



Article I: Name & Mission Statement

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.

Section 2. Mission Statement

In order 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

Section 1. Subordination

The MYDFL Constitution and Bylaws are subordinate to the Constitution of the United States of America 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.

Article III: Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action

Section 1. Equal Opportunity

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

Section 2. Affirmative Action Statement

The MYDFL and its organizational officers shall by affirmative steps encourage traditionally underrepresented communities to join the MYDFL, to participate in organizational committees and activities, and to seek election as officers; and shall encourage MYDFL members to affirmatively select individuals when voting, so such groups shall be represented on committees and in party offices in reasonable proportion to their presence in the state.

Article IV: Membership & Eligibility

Section 1. Membership Eligibility

Membership in the organization is open to all people living in the State of Minnesota who are under the age of thirty-six (36), or who are college students or graduate students, and who support the platform and principles of the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) Party. No member of any other political party may be a member of the MYDFL.

Section 2. Membership

To become a member of the Minnesota Young DFL an individual must meet the requirements of Article IV: Section 1 and must have filed and maintained a complete and accurate membership registration with the Minnesota Young DFL.

Section 3. Eligibility for Office

In order to be eligible for MYDFL Office an individual must have resided in Minnesota for at least one month preceding the election. Officers who reside outside the State of Minnesota for (4) consecutive months automatically vacate their office. An Officer must also satisfy the requirements of Article IV: Sections 1 & 2.

Section 4. Dues

The MYDFL may collect annual membership dues from members. Dues are considered voluntary and must be waived without prejudice or question should a member or prospective member so request.

Article V: Convention

Section 1. Definition

The MYDFL shall hold an annual Convention. The Convention shall hold elections for Officers and all other positions as determined by this Constitution and Bylaws, the Convention shall amend the Constitution and Bylaws as needed, and shall set goals and direction for the organization. The Convention is the ultimate governing body of the MYDFL and may conduct any business that comes before it.

Section 2. Delegates

Delegate status at MYDFL Conventions is awarded to all members of the Minnesota Young DFL who registered by the time the annual convention is convened.

Section 3. Voting

Voting by proxy is not allowed at MYDFL conventions or meetings.

Section 4. Special Convention.

A Special Convention may be called by a supermajority (2/3) of the Executive Committee at least fourteen (14) days prior to the special convention.

Article VI: Executive Committee

Section 1. Definition

The Executive Committee shall be the governing body of the MYDFL between Central Committee meetings.

Section 2. Composition

The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the MYDFL President, Vice President, Outreach Officer, Secretary, Treasurer, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman, MYDFL High School and College Caucus Chairs, three female and three male directors, and the past President (President Emeritus/Emerita) of the organization.

Section 3. President

It shall be the duty of the President to open all conventions and to preside at meetings of the Executive Committee and Central Committee. It is also the responsibility of the President to carry out the goals and policies set at the annual meetings 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 appropriate National Committees. The President shall, in consultation and collaboration with the Executive committee, produce an annual budget and a comprehensive fundraising and membership outreach plan. The President or their designate 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. It is the duty of the President to fulfill the roles of all other officers should those duties go unfulfilled.

Section 4. Vice President

The Vice President shall preside at meetings of MYDFL in absence of the President. In the event of a vacancy in the position of President, the Vice President shall serve in the interim until the office is filled. The Vice President shall sit on the DFL State Central Committee. The Vice President shall not be of the same gender of the President.

Section 5. Outreach Officer

The Outreach Officer shall be responsible for formulating and implementing outreach efforts to underrepresented communities. This includes creating an outreach and inclusion plan for the MYDFL, working on creating programs designed to attract persons from traditionally underrepresented communities and to foster inclusion and greater inter-cultural awareness and other activities which may be deemed necessary and appropriate. The Outreach Officer shall be MYDFL's representative on the DFL State Outreach and Inclusion Committee.

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, at the direction of the President, send notifications of MYDFL meetings. The Secretary shall be responsible for the maintenance of the membership and charter records. The Secretary shall also perform all other duties necessary and appropriate to the office. 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 work with the President on fundraising plans, advise the President and the Executive Committee on campaign finance law, and take custody of MYDFL funds for the purpose of making deposits, withdrawals, or purchases as instructed.

Section 8. 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 serve as liaisons between the MYDFL and the Democratic National Committee and Minnesota's representatives on that committee. MYDFL will elect one female and one male National Committee representative.

Section 9. College Caucus Chair

The College Caucus Chair shall be responsible for formulating, implementing, and organizing outreach plans to college students across Minnesota. The College Caucus Chair shall also help charter or establish college chapters with the MYDFL. The College Caucus Chair will serve as Minnesota's representative to the College Democrats of America.

Section 10. High School Caucus Chair

The High School Caucus Chair shall be responsible for formulating and implementing organizing and outreach plans to high school students across Minnesota. The High School Caucus Chair shall also help charter or establish high school chapters with the MYDFL.

Section 11. Directors

Six State Directors shall be elected at every convention, with vacancies being filled by a majority vote of the Central Committee. The State Directors must be gender balanced. Directors are expected to attend meetings and assist with MYDFL initiatives.

Section 12. President Emeritus/Emerita

The immediate preceding President of the Minnesota Young DFL shall serve as a voting member of the Executive Committee for one full successive term.

Article VII: Central Committee

Section 1. Definition

The Central Committee shall be the governing body of the MYDFL between conventions.

Section 2. Composition

The Central Committee shall be comprised of all members of the Executive Committee, Chapter Chairs, Committee Chairs, and all elected officials and state DFL officers who are also members of the Minnesota Young DFL.

Article VIII: MYDFL Caucuses, Chartered Chapters, and Committees.

Section 1. The College Caucus

The College Caucus consists of all college and university students in the MYDFL. At the annual Convention the College Caucus shall convene and elect one of its members to serve a one-year term as College Caucus Chair.

Section 2. The High School Caucus

The High School Caucus consists of all members of the MYDFL who are in high school. At the annual Convention the High School Caucus shall convene and elect one of its members to serve a one-year term as High School Caucus chair.

Section 3. MYDFL Chapters

Chartered Organizations must follow the MYDFL Constitution, Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity policies. Organizations failing to conform to these standards may have their charters revoked upon a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the Central Committee . The Bylaws shall further define the rights and responsibilities of chartered organizations but may not affect the financial autonomy of the chartered organization in regard to campaign finance laws and regulations. Chartered Organizations must, annually, provide updated officer and membership lists to the MYDFL Secretary. MYDFL Charters College, High School, and Geographically defined chapters.

Section 4. Chartering New Chapters

The process of chartering organizations shall be enumerated upon in the Bylaws. Charters may be granted by a simple majority vote of the Central Committee.

Section 5. Committees

The President may establish select or ad-hoc committees for the purposes of carrying out the business of the organization. Committee membership is open to all registered members of the Minnesota Young DFL. Committee members elect amongst themselves a committee chair.

Article IX: Elections and Vacancies

Section 1. Terms

All officers, chapter chairs, directors, and any other elected member of MYDFL shall serve one year terms.

Section 2. Succession of Office

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

Section 3. Attendance

Attendance is required for all MYDFL Officers. Any Officer who has two consecutive unexcused absences shall automatically resign their position. No more than four (4) total unexcused absences are allowed over the course of a term.

Section 4. Excused Absences.

Officers must notify the President or 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 5. Vacancies

In the event of a resignation or removal from office, a vacancy shall be immediately declared by the President or Acting President. The President must declare a special election to replace the officer no sooner than 14 days and no later than 2 months from the date the vacancy was declared. The President may appoint an interim official to fulfill the duties of the office until a special election can be held.

Section 6. Election Procedure

Elections with only one candidate may be decided by a voice vote or show of hands. All contested elections involving two challengers shall be decided by a majority vote. All contested elections will be decided by

secret paper ballot.

Section 7. Special Elections.

The Central Committee may hold a special election. Special Elections follow the same procedure as regular elections. Elections require at least (14) days prior public notice.

Article X: Removal from Office and Impeachment

Section 1. Cause for Removal and Impeachment.

The Executive Committee or Convention may remove an Officer or other voting member on the grounds of clear malfeasance and/or neglect of office and any other reason as outlined in the MYDFL's bylaws. After at least fourteen (14) days written notice specifying the cause, a vote by secret ballot with (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Committee or Convention is required to remove the official from office.

Article XI: Meetings

Section 1. Minimum Requirements

The Central Committee shall meet at least once a quarter with reasonable accommodations made for those who request them. Executive Committee meetings may be called by the President with ten (10) days public notice.

Section 2. Quorum

In order to have Quorum at any MYDFL meeting, at least eight (8) members of the Executive Committee must be present, and must include either the President or Vice President.

Article XII: Endorsements

Section 1. Authority

The Minnesota Young DFL is empowered to endorse in any partisan or non-partisan race within the State of Minnesota.

Section 2. Subordination

Endorsements delivered by the appropriate official DFL organizing unit supercede all MYDFL endorsements. MYDFL may not offer support or assistance to candidates challenging the official party endorsee. Endorsements delivered to candidates who fail to gain the official party endorsement become null and void at the time in which an official nominee is selected.

Section 3. Endorsing Process

The MYDFL Central Committee or Convention body shall make the decision to seek candidates for endorsement on a per-race basis. The Central Committee or the Convention body may delegate screening authority to an official MYDFL chapter or a standalone screening nominations committee at its discretion. The Executive Committee must ratify, but not alter, all endorsement selections.

Section 3. Endorsement Threshold

A sixty percent majority is required for any endorsing committee to provide a nomination for endorsement.

Article XIII: Bylaws

Section 1: Proposal

Bylaws may be proposed by any Central or Executive Committee member at any Central Committee meeting or by any MYDFL member at the annual or special convention.

Section 2. Approval

Changes to the Bylaws may be passed at any annual Convention with a simple majority vote and do not require prior notice to be taken up. Bylaws proposed to the Central Committee require (14) days notice and public circulation before they are able to be passed. A 2/3 supermajority vote of those present is required for the Central Committee to pass a change to the by-laws.

Article XIV: Constitutional Amendments

Section I: Proposal

Proposed Amendments to this Constitution may be submitted by any MYDFL member. Amendments must be submitted to the Secretary in writing (21) days prior to the convention.

Section 2: Circulation

The Secretary must provide public notice of all proposed amendments at least twenty (20) days prior to a convention.

Section 3. Approval

The Convention may pass amendments with a two-thirds supermajority vote.