



# 2008-2009 Official Call

## of the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party of Minnesota

### CAUCUS, CONVENTION AND ELECTION DATES

Precinct Caucuses .....	February 5, 2008
County Unit Conventions .....	February 5 - April 6, 2008
Deadline for Submitting Resolutions to Platform Commission .....	April 8, 2008
Congressional District Conventions .....	April 12 - June 6, 2008
State Convention Commission/Committee Meetings, Rochester .....	May 18, 2008
DFL Endorsed, Elected Official Convocation, Rochester .....	June 6, 2008
State Convention, Rochester .....	June 6-8, 2008
Senate District Endorsing Conventions .....	February 5 - July 13, 2008
Democratic National Convention, Denver .....	August 18-21, 2008
Primary Election .....	September 9, 2008
General Election .....	November 4, 2008
DFL 2009 Business Conference .....	February 1 - April 30, 2009

This is the official Call for the 2008 Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party precinct caucuses, conventions, the 2009 Business Conference, and other Party meetings. The Call conforms with and is subordinate to the Charter of the National Democratic Party. It also conforms with and is subordinate to the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws. The provisions of the Call take precedence over other DFL party rules at any level, and govern all precinct caucuses, conventions, electoral commissions, the 2009 Business Conference, and other Party meetings during 2008 and 2009.

**Minnesota DFL  
State Central Committee**  
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**CHILD CARE**

Information on child care and the phone number of the convention site shall be made available by the appropriate unit chair prior to all county unit, congressional district and state conventions. For further help, call the State DFL Office at 651-293-1200 or 1-800-999-7457 for the phone number of the chair of that unit. This information is also available on the DFL web site at [www.dfl.org](http://www.dfl.org).

**Requests for Accommodations**

Every meeting notice or call to convention or endorsing commission shall include information regarding the name of the person to contact, how to contact that person, and the deadline for requesting reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION**

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT**

The following Affirmative Action Statement is to be read at the beginning of precinct caucuses, party conventions, and other meetings where elections or nominations occur:

*“The goal of affirmative action is to recruit individuals for political activity in the DFL and the Democratic process of our government. The DFL is an active participant in the struggle to end all forms of bigotry and discrimination. As part of our commitment to ending discrimination, we seek to increase the participation of members of those communities that have been traditionally shut out of and/or underrepresented in the political process. As part of this commitment, we will seek to elect members of these communities to positions both within the DFL Party and in public office. These efforts will be directed toward all underrepresented communities.”*

After the Affirmative Action Statement has been read, the Affirmative Action Reminder may be read in lieu of the full Affirmative Action Statement before each election.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REMINDER**

**“As you vote, remember that the DFL encourages those who are underrepresented to participate in DFL Party activities. Now is the time to empower those with less opportunity.”**

**NON-DISCRIMINATION**

Discrimination on the basis of gender, age, religion, economic status, ethnic identity, national origin, color, sexual and affectional orientation, disability or veteran status in the conduct of Minnesota DFL affairs is prohibited.

**PRECINCT CAUCUSES**  
**February 5, 2008**

**I. PREPARATIONS**

**By November 15, 2007**, each county unit central committee shall determine the location(s) for the February 5, 2008 precinct caucuses to be held within its county unit and report those location(s) to the State DFL Office.

**By January 1, 2008**, each county unit central committee shall:

1. Determine the time and location for the county unit convention;
2. Adopt and deliver to the State DFL Office any modifications of the standard rules and agenda for conduct of the precinct caucuses within that county unit; and
- 3.(a) identify the pre-convention committees that are to be used in that county unit, (b) specify

whether the committee members are to be elected by the precinct caucuses or the county unit central committee, (c) specify the method for allocating committee members among the precincts, if applicable, and (d) establish the date and location for any initial pre-convention committee meetings.

**Each precinct caucus shall be held in a suitable, accessible location (other than a private home). It is preferable to hold precinct caucuses within each precinct or as close to the precinct as possible. Within a county unit, a combination of centralized precinct caucuses and caucuses held within individual precincts is allowed.**

By Friday, January 18, 2008, each county unit chair shall publish a notice, or issue a press release to local news media, that DFL precinct caucuses will be held at 7:00 p.m. on February 5 in the location(s) reported to the State DFL Office. That notice or release should include information regarding the agenda of precinct caucus business. (A sample press release is included in the precinct kit.)

County unit chairs shall find convenors for each of their precinct caucus. In seeking these convenors, county unit chairs should find persons willing to arrive by 6:00 p.m. to set up the room and begin registration. The county unit chair shall distribute to each convenor the convenor's kit and the information required for posting on caucus night (see II.A. below).

## II. ON PRECINCT CAUCUS NIGHT (February 5, 2008)

### A. BEFORE THE CAUCUS

By 6:30 p.m., the convenor shall place the following on display at the caucus location:

1. The Call.\*
2. The Agenda.
3. The Standard Rules for Precinct Caucuses.
4. The time and place of the county unit convention.
5. The time and place of any county unit pre-convention committee meetings.
6. The list of precinct caucus locations in the county unit.
7. The State DFL Constitution and Bylaws.\*
8. The DFL Ongoing Platform and 2006 Action Agenda.\*
9. Blank resolution forms.
10. The eligibility requirements to participate in precinct activities.
11. A map or description of precinct boundaries, or the availability of a precinct finder.

\* For more copies of these documents, call the State Party Office at 651-293-1200 or 1-800-999-7457. Copies can also be obtained on the Internet at [www.dfl.org](http://www.dfl.org).

Registration can begin at 6:30, and shall stay open until adjournment (which shall not occur until at least 8:00). Every participant shall be clearly and legibly registered on the precinct roll before participating in caucus activities.

### B. DURING THE PRECINCT CAUCUS

#### 1. Convene the Caucus. At 7:00 p.m., the convenor shall:

- Call the caucus to order.
- Introduce the attendees to the business of the caucus.
- Read the DFL Affirmation Statement appearing at the top of the registration roll.
- Read the Affirmative Action Statement from page 2.
- Read the Platform Statement from page 6.
- Elect a caucus chair to conduct the remainder of the caucus.
- Elect or appoint at least two tellers.
- Appoint a secretary (recommended).

There is no caucus quorum. The precinct caucus continues until adjournment.

**2. Agenda and Rules.** The GENERAL RULES for conducting all DFL meetings, including precinct caucuses, are on pages 24 and 25. Each precinct caucus may adopt additional rules and/or modify the agenda for its caucus. Standard rules for precinct caucus procedures and a standard agenda are provided in the caucus materials.

**3. Participant Eligibility and Challenges.** All registrants may participate in caucus business unless challenged. To be eligible to participate, a person must satisfy all of the following requirements:

- a. The person must reside in the precinct.
- b. To run for, or vote for, county unit convention delegate or alternate, or to vote on the preference ballot, the person must be at least 18 years old and otherwise qualified to vote by November 4, 2008. To participate in all other caucus business, the person must be at least 16 years old by November 4, 2008.
- c. The person must agree with the DFL principles as stated in the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws.
- d. The person must not be an active member of any other political party.

The above are the only possible grounds for a challenge. If the right of a person to participate is challenged, the question of participation shall be settled by a majority vote of the whole caucus. Individuals shall not vote on the question of their own right to participate.

**4. Preference Ballots.** After registering by completing and signing the precinct roll, each eligible attendee will be given a ballot on which the attendee can indicate a presidential preference (including uncommitted status) for the purpose of allocating Minnesota's delegation to the 2008 Democratic National Convention, and a separate ballot on which the attendee can indicate a preference for US Senator (including uncommitted status). Balloting shall begin when registration opens and shall end one hour after the caucus convenes. The preference ballots at the precinct caucuses shall be secret ballots, not requiring the voter's signature. A person can participate in the preference balloting only, and need not remain for other caucus activities. Petitions submitted by absent individuals cannot be used to participate in the preference balloting. When balloting ends, tellers shall count the ballots and announce the results to the caucus. To appear on the preference ballot, a candidate must file a written request with the State DFL Chair by 4:30 pm Central Standard Time on January 2, 2008.

**5. Precinct Officer Elections.** Nominations for and the elections of precinct officers may begin any time after the caucus chair is elected. The precinct officer responsibilities described in a. and b., below, shall be read before nominations begin. The Affirmative Action Reminder (found on page 2) will be read before each contested ballot. All contested elections shall be by written ballot. The following precinct officers are elected for a two-year term:

**a. Precinct Chair:** This officer is charged with organizing the DFL Party in the precinct and serves on the county unit central committee. The Chair assists with organizing the local party unit and campaigns. Sample activities include:

- communicating with precinct caucus participants about DFL activities over the next two years.

- canvassing precinct residents to identify likely DFL voters.
- conducting voter registration drives.
- distributing the DFL sample ballot and campaign literature for endorsed candidates.
- conducting get-out-the-vote efforts at election time.
- compiling lists of DFL residents willing to work on campaigns or have lawn signs.

**b. Two Associate Chairs:** At least one must be of the opposite gender from the Chair. These officers help the Chair in party activities and may be the alternate for the Precinct Chair on the county unit central committee.

**6. County Unit Convention Delegate and Alternate Election.**

**Election of county unit delegates shall not begin before 7:30 p.m.  
The election process shall begin at 7:30 p.m. unless persons present are still being registered.**

**a. Allocation.** Each precinct is entitled to one county convention delegate and alternate for each 25 average DFL votes or remaining fraction. (The average DFL vote computation is described in the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws.) Each precinct is allocated a minimum of one delegate and one alternate. The number of delegates and alternates for each precinct is written on the precinct convenor’s kit. The precinct caucus will elect one person to each delegate and alternate position.

**b. Eligibility.** Any eligible caucus registrant who will be at least age 18 and eligible to vote on November 4, 2008 can be elected as a delegate or alternate. Persons who cannot be present at the caucus may also be elected if they indicate in writing their willingness to serve ("petition nominees"). The caucus chair will make sure that those names are placed in nomination. (Petition nominees do not vote by proxy or in any other way, nor are they counted for purposes of delegate allocation.)

**NOTE:** If the caucus decides to use a subcaucus system, such petition nominees will only be nominated for a subcaucus of their written choice.

**c. Procedure.** The Affirmative Action Reminder is read. The chair then asks how many caucus participants wish to serve as delegates to the county unit convention. If no more (including petition nominees) want to serve than there are delegate positions, no contest exists and a formal election need not be held; those who wish to serve will be delegates. Up to an equal number of alternates may be selected. **Any alternates must be ranked (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.) in order to be properly upgraded. The names of delegates and ranked alternates will be recorded prior to conducting any other business and these persons shall be declared formally elected.**

**If a contest exists,** the chair shall ask for a show of hands on how many wish to use a system of voting that allows for proportional representation. (Proportional representation gives participants who share different viewpoints or candidate preferences a proportional share of the delegates to be elected. It is requested when participants think they will not be adequately represented by majority voting.) If

the number of participants who wish to use a proportional voting system is equal to or greater than the number needed to elect one delegate, it must be used.

**EXAMPLE:** In a precinct caucus of 19 participants electing 3 delegates, each delegate represents more than 6 but less than 7 participants ( $19 \div 3 = 6.33$ ). Therefore, a minimum of 7 participants can require proportional voting.

**If proportional voting is not used,** each participant may vote for as many nominees as there are delegates to be elected. Alternates are nominated and elected in the same fashion after delegate election is completed. The number of votes each alternate receives must be recorded for use in alternate ranking at the county unit convention.

**If proportional voting is used,** the precinct caucus shall use the Walking Subcaucus system described on the next page.

**7. County Unit Preconvention Committee Election (if applicable).** If the county unit central committee has determined that preconvention committee members are to be elected by the precinct caucuses, it shall establish the number to be elected by each precinct, which shall be included in the precinct caucus kits by the county unit chair. Each caucus shall elect the number of committee members (and alternates, if any) allocated to that precinct. (In the event a county unit fails to establish a procedure, each caucus shall elect two persons to serve on each preconvention committee.) All committee elections shall conform to the equal division rule of the General Rules on page 24.

The time and place of the initial meeting of any county unit preconvention committees shall be posted at each caucus site. Unless a different time or date has been established by the county unit central committee and posted at the caucuses, any committees shall meet at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 9th at the location designated by the county unit chair.

Each county unit preconvention committee member elected by the caucus must be given a note signed by the precinct chair of his/her election to take to the initial committee meeting.

**8. Resolutions.** The precinct caucus may consider and adopt (by majority vote) resolutions for modifications of the DFL Ongoing Platform or for items to be included in the DFL Action Agenda. Each resolution considered must be on or attached to a completed resolution form (page 8).

**9. Adjournment.** The caucus shall adjourn at the conclusion of its business.

**C. AFTER THE PRECINCT CAUCUS**

Report forms on caucus registration, elections and procedures are in the convenor’s kit. **The newly elected precinct chair shall complete all reports as soon as the caucus adjourns or recesses and shall mail or deliver the report forms within 48 hours according to the instructions in the kit.** Resolutions should be forwarded in the format described in the Platform and Resolutions section on pages 6-8. Letters submitted by absent individuals, whether or not elected as a delegate or alternate, shall be attached to the forms delivered to the county unit chair.

## WALKING SUBCAUCUS PROCEDURES

Whenever a system of proportional representation is to be used, the precinct caucus, convention or other meeting shall use the Walking Subcaucus process, and the following procedures apply:

The chair opens nominations for subcaucuses. Subcaucuses must have a title which must begin with a candidate's name or uncommitted, and may include issue(s). The title must not be readily confused with the title of a previously nominated subcaucus. The nominator may briefly inform the group of the candidates and issues named in the subcaucus title. No one may nominate more than one subcaucus.

When nominations are completed, the chair identifies areas where each subcaucus will meet. A time shall be specified (by majority vote of the precinct caucus or in the convention rules) for completing the first count of each subcaucus. Prior to this time, individuals must be permitted to leave a subcaucus and join another.

At the specified time, all movement ceases, the members of each subcaucus are counted by the convention tellers, and the count is reported to the chair. The chair announces the count for each subcaucus to the precinct caucus or convention. Any subcaucus which has fewer delegates than the initial viability number (determined as provided below) is informed that it may be nonviable if it does not gain delegates.

A time is specified (by majority vote of the precinct caucus or in the convention rules) for the second and final count. Prior to this time, individuals may move among the subcaucuses. At the specified time all movement ceases and the members of each subcaucus are counted by the convention tellers. Results of that count are reported to the chair. Delegate allocation is then determined by the chair as follows:

**First:** Add up the total number of members of all the viable subcaucuses.

**Second:** Divide the result of the first step by the total number of delegates to be elected. Carry this division out to at least three decimal places.

**Finally:** Divide the number of members of each subcaucus by the result of the second step. The whole number result is the minimum number of delegates allotted to that subcaucus. After allotting delegates in this manner, allot any remaining delegates to subcaucuses in the order of the largest remainder to the smallest remainder. (A subcaucus whose number is less than "1" on the final count will not be allotted any delegates or alternates.) Each subcaucus gets one alternate for each delegate.

### EXAMPLE:

**Step No. 1:** Subcaucus A has 15 people standing in its group. Subcaucus B has 30 people. Subcaucus C has 5 people. This totals 50 people. (52 people registered at the precinct caucus, but 2 have gone home).

**Step No. 2:** There are 6 delegates to be elected from this precinct. Divide 50 (the result of Step No. 1) by 6 (the number of delegates to be elected). The result is 8.333. This is the initial

viability number. Subcaucus C may not be viable.

**Step No. 3:** After the time for moving between subcaucuses ends, the second and final count is made. Subcaucus A still has 15 people standing in its group. Subcaucus B now has 34 people. This totals 49 people. (One member of Subcaucus C decided not to join another subcaucus and is disregarded since Subcaucus C is not viable on the final count.)

**Step No. 4:** Divide 49 (the result of Step No. 3) by 6 (the number of delegates to be elected). The result is 8.167.

**Step No. 5:** Divide 15 (the number of members of Subcaucus A) by 8.167 (result of Step No. 4). This equals 1.8. Divide 34 (the number of members of Subcaucus B) by 8.167 (result of Step No. 4). This equals 4.2 delegates. Subcaucus A gets a minimum of one delegate (the whole number part of 1.8). Subcaucus B gets a minimum of 4 delegates (the whole number part of 4.2). This totals 5 delegates allotted so far to both subcaucuses. There is one more delegate to be allotted. It is allotted to Subcaucus A because Subcaucus A has the largest remainder (.8).

**Final Result:** Subcaucus A gets 2 delegates (and 2 alternates) and Subcaucus B gets 4 delegates (and 4 alternates).

### DETERMINATION OF VIABILITY

The threshold for subcaucus viability is the number of persons needed to elect one delegate. Viability is determined in the following manner:

**Step No. 1:** Add up the total number of members of all the subcaucuses.

**Step No. 2:** Divide the result of Step No. 1 by the total number of delegates to be elected. If there is a remainder, round the result up to the next whole number. This is the viability number. Any subcaucus which has fewer delegates than this number is nonviable.

### ELECTION OF DELEGATES

Subcaucus procedures are adopted by a majority vote. The chair of each subcaucus shall read the Affirmative Action Reminder. After that, each subcaucus will elect its delegates and alternates by written ballot. Only individuals who were members of the subcaucus at the time of the final membership count may participate in the subcaucus delegate and alternate election. The equal division rule of the General Rules on page 24 and Robert's Rules of Order, most recently revised, must be followed. Alternates must be ranked within each subcaucus (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.) for proper upgrading. Within each subcaucus, State Convention alternates are ranked without regard to gender.

Election of delegates and alternates shall not be complete until the delegation and the individual subcaucuses are gender balanced. The precinct caucus or convention chair shall be responsible for implementation of this provision by lot, if necessary. When the precinct caucus or convention reconvenes, delegates and ranked alternates are reported to the caucus or convention chair.

# PLATFORM AND RESOLUTIONS

## A. What is the DFL Ongoing Platform and Action Agenda?

The Ongoing Platform embodies the beliefs and principles of the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, and has been created through a grassroots process from resolutions presented at the local level and ultimately passed at the state convention.

The DFL Action Agenda is a set of statements of positions on important public policy issues which the party supports and will promote during the next two years. The Action Agenda expresses, by way of resolutions submitted at the precinct caucuses and adopted by the state convention, positions and concerns of DFL constituents. A new Action Agenda is adopted by each state convention, replacing the previous Action Agenda.

Together, the Ongoing Platform and Action Agenda form a crucial base for the party's selection and endorsement of candidates for public office and serve as a guide for action and accountability for elected officials.

## B. What should party resolutions cover?

Amendments to the DFL Ongoing Platform and proposed Action Agenda items should address party positions on state and national issues.

Resolutions adopted by precinct caucuses, county unit conventions and congressional district conventions may also cover local issues, county, city and regional concerns. These resolutions are passed on only to the level at which they would be relevant.

## C. How are resolutions proposed?

At precinct caucuses and at any convention or meeting where resolutions are considered, the following Platform Statement must first be read to the body:

### PLATFORM STATEMENT

The State DFL Ongoing Platform embodies the beliefs and principles of the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party. The State DFL Action Agenda is a set of statements of recommended positions on important public policy issues which the party supports and will promote during the next two years. These documents are created through a grassroots process from resolutions presented at the local level and ultimately passed at the state convention.

Any precinct caucus participant may propose resolutions for discussion. Resolutions must be submitted on or attached to a completed resolution form (shown later in this section), with only one resolution per form and only one subject per resolution. "Whereas" clauses should be brief and may be forwarded to help explain a resolution. They will be removed before presentation to the state

convention. At the precinct caucus level, resolutions adopted by a majority vote are forwarded to the county unit chair.

- 1. Delivery to county unit chair.** After the precinct caucus, adopted resolutions shall be placed in the resolutions packet and delivered or mailed to the county unit chair by the precinct chair.
- 2. Selection of resolutions to forward.** Each county unit may forward to the State Platform Commission at the State DFL Office a number of resolutions equal to twice the number of state delegates elected by the county unit convention, or 20 resolutions, whichever is greater, provided they are selected according to a procedure adopted by the county unit convention. Resolutions on local or Party issues are not included in this limit.

The county unit convention shall adopt a procedure to be used to select the resolutions to forward to the State Platform Commission. Possible procedures include:

- a. The county unit convention selects the resolutions to forward according to rules it adopts.
- b. Immediately after the county unit convention adjourns, a meeting will be held to select the resolutions to forward according to procedures adopted by the unit. Any delegate or upgraded alternate who attended the county unit convention may participate in this meeting.
- c. After the county unit convention, the county unit's elected state delegates will meet and go through the resolutions adopted at the precinct caucuses in that county unit. Using their own procedures, the delegates will select the resolutions to be forwarded.

The county unit chair must send the selected resolutions so that they arrive at the State DFL Office by April 8, 2008. If more than the allotted number are sent by a county unit, all of them may be rejected by the State Platform Commission upon arrival. These forwarded resolutions will make up the base of resolutions considered by the State Platform Commission for inclusion in its report to the state convention. Resolutions which are not received by April 8, 2008, or which are not on the resolutions form prescribed by the State Platform Commission, will not be considered in preparing the report to the state convention.

- 3. Local Issues.** Local issues should be forwarded by the county unit chair to the appropriate elected bodies for their consideration.
- 4. Petition Resolutions.** At the state convention and at congressional district conventions, 10% of the delegates may introduce a resolution by signed petition. Petition resolutions shall be affixed to a resolution form (page 8).

The petitioner shall both sign and print his/her name and identify his/her party unit. Upon receipt of the necessary number of verifiable signatures, the petition resolution will be brought before the convention at the appropriate time.

Petition resolutions that receive a 60% or more affirmative vote at a congressional district convention should be forwarded to the State Platform Commission at the State DFL Office. Congressional district resolutions received by May 18, 2008 will be considered by the Platform Commission for inclusion in its report to the state convention. Congressional district resolutions received after that date will be considered by the Platform Commission for presentation to a state central committee meeting as possible amendments or additions to the Ongoing Platform or 2008 Action Agenda.

At the state convention, any petition resolution received by the convention secretary by the deadline specified in the State Convention Rules will be reviewed by the State Platform Commission, which shall prepare a report recommending whether it is appropriate to be considered for inclusion in the DFL Ongoing Platform or the Action Agenda report.

5. **Party Issues.** All resolutions relating to internal DFL Party issues that are received by the State Platform Commission will be referred to the State DFL Chair and the Constitution & Bylaws Commission to further determine the appropriate action.

**D. How is the DFL Ongoing Platform amended and how are Action Agenda items adopted?**

Changes to the Ongoing Platform may be proposed by the State Platform Commission for vote by the state convention. The Commission's report will also include proposed Action Agenda items. A 60% affirmative vote is necessary to adopt changes (amendments, additions, deletions or substitutions) to the DFL Ongoing Platform or any items for the Action Agenda. Up to 100 Action Agenda resolutions, ranked by percentage, receiving the necessary vote for inclusion will be incorporated appropriately in the Action Agenda. However, in the event of a tie for last place, the State Platform Commission may increase the number above 100.

**E. How is the Commission report made available?**

The State Platform Commission report will be available for delegates and alternates in printed form and on the DFL web site ([www.dfl.org](http://www.dfl.org)) one week before the state convention.

**F. How are resolutions considered by the state convention?**

A machine tabulated ballot for resolutions relating to items to be included in the Action Agenda will be used at the state convention. Rules for machine tabulated or other written ballots are set forth in the Temporary and Proposed Permanent Rules for the State Convention at the end of this Call.

**G. May a resolution be reconsidered?**

Once a resolution is finally adopted or rejected, it shall not be reconsidered by that precinct caucus or convention.

# MINNESOTA DFL RESOLUTION FORM

(NOTE: Incomplete forms may be rejected. Submit only one resolution per form.  
Resolutions that combine separate issues might not be considered.)

Congressional District: <input type="text"/>	County Unit/ Senate District: <input type="text"/>	Precinct: <input type="text"/>
--	---	--------------------------------

Proposed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (City) Contact Phone # / E-mail

- This resolution is:  A new 2008 Action Agenda item.  
**[check one]**  A readoption of a 2006 Action Agenda item.  
 An amendment of the Ongoing Platform.  
 A Party Issue. (Will not be included in the Action Agenda items presented to the state convention.)  
 A Local Issue (City/County). (Forward to the appropriate elected body, not the Platform Commission.)

This resolution should be considered under the following category: **[check one]**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture & Food                      | <input type="checkbox"/> National Security & International Policy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business & Community Development        | <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources & the Environment      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil, Human & Constitutional Rights    | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety & Crime Prevention         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consumer Issues                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement Security                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax & Budget Policy                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government Accountability to the Public | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Affairs                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Human Services                 |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Labor & Employment                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Local or Party Issues                    |

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** (Print or attach your resolution here. Any WHEREAS clauses or supporting statements should be included on the back of this form.)

**To be filled out at the Precinct Caucus:**

This resolution was:  Adopted  Defeated  
by:  A voice vote.  A recorded vote of: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain  
(A majority consists of more than half of those voting, not counting blanks and abstentions.)

# COUNTY UNIT CONVENTIONS

February 5 - April 6, 2008

NOTE: A "county unit" which conducts a convention is any senate district or fraction of a senate district located in Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Stearns, St. Louis and Washington Counties, all of senate districts 14, 15, 32 and 36, and any other County or remainder of a County.

## I. CONVENTION PREPARATIONS

The Constitution & Bylaws Commission has adopted standard rules and agenda for the conduct of precinct caucuses and a set of model rules and agenda for the conduct of county unit conventions. Copies of those rules and agendas can be obtained from the State DFL Office by calling 1-800-999-7457 or 651-293-1200, or from the DFL web site at [www.dfl.org](http://www.dfl.org).

By January 1, 2008, the county unit central committee shall adopt any modifications of the standard rules and agenda for precinct caucuses that are to apply to the caucuses in that unit. A copy of any such modifications shall be delivered to the State DFL Office not later than January 2, 2008.

The county unit central committee shall determine what, if any, preconvention committees should be established to prepare for the county unit convention. Those committees may include credentials, arrangements, nominations, resolutions, rules and candidate search/endorsements. The county unit central committee shall determine the process for selecting members of the committees, which may be either election by the precinct caucuses or appointment by the central committee. If a credentials committee has been appointed, the county unit chair shall give the committee the precinct caucus delegate and alternate election reports as soon as possible, but not later than at the first meeting of the credentials committee occurring after the caucuses.

Unless challenged, those delegates and alternates elected and reported by the precinct caucuses shall be seated at the county unit convention. Distinguished Party Leaders (as defined in the General Rules) who live in the county unit also serve as at-large delegates to the county unit convention.

Not later than February 1, 2008, the congressional district chair will forward to each county unit chair the information required for posting at the county unit convention (see below).

## II. ON CONVENTION DAY

### A. BEFORE THE CONVENTION

At least one-half hour before the convention is to convene, the county unit chair will place the following on display at the convention location:

1. The 2008-2009 Call.
2. The date, time and place of the congressional district convention and of the state convention.
3. The State DFL Constitution and Bylaws.
4. The DFL Ongoing Platform.

5. The Affirmative Action Statement.
6. The Platform Resolutions Statement.

### B. DURING THE CONVENTION

**1. Call to Order.** The county unit chair will call the convention to order at the designated time and preside until a convention chair is elected.

**2. Rules.** The GENERAL RULES for conducting all DFL meetings are on pages 24 and 25. The convention may adopt additional rules for conducting its business.

#### 3. Convention Business:

**a. Reading of the Affirmative Action Statement.** This must be the first order of business. The Affirmative Action Reminder shall also be read before each subsequent election.

#### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REMINDER

**“As you vote, remember that the DFL encourages those who are underrepresented to participate in DFL Party activities. Now is the time to empower those with less opportunity.”**

**b. Election of Convention Chair(s).**

**c. Party Officer Elections.** The county unit chair, associate chair (of the opposite gender from the chair), secretary, treasurer and an affirmative action officer shall be elected (except in those units that hold annual conventions). Their duties are described in the county unit constitution. Officers elected in 2008 serve for two-year terms (except that if the county unit constitution is amended in 2008 to provide for annual conventions, they shall serve only until the 2009 convention). At least eleven directors (balanced by gender) must be elected in 2008. Proportional voting, if properly requested, must be used in the election of directors.

**d. State Central Committee Elections.** The State Central Committee is the governing body of the DFL Party between conventions. The county unit chair and associate chair are automatic members. The county unit may be allotted further member positions (see the Voting Membership chart at the end of this Call). One individual shall be elected for each member position. If more than two at-large members are to be elected, proportional voting, if requested, shall be used. One ranked alternate shall be elected for each member, including the chair and associate chair. State Central Committee alternates shall be elected by gender and shall be ranked on separate lists.

**NOTE: The county unit secretary, treasurer and affirmative action officer are not automatic alternates.**

**e. County Unit Central Committee Ratification.** The convention will ratify the newly elected precinct chairs as county

unit central committee members.

**f. County Unit Constitution Changes.** The convention will act on proposals to amend the county unit constitution.

**g. State Representative Endorsement.** If the county unit represents an entire senate district, endorsement of state representative candidates is in order. The convention will recess into house district conventions. Each house district convention elects its own convention chair and takes up the business of state representative endorsement. It may conduct other business as authorized by the county unit convention.

**h. State Convention Delegate and Alternate Election.**

**Allocation.** Each county unit elects a number of state convention delegates determined by a DFL average vote formula. These state delegates also serve as congressional district convention delegates. (The county unit elects ranked alternates in equal number.) A county unit allotted six or more votes elects delegates with one vote each. A county unit allotted less than six votes also elects delegates with one vote each, unless the county unit constitution provides that the county unit will elect twice as many delegates with 1/2 vote each. A congressional district constitution may allow county units within its jurisdiction to elect an equal number of additional delegates and alternates who serve only to the congressional district convention.

**Split County Units.** In county units split geographically into parts of two or more congressional districts, the county unit convention will separate into subconventions consisting solely of the delegates and upgraded alternates residing in each congressional district. Each subconvention will elect state delegates and alternates who reside in that congressional district as allocated to it in the chart of county unit vote splits at the end of this Call.

**Eligibility.** Any DFL party member in the county unit who will be at least age 18 and eligible to vote on November 4, 2008 is eligible for election as a delegate or alternate; however, a Distinguished Party Leader as defined in the GENERAL RULES on page 24 is not eligible.

**Procedure.** The Affirmative Action Reminder shall be read. The chair shall then ask how many wish to serve as delegates to the state convention. If no more want to serve than there are delegate positions, no contest exists and a formal election need not be held. See the GENERAL RULES on pages 24-25.

**If a contest exists,** the following procedures shall apply:

- (i) The chair shall ask for a show of hands on proportional voting. If county unit delegates equal to the number needed to elect one state convention delegate want proportional voting, such a system must be used.

**EXAMPLE:** In a convention of 65 delegates electing 6 state convention delegates, each state convention delegate represents more than 10 but less than 11

county unit convention members ( $65 \div 6 = 10.833$ ). Therefore, 11 individuals can ask for proportional voting.)

- (ii) **If proportional voting is not used,** the convention will elect state convention delegates by majority or plurality vote as the group determines. Alternates will be nominated and elected in similar fashion. Alternates must be ranked by the convention (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.) for use in alternate ranking at the congressional district and state conventions. State Convention alternates are ranked without regard to gender.

- (iii) **If proportional voting is used,** the convention shall use the Walking Subcaucus system, as described on page 5.

Before the convention chair declares the election of delegates and alternates to be final, the chair shall make sure the entire delegation for the county unit will be composed of an equal number of delegate women and men and alternate women and men. For county units split geographically between and among congressional districts, the delegation as a whole must meet the above gender requirements. See the GENERAL RULES on Equal Division on page 24.

**i. Congressional District Preconvention Committee Elections.** The county unit convention will elect the number of delegates and alternates to serve on each congressional district preconvention committee that have been allocated to that county unit by the congressional district constitution or central committee. If the county unit lies in two or more congressional districts, the county unit delegates who reside in each congressional district will elect the committee delegates and alternates to that district. Congressional district preconvention committees may parallel county unit preconvention committees: credentials, arrangements, nominations, rules and candidate search/endorsements.

**j. State Convention Delegation Co-Chairs.** At the county unit convention, each county unit delegation shall elect delegation co-chairs, of opposite genders, for purposes of alternate seating, roll call and ballot voting at the state and congressional district conventions. The names of the delegation co-chairs shall be reported promptly to the county unit secretary and the State DFL Office. Any state delegate shall be eligible for election as a delegation co-chair.

**k. Platform Resolutions.** The convention shall consider and recommend resolutions to the State Platform Commission for presentation to the state convention, using the procedures described on pages 6-7.

**C. AFTER THE CONVENTION.**

**The newly elected county unit chair shall complete and mail or deliver all official county unit convention report forms to the State DFL Chair and appropriate congressional district chairs within 48 hours after the convention.** Copies of the county unit constitution shall be mailed or delivered to the State DFL Chair and

appropriate congressional district chairs within 5 days after the convention. Copies of the election judge sign-up sheets must be delivered to the appropriate County Auditor within 10 days after the convention.

Resolutions selected by the county unit must be forwarded to the State Platform Commission at the State DFL Office so that they are received by April 8, 2008. Resolutions which are not received by April 8, 2008, or which are not on the resolutions form prescribed by the State Platform Commission, will not be considered in preparing the report to the state convention.

## OTHER HOUSE ENDORSING CONVENTIONS

Senate districts which contain precincts from more than one county unit will hold endorsing conventions between February and July 13, 2008. The time and place of the endorsing convention will be set by the senate district executive committee. Other senate districts are governed by the endorsing procedures in the previous section of this Call.

### I. CONVENTION PREPARATIONS

The Constitution & Bylaws Commission has adopted model rules and agenda for the conduct of senate district endorsing conventions. Copies of those model rules and agenda can be obtained from the State DFL Office by calling 1-800-999-7457 or 651-293-1200, or from the DFL web site at [www.dfl.org](http://www.dfl.org).

As soon as possible, the senate and house district officers will recruit DFL candidates for Minnesota State House seats. They should encourage all DFL candidates to seek endorsement from the convention.

At least 10 days prior to the convention (or at the precinct caucuses if held less than 10 days prior to the convention), written notice of the date, time and place of the convention will be mailed or presented to delegates and alternates by the senate district convenor. County unit convention delegates and alternates and Distinguished Party Leader delegates who live in the senate district are convention delegates and alternates.

### II. ON CONVENTION DAY

#### A. BEFORE THE CONVENTION

Before registration opens, the senate district convenor will place the following on display at the convention location:

1. The 2008-2009 Call.
2. The State DFL Constitution and Bylaws.
3. The DFL Ongoing Platform.
4. The Affirmative Action Statement.

#### B. DURING THE CONVENTION

**1. Call to Order.** The senate district convenor will call the convention to order and preside until a convention chair is elected.

**2. Rules.** The GENERAL RULES for conducting all DFL meetings are on pages 24 and 25. The convention may adopt additional rules for conducting its business.

### 3. Convention Business:

**a. Reading of the Affirmative Action Statement.** This must be the first order of business. The Affirmative Action Reminder shall also be read before each subsequent election.

#### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REMINDER

**“As you vote, remember that the DFL encourages those who are underrepresented to participate in DFL Party activities. Now is the time to empower those with less opportunity.”**

**b. Election of Convention Chair(s).**

**c. Party Officer Elections.** The officers elected are: senate district chair, associate chair (of opposite gender from the chair), secretary, treasurer, affirmative action officer and any other officers specified in the senate district constitution. These officers serve for two years. The chair and associate chair are members of the State Central Committee.

**d. State Central Committee Alternates.** Two State Central Committee alternates, one of each gender, will be elected.

**NOTE: The senate district secretary, treasurer and affirmative action officer are not automatic alternates.**

**e. State Representative Endorsement.** House district conventions may endorse a candidate for state representative. After concluding party officer elections, the senate district convention will recess to allow house district endorsing conventions to meet. All senate district delegates who live in a house district are house district delegates also. Each house district convention elects its own convention chair and takes up the business of state representative candidate endorsement.

**f. Other Business.** Both the senate and house district conventions may conduct other business authorized by the senate district or house district constitution (see State DFL Constitution, Article VI, Sections 1 and 2).

### C. AFTER THE CONVENTION

**The newly elected senate district chair must complete and mail or deliver all convention reports and a copy of the senate district constitution to the State DFL Chair and appropriate congressional district chair within five days after the convention.** If no permanent chair is elected, the convention chair shall complete and mail or deliver such reports.

# CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

April 12 - June 6, 2008

Every congressional district will hold a convention between April 12 and June 6, 2008. The time and place will be set by the congressional district executive or central committee. Districts may schedule their conventions for Friday, June 6, 2008 in Rochester on the first day of the state convention. Any district intending to meet on Friday, June 6, shall notify the State DFL Chair in writing immediately upon scheduling the meeting.

State convention delegates and alternates (including Distinguished Party Leader delegates) living in the district are congressional district delegates and alternates. State party officers (chair, associate chair, secretary, treasurer, affirmative action officer, at-large directors, and national committee members) who live in the district and the congressional district chair(s) and associate chair(s) at the time the convention is called to order are also voting delegates on all matters. A congressional district constitution may allow county units within its jurisdiction to elect an equal number of additional delegates and alternates.

## I. CONVENTION PREPARATIONS

The central committee of the congressional district will determine what preconvention committees will be established and the process for selecting delegates (and alternates, if any) to those committees. Congressional district preconvention committees will meet at the time and place designated by the congressional district central committee. The congressional district central or executive committee will appoint convenors for each committee. After convening, each committee will elect its own chair(s).

As soon as possible, but not later than the first meeting of the credentials committee, the congressional district chair will give the credentials committee the county unit convention delegate and alternate reports, the names of state party officials and Distinguished Party Leaders living in the district, and the names of any other elected officials who will have floor privileges at the convention. From these lists, the credentials committee resolves any errors or inconsistencies and prepares a temporary roll.

At least 10 days before the convention, written notice of the date, time and place of the convention will be mailed or presented to delegates, alternates and elected officials with floor privileges by the congressional district chair.

If a congressional district allows additional delegates and alternates, the congressional district chair shall issue a Call for such additional delegates and alternates to the convenor of each county unit within the congressional district as soon as possible.

## II. ON CONVENTION DAY

### A. BEFORE THE CONVENTION

The credentials committee will meet to hear challenges and prepare the temporary roll. Before registration opens, the congressional district chair will place the following on display at the

convention location:

1. The 2008-2009 Call.
2. The name and address of the state affirmative action officer.
3. The State DFL Constitution and Bylaws.
4. The DFL Ongoing Platform.
5. The Affirmative Action Statement.

### B. DURING THE CONVENTION

**1. Call to Order.** The congressional district chair will call the convention to order and preside until a convention chair is elected.

**2. Rules.** The GENERAL RULES for conducting all DFL meetings are on pages 24 and 25. The convention may adopt additional rules for conducting its business.

#### 3. Convention Business:

**a. Reading of the Affirmative Action Statement.** This must be the first order of business. The Affirmative Action Reminder shall also be read before each subsequent election.

#### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REMINDER

**“As you vote, remember that the DFL encourages those who are underrepresented to participate in DFL Party activities. Now is the time to empower those with less opportunity.”**

**b. Election of Convention Chair(s).**

**c. Party Officer Elections.** The congressional district chair, associate chair (of the opposite gender from the chair), secretary, treasurer and affirmative action officer shall be elected. Officers elected in 2008 serve two year terms (except that in those districts where the constitution is amended in 2008 to provide for annual conventions, the officers elected in 2008 serve only until the 2009 convention).

All officers serve as members of the district executive and central committees. Their further duties are described in the congressional district constitution.

At least eleven directors (balanced by gender) must be elected in 2008. Proportional voting, if properly requested, must be used in the election of congressional district directors. The GENERAL RULE on Equal Division on page 24 shall apply to the election of directors.

The congressional district chair and associate chair are delegates to the State Executive Committee. The congressional district secretary, treasurer and affirmative action officer shall serve as alternates to the State Executive Committee in that order, unless the congressional district constitution provides for the election of three other alternates or a different ranking.

**d. District Constitution.** The convention will act on proposals to amend the congressional district constitution.

**e. U.S. Congressional Candidate Endorsement.** The convention will consider endorsing a DFL candidate for U.S. House of Representatives.

**f. State Commission Members.** The convention shall elect one man and one woman to serve on each of the Platform & Issues Commission, the Constitution & Bylaws Commission, and the Affirmative Action Commission to a term of two years beginning at the adjournment of the 2008 State Convention until the adjournment of the 2010 State Convention. Two additional persons, one man and one woman, will be elected to serve as alternate members on each commission. (Commission duties are defined under Article VIII, Section 6, Bylaws A, B and C, State DFL Constitution.) Commission members and alternates need not be state convention delegates or alternates.

**g. State Convention Committee Members.** The congressional district will elect one man and one woman to serve as delegates and one man and one woman to serve as alternates on the credentials, nominations and rules committees of the state convention. State convention committee delegates and alternates must be either delegates or alternates to the state convention. (The state convention nominations committee may not recommend its members as candidates for party office.) If the congressional district convention meets prior to May 18, 2008, the committee members will be elected by the convention. Otherwise, they will be elected prior to that date by the congressional district central committee. The congressional district chair must give each state convention committee member and alternate a signed statement of election to take to the initial committee meeting. That statement can be in the form of a single, signed list.

State convention committee members must be prepared to work at least on May 18 in order to prepare their reports. Each

committee will decide how much additional time it needs to complete committee work.

**h. Presidential Elector.** The convention shall elect one Presidential Elector and one alternate Presidential Elector of the opposite gender for that congressional district.

**i. National Convention Delegates.** The convention will elect National Convention delegates and one alternate. The number of delegates to be elected is given on page 18. These delegates and alternates will be elected in accordance with the rules contained in the National Delegate Selection Plan.

**j. Petition Resolutions.** The convention will consider any petition resolutions for changes or additions to the Ongoing Platform or Action Agenda. Any such petition resolutions shall be submitted using the procedures described on pages 6-7. Any resolutions approved by a 60% or more affirmative vote of the convention will be forwarded to the State Platform Commission at the State DFL Office. Congressional district resolutions received by May 18, 2008 will be considered by the Platform Commission for inclusion in its report to the state convention. Congressional district resolutions received after that date will be considered by the Platform Commission for presentation to a state central committee meeting as possible amendments or additions to the Ongoing Platform or 2008 Action Agenda.

## C. AFTER THE CONVENTION

**The newly elected congressional district chair must complete and mail or deliver all convention reports, copies of any approved petition resolutions, and a copy of the congressional district constitution to the State DFL Chair within five days after the convention.**

## DFL ELECTED OFFICIALS CONVOCATIONS

On February 16, 2008, the State DFL Chair shall convene a convocation of the Distinguished Party Leaders listed in Article VIII, Section 1(b) of the DFL Constitution. The purpose of this convocation is to ratify the election of the Distinguished Party Leaders as at-large delegates to the county unit, senate district, congressional district and state conventions.

On June 6, 2008, at the State Convention, the State DFL Chair shall convene a convocation of endorsed, elected public officials who received the most recent DFL endorsement for that office for the previous election. The convocation shall be comprised as follows:

- a. The DFL endorsed, elected members of the Minnesota House of Representatives and State Senate;
- b. The DFL endorsed, elected State Constitutional Officials;
- c. The DFL endorsed, elected members of the U.S. Congress;
- d. Any other DFL endorsed, elected public official; and
- e. Native American tribal chairs described in Article VIII, Section 1(b) of the DFL Constitution.

The business of the June 6, 2008 convocation shall be to:

- a. Elect 10 persons to serve as delegates to the State DFL Central Committee for a two-year term.
- b. Elect 3 persons to serve as directors on the State DFL Executive Committee for a two-year term.
- c. Elect 6 persons who are DFL endorsed, elected members of the Minnesota House of Representatives or State Senate, State Constitutional Officers, or members of the U.S. Congress to serve as members of the State Platform & Issues Commission for a two year term.

This convocation, after electing a chair(s), should adopt methods of elections which fulfill the same general delegation election guidelines, including gender balance, applicable under this Call and the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws. No alternates will be elected for any of the aforementioned delegates/directors selected. The chair(s) of the convocation shall certify the names of such members elected above and acknowledgment of agreement to serve within one week to the State DFL Chair.

# STATE CONVENTION

June 6-8, 2008

The 2008 DFL State Convention will be held in Rochester at the Convention Center on June 6-8. There will be the following delegate votes at the convention: 1200 allotted to county unit delegates according to the State DFL Constitution formula; 25 allotted to state party officers; 16 allotted to congressional district chairs and associate chairs incumbent at the time the congressional district convention is called to order; the MYDFL President; and a number to be determined allotted to the Distinguished Party Leader delegate category. (These numbers may be reduced if a party officer is also an elected county unit delegate.) There are more than 1200 individuals casting the 1200 county unit delegate votes since some county units have half vote delegates.

## I. CONVENTION PREPARATIONS

**Prior to May 18, 2008**, each congressional district convention or central committee will elect two members, one of each gender, and two alternates, one of each gender, to the credentials, nominations and rules committees for the state convention. The persons elected must be delegates or alternates to the state convention.

**On Sunday, May 18, at 10:30 a.m.**, state convention commissions/committees will convene in Rochester. The State DFL Chair will, subject to the approval of the State Executive Committee, appoint convenors for each committee. After convening, each committee will elect its officers.

The State DFL Chair will compile a list of delegates and alternates elected by the county unit conventions; a list of state party officers and congressional district chairs and associate chairs incumbent at the time the congressional district convention is called to order; and a list of Distinguished Party Leader delegates.

**No later than Friday, May 30**, the Platform and Constitution Commissions and rules committee will complete their reports and submit them to the State DFL Office for reproduction.

**No later than Tuesday, June 3**, copies of the Platform and Constitution Commission and rules committee reports will be available at the State DFL Office, and on the DFL web site at [www.dfl.org](http://www.dfl.org).

## COMMITTEE/COMMISSION RESPONSIBILITIES

**Constitution & Bylaws** - recommends changes in the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws. Also hears and reports on all delegate and alternate challenges.

**Credentials** - supervises registration of convention delegates and alternates; prepares temporary roll of the convention.

**Nominations** - screens and recommends candidates for At-Large Directors, DNC Members and presidential electors. The nominations committee shall not recommend its members as candidates for party office.

**Platform & Issues** - recommends amendments and additions and deletions to the DFL Ongoing Platform and items for the DFL Action Agenda.

**Rules** - proposes changes, if any, to the Temporary and Proposed Permanent Rules and Agenda for the State Convention on pages 25 to 30.

## II. THE CONVENTION

### A. BEFORE THE CONVENTION

At 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 5, convention registration will begin at the convention facility or a nearby hotel. Before registration opens, the State DFL Chair will place the following on display at the convention site:

1. The 2008-2009 Call.
2. The name and contact information of the state affirmative action officer.
3. A list of any commissions or committees that will meet during the convention, with the time and location of each meeting.
4. The State DFL Constitution and Bylaws.
5. The DFL Ongoing Platform.
6. The Affirmative Action Statement.

### B. DURING THE CONVENTION

**1. Call to Order.** On Friday, June 6, the State DFL Chair will call the State Convention to order and preside until a convention chair is elected.

**2. Convention Rules.** Until the convention adopts permanent rules, the Temporary and Proposed Permanent Rules on pages 25 to 30 of this Call are the rules of the convention.

#### 3. Convention Business:

**a. Reading of the Affirmative Action Statement.** This must be the first order of business. The Affirmative Action Reminder shall also be read before each subsequent election.

#### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REMINDER

**“As you vote, remember that the DFL encourages those who are underrepresented to participate in DFL Party activities. Now is the time to empower those with less opportunity.”**

**b. Election of Convention Chair and Co-chairs.**

**c. Affirmative Action Report.** A report on the state affirmative action program will be made by the state affirmative action officer.

**d. Party Officer Elections.** These officers are: 4 DNC members and 16 At-Large Directors. Their duties are described in the State DFL Constitution. These officers shall be elected

in a manner which allows for a fair proportion by age, race, gender, candidate and issue preference. If a request for proportional voting for the election of directors is supported by enough delegates to elect one director, then proportional voting shall be used. The Affirmative Action Reminder shall be read prior to each election.

**e. Constitution.** The convention will act on proposals to amend the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws.

**f. Platform.** The convention shall consider resolutions for amending or affirming items in the DFL Ongoing Platform and for adoption of the DFL Action Agenda.

**g. Endorsements.** The convention will consider endorsement for U.S. Senate.

**h. Presidential Electors.** The convention will elect two Presidential Electors and two alternate Presidential Electors.

**i. National Convention Delegates and Alternates.** The convention will hold elections for National Delegates and Alternates in accordance with the National Delegate Selection Plan. Elections by the state convention cannot start before Saturday, June 7. Elections of National Delegates and Alternates by congressional district conventions must be completed by midnight on Friday, June 6.

## 2009 DFL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

The 2009 DFL Business Conference will be held between February 1 and April 30, 2009. The exact date for the business conference will be set by the state central committee. The persons eligible to vote at the business conference are the current members of the state central committee, with their alternates serving as alternates to the business conference.

The business conference elects the State DFL Chair, Associate Chair (of opposite gender from the Chair), Secretary, Treasurer and Affirmative Action Officer. The duties of these officers are set out in the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws. Officers elected at the

2009 business conference serve terms ending with the adjournment of the 2011 business conference. The business conference will include discussion of issues, training and outreach, and party building activities. The State DFL Chair will convene a convocation of DFL endorsed and elected public officials and Distinguished Party Leader delegates to fill any vacancies in the positions that were elected at the convocation at the state convention.

The state executive committee will recommend rules for the business conference. Copies of those rules can be obtained from the State DFL Office at least 10 days in advance of the business conference.

## CHALLENGES

**What is a challenge?** A challenge is an allegation that a precinct caucus, convention, conference, committee or commission failed to follow the provisions of this Call, the applicable DFL constitution or bylaws, or Robert's Rules of Order, that fraud or dishonesty occurred, or that an individual was not eligible for election or endorsement.

**Who can bring a challenge?** Any DFL party member(s) who lives within the DFL political division where the act(s) occurred, or who would be adversely affected by the act(s), can bring a challenge. For example, a challenge to the election of a precinct delegate may be brought either by a DFLer who lives in that precinct or by a delegate to a convention at which the challenged precinct delegate would be seated. (See paragraph II.B.3. of the *Precinct Caucus* section of this Call for the definition of who does not qualify as a DFL party member.)

**When must a challenge be brought?** All challenges must be in writing and must be postmarked, hand delivered or arrive by fax or e-mail within ten calendar days after the date the challenged action occurred. (Special deadlines for filing challenges relating to platform or resolutions are described below.) A challenge not meeting the deadline still may be considered if the body reviewing it decides that the challenge could not reasonably have been brought within the required period.

**What are the types of challenges, who considers them, and where are they filed?** Challenges relating to any action may be made at the meeting at which the challenged action takes place. See the section of this Call pertaining to that meeting and Robert's Rules of Order for the proper procedures. Challenges against precinct caucus participants are handled by the caucus itself and are explained in the *Precinct Caucus* section of this Call.

Challenges after the meeting at which the action occurred may be brought as follows:

- **Challenges to election of delegates/alternates** are heard by the State Constitution & Bylaws Commission in the case of challenges to seating of delegates or alternates at the state convention, the state central committee or the business conference. In the case of other conventions, such challenges are heard by the credentials committee of the convention to which they were elected, if any, and resolved by the convention. Procedures are described later in this section. File with the Chair of the body holding the convention, and send a copy to the State DFL Chair at the State DFL Office address on the cover of this Call.
- **Challenges to Implementation of National Delegate Selection Plan** -- See special procedures on page 23.

- **Challenges to an endorsement** are heard by the State Constitution & Bylaws Commission. File with the State DFL Chair at the State DFL Office address on the cover of this Call.
- **Affirmative action challenges not related to the election of delegates/alternates** are heard by the affirmative action committee/commission at the level where the challenge originates. File with the Chair of that DFL unit, with a copy to the State DFL Chair at the address on the cover of this Call. However, the failure of a county unit, senate district or congressional district committee to issue a ruling on an affirmative action challenge within 30 days of receiving the challenge, or at the very next meeting of the appropriate committee before a convention, if earlier, shall be grounds for the State Affirmative Action Commission to consider and rule on the challenge. The State Affirmative Action Commission will develop and communicate to all party units a procedure for mediating affirmative action challenges and disputes at the lowest possible level of the party.
- **Challenges relating to platform or resolutions--**Challenges to resolutions procedures at the precinct caucus level are heard and resolved by the county unit resolutions committee, if any, and otherwise by the county unit convention. Challenges to resolutions procedures at the county unit level are heard by the State Platform & Issues Commission. Such challenges must be filed with the commission within ten calendar days of the county unit convention's adjournment or of the discovery of the alleged irregularity (or prior to the convening of the state convention, if earlier). File a copy of the challenge with the State DFL Chair at the address on the cover of this Call.
- **All other challenges** are reviewed by the State Constitution & Bylaws Commission. File with the State DFL Chair at the address on the cover of this Call.
- **Appeals--**Appeals of decisions that affect the seating of delegates or alternates at the state convention, state central committee or business conference are heard by the State Constitution & Bylaws Commission. Appeals of decisions regarding affirmative action challenges not related to the election of delegates or alternates are heard by the affirmative action committee/commission of the next higher DFL unit. All such appeals should be filed with the Chair of that DFL unit (with a copy sent to the State DFL Chair at the address on the cover of this Call).

Appeals of other decisions are heard by the Constitution & Bylaws Commission.

Appeals of decisions by the Constitution & Bylaws Commission, the Platform & Issues Commission or the State Affirmative Action Commission are reviewed by the State Executive Committee. All such appeals should be filed with the State DFL Chair at the address on the cover of this Call. The findings of the Commission, and any minority reports, shall be considered by the State Executive Committee as a part of the appeal process.

An appeal must be filed within ten calendar days after the date of the decision (or prior to the convening of the affected

convention or meeting, if earlier). Any decision not appealed by that deadline is final.

**What must the challenger do to bring a challenge?** At the end of this section is a challenge form that should be used to bring a challenge. The form should be filled out as completely as possible and filed as indicated above. The challenge must include the name of the challenger(s), the person(s) or action(s) that are being challenged, the grounds for the challenge, and the remedy sought, if any.

**How are challenges handled when received?** Upon receiving a challenge, the State DFL Chair (or other chair, where applicable) will arrange for a hearing by the appropriate body as soon as possible. At least ten days prior to the meeting to hear the challenge, a written notice shall be sent to the challenger, the individual(s) whose action is being challenged, the chair of the DFL party unit affected, and any other individuals directly affected by the challenge (including all candidates involved in a challenged endorsement). The notice shall include a copy of the challenge and a copy of the meeting notice stating the time and place of the hearing. The chair of the affected unit may shorten the ten-day requirement to the extent the chair determines to be necessary to enable a timely decision on the challenge, provided that reasonable efforts are made to notify all affected persons in advance of the hearing.

**How are challenges resolved?** The body reviewing a challenge will conduct a hearing at which it will receive statements from the challenger, from the person(s) being challenged and from any other person(s) who wish to present relevant testimony on the matter. The body may request other testimony if it thinks it would be helpful. All parties will be given a reasonable opportunity to present evidence and testimony. The challenged individual is always permitted to make the final statement.

The body reviewing a challenge will decide whether, based upon clear and convincing evidence, the alleged violation occurred. If the challenge is sustained, the body will determine the appropriate remedy based upon the circumstances. For example, in a challenge to an endorsement, the remedy may include, but is not limited to, revocation of the endorsement and reconvening of the endorsing body.

## CHALLENGES TO DELEGATE/ALTERNATE ELECTIONS

**How are delegate/alternate election challenges handled?** The chair of an affected district, or the co-chairs of the State Constitution & Bylaws Commission in the case of the state convention, the state central committee, or the business conference, will convene the appropriate committee or commission early enough to hear all challenges and enable the roll to be prepared without delaying the convention or meeting. The challenger and challenged individual(s) will be notified of the time and place for the hearing as described above. The seriousness of the grounds alleged will be a matter considered by the appropriate committee or commission.

The applicable committee or commission will report to the convention the name of the person it believes is entitled to participate in the convention and that person's name will be included on the temporary roll of the convention. If the committee or commission cannot reach a decision, it will report this to the convention and no



# NATIONAL DELEGATE SELECTION PLAN

## I. Introduction.

Minnesota's National Delegate Selection Plan provides the procedures for the selection of a total of 88 delegates and 12 alternates from Minnesota to the 2008 Democratic National Convention. It provides for the election of pledged delegates and alternates through a proportional representation system based on a binding ballot taken at the precinct caucuses, in the following three categories: Congressional District, pledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials ("PLEO"), and At-Large. It also includes procedures for selection of the unpledged Delegates, including 2 add-on unpledged Delegates. It includes guidelines, procedural safeguards and Affirmative Action which have been incorporated into the selection process. In addition, it provides the procedures for challenging this plan, the implementation of this plan or delegates selected under this plan.

The following is intended only as a summary of Minnesota's National Delegate Selection Plan as approved by the Democratic National Committee's Rules and Bylaws Committee. Where the summary may conflict with the detailed National Delegate Selection Plan, the detailed plan will control. A copy of the detailed plan is available by contacting the State DFL Office.

## II. Election of Delegates and Alternates.

**A. Introduction.** The delegate election process is governed by the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States, the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2008 Democratic National Convention ("Rules"), the Call for the 2008 Democratic National Convention, the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee for the 2008 Democratic National Convention ("Regs."), the Constitution and Bylaws of the Minnesota DFL Party, the Minnesota National Delegate Selection Plan, and this Call.

### B. Presidential Candidates.

1. A presidential candidate gains access to the ballot taken at the precinct caucuses by submitting a letter to the State DFL Chair by 4:30 p.m. Central Standard Time on January 2, 2008.

2. Each presidential candidate shall certify in writing to the State DFL Chair the name(s) of his or her authorized representative(s) by January 2, 2008 for delegate/alternate election qualification at the congressional district level conventions and for PLEO and At-Large delegate/alternate election qualification at the state convention.

3. Each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) shall use his or her best efforts to ensure that his or her respective delegation within the state delegation achieves the affirmative action goals established by this Plan and is equally divided between men and women.

**C. District-Level Delegates and Alternates.** Minnesota is allocated 47 district-level delegates and 8 district-level alternates. Minnesota's district-level delegates and alternates are apportioned among the districts based on a formula giving equal weight to the average of the vote for DFL candidates in the 2000 and 2004

presidential elections. The district-level delegates and alternates are apportioned to districts as indicated in the following chart:

<u>Cong. District</u>	<u>Delegates*</u>	<u>Alternates*</u>
#1	2 men/3 women	1 man
#2	2 men/3 women	1 man
#3	3 men/3 women	1 woman
#4	4 men/3 women	1 woman
#5	4 men/4 women	1 man
#6	3 men/2 women	1 woman
#7	3 men/2 women	1 woman
#8	3 men/3 women	1 man
Total	24/23 (47)	4/4 (8)

\*Gender balance of delegates and alternates was determined by lot at the April 21, 2007 State Central Committee meeting.

### 1. District-Level Delegate/Alternate Filing Requirements.

a. All delegate and alternate candidates must be identified as to presidential preference or uncommitted status at all levels which determine presidential preference.

b. A district-level delegate and alternate candidate may run for election only within the district in which he or she is eligible to vote. Individuals need not be a delegate or alternate to the congressional district convention to be eligible to be elected as a district-level delegate or alternate

c. An individual can qualify as a candidate for district-level delegate or alternate to the 2008 Democratic National Convention by filing a statement of candidacy designating his or her presidential (or uncommitted) preference and a signed pledge of support with the congressional district convention chair no later than two hours before the election of delegates at the congressional district convention at which he or she seeks election.

d. Such statement of candidacy and pledge of support will suffice to qualify for both delegate and alternate positions. An individual may obtain the form necessary to make a filing of candidacy and pledge of support from the convention secretary the day of the convention at which the congressional district level national convention delegate or alternate is to be elected, or from the DFL State Office, 651-293-1200 or 1-800-999-7457 (toll free) or www.dfl.org, from January 2, 2008 to the start of the congressional district convention.

e. All candidates considered for district-level alternate positions must meet the same requirements as candidates for district-level delegate positions, except that candidates who were not chosen at the delegate level may be considered at the alternate level.

### 2. Presidential Candidate Right of Approval for District-Level Delegates and Alternates.

a. The State DFL Chair shall ask presidential candidates to file a waiver of candidate right of approval with the State DFL Chair by February 1, 2008. If any candidate has not filed a waiver, the congressional district chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than

90 minutes prior to the election of national delegates and alternates, a list of all persons who have filed for delegate or alternate pledged to that presidential candidate.

b. Such a presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must then file with the congressional district chair, not later than 30 minutes prior to the election of national delegates and alternates, a list of all such candidates he or she has approved, provided that approval must be given to candidates equal to at least three (3) times the number of male delegates and three (3) times the number of female delegates to be elected, and to at least three (3) candidates for alternate.

c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate and alternate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate, or the authorized representative(s), signifies otherwise in writing to the congressional district chair no later than 30 minutes prior to the election of delegates and alternates.

d. National convention delegate and alternate candidates removed from the list of bona fide supporters by a presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), may not be elected as a delegate or alternate pledged to that presidential candidate (including uncommitted status).

### **3. Fair Reflection of Presidential Preference.**

a. Minnesota utilizes a binding ballot taken at the precinct caucuses. Accordingly, delegate and alternate positions shall be allocated so as to fairly reflect the expressed presidential preference or uncommitted status of the precinct caucus attendees in each district. The national convention delegates elected at the district level shall be allocated in proportion to the percentage of the precinct caucus vote won in that district by each preference, except that preferences falling below a 15% threshold shall not be awarded any delegates.

b. Within a district, if no presidential preference reaches a 15% threshold, the threshold shall be the percentage of the vote received in that district by the front-runner minus 10%.

c. District-level delegates and alternates pledged to a presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) are elected by a meeting of persons from the unit electing the delegate or alternate who sign statements of support for that preference. Delegate allocations are set by a binding vote at the precinct caucuses. Each presidential preference subcaucus will determine by majority vote its own procedure for electing national convention delegates (and alternate, if applicable). The group may vote to use a system of proportional representation permitted in the Subcaucus Procedures section of this Call, but is not required to do so.

d. In every Congressional District, the alternate will be allocated to the candidate preference (including uncommitted) that received the largest number of votes on the precinct caucus ballot in that district.

**4. Equal Division of District-Level Delegates and Alternates.** The Minnesota delegation shall be equally divided between delegate men and delegate women, and alternate men and alternate women. Such goals apply to the Minnesota delegation as a whole. Delegates and alternates shall be considered separate groups for purposes of achieving equal division. Provisions for achieving equal division of delegates at the congressional district level will be as follows:

The convention chair shall allocate delegate positions to each presidential preference (including uncommitted status) based on the votes on the ballot at the precinct caucuses in the district.

Each even numbered subcaucus allocation shall be equally divided by gender. Each odd numbered subcaucus allocation shall be as equally divided by gender as possible. The rules of each Congressional District Convention shall provide a mechanism to assure equal division of the congressional district delegation as a whole, as specified in the table above.

The alternate elected at each congressional district convention shall be of the gender specified in the table above.

### **D. Unpledged Delegates.**

**1. Unpledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials.** The following categories (if applicable) shall constitute the unpledged Party Leaders and Elected Official delegate positions: (1) Members of the Democratic National Committee who legally reside in Minnesota; (2) All of Minnesota's Democratic Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate; (3) The DFL Governor (if applicable); and (4) Vice President Mondale and any other "Distinguished Party Leader" delegates (as defined in the DNC rules) who legally reside in Minnesota (if applicable).

**2. Unpledged Add-On Delegates.** Minnesota will elect 2 unpledged add-on delegates. The procedures to be used in electing the 2 unpledged add-on delegates will be as follows:

a. Election of the unpledged add-on delegates will occur at the State Convention on June 7 or 8, 2008 in Rochester, after the election of district-level delegates and alternates and prior to the election of the pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates. The procedures and rules for election of delegates at the State Convention are found on pages 25-30 of this Call.

b. The equal division and affirmative action provisions apply to the election of these unpledged add-on delegates. One add-on delegate will be male and the other will be female.

c. Individuals are nominated for these positions by nomination from the floor of the State Convention. Any State Convention delegate may place a name or names in nomination for these positions. If presidential candidates do not waive their right of approval of PLEO and at-large delegates, then the State Convention must nominate a total of at least four individuals (at least two for each position) from the floor for the unpledged add-on delegates.

d. Unpledged add-on delegate candidates may be elected whether or not they previously filed a statement of candidacy for a delegate position or submitted a pledge of support for a presidential candidate.

**E. Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) Delegates.** Minnesota is allotted 9 pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) delegates.

#### **1. Pledged PLEO Delegate Filing Requirements.**

a. The following individuals shall be eligible for the pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegate positions: big city mayors and state-wide elected officials (to be given equal consideration); state legislative leaders, state legislators, and other state, county and local elected officials and party leaders.

b. Pledged PLEO delegate candidates must be identified as to presidential preference or uncommitted status.

c. An individual can qualify as a candidate for a position as a pledged PLEO delegate by filing a statement of candidacy and pledge of support with the State DFL Chair no later than two hours before the election of delegates at the State Convention. An individual may obtain the form necessary to make a filing of

candidacy and pledge of support from the convention secretary the day of the State Convention on which the national convention delegates are to be elected, or from the DFL State Office, 651-293-1200 or 1-800-999-7457 (toll free), or from www.dfl.org, before the start of the State Convention.

## **2. Presidential Candidate Right of Approval.**

a. The State DFL Chair shall ask presidential candidates to file a waiver of candidate right of approval with the State Chair by February 1, 2008. If any candidate has not filed a waiver, the State DFL Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than 90 minutes prior to the election of pledged PLEO delegates, a list of all persons who have filed for a party and elected official delegate pledged to that presidential candidate.

b. Such a presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must file with the State DFL Chair, not later than 30 minutes prior to the election of pledged PLEO delegates, a list of all such candidates he or she has approved, as long as approval is given to at least two names for every position to which the presidential candidate is entitled.

c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate or the authorized representative(s) signifies otherwise in writing to the State DFL Chair not later than 30 minutes prior to the election of pledged PLEO delegates.

## **3. Election of Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates.**

a. The pledged PLEO slots shall be allocated among presidential preferences (including uncommitted status) on the same basis as the at-large delegates.

b. Election of the pledged PLEO delegates will occur at the State Convention on June 7 or 8, 2008 at Rochester, after the election of district-level delegates and alternates and the unpledged add-on delegates and prior to the election of at-large delegates and alternates. The procedures and rules for election of delegates at the State Convention are found in this Call.

c. Alternates are not elected at the pledged Party Leader and Elected Official level. These alternates are combined with the at-large alternates and elected as one unit.

**F. At-Large Delegates and Alternates.** Minnesota is allotted 16 at-large delegates and 4 at-large alternates.

### **1. At-Large Delegate and Alternate Filing Requirements.**

a. Persons desiring to seek at-large delegate or alternate positions may file a statement of candidacy designating their presidential or uncommitted preference and a signed pledge of support for the presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) with the State DFL Chair no later than two hours before the election of the at-large delegates and alternates at the State Convention.

b. The statement of candidacy for at-large delegates and for at-large alternates will be the same. After the at-large delegates are elected by the State Convention, those persons not chosen will then be considered candidates for at-large alternate positions unless they specify otherwise when filing.

### **2. Presidential Candidate Right of Approval.**

a. The State DFL Chair shall ask presidential candidates to file a waiver of candidate right of approval with the State Chair by February 1, 2008. If any candidate has not filed a waiver, the State DFL Chair shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that

candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than 90 minutes prior to the election of at-large delegates and alternates (and after the election of PLEO delegates), a list of all persons who have filed for delegate or alternate pledged to that presidential candidate.

b. Such a presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must then file with the State DFL Chair, after the election of pledged PLEO delegates and not later than 30 minutes prior to the election of at-large delegates and alternates, a list of all such candidates he or she has approved, provided that, at a minimum, two names remain for every national convention delegate or alternate position to which the presidential candidate is entitled.

c. Failure to respond will be deemed approval of all delegate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate or the authorized representative(s) signifies otherwise in writing to the State DFL Chair not later than 30 minutes prior to the election of at-large delegates and alternates.

### **3. Election of At-Large Delegates and Alternates.**

a. At-large delegate and alternate positions shall be allocated among presidential preferences (including uncommitted status) according to the votes on the ballot taken at the precinct caucuses.

b. Preferences which have not attained a 15% threshold on a statewide basis shall not be awarded any at-large delegates.

c. If no presidential preference at the state level reaches a 15% threshold, the threshold shall be the percentage of the statewide vote received at the state level by the front-runner, minus 10%.

d. If a presidential candidate is no longer a candidate at the time of election of the at-large delegates, then those at-large delegate or alternate slots that would have been allocated to that candidate will be proportionately divided among the remaining preferences entitled to an allocation.

e. If a given presidential preference is entitled to one or more delegate positions but would not otherwise be entitled to an alternate position, that preference shall be allotted one at-large alternate position.

f. The election of the at-large delegates and alternates will occur at the State Convention on June 7 or 8, 2008 at Rochester, after all unpledged delegates and pledged Party Leader and Elected Official delegates have been elected. The procedures and rules for election of delegates and alternates at the State Convention are found on pages 25-30 of this Call.

g. In the election of the at-large delegation, priority of consideration shall be given to African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian/Pacific Americans and women. In order to continue the DFL Party's ongoing efforts to include groups historically underrepresented in the DFL Party's affairs, priority of consideration shall be given to other groups by virtue of race/ethnicity, age, sexual orientation or disability. The election of at-large delegates and alternates shall be used, if necessary, to achieve the equal division of positions between men and women, and may be used to achieve the representation goals established in the Affirmative Action section of the Minnesota National Delegate Selection Plan. Delegates and alternates are to be considered separate groups for this purpose.

**G. Replacement of Delegates and Alternates.** Detailed rules for replacement of delegates and alternates and upgrading of alternates are contained in the Minnesota National Delegate Selection Plan.

### III. Election of Standing Committee Members.

Minnesota has been allocated three member(s) on each of the three standing committees for the 2008 Democratic National Convention (Credentials, Platform and Rules), for a total of nine members.

Members of the Convention Standing Committees need not be delegates or alternates to the 2008 Democratic National Convention. These members will be elected in accordance with the procedures indicated below.

#### A. Temporary Standing Committee Members.

1. If any of the Convention Standing Committees meet prior to June 9, 2008, temporary members for the standing committees will be elected by the State Executive Committee at a meeting or by electronic ballot held in accordance with the DFL Constitution and Bylaws. Members of the State Executive Committee shall receive timely notice of the election, in accordance with the DFL Constitution.

2. Any DFLer may apply for a position as a temporary member of the standing committees. Persons wishing to be considered must submit an application to the State DFL Chair, including the committee or committees for which they wish to be considered, by a deadline specified by the State DFL Chair.

3. A separate election shall be conducted for temporary members on each of the standing committees that is to meet. The membership of each such standing committee shall be as equally divided between men and women as possible. Because the number of members is odd, the variance between men and women may not exceed one, and the advantaged gender must not remain constant if more than one standing committee is to be elected.

4. No temporary member may continue to serve after the election of the permanent standing committee members unless he or she is elected as a permanent member.

#### B. Permanent Standing Committee Members.

1. **Election Meeting.** The members of the standing committees shall be elected by a quorum of Minnesota's National Convention delegates, at a meeting to be held on June 8, 2008, following the State Convention. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the state's delegates to the National Convention. All members of the delegation shall receive adequate notice of the time, date and place of the meeting.

##### 2. Allocation of Members.

a. The members of the standing committees allocated to Minnesota shall proportionately represent the presidential preference of all candidates (including uncommitted status) receiving the threshold percentage used in the state's delegation to calculate the at-large apportionment.

b. The presidential preference of each candidate receiving the applicable percentage or more within the delegation shall be multiplied by the total number of standing committee positions allocated to Minnesota. If the result of such multiplication does not equal 0.455 or above, the presidential preference in question is not entitled to representation on the standing committees. If the result of such multiplication is 0.455 but less than 1.455, the presidential preference is entitled to one position. Those preferences securing more than 1.455 but less than 2.455 are entitled to two positions, etc.

c. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation exceeding the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is

farthest from its eventual rounded-off total shall be denied that one additional position. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation falling short of the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is closest to the next rounding level shall be allotted an additional committee position.

d. Standing committee positions allocated to a presidential candidate shall be proportionately allocated, to the extent practicable, to each of the three standing committees. When such allocation results in an unequal distribution of standing committee positions by candidate preference, a drawing shall be conducted to distribute the additional positions.

#### 3. Presidential Candidate Right of Approval.

a. The State DFL Chair shall ask presidential candidates to file a waiver of candidate right of approval with the State Chair by February 1, 2008. If any candidate has not filed a waiver, that presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), shall be given adequate notice of the date, time and location of the meeting of the state's delegation authorized to elect standing committee members.

b. If any candidate has not filed a waiver, that presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must submit to the State DFL Chair, at least 30 minutes prior to the election, a minimum of one name for each slot awarded to that candidate for members of each committee. The delegation shall elect the standing committee members submitted by the presidential candidate. Presidential candidates shall not be required to submit the name of more than one person for each slot awarded to such candidate for members of standing committees.

c. For all candidates who have filed waivers, individuals may be nominated for standing committees by any member of the delegation at the time of the election by the National Delegates.

#### 4. Election Procedure to Achieve Equal Division.

a. Presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) shall use their best efforts to ensure that their respective delegation of standing committee members shall achieve Minnesota's affirmative action goals and that their respective members are equally divided between men and women.

b. The delegation will determine the process that it will use to achieve equal division of the standing committee members, provided that the resulting membership shall consist of five members of one gender and four members of the other, and that each committee's membership shall consist of two members of one gender and one member of the other.

5. **Substitution.** No substitutions will be permitted in the case of standing committee members, except in the case of resignation or death. Substitutions must be made in accordance with the rules and the election procedures specified in this section, and must be certified in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three days after the substitute member is elected.

### IV. Selection of Delegation Chair and Convention Pages.

Minnesota will select one person to serve as Delegation Chair and three persons to serve as Convention Pages.

A. **Delegation Chair.** The Delegation Chair shall be elected by a quorum of Minnesota's National Convention Delegates, at a meeting to be held on June 8, 2008 following the State Convention. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the state's delegates to the

National Convention. All members of the delegation shall receive timely notice of the time, date and place of the meeting.

**B. Convention Pages.** Three individuals will be selected to serve as Minnesota's Convention Pages by the State DFL Chair in consultation with the members of the Democratic National Committee from Minnesota. This selection will take place on June 8, 2008 following the State Convention. The Convention Pages shall be as evenly divided between men and women as possible under the state allocation and shall reflect, as much as possible, the Affirmative Action guidelines in the Affirmative Action Plan.

## **V. General Provisions and Procedural Guarantees.**

**A.** Participation in Minnesota's delegate election process is open to all those eligible to vote who wish to participate as DFLers. At the precinct caucuses, every participant is required to sign a statement that they consider themselves to be a Democratic-Farmer-Laborite and support the principles of the DFL Party as outlined in the DFL Party's Constitution and Bylaws.

**B.** At no stage of Minnesota's delegate election process shall any person be required, directly or indirectly, to pay a cost or fee as a condition for participating. Voluntary contributions to the Party may be made, but under no circumstances shall a contribution be mandatory for participation.

**C.** No persons shall participate or vote in the nominating process for the Democratic presidential candidate who also participates in the nominating process of any other party for the corresponding elections.

**D.** No person shall vote in more than one meeting which is the first meeting in the delegate election process.

**E.** The Minnesota DFL Party reaffirms its commitment to an open party by incorporating the "six basic elements" listed below. These provisions demonstrate the intention of the DFL Party to ensure a full opportunity for all minority group members to participate in the delegate election process.

1. All public meetings at all levels of the Minnesota DFL Party should be open to all members of the DFL Party regardless of race, gender, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, economic status, or physical disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as "status").

2. No test for membership in, nor oath of loyalty to, the Minnesota DFL Party should be required or used which has the effect of requiring prospective or current members of the DFL Party to acquiesce in, condone or support discrimination based on "status."

3. The time and place for all public meetings of the Minnesota DFL Party on all levels should be publicized fully and in such manner as to assure timely notice to all interested persons. Such meetings must be held in places accessible to all Party members and large enough to accommodate all interested persons.

4. The Minnesota DFL Party, on all levels, should support the broadest possible registration without discrimination based on "status."

5. The Minnesota DFL Party should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the legal and practical procedures for election of DFL Party officers and representatives on all levels. Publication of these procedures should be done in such fashion that all prospective and current members of the Minnesota DFL Party will be fully and

adequately informed of the pertinent procedures in time to participate in each election procedure at all levels of the DFL Party organization.

6. The Minnesota DFL Party should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties, a complete description of the legal and practical qualifications of all positions as officers and representatives of the Minnesota DFL Party. Such publication should be done in timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected or appointed position within the Minnesota DFL Party will have full and adequate opportunity to compete for office.

**F.** Discrimination on the basis of "status" in the conduct of DFL Party affairs is prohibited.

**G.** Minnesota's delegation shall be equally divided between delegate men and delegate women, and alternate men and alternate women. Such goal applies to the entire delegation, which includes all pledged delegates and alternates and all unpledged delegates. Delegates and alternates shall be considered separate groups for purposes of achieving equal division.

**H.** All delegate and alternate candidates must be identified as to presidential preference or uncommitted status at all levels which determine presidential preference.

**I.** No delegate at any level of the delegate election process shall be mandated by law or Party rules to vote contrary to that person's presidential choice as expressed at the time the delegate is elected.

**J.** Delegates elected to the national convention pledged to a presidential candidate shall in all good conscience reflect the sentiments of those who elected them.

**K.** All delegates, alternates and standing committee members must be bona fide Democrats who have the interests, welfare and success of the Democratic Party of the United States at heart, who subscribe to the substance, intent and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States, and who will participate in the Convention in good faith.

**L.** Forty percent of the eligible members shall constitute a quorum when dealing with the election of National Convention delegates and alternates, committee members, or other official participants, and on any other issue involving the national delegate election process.

**M.** Proxy voting is not allowed at any level.

**N.** The unit rule, or any rule or practice whereby all members of a Party unit or delegation may be required to cast their votes in accordance with the will of a majority of the body, shall not be used at any stage of the delegate election process.

**O.** Any individual or group of DFLers may sponsor or endorse a slate of candidates for convention delegates. But no slate may, by virtue of such endorsement, receive a preferential place on a delegate election ballot or be publicly identified on the ballot as the official DFL Party organization slate, and all slates must meet identical qualifying requirements for appearing on a ballot at all levels of the delegate election process.

**P.** All steps in the delegate election process, including the filing of presidential candidates, must take place within the calendar year of the Democratic National Convention, except with respect to the implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan.

**Q.** In electing and certifying delegates and alternates to the 2008 Democratic National Convention, Minnesota thereby undertakes to assure all DFL voters in the state full, timely and equal opportunity to participate in the delegate election process and in all

Party affairs and to implement affirmative action programs toward that end, and that the delegates and alternates to the Convention shall be elected in accordance with the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2008 Democratic National Convention, and that the voters in the state will have the opportunity to cast their election ballots for the Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees selected by said Convention, and for electors pledged formally and in good conscience to the election of these Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees, under the label and designation of the Democratic Party of the United States, and that the delegates certified will not publicly support or campaign for any candidate for President or Vice President other than the nominees of the Democratic National Convention.

## **VI. Affirmative Action Plan.**

The Affirmative Action Plan relating to the election of Minnesota's delegation to the Democratic National Convention appears in the Minnesota National Delegate Selection Plan approved by the State Central Committee. Copies of that Plan can be obtained by calling the State DFL Office at 651-293-1200 or 1-800-999-7457, or from the DFL's web site at [www.dfl.org](http://www.dfl.org).

## **VII. Challenges.**

### **A. Jurisdiction and Standing.**

1. Challenges related to the delegate election process are governed by the "Regulations of the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee for the 2008 Democratic National Convention" and the "Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2008 Democratic National Convention."

2. The DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee has jurisdiction over challenges pertaining to the submission, non-implementation and violation of Minnesota's National Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans.

3. The Rules and Bylaws Committee has jurisdiction to hear and decide any challenge provided that it is initiated before the 56th day preceding the date of the commencement of the 2008 Democratic National Convention.

4. Challenges to the credentials of delegates and alternates to the 2008 Democratic National Convention initiated on or after the 56th day preceding the date of commencement of the Democratic National Convention shall be processed in accordance with the "Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2008 Democratic National Convention."

5. Any challenge to the credentials of a standing committee member shall be considered and resolved by the affected standing committee in accordance with Appendix A of the Call for the 2008 Democratic National Convention. The Rules and Bylaws Committee shall have jurisdiction over challenges brought before the 56th day preceding the date of the commencement of the Democratic National Convention.

6. Copies of the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee and/or the Call for the 2008 Democratic National Convention, including the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee (Appendix A), shall be made available by the Minnesota DFL Party upon reasonable request.

7. Any group of fifteen Democrats with standing to challenge as defined in Reg. 3.2 or in the National Call (Appendix A, Sec. 2:A.), may bring a challenge to Minnesota's Plan or to the implementation of Minnesota's Plan, including its Affirmative Action provisions.

**B. Challenges to the Status of the Minnesota DFL Party and to the Plan.** A challenge to the status of the State Central Committee as the body entitled to sponsor a delegation from Minnesota shall be filed with the Rules and Bylaws Committee not later than 30 calendar days prior to the initiation of Minnesota's delegate election process. A challenge to Minnesota's Delegate Selection Plan shall be filed with the State DFL Chair and the Co-Chairs of the Rules and Bylaws Committee within 15 calendar days after the adoption of the Plan by the State Central Committee. A challenge to a Plan must be brought in conformity with the Rules and the Regs., which should be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

### **C. Challenges to Implementation.**

1. A challenge may be brought alleging that a specific requirement of an approved Plan has not been properly implemented. Jurisdiction over all challenges initiated in a timely fashion shall reside with either the Rules and Bylaws Committee or the Credentials Committee of the National Convention (See Section VII.A. above). However, the Rules and Bylaws Committee may provide advice, assistance or interpretations of the Delegate Selection Rules at any stage of the delegate election process.

2. An implementation challenge brought before the Rules and Bylaws Committee is initiated by filing a written challenge with the State Central Committee and with the Rules and Bylaws Committee not later than 15 days after the alleged violation occurred. The Minnesota DFL Party has 21 days to render a decision. Within ten days of the decision, any party to the challenge may appeal it to the Rules and Bylaws Committee. If in fact, the Minnesota DFL Party renders no decision, any party to the challenge may request the Rules and Bylaws Committee to process it. The request must be made within ten days after expiration of the above 21 day period.

3. Performance under an approved Affirmative Action Plan and composition of the convention delegation shall be considered relevant evidence in the challenge to any state delegation. If the Minnesota DFL Party has adopted and implemented an approved affirmative action program, the Party shall not be subject to challenge based solely on delegation composition. The procedures are the same for challenges alleging failure to properly implement the Affirmative Action section of a Plan, except that such challenges must be filed not later than 30 days prior to the initiation of Minnesota's delegate election process.

4. Depending on the appropriate jurisdiction (see Section VII.A. above), implementation challenges must be brought in conformity with the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee or the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee, which should be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

## GENERAL RULES FOR ALL MEETINGS

The items in this section apply to all precinct caucuses, conventions, convocations, business conferences, and other Party meetings (hereafter, "meetings"). They are rules to be followed unless indicated specifically as recommendations.

**Call Wording.** The words of this Call are to be taken in their everyday meaning. The terms "shall", "will", "must" and "is expected to" express rules and obligations. The words "may" and "should" and the expressions "are urged," "it is preferable" or "it is recommended" express non-binding suggestions or possibilities.

**Meeting Locations.** All meetings will be held in public buildings accessible to persons with disabilities and senior citizens. Buildings which by their character prevent open discussion of any issue are not suitable locations. If commercial establishments are utilized, unionized establishments shall be given priority in site consideration. Wherever possible, meetings will be held at locations accessible to public transportation.

**Open Meetings.** All meetings are public and must be publicized as such. No person can be denied access to these meetings. However, a nomination or candidate search committee may adopt a rule which excludes other candidates from a committee meeting when a candidate for the same office is being screened.

**Access for Persons with Disabilities.** All meetings shall be conducted in facilities accessible to people with disabilities. Communicatively impaired individuals who need interpreter services must notify in writing the chair of the respective unit holding a precinct caucus or county unit, congressional district or state convention at least 30 days before that convention or caucus date, or within 5 days after being elected a delegate or alternate, whichever is less. The party chair of that unit shall secure an interpreter at least 14 days before the caucus or convention.

The chair and the precinct caucus, convention, committee or other relevant body shall allow sufficient time for people with disabilities to participate fully in the process.

Visually impaired individuals shall notify the county unit, congressional district or state party chair that he/she needs caucus or convention materials in audio tape, Braille or large print format. The party officer shall send that individual all official materials converted as soon as possible.

**Balloting.** A ballot is any vote or count at a DFL convention or other meeting, including voice votes, standing votes, show of hands, counted divisions, roll call votes, paper ballots and subcaucusing. A ballot is in progress when the chair calls for the vote or instructs the tellers to distribute paper ballots or when the first subcaucus is nominated. The ballot is over when the tellers collect all ballots, or non-paper vote results are recognized by the chair, or the subcaucuses have completed their business. Fractional votes will be counted as such on all standing divisions and written ballots.

**Candidate Speeches.** Every candidate for endorsement or election must be allowed to speak to the endorsing or electing body for at least one minute.

**Convenors.** Where vacancies exist, it is recommended that persons from groups underrepresented in party affairs be sought as convenors.

**County Unit.** A "county unit" is any senate district or fraction of a senate district located in Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Stearns, St. Louis and Washington Counties, all of senate districts 14, 15, 32 and 36, and any other County or remainder of a County.

**Delegation Chair.** The delegation chair is a person elected to serve as chair of any delegation to a DFL convention or business conference. The delegation chair is elected by a majority vote of the delegation.

**DFL Convention Committee Members.** State and congressional district convention committee members must be delegates or alternates to that convention (including state party officers, but excluding Distinguished Party Leader delegates). Committee members for other conventions do not need to be delegates or alternates. The State Convention Nominations Committee shall not recommend its members as candidates for party office.

**DFL Commission Members.** State DFL Platform, Affirmative Action, and Constitution & Bylaws Commission members need not be state

convention or central committee delegates or alternates to be elected as Commission members.

**Distinguished Party Leaders.** Distinguished Party Leaders serve as at-large delegates to the state convention and to all conventions of lower level Party units in which they live. A Distinguished Party Leader may not be elected as a state convention delegate or alternate. The following are Distinguished Party Leaders: (1) DFL members of the State Senate and State House of Representatives, (2) DFL State constitutional officers, (3) DFL members of the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives from Minnesota, (4) any current or former U.S. Presidents or Vice Presidents who are Minnesota residents, and (5) the tribal chair of each Native American tribe whose headquarters is located in Minnesota, who is a resident of Minnesota, who attended the DFL precinct caucus in the year the state convention occurs, and who otherwise qualifies for membership in the DFL under Article I, Section 2 of the DFL Constitution.

**Elected Officials.** Unless elected as a delegate or alternate, DFL endorsed elected officials not seated as Distinguished Party Leader delegates are non-voting delegates at the state convention and at congressional district conventions in the congressional district where they reside.

**Eligibility.** No person may speak or vote on any motion, resolution, nomination or election at any caucus, convention, meeting or conference of the DFL Party who is an active member of any other political party. No person may be considered for endorsement who is an active member of another political party.

It is not necessary to be a delegate or alternate to a convention to be elected as a party officer, as a member of a central or executive committee, or as a delegate or alternate to a higher convention. See "DFL Convention Committee Members" for special rules for pre-convention committees.

**Endorsement Procedures.** Endorsement for public office requires a 60% vote of the body making the endorsement. No convention representing an area less than the area which elects a public official may endorse a candidate for that office. No one may vote on an endorsement unless they live in the geographic area in which the election will occur. Every ballot for endorsement is a test of the quorum. (That is, for the endorsement to be valid, those voting for, against and abstaining must add up to the quorum number.) The number of persons endorsed for any office may not exceed the number of positions to be elected.

The State DFL Office shall provide copies of the most recent DFL Legislative Priorities and the DFL Ongoing Platform to all county unit, senate district and congressional district chairs prior to the precinct caucuses. Those chairs shall provide those documents to their respective candidate search/endorsement committees for possible inclusion in candidate questionnaires.

In the absence of any direction to the contrary by a convention, a central committee of the proper geographic area may endorse candidates between conventions. An instruction by a convention vote of 60% of the delegates that the central committee shall not endorse will be effective through the general election unless otherwise stated by the convention, or unless the endorsed candidate withdraws or is incapacitated.

**Equal Division.** When a contested election occurs, all precinct caucuses, conventions, committees, convocations and commissions shall elect an equal number of delegate women and men and alternate women and men.

Provisions for achieving equal division are as follows: Even numbered allocations shall be divided equally. Odd numbered delegations shall be divided as equally as possible, but never more than one extra of either gender. If both delegate and alternate allocations are odd-numbered, the imbalance in delegate election must be reversed in favor of the opposite gender in the alternate election.

If equal division does not occur, the chair of the unit must submit with the convention reports a written statement indicating why equal gender division did not occur.

**Fees.** Donations may be requested to defray meeting expenses. However, no person can be excluded from participation in a meeting for inability to pay a cost or fee.

**Instructed Delegates.** The Minnesota DFL Party shall not require a delegate to a party convention or business conference to cast a vote contrary to his or her expressed preference. No precinct caucus or convention can bind its delegates to vote in a certain way at a later convention.

**Minority Reports.** Upon the vote of ten percent of the members of any committee or commission, a minority report must be prepared and presented to the convention or business conference.

**Open Elections.** Any statement, rule or other action which discourages any eligible person from seeking election shall be grounds for challenge. Alternates shall be nominated and elected under the same guidelines but separately from delegates.

**Party Document Changes.** Every convention must conform its permanent party constitution, bylaws or rules with the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws.

**Party Officials.** All members or their alternates of all party central and executive committees and all affirmative action officers are "party officials" for the purposes of this Call.

**Proportional Voting.** Whenever more than two delegates, alternates, directors, central committee members or pre-convention committee members of a single committee are to be elected, proportional voting must be used if precinct caucus or convention members request it in sufficient numbers to elect one individual to that position. The method of election under proportional voting is the Walking Subcaucus system. Specific rules on Walking Subcaucus proportional voting are located in the "Walking Subcaucus Procedures" section of this Call.

Proportional voting is not used in electing chairs, associate chairs, secretaries, treasurers, affirmative action officers, state convention committee members, or state commission members.

**Questioning of Candidates.** A process may be provided in the unit's rules to allow for questioning of candidates seeking DFL endorsement at that convention prior to a vote on an endorsement.

**Quorum.** A quorum is the number of registered delegates or alternates seated as delegates that must be present and voting so a convention, business conference or other meeting may convene or may conduct any further business. The state convention quorum is the number of delegates sufficient to cast a majority of the votes at the convention. The quorum for other conventions or endorsing commissions is a majority of registered delegates unless the applicable party constitution or bylaw sets a higher number. At all other levels, the quorum for the transaction of business by a central or executive committee is 20% unless that level's constitution establishes a higher quorum. However, a quorum for any business pertaining to the election of National Convention delegates, alternates, standing committee members, and other official National Convention participants is 40% of the eligible members of any DFL body above the precinct caucus level.

**Recycling.** All meeting materials supplied by the DFL Party are urged to be recycled/recyclable materials.

**Registration.** Registration shall remain open at all conventions and other meetings until adjournment.

**Rules of Order.** The motion to reconsider is in order with the following exception: Once a platform resolution is finally adopted or rejected, it cannot be reconsidered by a convention or precinct caucus. The motion to "reconsider and enter on the minutes" is not in order at any meeting. All procedures not covered by the Democratic National Party Charter, the State DFL Constitution and Bylaws, a party unit constitution or this Call shall be determined by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

**Separate Seating.** At conventions and other meetings, voting and non-voting delegates are seated together, separate from non-upgraded alternates and visitors. Seating for non-upgraded alternates and visitors shall be located behind or to the side of seated delegates.

**Severability.** If any provision of this Call is determined to be invalid, only the specific provision will be amended or set aside.

**Slate Making.** Any individual or group of Democrats may sponsor or endorse a slate of candidate(s) but no slate may, by virtue of such endorsement, receive preferential treatment or a preferential place on a ballot or be publicly identified on the ballot as the "official" slate. Ballots marked "slate" are invalid.

**Unit Rule.** The unit rule, or any rule or practice where members of a party unit or delegation may be required to cast their votes in accordance with the will of majority of the body, shall not be used.

**Upgrading Alternates.** Every precinct caucus or convention must rank alternates for upgrading. If no ranking is provided by the applicable caucus, convention or subcaucus, the alternates will be ranked by lot. Alternates will be seated in the order in which they were ranked. Special rules apply to the ranking and upgrading of state central committee alternates.

If proportional voting was used in the election of delegates and alternates by a unit, a delegate must be replaced by an alternate of the same subcaucus. Within the subcaucus, alternates will succeed to delegate status according to rank. If there are no alternates available within a subcaucus, alternates will be raised by lot from among the highest ranking alternates within the other subcaucuses. Each subcaucus will be represented in the lot system in proportion to its delegate allocation strength.

**Vacancies.** If a position is not filled at the governing convention, it may be filled by the applicable central committee with proper notice, but without the need to declare a vacancy. The general procedures for filling vacancies are found in Article III., Section 5.D. of the DFL Constitution.

**Variations in Convention Scheduling.** A party unit may request a variance in convention scheduling from the windows stated in this Call for extraordinary circumstances. The State DFL Chair and Associate Chair, acting jointly, may approve such a request.

## TEMPORARY AND PROPOSED PERMANENT RULES FOR THE 2008 MINNESOTA DFL STATE CONVENTION

Note: These Rules are subject to changes by the Rules Committee in preparing its report to the State Convention.

### I. Delegates and Delegations

1. CONVENTION COMPOSITION: The convention will be composed of the following delegates:

a. All delegates elected at county unit conventions (and alternates properly seated in place of absent delegates), who shall be entitled to vote on all convention matters.

b. State party officers (State Chair, Associate Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Affirmative Action Officer, Finance Chair, 16 Directors, and Minnesota's elected National Committee Members), the MYDFL President, and Congressional District Chairs and Associate Chairs incumbent at the time the congressional

district convention was convened, all of whom shall be entitled to vote on all matters.

c. Distinguished Party Leader delegates as defined in Article VIII, Section 1(b) of the DFL Constitution, who shall be entitled to vote on all matters.

d. Constitution, Platform and Affirmative Action Commission members, and members of the National Committee not elected by the state convention or the state central committee, who shall be non-voting delegates unless elected as delegates pursuant to a., b., or c. above.

2. CREDENTIALS CHALLENGES: The credentials committee will report its suggested resolution(s) of any challenge(s) at the time of the first credentials report. Delegates and properly seated alternates on

the temporary roll may vote on challenges. However, no challenged individual may vote on his/her own challenge.

3. **DELEGATE, ALTERNATE AND VISITOR SEATING:** Delegates and alternates seated as delegates will be seated by county units within Congressional Districts at designated locations. At-large and non-voting delegates shall be seated at designated locations within their Congressional Districts. Distinguished Party Leader delegates shall be seated with the delegation for the county unit in which they reside, and shall vote with the state party officers at a table within the Congressional District in which they reside. In those county units having delegates in more than one Congressional District, delegates and alternates seated as delegates shall be seated in the Congressional District where the majority of the delegates reside. Alternates shall be seated in a specific area of the convention hall, and shall be in areas designated by Congressional Districts. All visitors shall be seated separately from delegates and alternates. Special floor passes shall be issued for an interpreter or personal care attendant for any delegate or upgraded alternate who submits a request to the credentials committee. Such persons may be located in close proximity to the delegate or alternate they are assisting, but shall play no independent role in campaigns or other convention business. Delegates and upgraded alternates with mobility impairments shall be allowed an additional 10 minutes to get onto the convention floor after it is frozen.

4. **DELEGATION CO-CHAIRS:** At the county unit convention, each county unit delegation shall elect delegation co-chairs, of opposite genders, for purposes of alternate seating, roll call and ballot voting. Any delegate shall be eligible for election as a delegation co-chair. The names of the delegation co-chairs shall be reported promptly to the county unit convention secretary and the State DFL Office. The convention chair shall instruct the convention as to the duties the delegation co-chairs will be expected to perform during the convention.

5. **UPGRADING ALTERNATES:**

a. Delegation co-chairs will upgrade alternates to assure maximum delegate strength. The co-chairs will be provided with a list of the delegates and alternates in their delegation, showing subcaucuses, if applicable, and alternate ranking.

b. Seating of alternates will be performed by the delegation co-chairs as follows:

1. In those county units in which delegates were elected by majority voting, alternates will be seated in the order in which they were ranked by their county unit convention.

2. In those county units in which delegates were elected by subcaucus, a delegate will be replaced by the highest ranking alternate from the subcaucus. If no alternate from the delegate's subcaucus is available, then the alternate will be chosen by lot from the top-ranking alternates in the other subcaucuses of the county unit. Each subcaucus will be represented in the lot in proportion to its delegate allocation strength. In those split county units in which different subcaucuses were elected in different Congressional Districts, upgrading of alternates shall first be from the specific subcaucus. If no alternates from that subcaucus are available, the alternates will be drawn from the entire county unit by lot, except that priority shall be given to seating an alternate from a subcaucus of the same candidate preference as the delegate to be replaced.

3. No alternate will be upgraded during the time when any voting/balloting is taking place.

c. When a delegate who has been replaced by an alternate arrives or returns, or when an alternate arrives or returns and would otherwise be eligible to be seated, the lowest ranking seated alternate from that county unit or within the subcaucus (where that method has been used) will relinquish delegate status. When a

delegate who has been replaced by lot arrives or returns, the alternate selected by that lot will relinquish delegate status.

**II. Quorum**

6. **QUORUM NUMBER:** The quorum required to conduct convention business is the number of delegates sufficient to cast a majority of the total convention votes, except that the quorum for election of National Convention delegates and alternates is the number of delegates sufficient to cast 40% of the eligible convention votes.

**III. Voting**

7. **VOTING PROCEDURE:** Unless otherwise provided for in these rules, all voting shall be by voice vote or raising of hand division unless a written ballot vote is requested by the chair or by a 1/3 vote of the convention. All votes on contested endorsements and on contested elections shall be by written ballot. Fractional votes will be counted as such on all standing divisions and written ballots.

8. **WRITTEN BALLOT VOTE:** On written ballot votes, delegation co-chairs will report to the teller's desk to be given ballots sufficient for the county unit. Fractional vote ballots will be uniquely identified by the election judges prior to distribution. The delegation co-chairs will distribute and collect ballots from the county unit delegation. A delegate will cast only one ballot. Each delegate must write his or her name and the name of the candidate(s) legibly on the ballot. After collection, delegation co-chairs will tally the votes at the delegation table, openly and in the presence of observers, including abstentions and blank ballots, record the results on the ballot envelope, and immediately give the ballots to the tellers. If a vote challenge is issued, a teller will conduct a poll of the delegation. Any printed ballot must list the names of all nominees.

9. **VOTING ASSISTANCE:** Any delegate who cannot indicate their vote shall be provided assistance by a teller upon request to the delegation co-chairs.

**IV. Convention Officers**

10. **CONVENTION OFFICERS:** The convention will elect a convention chair and at least three co-chairs (with gender balance) who will preside at the designation of the chair. Candidates for convention chair and co-chairs will be nominated by the State Party Chair after consultations with the Nominations Committee. The chair will appoint a convention secretary, timekeepers, judges, clerks, tellers, sergeants-at-arms, parliamentarians, pages and other assistants the chair deems necessary to conduct convention business.

**V. Speech and Debate**

11. **RECOGNITION OF SPEAKERS:** No delegate may speak until recognized by the chair. Speakers will first state their name and county unit. No person may speak more than once on an item of business until all others who wish to do so have had an opportunity.

12. **TIME LIMITS:** Unless otherwise provided for in these rules, no delegate shall speak for more than two minutes on any item. The chair will rotate speaking privileges among floor microphones and between proponents and opponents of a measure to the extent possible. Debate will terminate when three speakers have been heard on each side.

13. **CREDENTIALS CHALLENGES:** With respect to credentials challenges to delegations, following the presentation of the report of the credentials committee and prior to floor debate, speakers on behalf of both the challenged delegation and the challenging delegation shall each be allowed five minutes in total to present their positions, with the challenged delegation speaking last.

14. **MOTIONS TO TABLE, POSTPONE OR RECONSIDER:** Any motion to table shall be considered as though it were a motion to postpone indefinitely. A motion to postpone indefinitely does not

preclude amendments to the main motion. The motions “to reconsider and enter on the minutes” and “to object to consideration” are not in order. The motion to reconsider is in order and will require a two-thirds vote with the following exception; once a platform resolution is adopted or rejected, it cannot be reconsidered by the convention.

## **VI. Committees/Commissions - General Rules**

15. **PARTIAL REPORTS:** Any convention committee/commission may make partial reports, at the discretion of the convention chair.

16. **MINORITY REPORTS:** Minority reports of a committee/commission must be supported by at least two members. For all convention reports, a minority report which is germane to a report item will be considered at the same time as the committee/commission position and will be voted on first. Other minority reports will be taken up at the end of the committee/commission report. All minority reports will be presented from the podium by the author.

17. **AMENDMENTS TO COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS:** Amendments to committee/commission reports must be seconded by 10% of the delegates, by signature or by show of hands. Amendments which change or add five or more words must be submitted in writing.

18. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND RULES:** A majority vote of the convention is required to adopt the agenda and rules as the permanent agenda and rules. Any amendment or a suspension of the permanent rules or the agenda after they have been adopted requires a two-thirds vote of the convention.

## **VII. DFL Ongoing Platform and Action Agenda**

19. **ADOPTION OF PLATFORM:** A 60% affirmative vote is necessary to adopt any changes (amendments, additions, deletions or substitutions) to the DFL Ongoing Platform or any items for the Action Agenda. Up to 100 Action Agenda resolutions, ranked by percentage, receiving the necessary vote for inclusion shall be incorporated appropriately in the DFL Action Agenda. Ties for last place shall be decided by lot.

20. **WRITTEN BALLOT PROCEDURE:** The rules for implementation of the written ballot are:

a. The Platform Commission report shall be distributed to delegates and alternates at or prior to registration. The ballots will be distributed to delegation co-chairs for distribution to delegates and seated alternates only at the time certain. The ballots must be turned in to the delegation co-chairs no later than two hours after the conclusion of the special consideration portion of the agenda on the day of voting.

b. On Friday, June 6, members of the Platform Commission shall be available at a location posted in the registration area to answer questions about the balloting procedure or to clarify proposed resolutions.

c. All resolutions balloting shall be open; therefore, delegates shall sign their names legibly on their ballots.

d. There shall be a special consideration period of up to one and one-half hours on the agenda. At any time during the special consideration portion of the agenda, any delegate may request special consideration of any item. This request will not be debatable, but the delegate may indicate whether the special consideration is for the purpose of clarification, debate or amendment. If by a show of credentials it appears 15% of the delegates agree, the item will be set aside for special consideration and will be placed at the end of the list of resolutions removed for special consideration. When an item is taken up for special consideration, any delegate may offer an amendment.

e. There will be no separate voting on the merits of items during the special consideration portion of the agenda. The time for voting on resolutions shall remain open until after special consideration of resolutions has been completed. All balloting will be on the written ballot, including voting on resolutions receiving special consideration, except deletion of items which may be by voice vote, after debate, if requested. There will be one-half hour, immediately following the special consideration period, set aside during the convention for voting on the written ballot during which no other business shall be conducted. Petition resolutions will be assigned in the order received to the next available item number.

f. In calculating vote totals, abstentions shall be counted as part of the vote (in effect making them “no” votes). Vote totals shall be announced to the conventions.

g. The order of debate on resolutions during the special consideration period shall be as follows: first, all majority/minority reports; second, all resolutions set aside for special consideration under paragraph d.; and third, petition resolutions.

h. Ten percent of the delegates can introduce a resolution by signed petition. Delegates should bring the resolution and petition to the convention secretary for time dating when it has the requisite number of signatures. Petition resolutions will be taken up in time order. The petition resolution will be reviewed by the Platform Commission in a timely manner, which shall submit it to the convention in a format consistent with the Commission report and report as to whether the Commission regards the resolution as presenting new matter or as contradicting or reaffirming existing DFL Ongoing Platform language. Petition resolutions must be turned in to the convention secretary by noon on Friday, June 6.

j. Only debatable resolutions can be amended. Amendments to resolutions must be seconded by 10% of the delegates either by signature or by show of hands. (Amendments that change or add 5 or more words must be submitted in writing.) All resolutions that are debated require at least a 60% vote for adoption.

## **VIII. Endorsement for U.S. Senate**

21. **NOMINATING PROCESS:** Candidates shall be placed in nomination from the floor in name only. Demonstrations for 5 minutes on behalf of a candidate shall be permitted within the limits of these rules immediately after the name has been placed in nomination. Any time over 5 minutes shall be counted against the candidate’s allotted time. Candidates nominated for U.S. Senate shall each be allotted up to 15 minutes for nominating speeches, seconding speeches, and addressing the convention. Speaking order of candidates will be determined by lot.

## **22. GENERAL ENDORSEMENT RULES**

a. **ENDORSEMENT:** Endorsement requires a 60% affirmative vote of the convention, and every ballot is a test ballot of the quorum. The phrase “60% affirmative vote” means that to be endorsed, a candidate must receive 60% of the votes cast on that ballot, excluding blanks and abstentions. A ballot with too many names on it or the name of a candidate who was not nominated or has been dropped off due to lack of delegate strength will be considered an illegal ballot. Abstaining or casting a blank, unintelligible, or illegal ballot will be considered the same as not voting. Such ballots will not be tallied in the vote count, but will count towards a quorum. Ballots for “no endorsement” will be tallied in the vote count.

b. **NUMBER OF BALLOTS:** There shall be no limit in the number of ballots for endorsement.

c. **TEN MINUTES BETWEEN BALLOTS:** For each ballot there shall be ten minutes between the announcement of the results and the commencement of the next ballot.

d. **DROP OFF RULE:** Candidates receiving less than 5% will be dropped after the first ballot. On subsequent ballots, the drop off percent will be raised by 5% each ballot to a maximum of 25%. After the fifth ballot and each subsequent ballot, the lowest remaining candidates will be dropped so that no more than two candidates remain. In the event that application of the drop off rule would eliminate all but one candidate, then the two candidates who received the highest percent of the vote on the prior ballot shall be the remaining candidates.

e. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** The results of the first ballot for U.S. Senator will be reported to the convention by a roll call of the delegations. One of the co-chairs of each delegation will proceed to a microphone, and when called will read only the name of each candidate or "no endorsement," and the number of votes received by each. No introductory remarks or other commentary will be permitted during the reading of the results.

23. **ACCEPTANCES:** The endorsed candidate for U.S. Senate will be allotted up to 10 minutes for acceptance speeches. The timing of the acceptance speech will be determined by the endorsed candidate and the convention chair.

24. **CANDIDATE FLOOR PASSES:**

a. Upon application to the State Chair, a declared candidate seeking DFL endorsement for U.S. Senate shall be allotted 10 floor passes. From the day a candidate is nominated and until endorsement balloting is completed, candidates may have an additional 10 temporary floor passes in the case of a contested endorsement and an additional 4 temporary floor passes in the case of an uncontested endorsement. All candidates and their representatives (using floor passes) must leave the convention floor at the time that ballots are distributed.

b. Upon completion of the endorsement process, all floor passes shall expire except for two passes for the endorsed candidate.

c. Upon application to the State Chair, each declared candidate for endorsement for U.S. Senate who is not a delegate or seated alternate will be given a permanent, personal floor pass for the convention.

25. **QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD:** There will be a Question & Answer period immediately after the nominating process if there is a contest. The Question and Answer period will be 20 minutes long. All candidates who have been nominated for endorsement will be invited to participate.

a. Delegates and alternates are entitled to submit written, signed questions, on the form provided at registration for the Question and Answer period. All questions must be submitted to the convention secretary no later than one hour prior to the beginning of nominations for U.S. Senate. Only one question per form is permitted. The question must be legible to be considered. All questions must be general in nature and be addressed to all of the candidates. No preliminary remarks, statements or explanations may be included and are cause for the disqualification of the question. No questions deemed to be in the nature of personal attacks on any or all candidates will be accepted. All questions must be possible to answer within a two minute period.

b. The first question, to be asked by the convention chair, and to be answered by each candidate, shall be: "If a candidate other than yourself gets endorsed, will you under any circumstances run in the primary against the DFL endorsed candidate? Yes or No answer only." All other questions will be screened for compliance with subsection a. above by the state convention chairs. Each candidate may have one observer at the screening. All questions approved will be placed in a container from which the

convention chair will draw randomly during the Question and Answer period. The convention chair will ask the question and not repeat a previously asked question.

c. Each candidate will have up to two minutes to respond to each randomly-drawn question. The timer will be diligent and forceful in order to be fair to all candidates. The order of response for the first question will be determined by the lot under Rule 21, and rotation will follow for subsequent questions. All candidates will have the opportunity to answer the last question asked even if the allotted time elapses prior to the completion of the rotation.

## **IX. Election of Party Officers and Presidential Electors**

26. **SCREENING:** Candidates for Democratic National Committee ("DNC") Member, Director, Presidential Elector or alternate Presidential Elector must make application to the Nominations Committee and must make arrangements for a screening. No one may be nominated for or elected as a DNC Member, Director, Presidential Elector or alternate Presidential Elector unless the candidate has applied to or screened before the Nominations Committee. A list of all who have screened or applied to be screened shall be available from the convention secretary. This list shall indicate by asterisk those nominated by the Nominations Committee. This rule does not apply when subcaucusing is used for election of Directors.

27. **NOMINATIONS:** A report of the Nominations Committee shall place in nomination the committee's recommendation. After the report, the chair shall call for further nominations from the floor by name only. After the candidates have been named, the chair shall determine by lot the order of candidate speeches. Each nominee for DNC Member shall be allowed up to 10 minutes time in a contested election, to be used as the nominee wishes. Each nominee for Director, Presidential Elector or alternate Presidential Elector shall be allowed up to 3 minutes time in a contested election, to be used as the nominee wishes. No time will be allotted to candidates declining nomination.

28. **FLOOR PASSES:** DNC Member, Director, Presidential Elector and alternate Presidential Elector candidates who are not delegates or seated alternates will be given a personal floor pass for the convention from the convening of the convention through the final ballot for their position. In addition, DNC Member candidates will be allotted 5 floor passes for the time of their election, from the convening of the convention to the final ballot for their position.

29. **ELECTION OF DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** DNC members shall be elected separately from other officers. DNC nominees will be listed on the ballot in two columns, one for men and the other for women. A delegate may vote for a total of four nominees, no more than two of the same gender. A delegate must cast each vote for a different candidate, with the understanding that the delegate need not cast all four votes. Candidates of each gender receiving a majority of the votes will be declared elected. Balloting will continue until four DNC members are elected.

30. **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS:** Directors shall be elected separately from other officers. Proportional voting for directors shall be used if requested by 1/16th of the delegate vote.

a. **IF PROPORTIONAL VOTING IS NOT USED** in the election of directors, the following system will be used. State director nominees will be listed on the ballot in two columns, one for men and the other for women. A delegate may vote for a total of 16 nominees, no more than 8 of the same gender. A delegate must cast each vote for a different candidate, with the understanding that the delegate need not cast all 16 votes. The 8 candidates of each gender with the greatest number of votes, i.e.: plurality, will be declared elected, provided that no candidate may be elected with less than 1/3 of the total vote. Balloting will continue until 16 directors are elected.

b. IF PROPORTIONAL VOTING IS USED in the election of Directors, the Walking Subcaucus system shall be used.

31. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS: Two Presidential Electors, one of each gender, and two alternate Presidential Electors, one of each gender, shall be elected by a majority vote of the convention.

32. DROP OFF RULE: Candidates for DNC Member, Presidential Elector or alternate Presidential Elector receiving less than 5% of the vote will be dropped after the first ballot. On subsequent ballots, the drop off percent will be raised by 5% each ballot. In addition, after the fifth ballot, the lowest remaining candidate will be dropped regardless of the percent. However, in no case will this drop off rule be used to reduce the number of candidates remaining on the next ballot to less than twice the number of positions remaining to be filled.

#### X. Subcaucus Rules for Election of State Directors

33. NOMINATING A SUBCAUCUS: Subcaucuses will be nominated from the floor by name only. A delegate may nominate only one subcaucus.

34. TIME FOR EXPLAINING A SUBCAUCUS: When nominations are finished, each nominator will be allowed one minute to explain the purpose of the subcaucus.

35. DETERMINING SUBCAUCUS VIABILITY: When speeches are finished, there will be a credentials report of delegates and seated alternates. The Convention Chair will announce the preliminary viability number. The Chair will then implement the Walking Subcaucus process described in the "Walking Subcaucus Procedures" section of the Call.

36. WALKING SUBCAUCUS PROCEDURES: After the chair assigns an area for each subcaucus to meet, delegates shall have 30 minutes to move to the subcaucus of their choice. Tellers count the number in each subcaucus and report the preliminary counts to the chair and each subcaucus chair. A subcaucus with fewer members than the number necessary to elect one director is informed that it is nonviable. (The necessary number is determined by dividing the total number of delegates present and eligible to vote in all subcaucuses by the total number of individuals to be elected.) Delegates shall then have an additional 30 minutes to move among the subcaucuses. Tellers then count the number of members in each subcaucus and report the final counts to the chair and each subcaucus chair. The chair then informs each subcaucus of the number of directors it is entitled to elect.

37. GENDER EQUALITY IN STATE DIRECTOR SUBCAUCUSES (if used): Each subcaucus will elect their allocation in accordance with the following rules for gender division:

a. Single director subcaucuses will elect one male and one female as nominees for their position and report these names in order of preference to the chair.

b. Multiple director subcaucuses with an even number to elect will elect an equal number of men and women.

c. Multiple director subcaucuses with an odd number to elect will elect all but one in accordance with b. above. The subcaucus will then nominate one man and one woman for the final position, indicating their first preference.

d. When all subcaucuses have reported their elections, the chair will see if the constitutional gender ratio has been achieved by the following order: Record the election of even-numbered director subcaucuses, record the preference of odd-numbered director subcaucuses, and assign director status to the remaining subcaucus nominees to assure equal division. In the final assignment, subcaucus order of nominee preference should be given priority if possible. All determinations in the final assignment shall

be determined by lot, if any determination needs to be made. If this procedure does not result in being properly divided, the chair will report the matter to the subcaucuses and request that new names be submitted to the chair until it does.

#### XI. National Convention Delegates and Alternates

38. FLOOR PASSES: Presidential candidates who address the convention will be allotted 16 floor passes while they are present.

39. EQUAL DIVISION/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:

a. The state convention's National Delegate election shall be used to meet a delegate gender balance of 43 or 44 females and 43 or 44 males and an alternate gender balance of 6 females and 6 males. Delegates and alternates are to be considered separate groups for this purpose.

b. In the election of the at-large delegation, priority of consideration shall be given to African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian/Pacific Americans and women. In order to continue the DFL Party's ongoing efforts to include groups historically underrepresented in the DFL Party's affairs, priority of consideration shall also be given to other groups by virtue of race/ethnicity, age, sexual orientation or disability. The election of at-large delegates shall be used, if necessary, to achieve the equal division of positions between men and women, and may be used to achieve the representation goals established in the Affirmative Action section of the National Delegate Selection Plan. Delegates and alternates are to be considered separate groups for this purpose.

40. METHOD AND ORDER OF ELECTION OF DELEGATES: All delegate candidates must be identified as to presidential preference or uncommitted status at the state convention. Election of delegates will take place within subcaucuses based on the results of the ballot taken at the precinct meetings. A single subcaucus will be used for the election of 9 pledged party and elected official delegates and 16 at-large delegates. Within each subcaucus, pledged party and elected official delegates shall be elected prior to at-large delegates. Each presidential preference subcaucus will determine by majority vote its own procedures for electing National Convention delegates and alternates. The group may vote to use a system of proportional representation described in the Subcaucus Procedures section of this Call, but is not required to do so. The gender imbalance in the unpledged delegation shall be corrected in the election of pledged party and elected official delegates. The election of at-large delegates will balance the state delegation as a whole with regard to gender.

41. METHOD AND ORDER OF ELECTION OF ALTERNATES: Alternates shall be elected in the same manner as delegates; with the following exception: If a given presidential preference or uncommitted status is entitled to one or more delegate positions but would not otherwise be entitled to an alternate position, that preference shall be allotted an at-large alternate position. This exception shall be implemented by the following rule:

State delegates and upgraded alternates who caucused in a viable subcaucus at congressional district conventions with a presidential preference that was not awarded an alternate position for that preference at congressional district conventions shall caucus prior to the state convention delegate election for the purpose of electing an alternate for that presidential preference. Participation eligibility shall be substantiated by the congressional district subcaucus sign-in sheets.

42. SUBCAUCUS PARTICIPATION: Participants in the subcaucus will sign a registration sheet which will indicate the presidential preference or uncommitted status of the subcaucus. Each subcaucus is physically separated from the other subcaucuses and this registration will serve as a statement of support of the presidential candidate so named in the subcaucus title or uncommitted status by the participants

in each subcaucus. Each subcaucus shall elect a subcaucus chair, who shall be recorded on the registration sheet and be responsible for reporting the subcaucus election results to the convention chair.

43. **RATIFICATION:** Subcaucus election results shall be considered ratified by the convention when the subcaucus chair reports the delegate election results, as verified by the convention tellers, to the convention chair; and the convention chair has verified that such elections were held in accordance with these Rules, the 2008 Call and the National Delegate Selection Plan. At the time of ratification, the convention chair shall ensure the implementation of gender equality for both delegate and alternate elections.

## **XII. Miscellaneous Rules**

44. **ACCESSIBILITY:** There will be at least four fixed microphones on the convention floor. The sergeants-at-arms and other officers shall make all efforts to ensure the full accessibility of the process, including access to microphones during debate, to those delegates and alternates who have disabilities. Personal care attendants will be allowed to accompany delegates and upgraded alternates, including during votes, in accordance with Rule 3 and Rule 9. Arrangements for signers shall be made prior to the convention.

45. **CONVENTION DELAYS:** Any convention delay may be used for committee reports, party officer reports, or greetings of elected officials at the discretion of the convention chair. Party dignitaries may be given the privilege of speaking briefly to the convention at the discretion of the convention chair.

46. **LITERATURE, DISPLAYS AND DEMONSTRATIONS:** No person may place any banners or posters on the convention platform or in any way obstruct the view of the platform by delegates. All signs, stickers and other materials must comply with the rules of the Convention Center. A copy of those rules can be obtained from the State Chair. Banners and posters may be hung beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 5 at the direction of the State Party. No new campaign literature

may be distributed in the convention hall between the distribution of a ballot and the collection of that ballot. No moving demonstrations are permitted during balloting. There shall be no disruptive demonstrations in the galleries. Each delegation will be responsible for collecting materials and garbage. Whistles, air horns, bull horns, thunder sticks, and strobe lights or other similar devices will not be allowed during the convention, inside the convention hall.

47. **SMOKING AND USE OF INTOXICANTS:** No smoking or use of intoxicants is permitted on the convention floor. No smoking is allowed in the hallways adjacent to the convention hall, or outside the main entrance into the building.

48. **RETENTION OF BALLOTS:** Any written endorsement ballot shall be retained for 30 days following adjournment of the convention. Any challenged ballot, if challenged prior to adjournment of the convention, shall be retained for 30 days thereafter. All other ballots, including Platform ballots, used for convention business shall be destroyed at the end of the convention.

49. **FREEZE ACCESS TO FLOOR:** The chair has the discretion to instruct the sergeants-at-arms to freeze access to the convention floor during voting with advance warning of at least five minutes to the delegates. A ten-minute warning must be given to any committee in session prior to any endorsement ballot. Delegates and upgraded alternates with mobility impairments shall be allowed an additional 10 minutes to get onto the convention floor after it is frozen.

50. **TELLER OBSERVERS:** Each candidate shall be allowed three teller observers in the tellers' room while their race is being counted. Candidates shall inform the convention secretary in advance who their observers will be. The observers shall not be involved in ballot counting.

51. **ROBERT'S RULES:** All matters not governed by the DFL Constitution and Bylaws, the 2008-2009 DFL Call or these rules shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

# PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE 2008 MINNESOTA DFL STATE CONVENTION

## Thursday, June 5

**Registration - 4:00 - 9:00 p.m., Rochester**  
(Registration will also be open each day of the convention from 8:00 a.m. until recess or adjournment.)

**7:00 p.m.** - Hanging of banners or posters begins.

**Convention Commission/Committee Meetings**

**Hospitality Rooms**

## Friday, June 6 to Sunday, June 8

NOTE: Exact times and order of business will be determined by the Convention upon recommendation of the Rules Committee.

**Call to Order**

**Flag Ceremony**

**Welcome(s)**

**Affirmative Action Statement & Report**

**Resolution of Credentials Challenges**

**Election of Convention Chair and Cochairs**

**Adoption of Permanent Rules and Agenda**

-- Consider any changes proposed by the Rules Committee

**Nominations Committee Report:**

**Election of 4 DNC Members, two of each gender**

**Election of 2 Presidential Electors, one of each gender, and 2 alternate Presidential Electors, one of each gender**

**Election of 16 State Directors, eight of each gender**

**Endorsement for U.S. Senate**

**Election of National Convention delegates and alternates**

**Constitution Commission Report\***

**Platform Commission Report\***

**Other Business**

**Adjournment**

## Friday, June 6

**(after convention recesses)**

**Elected Officials Convocation**

**Congressional District Conventions, if any**

## Sunday, June 8

**(after Convention adjourns)**

Meeting of the National Convention Delegates to elect Standing Committee Members and the Delegation Chair

\* NOTE: Consideration of commission reports, consideration of resolutions, and brief greetings by party and elected dignitaries may occur on any day during balloting or other lulls in convention business at the discretion of the chair.

## VOTING MEMBERSHIP OF THE 2008 STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

I.	State Party Officers/MYDFL President & Vice President .....	28
II.	Congressional District Chairs/Associate Chairs .....	16
III.	Elected Officials .....	13
IV.	All Senate Districts (from 1 to 67) elect a Chair and Associate Chair .....	134
V.	County Unit Representatives (listed below) .....	332

**A. County Units comprising a full Senate District entirely within Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, St. Louis, Stearns and Washington Counties, plus Senate Districts 14, 15, 32 and 36.**

The number listed below for each Senate District is for At-Large State Central Committee Delegates. The Senate District Chair and Associate Chair are automatic delegates. Alternates are elected for each Delegate, including the Chair and Associate Chair.

<b>St. Louis</b>	32 .....	4	42 .....	5	52 .....	5	61 .....	4	
5 .....	7	33 .....	4	43 .....	5	53 .....	5	62 .....	7
7 .....	6	34 .....	4	44 .....	6	54 .....	5	63 .....	5
		35 .....	4	45 .....	5	55 .....	5	64 .....	7
<b>Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Stearns, Scott and Washington</b>		36 .....	4	46 .....	4	56 .....	5	65 .....	4
		37 .....	5	47 .....	4	57 .....	5	66 .....	5
		38 .....	4	49 .....	4	58 .....	4	67 .....	4
		39 .....	5	50 .....	5	59 .....	6		
14 .....	4	40 .....	5	51 .....	5	60 .....	8	<b>Total .....</b>	<b>199</b>
15 .....	4	41 .....	5						

**B. County Units within Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, St. Louis, Stearns and Washington Counties that are part of Senate Districts that overlap into other Counties.**

<b>St. Louis</b>	<b>Stearns</b>	<b>Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington</b>	17** .....	1	48 .....	3
6 .....	4	13** .....	19* .....	1/2		
8* .....	1/2		25** .....	1	<b>Total .....</b>	<b>12</b>

\* CU 8 and 19 will send the Chair as the Delegate, and the Associate Chair will serve as the Alternate.  
 \*\* CU 13, 17 and 25 will send their Chair and Associate Chair as Delegates with 1/2 vote each, and will elect 2 Alternates for them.  
 In CU 6 and 48, the number above includes the Chair and Associate Chair of the Unit. CU 48 will elect 1 additional At-Large Delegate, and CU 6 will elect 2. Alternates equal to the number shown above will also be elected by each of those Units.

**C. County Units comprising a Geographic County (or part of a County)**

Aitkin .....	1	Dodge .....	1	Lac Qui Parle .....	1	Nobles .....	1	Sibley .....	1
Becker .....	2	Douglas .....	2	Lake .....	1	Norman .....	1	Steele .....	2
Beltrami .....	3	Faribault .....	1	Lake of the Woods .....	1	Olmsted .....	7	Stevens .....	1
Benton (part) .....	1	Fillmore .....	1	LeSueur .....	2	OtterTail .....	3	Swift .....	1
Big Stone .....	1	Freeborn .....	2	Lincoln .....	1	Pennington .....	1	Todd .....	1
Blue Earth .....	4	Goodhue (part) .....	3	Lyon .....	1	Pine .....	2	Traverse .....	1
Brown .....	1	Grant .....	1	Mahnomen .....	1	Pipestone .....	1	Wabasha .....	1
Carlton .....	3	Houston .....	1	Marshall .....	1	Polk .....	2	Wadena .....	1
Cass .....	2	Hubbard .....	1	Martin .....	1	Pope .....	1	Waseca .....	1
Chippewa .....	1	Isanti .....	2	McLeod .....	2	Red Lake .....	1	Watonwan .....	1
Chisago .....	3	Itasca .....	3	Meeker .....	1	Redwood .....	1	Wilkin .....	1
Clay .....	3	Jackson .....	1	Mille Lacs .....	1	Renville .....	1	Winona .....	3
Clearwater .....	1	Kanabec .....	1	Morrison .....	2	Rice .....	4	Wright (part) .....	5
Cook .....	1	Kandiyohi .....	2	Mower .....	3	Rock .....	1	Yellow Medicine .....	1
Cottonwood .....	1	Kittson .....	1	Murray .....	1	Roseau .....	1		
Crow Wing .....	3	Koochiching .....	1	Nicollet .....	2	Sherburne (part) .....	3	<b>Total .....</b>	<b>121</b>

Counties with 1 or 2 Delegates send their Chair and Associate Chair as the Delegates. Counties with more than 2 will elect additional At-Large Delegates to complete the allocation. Alternates are elected for each Delegate, including the Chair and Associate Chair.

**VI. The chair of the county-wide DFL organization in Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, St. Louis, Stearns and Washington Counties, if any, is also a Delegate, with the Associate Chair serving as the Alternate.**

# DELEGATE ALLOCATION AT THE 2008 DFL STATE CONVENTION

Breakdown of votes to which each County Unit will be entitled at the 2008 State Convention

County Unit	Votes	County Unit	Votes	County Unit	Votes	County Unit	Votes	County Unit	Votes
<b>St. Louis</b>		41 .....	19	Aitkin .....	4	Jackson .....	3	Pipestone .....	3
5 .....	25	42 .....	17	Becker .....	6	Kanabec .....	3	Polk .....	6
6 .....	16	43 .....	19	Beltrami .....	9	Kandiyohi .....	8	Pope .....	3
7 .....	22	44 .....	22	Benton (part) .....	3	Kittson .....	3	Red Lake .....	3
8* .....	1/2	45 .....	20	Big Stone .....	3	Koochiching .....	3	Redwood .....	3
		46 .....	14	Blue Earth .....	14	Lac Qui Parle .....	3	Renville .....	3
<b>Stearns</b>		47 .....	16	Brown .....	5	Lake .....	4	Rice .....	14
13 .....	3	48 .....	12	Carlton .....	9	Lake of the Woods .....	3	Rock .....	3
14 (entire SD) .....	15	49 .....	15	Cass .....	6	LeSueur .....	5	Roseau .....	3
15 (entire SD) .....	14	50 .....	18	Chippewa .....	3	Lincoln .....	3	Sherburne (part) .....	12
		51 .....	18	Chisago .....	10	Lyon .....	4	Sibley .....	3
<b>Anoka, Carver,</b>		52 .....	19	Clay .....	10	Mahnomen .....	3	Steele .....	7
<b>Dakota, Hennepin,</b>		53 .....	18	Clearwater .....	3	Marshall .....	3	Stevens .....	3
<b>Ramsey, Scott and</b>		54 .....	20	Cook .....	3	Martin .....	4	Swift .....	3
<b>Washington</b>		55 .....	19	Cottonwood .....	3	McLeod .....	6	Todd .....	4
17 .....	3	56 .....	18	Crow Wing .....	13	Meeker .....	4	Traverse .....	3
19* .....	1/2	57 .....	18	Dodge .....	3	Mille Lacs .....	5	Wabasha .....	4
25 .....	3	58 .....	16	Douglas .....	7	Morrison .....	6	Wadena .....	3
32 (entire SD) .....	16	59 .....	21	Faribault .....	3	Mower .....	10	Waseca .....	3
33 .....	16	60 .....	30	Fillmore .....	5	Murray .....	3	Watonwan .....	3
34 .....	14	61 .....	17	Freeborn .....	8	Nicollet .....	7	Wilkin .....	3
35 .....	16	62 .....	28	Goodhue (part) .....	9	Nobles .....	3	Winona .....	11
36 (entire SD) .....	16	63 .....	20	Grant .....	3	Norman .....	3	Wright (part) .....	19
37 .....	18	64 .....	26	Houston .....	4	Olmsted .....	27	Yellow Medicine .....	3
38 .....	17	65 .....	16	Hubbard .....	4	OtterTail .....	11		
39 .....	20	66 .....	18	Isanti .....	7	Pennington .....	3		
40 .....	17	67 .....	14	Itasca .....	12	Pine .....	6		

\* 8 and 19 are precinct(s) exceptions as defined by the State DFL Constitution.

County Units allocated 3, 4 or 5 delegates shall elect that many delegates with a full vote each, unless the County Unit constitution provides for election of twice as many delegates with 1/2 vote each.

## County Unit Votes Split Between Congressional Districts

County Unit	Votes	County Unit	Votes	County Unit	Votes	County Unit	Votes	County Unit	Votes
<b>Beltrami</b>		<b>SD 32</b>		<b>SD 45</b>		<b>SD 52</b>		<b>SD 56</b>	
7th .....	7	3rd .....	15 1/2	3rd .....	2	4th .....	2	2nd .....	1/2
8th .....	2	6th .....	1/2	5th .....	18	6th .....	17	4th .....	1/2
								6th .....	17
<b>LeSueur</b>		<b>SD 39</b>		<b>SD 49</b>		<b>SD 53</b>		<b>SD 57</b>	
1st .....	1/2	2nd .....	6	3rd .....	6	4th .....	13	2nd .....	13
2nd .....	4 1/2	4th .....	14	6th .....	9	6th .....	5	4th .....	4
								6th .....	1
<b>CU 13</b>		<b>SD 40</b>		<b>SD 50</b>		<b>SD 54</b>		<b>SD 63</b>	
6th .....	1	2nd .....	8	4th .....	9	4th .....	18	3rd .....	5
7th .....	2	3rd .....	9	5th .....	9	5th .....	2	5th .....	15
<b>SD 14</b>		<b>SD 44</b>		<b>SD 51</b>					
6th .....	14 1/2	3rd .....	1	4th .....	3				
7th .....	1/2	5th .....	21	5th .....	4				
				6th .....	11				

# 2008 DFL CAUCUS & CONVENTION SCHEDULE

## 2008 DFL Precinct Caucuses

7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 5, 2008 (Registration begins at 6:30)  
As many as 4000 locations statewide

- ◆ Vote for Democratic U.S. Senate and Presidential candidate preference
- ◆ Elect delegates and alternates to attend the County Unit and/or Senate District Conventions
- ◆ Adopt resolutions for consideration in the State DFL Action Agenda or Ongoing Platform
- ◆ Elect precinct officers to two-year terms

Participants must agree with DFL principles, and must not be a member of another political party  
Must be 18 by Nov. 4, 2008 to run/vote for a delegate or alternate position or vote on the preference ballot  
For other caucus business, participants must be 16 by Nov. 4, 2008

*Delegates who live in Senate Districts wholly contained in the counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Stearns, St. Louis and Washington, plus all of Senate Districts 14, 15, 32 and 36, attend only their Senate District convention, where they will also endorse candidates for the legislature.*

~ OR ~

*Delegates who live in the other 78 counties or parts of counties attend both their "County Convention" and a separate Senate District Endorsing Convention.*

~ OR ~

*Delegates who live in one of the nine counties listed above, but in a Senate District that overlaps into one of the other 78 counties (other than Senate Districts 14, 15, 32 or 36), attend both a "County Unit" convention and a separate Senate District Endorsing Convention.*

## County Unit and/or Senate District Conventions

May require two separate meetings, depending on where you live  
Most are held between February 5 and April 6, 2008 (deadline is July 13 for some Senate Districts)  
Over 100 locations statewide

- ◆ Elect delegates and alternates to attend both the Congressional District and State Conventions
- ◆ Elect County Unit and/or Senate District officers, including State Central Committee members and alternates
- ◆ Adopt resolutions for consideration in the State DFL Action Agenda or Ongoing Platform
- ◆ Senate District Endorsing Conventions endorse DFL candidates for each State House of Representatives seat.

### Congressional District Conventions

Held between April 12 and June 6, 2008  
Eight locations statewide

- ◆ Endorse Democratic candidate for Congress
- ◆ Elect Congressional District officers
- ◆ Elect National Delegates and Alternate
- ◆ Elect Presidential Elector and Alternate

### DFL State Convention

Held June 6-8, 2008 in Rochester  
Over 1200 delegates

- ◆ Adopt DFL Action Agenda and amend Ongoing Platform
- ◆ Elect 16 State Directors to two year terms
- ◆ Elect 4 DNC Members to four year terms
- ◆ Elect 2 Presidential Electors and 2 Alternates
- ◆ Endorse candidate for U.S. Senate
- ◆ Elect National Delegates and Alternates