

**CONSTITUTION
OF THE
SENATE DISTRICT 38 DEMOCRATIC-FARMER-LABOR PARTY**
Adopted by the SD38 Convention on March 1, 2008

Article I

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization is the Senate District 38 Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party.

Section 2. Membership. Membership in this Party is open to all residents of Senate District 38 who support the principles of the DEL Party in Minnesota. No member of any other political party may vote within the DFL Party.

Section 3. Eligibility for Party Office. Pursuant to the principles of affirmative action as stated in the DFL State Constitution, Bylaws and Call, persons who meet the membership requirements of Article I, Section 2, are eligible for election to any Party office.

**Article II
Subordination**

This Constitution is subordinate to the pertinent parts of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Second Congressional District DFL and the State DFL Parties.

**Article III
Senate District Convention**

Section 1. Notice. Written notice of the date, time and place of a convention shall be mailed or presented to all delegates and alternates to any convention at least ten days before the date of the convention.

Section 2. Membership. The Senate District Convention shall be composed of precinct delegates, alternates seated as precinct delegates, and Distinguished Party Leader Delegates as defined in the State DFL Constitution, who reside within the Senate District. A precinct may cast only one vote for each delegate present and voting. A majority of the delegates and alternates serving as delegates registered at the convention shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3. Business of the Senate District Convention. The convention shall elect party officers, State and Congressional District Convention delegates and alternates, and State Central Committee members and alternates, endorse candidates for the State Senate, adopt resolutions, amend this Constitution, and conduct any other party business that properly comes before it. The convention will separate into House District Conventions to endorse candidates for the State House of Representatives.

**Article IV
Central Committee**

Section 1. Central Committee. The Central Committee shall be the governing body of the Senate District DFL between conventions. The Central Committee shall consist of the Senate District Executive Committee members, precinct chairs elected at each precinct caucus every even-numbered year, each member of the Congressional District

Central Committee residing in the Senate District, and each State Central Committee member residing in the Senate District.

Section 2. Central Committee Meetings. The Central Committee shall meet at least four times per year. Meetings may be called by the Senate District Chair, by one-eighth of the membership of the Central Committee, or by a majority of the Executive Committee. The quorum for Central Committee meetings is 20% of its members.

Section 3. Endorsements. In the absence of any direction to the contrary by the Senate District Convention, the Central Committee may endorse candidates between conventions. Every endorsement ballot shall be a test of a quorum.

Section 4. Dismissal for Cause. The Central Committee may dismiss a member for cause on grounds of clear misfeasance or malfeasance in office. For such dismissal, a two-thirds majority vote of the members present and eligible to vote is required, but only after a member is given thirty days' written notice specifying the cause and is granted a hearing.

Section 5. Filling Vacancies. A vacancy occurs for the following reasons: resignation, death, change of residence to a jurisdiction other than the one from which he/she was elected, or dismissed for cause. The Central Committee, by a majority vote of the quorum at a meeting properly called after notice of intent to elect, may declare a vacancy and fill that vacancy. Only those vacancies specified in the meeting notice may be filled at that meeting. Vacancies shall be filled within sixty days of their occurrence.

**Article V
Executive Committee and Officers**

Section 1. Executive Committee. The Senate District Executive Committee shall be the governing body between Central Committee meetings. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chair, Associate Chair (of different gender), Secretary, Treasurer, Affirmative Action Officer, eleven Directors and up to eleven Alternate Directors elected by the Senate District Convention, with gender balance of the Directors and Alternate Directors as required by the State DFL Constitution. Each member of the Congressional District Executive Committee residing in the Senate District shall also be a member of the Senate District Executive Committee. The quorum for Executive Committee meetings is 25% of its members.

Section 2. Duties of Officers.

a. CHAIR: It shall be the duty of the Senate District Chair to convene the Senate District Convention (following the procedures described in the Call) and preside at meetings of the Senate District Central Committee and Executive Committee. The Chair shall attend meetings of the State and Congressional District Central Committees.

The Chair shall also perform all other duties incident to the office.

b. ASSOCIATE CHAIR: The Associate Chair shall preside at Central and Executive Committee meetings, and convene the Senate District Convention, in the absence of the Chair. It shall further be his/her duty to assist the Chair in the discharge of the Chair's duties, and to attend meetings of the State and Congressional District Central Committees.

c. SECRETARY: It shall be the duty of the Secretary to preserve the minutes and attendance records of all proceedings of the Executive and Central Committees. The Secretary shall, at the direction of the Chair, notify members of the Executive and Central Committees of meetings of this organization. The Secretary shall perform all other duties usually incident to the office of Secretary.

d. TREASURER: The Treasurer shall have charge of the funds of this organization, and shall make no disbursement thereof without authority or ratification by the Executive Committee or Chair. The Treasurer shall perform all other duties usually incident to the office of Treasurer.

e. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION OFFICER: The Affirmative Action Officer shall be responsible for outreach to underrepresented groups within the Senate District, and shall perform all other duties usually incident to the office of Affirmative Action Officer in the DFL Party.

f. DIRECTORS: The Directors shall perform those functions assigned to them from time to time by the Executive Committee or the Central Committee.

Section 3. Committees: The Executive Committee shall establish committees as it determines to be appropriate to execute the business of the Executive Committee and the Senate District organization, and shall designate members to chair and serve on those committees.

Article VI General Rules

Section 1. Disposition of Party Records. Upon leaving office, a Party officer shall turn over all Party records, books and properties to his/her successor.

Section 2. Notice of Executive and Central Committee Meetings. Notice of Executive and Central Committee meetings, specifying time and place, shall be sent in writing or presented to all members not less than ten days in advance of the meeting, except that such notice may be provided not less than seventy-two hours in advance by personal delivery, telephone, or other electronic means. An agenda shall be prepared by the Senate District Chair prior to the meetings of the Executive and Central Committees and shall be included in all notices.

Section 3. Endorsements. Endorsement of a candidate for public office requires a sixty percent (60%) affirmative vote of those delegates present and voting (excluding blanks and abstentions) at the

convention or Central Committee meeting making the endorsement, and every ballot shall be a test of quorum. No convention or Central Committee representing a geographical area less than the area competent to elect the public official may endorse a candidate for that office. No one may vote on an endorsement unless he/she is a resident of the area in which the election will occur. An endorsement given before the primary is valid after the primary only if the candidate's name appears on the general election ballot.

Section 4. Amendments. This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the delegates at any Senate District Convention.

Section 5. Bylaws and Their Amendment. Bylaws concerning matters not expressly governed by nor in conflict with this Constitution may be adopted or amended by a majority vote of the Senate District Convention. Bylaws may also be adopted or amended by the Senate District Central Committee, provided such adoptions or amendments receive a sixty percent (60%) vote of approval. A copy of any proposed change in the Bylaws shall be included in the meeting notice.

Section 6. Parliamentary Authority. Parliamentary matters not governed by this Constitution and its Bylaws, nor by the rules of the body in question, nor by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Congressional District DFL or State DEL, nor by the Official Call, shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, most recently revised.

Section 7. This Constitution and its Bylaws supersede all previous Constitutions and Bylaws of the Senate District 38 DFL Party.

Section 8. This Constitution shall be in full force and effect immediately after its adoption at the 2008 Senate District 38 Convention.