



Constitution and Bylaws

of the
Minnesota Young DFL

As amended through November 2024

Minnesota Young DFL
www.youngdfl.org

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CONSTITUTION OF THE MINNESOTA YOUNG DFL

(As adopted by the Statewide Coordinating Committee on 20 November 2024)

ARTICLE I NAME AND MISSION

Section 1. Name.

The name of this organization shall be the “Minnesota Young DFL.” The Minnesota Young DFL may also be called the “MYDFL” or “Minnesota Young Democrats.” The Minnesota Young DFL is the official youth caucus of the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party (DFL).

Section 2. Mission Statement.

To engage young Democrats to participate in Minnesota and national politics, we shall identify and advance progressive issues, develop and support young candidates, sustain community partnerships, and develop leadership in young progressive Minnesotans.

ARTICLE II SUBORDINATION, PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY, AND FISCAL YEAR

Section 1. Subordination.

The MYDFL Constitution and Bylaws are subordinate to the Constitution of the United States of America, the Constitution of the state of Minnesota, and the state DFL Constitution. All chapters shall establish and adopt Constitutions and Bylaws subordinate to and in compliance with the MYDFL Constitution and Bylaws. The MYDFL will abide by all local, state, and federal laws.

Section 2. Parliamentary Authority.

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern MYDFL in all cases to which they apply and are not inconsistent with the Constitution, Bylaws, or any special rules of order that MYDFL may adopt.

Section 3. Fiscal Year.

The fiscal year of the MYDFL shall be from the first (1st) of June and the thirty-first (31st) of May.

ARTICLE III EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, AND OUTREACH AND INCLUSION

Section 1. Equal Opportunity.

No one shall be denied membership or equal opportunity based on gender, race, religion, national origin, ethnic identity, gender identity, sexual or affectional orientation, family status, physical or mental ability, or socioeconomic status.

Section 2. Decolonization, Anti-Racism, Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Statement.

The Minnesota Young DFL is committed to dismantling systemic racism, classism, sexism, transphobia, homophobia, ableism, and all other forms of oppression, wherever they may exist. The caucus aims to support and, where able, enact structural reparations and transformation that materially reverse the course of centuries of racial oppression, economic injustice, and genocide that has occurred on this continent and all other places touched by European imperialism for the last 600 years. MYDFL is committed to radically challenging conventional structures of power and privilege, as well as questioning and critiquing those structures on a systemic level. MYDFL will continually evolve its own structures and processes to resist and move beyond conventional frameworks of power that are rooted in imperialism and colonization, as well as advocating for such restructuring within the DFL Party as a whole. MYDFL will take affirmative steps to increase the participation of members of all underrepresented and economically excluded communities both within MYDFL and in the DFL Party. These steps include fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment where individuals of all communities feel able to attend, participate, and lead. All members of MYDFL are committed to electing members of underrepresented and economically excluded communities to public office and to positions both within MYDFL and the DFL Party. As part of MYDFL’s commitment

to anti-racism and decolonization, all members from privileged and/or overrepresented backgrounds are expected to center the unconscious biases against people of different backgrounds. Such biases are direct products of the long legacy of colonization and oppression on this land. MYDFL and its members acknowledge that transformative learning does not occur in an instant; it is a lengthy process that is critical to personal growth. Therefore, MYDFL expects its members to participate in all MYDFL spaces with the best intentions and to assume that same intent in others. Members should afford others the space necessary to make mistakes and to learn and grow from them. Members of privilege are called upon to offer correction when they observe biased behavior, and all members should accept and reflect on any such correction when given and make amends for any harm done regardless of intention. The Minnesota Young DFL is committed to holding members individually responsible for actively learning and growing in this way, as a condition of membership.”

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP AND ELIGIBILITY

Section 1. General Eligibility.

Individuals who are members of any other political party may be eligible for any MYDFL membership type. Organizations that engage in political or electoral work but do not classify themselves as political parties shall not be considered political parties.

Section 2. Regular Membership.

Regular membership in the organization is open to all persons living in the State of Minnesota who have reached the age of sixteen (16) and are under thirty-six (36) and who support the platform and principles of the Minnesota DFL Party. Regular members shall be entitled to all of the privileges of members of the MYDFL Statewide Coordinating and Executive Committee except casting a vote at meetings of those bodies.

Section 3. Associate Membership.

Associate membership in the organization is open to all persons living in the State of Minnesota who have either reached the age of

fourteen (14) and who are under the age of sixteen (16) or have reached the age of thirty-six (36) and who are under the age of forty (40). Associate members shall be entitled to all of the privileges of members of the MYDFL Statewide Coordinating and Executive Committee except casting a vote at meetings of those bodies.

Section 4. Honorary Membership.

By majority vote, the MYDFL Statewide Coordinating Committee or the Annual Convention may elect non-voting honorary membership status to a person not eligible for membership. Honorary members shall have none of the obligations of membership in the organization but shall be entitled to all privileges except those of making motions, voting, and holding office. Persons receiving honorary membership from the MYDFL shall receive physical and digital confirmation from the Secretary.

Section 5. Membership Registration.

By a simple majority vote, the Statewide Coordinating Committee can require all individuals to complete an accurate membership registration form with the MYDFL to be considered a regular member. The registration process for membership shall be made publicly available, published, and updated whenever the MYDFL Statewide Coordinating Committee approves changes.

ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS

Section 1. Definition.

The MYDFL shall hold an Annual Convention between the first (1st) of January and the thirty-first (31st) of December. With Executive Committee approval, the President may move a convention in case of emergencies mentioned in Article XIV Section 5. The Annual Convention shall hold elections for Officers and all other positions as this Constitution determines.

The Annual Convention shall amend the MYDFL Constitution and Bylaws as needed and set goals and direction for the organization. The Annual Convention is the ultimate governing body of the MYDFL and may conduct any

business that comes before it. The President must call the Annual Convention with thirty (30) days of public notice. The President shall designate the Annual Convention's date, time, and place.

Section 2. Delegates.

Delegate status at MYDFL Annual and Special Conventions is awarded to any regular or associate member registered before the annual convention is convened.

Section 3. Voting by Proxy.

Voting by proxy is not allowed at MYDFL conventions.

Section 4. Election Procedure.

Elections with only one candidate may be decided by a voice vote or show of hands. A majority vote shall determine all contested elections involving two challengers. A signed written ballot will decide all contested elections.

Section 5. Special Convention.

A Special Convention may be called by a supermajority (2/3) of the Executive Committee at least ten (10) days before the special convention. By a simple majority vote, the Executive Committee must adopt an agenda for any Special Convention which the delegates of the Special Convention cannot modify. The Executive Committee shall designate the Annual Convention's date, time, and place by a simple majority vote.

ARTICLE VI

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND QUORUM

Section 1. Definition.

The Executive Officers shall be the body that the MYDFL uses to determine whether a quorum is present at the Statewide Coordinating or Executive Committee meetings. The Executive Officers shall not meet or conduct business independently of the Statewide Coordinating or Executive Committee.

Section 2. Composition.

The Executive Officers shall comprise the MYDFL President, Executive Vice President, Vice President for Outreach, Inclusion, and Recruitment, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 3. President.

It shall be the duty of the President to open all conventions and to preside at meetings of the MYDFL Executive Committee and Statewide Coordinating Committee. It is also the responsibility of the President to carry out the goals and policies set at the MYDFL convention and to perform all other duties necessary and appropriate to the office. The President shall sit on the DFL State Executive Committee, DFL State Central Committee, and any relevant National Committees. In consultation and collaboration with the MYDFL Statewide Coordinating Committee, the President shall produce an annual budget, comprehensive fundraising, and a membership outreach plan. The President or their designee shall be the official representative of the MYDFL to the media and all other pertinent organizations and campaigns. The President shall make any necessary appointments. The President must fulfill the roles of all other officers should those duties go unfulfilled.

Section 4. Executive Vice President.

It shall be the duty of the Executive Vice President to assist the President in fulfilling the duties and responsibilities defined in Article VI, Section 3. In the absence of the President, the Executive Vice President shall preside at meetings of the MYDFL. In the event of a vacancy in the position of President, the Executive Vice President shall assume the office of President. The Executive Vice President shall be responsible for the organization's consistently achieving its mission, goals, and financial objectives. The Executive Vice President shall not be of the same gender identity as the President. The Executive Vice President shall sit on the DFL State Central Committee; the Executive Vice President is called the "Vice President" and "Vice-President" in the DFL Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 5. Vice President for Outreach, Inclusion, and Recruitment.

The Vice President for Outreach, Inclusion, and Recruitment shall formulate and implement outreach efforts to traditionally underrepresented communities. This includes creating an outreach

and inclusion plan for the MYDFL, creating programs designed to attract persons from traditionally underrepresented communities, fostering inclusion and greater intercultural awareness, and other activities that may be deemed necessary and appropriate.

The Vice President for Outreach, Inclusion, and Recruitment may be referred to as the “Membership Director,” “Outreach Officer”, or the “Vice President for Outreach.”

Section 6. Secretary.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record and preserve the minutes and attendance records of all proceedings of the MYDFL; the Secretary shall distribute completed minutes of MYDFL Statewide Coordinating and Executive Committee meetings to all Statewide Coordinating Committee members within twenty-one (21) days of their occurrence. The Secretary shall send notice of MYDFL Statewide Coordinating and Executive Committee meetings and Conventions in compliance with this Constitution. The Secretary shall maintain the membership and charter records with other relevant officers. The Secretary shall send copies of the revised Constitution and minutes of conventions to the state DFL office for permanent recording.

Section 7. Treasurer.

The Treasurer, in conjunction with the President, shall monitor all MYDFL funds and transactions, provide monthly treasurer's reports, and complete the required campaign finance filings. The Treasurer shall also assist the President and the MYDFL Statewide Coordinating Committee on budgeting and fundraising plans, advise the President and the Executive Committee on campaign finance law, and take custody of MYDFL funds to make deposits, withdrawals, or purchases as instructed. The Treasurer shall also assist the MYDFL Statewide Coordinating Committee in raising funds by tracking donors and finding new funding sources for the organization. The Treasurer shall also work with the President and other relevant officers on budgeting and fundraising plans. The Treasurer shall also serve as the treasurer for any state or federal political

committees controlled and administered by the MYDFL.

Section 8. Quorum.

A quorum for any MYDFL Statewide Coordinating or Executive Committee meeting requires at least two (2) Executive Officers to be present. The President or Executive Vice President must also be present for any MYDFL meeting to have a Quorum.

**ARTICLE VII
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Section 1. Definition.

The Executive Committee shall be the governing body of the MYDFL between Statewide Coordinating Committee meetings. The MYDFL Executive Committee members may be called “Officers”.

Section 2. Composition.

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Executive Officers, the Vice President for Outreach, Inclusion, and Recruitment, the Vice President for Greater Minnesota, the Vice President for the Twin Cities, the Vice President for Operations, the Political Director, the Communications Director, the Advocacy Director, and two (2) National Committee Representatives not of the same gender identity. The Chair and Vice-Chair of any Standing Committee shall serve as members of the MYDFL Executive Committee.

Section 3. Vice President for Greater Minnesota.

It shall be the duty of the Vice President for Greater Minnesota to advocate for the needs of MYDFL members in Greater Minnesota. The Vice President for Greater Minnesota shall assist in the planning, coordinating, and executing MYDFL events and programming in Greater Minnesota.

Additionally, the Vice President for Greater Minnesota shall assist the President in fulfilling the duties and responsibilities defined in Article VI, Section 3. The Vice President for Greater Minnesota must not reside in any of the following counties: Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, or Washington.

Section 4. Vice President for the Twin Cities.

It shall be the duty of the Vice President for the Twin Cities to advocate for the needs of MYDFL members in the 7-county Twin Cities region. The Vice President for the Twin Cities shall assist in the planning, coordinating, and executing MYDFL events and programming in the 7-county Twin Cities region.

Additionally, the Vice President for the Twin Cities shall assist the President in fulfilling the duties and responsibilities defined in Article VI, Section 3. The Vice President for the Twin Cities must reside in one of the following counties: Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington.

Section 5. Vice President for Operations.

The Vice President for Operations will plan, direct, coordinate, and oversee the operations activities of MYDFL. The Vice President for Operations will also help to provide a strategic vision for MYDFL, manage internal communications, and advise the President on matters about the operation and strategic direction of MYDFL, specifically on issues relating to the Minnesota legislature.

Section 6. Political Director.

The Political Director shall direct the implementation of the policy and political goals of MYDFL by organizing political action and campaigns and recruiting young candidates for office. The Political Director shall be the principal organizer and coordinator of MYDFL involvement in endorsed campaigns.

The Political Director and the President shall serve as the primary point of contact with ongoing local, regional, and national campaigns on behalf of MYDFL.

The Political Director shall proactively connect and maintain relationships with local, regional, and national campaigns and initiate and schedule actionable electoral opportunities where applicable, as agreed upon by the Statewide Coordinating Committee.

Section 7. Communications Director.

The Communications Director shall work with the President and Secretary to outline

MYDFL's message and strategy for getting MYDFL's message out. The Communications Director will assist the President in managing MYDFL's print media and new media presence, including, but not limited to, press releases, website content, social media content, email contact, and newsletters.

The Communications Director shall also work with the President and Secretary to handle all correspondence on behalf of MYDFL.

Section 8. Directors.

Directors serve as at-large members of the executive committee. There will be four (4) directors, with not more than half being of one gender identity. The duties of Directors shall be assigned by the MYDFL President or Executive Committee.

Section 9. Advocacy Director.

The Advocacy Director shall direct the implementation of the advocacy goals of MYDFL by evaluating legislation, monitoring the major issues of the day, recommending policy and issue positions to both the Advocacy Committee and Statewide Coordinating Committee, and coordinating with the Statewide Coordinating Committee, local chapters, college chapters, and the wider MYDFL membership to advance progressive causes through grassroots action.

Section 10. National Committee Representatives.

The National Committee Representatives shall represent the MYDFL at all meetings and functions of the Young Democrats of America. National Committee Representatives shall report on all national Young Democrats of America events of concern and interest to the MYDFL. They shall also liaise with Minnesota's and the Young Democrats of America's Democratic National Committee representatives.

MYDFL will elect two (2) National Committee Representatives who are not of the same gender identity.

Section 11. President Emeritus.

The immediate past President of MYDFL shall be designated as President Emeritus. President Emeritus shall advise and assist the

President and other officers as needed and as requested in the exercise of their duties.

ARTICLE VIII

STATEWIDE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Section 1. Definition.

The Statewide Coordinating Committee shall be the governing body of the MYDFL between conventions. The MYDFL Statewide Coordinating Committee may be called the “Coordinating Committee” or the “State Committee.”

Section 2. Composition.

The Statewide Coordinating Committee shall be comprised of all members of the Executive Committee, the Chairs of Chartered MYDFL Chapters, Appointed Members of MYDFL Standing Committee, Young Democrats of America National Committee Members, and DFL Party State Executive Committee Members who are also regular members of the MYDFL shall serve as voting members of the MYDFL Statewide Coordinating Committee. DFL State Central Committee Members and Alternates may also become members of the Statewide Coordinating Committee upon submitting a written request to the President and Secretary.

ARTICLE IX

CHARTERED CHAPTERS AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

Section 1. Chartering Chapters.

The MYDFL shall issue charters by the Constitution and Bylaws and are subject to annual renewal by the MYDFL Convention. Organizations seeking to be chartered with the MYDFL must provide copies of their governing documents, an officer roster, and a membership roster to the President, Vice President for Outreach, Inclusion, and Recruitment, and Secretary to be considered for approval. Membership rosters must contain the following information: name, city, state, ZIP code, date of birth (month, day, and year), and email. Phone numbers are optional. The submitted roster must contain at least ten (10) members.

Additionally, the organization must have language within its governing documents that

states that it shall only endorse candidates who currently have the MYDFL endorsement or have received an endorsement from the appropriate DFL party unit. Chapters charters may be granted by a simple majority vote of the Convention or the Statewide Coordinating Committee. Additional requirements for any organization to be chartered as the MYDFL Statewide Coordinating Committee shall approve MYDFL Chapters. Other requirements for any organization to be chartered as MYDFL Chapters shall be included in the Bylaws.

Section 2. Revocation of Chapter Charters.

Organizations chartered as MYDFL chapters must follow the MYDFL Constitution and the Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion policies required by the DFL party. Additionally, organizations chartered as MYDFL chapters must send up-to-date copies of their governing documents, officer roster, and membership list to the MYDFL Secretary annually. Organizations failing to conform to these standards may revoke their charters upon a three-fifths (3/5) majority vote of the Statewide Coordinating Committee members present.

Section 3. Non-Voting Appointed Officers.

The President shall have the power to nominate members of MYDFL to non-voting officer positions at their discretion. The President must present the duties and responsibilities of the proposed appointed position to the Statewide Coordinating Committee in writing.

The Statewide Coordinating Committee must confirm the President's nominations by a simple majority vote. The appointed position's title, duties, and responsibilities shall be in writing in the Bylaws.

The non-voting officer shall serve at the pleasure of the President, and the tenure of the non-voting officer position shall coincide with the tenure of the President who appointed them.

ARTICLE X

STANDING AND AD-HOC COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees.

MYDFL may establish standing committees to carry out the business of the organization. Standing Committees may be set by bylaw. The description and purpose of each standing committee shall be included in writing in the Bylaws.

All work completed by standing committees shall be reported to the Statewide Coordinating Committee. Standing committees shall meet at least three (3) times per year.

Section 2. Ad-Hoc Committees.

The President may establish ad-hoc committees to carry out the organization's business. Committee membership is open to all registered members of the MYDFL. The President selects chairs of ad-hoc committees upon their creation. All work completed by ad-hoc committees shall be reported to the Statewide Coordinating Committee.

ARTICLE XI

ELECTIONS, ABSENCES, AND VACANCIES

Section 1. Eligibility for Office.

To be eligible for any MYDFL Executive Officer or Executive Committee position, an individual must be a regular member who has satisfied and must not reach the age of thirty-six (36) during their term. An individual must have also resided in the State of Minnesota for at least one month before the office's assumption. Officers who reside outside Minnesota for four (4) consecutive months automatically vacate their office.

Section 2. Terms.

The President, Executive Vice President, Political Director, Advocacy Director, the Directors, and the National Committee Representatives shall be elected to two-year terms in odd-numbered years. The Vice President for Outreach, Inclusion, and Recruitment, the Vice President for Operations, the Vice President for Greater Minnesota, the Vice President for the Twin Cities, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Communications Director shall be elected to two-year terms in even-numbered years.

Section 3. Succession of Office.

Newly elected Officers shall begin their term when their predecessor's terms end following the close of the annual Convention. Upon leaving office, all MYDFL records, books, and properties shall be returned to the officer's successor or the MYDFL President.

Section 4. Attendance.

Attendance is required for all MYDFL Officers. Any Officer, excluding President Emeritus, who has two (2) consecutive unexcused absences shall automatically vacate their position; no more than four (4) total unexcused absences are allowed over a term. The Secretary shall notify the President when an Officer has accumulated enough unexcused absences to require their position to be vacated. It shall be the duty of the President to inform the Officer that their position has been vacated.

Section 5. Excused Absences.

Officers must notify the President and the Secretary of their absence by the time a meeting is adjourned. The President will determine if the absence is excused or unexcused. Notifications received after a meeting is adjourned shall be considered unexcused unless extenuating circumstances impair the officer's ability to give proper notice.

Section 6. Resignations.

Officers who wish to resign must send a written letter of their intent to the President and Secretary.

The President shall present the letter of intent to the Statewide Coordinating Committee. The Statewide Coordinating Committee must vote to accept the resignation by a simple majority vote of the members present.

Section 7. Vacancies.

In the event of a resignation or removal of an officer, a vacancy shall be immediately declared by the Statewide Coordinating Committee by a majority vote of the members present. A vacancy may be filled at the meeting at which the vacancy is declared, but only if the notice for that meeting includes the intent to elect to fill that vacancy. The Statewide Coordinating Committee must declare a special election to fill the vacancy no later than

two (2) months from the date the vacancy was declared.

The President may appoint an interim officer to fulfill the duties of the office until a special election can be held.

Section 8. Special Elections.

The Statewide Coordinating Committee may hold a special election. Special elections follow the same procedure as regular elections, as defined in Article V, Section 4. Elections require at least ten (10) days of public notice.

Section 9. Holding Multiple Offices.

A person may hold up to two (2) officer positions. A person holding multiple offices shall be entitled to up to one vote.

Section 10. Leave of Absence.

An officer who cannot continue their duties may request a leave of absence. The duration of a leave of absence is one (1) month. A formal note requesting an extension can be submitted for review and approval by the State Coordinating Committee. The maximum leave of absence duration is three (3) months total in a calendar year. After three (3) months from the leave effective start date, the clauses relating to vacancies according to Article XII, Section 7 of the Constitution come back into force. During a leave of absence, an officer may not vote or participate in any business. The Statewide Coordinating Committee shall have the authority to assign the duties of any Officer on a leave of absence to another MYDFL member on an interim basis upon a majority vote. The member shall be listed as an excused absence in the official meeting minutes.

**ARTICLE XII
REMOVAL FROM OFFICE AND
IMPEACHMENT**

Section 1. Cause for Removal and Impeachment.

The Statewide Coordinating Committee may remove any elected officer, appointed officer, or other voting members for failing to perform the duties prescribed by this Constitution. After at least ten (10) days of written notice specifying the cause, a vote by signed written ballot with (2/3)

majority vote of the Statewide Coordinating Committee members present is required to remove the individual from their position.

**ARTICLE XIII
MEETINGS**

Section 1. Minimum Requirements.

The Statewide Coordinating Committee shall meet at least twice per quarter with reasonable accommodations for those requesting them. The President may call Statewide Coordinating Committee meetings with at least ten (10) days of public notice.

Section 2. Minimum Requirements for the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the President with reasonable accommodations made for those who request them. The President may call Executive Committee meetings with at least forty-eight (48) hours' notice to all the Officers.

Section 3. Meetings Utilizing Teleconferencing Tools.

Any MYDFL meeting may be conducted via teleconference unless otherwise prohibited by the Constitution or Bylaws. MYDFL meetings may also be conducted via in-person attendance and teleconference.

Section 5. Criteria for Rescheduling or Cancellation.

Meetings of the Statewide Coordinating Committee, Executive Committee, and all other meetings of MYDFL may be canceled provided that one of the following circumstances are applicable:

- I. If a community or multiple communities within the state of Minnesota are experiencing one of the following:
 - A. a natural or human-made disaster;
 - B. a terrorist incident or attack;
 - C. an epidemic; or
 - D. armed conflict or civil unrest.
- II. If a community or multiple communities within the state of Minnesota are under a state of emergency declared by:
 - A. a mayor or municipal government;

- B. the governor of the state of Minnesota; or
 - C. the President of the United States of America.
- III. If an officer of the Minnesota Young DFL has died within the thirty (30) days preceding the scheduled meeting.

Section 6. Methods for Rescheduling and Cancellation.

If any of the criteria listed in Article XIV, Section 5 is applicable, meetings of the Statewide Coordinating Committee, Executive Committee, and all other meetings of MYDFL may be canceled upon receipt by the President and Secretary of a written request signed or electronically signed by not less than four-fifths (4/5) of the current membership of the Executive Committee.

Section 7. Electronic Voting.

The President may call for an electronic vote of the executive or Statewide Coordinating Committee to complete any outstanding business of the MYDFL except items contained in Article X, Article XII, Section 8, Article, Article XIII, XV, XVII, and XVIII. Electronic votes must have a simple majority vote of all voting-eligible members, unless otherwise specified, to pass. An electronic vote may include any method that utilizes email, voicemail, or any other telecommunication technique.

Section 8. Proxy Voting.

Voting by proxy is not allowed at any MYDFL meetings.

Section 9. Public Notice Definition.

"Public notice" means every notice required or authorized by the Constitution, Bylaws, or other rules of the Minnesota Young DFL shall be publicized by at least one (1) of the following methods: website, official social media accounts, or email notification.

**ARTICLE XIV
ENDORSEMENTS**

Section 1. Authority.

MYDFL is empowered to screen and endorse any partisan or nonpartisan race within the State

of Minnesota. MYDFL may also make endorsements on ballot initiatives or intraparty elections.

Section 2. Subordination.

Endorsements delivered by the appropriate DFL party unit supersede all MYDFL endorsements. MYDFL may not support or assist candidates challenging the official party endorsee.

Endorsements delivered to candidates who fail to gain the official party endorsement become null and void when an appropriate DFL party unit officially endorses a candidate.

Section 3. Endorsing Process and Methods.

The MYDFL Statewide Coordinating Committee may decide to seek candidates for endorsement on a per-race basis. The Statewide Coordinating Committee shall delegate its screening authority to screen nominations committees for an endorsement recommendation except in cases as defined by Article III, Section 7 of the Bylaws.

The Statewide Coordinating Committee must then review and ratify, but not alter, all endorsement recommendations made by a simple majority vote of members present. A three-fifths (3/5) majority is required for any recommendation made by a screening nominations committee.

Section 4. Threshold.

A three-fifths (3/5) majority is required for any endorsement made directly by the MYDFL Statewide Coordinating Committee.

**ARTICLE XV
RESOLUTIONS**

Section 1. Proposal.

Any member of MYDFL may propose resolutions at any Statewide Coordinating Committee meeting or by any delegate to either the annual convention or a special convention. Resolutions must be submitted to the Secretary in writing.

Section 2. Approval.

Resolutions proposed to the Statewide Coordinating Committee require ten (10) days of notice and public circulation before they can be passed. Resolutions may also be circulated in an official Statewide Coordinating Committee meeting notice, provided that any such proposal meets the notice requirement in Article XIII, Section 1. A simple majority vote of Statewide Coordinating Committee members present is required for the Statewide Coordinating Committee to adopt a resolution. Resolutions may be adopted at any annual or special Convention with a simple majority vote and do not require prior notice to be taken up.

ARTICLE XVI **BYLAWS**

Section 1. Proposal.

Any Statewide Coordinating Committee member may propose bylaws at any Statewide Coordinating Committee meeting or by any delegate to the Annual Convention. Bylaws may be offered by delegates to a Special Convention if the agenda for the Special Convention authorizes bylaw proposals. All Bylaws must be submitted in writing to the MYDFL secretary or the Convention Secretary.

Section 2. Approval.

Bylaws proposed to the Statewide Coordinating Committee require ten (10) days' notice and public circulation before they can be voted on. Bylaws may also be circulated in an official Statewide Coordinating Committee meeting notice, provided that any such proposal meets the notice requirement in Article XIII, Section 1. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of Statewide Coordinating Committee members present is required for the Statewide Coordinating Committee to pass or change a Bylaw. Changes to the Bylaws may be passed at an annual or special Convention with a simple majority vote and do not require prior notice to be taken up.

ARTICLE XVII **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. Proposal.

Any Statewide Coordinating Committee member may propose Constitutional

Amendments at any Statewide Coordinating Committee meeting or by any delegate to the Annual Convention. Delegates may offer Constitutional Amendments to a Special Convention if the agenda for the Special Convention authorizes Constitutional amendments. All amendments must be submitted in writing to the MYDFL secretary or the Convention Secretary.

Section 2. Approval.

Constitutional Amendments proposed to the Statewide Coordinating Committee require ten (10) days of notice and public circulation before they can be voted on. Amendments may also be circulated in an official Statewide Coordinating Committee meeting notice, provided that any such proposal meets the notice requirement in Article XIII, Section 1. A four-fifths (4/5) vote of Statewide Coordinating Committee members present is required for the Statewide Coordinating Committee to pass a change to this Constitution. Constitutional Amendments may be passed at an annual or special Convention with a simple majority vote and do not require prior notice to be taken up.

ARTICLE XVIII **EFFECTIVE DATE**

Section 1. Effective Date.

This Constitution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption. Amendments to this Constitution shall become effective immediately upon their adoption unless, at the time of adoption, the amendment is declared effective at a later date or only upon the occurrence of a specified event.



BYLAWS OF THE MINNESOTA YOUNG DFL

(As adopted by the Statewide Coordinating Committee on 22 February 2024)

ARTICLE I **AUTHORITY, SEVERABILITY, AND** **EFFECTIVE DATE**

Section 1. Authority.

If any portion of the MYDFL Bylaws conflicts with other authorizing documents, the MYDFL Constitution shall govern.

Section 2. Severability.

If any portion of the MYDFL Bylaws is rendered invalid, the remaining portions shall remain in force.

Section 3. Effective Date.

These Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon their adoption. Amendments to these Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon their adoption unless, at the time of adoption, the amendment is declared effective at a later date or only upon the occurrence of a specified event.

ARTICLE II **REGISTRATION**

Section 1. Registration Process.

To be considered a regular member or an associate member as defined by the MYDFL Constitution, an individual must complete the registration form found on the MYDFL webpage. The current website for the adoption of these bylaws is www.youngdf.org.

ARTICLE III **ENDORSEMENTS**

Section 1. Authorizations and Scope of Authority.

MYDFL is empowered to develop an endorsement recommendation process that is open, fair, and transparent to all candidates, MYDFL members, and officers of both MYDFL and the DFL Party. The MYDFL Executive Committee must approve any endorsement recommendation process by a simple majority

vote. Determining which offices MYDFL will open for consideration of endorsement shall be at the discretion of the MYDFL Executive Committee.

Section 2. The Standing Committee on Screenings.

This section is intentionally left blank.

Subsection 1. Scope and Authority.

The Standing Committee on Screenings shall review all candidates in races approved by the MYDFL Executive Committee for possible endorsement. The Standing Committee on Screenings shall use qualitative and quantitative analysis materials provided by the MYDFL Executive Committee to review and recommend candidates for endorsement. Per the MYDFL Constitution, The Standing Committee on Screenings shall serve as a screening nominations committee.

Subsection 2. Composition.

The Standing Committee on Screenings shall comprise individuals who have met the membership requirements as defined by Article IV, Section 2 of the MYDFL Constitution at least ten (10) days before a meeting of the Standing Committee on Screenings. Members may vote on matters of candidate endorsement recommendations. Individuals who have met the membership requirements as defined by Article IV, Section 3 of the MYDFL Constitution less than ten (10) days before a meeting of the Standing Committee on Screenings may participate as non-voting members.

Subsection 3. Quorum.

To have a quorum at any Screening Committee meeting, at least six (6) members and the Presiding Officer must be present.

Subsection 4. Meetings.

The Political Director and the President have the authority to set the date and time for the meetings of the Screening Committees. All meetings of the Standing Committee on Screenings require twenty-one (21) days of public notice.

Subsection 5. Interviewing of Candidates.

When screening candidates, deference in questioning shall be granted in the following order: 1) Members of the Executive Committee; 2) Members of the Statewide Coordinating Committee; 3) Regular and associate members; and 4) the general public. The Executive Committee has the authority to adopt procedures and other rules for conducting candidate screening interviews for the Standing Committee on Screening.

Subsection 6. Open Meetings.

Candidate screenings are open to the public but may be restricted to just the Statewide Coordinating Committee members if requested by a majority of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee has the authority to determine rules on media or social media use during candidate screenings.

Subsection 7. Teleconferencing.

Regular and associate members may participate in meetings of the Standing Committee on Screenings via teleconference as authorized by the Executive Committee. The Presiding Officer shall ensure that members participating via teleconference can discreetly vote on candidate endorsement recommendations and follow the voting procedure as detailed in Article III, Section 2, Subsection 3 of the Bylaws. In consultation with the Parliamentarian, the Presiding Officer may set guidelines and other rules for acceptable conduct for members when meetings occur via teleconference.

Subsection 8. Presiding Officer.

The MYDFL Executive Committee has the authority to designate any individual who has met the membership requirements as defined by Article IV of the MYDFL Constitution at least seven (7) days before a meeting of the Standing Committee on Screenings as the Presiding Officer of the Standing Committee on Screening. The Presiding Officer shall serve as the chair and presiding officer of the Standing Committee on Screening. The President shall serve in this role if the Executive Committee has not appointed a Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer may be referred to as the "Screening Chair."

Subsection 9. Screening Secretary.

The MYDFL Executive Committee has the authority to designate any individual who has met the membership requirements as defined by Article IV, Section 3 of the MYDFL Constitution at least seven (7) days before a Standing Committee on Screenings meeting as the Screening Secretary. It shall be the duty of the Screening Secretary to record the minutes and attendance records of all proceedings of the Standing Committee on Screening. If the Executive Committee has yet to appoint a Screening Secretary, the Secretary shall serve in this role.

Subsection 10. Endorsement Recommendation and Ratification.

The Standing Committee on Screenings will follow the procedures for endorsement as outlined in these Bylaws. The Standing Committee on Screenings will send its report of candidates it recommends for endorsement to the MYDFL Executive Committee. The MYDFL Executive Committee must then ratify these recommendations by a three-fifths (3/5) vote of members present. Standing screening committees must make all candidate endorsement recommendations at least fourteen (14) days before any primary election.

Section 3. Screenings and Questionnaires.

This section is intentionally left blank.

Subsection 1. Questionnaires.

The MYDFL Executive Committee is empowered to develop and approve questionnaires appropriate to each office for which candidates will be screened. The MYDFL Executive Committee may also adopt procedures for evaluating questionnaires and which candidates may be further invited to participate in screening interviews. Submission of a completed candidate questionnaire is required of every candidate before they may participate in a screening interview and for all candidates seeking an endorsement from the MYDFL unless otherwise specified in the Constitution or Bylaws.

Subsection 2. Screening Interviews.

The MYDFL Executive Committee shall adopt procedures for conducting candidate screening interviews; such procedures may limit the number of candidates invited to participate in screening interviews and shall establish a fair and equitable method for making such determination. Participation in screening is not a requirement to receive an endorsement from the MYDFL.

Subsection 3. Other Analysis Materials.

The MYDFL Executive Committee may develop and approve other means for analyzing candidates seeking the MYDFL endorsement. Any further analysis materials must be consistent with the MYDFL Constitution and these Bylaws.

Subsection 4. Candidate and Campaign Outreach Policy.

The Candidate and Campaign Endorsement Outreach Policy of the Minnesota Young DFL Shall be as follows:

"The Minnesota Young DFL shall make an effort, in good faith, to reach out to candidates and campaigns in races where the organization has expressed interest in or plans to screen for endorsement.

It is the expectation that candidates and campaigns will also make an effort, in good faith, to contact a Minnesota Young DFL officer if they are aware that the organization has expressed interest or is planning to screen for endorsement, and they have not received any official communication from the organization.

The Minnesota Young DFL reserves the right to not consider or screen any candidate or campaign that has not made an effort to contact the Minnesota Young DFL at least five (5) days prior to any planned screening for endorsement.

Additionally, The Minnesota Young DFL reserves the right to not consider or screen any candidate who has not responded to official communications relating to logistics for endorsement screenings from the organization in a timely manner as defined by the President or the Political Director. In instances where no date for a response was assigned, candidates or campaigns must respond within seven (7) days.

The Minnesota Young DFL also reserves the right to not consider any candidate that has not publicly announced their candidacy or who has not filed candidate/candidate committee paperwork with the Minnesota Secretary of State or their local county elections office.”

Subsection 5. Candidate and Campaign Outreach Policy Enforcement.

The President, Political Director, and all other relevant Officers shall enforce the Candidate and Campaign Endorsement Outreach Policy as described in Article III, Section 1, Subsection 1 of these bylaws.

Section 4. Conflicts of Interest.

Conflicts of interest shall be resolved according to the following rules.

Subsection 1. President and Political Director have Authority.

If any conflict of interest needs to be resolved in these Bylaws for participation in the review of questionnaires, screening of candidates, and recommendation of ratings/endorsement, the President and Political Director shall have the final say. Any decision may be overruled by a three-fifths (3/5) vote of the Standing Committee on Screenings.

Subsection 2. Conflicts of Interest.

Each member of the Standing Committee on Screenings is responsible for stating any involvement with a particular candidate or campaign during screening. They should not bias the process towards or against any specific candidate or position. Members of the Standing Committee on Screenings who are involved with a particular candidate or campaign at the time of screening will be allowed to participate in screenings and discussions but will not be allowed to vote on recommending the candidate for endorsement and will have their vote counted as an abstention.

Subsection 3. Members who are Candidates for Office.

Members of the Standing Committees on Screenings who are candidates for elected office are not eligible to participate in the screenings of their opponents. This may not apply if multiple seats are up for endorsement and one candidate has already been endorsed.

Section 5. Endorsement Tier System.

This section is intentionally left blank.

Subsection 1. Tier System for Partisan and Nonpartisan Races.

MYDFL shall rank all partisan and nonpartisan races that it decides to consider endorsement into three (3) tiers. The tiers are Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3.

Subsection 2. Endorsement Tier Determination.

The MYDFL Executive Committee shall determine what tier a race is. The MYDFL Executive Committee shall

decide tier determination with a simple majority vote. The tier in which a race is considered can be altered by the Executive Committee at any time.

Subsection 3. Endorsements in Races Classified as Tier 1.

Any candidate who receives an endorsement from the MYDFL in a race classified as Tier 1 is entitled to state that they are endorsed by the “Minnesota Young DFL” or “MYDFL” and may use the same in their campaign literature, website, or other public media.

The MYDFL may provide financial support, volunteer campaign assistance, and inclusion in MYDFL activities to any endorsed candidates in races classified as Tier 1.

Subsection 4. Endorsements in Races Classified as Tier 2.

Any candidate who receives an endorsement from the MYDFL in a race classified as Tier 2 is entitled to state that they are endorsed by the “Minnesota Young DFL” or “MYDFL” and may use the same in their campaign literature, website, or other public media. The MYDFL may provide volunteer campaign assistance and inclusion in MYDFL activities to any endorsed candidates in races classified as Tier 2.

The MYDFL will not financially support any endorsed candidates in races classified as Tier 2.

Subsection 5. Endorsements in Races Classified as Tier 3.

Any candidate who receives an endorsement from the MYDFL in a race classified as Tier 3 is entitled to state that they are endorsed by the “Minnesota Young DFL” or “MYDFL” and may use the same in their campaign literature, website, or other public media. The MYDFL may include endorsed candidates in MYDFL activities.

The MYDFL will not provide financial support or volunteer campaign assistance in races classified as Tier 3.

Section 6. Endorsement Procedure.

This section is intentionally left blank.

Subsection 1. Rescinding of Endorsement.

The Executive Committee of the Minnesota Young DFL may, by a three-fifths (3/5) vote, exclusive of abstentions, rescind any endorsement of any candidate for cause.

Cause shall be determined by the Executive Committee in its sole discretion, including but not limited to 1) misrepresentation as to the nature of the endorsement; 2) improper use of the name or logo of the Minnesota Young DFL; 3) conduct or speech which MYDFL, in its sole discretion, feels reflects poorly on the credibility and reputation of the Minnesota Young DFL or its endorsement; 4) discovery of any misrepresentation or falsehood presented on the candidate questionnaire or during the screening interview; 5) for any or all of the above, whether committed by the candidate or anyone acting on the candidate’s behalf; or 6) rescission of an endorsement by the official DFL Party organizing unit having authority to grant an endorsement for the position sought.

Subsection 2. “No Endorsement”; Reconsideration.

“No Endorsement” is a viable option on every vote for an endorsement by an MYDFL screening authority and requires a simple majority vote, exclusive of abstentions, to adopt. Once adopted, it may be reconsidered at the same meeting by a simple majority vote or at any future meeting during the same election cycle by a three-fifths (3/5) majority vote, exclusive of abstentions.

Subsection 3. Voting Procedure for Endorsements.

The names of all candidates for an office shall be considered on the first ballot for endorsement conducted by the MYDFL Standing Committee on Screenings. Should no candidate receive the necessary three-fifths (3/5) majority vote, exclusive of abstentions, then the person receiving the lowest number of votes on that ballot shall be dropped, and another ballot cast. This process will continue until a candidate gets a three-fifths (3/5) vote or until only two candidates remain on the ballot. After three successive ballots during which neither of the two remaining candidates receives a three-fifths (3/5) vote for endorsement, balloting will cease, and a finding of “No Endorsement” shall be recorded for that office.

Subsection 4. Expiration of Endorsement.

The MYDFL endorsement shall continue in effect until the earlier of 1) endorsement of a different candidate by an official organizing unit of the DFL having authority to grant endorsement for the position sought; 2) the candidate’s defeat in any Primary Election for the position sought; or 3) the conclusion (including any recount process) of the General Election for the position sought.

Upon expiration of the endorsement, the candidate shall immediately remove any reference to the MYDFL endorsement from her or his campaign literature, website, or other public media.

Subsection 5. Financial Restrictions.

The Minnesota Young DFL will be restricted in the amount it spends on any MYDFL-endorsed candidate. The MYDFL Executive Committee shall determine how much MYDFL funds can be used in the annual budget for campaigning and electioneering for MYDFL-endorsed candidates. The Minnesota Young DFL can spend up to fifty percent (50%) of the funds for uses that would help or support an MYDFL-endorsed candidate at one time.

Section 7. Direct Endorsement Restrictions.

The MYDFL Executive Committee or Statewide Coordinating Committee may decide to directly endorse in races where the appropriate DFL party unit has already made an endorsement or only one (1) candidate is seeking the appropriate DFL party unit has completed and submitted a candidate questionnaire.

The Political Director may waive the candidate questionnaire requirement when only

one (1) candidate is seeking the appropriate DFL party unit endorsement. The MYDFL Executive Committee must also determine the endorsement tier in the Endorsement Tier System in Article III, Section 6.

Section 8. Intraparty Elections and Ballot Initiatives.

The Executive Committee or Statewide Coordinating Committee may directly endorse a candidate for an intraparty election or endorse a state or local ballot initiative without going through the screening process outlined in the Constitution and Bylaws.

**ARTICLE IV
STANDING COMMITTEES.**

Section 1. Minnesota College Democrats Organizing Committee.

Subsection 1. Purpose.

The Minnesota College Democrats Organizing Committee (MCDOC), which may also be referred to as the College Organizing Committee, shall serve as the official collegiate outreach and organizing body of the MYDFL. It aims to engage and organize college students in promoting the goals and values of the MYDFL, fostering leadership, and advancing Democratic values on college campuses across Minnesota.

Subsection 2: Composition and Leadership.

The MCDOC shall function as a committee consisting of the Chair; a Vice Chair; a Secretary; and the Chair or leader of each recognized College Democrats group that has chartered with the MYDFL, whether at a four-year or two-year college within Minnesota. These leaders shall be members of the MCDOC, contributing to its goals, initiatives, and decision-making processes. All elections and appointments shall be conducted according to the rules and procedures established within the MYDFL Bylaws.

Subsection 3. Governance, Elections, and Eligibility.

The MCDOC shall operate under the authority of the MYDFL and adhere to all MYDFL Bylaws and policies. Officers of the MCDOC shall be elected at the MYDFL annual convention by any MYDFL member enrolled in a college program in the state of Minnesota. To be eligible for election as an officer, candidates must be enrolled in a college program within the state of Minnesota at the time of their nomination and election. Operational procedures may be amended as necessary to align with the broader goals and structure of the MYDFL.

Subsection 4. Meetings and Notice.

The MCDOC shall meet at least six times per year to conduct business, plan initiatives, and coordinate outreach efforts. Meetings may be called by the Chair or upon request by a majority of the MCDOC leadership. Notice of meetings shall be provided to all members of the MCDOC and shall comply with any applicable MYDFL notice requirements, including timelines and communication methods. Meeting notices must include the date, time, location (or virtual platform details), and agenda.

Subsection 5. Officers.

Sub-subsection 1. Chair.

The Chair serves as the primary leader and representative of the College Organizing Committee. The Chair is responsible for facilitating meetings, setting the agenda in collaboration with other leaders, and overseeing the implementation of the Committee’s initiatives, goals, and objectives. As the primary liaison between the Committee and MYDFL leadership, the Chair ensures effective communication and coordination. Additionally, the Chair may appoint committees and delegate specific duties as necessary to advance the Committee’s mission.

Sub-subsection 2. Vice Chair.

The Vice Chair assists the Chair in fulfilling their responsibilities and serves as acting Chair when needed. This role supports the coordination of outreach efforts and engagement with member chapters, fostering a strong network of collegiate involvement. The Vice Chair plays an integral part in organizing and planning Committee events, campaigns, and initiatives, and takes on tasks delegated by the Chair to ensure the Committee operates smoothly and effectively.

Sub-subsection 3. Secretary.

The Secretary is tasked with maintaining accurate records of all meetings, including minutes and attendance, and managing internal and external communications for the Committee. This role ensures that all members are informed and that documentation, including records of chartered chapters, is current and easily accessible. The Secretary sends notifications of upcoming meetings and elections, playing a vital role in the organization and communication of the Committee’s activities.

**ARTICLE V
APPOINTED OFFICERS**

Section 1. Purpose of this Article.

In compliance with Article VIII, Section 5 of the MYDFL Constitution, Appointed Officer positions, descriptions, and term lengths will be listed subsequently in Section 2 of this Article.

Section 2. List of Appointed Officers.

This section is intentionally left blank.

**ARTICLE VI
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND OUTREACH
AND INCLUSION**

Section 1. Decolonization, Anti-Racism, Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion.

The following Decolonization, Anti-Racism, Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Statements are to be read at the beginning of Statewide Coordinating Committee meetings or Conventions where elections or nominations occur:

“The Minnesota Young DFL is committed to dismantling systemic racism, classism, sexism, transphobia, homophobia, ableism, and all other forms of oppression, wherever they may exist. The caucus aims to support and, where able, enact structural reparations and transformation that materially reverse the course of centuries of racial oppression, economic injustice, and genocide that has occurred on this continent and all other places touched by European imperialism for the last 600 years.

MYDFL is committed to radically challenging conventional structures of power and privilege, as well as questioning and critiquing those structures on a systemic level.

MYDFL will continually evolve its own structures and processes to resist and move beyond conventional frameworks of power that are rooted in imperialism and colonization, as well as advocating for such restructuring within the DFL Party as a whole.

MYDFL will take affirmative steps to increase the participation of members of all underrepresented and economically excluded communities both within MYDFL and in the DFL Party. These steps include fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment where individuals of all communities feel able to attend, participate, and lead.

All members of MYDFL are committed to electing members of underrepresented and economically excluded communities to public office and to positions both within MYDFL and the DFL Party.”

Section 2. Decolonization, Anti-Racism, Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Reminder.

After the Decolonization, Anti-Racism, Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion have been read, the Decolonization, Anti-Racism, Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Reminder is read in lieu of the full Decolonization, Anti-Racism, Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Statement before voting begins in each election.

The Decolonization, Anti-Racism, Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Reminder:

“As you vote today, remember that the Minnesota Young DFL is committed to taking affirmative steps to increase the participation of members of all underrepresented and economically excluded communities both within the MYDFL and in the DFL Party. This commitment extends to electing members of underrepresented and economically excluded communities to public office and to positions both within MYDFL and the DFL Party.”

**ARTICLE VII
STANDING RULES FOR ANNUAL
CONVENTION**

Section 1. Authority.

No proposed Convention rules shall contain a statement of Parliamentary Authority, which allows the Convention Rules to supersede in authority or be out of compliance with the Minnesota Young DFL Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2. Standard Rules for Annual Convention.

The Standard Rules for the Convention shall be presented for adoption to Convention delegates by the President immediately following the opening of the Annual Convention. The Statewide Coordinating Committee may amend the Standard Rules for the Convention by a simple majority vote before the opening of the Annual Convention. The delegates to the Annual Convention may amend the Standard Rules for Convention per the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

A copy of the Standard Rules for Convention shall be attached as Exhibit “A” and incorporated herein by reference. Exhibit “A” should be updated to reflect any amendments made by the Statewide Coordinating Committee to Standard Rules for Convention.

Section 3. Prohibition of Agenda Amendment as it Pertains to Officers.

The agenda item that contains the election of Officers at the Annual MYDFL Convention shall take a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the MYDFL convention for the item to be amended or moved in the agenda.