



PLATFORM OF THE MISSOURI DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Platform unanimously adopted on Saturday, April 18th, 2026.

"America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination, and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand."

President Harry S. Truman

The Missouri Democratic Party champions progress, opportunity, and fairness for every Missourian, whether they live in a rural community, on a family farm, or in the heart of a city. Our platform is about bridging divides, not deepening them, because in every corner of the state, families want the same things—safe communities, strong schools, good jobs, and a government that has their back.

The Missouri Democratic Party is rooted in the belief that every Missourian deserves respect, opportunity, and representation. From working families and small businesses to family farms and frontline organizers, we stand with the people who make our communities resilient. That includes a steadfast commitment to LGBTQ+ Missourians, Black communities, and all those who've been pushed to the margins by systemic injustice. Their collective voices, struggles, and victories shape our agenda because real progress means leaving no one behind.

Above all, we believe that every Missourian should have the freedom to thrive, with a fair shot at success and a voice in shaping their future. That's the promise we're fighting for together.

This is our promise: to lead with transparency, equity, and courage because every Missourian deserves a government that works for them.

I. Our Economy

The Missouri Democratic Party supports an economy that benefits all Missourians by focusing on strengthening working families through investments, fair wages, and strong worker protections. We champion progressive taxation that will fully fund essential programs that reduce income inequality, expand opportunity, provide quality education for all children, and give families the tools they need to thrive. By promoting equitable access to jobs, affordable housing, and quality healthcare, we foster long-term prosperity rooted in fairness and dignity.

Prosperity also means helping Missourians build something of their own. We support small businesses and local entrepreneurs, especially in rural, Black, brown, LGBTQ+, and underserved communities, by ensuring they have the tools, training, and funding to thrive. We believe in an economy where everyone gets a fair shot, because when Missouri's working families and entrepreneurs thrive, our whole state rises.

II. Labor & Work

The Missouri Democratic Party believes that a strong, skilled workforce depends on strong labor unions that protect and empower workers by strengthening organized labor and ensuring union values are reflected in both policy and practice.

We proudly support the use of union labor for all jobs created through state or local tax incentives, including public development projects, to ensure that working Missourians benefit first. We believe every campaign and party initiative should reflect these values by prioritizing union labor for mailings, materials, vehicles, and other paid work. We also encourage candidates to be well-versed in the challenges facing workers and unions.

The Missouri Democratic Party advocates for educating and empowering future leaders, as the struggle for fairness, dignity, and workers' rights continues. It doesn't end at the negotiating table or with the passage of a bill. This isn't about politics—it's about solidarity in action. We don't just stand with workers in speeches—we stand with them on the picket line, at the ballot box, and in every fight for justice.

III. Healthcare

The United States spends more on healthcare than any other nation, yet too many Missourians still can't get the care they need. Our system prioritizes profits over patients, driving up costs while rural hospitals close and urban clinics are overwhelmed.

Missouri Democrats believe that affordable and accessible healthcare is a fundamental human right, not a privilege, and that no family should go bankrupt from medical bills or life-saving pharmaceuticals. We are vehemently opposed to any and all cuts to Medicaid and Medicare.

We also recognize that health outcome disparities exist across both rural and urban regions of our state. In rural Missouri, the closure of community hospitals at an alarming rate has led to a critical shortage of accessible hospital care. In urban centers, underserved neighborhoods face long waits, provider shortages, and unacceptable health gaps tied to race and income.

Missouri Democrats also strongly support a woman's right to choose and to be free of government intrusion when making her medical decisions. No matter your ZIP code, race, or income, you deserve quality care. We oppose all efforts to restrict access to reproductive healthcare, including contraception and in vitro fertilization (IVF).

IV. Human & Civil Rights

We interpret the Declaration of Independence in its literal form, that all people are created equal with the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We believe in the First Amendment, which guarantees our freedom of speech, religion, and the right to protest. We oppose all efforts to limit, intimidate, and infringe upon these rights.

Missouri Democrats believe in equal treatment under the law for every Missourian, regardless of their race, color, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or ability. We want to uplift underserved communities impacted by institutional and systemic racism, through no fault of their own. Additionally, we must sustain and build upon the Civil Rights Act of 1964 while ensuring all people are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve.

V. Education

Our children are our future, and equitable access to quality education is the key to opportunity. Whether growing up on a family farm, in a rural community, or in an urban neighborhood, all deserve a fair shot.

Missouri ranks among the worst states in education due to years of Republican budget cuts. We strongly support significant increases in funding for public schools to achieve positive outcomes through robust resources, comprehensive curriculum, and individualized education, especially for students with disabilities. All Missourians deserve an education that equips them with the skills and knowledge for a bright future.

Missouri Democrats also support full public funding for early childhood (Pre-K) and acknowledge that skyrocketing costs have severely impacted everyday families. Additionally, we recognize the student debt crisis that millions of Americans are experiencing and advocate for essential relief, as well as affordable tuition for higher education and skilled trades.

VI. Environment

The Missouri Democratic Party is committed to protecting the natural beauty of our state, from the lakes and rivers that sustain our communities to the forests and hills of the Ozark Mountains that define our landscape. We believe every Missourian deserves clean air, safe water, and a healthy environment to live, work, and raise a family.

We support bold investments in renewable energy that reduce our dependence on fossil fuels while creating good-paying, sustainable jobs across both rural and urban Missouri. We also champion the right of local communities to lead on environmental action, with the flexibility to go beyond state and federal requirements to protect their land and public health. By practicing responsible environmental stewardship today, we ensure a more secure and vibrant future for generations of Missourians to come.

VII. Tax & Budget Policy

A fair and responsible tax system is essential to building a stronger, more equitable Missouri—one where opportunity isn't reserved for the wealthy, but shared by all. Missouri Democrats believe that the ultra-rich and large corporations must pay their fair share, so that working families, small businesses, and rural communities aren't left shouldering the burden.

We support closing tax loopholes that allow billion-dollar corporations to dodge responsibility, while everyday Missourians pay the price in underfunded schools, crumbling infrastructure, and limited healthcare access. Fiscal responsibility doesn't mean cutting service—it means investing wisely and holding powerful interests accountable. When our tax system works for all Missourians, we build a future that's sustainable, inclusive, and rooted in shared prosperity.

VIII. Public Safety & Crime Prevention

The Missouri Democratic Party believes in a justice system rooted in dignity and accountability. We advocate for a criminal justice system that defends constitutional rights, supports victims, and invests in smart, humane solutions to crime through education, treatment, and health care.

We believe rehabilitation must replace excessive incarceration, and sentencing should account for trauma, mental health, and individual circumstances. Mandatory minimums and jail time for poverty-related issues do nothing to create safety—they simply fuel cycles of crisis. That's why we support eliminating harsh sentencing laws, restoring voting rights to those who've served their time, and protecting access to medical care behind bars.

Our policies aim to build trust, break down barriers, and create a justice system that works for everyone, not just the powerful. Because in Missouri, we fight for freedom, fairness, and futures worth building—no matter their ZIP code or circumstances.

IX. Infrastructure

The Missouri Democratic Party is committed to building an infrastructure system that lifts every corner of our state—rural, urban, and everywhere in between. That means rebuilding roads and bridges for safety and economic mobility, while embracing clean energy innovation to power our communities forward.

We believe broadband access is a modern necessity, not a luxury, and clean drinking water is a fundamental right. Investments in public transportation and emergency services reflect a values-driven approach that puts people first, whether it's ensuring a quicker ambulance response in rural areas or expanding transit access for working families in our cities.

Modern infrastructure goes beyond concrete and wires—it's about linking people to opportunities, enhancing quality of life, and building the groundwork for a stronger, fairer Missouri. This is the future we strive for, one brick and community at a time.

X. Governmental Accountability to the Public

The Missouri Democratic Party believes democracy thrives when the government is accountable, elections are fair, and everyday people—not wealthy special interests—have the loudest voice in the room. We pledge to protect the rights of every Missourian through responsible leadership and reforms that put people first.

We stand for policies that invest in people, protect rights, and build strong communities from the ground up. That means defending democracy by eliminating dark money and expanding access to the ballot box. It means building infrastructure that connects rural and urban areas alike and investing in clean energy, healthcare, and broadband. It means supporting working families through fair wages, accessible childcare, and protections for seniors, veterans, LGBTQ+, and vulnerable communities.

CONSTITUTION OF THE MISSOURI DEMOCRATIC PARTY

ARTICLE I - PREAMBLE

SECTION 1.01 – We the members of the Missouri Democratic State Committee, united in common purpose, dedicate ourselves to the historic principles which have sustained our party through the years to make it the oldest, sustained political party in America . We recognize that our members come from all economic levels of life within our state and represent every race, age (if of voting age), gender, religion, disability status, economic status, sexual orientation, ethnic origin and gender identity in Missouri.

We acknowledge that as a political body which wishes to lead we must listen to those we would lead. To recognize that at times some of our members may not always agree with the total body of our party, but the respective rights of each member will always be considered prior to reaching the decisions which the majority of our party must make in order to lead our state both now and in the future.

What we seek for our state we hope for all people is peace, justice and individual freedom, individual respect, and individual rights for each person without regard for race, religion, color, creed, national origin or gender.

Our purpose will be to help Democrats and all Missourians who care to join us in every geographic area of Missouri to purposely respond to the conduct of public affairs and public office in every worthy and honest way possible so that our government and society may continue to provide freedom and justice for all persons in our state under the best leadership which embodies the best of our state's heritage.

ARTICLE II - NAME AND MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 2.01 – The name of this constituted body shall be the Missouri Democratic Party.

SECTION 2.02 – A member of the Missouri Democratic Party is anyone:

Who is at least 18 years of age;

Who declares that he or she is a Democrat; and

Who is not a member of any political party other than the Democratic Party.

SECTION 2.03 – The Missouri Democratic Party shall establish standards and rules of procedure to afford all members of the Democratic Party full, timely and equal opportunity to participate in the formation of policy and the conduct of other party affairs, without prejudice on the basis of race, age (if of voting age), gender, religion, disability status, economic status, sexual orientation, ethnic origin or gender identity, and further, to promote fair campaign practices and the fair adjudication of dispute.

ARTICLE III - ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE

SECTION 3.01 – The State Committee shall be the supreme governing body of the Missouri Democratic Party and all other organizations in the State Party are subordinate to the State Committee.

SECTION 3.02 – The Missouri Democratic Party shall also have ward, township, or legislative district mass meetings; county conventions or mass meetings; congressional district conventions; and state conventions as prescribed in the Delegate Selection Plan most recently approved and adopted by the State Committee.

SECTION 3.03 – Officers of the State Committee of the Missouri Democratic Party shall include the following:

State Chair,
Vice Chair,
Secretary,
and Treasurer

SECTION 3.04 – The Missouri Democratic Party shall assist state and local candidates in the General Election and assist in the education voters at all levels of government in Missouri.

SECTION 3.05 – Adopt and promote statements of policy.

SECTION 3.06 – Raise and disburse monies needed for the successful operation of the Democratic Party.

SECTION 3.07 – The Democratic State Committee shall establish a State Finance Council, which shall have general responsibility for raising the monies necessary for financing the Democratic State Committee. The State Finance Council shall raise funds, enforce the dues payments to the State Committee as provided by the Bylaws, assist and advise State Committee members in the raising of funds for party obligations and other related matters.

SECTION 3.08 – The State Finance Council Chair and members of the Finance Council shall be selected by the Chair and approved by the Executive Committee before commencing their duties. And the Finance Chair and also members of this Council shall be subject to the authority of the State Democratic Chair and such other duties as the Bylaws may provide.

SECTION 3.09 – The Bylaws may provide for removal of members of the Missouri Democratic State Committee for cause by two-thirds vote of the State Committee and may also require attendance at State Committee meetings and continued residence in the jurisdiction represented by the member.

ARTICLE IV - ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

SECTION 4.01 – The Constitution and Bylaws shall take effect sixty (60) days after adoption by majority vote of the State Committee and after that time, they shall be the governing rules of the Missouri Democratic Party, the State Committee, and all subordinate committees.

ARTICLE V - AMENDMENT

SECTION 5.01 – Changes to the Constitution shall require a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the State Committee. However, within a sixty (60) day period after the required State Committee organizational meeting the Constitution may be changed or amended by a majority vote of the total membership of the State Committee.

SECTION 5.02 – The Bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the total membership of the State Committee.

ARTICLE VI - INTERPRETATION

SECTION 6.01 – If any provision of the Constitution or Bylaws affecting the governance and operation of the Missouri Democratic Party shall be at variance with the Statutes of Missouri, the Constitution or Bylaw provision shall prevail. It is the intention of the Missouri Democratic Party to exercise all rights granted to it and other political parties under the Constitution of the United States .

BYLAWS OF THE MISSOURI DEMOCRATIC PARTY

CHAPTER I - STATE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1.01 – MEMBERSHIP

The members of each senatorial district shall meet at some place within the district, to be designated by the current chairman of the committee, if there be one, and if not, by the chairman of the congressional district in which the senatorial district is principally located, on the third Saturday in November after each general election. At the meeting, the committee shall proceed to elect two voters of the district, one man and one woman as members of the Democratic State Committee.

SECTION 1.02- OFFICERS

The members of the State Committee shall organize by electing a Chair and Vice Chair, one of whom shall be a woman and one of whom shall be a man, and a Secretary and a Treasurer, one of whom shall be a woman and one of whom shall be a man, all of whom may or may not be members of the State Committee and shall be elected in the order listed above. If a Chair vacancy occurs the Vice Chair office shall be declared vacant and an election shall be held to elect both a Chair and Vice Chair. When Chair and Vice Chair vacancies occur, the Secretary shall preside and an election shall be held within 90 days. When Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary vacancies occur, the Treasurer shall preside and an election shall be held within 90 days. Also, the Chair shall

appoint an Executive Director and other State Committee staff, with the approval of the Executive Committee. If the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or Treasurer are chosen from outside the membership of the State Committee, their status shall be ex-officio and non-voting.

SECTION 1.03- DUTIES OF OFFICERS

(1) Chair – The Chair shall be the highest officer of the State Committee.

The Chair shall resolve all disputes regarding the composition of all city, county, legislative district, senatorial district, congressional district, and judicial district committee subject to a veto of the State Committee.

The Chair shall maintain at the Missouri Democratic Party headquarters a list of all city, county, legislative district, senatorial district, congressional district and judicial district committee members and officers, as furnished to the Chair by the respective party committees. He or she shall pass this on to his or her successor in office. The list shall be made available to any State Committee member upon request within 72 hours after receipt of the request. This shall constitute the official roll of all such party committees and their officers.

The Chair shall conduct all statewide campaigns by and with the advice and approval of the State Committee. With the assistance of the Executive Committee and the State Party staff, he or she shall publicly speak for Democratic Party candidates, office holders, issues and for the Democratic State Committee.

The Chair shall preside at all State Committee meetings and shall cause written notice of all State Committee meetings to be sent to all State

Committee members prior to each meeting. He or she shall convene no less than four (4) State Committee meetings each year.

The Chair shall see to it that all reports required by law are filed with the proper authorities by the prescribed deadlines.

The Chair shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees and shall appoint committee members and chair as provided herein.

The Chair may countersign checks as provided herein.

The Chair shall carryout the policies of the State Committee and its Executive Committee.

The Chair shall serve as a member of the Democratic National Committee.

The Chair shall occupy the position of chair for all purposes under the Democratic National Committee Charter and Bylaws, and Delegate Selection Rules. For these same purposes the Chair shall be considered the highest-ranking officer followed by the Vice Chair. The Chair shall lead the state's delegation to the Democratic National Committee and shall represent the interests of the State Committee in all matters before the Democratic National Committee.

(2) Vice Chair- The Vice Chair shall preside at any meeting of the State Committee in the absence of the State Chair. He or she shall perform all duties of the chair while acting in that capacity and shall perform such duties,

as may be delegate to him or her by the chair. If a vacancy occurs in the office of State Chair, the Vice Chair shall discharge the duties of the Chair until an election can be held pursuant to these bylaws.

(3) Secretary – The secretary of the State Committee shall electronically record and keep a record of the minutes of the proceedings of the State Committee.

The secretary shall have custody of all books, records and papers of the State Committee except such that shall be in the charge of the treasurer or of some other person authorized to have custody and possession there of by resolution of the State Committee.

All records, including the official copy of the Missouri Democratic Party Constitution and By-Laws, shall be maintained at the office of the Missouri Democratic Party.

It shall also be the duty of the secretary to open files and records of the Party to examination by any duly elected member of the State Committee at any convenient and appropriate times at the request of such member.

(4) Treasurer – The treasurer of the State Committee shall supervise the keeping of a complete and accurate account and record of all receipts and disbursements and the deposit of all monies in the name of the State Committee in a recognized bank or trust company.

The treasurer shall supervise the disbursement of the funds of the State Committee as shall be ordered by the Chair or State Committee. He or she shall make proper vouchers thereof and shall render to the chair or the State Committee a report of his or her transactions at such time as requested by the Chair or State Committee.

The treasurer shall file with the secretary of the State Committee a corporate bond executed by a surety company duly authorized to execute surety bonds in the state of Missouri and in such amount as the State Committee shall determine, the premium of which shall be paid by the State Committee.

The treasurer shall be subject to audit as requested by a majority of the State Committee.

The treasurer may also countersign checks as provided herein.

The treasurer shall be responsible for the preparation and signing of federal and state campaign disclosure reports.

A deputy treasurer, appointed by the Chair with the consent of the State Committee, shall be authorized to sign all federal and state campaign disclosure reports and to perform all the powers and duties granted to the treasurer in the absence of the treasurer. The deputy treasurer may sign disclosure reports in lieu of the treasurer, then such reports shall be co-signed by an officer or Executive Director of the State of the State Committee.

(5) Executive Director – The Executive Director shall be responsible for maintenance of the Missouri Democratic Party headquarters and of statewide information and coordination and for implementation of programs as adopted by the State Committee and the Executive Committee. The Executive Director shall serve at the direction and the pleasure of the State Chair. This position shall be on a full-time basis and the rate of compensation shall be fixed by the Executive Committee. The Executive Director shall

be bonded in any amount set by the Executive Committee and such bonds shall be paid by State Committee funds.

(6) Parliamentarian – The parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Chair and he or she shall advise the Chair on matters of parliamentary law and procedure at all meetings of the State Committee. The parliamentarian may or may not be a member of the State Committee but if he or she is not, he or she shall not be entitled to vote. The Parliamentarian shall serve without pay.

(7) General Counsel – The Chair may appoint a general counsel, who shall be an attorney-at-law admitted to the practice of law in the State of Missouri . The general counsel shall be the legal advisor of the State Committee. The general counsel may or may not be a member of the State Committee but if he or she is not, he or she shall not be entitled to a vote.

(8) Finance Chair – The finance chair shall be appointed by the Chair with the approval of the Executive Committee and shall be charged with the duty and responsibility of supervising the fund-raising activities of the party as well as enforcing all provisions of the bylaws requiring the payment of dues to the State Committee and presiding over all meetings of the finance counsel. The finance chair shall also serve as the chair of the finance counsel for the State Committee.

SECTION 1.04 – TERM OF OFFICE

The officers of the State Committee shall be elected at each organizational meeting held in accordance with Section 1.05 (1) to hold office for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The appointive offices may be filled as provided herein and those terms of office shall run concurrently with the elective offices.

SECTION 1.05 – MEETINGS

The members of the State Committee, elected as provided in Section 1.01 shall meet and organize at a time and place designated by the current state chair. The meeting shall occur no earlier than two weeks following the election of members to the State Committee. At the meeting, the committee shall organize by electing a Chair and Vice Chair, one of whom shall be a woman and one of whom shall be a man, and a Secretary and a Treasurer, one of whom shall be a woman and one of whom shall be a man.

The State Committee may meet as often as necessary but not less than four (4) times per year, either upon call duly issued by the Chair or upon call of any fifteen (15) members of the State Committee. Meetings, in addition to the four (4) required meetings,

Written notice of meetings of the State Committee shall be given to all members of the State Committee. Notice shall be deemed given when properly addressed to each member with the postage prepaid and deposited in the United States mail at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting. Written notice may be waived by a written waiver signed by at least two-thirds of the members of the State Committee.

SECTION 1.06 – VACANCY

A vacancy in any elected office of the State Committee shall be filled by a majority vote of the State Committee at a meeting thereof next following the occurrence of the vacancy provided that the notice of such meeting shall have included an announcement of the vacancy and election.

If any of the following events occurs to any member of the State Committee, a Vacancy in that office shall exist:

- death
- resignation
- ceases to reside in the senatorial district which he or she represents
- remains convicted of a criminal offense than a misdemeanor after his or her rights to appeal or exhausted
- fails to attend in person or by proxy at least one-half of the regularly scheduled State Committee meetings during any calendar year
- the State Committee, after a finding by the appeals committee that a member has used the party name or resources in an unauthorized manner, votes to remove such member

The Chair shall immediately notify the chair and vice-chair of the affected senatorial district committee of the vacancy from their district and direct them to call a meeting of their committee for the purpose of electing a registered voter from that senatorial district and of the same sex as the person being replaced to fill the vacancy.

The senatorial district committee chair shall call a meeting of the district committee within thirty (30) days after notification of the vacancy. Notice of this meeting and its conduct shall comply with the bylaws. In the absence of the district chair or in his or her failure to act, the district vice-chair shall call the meeting and act as the chair.

SECTION 1.07 – STANDING COMMITTEES

(1) Committee members, including chairs may be drawn from outside the membership of the State Committee, except as otherwise provided the chair shall appoint the chair and members of the committees. Appointments to any of the committees shall be made every two (2) years within sixty (60) days after the organizational meeting of the State Committee held in accordance with Section 1.05 (1). The term of said members shall be for two (2) years or until their successors are appointed. In the case of a vacancy, the original appointing authority shall appoint a new member to serve out the unexpired term.

(2) Democratic Candidate Recruitment (State/Local Offices) – There shall be a three (3) member committee to identify and recruit candidates for state and local offices. The committee shall advise the State Committee in giving assistance to Democratic candidates not involved in primary contests and to Democratic nominees for state and local offices after the primary election.

(3) Democratic Candidate Recruitment (Federal Offices) – There shall be a three (3) member committee to identify and recruit candidates for federal offices. The committee shall advise the State Committee in giving assistance to Democratic nominees for federal offices after the primary election.

(4) Legislative Redistricting – There shall be a three (3) member committee to advise the State Committee concerning redistricting.

(5) Affirmative Action and Delegate Selection Committee – This committee shall be composed of fifteen (15) members, at least one (1) member of which comes from each congressional district and is responsible for drafting affirmative action and delegate selection plans for state and national party conferences and conventions as required by the Democratic National Committee. Such plans should provide for among other things, representation in delegations and on committees at such national conferences and conventions by Democratic members of minority groups, Native Americans, women, senior citizens and youth in numbers reasonably approximating their presence in Missouri 's electorate.

(6) State Compliance Committee – This committee shall be composed of five (5) members, appointed by the Executive Committee, whose purpose is to review all actions or lack of action, to assure that the approved affirmative action programs and delegate selection plans for the Missouri Democratic Party are properly implemented and complied with and to review and decide alleged violations of the affirmative action programs and delegate selection plans in accordance with procedures outlined in the appropriate national and state party rules. The State Compliance Committee shall select a chair from among its membership.

(7) Appeals Committee – This committee shall be responsible for arbitrating party disputes involving all but delegate selection plans and affirmative action programs.

The Appeals Committee shall consist of a panel of arbitrators appointed by the Chair with at least one (1) arbitrator residing in each congressional district. Any appeal petition must contain all of the following information in order to be given consideration for action: date, time and location of the disputed action; rule allegedly violated; party committee, organization or function involved in the dispute; name and titles of all party officials involved in the dispute; name and address of each person involved in the dispute; copies of any documentary evidence involving the dispute; a declaration of whether or not the result of the meeting would have been different; and the remedy sought by the appellant.

Appeals containing all of the information as specified herein, must be received in writing at the state party headquarters within five (5) days of the alleged incident. The Chair shall within five (5) days of receipt of the appeal at headquarters either make a final ruling on the appeal or appoint an arbitrator from the appeals committee to hear the facts from all parties involved in the appeal. If an arbitrator is appointed, a hearing shall be held within ten (10) days of that appointment of the arbitrator. A written report of the investigation and recommendation of the arbitrator shall be made to the Chair within ten (10) days of the hearing. The Chair shall make a final ruling in the appeal within five (5) days of receiving the arbitrators report, except that in the case of a removal from office of a State Committee officer, congressional district committee, senatorial district committee or legislative district committee, the final decision shall be made by a vote of the State Committee.

(8) Audit Committee – This committee shall be composed of three (3) members, appointed by the State Committee, whose duties shall be to audit annually the financial accounts and balances of the State Committee. One (1) of those three (3) members shall be designated chair by the State Committee.

(9) Constitution and By Laws Committee – This committee shall at least biennially review the structure and procedures of this organization as defined in this document and recommend any additions or changes to the State Committee deemed necessary or desirable for the efficient operation of the Missouri Democratic Party and our compliance with the governing rules of the Democratic Party of the United States.

(10) Legislative Affairs Committee – This committee shall study, coordinate and maintain liaison with the State Committee and the Democratic leadership and Democratic members of the Missouri General Assembly on any legislation deemed necessary and desirable in the interest of the state. The Democratic floor leaders of the Missouri Senate and the House of Representatives or their designated alternate from the same body of the General Assembly shall be ex-officio and automatic members of the legislative affairs committee with full voting rights.

(11) Education and Training Committee – This committee shall be responsible for the creation and implementation of education and training programs for the democratic party in furtherance of its objectives,

including among other subjects: efficient methods for voter registration, involvement of college and non-college young democrats in electoral affairs of the democratic party, campaign organization and campaign finance laws; and or the issuance of publications as necessary or appropriate in performance of any of these functions.

(12) Finance Council – This committee shall consist of the finance chair, the treasurer of the State Committee and such other persons as may be appointed by the Chair and approved by the Executive Committee. The finance chair and all members of the council shall be subject to the authority of the Chair and all applicable provisions of the party's Constitution and By Laws.

(13) Platform Committee – This committee shall formulate a platform and general policy for the Missouri Democratic Party. The report of the platform committee shall be presented to the State Committee for their approval every two (2) years at the organizational meeting to be held in accordance with Section 1.05 (1).

(14) Women's Activities Committee – This committee shall aid in organizing the Women's Federation of Democratic Clubs throughout Missouri and shall sponsor and encourage such women's activities as may benefit the Democratic Party. The president of the Missouri Federation of Women's Democratic Clubs shall be a member of the Women's Activities Committee with full voting rights.

(15) Youth Communications Committee – This committee shall develop open effective lines of communication with college students and youth groups throughout the state. The president of the Young Democratic Clubs of Missouri shall serve as a member of the youth communications committee with full voting.

(16) Information Technology Committee – This committee shall be composed of twelve (12) members, at least one (1) member of which comes from each congressional district. Half of the committee shall be composed of members of the Democratic State Committee. Other appointed members should possess expertise and experience in the information management field and/or voterfile management. Members shall be appointed by the Chair and approved by the Executive Committee. The VoterFile Manager/VAN Administrator shall serve as staff for the committee and attend committee meetings. The purpose of the Information Technology Committee is to set policy for the Voter Activation Network as well as any other voter information management programs conducted by the Missouri Democratic State Committee. The Chair of the committee will be included in discussions with the Democratic National Committee regarding the VAN. The committee will be educated regarding all aspects of the information management programs of the state committee and on a regular basis update the state committee on the functioning and performance of those programs.

The committee will coordinate with the Education and Training Committee to facilitate training on the VAN in each congressional district of the state.

(16) Other Committees – The Chair is authorized to activate or establish other committees, as the chair of the State Committee deems necessary.

SECTION 1.08 – PROXIES

Any member of the State Committee may give his or her signed proxy to any other member of that committee, provided, however, that no person shall be allowed to vote more than two (2) proxies and whenever the State Committee acts as a nominating committee to select a candidate for statewide office, a member must be present in person to vote. Each proxy must specify the name of the person entitled to vote the proxy.

SECTION 1.09 – QUORUM

A quorum for State Committee meetings shall be a majority of the members elected thereto, including proxies, provided, however, that whenever the State Committee acts as a nominating committee to select a candidate for statewide office, a majority of the members of the State Committee must be present.

SECTION 1.10 – POWERS AND DUTIES

The immediate government and the direction of the affairs of the Missouri Democratic Party shall be vested in the State Committee. The members-elect of the State Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies in the party ticket for statewide offices pursuant to statutory provisions. The State Committee shall also have the direction and control of all statewide campaigns carried on, for and in behalf of the Democratic Party within the State. The State Committee shall have the sole power to adopt delegate selection rules for all party meetings and conventions.

It shall be the duty of the members of the State Committee to promptly answer all communications from the Chair and/or any other elected or appointed officer of the State Committee. It shall be the further duty of the State Committee member to aid the county committee(s) in his or her district and to assist the county chair(s) in organizing the respective wards and townships in the county. The State Committee members shall attend as many Party meetings as possible within their district and report the events of these meetings to the State Committee.

SECTION 1.11 – ORDER OF BUSINESS

At the meetings of the State Committee, the following shall be the recommended order of business:

- Calling of the Roll
- Filling of Vacancies
- Election of Officers (every two years)
- Unfinished Business
- Report of Officers
- Report of Committees
- Adoption of Platform every 2 years
- New Business

All standing committees may make a report at each regular meeting of the State Committee. There shall be included on the agenda of any meeting of the State Committee any item or resolution that shall have been submitted in writing to the chair or the secretary by ten (10) or more members of the State Committee at least five (5) days prior to the date of such meeting. All resolutions must be signed by the author of the resolution and sponsored by a member of the State Committee.

SECTION 1.12 – RULES OF ORDER

The rules contained in “Roberts Rules of Order”, as most recently revised, shall govern this organization in all cases to which they are applicable and are not inconsistent with the Constitution and By-laws of this organization.

SECTION 1.13 – MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the State Committee and Executive Committee shall be recorded and sent to all members of the State Committee.

SECTION 1.14 – FUNDS AND BORROWING

The funds of the State Committee shall be deposited from time to time in such financial institutions authorized to do business in the State of Missouri as may be determined by the Executive Committee and all withdrawals from any such bank accounts shall be by check or draft signed by the Chair, Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer or Executive Director (a combination of any two) or by letter signed by the Chair withdrawing from savings account or time deposit for the purpose of transferring funds to checking account. The Chair shall have the right to borrow money and execute notes on behalf of the State Committee, as may be approved by the Executive or State Committee.

SECTION 1.15 – ENDORSEMENTS

The State Committee shall not endorse any candidate for office prior to the primary election, except however, the State Committee may endorse and support incumbent Democratic candidates for state wide offices and the General Assembly in primary elections, provided 75% of the members voting concur.

SECTION 1.16 – STATEMENTS OF POLICY

The Chair shall issue all statements representing the policy or policies of the State Committee, but a member or officer may issue statements representing policy of the State Committee after first having same approved by the Chair or the State Committee.

CHAPTER II - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 2.01 – MEMBERSHIP

The Executive Committee shall consist of not more than 29 persons: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, four (4) male members of the DSC elected at large by the DSC, four (4) female members of the Democratic State Committee elected at large by the DSC, President of the Senior Democrats of Missouri, President of the Young Democratic Clubs of Missouri, President of the Missouri Federation of Women's Democratic Clubs, three (3) at-large members to represent members of organized labor and professional associations to be appointed by the Chair with the approval of the members of the DSC and the following officials or their designee, the two (2) Missouri United States Senators, one (1) member of the Missouri Democratic delegation from the United States House of Representatives to be elected by the delegation, the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, State Auditor, the President Pro Tempore of the Missouri Senate, the Speaker of the Missouri House of Representatives.

If any of the aforementioned offices are held by Republicans, or is vacant, the Chair shall appoint replacement members to Executive Committee from among members of the DSC, the State Legislature or members of city or county Democratic Committees and to more fairly reflect a broad cross section of the people of Missouri, consideration should be given, but not limited, to the following groups: women, minorities, Native Americans, senior citizens and youths. Geographic balance should also be considered in making these appointments. Additionally they shall be subject to approval by the members of the DSC. The terms of at large and appointed Executive Committee members shall be two (2) years.

SECTION 2.02 – OFFICERS

The Chair of the State Committee shall be Chair of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 2.03 – MEETINGS

The Executive Committee may meet as often as may be necessary and at any location within the state. Meetings may be called by either the Chair or by any three (3) members of the committee. Notice shall be given to all members in writing at least seven (7) days in advance of the meetings. Written notice of the

meetings may be waived and signed by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Executive Committee; provided, however, that all members were notified in some manner of the meeting prior thereto.

SECTION 2.04 – VACANCIES

Vacancies in the Executive Committee shall be filled only by the original authorized person or group responsible for that particular position.

SECTION 2.05 – PROXIES

The only proxies to be permitted shall be those of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Treasurer, Attorney General, U.S. Senate members, the U.S. House of Representatives, or their designees. These members should appoint one person to represent them in their absences but every effort should be made by the actual member to personally attend each meeting.

SECTION 2.06 – QUORUM

A quorum for Executive Committee meetings shall be a majority of the members, including proxies.

SECTION 2.07 – POWERS AND DUTIES

Except in matters which require the action of the State Committee under the provisions of the Election Laws of Missouri or in matters otherwise specifically provided for in these rules, the Executive Committee shall have the power to act for the State Committee between meetings of the State Committee and any action of the Executive Committee may be overruled by resolution of the State Committee. The Executive Committee shall act in an advisory capacity to all committees and shall perform such duties as may be conferred by these rules or otherwise delegated to it by the State Committee. The minutes of all the meetings of the State Democratic Committee and the Executive Committee shall be recorded and sent to all members of the State Democratic Committee.

CHAPTER III - CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT COMMITTEES

SECTION 3.01 – MEMBERSHIP

(1) The Congressional District Committee of a district which is composed of (1) one or more whole counties; or (2) one or more whole counties and part of one or more counties shall consist of the County Committee Chair and Vice Chair of each county within the district and the Committeeman and Committeewoman of each Legislative District Committee within the district.

(2) The Congressional District Committee of a district which consists of (1) parts of one or more counties; (2) part of a city not within a county; (3) a whole city not within a county; or (4) part of a city not within a county and parts of one or more counties shall consist of the Committeeman and Committeewoman of the precinct, ward, or township included in whole or in part of the district and the Chair and Vice Chair of each Legislative District Committee within the district in whole or in part.

SECTION 3.02- WEIGHTED VOTING

Each member of the Congressional District Committee whose membership consists of Ward or Township Committeemen and Committeewomen shall be entitled to one vote for each two thousand (2,000) votes or major fraction thereof cast for the Democratic candidate for Governor in the last Gubernatorial election in the Ward or Township within the Congressional District. Every member shall be entitled to at least one vote.

SECTION 3.03- MEMBER VACANCIES

Whenever a member of any Congressional District Committee resigns or is unable to serve because of death or disability, or ceases to be a registered voter of the Congressional District, a replacement shall be named in the same manner as the original appointment.

SECTION 3.04 – MEETINGS

The members of each Congressional District Committee as so chosen shall meet at some point within the district, to be designated by the then Chair of the Congressional District Committee, on the last Tuesday in August after each Primary Election to perfect their organization.

The Congressional District Committee shall also meet at the call of the district Chair or at the call of twenty-five (25) percent of the members of the committee. Notice of such meetings shall be in writing stating the time and place of the meeting, the name or names of the calling authority, and shall be addressed to each member with the postage prepaid and deposited in the United States mail at least seven (7) days prior to said meeting. Written notice may be waived by written waiver signed by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the district committee.

SECTION 3.05 – OFFICER ELECTIONS

At the required organizational meeting, the Congressional District committee shall organize by the election of one (1) of its members as Chair and one (1) as Vice-Chair, one (1) a man and one (1) a woman, and a Secretary and a Treasurer, one of whom shall be a woman and one a man, but who may or may not be members of the committee. All Congressional District committee officers must reside within the Congressional District in which they serve.

SECTION 3.06 – OFFICER DUTIES

The officers of the Congressional District Committee shall have the powers, duties, and limitations normally recognized function of their office. Within forty-eight (48) hours after the required statutory meeting, the Congressional District Chair shall notify the State Party Chair, at headquarters, in writing of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the new Congressional District officers.

SECTION 3.07 – OFFICER TERMS

The officers of the Congressional District Committee shall be elected every two (2) years at the organizational meeting on the last Tuesday in August after each primary election and shall serve until their successors have been so chosen.

SECTION 3.08 – OFFICER VACANCIES

If any of the following events occurs to any congressional district officer, a vacancy in that office shall exist:

Death

Resignation

Ceases to reside in the Congressional District which he or she represents

Remains convicted of a criminal offense other than a misdemeanor after his or her rights to appeal are exhausted

Fails to attend at least one-half of the regularly scheduled Congressional District Committee meetings during a calendar year

The State Committee, after a finding by the Appeals Committee that a member has used the Party name or resources in an unauthorized manner, votes to remove such member

If a Chair vacancy occurs, then the Vice Chair office shall be declared vacant. An election shall be held to elect the Chair and the Vice Chair, and that election shall be held within sixty (60) days. If a single vacancy occurs in the Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer no other offices will be vacated and that election shall be held within sixty (60) days to elect a new officer for that position only. In case of the absence of the Chair, or in the event of a vacancy for any reason in that office, the duties of the Congressional District Chair shall devolve upon the Vice-Chair.

SECTION 3.09 – PROXIES

Any member of the Congressional District Committee may give his or her signed proxy to:

- (1) Any other member or officer of the Congressional District Committee; or
- (2) Any other member or officer of the Legislative District or County Committee that the member of the Congressional District giving the proxy represents.

However, no member shall be allowed to vote more than two (2) proxies and whenever the district committee acts as a nominating committee to select a candidate for Congress, a member must be present in person to vote.

SECTION 3.10 – QUORUM

A quorum for Congressional Committee meetings shall be a majority of the members elected thereto, including proxies; provided, however, that whenever the district committee acts as a nominating committee to select a candidate for Congress, a majority of the members of the Congressional District Committee must be present.

SECTION 3.11 – POWERS AND DUTIES

The Congressional District Committee shall act as a campaign committee and shall have a duty to fulfill assignments given to the committee by the State Committee in furtherance of Democratic Party campaigns. The members-elect of the district committee shall have the power to fill vacancies in the Party ticket for the U.S. Representatives in their respective district pursuant to statutory provisions.

SECTION 3.12 – RULES OF ORDER

The rules contained in “Robert’s Rules of Order”, as most recently revised, shall govern meetings of the Congressional District Committee in all cases where they are applicable and are not inconsistent with the Constitution or By-laws of this organization.

CHAPTER IV - SENATORIAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

SECTION 4.01 – MEMBERSHIP

(1) The Senatorial District Committee of a district which is composed of (1) one or more whole counties; or (2) one or more whole counties and part of one or more counties shall consist of the County Committee Chair and Vice Chair of each county within the district and the Committeeman and Committeewoman of each legislative district within the district.

(2) The Senatorial District Committee of a district which consists of (1) parts of one or more counties; (2) parts of a city not within the county; (3) a whole city not within a county; or (4) parts of a city not within a county and parts of one or more counties shall consist of the Committeeman and Committeewoman of the precinct, ward, or township included in whole or in part of the district and the Chair and Vice Chair of each Legislative District Committee within the district in whole or in part.

SECTION 4.02 – WEIGHTED VOTING

Each member of the Senatorial District Committee whose membership consists of Ward or Township Committeemen and Committeewomen shall be entitled to one vote for each one thousand (1,000) votes or major fraction thereof cast for the Democratic candidate for Governor in the last Gubernatorial election in the Ward or township within the Senatorial District . Every member shall be entitled to at least one vote.

SECTION 4.03 – MEMBER VACANCIES

Whenever a member of any senatorial district resigns or is unable to serve because of death or disability, or ceases to be a registered voter of the senatorial district, a replacement shall be named in the same manner as the original appointment.

SECTION 4.04 –MEETINGS

(1) The members of each Senatorial District Committee shall meet at some point, to be designated by the current Chair of the Senatorial District Committee, if there is one, and if not, by the Chair of the Congressional District Committee in which the Senatorial District is principally located, on the third Saturday in August after each primary election to perfect their organization and on the third Saturday in November, after the general election to elect members of the State Committee.

(2) The Senatorial District Committee shall also meet at the call of the district Chair or at the call of twenty-five (25) percent of the members of the committee. Notice of such meeting shall be in writing stating the time and the place of the meeting, the name or names of the calling authority, and shall be addressed to each member with the postage prepaid and deposited in the United States mail at least seven (7) days prior to said meeting. Written notice may be waived by a written waiver signed by at least two thirds (2/3) of the members of the district committee; provided, however that all members were notified in the same manner of the meeting prior thereto.

SECTION 4.05 – OFFICERS

At the required organizational meeting, the Senatorial District Committee shall organize by the election of one (1) of its members as Chair and one (1) as Vice-Chair, one (1) a man and one (1) a woman, and a secretary and a treasurer, one a woman, and one a man, who may or may not be members of the committee. All Senatorial District Committee officers must reside within the Senatorial District in which they serve.

SECTION 4.06 – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

The officers of the Senatorial District Committee shall have the powers, duties and limitations normally recognized as a function of their office. They shall assist in the election of the party nominee for State Senator of their district and in the campaigns of party nominees within their district, as may be requested by the respective candidates. Within forty-eight (48) hours after the required meetings, the Senatorial District Chair shall notify the State Chair, in writing, of the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the new Senatorial District officers, and of the two (2) State Committee members.

SECTION 4.07 – OFFICER TERMS

The officers of the Senatorial District Committee shall be elected every two (2) years at the organizational meeting on the third Saturday in August after each primary election shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until successors have been duly elected and qualified.

SECTION 4.08 – OFFICER VACANCIES

If any of the following events occur to any Senatorial District officer, a vacancy in that office shall exist:

- death
- resignation
- ceases to reside in the Senatorial District which he or she represents • remains convicted of a criminal offense other than a misdemeanor after his or her rights to appeal are exhausted
- fails to attend at least one-half of regularly scheduled Senatorial District Committee meetings during any calendar year
- the State Committee, after a finding by the Appeals Committee that member has used the party name or resources in an unauthorized manner, votes to remove such member.

If a Chair vacancy occurs, then the Vice Chair office shall be declared vacant. An election shall be held to elect the Chair and Vice Chair, and that election shall be held within sixty (60) days. If a single vacancy occurs in the Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer no other offices will be vacated and that election shall be held within sixty (60) days to elect a new officer for that position only. In case of the absence of the Chair, or in the event of a vacancy for any reasons in that office, the duties of the district Chair shall devolve upon the Vice-Chair.

SECTION 4.09 – PROXIES

Any member of the Senatorial District Committee may give his or her signed proxy to:

- (1) Any other member or officer of the Senatorial District Committee; or
- (2) Any other member or officer of the Legislative District or County Committee that the member of the Senatorial District giving the proxy represents.

However, no member shall be allowed to vote more than two (2) proxies and whenever the district committee acts as a nominating committee to select a candidate for the State Senate, a member must be present in person to vote.

SECTION 4.10 – QUORUM

A quorum for Senatorial District Committee meetings shall be a majority of the members elected thereto, including proxies; provided, however, that whenever the district committee acts as a nominating committee to select a candidate for State Senate, a majority of the members of the district committee must be present.

SECTION 4.11 – POWERS AND DUTIES

On the third Saturday in November after each general election, the Senatorial District Committee shall elect two (2) registered voters of the district, one (1) a man and one (1) a woman, as members of the State Committee. The members-elect of the Senatorial District Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies in the party ticket for State Senator in their respective district pursuant to statutory provisions.

SECTION 4.12 – RULES OF ORDER

The rules contained in “Roberts Rules of Order”, as most recently revised, shall govern meetings of the Senatorial District Committee in all cases where they are applicable and are not inconsistent with the Constitution or By-laws of this organization.

CHAPTER V - LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT COMMITTEES

SECTION 5.01 – MEMBERSHIP

A Legislative District Committee shall consist of the precinct, ward, or township Committeeman and Committeewoman from such precincts, wards or townships included in whole or in part of the Legislative District.

SECTION 5.02 – WEIGHTED VOTING

Each member of the Legislative District committee shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each 100 votes or major fraction thereof that was cast for the Democratic candidate for Governor in the last gubernatorial election, within the Ward or Township or part of the ward or township that lies within the Legislative District. Every member shall be entitled to at least one (1) vote.

SECTION 5.03 – MEMBER VACANCIES

Whenever a member of any Legislative District committee resigns, or is unable to serve because of death or disability or ceases to be a registered voter of the Legislative District, a replacement shall be named in the same manner as the original appointment.

SECTION 5.04 – MEETING

Except in the case of Legislative Districts coextensive with a County, the members of each Legislative District Committee specified in Section 5.01 shall meet at some point to be designated by the current Chair of the committee, if there is one, and if not, by the Chair of the County Committee in which the Legislative District is wholly located, on the Wednesday after the third Tuesday in August after each primary election to perfect their organization.

All Legislative District Committees shall also meet at the call of the District Chair or at the call of twenty-five (25) percent of the members of the committee. Notice of such meeting shall be in writing stating the time and place of the meeting, the name or names of the calling authority, and shall be addressed to each member with the postage prepaid and deposited in the United States mail at least seven (7) days prior to at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the district committee; provided, however, that all members were notified in some manner of the meeting prior to thereto.

SECTION 5.05-OFFICER ELECTIONS

At the required organizational meeting, the legislative district committee, except in the case of legislative districts coextensive with a county, whose officers shall be the officers of such committee shall organize by the election of one (1) of its members as a chair and one (1) as vice-chair, one (1) a man and one (1) a woman, and a secretary and a treasurer, one (1) a man and one (1) a woman, who may or may not be members of the committee. All legislative district committee officers must reside within the legislative district in which they serve. All legislative district committee officers must reside within the legislative district in which they serve.

SECTION 5.06 – OFFICER DUTIES

The officers of the Legislative District Committee shall have the powers, duties and limitations normally recognized as a function of their office. They shall assist in the election of the party nominee for State Representative of their district, and in the campaign of party Statewide nominees within their district, as may be requested by the respective candidates. Within forty-eight (48) hours after the required meetings, the Legislative District Chair shall notify the State Chair, in writing, of the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the new Legislative District officers.

SECTION 5.07-OFFICER TERMS

The Officers of the legislative district committee specified in SECTION 5.01 (1) shall be elected every two (2) years at the organizational meeting and serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successors have been duly elected and qualified.

SECTION 5.08-OFFICER VACANCIES

If any of the following events occurs to any legislative district officer, a vacancy in that office shall exist:

death;

resignation;

ceases to reside in the legislative district which he or she represents;

remains convicted of a criminal offense other than a misdemeanor after his or her rights to appeal are exhausted

fails to attend at least one-half of the regularly scheduled legislative district committee meetings during any calendar year;

the State Committee, after finding by the appeals committee that member has used the party name or resources in an unauthorized manner, votes to remove such a member.

If a chair vacancy occurs, then the Vice Chair office shall be declared vacant. An election shall be held to elect the Chair and Vice Chair, and that election shall be held within sixty (60) days. If a single vacancy occurs in the Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer no other offices will be vacated and that election shall be held within sixty (60) days to elect a new officer for that position only. In case of the absence of the chair, or in the event of a vacancy for any reason in that office, the duties of the district chair shall devolve upon the vice-chair.

SECTION 5.09-PROXIES

Any member of the legislative district committee may give his or her signed proxy to any other member; provided, however, that no person shall be allowed to vote more than two (2) proxies and whenever the district committee acts as a nominating committee to select a candidate for the state legislature, a member must be present in person to vote. Each proxy must specify the name of the person entitled to vote the proxy.

SECTION 5.10-QUORUM

A quorum for legislative district committee meetings shall be a majority of the members selected thereto, including proxies; provided, however, that whenever the district committee acts as a nominating committee to select a candidate for state legislature, a majority of the members of the district committee must be present.

SECTION 5.11-POWERS AND DUTIES

The members-elect of the Legislature District Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies in the Party ticket for State representative in their respective districts pursuant to statutory provisions.

CHAPTER VI - JUDICIAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

SECTION 6.01 – MEMBERSHIP

The Judicial District Committee of a district of which a County having one (1) or more Legislative Districts wholly contained within such County shall form a part, shall be composed of the County Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the several County Committees and the Chair and Vice-Chair of each of the several Legislative Districts {wholly} within a County.

The Judicial District Committee of a district co-extensive with one (1) County shall be the County Committee.

The Judicial District Committee of a district which shall be composed in whole or in part of a part of a City, not of a County, shall consist of include as members of such committee, the ward committeemen and committeewomen from such wards or townships included in whole or in part in such part of a City, not part of a County, forming the whole or part of such Judicial District.

SECTION 6.02 –WEIGHTED VOTING

Each member of the Judicial District Committee whose membership consists of Ward or Township Committeemen and Committeewomen shall be entitled to one vote for each one hundred (100) votes or major fraction thereof cast for the Democratic candidate for Governor in the last gubernatorial election in the Ward or Township within the Judicial District. Each member shall be entitled to at least one vote.

SECTION 6.03-MEMBER VACANCIES

Whenever a member of any judicial district committee resigns, or is unable to serve because of death or disability or ceases to be a registered voter of the judicial district, a replacement shall be named in the same manner as the original appointment.

SECTION 6.04-MEETINGS

The members of each judicial district committee may meet at some point within the district, or within one of the counties in which the judicial district exists, except in the case of judicial district committees specified in 6.01 (2), to be designated by the current chair of the committee, if there be one, and if not by the chair of the congressional district in which the judicial district is principally located, on the first Tuesday in September after each primary election or at another time designated by the chair, to perfect their organization.

The judicial district committee shall also meet at the call of the district chair or at the call of twenty-five (25) percent of the members of the committee. Notice of such meeting shall be in writing stating the time and place of the meeting, the name of names of the calling authority, and shall be addressed to each member with the postage prepaid and deposited in the United States mail at least seven (7) days prior to said meeting. Written notice may be waived by a written waiver signed by two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the district committee; provided, however, that all members were notified in some manner of the meeting prior thereto.

SECTION 6.05-OFFICER ELECTIONS

Except in the case of judicial committees coextensive with county committees, the judicial district committee shall at the organizational meeting elect one (1) of its members as chair and one (1) as vice-chair, one (1) a man and one (1) a woman, and a secretary and a treasurer, one (1) a man and one (1) a woman, who may or may not be members of the committee. All judicial district committee officers must reside within the judicial district in which they serve.

SECTION 6.06-OFFICER DUTIES

The officers of the judicial district committee shall have the powers, duties, and limitations normally recognized as a function of their office. Within forty-eight (48) hours after the organizational meetings, the judicial district chair shall notify the state chair, in writing, of the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the new judicial district officers.

SECTION 6.07-OFFICER TERMS

The officers of the judicial district committee may be elected every two (2) years in September after each primary election and serve until their successors have been elected and qualified.

SECTION 6.08-OFFICER VACANCIES

If any of the following events occurs to any judicial district officer, a vacancy in that office shall exist:

death;

resignation;

ceases to reside in the judicial district which he or she represents;

remains convicted of a criminal offense other than a misdemeanor after his or her rights to appeal are exhausted;

fails to attend at least one-half of the regularly scheduled judicial district committee meetings during any calendar year;

the State Committee, after a finding by the appeals committee that member has used the party name or resources in an unauthorized manner, votes to remove such a member.

If a chair vacancy occurs, then the Vice Chair office shall be declared vacant. An election shall be held to elect the Chair and Vice Chair, and that election shall be held within sixty (60) days. If a single vacancy occurs in the Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer no other offices will be vacated and that election shall be held within sixty (60) days to elect a new officer for that position only. In case of the absence of the chair, or in the event of a vacancy, for any reason in that office, the duties of the district chair shall devolve upon the vice-chair.

SECTION 6.09-PROXIES

Any member of the Judicial District Committee may give his or her signed proxy to:

(1) Any other member or officer of the Judicial District Committee; or

(2) Any other member or officer of the Legislative District or County Committee that the member of the Judicial District giving the proxy represents.

However, no member shall be allowed to vote more than two (2) proxies and whenever the district committee acts as a nominating committee to select a candidate for the Judiciary, a member must be present in person to vote.

SECTION 6.10-QUORUM

A quorum for judicial district committee meetings shall be a majority of the members elected thereto, including proxies; provided, however, that whenever the district committee acts as a nominating committee to select a candidate for the judiciary, a majority of the members of the district committee must be present.

SECTION 6.11-POWERS AND DUTIES

The members-elect of the judicial district Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies in the Party ticket for the judiciary in their respective districts pursuant to Article V, Section 29 of the Constitution of the State of Missouri and statutory provisions.

SECTION 6.12-RULES OF ORDER

The rules contained in "Robert's Rules of Order," as most recently revised, shall govern meetings of the judicial district committee in all cases where they are applicable and are not inconsistent with the Constitution or By-Laws of this organization.

CHAPTER VII - COUNTY COMMITTEES

SECTION 7.01-MEMBERSHIP

No person shall be elected as a member of a county committee who is not a registered voter of the county and of the committee district from which he or she is elected and has not been a continuous resident of such jurisdiction for at least one year. Except as provided in subsections (2), (3), and (4) of this section, the membership of a county committee shall consist of a man and a woman elected from each township or ward in the county.

JACKSON COUNTY- In each county of the first-class containing the major portion of a city which has over three hundred thousand (300,000) inhabitants, two (2) members of the committee, a man and a woman, shall be elected for each ward. Any township entirely contained in the city shall have no additional representation on the county committee. The election authority for the county shall divide the most populous township outside the city into eight (8) sub districts of contiguous and compact territory and as nearly equal in population as practicable. The sub districts shall be numbered from one (1) upward consecutively, which numbers shall, insofar as practicable, be retained upon reapportionment. Two (2) members of the county committee, a man and a woman, shall be elected from each such subdistrict. Four (4) members of the committee, two (2) men and two (2) women, shall be elected from each other township outside the city.

In each city which has over three hundred thousand inhabitants, the major portion of which is located in a county of the first class with a charter form of government, shall be divided into not less than twenty-four (24) nor more than twenty-five (25) wards. The number of inhabitants in any ward shall not exceed any other ward of the City and within the same County, by more than five percent (5%), measured by the number of inhabitants determined at the preceding decennial census.

CLAY COUNTY- In each county of the first-class containing a portion, but not the major portion, of a city which has over three hundred thousand (300,000) inhabitants, ten (10) members of the committee, five (5) men and five (5) women, shall be elected from the district of each state representative wholly contained in the county in the following manner: After each legislative apportionment, the election authority shall divide each legislative district into five (5) committee districts of contiguous territory as compact and nearly equal in population as may be; two (2) members of the committee, a man and a woman, shall be elected from each committee district. Legislative districts not wholly contained in the county shall be divided into similar committee districts and two members of the committee, a man and a woman, shall be elected from each committee district.

CITY OF ST. LOUIS- In each city not situated in a county, two (2) members of the committee, a man and a woman, shall be elected from each ward.

ST. LOUIS COUNTY- In all counties with a charter form of government and a population of over nine hundred thousand (900,000) inhabitants, two (2) members of the county committee, a man and a woman, shall be elected from each township.

SECTION 7.02-MEMBER TERMS

In each city not situated in a county and in each county which has over nine hundred thousand (900,000) inhabitants, all members of the county committee shall be elected at the primary election preceding each gubernatorial election and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified.

In each other county, all members of the county committee shall be elected at each primary election and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified.

SECTION 7.04-MEETINGS

After each primary election, each county committee shall meet on the third Tuesday in August to perfect its organization. The meetings are held in the county seats of the various counties. Except that in St. Louis City and St. Louis County , the chair of the committee shall designate the place of meeting.

Meetings of said county and city committees shall be upon call of the chair of each committee whenever he or she thinks it to be in the interest of the Party or when requested to do so in writing by fifteen (15) percent of the members of said committee.

SECTION 7.05-OFFICER ELECTIONS

At the required statutory meeting the county committee shall organize by the election of one (1) of its members as a chair and one (1) as vice-chair, one (1) a man and one (1) a woman, and a secretary and a treasurer, one (1) a man and one (1) a woman, who may or may not be members of the committee. All county committee officers must reside within the county in which they serve. The county committee may elect any other officers it deems necessary to properly carry out its duties.

SECTION 7.06-OFFICER DUTIES

Chair- The chair of the county committee shall preside at all meetings of the county committee and with such limitations as hereafter may be prescribed, act for the county committee when it is not in session and have the general direction and control of the campaigns and affairs of the Party and the county subject to the direction of the county committee. The chairs shall distribute election credentials to duly elected committeemen and committeewomen.

Vice-Chair- The county vice-chair shall preside over the county committee in the absence of the county chair and act as the county chair in the absence of the county chair.

Secretary- The county secretary shall maintain or assist in maintaining a record of the meetings of the county. He or she shall attest to the signature of the county chair to all calls and any other official documents being necessary by the county committee. Within thirty (30) days after the election of officers of each county committee held in accordance with the rules of such committee, the secretary of such county committee shall certify to the chair of the State Committee the names of the person selected as officers and the list of the members of the county committee.

Treasurer- The county treasurer shall countersign all checks with the county chair. The county committee may call upon the treasurer at various times during the calendar year for all the amounts of receipts and disbursements and such other information they may wish to view. The treasurer may be required by the county committee to give bond in such sums as may be required by said committee.

SECTION 7.07-OFFICER TERMS

All officers shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successors have been so chosen.

SECTION 7.08-OFFICER VACANCIES

If any of the following events occurs to any county committee officer, a vacancy in that office shall exist:

death;

resignation;

ceases to be a registered voter of the committee district in which her or she represents;

remains convicted of a criminal offense other than a misdemeanor after his or her rights to appeal are exhausted;

the State Committee, after finding by the appeals committee that a member has used the party name or resources in an unauthorized manner, votes to remove such a member

If a chair vacancy occurs, then the Vice Chair office shall be declared vacant. An election shall be held to elect the Chair and Vice Chair, and that election shall be held within sixty (60) days. If a single vacancy occurs in the Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer no other offices will be vacated and that election shall be held within sixty (60) days to elect a new officer for that position only. In the case of absence of the chair, or in the event of a vacancy for any reason in that office, the duties of the county chair shall devolve upon the vice-chair.

SECTION 7.09-PROXIES

Whenever the county committee acts as a nominating committee to select a candidate for county-wide office, a member must be present in person to vote. The county committees may enact by-laws authorizing and defining procedures for proxy votes for other types of committee business. However, in the absence of specific by-law provisions, any member of the county committee may give their signed proxy to another member of the committee: provided, however no person shall be allowed to vote more than two proxies. Each proxy must specify the name of the person entitled to vote the proxy.

SECTION 7.10-QUORUM

Whenever the county committee acts as a nominating committee to select a candidate for countywide office, a quorum shall be a majority of the members of the county committee. The county committee may enact by-laws defining a quorum for other types of committee business. However, in the absence of such by-laws, a quorum shall be a majority of the members, including proxies.

SECTION 7.11-POWERS AND DUTIES

The committeemen and committeewomen comprise the ward or township committee and these two (2) officials have the responsibility of building a strong Party organization within its area. They are obliged to represent the views of Party members to the county committee. The committeemen and committeewomen may organize ward or township clubs and those committee members should keep Party members informed of the activities of the Party. Newcomers to the area should be greeted by those committee members if at all feasible. The members-elect of the county committee shall have the power to fill vacancies in the Party ticket for countywide offices pursuant to statutory provisions.

SECTION 7.12-RULES OF ORDER

The rules contained in "Robert's Rules of Order," as most recently revised, shall govern meetings of county committees in all cases where they are applicable and are not inconsistent with the Constitution or By-Laws of this organization.

The State Committee is authorized to examine all Democratic county rules and all amendments thereto and no such rules or amendments shall be effective until approved by the state chair; provided, however, that if the Chair fails to take action approving or disapproving the proposed rules or amendments within sixty (60) days after the date on which they are received for consideration, the rules or amendments shall automatically become effective.

SECTION 7.13-CENSURE

A county committee shall have the power to censure any member who shall be guilty of willful neglect of any duty imposed upon him or her for failure to support the Party nominees at any election during his or her term of office. Such action shall not be taken without notice to the offending member and an opportunity for him or her to refute such charge.

CHAPTER VIII - CITY COMMITTEE

SECTION 8.01-MEMBERSHIP

In each city not situated in a county, two (2) members of the committee, a man and a woman, shall be elected from each ward. No person shall be elected as a member of a city committee who is not a registered voter of the city and a resident of the ward from which he or she is elected.

SECTION 8.02-DEFINITION

A city committee shall be in existence in the City of St. Louis and shall have the same status as a county committee. Chapter VII of these by-laws shall be equally applicable to the city committee.

CHAPTER IX - CONFERENCES AND CONVENTIONS

SECTION 9.01-TIME AND PLACE OF STATE CONVENTION

After 1978, state conventions for the principle purpose of electing delegates to national Party conventions or conferences shall be held on the second Saturday of June, or on such date as may be established in the party's delegate selection plan, in the same year as the national convention or conference, at a time and place to be selected by the state chair.

State conventions for any purpose other than selecting delegates to a national convention or conference shall be held at a time, date, and location to be determined by the state chair.

State conventions shall be held in a public place, readily accessible, and large enough to accommodate the anticipated assembly, with drinking water and indoor plumbing.

SECTION 9.02-POWERS AND DUTIES OF STATE CONVENTIONS

The state convention shall have the sole power to elect presidential electors in presidential election years.

The state convention shall have the sole power to elect Democratic national committeemen and committeewomen; however, the Democratic State Committee may fill vacancies in the offices of Democratic national committeemen and committeewomen resulting from resignation, death, or other reasons.

The state convention shall have the power to adopt resolutions to be submitted to the platform committee of the State Committee and the Democratic national convention or conference.

SECTION 9.03-STATE CONVENTION STANDING COMMITTEE

The state convention shall have the following standing committee appointed by the State Committee chair: credentials, nominating, and resolutions. The State Committee shall appoint one member from each Congressional District to these Standing Committees from two nominees for each Standing Committee submitted by each Congressional District Chair.

Credentials Committee- shall decide all credentials disputes arising from causes other than challenging of eligibility to participate.

Nominating Committee- shall propose slates of candidates only for the offices of presidential electors, Democratic national committeeman and Democratic national committeewoman.

Resolutions Committee- may propose resolutions to be presented to the state convention for adoptions. All resolutions adopted shall be submitted to the platform committee of the State Committee to be considered for inclusion into the platform of the Missouri Democratic Party and submitted to the platform committee of the next democratic national convention or conference.

SECTION 9.04-DELEGATE SELECTION AND RULES

The State Committee shall adopt rules for the selection of delegates to city, county, legislative district, congressional district, state or national conventions or conferences of the Democratic Party. These rules shall be adopted by majority vote of the total membership of the State Committee.

CHAPTER X - GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 10.01- FUNCTIONS AND SERVICES OF THE STATE DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

Candidate Recruitment- The state chair, Executive Committee and the DSC shall give priority to candidate identification and recruitment for all offices.

Candidate Services- The DSC should be prepared to make available the following assistance to Democratic candidates:

Voter Lists- when available, lists of registered voters with phone numbers within the respective district;

Consultant and Special Services- current lists with prices of campaign related materials including bumper stickers, buttons, film, media services, print and electronic advertising rates, and other budget related information

Voter Information- Information on voter attitudes and trends;

Training- candidate and campaign training seminars

Financial Assistance- The DSC may make monetary contributions to Democratic candidates not involved in primary contests, to endorsed candidates for the general assembly in primary contests, and to Democratic nominees for State and Federal office after the primary elections

Democratic Platform- The DSC shall develop an on-going platform for office holder and candidate use

Annual Reception or Dinner- The DSC shall sponsor at least one (1) annual fundraising reception or dinner, preferably in August immediately after primary election. All candidates for Missouri state and federal office would be expected to attend and support the function.

Regional Workshops- The DSC shall conduct and sponsor at least four regional workshops annually to provide Democrats with information on the DSC, its functions, and platforms.

Legal Assistance – The DSC shall retain counsel to advise office holders, candidates, and Democrats of election laws and other party related matters.

Reporting of State Party Activities- The Chair shall be responsible for reporting State Committee programs and activities regularly to media. Consideration should be given to regular press releases, radio feeds, and general media appearances by the chair, officers' activities, and positions of the DSC.

Issue and Research Material- The DSC shall have available information on the vital issues facing Missourians and make such information available to interested Democrats.

Democratic Targeting- The DSC shall make available to any candidate targeting information on Democratic voters from all areas of the state. This information which is presently available to the DSC shall be annually updated and available for candidate and campaign committee use.

The services as listed above should be immediate functions of the DSC. It is suggested consideration be given to providing the following additional services in the near future: 1) a Democratic voter registration program; 2) development of research material on Republican opponents; 3) clipping services on Democrats as well as Republican activities; 4) general election field coordinators for work with Democrats at the local level; 5) campus and production and distribution of a newsletter or newspaper with emphasis on the activities of the DSC and its plans and services, with a minimum of four editions annually; 6) reinstating the activity report updating the progress and accomplishments of the DSC. The DSC should also consider any and all proposals to include the city and county Democratic officials in Party affairs and activities.

SECTION 10.02- MEMBERSHIP DUES-FINANCING THE STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The dues for membership in the Missouri Democratic Party are:

Each DSC member is \$200.00, Executive Committee Member \$500.00, all U.S. Senators and Congressmen, all statewide elected officials \$1,000.00, Democratic National Committee member representing Missouri, and officers of the DSC \$500.00. All such dues payments shall be annual and payable in January of each year. However, partial payments of equal amounts may be paid in January, February, March, and April.

Each State Senator and State Representative shall pay annual membership dues of \$100.00. All county elected public officials and elected public officials of cities with a population greater than 50,000 shall pay annual membership dues of \$50.00.

Individual membership dues of the Missouri Democratic Party shall be \$35.00. There shall be special memberships of \$40.00 for a family membership and \$25.00 for Senior Democrats and Young Democrats. All Democratic candidates shall be required to be regular members unless the candidate is an incumbent and has a higher membership dues requirement, in order to run for office. This includes candidates from county committee members to the Governor. The DSC should be informed regularly of those Democratic office holders who are not members in good standing and of any State Committee member failing to pay State Committee dues by May first of any year.

No less than ten (10) percent of the net income of any statewide Democratic fund-raising event may be contributed to the DSC.

The Democratic State Committee should actively encourage the Missouri General Assembly to pass the check-off system to help finance state Party activities.

The present county rebate program shall remain as it is, but shall be regularly reviewed by the Democratic State Committee as to its effectiveness in encouraging contributions.