

Republican Party of Senate District 31 Convention

February 21, 2026

Proposed Rules

Delegates should submit proposals that would substantially amend the proposed rules in legible writing or as editable electronic document to the Rules Committee Chair prior to the convention being called to order.

GENERAL

- 1) Several Convention rules are mandated by the Constitutions of the Republican Party of Minnesota, CDs or SD31. The rules appearing in bold and underlined cannot be amended by this body.**
- 2) Order of business:** The order of business of this convention shall be as listed in the official Agenda of the convention, subject to the discretion of the presiding chair.
- 3) Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn the convention shall not be in order until all items on the agenda have been addressed on the convention floor.
- 4) Adoption, amendment and suspension of rules:** These Rules shall be adopted by majority vote and may not be amended or suspended except by a two-thirds vote of the convention.
- 5) Matters not addressed:** Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority on all points not covered by the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota, the Statutes of the State of Minnesota, the Official Convention Call of the Convention, or the Rules adopted by this Convention.
- 6) Quorum:** A quorum shall consist of a majority of the duly elected delegates registered for the convention as given in the preliminary report of the Credentials Committee. Once a quorum of more than 50% of the delegates seated in this Convention has been established, there shall be no further question as to the quorum.
- 7) Committee Reports:** No second shall be required to a motion to adopt the majority report of any committee. A minority report of any committee may be presented if signed by one third (1/3) of committee members and submitted to that committee's chair prior to the report being given.
- 8) Campaign and other materials:** No campaign signs may be placed next to or behind the stage, podium, and/or presentation area except during candidate speeches. All

campaign signs must be hung with painter's tape. No campaign material may be hung on any painted or glass surface inside or on the exterior surfaces of the venue. Campaigns are responsible for any damage caused by their campaign materials and must completely remove their campaign materials from all surfaces, the building and grounds. No campaign may hang more than 10 signs in the convention hall, and no sign may exceed eight square feet in area. No taped, freestanding "sign columns" are allowed.

9) Those Permitted to Occupy the Floor of the Convention: "The floor" is defined as the seating area where duly elected delegates are gathered when casting votes and the stage. Only delegates, seated alternates, and those participating in the voting process may be on the floor during voting. All others must leave the floor. Each campaign may have up to 2 total workers (other than seated delegates and alternates) identified as associated with the campaign, on the floor during non-voting time. Everyone on the floor must wear an identity badge stating their name and organization they are associated with. Guests are not allowed on the floor except for distinguished guests for purposes of addressing the convention and greeting delegates as they enter or exit the stage.

10) Conflict of Interest: Prior to SD31 officer elections and endorsements, the Chair and all members of the Search & Nominating Committee plus all convention staff including: page, sergeant-at-arms, chair, secretary, parliamentarian, chief teller, deputy tellers while tallying ballots, time keeper or other convention officials shall not exhibit any outward sign of support for or engage in any activities on behalf of any SD31 officer or candidates for contested SD31 endorsements. This includes standing on stage for candidate, holding a sign, or giving nominating speeches and wearing campaign shirts, stickers, or similar signs of support while performing their convention duties or speaking from the podium prior to election or endorsement for that office being completed. Other convention committee chairs and members may not show any outward support for candidates for any party officer elections or SD31 endorsements, as described above, until their reports have been adopted by the convention; these include: credentials, rules, constitution, and arrangements committees.

SEATING OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

11) Permanent Roll: The permanent roll of the convention shall be constituted as follows:

- a) The duly elected delegates of each precinct who are actually present and have properly registered with the Credentials Committee.

- b) Properly registering shall be defined as arriving to the convention and registering with credentials prior to the closing of registration. Prepaying for the convention does not constitute properly registering for the convention. If a duly elected delegate or alternate is not properly registered then they shall not be allowed to be seated at the convention.
- c) If any duly elected delegate to this Convention is absent, then a duly elected alternate from that precinct shall be seated in their stead.
- d) If no duly elected delegates or alternates from a precinct are present, that precinct shall have no representation.
- e) **Pursuant to the Republican party of Minnesota Constitution (Article V, Section 6: Vacancies) if a delegate or alternate has moved out of the precinct they were elected in, they are no longer a delegate or alternate in that or any other precinct, even if they still live in the BPOU boundaries.**
- f) When a registered delegate returns to the floor of the convention, they shall be immediately seated.
- g) The order of seating of alternates shall be as follows:
 1. The Precincts shall caucus after acceptance of the first credentials committee report. If the Precinct Chair or Vice Chair is not present, the seated delegates shall elect a chair, and then proceed to fill the vacancies.
 2. Vacancies shall be filled by the alternates in the order in which they were ranked by the Precinct Caucus. If not ranked, then by vote of the seated delegates. If a tie vote arises, the chair shall appoint, by coin toss, one of the alternates who participated in the tie to be seated.
 3. A registered delegate may be seated at any time and that delegate shall assume the seat of the lowest ranked alternate.
 4. If a precinct has any vacancies which can't be filled by an alternate from the same precinct, the vacancy will remain. No cross seating is allowed.
 5. No Alternates may be seated prior to the first Credentials report.

12) Precinct voting strength: The voting strength of each precinct shall be the number of delegates and seated alternates present on the floor.

13) Additional credentials reports: The Credentials Committee shall report any changes in the delegations when requested by the Chair.

14) Closing of registration: Registration for the convention shall be declared closed after the final Credentials Committee report is adopted provided it has been open until at least 11:00AM as stated in the official Call to this Convention.

SPEAKING

15) Etiquette: A delegate, or seated alternate, wishing to speak from the floor shall rise, address the Chair, and state his/her name and precinct, and the purpose for which he/she rises. This speaker has no more than one (1) minute to make a motion and may not debate their motion prior to a second.

16) Limits on debate: Debate on any motion or subject shall be limited to one (1) minute by each speaker. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice upon the same subject. No person shall be allowed to speak a second time until all those desiring to speak have had a first opportunity to do so. Debate on any one motion or subject is limited to three (3) pro and three (3) con speakers, except by request of the majority of the convention.

17) Visiting speakers: Visiting speakers not on the official Agenda of the Convention shall be allowed to speak at the discretion of the Convention Chair. Said speakers shall be limited to the following time periods:

- a) Elected U.S. Representative - 10 minutes.
- b) U.S. Representative's surrogate - 5 minutes.
- c) Elected SD31 State Senator and Representatives – 5 minutes.
- d) Elected Legislators representing the House or Senate Caucuses. – 5 minutes.
- e) State Party Officers – 3 minutes.
- f) Candidates for State/CD officer, statewide, congressional, or county office – 3 minutes
- g) Surrogates for candidates for State/CD officer, President, statewide, congressional, or county office – 2 minutes
- h) Other speakers - 2 minutes.

18) Timekeeper: The Convention Chair shall appoint a timekeeper for the purpose of timing discussion, debate and speeches during the Convention.

VOTING

19) No unit rule: There shall be no voting under the unit rule at this Convention.

20) Eligible voters: Only delegates and seated alternates registered and present at this Convention shall be permitted to vote.

21) Printed ballots: The convention shall use printed ballots, when applicable, as provided by the Tellers.

22) Manner of voting: The vote on all questions shall be by acclamation subject to the following restrictions:

- a) A rising vote shall be taken if requested by any delegate, or at the discretion of the Chair.
- b) A roll call vote by precinct shall be taken if requested by a majority in five or more precincts.
- c) Voting for Delegates and Alternates shall be done by secret ballot.
- d) Voting for any contested elections and endorsements shall be done by secret ballot.

23) Motion to lay on the table: A motion to lay on the table shall require a two-thirds vote of those voting on the question to be adopted.

24) Elections and endorsements: The procedure for voting on endorsement and elections is defined in the proper section for each in these rules, SD31 GOP Constitution, or as prescribed by the superior Republican Party of Minnesota CD or State Constitution or bylaws.

ENDORSEMENT

25) Search/Nominating Committee: The Search/Nominating Committee shall meet for a least one-half hour prior to the time that endorsement begins. Candidates wishing to be considered for endorsement must appear in person before the Search/Nominating Committee.

26) Motion to endorse or not endorse: It shall first be determined by a majority vote whether endorsement shall be considered for an office. [State Party Constitution Article V, Section 3, Part A, #1]

27) Consistent with Republican party constitutions: The endorsement procedure shall be in accordance with Article V, Section 3 (A & B) of the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota and Article IX of the SD31 Republican Constitution.

28) Search/Nominating Report: The Nominating Committee shall then report to the Convention the names of ALL candidates who have met with the committee and who have not withdrawn. The report may include whether each candidate is recommended without reservation, with reservation, or not recommended to receive endorsement with explanation for each.

29) No preprinted ballot shall be allowed unless options for 'no preference', 'undecided' and 'no endorsement' are included. [State Party Constitution: Article V, Section 3, Part A, #2]

30) Candidate addresses: Nominees or their guests may speak prior to balloting. All nominees are allotted seven (7) minutes. The order of speaking will be determined by lot. This time is to include any nominating speech, seconding speech, question/answer period, or address by the nominee. After the third ballot and every second ballot thereafter, the Convention Chair may allow each remaining nominee three minutes to address the convention in an order determined by drawing of lots.

31) Endorsement by House District: The Convention shall be divided into House Districts before balloting to endorse any candidate for the Minnesota House of Representatives. Only those delegates and seated alternates residing in the candidate's House District may vote on his/her endorsement.

32) Elimination of candidates: When there are more than two candidates running for an office, any candidate failing to receive at least 10% of the vote on the first and at least 10% on the second ballot or 20% of the vote on the third and any subsequent ballot, shall cease to be considered a candidate for an endorsement.

33) Determining Results: A candidate has been endorsed by receiving a 60% vote of the Convention and if the 60% is greater than or equal to at least a majority of the registered Delegates and seated alternates as established by the last report of the credentials committee preceding such vote. [State Party Constitution Article V, Section 3, Part B, #2]

However, on any round of voting for endorsement, a motion of no endorsement shall be considered adopted if a majority of the ballots (excluding blanks) is for 'no', 'none' or 'no endorsement'. [State Party Constitution Article V, Section 3, Part A, #3]

34) Additional ballots: Once the endorsement process has begun, a motion from the floor not to endorse is out of order. In the event a candidate fails to reach 60% of the voting strength after three rounds of balloting the Chair shall ask the convention if it is

their will to continue the balloting. If a majority of the delegates and duly seated alternates vote in the affirmative then an additional ballot shall be conducted up to an additional 3 ballots. This process shall repeat until a candidate attains 60% of the voting strength, or, the convention votes to cease balloting without endorsement.

RESOLUTIONS

35) Congressional District Tracking: Resolutions to be considered for the State Party Platform and Action Agenda, shall be voted on by Congressional District sub-caucus only.

36) Resolutions Debate: Prior to actual debate, all resolutions will be acted upon for the purpose of a decision to debate. Debate on any resolution shall be at the request of a minimum of ten (10) seated delegates from three (3) different precincts.

- a) For the purpose of this section, a point of order or clarification shall be considered debate. The questioner shall not be considered one of the pro or con speakers. The replier must declare either pro or con.
- b) No grammatical amendments will be considered in debate since resolutions are being passed – not laws.
- c) All resolutions and/or amendments (except as provided under Rule 37 herein) will be passed by a simple majority vote.

37) Resolutions Presented Outside of Precinct Caucus Process: Any new resolutions not coming from the precinct caucus process must be presented to the chair of the Resolutions Committee within one-half hour after acceptance of the Rules Committee Report. Such Resolutions must have a two-thirds favorable vote to be adopted.

ELECTION OF STATE AND CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

38) Search/Nominating Committee: Each person seeking election as a delegate or alternate must sign up on the self-nominating form at the registration desk. Nominations for delegates and alternates shall remain open for thirty (30) minutes after adoption of these rules.

39) Election by Congressional District sub-caucuses: The Convention shall divide into sub-caucuses by Congressional District before balloting for the election of delegates and alternates to CD and the State conventions. The voting for delegates and alternates shall be conducted by the delegates and seated alternates in each Congressional District, with forty-six (46) delegates elected in the Sixth Congressional District and one (1) delegate elected in the Third Congressional District. Each Congressional District sub-caucus can elect up to two alternates for each delegate.

40) Election on a single ballot: Each Congressional District sub-caucus shall elect CD and the State conventions delegates and alternates on one ballot. All vote totals shall be tallied and ranked to determine the outcome. Those persons who receive the highest vote totals shall be elected to the office of delegate until all delegate slots are filled. The next highest vote totals will be elected to the office of alternate until all alternate slots are filled. Alternates must be ranked for seating purposes at respective conventions. In the event of a tie, a coin toss, in the presence of the Chief Teller and two witnesses, shall decide the rank. The Head Teller will communicate the results to the Executive Board of Senate District 31.

41) Candidate Addresses: Nominees for delegate or alternate may address the Convention for the purpose of stating their qualifications and views on issues or candidates for a period not to exceed thirty (30) seconds.

42) Candidate qualifications: Any person seeking to be elected as Delegate or Alternate must be an eligible voter in the Congressional District. [State Party Constitution Article VIII, Section 3]

43) Invalid ballots: Each ballot cast for delegates in the Sixth Congressional District shall vote for exactly forty-six (46) different candidates or it shall be declared an invalid ballot. Each ballot cast for delegates in the Third Congressional District shall vote for exactly one (1) candidates or it shall be declared an invalid ballot.

RECESS

44) In the event the Convention votes to recess rather than adjourn, the Chair of the Convention, prior to the vote on the question, shall announce that the only delegates and alternates eligible to register for the reconvened Convention are those delegates and alternates registered as of the last Credentials Committee report of the original Convention. However, the number of votes required for endorsement at the reconvened Convention shall remain an affirmative vote of 60% of the convention and if that number is also greater than 50% of delegates and alternates seated as stated in the final report of the Credentials Committee at the original Convention.