

SENATE DISTRICT 40 RULES

Convention April 6, 2024

1 **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

2 1.1. The Convention will follow the Order of Business as printed in the official agenda.

3 **2. GENERAL RULES AND PROCEDURES:**

4 2.1. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority on points not covered
5 by these rules, the Call of the Convention, State Statute, or State and 4th Congressional District,
6 and the Senate District 40 Constitution.

7 2.2. No smoking is permitted anywhere in the building.

8 2.3. After adoption, these rules shall not be amended or suspended except by a 2/3 vote of the delegates
9 and seated alternates present and voting.

10 2.4. The Quorum is the greater of thirteen (13) **OR** 50% of the seated delegates and alternates from the
11 most recent credentials report.

12 2.5. Once established, a call for a Quorum shall be out of order and it shall be the responsibility of the
13 Convention Chair to ensure no business is conducted without a quorum.

14 2.6. A delegate wishing to speak shall rise, address the Chair of the convention, and when recognized
15 by the Chair, state his/her name, precinct, and the purpose for which he/she rises.

16 2.7. No delegate shall speak more than two (2) times on the same question and each speech shall be
17 limited to one (1) minute. Total time on any subject shall be limited to eight (8) minutes for all
18 speakers.

19 2.8. At least two (2) speakers, speaking alternately on each side of a question, shall be afforded the
20 opportunity to speak to an issue before a "call for the question" is in order. Each speaker shall be
21 limited to one (1) minute.

22 2.9. The Convention Chair may recognize visitors at any time and give them the privilege of speaking for
23 three (3) minutes. Visitors shall register with the convention secretary.

24 2.10. Any literature passed out at the Convention must have a disclosure, which states by whom it was
25 prepared and financed. Any literature that is distributed must be done so outside the Convention
26 floor (e.g. the hallway or at a candidate table). No literature may be distributed on the Convention
27 floor in advance or during the Convention. Anyone distributing literature without a disclaimer or on
28 the Convention floor will be asked to stop distribution and remove the literature from the Convention
29 floor. If they refuse, they will be asked to leave the Convention.

30 2.11. Candidates shall be allowed up to twenty (20) signs at the convention location (both inside and
31 outside including the parking lot) and those displayed indoors must be affixed with blue painter's
32 tape. Other candidates (congressional and statewide) are limited to five (5) signs each also affixed
33 with blue tape if displayed indoors. No signs are allowed behind the podium except those held by
34 supporters during a candidate's time to address the convention.

35 **3. PERMANENT ROLL OF THE CONVENTION:**

36 3.1. The permanent roll of the Convention shall be the delegate and alternates duly elected at the
37 precinct caucuses held on February 27, 2024.

38 3.2. If any elected delegate is absent, then a duly elected alternate from the same precinct shall be
39 seated in rank order of vote. In precincts that did not rank their alternates at the caucus, the ranking
40 order shall be determined by either a lot conducted by the precinct chair or senior precinct officer or
41 determined by coin toss among those present in that precinct.

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42 3.3. If no duly elected delegates or alternates are present, there shall be no representation from that
43 precinct.

44 **4. VOTING:**

45 4.1. Only those delegates and seated alternates whose names are on the permanent roll of the
46 Convention shall be permitted to vote.

47 4.2. Votes on all questions shall be by acclamation, card vote or secret ballot subject to the following
48 restrictions and decided by majority vote.

49 4.2.1. A rising vote shall be taken at the discretion of the Convention Chair or upon request of ten (10)
50 delegates.

51 4.2.2. A paper ballot shall be used for all contested elections or endorsements. If there is only one
52 candidate for any office, election may be moved by acclamation.

53 4.2.3. The Chair and Vice Chairs, or their designees, of each precinct shall distribute and collect the
54 ballots of the precinct and provide them to the Head Teller.

55 4.2.4. Blank ballots and ballots with unintelligible marks shall not be counted.

56 4.2.5. The Tellers will count the ballots and report the totals to the Convention Chair.

57 4.2.6. The Convention Chair shall declare the election results.

58 4.2.7. A Tie vote shall be determined by a coin toss or cut of cards.

59 4.3. There shall be no voting by proxy or precinct (unit) rule.

60 **5. ENDORSEMENT PROCEDURE**

61 5.1. It shall first be determined by a majority vote whether an endorsement shall be considered for an
62 office.

63 5.2. All candidates seeking endorsement must notify the Search/Nominating Committee of that intent
64 before the beginning of the endorsement process.

65 5.3. A Search Committee member will nominate the candidates. After nominations are closed each
66 candidate will be allowed a total of five (5) minutes floor time, which may be used, for nominating
67 and seconding speeches or an address by the candidate. The order of the speeches shall be
68 determined by the Convention Chair.

69 5.4. After each candidate has delivered their speeches, if there is a contested race for endorsement,
70 there will be a fifteen (15) minute question and answering session in which the candidates will be
71 asked questions submitted in writing by the delegates and seated alternates and read by the
72 Convention Chair. Each candidate will have up to one (1) minute to answer each question.

73 5.5. At the end of the question and answering session, the candidates will have up to an additional two
74 (2) minutes each to deliver a final speech to the Convention before ballots are distributed.

75 5.6. The endorsement procedure shall be in accordance with Article V, Section 3(A) of the Constitution
76 of the Republic Party of Minnesota which provides as follows: Endorsement: Any candidate for
77 public office may be granted pre-primary endorsement by any state, congressional district, BPOU or
78 other authorized convention if he/she receives a 60% vote of the valid votes cast, and if the 60% is
79 greater than or equal to at least a majority of the registered delegates and seated alternates as
80 determined by the final report of the credentials committee. A valid ballot may be cast for any person
81 that is eligible for endorsement or a ballot may be marked, 1) no preference, 2) undecided, or 3)
82 indicating no endorsement.

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- 83 5.7. Only one candidate may be endorsed for an office. When more than one candidate is seeking
84 endorsement, all of them shall be voted on at the same time. Ballots containing more than one name,
85 blank ballots, ballots with unintelligible marks, and ballots for ineligible persons shall be considered
86 spoiled ballots and shall not be included in determining the 60% vote needed for endorsement. All
87 candidates must agree if he/she receives the endorsement to seek the office as a Republican.
- 88 5.8. To win endorsement the candidate must receive at least 60% of the voting strength of the Convention
89 as established by the last report of the Credentials Committee preceding that vote. If a candidate
90 receives 10% or less of the ballots cast, his /her name shall be stricken as a candidate.
- 91 5.8.1. If no candidate has succeeded in obtaining endorsement (60% of the voting strength) after the
92 third ballot, and there are more than three candidates, the candidate receiving the least number
93 of votes shall be removed from the list of candidates. The remaining candidates may again
94 address the Convention for a period of three (3) minutes each, and balloting shall continue until
95 a candidate is endorsed or the number of candidates is reduced to two (2) and balloting
96 continues.
- 97 5.9. Balloting for endorsement shall continue until a candidate is endorsed or the endorsement
98 proceeding is adjourned.
- 99 5.10. The balloting counting process shall be arranged so as to allow a candidate's representative
100 to observe the counting of the ballots.
- 101 5.11. At any time before the winning candidate is announced, the other candidates may withdraw
102 their name from the process and address the Convention for two (2) minutes.
- 103 5.12. The winning candidate shall be given the privilege of addressing the convention before
104 adjournment.
- 105 5.13. The Convention Chair shall direct the Convention Secretary to forward the names of the
106 Endorsed Candidate(s) along with the minutes of the Convention to the Fourth Congressional District
107 Chair and the Republican State Office within ten (10) days of the close of Convention.

108 **6. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO CONGRESSIONAL** 109 **DISTRICT AND STATE CONVENTIONS**

- 110 6.1. The number of Delegates allotted for the CD4 Convention, and the State Conventions are based on
111 a ratio of the number of votes cast for the Republican Gubernatorial Candidate in the 2022 election.
- 112 6.1.1. Senate District 40 has been allotted 26 Delegates.
- 113 6.1.2. The number of Alternates elected may be equal to twice the number of Delegates.
- 114 6.2. Each person seeking a Delegate position is asked to sign up with the Credentials Committee.
- 115 6.3. A person not in attendance at the Convention but who wishes to have their name in nomination for
116 a Delegate position shall submit their request in writing which must be given to the Credentials
117 Committee before the final report.
- 118 6.4. Candidates for Delegate and Alternate positions may address the Convention for the purpose of
119 stating their qualifications and issue positions, for a period not to exceed thirty (30) seconds. If a
120 nominated candidate is not in attendance, they may appoint a surrogate to speak for them.
- 121 6.5. Each ballot shall be cast for at least 1/4 but no more than 2/3 of the names placed in nomination.
122 Any ballot cast for less than 1/4 or more than 2/3 of the names placed in nomination shall be declared
123 invalid. Write-in names on a ballot shall not be considered but will not invalidate the rest of that ballot.
- 124 6.6. If there are equal to or fewer nominations than the allotted Delegate positions, then the Delegates
125 can be elected by acclamation. If there are more nominations than the allotted positions, Delegates

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126 and Alternates will be voted on the same ballot. The Delegates will be decided first based on the
127 BPOU allotment and the remaining names will be ranked as Alternates.

128 6.7. All tie votes shall be decided by a flip of a coin or cut of cards as determined by the Head Teller. If
129 two (2) nominees are tied for the last Delegate spot, the loser shall be declared the First Alternate.

130 **7. RESOLUTIONS**

131 7.1. Resolutions and amendments from the floor are not permitted.

132 7.2. Only Resolutions passed at the Caucus shall be considered.

133 7.3. Consideration of the Resolutions Committee report will proceed in three (3) stages:

134 a. Delegates shall be asked whether there are any resolutions on which debate is desired. An
135 affirmative vote of fifteen (15) of the seated delegates and alternates is required to pull an item
136 for debate.

137 b. The Convention shall proceed, section by section, to vote to approve the recommendations of
138 the committee for all items in the section not pulled for debate. If any section fails to receive 50%
139 approval, the resolutions in that section will be voted one at a time, without debate and without
140 regard for the committee recommendation.

141 c. The Convention shall then proceed to debate and vote, without regard for the committee
142 recommendation, on each of the pulled resolutions.

143 7.4. Debate on any issue shall be limited to one (1) minute for each speaker. No person shall be allowed
144 to speak more than twice on the same subject. Discussion is limited to two (2) speakers in favor
145 and two (2) speakers against.