

1 **Constitution of the Minnesota House District 27A**

2 **Republican Party BPOU**

3 **Preamble**

4 The Republican Party of Minnesota House District 27A welcomes the participation of
5 all Minnesotans within its geographic area who are concerned with the
6 implementation of honest, just, efficient, responsive, and constitutionally limited
7 government. The party believes in the equality of all, as stated in the Declaration of
8 Independence. Therefore, the party is committed to equal representation and
9 opportunity for all and preservation of the rights of each individual. It is the purpose
10 of this constitution to ensure that the party provides for full participation with equal
11 opportunity for all citizens in House District 27A regardless of age, race, sex, religion,
12 social or economic status.

13 **Article I - Name**

14 The name of this organization shall be the Republican Party of Minnesota House
15 District 27A Basic Party Organizational Unit, hereinafter referred to in this document
16 as "the BPOU."

17 **Article II - Purpose**

18 **Section 1:** The purpose and objectives of the BPOU shall be the maintenance and
19 advancement of good government according to the Constitution and laws of the
20 United States and the State of Minnesota through the promotion within the
21 geographical area of House District 27A of the purposes and objectives of the
22 National Republican Party and the Republican Party of Minnesota.

23 **Section 2:** The purposes and duties of the BPOU shall include those imposed by law
24 and custom upon official party committees. In addition, the BPOU shall:

- 25 A) Organize or cause to be organized each precinct in the geographical area of
26 House District 27A;
- 27 B) Encourage the formation of auxiliary Republican groups, and cooperate with
28 and coordinate their activities within the geographical area of House District
29 27A;
- 30 C) Assist in conducting campaigns for the adoption of laws, and for the election of
31 qualified Republican candidates for public office; and
- 32 D) Administer the affairs of the Party within the geographical area of House
33 District 27A.

34

Article III - Membership

35 The membership of the BPOU shall be composed of all citizens eligible to vote with a
36 residential address within the geographical area of House District 27A who support
37 the principles and objectives of the Republican Party and who wish to be affiliated
38 with the Republican Party.

39

Article IV - Management and Structure

40 **Section 1:** The management of the BPOU shall rest with its Executive Committee,
41 subject to the direction of the State Central Committee, the State Executive
42 Committee, the Sixth Congressional District Committee, the BPOU Convention, the
43 State Party Constitution, this Constitution and applicable state statutes of Minnesota.

44 **Section 2:** Membership - The BPOU Executive Committee shall be composed of a
45 Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, one Regional Leader from each of the
46 following regions:

47 **Region 1:** Becker City, Becker Township and Santiago Township

48 **Region 2:** Big Lake City, Big Lake Township and Orrock Township

49 **Region 3:** Clear Lake City and Township, Palmer Township and Haven Township

50 and all elected Republican legislators and Republican state constitutional officers
51 living within the boundaries of the BPOU area.

52 **Section 3:** Duties - The duties of the Executive Committee shall be as follows:

53 A) The Chair shall conduct Executive Committee meetings. The Deputy Chair shall
54 conduct meetings in the Chair's absence. Together, they shall appoint
55 committees and coordinate the activities of the Regional Leaders. The Chair
56 and Deputy Chair are also ex-officio members of all BPOU committees.

57 B) Elected Republican Legislators and State Constitutional Officers shall be
58 encouraged to attend Executive Committee meetings. Since their attendance at
59 these meetings is not required, their position shall not be included in the
60 quorum count unless they are present.

61 C) The Secretary shall keep minutes of meetings, be responsible for written
62 correspondence with the members of the Executive Committee, delegates and
63 alternates to BPOU conventions and other correspondence that may be
64 necessary.

65 D) The Treasurer shall be responsible for all BPOU funds, maintain financial records,
66 disburse funds as authorized by the Executive Committee, prepare and submit

67 all reports to the state of Minnesota as required by law and help submit the
68 annual budget of the BPOU.

69 E) Regional Leaders shall manage the affairs at the precinct level within their Region.

70 **Section 4:** Finances - The BPOU financial records shall be maintained in an orderly
71 fashion by the BPOU Treasurer.

72 A) All financial records shall be reviewed, at a minimum, quarterly, by the
73 Executive Committee.

74 B) The Executive Committee shall designate the financial institution to be used as
75 a depository for BPOU funds after the Convention at least every odd year.

76 C) All financial institution signature cards shall be signed by the Chair, and the
77 Treasurer. The signature cards may additionally be signed by the Deputy Chair
78 or Secretary.

79 D) All disbursements shall be by check and shall require two (2) signatures.

80 E) All funds coming to the BPOU from any source shall be deposited in the
81 account(s) in the designated financial institution.

82 **Article V - BPOU Elections**

83 **Section 1:** The Executive Committee shall be elected to a two-year term by the
84 delegates to the odd-year BPOU Convention. All Executive Committee members
85 must be elected delegates from precincts within the geographical area of House
86 District 27A. Convention elected Executive Committee members are:

87 A) The Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected at large.
88

89 B) Regional Leaders shall be elected by a caucus of their respective precincts.
90

91 **Section 2:** Officers of each precinct consist of a Chair, a Deputy Chair and a
92 Secretary, elected to a two year term at the even-numbered year General Caucus, in
93 compliance with State Statute(s). In the event a precinct fails to elect any officer at
94 this caucus, the BPOU Executive Committee may appoint individuals to fill the
95 vacancy in that precinct.

96 **Section 3:** It shall be the responsibility of precinct officers to:

97 1 Conduct biennial precinct caucuses in their respective precincts.

98 2 Support campaign efforts of endorsed Republican Party candidates within
99 their precincts.

- 100 3 Respond to guidance from BPOU officers.
- 101 4 Recruit and direct precinct workers.
- 102 5 Attend training sessions conducted by the State and District party
- 103 organizations.
- 104 6 Complete voter surveys.
- 105 7 Participate in authorized fund drives.
- 106 8 Lead "Get out the Vote" efforts in the precinct.
- 107 9 Accomplish such other tasks as the BPOU leadership may instruct.
- 108

109 **Article VI - Meetings**

110 **Section 1: Requirements:**

- 111 A) Regular Committee Meetings: The Executive Committee may establish a
- 112 calendar of regular meetings. When regular meeting dates are changed from the
- 113 established calendar, a minimum of ten (10) days' notice must be given to the
- 114 members of the Committee.

- 115 B) Special Committee Meetings: The Executive Committee shall meet at the call
- 116 of the Chairs, at the request of any three (3) members of the Committee, or at
- 117 the request of 25% of the delegates. Three (3) days' notice shall be provided to
- 118 members of the Committee.

- 119 C) Quorums: A quorum shall be 50% +1 of convention elected members of this
- 120 Committee for the purpose of transacting business.

- 121 D) Meetings shall be conducted in person. In the event that an in-person meeting is
- 122 not feasible, the Chair may convene the meeting via electronic means unless
- 123 objected to by 1/3 of the Executive Committee members.

124 **Section 2:** "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" shall govern the proceedings of
125 all meetings of the Executive Committee.

126 **Article VII - BPOU Conventions**

127 **Section 1:** BPOU Conventions shall be held each year for the purposes designated in
128 the Official Call issued by the BPOU Executive Committee, the State Executive
129 Committee, the State Central Committee, or the Sixth Congressional District
130 Committee. The time and place of these conventions shall be established by the
131 convening authority. Special BPOU Conventions shall be held upon the call of the
132 aforementioned groups, provided that a minimum of ten (10) days' notice be sent to
133 each delegate and alternate.

134 **Section 2:** If events warrant a special election to public office, an emergency
135 Endorsing Convention may be held at the call of the State Executive Committee, the
136 BPOU Chair and Deputy Chair, or by a majority of the BPOU Executive Committee.
137 A notice of not less than five (5) days shall be given to delegates and alternates. An
138 emergency Endorsing Convention shall be held for the sole purpose of endorsing a
139 candidate for office.

140 **Section 3:** At all BPOU Conventions, the first order of business shall be the
141 credentials report. The convention shall then proceed to the seating of the delegates,
142 as outlined in this Section. A precinct shall be entitled to one vote for each
143 delegate/alternate present and seated, provided that all delegates represent the same
144 ratio of Republican votes.

145 Ratio differences between the precincts that exist following redistricting cause
146 variances in the value of each delegate's or alternate's vote. Therefore, the value for
147 each vote will be calculated as follows:

30:1	60:1	90:1
.5 vote	1 vote	1.5 vote

148

149 **Section 4:** The BPOU Convention shall be composed of delegates and alternates
150 selected at Republican Party Precinct Caucus who reside within the geographical area
151 of House District 27A. The ratio to allocate delegates shall be uniform throughout the
152 district for any caucus after the adoption of this Constitution. The credentials
153 committee shall seat all duly elected and accredited delegates of each precinct who are
154 present. In the event no delegates are present from a precinct, the credentials
155 committee shall seat all accredited alternates from that precinct, indicating which
156 delegates they replace. Vacancies shall be filled according to the following
157 procedures:

158 A) The precincts shall caucus after acceptance of the first credentials committee
159 report. If the precinct chair is not present, the seated delegates shall elect a
160 chair, and then proceed to fill the vacancies.

161 B) Vacancies shall be filled by the alternates in the order in which they were
162 ranked by the Precinct Caucus. If not ranked, seating order will be determined
163 by vote of the seated delegates. If a tie vote arises, the chair shall appoint, by
164 coin toss, one of the alternates who participated in the tie. Alternates shall be
165 elected to fill vacancies individually to replace specific delegates. The alternate
166 so elected may subsequently vote in the election to fill the next vacancy.

167 C) If a delegate should arrive late, the delegate shall assume the seat of the
168 delegate's alternate. A delegate may be seated at any time, provided that
169 registration has not closed.

170 D) If a precinct has any vacancies which cannot be filled by an alternate from the
171 same precinct, the vacancy will remain.

172 **Section 5:** Delegates and alternates to the Republican State and Congressional District
173 Conventions shall be elected in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota, as
174 well as the State Republican Constitution, and shall continue as such until their
175 successors are elected. Congressional District and State Delegates and Alternates shall
176 be elected at large at the BPOU Convention. Alternates shall be ranked for seating
177 purposes at these conventions.

178 **Section 6:** A motion to endorse will be in order at any BPOU Convention in the years
179 when these elections occur. This motion must be carried by a majority vote.

180 A) The BPOU Convention may endorse a candidate for office of State
181 Representative within House District 27A.

182 B) Endorsement by the BPOU convention shall be by a sixty percent (60%)
183 majority of the delegates present.

184 C) The last credentials report prior to each ballot shall govern the voting strength.

185 **Article VIII - Vacancies and Removals**

186 **Section 1:** Vacancies in precinct offices may be filled by appointment of the
187 Executive Committee or, if so directed by the Executive Committee, by a caucus of
188 Republicans in the affected precinct. Should vacancies occur in the Executive
189 Committee, replacements may be appointed by the Executive Committee.

190 **Section 2:** An officer of the Executive Committee may be removed from office by a
191 two-thirds (2/3) vote at any meeting of the Committee members provided that the
192 officer in question be provided with a minimum of fourteen (14) days' written notice
193 of the charges from two of the Executive Committee members. Further, the officer in
194 question shall be entitled to respond to these charges in person or in writing prior to
195 the vote to remove.

196 **Section 3:** If a member of the Executive Committee is absent without cause from
197 more than four (4) consecutive meetings, he or she shall be automatically removed
198 from the Executive Committee. Notice of removal shall be sent to the former member
199 by the Chair.

200 **Section 4:** It is the duty of all Executive Committee members to support Republican
201 endorsed candidates. Should any member of the Executive Committee actively and
202 publicly campaign against a Republican endorsed candidate, that member may be
203 removed from the Executive Committee in accordance with the provisions of Article
204 VIII, Section 2.

205 **Article IX - Dissolution**

206 In the event the State Legislative lines are redrawn, the Executive Committee shall
207 have the power to dissolve the BPOU by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

208 **Article X- Amendments**

209 This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present
210 at any BPOU Convention. The Convention Call may include a Report of the
211 Constitution Committee potentially including amendments to be considered at the
212 Convention. Any delegate may submit an amendment in writing to the Constitution
213 Committee at least 24 hours prior to the Convention.

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