

Automatic Voter Registration

Whereas our present law lets eligible voters register to vote when they apply or renew their driver's licenses only if they "opt-in" by checking a box;

Whereas eligible voters who miss the box may end up having to wait in line to register to vote on Election Day;

Whereas automatic voter registration will be convenient for eligible voters and help to reduce the number of voters who register on Election Day;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the \_\_\_\_\_ Party support automatic voter registration.

(This resolution was authored by the League of Women Voters)

Party platform position on voting

Whereas voting is necessary to the proper functioning of a democratic system, and

Whereas the Constitution of the United States of America guarantees the right to vote for all citizens over 18 years of age, and

Whereas there are many examples of efforts to undermine this right by various individuals and organizations, including some government entities, and

Whereas the \_\_\_\_\_ Party of Minnesota has an ongoing party platform,

Be it therefore resolved that this ongoing party platform shall include language which specifies the commitment of this party to the absolute right of all citizens of voting age to do so without restriction or impediment and that laws and rules of the State of Minnesota shall facilitate the right to vote in a manner consistent with the principle of 'one person, one vote'.

Restore the vote for ex-felons

WHEREAS the right to vote forms the core of our democracy, but Minnesota laws deny the right to vote to citizens while they are under supervised release, probation, or parole;

WHEREAS over 52,000 Minnesotans are denied the right to vote because of felony convictions, even though they live in the community, work, raise families, and pay taxes like all of us;

WHEREAS people of color are disproportionately affected by the current system;

WHEREAS voting is a powerful way to engage and to feel invested in the community;

WHEREAS research has shown that people are less likely to reoffend in states that immediately restore voting right after release from incarceration than in states where they face permanent disenfranchisement;

WHEREAS making this change would also reduce confusion among voters and election officials, reducing government costs;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the \_\_\_\_\_ Party support the passage of Bill HF 951 which would allow people to vote once they have served their time and are living in the community.

Fair redistricting

Whereas the U.S. Constitution guarantees a right to vote of all citizens 18 years of age and older,

And, whereas the principle of 'one person one vote' is considered essential to the proper functioning of this democracy,

And whereas establishing voting districts which are intentionally designed to favor one political party over others violates the Constitution and this principle,

Be it therefore resolved that all DFL endorsed candidates are fully supportive of and actively promote establishment of a non-partisan body and process for redistricting through the drafting and introduction of an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution.

### Pre-Registration for High School Students

Whereas our Democracy is stronger when all eligible voters exercise their right to vote;

Whereas in 2008, fewer than half of eligible voters between the ages of 18 and 24 registered, a rate 22% lower than in the general population (Project Vote).

Whereas currently, 16 year olds can pre-register to vote in Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maryland, Rhode Island, and the District of Columbia;

Whereas a recent study found that, in states that have implemented pre-registration, youth voter turnout is 13% higher ("Making Young Voters," American Journal of Political Science);

Whereas voter pre-registration is politically unbiased and boosts young voter turnout for all parties and communities;

Whereas data shows that citizens who are engaged in the political process when they are young are more likely to vote later in life ("Becoming a Habitual Voter," American Political Science Review);

Therefore, be it resolved that the \_\_\_\_\_ Party support pre-registration of high school students ages 16 and 17

(This resolution was authored by the League of Women Voters)

National Popular Vote Compact resolution

Whereas the Electoral College for Presidential elections was originally a compromise intended to protect small states, and

Whereas the Electoral College was devised because the founders of our nation did not trust the general population to choose the President directly, and

Whereas the Electoral College system has led to candidates focused on winning a few 'swing states' and ignoring many others, and

Whereas, on three occasions in our history and two of the last four Presidential elections, the winner of the popular vote lost the election in the Electoral College, and

Whereas amending the Constitution to eliminate the Electoral College is a nearly insurmountable task, and

Whereas the Compact will be in effect when states with a total of 270 Electoral votes have signed-on and currently 10 states and the District of Columbia totaling 165 Electoral votes have agreed, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the \_\_\_\_\_ party supports legislation in Minnesota to join the National Popular Vote Compact, wherein each signatory state agrees that their Electors for President of the United States will be cast for the winner of the overall national popular vote.