**Our Constitution**

**Minnesota Senate District 28 DFL**

ARTICLE I

SECTION 1 – NAME

The formal name of this organization is the Minnesota Senate District 28 Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party. Informally, the party shall be known as the Chisago-Isanti DFL.

SECTION 2 – MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this party is open to all residents of Minnesota Senate District 28 who support the principles of the DFL Party in Minnesota. No person may vote on any motion, resolution or election at any caucus, convention, meeting or conference of the DFL Party who is a member of any other political party.

SECTION 3 – ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTY OFFICE

Pursuant to the principles of outreach and inclusion and affirmative action as stated in the DFL State Constitution, Bylaws and Call, persons who meet the membership requirements of Section 2 are eligible for election to any Party office and to represent the district as a delegate or alternate.

ARTICLE II – SUBORDINATION

This Constitution is subordinate to the pertinent parts of the Constitution and Bylaws of the 8th Congressional District DFL and the State DFL Party.

ARTICLE III – DISTRICT CONVENTION

SECTION 1 – NOTICE

Written notice of date, time and place of a convention shall be mailed, emailed or presented to all delegates and alternates elected at the Precinct Caucus at least 10 days before the date of the convention.

SECTION 2 – MEMBERSHIP

The Senate District Convention shall be composed of precinct delegates and upgraded alternates. A majority of the delegates and upgraded alternates registered at the convention shall constitute a quorum.

***Bylaw: A person not in attendance at their precinct caucus or district convention may be elected if the individual submits a letter or electronic mail to the Chair or the Vice Chair indicating a willingness to serve as a delegate, alternate or party officer.***

SECTION 3 – BUSINESS OF THE SENATE DISTRICT CONVENTION

The District shall hold a convention in even numbered years. The convention shall:

1. Elect Party Officers: Chair, Vice Chair**,** Secretary, Treasurer, Outreach and Inclusion Officer and up to 19 Directors. The Vice Chair shall not be the same gender as the Chair. Unless the election of Directors is uncontested, gender balance is required. Representation of minority groups for officers and directors is encouraged as much as practicable.
2. Ratify Precinct Chairs and Vice Chairs.
3. Elect State and Congressional District Central Committee members and alternates as specified in the Minnesota DFL Official Call.
4. Endorse a candidate for the State Senate.
5. Convene House Districts 28A and 28B to endorse candidates for the Minnesota House of Representatives.
6. Elect State Convention delegates and alternates as specified in the Minnesota DFL Official Call.
7. Consider and recommend resolutions to the State Platform Committee for presentation to the State Convention.
8. Amend this Constitution.
9. Conduct any other party business that properly comes before it.

ARTICLE IV – GOVERNANCE BETWEEN CONVENTIONS

SECTION 1 – CENTRAL AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

The Central Committee shall be the governing body of the Senate District 28 DFL between conventions. The Central Committee shall consist of the Party Officers and the Precinct Chairs and Vice Chairselected at each Precinct Caucus.

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Party Officers and shall be the governing body of the Senate District between meetings of the Central Committee.

SECTION 2 – MEETINGS

The Executive Committee shall meet monthly. Precinct Chairs and Vice Chairs will be notified and invited to attend these meetings. The Central Committee shall meet at least two times per year. The quorum for committee meetings is 20% of its members.

SECTION 3 – VACANCIES

Vacancies shall be filled within sixty days of their occurrence when possible, with prior notice and a vote of the Central Committee.

***Bylaw: ENDORSEMENTS: In the absence of any direction to the contrary by the Senate District Convention, the Central Committee may solicit candidates to run for legislative office and endorse candidates after the convention by a vote of 60% or more at a Central Committee meeting.***

SECTION 4 – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

* CHAIR: It shall be the duty of the Senate District Chair to convene the Convention and preside at meetings of the Senate District Central and Executive Committee meetings. The Chair shall attend meetings of the State and Congressional District Central Committees. The Chair will prepare an agenda prior to Central and Executive Committee meetings to be included in the meeting notification sent by the Secretary.

* VICE CHAIR: The Vice Chair shall assist the Chair in the discharge of the Chair’s duties. If the Chair is not available, the Vice Chair will preside at Central and Executive Committee meetings and convene the Convention. The Vice Chair shall attend meetings of the State and Congressional District Central Committees.
* SECRETARY: It shall be the duty of the Secretary to preserve the minutes and attendance records of all proceedings of the Central and Executive Committees. The Secretary shall, at the direction of the Chair, notify committee members of meetings by specifying time and place not less than 10 days in advance by personal delivery, telephone, or electronic means (email). The Secretary shall provide electronic filed minutes and the agenda of the meeting, including any items that require advance notice, to committee members before each upcoming meeting.
* TREASURER: The Treasurer shall have custody of the funds of this organization deposited in the Senate District 28 bank account and shall render written accounts, provide receipts and reimbursements to each meeting of the Executive and Central Committees. The Treasurer shall make no disbursements thereof without authority or ratification by the Executive Committee, or if necessary between Executive Committee meetings, the addtional concurrence of the Chair and Vice Chair.

***Bylaw: The Treasurer shall set up an electronic card reader to be used at all events of the DFL party. Funds to be electronically received to the Senate District 28 DFL bank account. No credit card information will be kept.***

* OUTREACH AND INCLUSION OFFICER: The Outreach and Inclusion Officer shall be responsible for outreach to historically underrepresented groups within the Senate District.
* DIRECTORS: The Directors duties shall include:
  + Assisting precinct chairs
  + Community organizing
  + Fundraising
  + Doorknocking
  + Get out the vote
  + Helping elect our DFL endorsed candidates

SECTION 5 – TERMS OF OFFICE

The term of any party officer begins at the adjournment of the Convention or meeting at which they were elected. They shall serve until a successor has been duly qualified and elected. Upon leaving office, Party officers shall turn over all Party records, books and properties to their successor.

SECTION 6 – COMMITTEES

The Executive and Central Committees shall establish committees as they determine to be appropriate to execute the business of the Senate District and designate members to serve on these committees.

ARTICLE V – GENERAL RULES

SECTION 1 – AMENDMENTS AND SUPERSEDES

This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the delegates at any future Convention and will supersede any and all previous Constitutions and Bylaws of the District. A copy of this constitution shall be filed with the State DFL Party Office.