (MN Stat 202A.12, Subd. 1). The State Convention shall have the sole authority to:**

- A. **Endorse statewide candidates for state and federal offices.**
- B. **Amend the Party Constitution.**
- C. **Resolve intra-party disputes brought to the Convention that are on the agenda or moved from the floor.**
- D. **Take Emergency action the Convention deems necessary to protect the Party from any malfeasance or nonfeasance of any officer and/or Party unit or subunit.**

#### **SECTION 2: Composition.**

State conventions shall be composed of the following:

- A. Delegates from various BPOUs of the state who are elected at their conventions. The number of Delegates from the various BPOUs shall be apportioned among the BPOUs upon such a basis as the State Executive Committee or the State Central Committee may determine, provided that the basis of apportionment shall be uniform throughout the state and shall be based upon the vote for the Republican candidate for Governor in the last preceding statewide general election; or, if such election were a presidential election, the vote cast for the Republican candidate for President. If the number of Delegates apportioned to a BPOU is less than two (2), the total number of Delegates shall be increased to a minimum of two (2) Delegates for each BPOU.
- B. Subject to Article V, Section 5, B., two (2) Delegates and two (2) Alternates elected by each of the statewide Republican Party affiliate organizations as listed in the party bylaws, provided that the affiliate has at least twenty-five (25) eligible members.

**SECTION 3: Time and Place of Convention.**

- A. A state convention of the Party shall be held at least annually, between the first Saturday in April and the third Saturday in May, and at any other time as deemed necessary by the call of the Chair of the State Convention, 50 members of the State Central Committee, a majority of the members of the BPOU Committee or 150 delegates to the State Convention.
  - 1. Every call of the State Convention must include the Convention's option to review and amend the Constitution and Bylaws to make changes the body determines to be in the interests of the Party; to review and amend the most recent budget proposed by the State Central Committee; hear intra-party disputes; and receive, review and take action based upon reports from the standing convention committees.
- B. The State Central Committee shall call the State Convention to meet at least once during every state general election year. (MN Sat 202A.12) This convention must occur between April 1 and May 15<sup>th</sup> and will include endorsing state and federal candidates for statewide office,
- C. Beginning in 2027, the State Convention meeting occurring between April and May of the odd year shall include the election of all State Party officers.
  - 1. A committee shall be established in May 2026 to create the election process. This committee shall be created by the state convention delegates, who will appoint a State Convention Election Transition committee. This committee shall not include any current Party officers at the State or Congressional District level. Every Delegate or alternate interested in serving on this committee shall provide their name to their BPOU Chair by Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. These names will be grouped by Congressional District and placed in a box where either a teller will randomly pull submitted names from that box or the convention will vote to select members by some other process. Prior to the adjournment of the May 2026 State Convention, there will be four (4) delegates and four (4) alternates from each congressional district selected to serve on this committee. (There can be no more than 1 delegate and/ or alternate from the same BPOU serving on the committee.) The delegates selected will elect a Chair of the Committee. This committee shall sunset after the 2027 State Convention elections are held.

**SECTION 4: Party and Sub-Unit Committees.**

- A. The Executive Committee of the State Convention, BPOU and Congressional Districts are administrative and have no authority to govern the Party or any subunit. These committees are not gatekeepers of information and may not hide information from either the governing or managing bodies of the State or any other superior body.
  - 1. If an issue arises that requires a decision be made or an action be taken by the managing or

**governing body of the Party or sub-unit, the executive committee has the authority to call a meeting of the superior body to ensure the issue is addressed by the proper Party Unit.**

a. **A motion to call a meeting of a superior body must be put to a roll call vote. If the managing or governing body determines the meeting was necessary, those members who refused to join the call for a meeting shall be determined to have engaged in malfeasance or nonfeasance, depending upon the circumstances and that member's conduct shall be reported to the elective body of each member determined to have been derelict in their duty to the Party.**

B. The standing committees of the State, BPOU and Congressional District Conventions must include each of **the following as noted:**

1. **BPOU Chair Advisory Committee**

a. **The State and Congressional District Conventions shall each establish a BPOU Chair Advisory Committee, whose Chair shall be elected by the BPOU Chairs serving that body. This committee shall provide a report to the applicable convention that includes issues that have been identified, concerns of BPOU chair(s) communicated to committee, Congressional or State issues, updates on candidate recruitment, fundraising events held within that Party units and any other matters deemed relevant to the convention.**

2. **Constitution and Bylaws Committee**

a. **The State Constitution Committee shall meet at least every other month to fulfill its duty to ensure the Party and all sub-units remain in compliance with statutory requirements. The Committee with meet at least every two (2) weeks in the 2 months prior to any scheduled state Convention to review proposed amendments not previously reviewed.**

i. **Upon submission, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee Chair shall forward any proposed amendment to the Party Constitution and Bylaws Committee members. The Committee shall review the proposed changes at the next regularly scheduled committee meeting to determine whether the proposed amendment is grammatically clear, uses plain language and does not conflict with any other provision of the constitution. The Committee shall provide the person who submitted the amendment with confirmation of receipt and review and provide information about any proposed changes to the submission and related provisions of the constitution or bylaws.**

ii. **The Committee shall report out every submitted change to the Party Constitution or Bylaws with its specific recommendation to pass, amend or reject that proposal. All proposed changes to the Constitution or bylaws shall be posted on the Party website within 10 days of review by the committee and emailed to all Convention delegates and alternates at least 7 days prior to the convention.**

iii. **The Constitution and Bylaws Committee shall meet at least every other month to review Constitutions and Bylaws of the Party units to verify compliance with the Party Constitution. Between June 15, and August 31, 2026, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee must review all sub-unit Constitutions and Bylaws for compliance with the State Party Constitution and Bylaws and to identify any conflicts between the governing documents of the sub-unit. Any article or sub-section of an article of a sub-unit constitution or bylaws that violates the State Party Constitution or Bylaws will be deemed a nullity. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee Chair shall notify the State Convention, State Central Committee, State Executive Committee and affected sub-unit conventions and committees about this non-compliance and provide clear directives about changes required to create compliance.**

- iv. Effective October 1, 2026, any change to a sub-unit constitution or bylaws must be referred to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the convention at which it may be considered for passage. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee must review all sub-unit constitution or bylaw changes for compliance with the Party Constitution and provide either a verification of compliance or a determination of non-compliance for each change submitted within seven (7) days of receipt and within fourteen (14) days of the sub-unit convention.
  - v. Each sub-unit is required to submit an amended Constitution and / or Bylaws to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee within thirty (30) days of passage. Any change to a sub-unit constitution determined to violate the State Party Constitution or Bylaws shall be considered a nullity. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee shall notify the State Convention, Central Committee, Executive Committee and all other affected sub-units about any provisions deemed unconstitutional within fourteen (14) days and recommend a timeline for correction.
- b. Each BPOU and Congressional District must have a standing Constitution and Bylaws Committee.
- i. The Constitutions or Bylaws of each of the Party sub-units shall include the provisions deemed necessary to comply with the requirements in this Party Constitution related to the process required to amend their constitution or bylaws.
  - ii. No BPOU Committee or BPOU Executive Committee shall have the authority to amend the BPOU Constitution.
  - iii. No BPOU Executive Committee shall have the authority to amend the BPOU Bylaws.
  - iv. No Congressional District Committee or Congressional District Executive Committee shall have the authority to amend the Congressional District Constitution.
  - v. No Congressional District Executive Committee shall have the authority to amend the Congressional District Bylaws.
  - vi. Compliance with all requirements included in this article of the constitution shall not be waived. Any failure to comply with the requirements of the Party Constitution that also violates any provision of MN Stat 200.02 or MN Stat 202a.12 may result in the immediate recommendation of removal of all committee members and officers who were notified of the violation and failed to take the actions required to remedy the violation.
3. The Rules Committee
- a. The State Convention shall establish a Rules Committee to create a set of permanent rules for the Party and its sub-units. These rules shall govern all State, BPOU and Congressional District conventions and also all meetings of the BPOU and Congressional District Committees and Executive Committees. A Rules Committee shall be established prior to the adjournment of the May 2026 Convention.
    - i. If the State Convention Rules Committee proposes additional rules for a particular meeting, the rationale for those rules must be included with the email regarding the proposed rules.
    - ii. All proposed rules shall be posted on the Party website and emailed to the delegates and alternates no later than seven (7) days prior to the convention or meeting.
  - b. Any rules drafted by a BPOU or Congressional District Rules Committee to control a

Congressional District or BPOU Convention or meeting of a sub-unit must be voted on rule by rule by the convention or meeting members.

- i. There shall be no block voting of rules.
- ii. The sub-unit Rules Committee proposed rules shall be emailed to all delegates and alternates and available on the Party website at least seven (7) days in advance of the convention and include the rationale for those rules in the email regarding the proposed rules

#### 4. The Credentials Committee

- a. The Credentials committee shall have the administrative duty to ensure those delegates and alternates elected by their BPOU Conventions or granted the right to participate the Convention through this constitution are provided with their rightful credentials after completing registration as required by this constitution.
  - i. The Credentials Committee has no authority to deny delegate or alternate credentials to any person who has the right to receive those credentials.
  - ii. If a challenge to a delegate or alternate is made, the credentials committee must immediately call for a meeting with the Chair or identified representative of the delegate or alternate's BPOU. If the Chair or designated representative of the BPOU does not resolve the matter, all of the registered Delegates and Alternates of that BPOU who are present after the gavel into the meeting shall be convened to determine the delegate or alternate status. If the matter cannot be resolved, it must be referred to and determined by the State Convention Body.
  - iii. The Convention shall only consider the requirements as stated in this constitution when determining whether a delegate or alternate retains their right to be seated at the state convention.
- b. The BPOU and Congressional Districts must abide by the credentialing rules that govern the State Convention and State Central meetings.

#### 5. Nominating Committee

- a. The Nominations Committee shall report to the convention those candidates who have met the petition and legal requirements found in this Constitution and whether the Nominations Committee deems the candidates to be qualified, qualified with reservations or unqualified to receive endorsement or be elected based upon those requirements.
  - i. To be eligible to be considered for endorsement or election, candidates for statewide endorsement and candidates for National Delegate or Alternate must meet all legal requirements and submit nominations petitions to the Nominating Committee containing the printed names and signatures of a minimum of two percent (2%) of the State Convention Delegates.
    - (1) Delegates may sign as many candidate petitions as they choose.
    - (2) There shall be no requirements to be a candidate for political office that are not included in the Party Constitution.

#### 6. Compliance Committee

- a. The Compliance Committee originally convened by the State Party Chair in January 2025 shall be immediately reinstated and include the members of the committee as originally appointed. (See Addendum to the Constitution which includes an outline of the

**Compliance Committee.) The Chair of the Compliance Committee, who was elected by the Compliance Committee in 2025, shall serve as the Chair of the Committee through to the next Regularly scheduled Convention in 2027. This Chair shall have full authority to appoint members to the Compliance Committee from across the State. At the discretion of the Compliance Committee Chair, additional members may be selected to fill the following suggested stakeholder roles:**

- i. person knowledgeable about election law who is not an attorney currently and directly representing the Party in any formal role within the Party;**
  - ii. person knowledgeable about case law and appellate procedures;**
  - iii. person with experience related to the Party's parliamentary procedure;**
  - iv. person(s) to represent the interests of Congressional District Chairs;**
  - v. person(s) to represents BPOU Chairs;**
  - vi. person(s) who represent rural or outstate Minnesota delegates and alternates;**
  - vii. person(s) to represent the metro area delegates;**
  - viii. person(s) to represent the affiliate organizations; and**
  - ix. at-large member(s) selected by the Compliance Committee Chair.**
- b. This Compliance Committee shall elect from its members a Secretary.**
  - c. The Compliance Committee shall establish a subcommittee on Dispute Resolution and any other subcommittees the members determine to be necessary.**
  - d. BPOUs and Congressional Districts must develop compliance committee practices that align with the Party Compliance committee.**
    - i. No sub-unit of the Party may violate the Party Constitution and Bylaws.**
7. Such other state convention committees as may be necessary or desirable Members in each committee shall be appointed as follows:

#### **SECTION 5: Platform Committee**

- A. The function of the platform committee shall be to maintain a Permanent Platform of core beliefs for the Party based upon the platform adopted at the previous regular Republican State Convention. The permanent platform may only be amended as provided in this Constitution and the rules of the State Convention. The committee will be responsible for performing the work described in subsection C. below.
- B. The platform committee shall meet in even numbered years at the call of its chair or the Chair. The final committee report shall be presented to the state party chair and be available on the website and emailed to convention Delegates and Alternates at least seven (7) days prior to the State Convention. The committee shall then present the final committee report to the State Convention to be voted on in the manner prescribed by this constitution and the rules of the convention.
- C. In even numbered years the platform committee shall review the permanent platform and all of the resolutions passed at Congressional District conventions for Congressional Districts that have a representative on the platform committee and any additional resolutions brought to the committee in the manner prescribed by the state convention rules. The Committee has discretion to make recommendations to the state convention to limit the size of the platform including a recommendation to designate resolutions of the platform for sunseting. The committee shall determine which resolutions are new resolutions (i.e., address issues that are not addressed in the current permanent

platform). The committee will recommend to the State Convention the following changes:

1. Adoption of the new resolutions identified by the committee.
  2. Renewed adoption of any resolution of the platform designated to sunset.
  3. Elimination of those resolutions that are no longer germane.
  4. Combining those resolutions that are similar.
  5. Clarifying those resolutions that are confusing.
  6. Reconsideration of those resolutions that are in conflict with other resolutions.
  7. Any resolution submitted by a majority of Congressional Districts shall be included in the platform committee final report; and
  8. Resolutions that advocate for specific legislation or policy shall be placed in a separate “action-agenda” that will sunset every two (2) years.
- D. All motions related to the Platform Committee report shall be voted upon at the State Convention in the manner prescribed in the convention rules and need to be adopted by a minimum of sixty (60) percent of the last credentials report. The creation of a permanent platform for the Party will not limit the authority of any BPOU or Congressional District with respect to adopting their own platform.

#### **SECTION 6: Issues Conference.**

The State Central Committee may organize a conference of party activists for the purpose of studying issues of topical interest to the Party. The conference shall be open to all interested Republicans and shall not be limited to State Convention Delegates and Alternates.

#### **SECTION 7: Presidential Electors.**

- A. Presidential Electors shall be nominated by the State Convention in the year of each Presidential election as follows: (I) two (2) Presidential Electors shall be nominated at-large by the State Convention Delegates in accordance with the rules of the State Convention; and (ii) each Congressional District shall place in nomination one (1) Presidential Elector (a Congressional District Elector-Nominee) as provided in Article VII, Section 3, who shall be nominated by the affirmative vote of the State Convention, in accordance with the Rules of the State Convention.
- B. Each Congressional District shall report to the State Convention the name of that Congressional District’s Congressional District Elector-Nominee in the manner  
Provided in the Rules of the State Convention.
- C. If a Congressional District fails to select a Congressional District Elector-Nominee or a Congressional District Elector-Nominee is unable or unwilling to serve as a Presidential Elector prior to being nominated by the State Convention, a substitute Congressional District Elector- Nominee shall be placed in nomination in accordance with the Constitution or Bylaws of the Congressional District. If no provision exists in the Congressional District’s Constitution or Bylaws for a substitute Congressional District Elector-Nominee, the Presidential Elector to be placed in nomination by that Congressional District shall instead be nominated by the State Convention Delegates in the manner provided for an at-large Presidential Elector as set forth above.
- D. No person shall be nominated a Presidential Elector unless that person has been selected as a Congressional District Elector-Nominee or nominated at-large as provided herein.
- E. If any Presidential Elector that has been nominated by the State Convention is unable or unwilling to serve after the state convention, the state executive committee shall nominate a replacement from the geographic body that nominated the original Presidential Elector.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Congressional District Conventions

#### SECTION 1: Composition.

Congressional District conventions shall be composed of the following residents of the district:

- A. Delegates apportioned to and elected at the BPOU convention, in the same manner as Delegates to state conventions. Any BPOU that crosses Congressional District lines shall allot its apportioned Delegates to the Congressional Districts using the Republican vote cast for either Governor or President in the most recent general election. The manner of election shall be determined by the BPOU constitution, bylaws or by a motion of its convention.
- B. Subject to Article V, Section 5, B., one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate who are residents of the Congressional District elected at a Congressional District caucus held by any of the statewide affiliate organizations as listed in the party bylaws, provided that the affiliate has at least ten eligible members residing in the Congressional District.

#### SECTION 2: Time and Place of Convention.

Congressional District conventions shall be held annually within a range of dates established by the State Central Committee and at the call of the State Executive Committee, or **by a joint call of** the committees of the respective Congressional District, and at such other times and for such other purposes as the committee(s) calling the conventions may determine. The Congressional District committee shall determine the place of holding Congressional District conventions in each district.

#### SECTION 3: Presidential Elector Nominees.

- A. In each Presidential election year, each Congressional District shall be entitled to place in nomination one (1) person to be that Congressional District's Congressional District Presidential Elector-Nominee. A Congressional District Presidential Elector-Nominee may be selected by: (a) the affirmative vote of the Congressional District's Delegates at the Congressional District Convention held in a Presidential election year in accordance with the rules of the District Convention; or (b) by that Congressional District's District Convention Delegates in the manner provided in the Congressional District's constitution.
- B. Each Congressional District Elector-Nominee shall be reported to the State Convention and nominated by the State Convention as provided in Article VI, Section 8 of this Constitution.

## ARTICLE IX

### Basic Political Organizational Unit Conventions

#### SECTION 1: Composition.

BPOU conventions shall be composed of the following residents of the BPOU:

Delegates elected at the precinct caucuses that are held in each precinct every general election year as required by Minnesota statutes. The number of Delegates and Alternates at each convention and the basis of their apportionment shall be determined by the BPOU committee, provided that such basis shall be uniform throughout the BPOU and shall be based on the vote cast for the Republican candidate for Governor in the past preceding statewide general election; or if such election were a presidential election, the vote cast for the Republican candidate for President. Special caucuses for one (1) or more precincts may be called by the BPOU committee in the manner prescribed by statute for biennial precinct caucuses for the sole purpose of filling vacancies in precincts where such exist at the time of notice.

## **SECTION 2: Time and Place of Convention.**

BPOU conventions shall be held annually within a range of dates established by the State Central Committee and at the call of the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, the Congressional District committee or the BPOU committee. The conventions shall precede Congressional District and State conventions. Special BPOU conventions may be held at the call of the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, the Congressional District committee, or the BPOU committee at such time and for such purpose as the committee calling the same may determine. BPOU conventions shall be held at a place determined by the respective committee issuing the call.

## **SECTION 3: Delegates and Alternates to State and Congressional District Conventions.**

Delegates and Alternates to the Congressional Districts and to State conventions shall be elected at the BPOU conventions in even numbered years; or if provided in the BPOU constitution may be elected annually. A BPOU may elect up to twice as many Alternates as the number of Delegates allotted, provided that the BPOU convention or constitution specifies a method for the orderly seating of said Alternates to fill vacancies in the delegation. The qualifications to be elected a Delegate or Alternate are **being a delegate or alternate to the BPOU Convention, ongoing** residence in the electing unit and being a legal and qualified voter in the next general election. All disputes concerning the seating of Alternates shall be settled according to that BPOUs constitution or bylaws. If seating of Alternates is not addressed in the BPOUs constitution or bylaws, then a caucus of the Delegates from that BPOU will meet to settle the issue.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **State Party Administration**

#### **SECTION 1: State Party Officers.**

##### **A. Composition.**

The State Party Officers shall consist of the following:

1. Chair
2. Deputy Chair
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. National Committeewoman
6. National Committeeman

##### **B. Elections, Terms and Removals**

1. **The State Convention shall elect each Party officer at the State Convention held in odd numbered years and to fill a vacancy in any officer position. Each officer candidate must be a documented member of the Party with known experience as a volunteer or delegate or alternate to a subunit of the Party.**
2. **The Party Officers elected by the State Convention shall serve in those roles on the State Central Committee.**
3. State party officers elected by the State **Convention** shall not serve more than four (4) consecutive full terms in the same office. Unless otherwise provided, each party officer shall serve a two (2) year term in accordance with the procedures established in the bylaws.

4. **The State Convention may initiate an Emergency Removal of a State Party Officer with a 40% vote of the delegation at any State Convention. An emergency removal does not require notice of proposed removal. Following the vote to initiate Removal, the body shall allow members in support of the removal to present testimony to the convention for 1 minute each, without interruption. Delegates may also ask the officer specific questions about that officer's conduct. Following the Delegates' testimony about why removal is warranted, the officer shall have 10 minutes to explain why a removal is not warranted. After the officer's response, there will be a voice vote on the removal action. An emergency removal of an officer requires a minimum affirmative vote equal to at least 60% of the voting strength of the convention as determined by the last Credentials Committee report. A call for division by any seated member of the delegation shall not be debatable. If the vote is within 2%, a call for division that requires delegates to separate within the room for a final count made by any member of the voting delegation is not debatable. The officer may resign at any point during the emergency removal process and the matter will be closed.**
  - a. **Following the removal or resignation of an officer, the State Convention may:**
    - i. **Entertain a motion to accept emergency nominations from the floor to replace the officer. The replacement officer will serve out the rest of the officer's term. There must be a recess of at least 30 minutes to allow the body to consider candidates for nomination. If there are a name or names submitted into nominations from the floor to replace the officer, and any person so nominated agrees to the nomination, there will be a vote taken to elect a new officer. The election of the replacement officer requires a simple majority vote using the voting strength of the convention. The convention may continue balloting until a candidate is elected or, after the second vote with no election, move to hold a convention to replace the officer within 30 days.**

## **SECTION 2: State Central Committee.**

### **A. General Management.**

The general management of the affairs of the Party in the state shall be vested in the State Central Committee, subject to the control of the State Convention and this Constitution. (MN Stat 202a.12)

### **B. Composition.**

The State Central Committee shall consist of the following:

1. **The Members of the State Executive Committee and the Congressional District Chairs.**  
Each of the members of the State Executive Committee and the Congressional District Chairs shall be ex officio non-voting members of the State Central Committee and may appoint a designee to serve in their absence provided that the designee is a Convention Delegate or Alternate who is not a State Central Committee Delegate or Alternate.
2. One (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate, elected from each of the statewide Republican Party affiliate organizations as listed in the party bylaws, provided that the affiliate has at least twenty-five (25) eligible members statewide with at least 2 members in 5 congressional districts.
3. Three Hundred (300) Delegates and up to two (2) times as many Alternates apportioned among the BPOUs, determined by the ratio of each BPOUs Republican vote in the last general election for President or Governor.

Within 6 weeks of the certification of results of the general election for President or Governor, each BPOU chair or their designee shall meet to apportion all of the ~~SCC~~ Delegates to the BPOUs, and no BPOU may be disenfranchised.

The Delegates and Alternates shall be elected **annually** by the BPOU Convention. A Delegate or Alternate elected pursuant to this section shall serve a **one (1)** year term commencing on the date of their election and terminating on the date their successor is elected. Delegates and Alternates must reside in the **BPOU** and be eligible to be a legally qualified voter in the next general election.

In the event that any BPOU Delegate and one of their Alternates are unable to attend a meeting of the State Central Committee, the **BPOU** constitution shall provide for a procedure for appointment of a replacement from among the other Alternates elected in that **BPOU**.

A vacancy in a **BPOU** Delegate position shall be filled for the unexpired term by one (1) of their Alternates if any, otherwise a vacancy in a Delegate or Alternate position may be filled for the unexpired term by the **BPOU Convention**.

4. Each Republican State constitutional officer and each **Minnesota** Republican member of the United States Senate or the House of Representatives, or their ~~ir~~-appointee, shall be a **non-voting** member of the State Central Committee for the duration of their term of office.
5. The Speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives, if a member of the Republican Caucus or their appointee (otherwise the leader of the House Republican Caucus or their appointee) and the leader of the Republican Caucus in the Minnesota State Senate or their appointee **shall be a non-voting member of the SCC**.

### **SECTION 3: State Executive Committee.**

#### **A. General Management**

**The state executive committee of the party shall have charge of the administration of the party's affairs, subject to the direction and control of the state convention and the state central committee. (MN Stat 202a.12, Subd. 3)**

#### **B. Composition.**

The State Executive Committee shall consist of the following:

1. The **State Party Officers**.
2. **The Chair of each standing committee of the Party or their designee.**
3. **A State Finance Director who shall be a non-voting member appointed by the Chair of the State Party.**
4. One district **representative and an alternate** from each Congressional District, **elected by the Congressional District Convention. The district representative shall not be a member of the Congressional District Committee, other than if currently serving on that committee as the district representative.**

### **SECTION 4: General Provisions Relating to State Party Administration.**

#### **A. Terms of Appointees.**

Unless otherwise provided, persons appointed by a state party officer under this constitution shall have terms of office expiring with the expiration of the term of the appointing officer. Each such person may be removed at the discretion of the appointing officer. In the case of the death, removal from office or geographical area, or resignation of the appointing officer the persons appointed by such state party officer shall have terms expiring with the election by the State Central Committee of the new state party officer.

- B.** No state party officer shall hold their office and at the same time receive monetary or in-kind payment

from any candidate or its campaign.

## **SECTION 5: Fundraising**

**Organizers or other representatives of state or Congressional District authorities shall not solicit membership or funds at an event held within any BPOU without at least fourteen (14) days written prior notice to the BPOU chair(s). (See Article IV, Section 2.)**

## ARTICLE XI

### Congressional District Party Administration

#### SECTION 1: Congressional District Committee.

##### A. Duties and Responsibilities.

The management of the affairs of the party pertaining to each Congressional District shall be vested in the Congressional District committee of such Congressional Districts, subject to the direction of the State Convention and State Central Committee, and the Congressional District convention, provided that the Congressional District committee shall have no jurisdiction over local affairs within the respective BPOUs in the Congressional District. **The State Executive Committee has the administrative authority to call a CD Convention for the purpose of endorsing a congressional candidate for that district and shall communicate with the CD officers regarding all activities required by the State Party Constitution.**

##### B. Composition.

The composition of each Congressional District committee shall be provided in their respective Congressional District constitution and/or **bylaws and must include those members as required by this constitution.**

##### C. Officers.

The officers of each Congressional District committee shall be at least **the chair, treasurer and secretary elected by the Congressional District Convention** and such additional officers as may be determined by each Congressional District constitution and/or bylaws. **Any officer elected by the convention but not included as a member of the CD Committee under the CD constitution shall serve on the CD Executive Committee.**

##### D. Election of Officers.

The Delegates to each Congressional District convention held in odd numbered years shall elect the officers of the Congressional District committee **as required in this section,** and any other officers to serve on the CD Executive Committee.

##### E. **Requirements to be a Congressional District Officer**

- 1. All officers must reside within the Congressional District.**
- 2. All officers must have attended their Precinct Caucus in the most recent general election year.**
- 3. No officer may be paid staff for a federal or state elected official, a federal or state government office or agency, a state or federal PAC or a state or federal lobbying firm.**

#### SECTION 2: Congressional District Executive Committee.

The Congressional District Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the District committee and such additional members as provided by the respective Congressional District constitution and/or

bylaws. **The Executive Committee shall provide administrative support to the CD Committee.**

### **SECTION 3: City Committees.**

For cities of the first class (and for cities located wholly within Hennepin County having a population of Seventy-Five Thousand (75,000) or more), it shall be responsibility of the respective Congressional District committee to organize or cause to be organized such cities and wards thereof, located within their Congressional District, for city elections. The Congressional District committee may determine the number of Delegates and Alternates for such a city or ward convention and the basis of their apportionment, provided that such basis shall be uniform throughout the city and the wards thereof, and if such Delegates and Alternates are elected at the precinct caucuses held in even numbered years the apportionment shall be based on the Republican Party vote in the last general election for President or Governor. The constitution and/or bylaws of the respective Congressional District shall provide for the establishment of a city committee for such a city. A Congressional District may also give power and responsibilities to such a city committee, including the authority to elect officers and to call endorsing conventions for city office, subject to the provisions of the Congressional District constitution and/or bylaws.

### **SECTION 4: Fundraising**

**Organizers or other representatives of state or Congressional District authorities shall not solicit membership or funds at an event held within any BPOU without at least fourteen (14) days written prior notice to the BPOU chair(s). (See Article IV, Section 2.)**

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **Basic Political Organizational Unit Administration**

#### **SECTION 1: BPOU Committee.**

##### **A. Duties and Responsibilities**

The management of the affairs of the party pertaining to each BPOU shall be vested in the BPOU Committee, subject to the direction of the State Convention. State Central Committee, and the BPOU convention. **The State Executive Committee has the administrative authority to call a BPOU Convention for the purpose of electing BPOU delegates and alternates to the State Convention, State Central Committee and the Congressional District Convention and shall communicate with the BPOU officers regarding all activities required by the State Party Constitution.**

##### **B. Composition.**

The BPOU committee shall consist of the BPOU party officers and such other members as the BPOU constitution, bylaws, or convention may prescribe.

##### **C. Officers.**

The officers of each BPOU shall be **the chair, treasurer and secretary elected at the BPOU Convention** and such additional officers as may be determined by each BPOU constitution and/or bylaws.

##### **D. Election of Officers.**

The officers and other members of the BPOU committee shall be elected at each BPOU convention held in odd numbered years.

##### **E. Fundraising.**

Organizers or other representatives of state or Congressional District authorities shall not solicit

membership or funds at an event held within any BPOU without at least fourteen (14) days written prior notice to the BPOU chair(s). (See Article IV, Section 2.)

## **SECTION 2: BPOU Executive Committee.**

The BPOU convention may provide for a BPOU executive committee of such size as it deems proper, which shall be members of the BPOU committee. **The BPOU Executive Committee shall provide administrative support to the BPOU Committee.**

## **SECTION 3:-Precinct Caucus Chair Committee.**

**The BPOU Committee shall oversee a committee of all precinct chairs within its geographic boundaries. This Committee shall assist BPOU with outreach, party growth and events in the precincts specifically and the BPOU generally. The BPOU Chair shall appoint a Chair from the membership of the Precinct Caucus Chair Committee.**

## **SECTION 4: Vacancies in Precinct Offices.**

The BPOU chairman or chair with the approval of the BPOU committee may call a special caucus, for one (1) or more precincts, in the manner prescribed by statute for biennial precinct caucuses for the sole purpose of filling vacancies where such exist at the time of notice or may provide for the appointment of an acting officer until an officer is duly elected.

# **ARTICLE XIII**

## **Judicial District Organization and Administration**

**SECTION 1:** A Judicial District convention may create and organize a Judicial District Committee. A notice of intent to consider forming a Judicial District Committee shall be included in the call of the convention along with the proposal to consider endorsement. If such committee is created and organized, it shall be strictly auxiliary to the Republican Party of Minnesota and shall have no other powers except as provided herein. If a Judicial District Committee is formed, it shall search for candidates for judicial office. If a convention endorses a judicial office under Article V, Section 3(H), the Judicial District Committee shall be responsible to secure the election of the endorsed candidate.

# **ARTICLE XIV**

## **Affiliates**

### **SECTION 1: Purpose and Organization.**

The right of special organizations having Republican affiliations to exist and carry on their activities as they see fit, consistent with the object, platforms, and principles of the party shall be recognized. The organization of permanent local clubs and organizations of party members for the purpose of holding meetings and carrying on other activities in furtherance of party and public welfare shall be permitted and encouraged. The activities of all such organizations during the election campaigns shall be coordinated with authorized party activities and subject to the direction of the regularly constituted party organizations.

### **SECTION 2: Procedures for Determining Affiliate Status.**

#### **A. Organizational Requirements for Affiliate Status.**

Each Organization applying to be recognized as an Affiliate Organization of the Republican Party of Minnesota shall submit to the Chair a copy of its constitution, bylaws, any other governing documents and an Executive Officer roster of the organization. The organization shall hold a

convention at least once every two (2) years to elect officers and Delegates/Alternates as applicable. Unless otherwise provided in the organization's constitution and/or bylaws, such convention shall be subject to the requirements in Article V.

**B. Procedures for Determining Affiliate Standing.**

The State Executive Committee shall review all existing Affiliates' standing at least every two (2) years. Written notice must be sent to the presiding officer of the Affiliate no later than twenty (20) days prior to a State Executive Committee meeting at which the Affiliate's standing will be reviewed. The State Executive Committee shall forward its recommendation of Affiliates in good standing to the State Central Committee to be certified by the State Central Committee.

**SECTION 3: Representation at State and Congressional District Conventions**

Authorized statewide Affiliates shall be entitled to voting representation at Republican State Conventions in accordance with Article VI, Section 1, B. Authorized statewide Affiliates may be entitled to voting representation at Congressional District Conventions, subject to qualification, in accordance with Article VII, Section 1, B.

**ARTICLE XV**

**Constitution and Bylaws**

**SECTION 1: Constitutions and Amendments to the Constitutions**

- A. The Party Constitution shall be the superior Constitution of all Party units. No Constitution of a Party sub-unit may violate the State Party Constitution.**
- B. This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote at any State Convention, provided that any proposal for amendment shall be referred to the State Constitution and Bylaws Committee and shall be reported out of said committee. Any member of the Constitution Committee may submit a signed minority report to the Convention. All proposed amendments must be posted to the Party website and emailed to all convention delegates and alternates per the requirements of the Constitution Committee and no later than at least seven (7) days before the Convention.**
- C. The State Convention retains the right to consider, amend, pass or reject every proposed amendment submitted to the Constitution Committee and to consider any proposed amendment to the Constitution, moved from the floor. A proposed amendment to the Constitution must receive an affirmative vote of 60% of the voting strength to pass. No block voting shall be permitted. A voice vote may be used to affirm each proposed amendment but a call for Division by any seated member of the convention is non-debatable and a head count, confirmed by at least 2 tellers is required. If the result is within 2%, a call for division that requires members to move to one side of the room or the other is non-debatable.**
- D. All amendments to this Constitution become effective immediately upon adoption.**

**SECTION 2: Bylaws and Amendments to the Bylaws**

- A. The State Central Committee and State Executive Committee shall operate under such bylaws as are deemed necessary for the transaction of the business of the party. The bylaws shall contain the specific delegation and division of responsibilities and duties among the various departments of the state organization and may specify whatever rules and administrative procedures the State Central Committee deems necessary.**
- B. The Bylaws may be amended by a simple majority vote of the State Convention provided that any proposal for amendment shall be referred to the State Constitution and Bylaws Committee and shall**

be reported out of said committee. **Any member of the Constitution Committee may submit a signed minority report.** Proposed amendments must be posted to the Party website at least **seven (7)** days before the State Central Committee meeting.

- C. The Bylaws may be amended **by a simple majority vote of the State Convention** provided that any proposal for amendment shall be referred to the State Constitution and Bylaws Committee and **shall be** reported out of said committee. **Any member of the Constitution Committee may submit a signed minority report.** Proposed amendments must be posted to the Party website at least **seven (7)** days before the State Central Committee meeting.

## ARTICLE XVI

### General Provisions

#### SECTION 1: Other Constitutions and Bylaws.

Only BPOUs, Congressional Districts and Affiliates may adopt and amend a constitution and/or bylaws for its own governance. **These documents must include the governance role and authority of their subunits and of persons included in committees at all levels of entities, including Senate Districts and Senate District Directors.** Those documents **shall** not be inconsistent with this Party's Constitution and Bylaws **nor create conflict or confusion within or between the BPOU, Congressional District or Affiliates.**

#### SECTION 2: Removal of BPOU or Congressional District Officers.

- A. **Any BPOU or Congressional District Convention has the authority to take emergency action to remove an officer at any properly called meeting of that body that forms a quorum. Reasons for removal without notice to the officer may be completed for the following reasons:**
- 1. The officer violated the constitution of the state party, convention or state law.**
  - 2. The officer has publicly supported or joined a different political party.**
- B. **Non-emergency removal actions taken against a BPOU or Congressional District Officer may only be brought by the respective BPOU or Congressional District convention.**
- 1. The vote to remove an elected officer of a BPOU or Congressional District must equal 60% of the number of delegates and seated alternates reported as present in the final credentials report of the meeting and be at least simple majority of the total number of delegates elected as members of that BPOU or Congressional District.**
- C. Notice of every proposal for removal by any committee or other body of the party, **excluding the State Convention and State Central Committee, shall** be included in the notice of the meeting, and the individual concerned shall be served **in person or via email to the last email address provided to the Party or subunit by the individual subject to the removal,** with a detailed statements of the charges against them at least ten (10) days prior to such meeting. **Any meeting at which a removal action is taken must have been called in compliance with all requirements found in the constitution and bylaws of that convention.**

#### SECTION 3: Vacancies.

- A. All vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term by the respective bodies or officers having power of election or appointment, except officers or members of the Congressional District or BPOU committees that shall be filled by such committees.
- B. A vacancy shall occur upon the death or resignation of an officer or committee member or upon their removal from the geographical area from which they were elected.

#### **SECTION 4: Financial Data/Congressional District/Basic Political Organizational Unit, and Legislative District Budgets.**

- A. Upon request by the Treasurer, the financial officer of any organization recognized under this constitution including but not limited to each Congressional District, each BPOU/Legislative District organization and affiliate shall prepare biennial budgets or submit financial data pertaining to the organization for review and shall submit financial data to the Treasurer.
- B. The Treasurer shall report at least semiannually on the financial status of the state party to members of the State Central Committee.
- C. All money received in the name of the Republican Party of Minnesota shall be deposited in its account. All money received shall be reported by the Treasurer along with copies of any reports required by state or federal law.
- D. No contribution shall be accepted, and a unit of the party shall make no expenditure at a time when the office of Treasurer of the respective unit is vacant.

#### **SECTION 5: Improper Use of Party Funds.**

No loan, in any form, may be made to any individual or party officer. In the event that any party officer, at any level of the Party, converts to their own use any Republican Party funds, other party officers shall report such occurrence to the Chair, diligently encourage and assist all law enforcement personnel in prosecuting the violator to the full extent of the law and shall work diligently to recover the misappropriated party funds.

#### **SECTION 6: General Provisions**

State Party **Officers** have a duty to act in the best interest of the Party and support Party-endorsed candidates for office. **Documentation proving any officer of the Party or a sub-unit voting to violate the Constitution of any Party unit shall be grounds for emergency removal by the applicable convention at the next meeting of that convention.**

### **ARTICLE XVII**

#### **Parliamentary Authority**

The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the party in all cases **in which the constitution and bylaws are silent on the matter raised and** to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and bylaws of the Republican Party of Minnesota, the statutes of the State of Minnesota, or any special rules of order the party may adopt. **When Roberts Rules of Order are raised by a convention or meeting chair or parliamentarian to support or prevent an action by the delegation, that specific rule must be cited to the delegation, provided to the body (either on screen to be read or in a handout) prior to a vote on that action and included in the minutes and.**

### **ARTICLE XVIII**

#### **Supremacy and Amendments**

**Following adoption of any amendments to the previous constitution, this constitution supersedes, cancels and replaces all previous constitutions of the Republican Party of Minnesota. Any conflicting bylaws or rules that conflict with this constitution are null and void as of the date of this Constitution.**

**Amended May 2026**