MINNESOTA DFL RESOLUTION FORM

[NOTE: Incomplete forms may be rejected. Submit only one resolution per form. Resolutions that combine separate issues might not be considered.]

Congressional District: [Blank] County Unit/Precinct: [Blank] Senate District: [Blank] Precinct: [Blank]

Proposed by: [Name] (City) Contact Phone # / E-mail

This resolution is: ___ X _ A new 2020 Action Agenda item. 
___ A readoption of a 2012 Action Agenda item. 
___ An amendment of the Ongoing Platform.
___ A Party Issue. (Will not be included in the Action Agenda items presented to the state convention.)
___ A Local Issue (City/County). (Forward to the appropriate elected body, not the Platform Commission.)

This resolution should be considered under the following category: [check one]
___ Agriculture & Food ___ National Security & International Policy
___ Business & Community Development ___ Natural Resources & the Environment
___ Civil, Human & Constitutional Rights ___ Public Safety & Crime Prevention
___ Consumer Issues ___ Retirement Security
___ Education ___ Tax & Budget Policy
___ Energy ___ Transportation
___ Government Accountability to the Public ___ Veterans Affairs
___ Health & Human Services ___ Local or Party Issues
___ Labor & Employment

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:
(Print or attach your resolution here.
Any WHEREAS clauses or supporting statements should be included on the back of this form.)

**Ranked Choice Voting**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnesota DFL Party support Ranked Choice Voting “Local Options” and statewide legislation.

To be filled out at the Precinct Caucus:

This resolution was: ___ Adopted ___ Defeated
by: ___ A voice vote. ___ A recorded vote of: _____ Yes _____ No _____ Abstain
(A majority consists of more than half of those voting, not counting blanks and abstentions.)
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RANKED CHOICE VOTING – LOCAL OPTIONS AND STATEWIDE LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) has been in the DFL Party Platform since 2008 and has the strong support of DFL Party Chair Ken Martin and Governor Walz;

WHEREAS, Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) is also supported by most of the top Democratic presidential candidates, including Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren, Pete Buttigieg, and Andrew Yang.

WHEREAS, RCV is used in Minneapolis, St. Paul and St. Louis Park and proven to be efficient and successful in all cities with the overwhelming majority of voters – across all age, gender, income and racial and ethnic groups – reporting that they ranked their ballots, find RCV simple to use, and prefer it over the old system and want to see it expanded statewide

WHEREAS, in local nonpartisan elections, RCV would eliminate the low-turnout and unrepresentative local primary and give voters more choice in the high-turnout November election;

WHEREAS, in state partisan elections, RCV would be used in primaries and general elections to avoid vote-splitting and ensure candidates receive a majority of votes.

WHEREAS, Ranked Choice Voting is easy: instead of voting for just one candidate, you rank your choices in order of preference - 1, 2, 3, etc., knowing that if your 1st choice doesn’t have enough support to win, your ballot can count for your 2nd choice; if your 2nd choice is defeated, your ballot can count for your 3rd choice, and so on;

WHEREAS, under RCV, ballots are counted in rounds, eliminating candidates with too few votes to win and reallocating their ballots based on those voters’ next choices until one candidate reaches the winning threshold or, in the case of multiple-seat elections, until all seats are filled;

WHEREAS, Ranked Choice Voting has been shown to:

- Increase voter participation
- give voters more choice and open the political process to more voices
- encourage candidates to reach out to more voters and build a broad coalition of support to win
- expand political participation by historically underrepresented communities, opening the political process to new voices
- reduce mudslinging and promote civil, issue-oriented campaigns
- eliminate “wasted” votes and the “spoiler” problem
- help mitigate the influence of outside expenditure groups in campaigns

WHEREAS, RCV helps reduce political polarization by requiring office-holders to solve problems on behalf of a broad majority of voters, not just their base;

WHEREAS, RCV is supported by the LWV-Minnesota; the Star Tribune, and dozens of local papers and organizations;

WHEREAS, RCV is expanding rapidly in cities and states across the country, including the State of Maine becoming the first state to use RCV statewide and NYC adopting RCV last year;

WHEREAS, several Minnesota communities are preparing to adopt RCV for local elections in Minnesota;

WHEREAS, there is growing support among Minnesotans to expand RCV at the local and state level;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnesota DFL Party support Ranked Choice Voting “Local Options” and statewide legislation.