

# SENATE DISTRICT 40 RULES

## Convention March 3, 2026

### ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. The Convention will follow the Order of Business as printed in the official agenda.

### 2. GENERAL RULES AND PROCEDURES:

- 2.1. *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, Twelfth Edition shall be the parliamentary authority on points not covered by these rules, the Call of the Convention, State Statute, or State Party Constitution and 4th Congressional District Constitution, and the Senate District 40 Constitution.
- 2.2. No smoking is permitted anywhere in the building.
- 2.3. After adoption, these rules shall not be amended or suspended except by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Delegates and seated Alternates present and voting.
- 2.4. The Quorum is the greater of twenty (20) **OR** 50% of the highest number of the Delegates and seated Alternates from the most recent credentials report.
- 2.5. Once established, a call for a Quorum shall be out of order and it shall be the responsibility of the Convention Chair to ensure no business is conducted without a quorum.
- 2.6. A Delegate wishing to speak shall rise, address the Chair of the Convention, and when recognized by the Chair, state his/her name, precinct, and the purpose for which he/she rises.
- 2.7. No Delegate shall speak more than two (2) times on the same question, and each speech shall be limited to one (1) minute. Total time on any subject shall be limited to eight (8) minutes for all speakers.
- 2.8. At least two (2) speakers, speaking alternately on each side of a question, shall be afforded the opportunity to speak to an issue before a "call for the question" is in order. Each speaker shall be limited to one (1) minute.
- 2.9. The Convention Chair may recognize visitors at any time and give them the privilege of speaking for three (3) minutes. Visitors shall register with the Convention secretary.
- 2.10. Any literature passed out at the Convention must have a disclosure, which states by whom it was prepared and financed. Any literature that is distributed must be done outside the Convention floor (e.g. the hallway or at a candidate table). No literature may be distributed on the Convention floor in advance or during the Convention. Anyone distributing literature without a disclaimer or on the Convention floor will be asked to stop distribution and remove the literature from the Convention floor. If they refuse, they will be asked to leave the Convention.
- 2.11. State Legislative Office Candidates shall be allowed one sign inside affixed with blue painter's tape. No signs allowed behind the podium except those held by supporters during a candidate's time to address the Convention. No signs allowed outside anywhere on the building or property.

### 3. PERMANENT ROLL OF THE CONVENTION:

- 3.1. The permanent roll of the Convention shall be the Delegates and seated Alternates duly elected at the precinct caucuses held on February 3, 2026.
- 3.2. If any elected Delegate is absent, then a duly elected Alternate from the same precinct shall be seated in rank order of vote. In precincts that did not rank their alternates at the caucus, the ranking order shall be determined by either a lot conducted by the precinct chair or senior precinct officer or determined by coin toss or a cut of cards among those present in that precinct.
- 3.3. If no duly elected Delegates or Alternates are present, there shall be no representation from that precinct.

### 4. VOTING:

- 4.1. Only those Delegates and seated Alternates whose names are on the permanent roll of the Convention shall be permitted to vote.

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- 4.2. Votes on all questions shall be by acclamation; card vote or secret ballot subject to the following restrictions and decided by majority vote.
  - 4.2.1. A rising vote shall be taken at the discretion of the Convention Chair or upon request of ten (10) Delegates.
  - 4.2.2. A paper ballot shall be used for all contested elections or endorsements. If there is only one candidate for any office, election may be moved by acclamation.
  - 4.2.3. The Chair and Vice Chairs, or their designees, of each precinct shall distribute and collect the ballots of the precinct and provide them to the Head Teller.
  - 4.2.4. Blank ballots and ballots with unintelligible marks shall not be counted.
  - 4.2.5. The Tellers will count the ballots and report the totals to the Convention Chair.
  - 4.2.6. The Convention Chair shall declare the election results.
  - 4.2.7. A Tie vote shall be determined by a coin toss or a cut of cards.
- 4.3. There shall be no voting by proxy or precinct (unit) rule.

## 5. ENDORSEMENT PROCEDURE

- 5.1. It shall first be determined by a majority vote whether an endorsement shall be considered for an office.
- 5.2. All candidates seeking endorsement must notify the Elective Office Candidate Search Committee of that intent before the beginning of the endorsement process.
- 5.3. An Elective Office Candidate Search Committee member will nominate the candidates. After nominations are closed, each candidate will be allowed a total of five (5) minutes floor time which may be used for nominating and seconding speeches or an address by the candidate. The order of the speeches shall be determined by the Convention Chair.
- 5.4. The endorsement procedure shall be in accordance with Article VI, Section 3 of the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota which provides that any candidate for public office may be granted pre-primary endorsement by any state, congressional district, BPOU or other authorized Convention if he/she receives a 60% vote of the valid ballots cast by the Convention, and if the 60% is equal to at least a majority of the registered Delegates and seated alternates as established by the final report of the credentials committee preceding such a vote. A valid ballot may be cast for any person that is eligible for endorsement, or a ballot may be marked, 1) no preference, 2) undecided, or 3) indicating no endorsement.
- 5.5. Only one candidate may be endorsed for an office. When more than one candidate is seeking endorsement, all of them shall be voted on at the same time. Ballots containing more than one name, blank ballots, ballots with unintelligible marks, and ballots for ineligible persons shall be considered spoiled ballots and shall not be included in determining the 60% vote needed for endorsement. A candidate must agree if he/she receives the endorsement to seek the office as a Republican.
- 5.6. If a candidate receives 10% or less of the ballots cast, his /her name shall be stricken as a candidate. If no candidate has succeeded in obtaining endorsement after the third ballot, and there are more than three (3) candidates, the candidate receiving the least number of votes shall be removed from the list of candidates. The remaining candidates may again address the Convention for a period of three (3) minutes each, and balloting shall continue.
- 5.7. Balloting for endorsement shall continue until a candidate is endorsed or the endorsement proceeding is adjourned.
- 5.8. The balloting counting process shall be arranged so as to allow a candidate's representative to observe the counting of the ballots.

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- 5.9. At any time before the winning candidate is announced, the other candidates may withdraw their name from the process and address the Convention for two (2) minutes.
- 5.10. The winning candidate shall be given the privilege of addressing the Convention before adjournment.
- 5.11. The Convention Chair shall direct the Convention Secretary to forward the names of the Endorsed Candidate(s) along with the minutes of the Convention to the Fourth Congressional District Chair and the Republican State Office within ten (10) days of the close of Convention.

## 6. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AND STATE CONVENTIONS

- 6.1. The number of Delegates allotted for the CD4 Convention, and the State Conventions are based on a ratio of the number of votes cast for the Republican Presidential Candidate in the 2024 election.
  - 6.1.1. Senate District 40 has been allotted twenty-four (24) Delegates.
  - 6.1.2. The number of Alternates elected may be equal to twice the number of Delegates.
- 6.2. Each person seeking a Delegate position is asked to sign up with the Credentials Committee.
- 6.3. A person not in attendance at the Convention but who wishes to have their name in nomination for a Delegate position shall submit their request in writing which must be given to the Credentials Committee before the final report.
- 6.4. Candidates for Delegate and Alternate positions may address the Convention for the purpose of stating their qualifications and issue positions, for a period not to exceed thirty (30) seconds. If a nominated candidate is not in attendance, they may appoint a surrogate to speak for them.
- 6.5. Each ballot shall be cast for at least one fourth (1/4) but no more than two thirds (2/3) of the names placed in nomination. Any ballot cast for less than one fourth (1/4) or more than two thirds (2/3) of the names placed in nomination shall be declared invalid. Write-in names on a ballot shall not be considered but will not invalidate the rest of that ballot.
- 6.6. If there are equal to or fewer nominations than the allotted Delegate positions, then the Delegates can be elected by acclamation. If there are more nominations than the allotted positions, Delegates and Alternates will be voted on the same ballot. The Delegates will be decided first based on the BPOU allotment and the remaining names will be ranked as Alternates.
- 6.7. All tie votes shall be decided by a flip of a coin or a cut of cards. If two (2) nominees are tied for the last Delegate spot, the loser shall be declared the First Alternate.

## 7. RESOLUTIONS

- 7.1. Resolutions and amendments from the floor are not permitted.
- 7.2. Only Resolutions passed at the Caucus shall be considered.
- 7.3. Consideration of the Resolutions Committee report will proceed in three (3) stages:
  - a. Delegates shall be asked whether there are any resolutions on which debate is desired. An affirmative vote of fifteen (15) of the seated Delegates and seated Alternates is required to pull an item for debate.
  - b. The Convention shall proceed, section by section, to vote to approve the recommendations of the committee for all items in the section not pulled for debate. If any section fails to receive greater than 50% approval, the resolutions in that section will be voted one at a time, without debate and without regard for the committee's recommendation.
  - c. The Convention shall then proceed to debate and vote, without regard for the committee's recommendation, on each of the pulled resolutions.
- 7.4. Debate on any issue shall be limited to one (1) minute for each speaker. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject. Discussion is limited to two (2) speakers in favor and two (2) speakers against.