

**10th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC PARTY  
BYLAWS  
2023-2024**

**ARTICLE I. NAME**

This organization shall be known as the “10th Congressional District Democratic Party.”

**ARTICLE II. PURPOSE**

The intent and purpose of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party shall be to elect a Democratic Representative to the United States Congress, publicize and promote policies and platforms of the Democratic Party, and cooperate with County Democratic Committees in the District, candidates and all other Democrats working to promote wide and active participation in the Democratic Party and to elect Democrats to public office.

**ARTICLE III. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES**

Section 1. All public meetings of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party at all levels shall be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, economic status, religion, ethnic identity, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, physical appearance or disability.

Section 2. No tests for membership in, nor any oaths of loyalty to, the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party shall be required or used which has the effect of requiring prospective or current members of the Democratic Party to acquiesce in, condone or support discrimination on the grounds of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, economic status, religion, ethnic identity, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, physical appearance or disability.

Section 3. The time and place for all public meetings of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party on all levels shall be publicized fully seven (7) days in advance and in such a manner as to assure timely notice to all interested persons. Such meetings may be held virtually (hybrid) and / or in places accessible to all Party members and large enough to accommodate all interested persons.

Section 4. The 10th Congressional District Democratic Party, on all levels, shall support the broadest possible participation without discrimination on grounds of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, economic status, religion, ethnic identity, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, physical appearance or disability.

Section 5. The 10th Congressional District Democratic Party shall publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the legal and practical procedures for selection of 10th Congressional District Democratic Party officers and representatives on all levels. Publication of those procedures shall be done in such a fashion that all prospective and current members of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party will be

fully and adequately informed of the pertinent procedure in time to participate in each selection procedure at all levels of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party organization.

Section 6. The 10th Congressional District Democratic Party shall publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a complete description of the legal and practical qualifications for all officers and representatives of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party. Such publication shall be done in a timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected or appointed position within the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party will have full and adequate opportunity to compete for office.

Section 7. Proportional voting shall be used in the election of delegates and alternates to any Convention, delegates and alternates of the Democratic State Central Committee, and members of the Executive Committee of the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Democratic Party.

Section 8. All rules and bylaws of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party at all levels shall be consistent with the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party and shall be available on request in writing to any member of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party.

Section 9. The unit rule is prohibited at all levels of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party.

Section 10. No rule shall be adopted at any level of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party which would require a person to cast a vote or be recorded a voting contrary to that person's judgment.

Section 11. On all questions of procedure not resolved by the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party or these Bylaws, the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be used.

Section 12. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of any unit, Committee, Caucus or Convention of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party shall be of a different gender.

Section 13. Votes shall not be taken by secret ballot at any meeting of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party at any level.

#### **ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Membership of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party shall consist of all members of the Michigan Democratic Party residing in the 10th Congressional District.

Section 2. Precinct delegates shall be apportioned and selected in accordance with the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party.

Section 3. The Officers and Executive Committee shall be selected in accordance with the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party.

#### **ARTICLE V. MEETINGS**

Section 1. The regular meetings of the 10th Congressional District Executive Committee shall be held at least four (4) times per year at the location and time designated in the meeting notice and/or virtually. At least seven (7) days' notice shall be given of the date, time and place of the meeting by email, mail or telephone. A quorum shall exist at an Executive Committee meeting when 50% plus one of the Executive Committee and Officers who were elected at the District Caucus at the State Convention held in January or February of the odd-numbered year are present.

Section 2. Special meetings of the District Committee may be called by a majority of the members of the Executive Committee, or by the Chair of the 10th District Democratic Party. At least five (5) days' notice shall be given of the date, place, time and/or virtual information and purpose of the special meeting. Notice may be given by telephone, mail, or email.

Section 3. The regular Membership meetings of the 10th Congressional District Party shall be held at least four (4) times per year as scheduled by the Executive Committee. Regular Membership meetings will be held on Saturday at the location and time designated in the meeting notice. At least fifteen (15) days' notice shall be given of the date, time and place and/or virtual information of the meeting.

Section 4. Subject to the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party and these Bylaws, all meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order (latest edition).

Section 5. In order to be considered at relevant district conventions, resolutions must be presented to the District Chair in writing at least 48 hours prior to the beginning of the convention. The 10th District Democratic Party shall publicize this rule to all party members at least two weeks prior to all relevant district conventions.

## **ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Section 1. During January or February of each odd-numbered year, a District Caucus or Convention will be held on the date set by the State Central Committee to elect the 10th Congressional District Executive Committee Officers, State Central Delegates and Alternates.

### Officers

The Officers of the 10th District Democratic Party shall consist of:

District Chairperson  
Vice Chairperson- shall be of a different gender and a different county from the  
Chairperson  
Treasurer  
Corresponding Secretary  
Recording Secretary

## Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected Officers of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party and a minimum of 15 members from the District elected by the Caucus or Convention.

Section 2. The Executive Committee may elect additional members as allowed by the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party. At the first meeting following the initial election of the Committee in the odd-numbered year, Committee members shall consider expanding the membership of the District Committee to ensure that all municipalities in the 10th District are represented. In addition, to encourage collaboration with local Democratic clubs, the chairs or designees of each Democratic club within the 10th District shall be invited to serve as members of the Executive Committee if the Committee members have approved the expansion of the Committee. Other interested members of the 10th Congressional District may also be added to the Executive Committee. If a vacancy occurs on the District Committee or among the Officers, the District Committee has the authority to fill it by a majority vote of Committee members present at an Executive Committee meeting.

Section 3. Within thirty (30) days following the election of the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall meet to adopt, review, and change bylaws, and affirm its acceptance of the rules of the Michigan Democratic Party.

Section 4. The Chairperson shall preside at all Executive Committee meetings, and have such other duties as are usual to the office of District Chairperson, or that may be required by this organization.

Section 5. The Vice-Chairperson shall assist the Chairperson in the discharge of his/her duties, and shall temporarily assume the duties and responsibilities of the Chairperson in his/her absence.

Section 6. The Recording Secretary of this organization, or in their absence a designee of the Chair, shall keep an accurate record and minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of the Executive Committee and shall report correspondence pertinent to this organization, either received or sent, note its disposition, and keep it on file. They shall keep and preserve all the books, documents, records, minutes, effects, and any other property of this organization, and when a new secretary is elected the past secretary shall forthwith deliver to the newly elected secretary all the aforesaid items kept and preserved during his/her tenure of office.

Section 7. The Corresponding Secretary shall send out notices of all meetings either by mail or email to the Executive Committee, State Central delegates, the County chairs and Democratic Club chairs within the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and all interested Democrats in the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. The Corresponding Secretary shall also report correspondence pertinent to this organization, either received or sent, note its disposition, and keep it on file. When a new Corresponding Secretary is elected, the past Secretary shall forthwith deliver to the newly elected Secretary all items kept and preserved during his or her tenure in office.

Section 8. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the financial receipts and disbursements of this organization pursuant to state and federal laws and subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may designate three of its members to function as an audit committee to assist the Treasurer in preparation of reports to the Executive Committee regarding operational and administrative expenditures or campaign budget expenditures. The funds of this organization shall be deposited in banks and shall be drawn upon by checks or debit card for the Administrative account and checks only for the Federal account signed by the Chairperson or by the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall make financial reports to the Executive Committee at all Executive Committee meetings. The Treasurer shall prepare and submit to the proper authorities all reports required by the federal and state campaign laws. When a new Treasurer is elected, the past Treasurer shall forthwith deliver to the new Treasurer the funds and all the books and records kept during his/her tenure in office. The Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer will have access to the bank accounts.

Section 9. It shall be the duty of the members to attend the meetings of the Executive Committee and to the best of their ability participate in its activities.

Section 10. Any member who conducts himself or herself as to bring discredit to or is defamatory or engages in an action/s that impedes the functioning of the Michigan Democratic Party or the Democratic Tenth Congressional District Committee, may be asked to show cause why his or her membership should not be terminated. Any officer or member of the Executive Committee who shall absent himself or herself from three (3) or more consecutive meetings of the Officers Committee, or Executive Committee without requesting to be excused, may be asked to show cause why his or her membership should not be terminated. Three (3) consecutive meetings refer to three (3) consecutive meetings of the same name. Executive Committee members, other than officers, are not required to attend Officers Committee meetings. Such inquiries, hearings or other actions pertinent to this section shall be conducted by the Officers Committee, with an appeal to the Executive Committee where a decision shall be final. A hearing, if requested, shall be held in a timely manner with at least seven (7) days notice provided to all parties involved. A majority of the Officers Committee members present and voting shall be required for action to be taken at a hearing or inquiry conducted by the Committee.

This action shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee to be upheld.

## **ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES**

Section 1. The Chairperson, subject to the approval of the majority of the Executive Committee, shall appoint the committees and committee chairpersons necessary for the work of the organization.

Section 2. Standing Committees shall include the following:

1. Rules and Bylaws Committee shall consider all proposed amendments, revisions, deletions or revocation of these bylaws.

2. Policy and Resolutions Committee shall keep the membership abreast of issues of importance in the District, and shall prepare recommended positions on issues and resolutions for consideration by the membership.

3. Finance/ Fundraising Committee- shall conduct an annual audit of our accounts and engage in fundraising activities.

Each committee will have a chair designated by the Chairperson of the 10th Congressional District Democratic Party, and a minimum of two additional members. The Chairperson of the District Party shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees.

## **ARTICLE VIII. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

At meetings, the business of the organization shall proceed in the following order:

1. Roll call of officers and Executive Committee members
2. Agenda
3. Minutes of the previous meeting
4. Reports of Officers
5. Reports of committees
6. Old business
7. New business
8. Good and Welfare
9. Adjournment

## **ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. Proposals for changes or amendments to these bylaws shall first be referred to the Rules and Bylaws Committee which shall report its recommendations to the next regular District Committee meeting.

Section 2. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members of the Executive Committee present at a meeting, provided that written notice setting forth the proposed amendment has been given to all Party members at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

Section 3. These bylaws shall be in full force and effect upon their adoption and shall supersede all bylaws, rules, motions and policies of a contrary nature with the exception of the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party.

## **ARTICLE X. ENDORSEMENTS**

Section 1. The 10th Congressional District Democratic Party shall *not* endorse any candidate in a primary election.

Section 2. Endorsements in general elections may be made by a 2/3 vote of those present and voting at a District Committee meeting.

## **ARTICLE XI. RATIFICATION**

Section 1. These bylaws shall be in full force and effect upon its adoption by a majority vote of the Executive Committee present and voting at a meeting called for this purpose with at least seven (7) days notice.

## **ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION**

**Section 1.** Upon reorganization of the Tenth Congressional District Democratic Committee, all assets and real and personal property shall go to the Democratic Congressional District(s) that succeed the Tenth, and shall be allocated proportionally by the Democratic vote in those communities. Upon dissolution of the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Democratic Committee all assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts shall be distributed to the Michigan Democratic Party.