

Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the Iowa Democratic Party

Amendment 1. To: Article II, Section 3, Subsection d

Submitted by: Catherine Crist

Amend language as follows:

Discuss and may indicate priorities regarding such issues of national, state, and local importance or interest as those in attendance may determine. Platform Resolutions or issue statements adopted by a precinct caucus shall be forwarded to the County Platform Committee in the manner and as directed in the **packet-of** information provided by the Party.

Rationale: The current language unnecessarily binds the Party to sending out a packet. As new methods of communication are perfected and as more accessible methods become available, we should be utilizing them.

Amendment 2. To: Article III, Section 1

Submitted by: Alex Stroda

Amend the second paragraph to include the underlined sentence:

The biennial organizational County Central Committee meeting shall take place in the odd numbered years at a time set by the County Central Committee between March 1 and April 1. Members of the County Central Committee assembled shall forthwith elect a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and such other officers as they may deem necessary. Such officers need not be selected from the County Central Committee membership; however, they shall be qualified voting members of the Iowa Democratic Party. The term of office for each officer shall begin immediately upon election by the County Central Committee, and shall continue for two years, and until the successor is elected and qualified; unless he or she is sooner removed by the County Central Committee for non-residency, inattention to duty, incompetence, or support of a candidate for public office who is running against a candidate nominated by the Iowa Democratic Party. Should an officer of the County Central Committee be elected to the State Central Committee, relinquish their roles as officer of the County Central Committee of their respective county. Vacancies on the Committee shall be filled as soon as possible from alternate precinct committee persons as per **Article II, Section 3, Subsection b** following majority vote of the County Central Committee attending any official

committee meeting provided that due notice of such election was previously given.

Rationale: The purpose of this change is to eliminate dual office holding in the Iowa Democratic Party State Central Committee and the various County Central Committees in the State of Iowa. The primary purpose of this is to motivate the IDP and the various County Parties to actively participate in party building, a necessary aspect of maintaining a viable Iowa Democrat Party. A secondary benefit is to acknowledge the amount of effort and time required to maintain a viable Iowa Democratic Party by Democrats that volunteer to fill various roles in the party. For too long, too few people have shouldered the burden of maintaining the party. This Amendment would motivate the people that have held multiple offices at one time to educate and train others to fill their roles.

Amendment 3. To: Article III, Section 1

Submitted by: Alex Stroda

Amend the second paragraph to read as follows:

An alternate precinct committee person may also serve as a substitute at a regular meeting or portion of a central committee meeting if the elected committee member is unable to attend. If the maximum number of alternate precinct committeepersons are not elected at the precinct caucuses, the vacancy shall be filled, as soon as possible by any Democrat, as defined by Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Iowa Democratic Party, residing in the precinct that is not currently represented by a County Central Committee member or does not currently have the maximum number of alternates allowed. The number of alternates should not exceed twice the number of precinct committeepersons. The term of office of alternate County Central Committee members ~~elected to fill a vacancy pursuant to either of the two preceding paragraphs~~, shall begin immediately ~~following their election~~ and shall continue until the ~~following precinct caucus successor is elected and qualified~~; unless he or she is sooner removed by the County Central Committee for nonresidency, inattention to duty, incompetence, or support of a candidate for public office who is running against a candidate nominated by the Iowa Democratic Party.

Rationale: to clarify for the IDP how alternate precinct committeepersons are selected at the county level. The language brings this process in line with language used in Article V, Section 1, Subsection d. It additionally serves to remove the control from currently seated County Central Committeepersons to disallow participation in the County Central Committee, should a Democrat in good standing volunteer to serve as alternate County Central Committeeperson.

Amendment 4. To: Article III, Section 1

Submitted by: Alex Stroda

Amend the second paragraph to include the underlined sentences:

If no alternate precinct committeepersons are elected at the precinct caucuses, the vacancy shall be filled, as soon as possible from a pool of Democrats residing in the precinct that is not currently represented by a County Central Committee member nominated by one or more members of the central committee, by majority vote of County Central Committee attending any official committee meeting provided that due notice of such election was previously given. The term of office of alternate County Central Committee members elected to fill a vacancy pursuant to either of the two preceding paragraphs, shall begin immediately following their election and shall continue until the successor is elected and qualified; unless he or she is sooner removed by the County Central Committee for non-residency, inattention to duty, incompetence, or support of a candidate for public office who is running against a candidate nominated by the Iowa Democratic Party.

Rationale: This is to clarify that alternates must reside in the precinct they represent.

Amendment 5. To: Article V, Section 1, Subsection c

Submitted by: Catherine Crist

Amend the subsection to read as follows:

The Chair of the District Central Committee shall be elected by the District Central Committee Members and reside in the District. ~~from among the District Committeepersons on the State Central Committee.~~ The primary purpose of the District Central Committee shall be the election of a Democratic member of Congress. The District Central Committee shall also be responsible for assisting the election of legislators from districts that cross county lines.

Amendment 6. To: Article V, Section 3, Subsection a

Submitted by: multiple delegates on behalf of the Affirmative Action and Community Outreach subcommittee

Amend the subsection as follows:

Elect eight district committeepersons, by majority vote, ~~four of whom shall be men and four of whom shall be women~~ no more than half of whom may be from one gender identity, who shall represent such district on the State Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Iowa, and whose terms of office shall

commence immediately following the next State Convention, and shall continue for two years, and until ~~his or her~~ the committeeperson's successor is elected and qualified.

Rationale: Creates a way for non-binary individuals to be elected as a District State Central Committeeperson.

Amendment 7. To: Article V, Section 3, Subsection b & Article VIII, Section 6

Submitted by: Carl Olsen

Add language to the end of Article V, Section 3, Subsection b:

The number of members, the number of alternates, and the formula used to calculate them, shall be provided to the District Central Committees and District Convention Committees at least 21 days prior to the District Conventions. The dates and the locations of the first State Convention Committee meetings, and the temporary chair contact information shall also be given to the District Central Committees and District Convention Committees at least 21 days prior to the District Conventions.

Amend the current language of Article VIII, Section 6 to read:

The state chair shall designate the temporary chairs of the state convention committees at least 21 days before the scheduled date for the congressional district conventions.

Rationale: Article V, Section 3, Subsection b (Page 7); At least fifteen (15) days prior to the District Convention each of the Convention Committees shall nominate individuals to serve on the corresponding committees of the State Convention. These nominations are given to the District Convention Secretary before the District Convention starts, and the elections are usually affirmed by unanimous consent of the District Convention Delegates (to avoid having to elect dozens of people individually). People volunteering to serve on these committees should know when and where the first meeting will be and have contact information for the temporary chair before they volunteer to serve as members on the committee.

Amendment 8. To: Article V, Section 4, Subsections c & d; Article VIII, Section 2, Subsection f

Submitted by: Carl Olsen

Amend the Article V, Section 4, subsection c:

Members of the above District Convention Committees shall be elected by county conventions; ~~the right to elect District Convention Committee members being apportioned to preference groups within county conventions that divide into preference groups, else~~ election shall be by the convention as a whole.

Amend the Article V, Section 4, Subsection d:

Each District Convention Committee shall nominate to the District Convention those members of the committee which it recommends be elected to serve on the corresponding permanent Committee of the State Convention; ~~election being apportioned to preference groups within District Conventions which divide into preference groups, else~~ election shall be by the convention as a whole.

Strike Article VIII, Section 2, Subsection f :

~~“When convention delegates and alternates are elected by preference group, and more than six (6) representatives of the convention's committees are to be elected, those committee members and alternate members shall be apportioned to the preference groups in the same manner as the delegates.”~~

Rationale: Preference groups are created at county and district conventions for selecting delegates. There are several reasons for this, including, but not limited to: (1) electing national delegates in a presidential election year where more than one Democrat is running; (2) a general showing of strength; and (3) if no candidate obtains thirty-five percent in a primary election, convention delegates may be reconvened for purposes of a nominating convention. See Iowa Code § 43.65 (2018) and Iowa Code § 43.78 (2018).

Any Democrat can serve on a convention committee without being a delegate or an alternate to a convention, so there is no real reason to elect them by preference group. It also defeats the purpose of two provisions in the IDP Constitution intended to make the convention process more efficient: **Article III, Section 3, Subsection c** and **Article V, Section 3, Subsection b**

Convention committees are essential to the success of our conventions at every level. Convention committee members are often folks with great skill and experience such as long-time platform and rules committee members. In addition, committees often work as teams. Electing convention committees by preference groups makes it much more difficult to elect the best, most

experienced convention committee members, making it more difficult and time-consuming for the committees to perform their tasks. We should lock in the process of electing them by the convention as a whole at every level. Doing so will make it much more likely that the individuals our convention committee members nominate to serve at the next level will be elected to do so, leading to more effective and efficient work by our convention committees, regardless who they may or may not support for a given office.

Amendment 9. To: Article XII, Section 6

Submitted by: Sandy Dockendorff

Replace Article XII, Section 6 with:

Section 6 – Convention Committees

There shall be established the following standing committees for each County, District, and State Convention:

- A. Arrangements Committee: This committee shall be responsible for all physical arrangements for the convention including the facility, equipment, parking, and arranging for the preparation of a Convention Call Booklet as outlined in Section 9 of this Article.
- B. Credentials Committee: Consistent with other requirements of this Constitution and in accordance with a Delegate Selection Plan, as applicable, this committee shall be responsible for the accreditation and certification of delegates and alternates to the appropriate level Convention. The Credentials Committee shall be responsible for ensuring that the duly elected Delegates are seated and provided appropriate materials to allow them to participate in convention activities, including an identifying nametag (credential) and matching ballots (in cooperation with the Rules Committee). The Credentials Committee is also charged with seating appropriate alternates in place of delegates who are unable to attend the convention, staffing the registration tables, and may assist in collecting delegate fees. The method of collecting the names and contact information for each duly elected delegate and alternate shall be detailed in the information provided by the staff of the Iowa Democratic Party.
 - 1. Registration of Delegates shall be open for at least one hour.
 - 2. The seating of Alternates shall not begin until the end of the Delegate Registration period.
 - 3. For County Conventions: In the absence of an applicable Delegate Selection Plan, the seating of alternates shall follow these guidelines:

- i. The earliest arriving duly accredited alternate from the same precinct.
 - ii. The earliest arriving duly accredited alternate from a similar precinct (urban/rural).
 - iii. The earliest arriving duly accredited alternate from any precinct.
 - 4. For District and State Conventions: In the absence of an applicable Delegate Selection Plan, the seating of alternates shall follow these guidelines:
 - i. The earliest arriving duly accredited alternate from the same county
 - ii. The earliest arriving duly accredited alternate from a similar county (urban/rural).
 - iii. The earliest arriving duly accredited alternate from any county
 - 5. No alternate may be seated in place of a duly accredited delegate elected by a preference group that is of a different preference without the express written approval of a previously identified Preference Group Contact.
- C. Platform Committee: The Platform Committees of the County, District, and State Convention may be continuing bodies that may act as organizing committees to advocate the enactment of their platforms. The State Central Committee shall be responsible for enactment of the provisions of the State Party Platform by:
- 1. Researching public statements, voting records, and performance of official duties of elected officials within their constituencies;
 - 2. Developing proposals for legislative action in keeping with the Iowa Democratic Party Platform;
 - 3. Giving guidance to the Democratic Party Leaders and to the Democratic Elected Officials regarding the Iowa Democratic Party's position on matters of legislative priority or public policy as set forth in the State Party Platform;
 - 4. Making preliminary preparations for the next caucus/convention process of platform development. In these efforts, the State Central Committee shall work in close cooperation with Democratic elected officials. For purposes of Platform Committee reports, word limits shall not be changed between January 1 and June 30 in an election year (during the caucus to convention cycle). Any public hearing on the platform shall not be held on the same day as the convention.
 - 5. Each convention shall adopt a platform consisting of a Statement of Issues. The Platform Committee may set its own rules for development of its report, including but not limited to rules governing debate during their committee meetings, the amendment, and adoption of platform planks to be included in their report to the Convention delegation. That Statement of Issues in the Platform Committee report shall consist of no more than 3000 words.

6. The Platform Committee of the State Convention shall, prior to the convening of the State Convention, hold a public hearing to allow Democrats the opportunity to comment on the platform report.
7. The State Convention shall adopt a Statement of Principles. The Statement of Principles shall be a statement of abiding Democratic values and principles. The State Central Committee shall approve and forward a proposed Statement of Principles to the Chair of the Iowa Democratic Party no later than 21 days prior to the State Convention. The draft Statement of Principles shall be considered for debate, amendment, and adoption at the State Convention. The Statement of Principles adopted by the State Convention shall be the Statement of Principles for the Iowa Democratic Party.

D. Rules and Nominations Committee: Consistent with other provisions in this Constitution, an applicable Delegate Selection Plan, and the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States, this committee shall be responsible for drafting such rules and regulations as are necessary to conduct the business of the convention, including but not limited to:

1. the debate, amendment, and adoption of the platform,
2. the adoption or ratification of such resolutions as the convention may wish to consider,
3. the election of delegates to district, state, and national conventions and meetings,
4. the election of Party office holders and such other business as the convention in question may wish to consider.

The Rules Committees of the County, District and State Conventions shall work in consultation with the other convention committees to produce fair and efficient rules for their convention. In addition, said committee shall have the responsibility for the counting of all ballots taken during the convention process.

Amendment 10. To: Article XII, Section 6, Subsections A & B

Submitted by: Catherine Crist

Add under Subsection A, a new point e to read as follows:

Additionally, the Committee will provide education on Platform resolution development and submission for the Caucus to Convention Cycle, engage proactively in outreach activities to ensure interested Democrats throughout the State are informed, and provide the SCC with needed updates as to the issues most concerning to constituents.

Amend Subsection B to read as follows:

Subsection B - Rules Committees: The Rules Committees of the County, District, and State Conventions shall work in consultation with the other Convention Committees to produce fair and efficient rules for their convention. Additionally, the Committees may be continuing bodies that:

1. Will provide education and consultation on rule making for the Caucus to Convention Cycle;
2. May provide recommendations and resources to County Parties and District Committees to assist with their rules drafting;
3. Will engage proactively in outreach activities to ensure interested Democrats throughout the State are informed of their rights and responsibilities to participate in the Iowa Democratic Party; and,
4. Will provide the SCC with necessary updates as to the issues most concerning to constituents.

Amendment 11. To: Article VI, Section 2

Submitted by: Carl Olsen

Amend the current language in the first paragraph:

The State Central Committee shall be composed as follows: The District Committeepersons from each Congressional District, the National Committeepersons, the Chair of the State Affirmative Action Committee, the President of the Iowa Young Democrats, State Rules Chair, State Platform Chair a person elected by the State Platform Committee to represent that committee on the State Central Committee, and the elected chairs of the twelve Constituency Caucuses. These Committee members shall be entitled to vote on all policy matters not in conflict with the Code of the State of Iowa.

Rationale: People should not run for chair of the State Platform Committee just to get a seat on the State Central Committee. This amendment would prevent that from happening.

Amendment 12. To: Article VI, Section 2

Submitted by: Alex Stroda

Strike "State Rules Chair, State Platform Chair"

Rationale: There is no provision in the Constitution for how and when these positions are elected. Currently they are elected by their respective committees, though this is

not specified anywhere in the Constitution or IDP Bylaws. It is not appropriate that voting members of the State Central Committee are elected by such a small limited body by an unspecified process. Additionally they are Convention Committees.

Amendment 13. To: Article VI, Section 2

Submitted by: Holly Herbert

Strike "State Rules Chair"

Rationale: Rules is not treated as a standing committee and therefore the chair of said committee should not be a member of the SCC. We have a Policies and Programs subcommittee on the SCC that looks at and proposed suggested amendments to party documents such as the SCC Bylaws and convention guides, and the SCC would benefit from the hiring of a certified Parliamentarian to assist with quarterly meetings in place of a Rules Chair.

[Editor's Note: The Policy & Programs subcommittee is not a codified committee of the SCC.]

Amendment 14. To: Article VI, Section 2

Submitted by: RRS Stewart on behalf of the Affirmative Action and Community Outreach Committee

Add a sentence to the end of paragraph 1:

If the State Rules and Platform Committees elect Vice-Chairs, they may vote at SCC meetings in the absence of the State Rules or Platform Chair, or if the State Rules or Platform Chair is already voting in another capacity.

Amendment 15. To: Article VI, Section 2, paragraphs 1 and 2

Submitted by: Holly Herbert

In paragraph one, replace "twelve" with "thirteen"

In paragraph two, add "Jewish" to the list of Constituency Caucuses

Rationale: To establish a Jewish cultural identity caucus.

Amendment 16. To: Article VI, Section 2

Submitted by: Holly Herbert

Alphabetize the Constituency Caucuses, to read:

The Constituency Caucuses include the Armed Forces Veterans, Asian & Pacific Islander, Black, Disability, Labor, Latino, Native American, Progressive, Rural, Senior/Retirees, Stonewall, Women's caucuses.

Amendment 17. To: Article VI, Section 2

Submitted by: RRS Stewart

Alphabetize the Constituency Caucuses, to read:

The Constituency Caucuses include the Asian & Pacific Islander, Black, Disability, Labor, Latino, Native American, Progressive, Rural, Senior/Retirees, Stonewall, Women and Armed Forces Veterans caucuses.

Amendment 18. To: Article VI, Section 2

Submitted by: Catherine Crist

Amend Article VI, Section 2, second unnumbered paragraph, to read as follows:

~~If any person holding one of the positions listed above (in Article VI, Section 2 Paragraph 1) is subsequently elected to any of the caucus or committee leadership positions listed there, the body electing him/her to that additional position shall also elect a second person to represent that body on the State Central Committee and cast its vote there until such time as the leader in question resigns, or no longer holds any other position listed in Article VI, Section 2, Paragraph 1.~~ Notwithstanding any other provision in this constitution, a person shall not hold more than one seat on the State Central Committee. If a person has been elected to the State Central Committee at the most recent district convention and is elected before the next district convention to a position that would give the person another seat on the State Central Committee, the body electing the person to that additional seat shall elect another person to represent that body on the State Central Committee. All Constituency Caucuses shall elect a Chair, a Vice Chair and a provisional SCC Member should the Chair or the Vice Chair also hold another position on the SCC, now or in the ensuing two years. If the person is elected to the SCC after the State Convention and holds another voting position on a Caucus or Committee then the Caucus or Committee will immediately elect another person to fill that position. In the case of the constituency caucuses, the voting role would automatically be filled by the Caucus Vice-Chair, unless ~~s/he~~ they also already holds a seat on the State Central Committee in which case the Provisional SCC Representative of that Caucus or Committee will be the voting member.

The Rules and Nominations, Platform and Affirmative Action Committees shall elect a Chair, a Vice Chair and a provisional SCC Member should the

Chair or the Vice Chair also hold another position on the SCC, now or in the ensuing two years. If the person is elected to the SCC after the State Convention and holds another voting position on a Caucus or Committee then the Caucus or Committee will immediately elect another person to fill that voting position.

Add “and Vice Chair” to paragraph one, to read:

Section 2 - State Central Committee Structure: The State Central Committee shall be composed as follows: The District Committeepersons from each Congressional District, the National Committeepersons, the Chair and Vice Chair of the State Affirmative Action Committee...

Amendment 19. To: Article IX, Section 1

Submitted by: Catherine Crist

Add to the end of Section 1:

The Affirmative Action Committee shall elect a Vice Chair, who shall also be a member of the State Central Committee, within 90 days of adjourning the last State Convention or their next meeting whichever is earlier.

Amendment 20. To: Article IX, Section 3

Submitted by: Catherine Crist

Strike Section 3

Rationale: There is no need to have an additional Convention for the Caucuses to meet. It creates a “separate” but not equal problem and separates rather than unifies us a party. Furthermore, a person has to identify as being a member of only one of these Caucuses to fully participate in the activities. This is an unnecessary cost and the money would be better spent on true outreach activities of each of the Caucuses. And, finally, the Constituency Caucuses do not fall under or report up through the Affirmative action Committee.

Amendment 21. To: Article VI, Section 2, Section 3

Submitted by: Catherine Crist

Amend Article VI, Section 2 as follows:

Each Caucus shall meet one half hour after the start of the seating of delegates

on the day of each State Democratic Convention and shall then elect a Caucus Chair by a majority vote and a Caucus Vice-Chair, also by a majority vote, to be their representatives on the State Central Committee. The results of the said elections shall be reported to and ratified by the entire Convention. An alternative method of electing and/or filling a Chair or Vice-Chair vacancy for ~~the a~~ Constituency Caucus ~~groups~~ shall be during a meeting of the Constituency Caucus scheduled with adequate notice to its members that filling the vacancy will be included in the meeting agenda ~~Convention to be held each odd-numbered year. The results of the said elections shall be reported to and ratified by the entire Convention.~~ (no other changes to this section)

Amend Article VI, Section 3, first paragraph, as follows:

The term of office of a member of the State Central Committee shall begin immediately following the adjournment of the State Convention and shall continue for two years and until him or her successor is elected and qualified, with the exception of the election to fill a vacancy of a Constituency Caucus Chair or Chairs and Vice-Chairs Vice-Chair held between state conventions pursuant to Section 2 elected during the Constituency Caucus Convention whose term of office shall begin upon their election and continue until their successor is elected. When there is a vacancy of a district committeeperson on the State Central Committee which has occurred other than at the expiration of a regular, term, a new member shall be elected by a majority of votes cast by the County Chairs and County Vice-chairs of the Congressional District in which the vacancy occurs. (no other changes to this section)

Rationale: This amendment will allow for the Constituency Caucuses to fill vacancies which may occur after the officer elections at the State Convention at a regularly and properly noticed meeting of the Caucus. This will allow the Caucuses to have needed leadership vacancies filled much like similar leadership vacancies are filled for other committees and ensure continued representation on the SCC. And, ensure that those which occur during the State Convention ratified by the entire Convention as are other elections which occur during the Convention.

Amendment 22. To: Article VI, Section 2 and Article IX, Section 3

Submitted by: RRS Stewart on behalf of the Affirmative Action and Community Outreach Committee

Amend Article VI, Section 2, paragraph 2 to read:

Membership of these constituency caucuses shall consist of all of each groups' registered Democratic representation at their respective biennial reorganization organization meeting. Each caucus shall meet one half hour after the start of the

seating of delegates on the day of each State Convention and shall then elect a Caucus Chair by a majority vote and a Caucus Vice-Chair, also by a majority vote, to be their representatives on the State Central Committee. ~~An alternative method of electing and/or filling a vacancy for the Constituency Caucus groups shall be during the Constituency Caucus Convention to be held each odd-numbered year.~~ The results of the said elections shall be reported to and ratified by the entire

Convention. Both the Caucus Chair and Vice-Chair shall be members of the State

Central Committee. The Caucus Vice-Chair shall vote only in the absence of the Caucus Chair, or if the Caucus Chair is already voting in another capacity.

If a Vacancy occurs in the position of Caucus Chair before the Caucus's biennial organization meeting at the state convention, the Caucus Vice-Chair shall automatically become the Caucus chair. If the Caucus Vice-Chair resigns before the Caucus's biennial organization meeting at the state convention, or the Caucus Chair or Vice-Chair positions are not filled at the Caucus's biennial organization meeting at the state convention or are otherwise vacant, an election to fill the vacant Caucus Chair or Vice-Chair positions may be held at either the annual Constituency Caucus & Affirmative Action Workshop in even numbered years or the Constituency Caucus & Affirmative Action Convention held in odd-numbered years. Such an election must be included in the public notice of the Constituency Caucus & Affirmative Action Workshop or the call for the Constituency Caucus & Affirmative Action Convention.

If any person holding one of the positions listed above (in Article VI, Section 2 Paragraph 1) is subsequently elected to any of the caucus or committee leadership positions listed there, the body electing him/her to that additional position shall also elect a second person to represent that body on the State Central Committee and cast its vote there until such time as the leader in question resigns, or no longer holds any other position listed in Article VI, Section 2, Paragraph 1. In the case of the constituency caucuses, the voting role would automatically be filled by the Caucus Vice-Chair, unless s/he also already holds a seat on the State Central Committee.

Amend Article IX, Section 3 to read:

Section 3 – Bi-Annual Affirmative Action & Constituency Caucus Convention

An Affirmative Action & Constituency Caucus Convention shall take place each odd- numbered year to afford the Constituency Caucus groups an opportunity for networking with the State, District & County Affirmative Action Committees and amongst the groups Constituency Caucuses. The ~~election of the Chairs and Vice Chairs~~ biennial organizational meeting of the Constituency Caucuses MAY

take place during this convention rather than the state convention in the even-numbered years.

Rationale: clarifies the ways a vacancy can be filled and makes language consistent within the document

Amendment 23. To: Article VI, S. 3, paragraph 3 “National Committeepersons”

Submitted by: Catherine Crist

Amend language of the second sentence as follows:

The allotted number of National Committeepersons shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates to the State Convention held during presidential years. The term of office shall be for a period of four years and until their successors are elected at the next State Convention held during a presidential election year.

Amend the language of the final sentence as follows:

Then the term so filled shall expire at the close of the ~~State Statutory Convention~~ next State Convention following such vacancy and the delegates at the Convention shall elect the National Committeeperson to fill out the remaining term of vacancy.

Rationale: No other documentation in the IDP has ever referred to “Presidential Convention” or “State Statutory Convention.” This language offers more clarity.

Amendment 24. To: Article VI, S. 3, paragraph 3 “National Committeepersons”

Submitted by: Kate Revaux

Amend language as follows:

The allotted number of National Committeepersons shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates to the State Convention held during presidential years. The term of office shall be for a period of four years and until their successors are elected at the next Presidential Convention. Until such time as the National Democratic Party recognizes nonbinary, agender and genderqueer persons in the gender balance requirement, nonbinary, agender and genderqueer National Committeepersons will be considered male for purposes of gender balance. Vacancies in the office shall be filled by the State Central Committee upon a majority vote of the members present and voting at an

official meeting for which prior notice of the election was properly made in the call for the meeting. The National Committeeperson so elected by the State Central Committee shall serve out the term of the vacancy except in the event the vacancy occurs prior to the State Convention in a non-presidential year. Then the term so filled shall expire at the close of the State Statutory Convention next following such vacancy and the delegates at that Convention shall elect the National Committeeperson to fill out the remaining term of vacancy.

Amendment 25. To: Article VI, Section 4

Submitted by: Kate Revaux

Amend language as follows:

The State Chair's duties shall be those of a chief executive officer. The Chair of the Iowa Democratic Party may be paid a salary or serve in a voluntary capacity. Candidates for the Office of Chair must report prior to the election, to the ~~central committee~~ State Central Committee, whether they intend their service to be paid or to be voluntary. ~~He or she~~ They may provide for the employment of any office personnel necessary. Employment of personnel by the State Chair shall be subject to the approval of the State Central Committee. The State Vice-Chair shall assume the duties of the State Chair during that officer's absence.

Amendment 26. To: Article VI, Section 8, Subsection c

Submitted by: Catherine Crist

Amend the second sentence of subsection c to read:

The State Chair shall cause such call to be mailed sent to all members of the State Central Committee, and to the Chair and Vice-Chair of each County Central Committee.

Rationale: Most SCC members and County leadership prefer electronic communication as it is more efficient, cheaper, and a more desired method of communication.

Amendment 27. To: Article VI, Section 10

Submitted by: Carl Olsen

Strike the language:

~~The Committees shall initially meet at a time and place selected by the State Chair, which shall be at least twenty-five (25) days prior to the date designated for the convening of the State Convention.”~~

Rationale: Article VI, Section 10 requires a copy of the platform report be distributed to the delegates at least 7 days in advance of the convention. It takes the platform committee at least three meetings to prepare a 3,000-word platform. IDP staff prepares the convention call booklet for printing several weeks before the State Convention. The platform report must be completed, not started, at least twenty-five days prior to the State Convention.

Amendment 28. To: Article VI, Section 11

Submitted by: Carl Olsen

Amend the Current Language:

The State Chair shall, in concert with and subject to the approval of the State Central Committee of the Iowa Democratic Party appoint such special convention committee members that have not been elected by the District Conventions ~~at least twenty-five (25) days prior to the day designated for the convening of the State Convention~~ prior to the first meeting of each convention committee.

Rationale: The convention committees need to know who their members are so they can communicate with their members.

Amendment 29. To: Article VI, Sections 2, 3, and 6

Submitted by: Catherine Crist

Insert letters to better define sections and be consistent with the rest of the Article VI. The updated Sections would look as follows (ellipses added in place of full sections to save space):

Section 2 - State Central Committee Structure:

- a. The State Central Committee shall be composed as follows: The District Committeepersons...
- b. The Constituency Caucuses...

- c. Membership of these constituency caucuses...
- d. Election of officers: ...
- e. Meetings of Committee: ...
- f. Quorum: ...
- g. Elected and Party Leaders:

Section 3 - Members' Terms and Vacancies:

- a. The term of office of a member...
- b. Officer Vacancies: ...
- c. National Committeepersons: ...

Section 6 - Treasurer:

- a. The Treasurer, ...
- b. Bonds and Audit: ...

Amendment 30. To: Article VIII, Section 2, Subsection g

Submitted by: Kate Revaux

Amend language as follows:

Convention rules shall contain clear provisions for achieving gender balance within preference groups in keeping with the National Democratic Party requiring that the Iowa Delegation to the National Convention be gender balanced as a whole, and within each presidential preference group. The chair of the Committee on Rules and Nominations shall explain the provisions for achieving gender balance to the convention. Until such time as the National Democratic Party recognizes nonbinary, agender and genderqueer persons in the gender balance requirement, nonbinary, agender and genderqueer delegates will be from the male allotment.

Amendment 31. To: Article XII, Section 8

Submitted by: Catherine Crist

Amend paragraph 1 as follows:

In accordance with the guiding principles of the Iowa Democratic Party Constitution, at no time shall it be acceptable to prevent the participation or abridge the rights of an otherwise qualified participant in all Democratic Party activities. All Democratic ~~polling places~~, Precinct Caucus locations, ~~County, District, and State~~ Conventions sites (including Convention Committee and Constituency Caucus sites and meetings) and all Central Committee ~~and their Constituency Caucus~~ Meetings (including subcommittee and Constituency Caucuses) at all levels are to be totally accessible to People with Disabilities for

the purposes of the type of activity to be conducted at each site. All activities of the Democratic Party in the State of Iowa are to be fully accessible, including but not limited to: Galas, Fundraisers, Hall of Fame Dinners and events at all levels of the Party and any activity related to election of Democratic Candidates who campaign in Iowa.

Rationale: The Iowa Democratic Party does not control polling locations. Additional language and edits are to clarify so that it is understood that all activities at all levels of the Democratic Party which occur here in Iowa as a part of the Iowa Democratic Party or as a result of campaigning for any level office needs to be accessible and inclusive.

Amendment 32. To: Article XII

Submitted by: Sandy Dockendorff

Add as Section 1, and renumber all other Sections accordingly:

Section 1: Standing Rules

The State Central Committee shall cause to be created and maintained a set of procedures and knowledge that:

- a. Shall be readily available from the IDP website
- b. May be requested in print at no cost to any Iowa Democrat
- c. Shall be a source of knowledge for effective participation in and management of our Party at every level
- d. Shall provide information specific to each type of election cycle (presidential selection, presidential 2nd term, gubernatorial with preference groups, gubernatorial without preference groups).
- e. Shall be in accordance with Iowa State Law, as applicable, the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic National Committee, the Delegate Selection Plan of a specific election cycle, and this Constitution of the Iowa Democratic Party.
- f. Shall include definitions of terms used in the day-to-day operations of the Party
- g. Shall clearly define best practices for the completion of Party Business and serve as a reservoir of knowledge from one State Party Administration to another
- h. Shall include an Appendix of Major Motions of the State Central Committee which shall be an informational section for the archival of

- major motions passed by the State Central Committee that may have an impact on the manner that the tasks of the Party are carried out,
- i. And that, except for the Appendix of Motions of the State Central Committee, may be initially adopted and thereafter amended with a majority vote of the State Central Committee following three weeks' notice to all members of the State Central Committee and the chairs and vice chairs of each County Democratic Central Committee.

Amendment 33.

Submitted by: multiple delegates

Amend the Constitution as follows:

1. Strike Article II, Section 2, paragraph b
2. Strike the following in Article II, Section 3, paragraph c: "outlined in the Iowa Democratic Party Standing Rules."
3. In Article XII, Section 9, strike "Standing Rules" and insert "Iowa Democratic Party Laws" in lieu thereof

Amendment 34. Create new Article (to appear before current article XIV)

Submitted by: Alex Stroda

Create a new Article titled "Definitions" to read:

The Constitution of the Iowa Democratic Party shall use the following definitions for terminology contained within this document:

- a. Inattention to duty shall be defined as unnotified absence from three consecutive or six non-consecutive official County Central Committee meetings in a calendar year.

Rationale: to create limited accountability for Democrats that volunteer to serve on their respective County Central Committees. This is the standard many County Central Committees currently use. This also relieves some of the social pressure of removing County Central Committeepersons by setting a clear, statewide standard. It demonstrates the expectation that the party places upon those Democrats that volunteer and are elected to serve as County Central Committeepersons.

Amendment 35. To: entire document

Submitted by: Kate Revaux

Amend the Constitution to replace every instance of “he, she, his, hers” or other gender-specific language with “they” and to replace “is” with “are” as necessary to achieve subject verb agreement with the above change.

Rationale: This is needed to achieve gender neutrality in the IDP Constitution