

MINNESOTA DFL RESOLUTION FORM

(Submit one resolution per form and one subject per resolution)

The State DFL Ongoing Platform embodies the principles of the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party. The State DFL Action Agenda is a set of recommended public policy positions which the party supports and will promote during the next two years. This form must be completely filled out for a resolution to be considered.

Congressional District:

Organizing Unit:

Precinct:

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

This resolution should be considered under the following category: *[check one]*

Agriculture & Food

- Business & Community Development
- Civil, Human & Constitutional Rights
- Consumer Issues
- Education
- Energy
- Government Accountability to the Public
- Health & Human Services
- Labor & Employment

Media & Internet Issues

- National Security & International Policy
- Natural Resources & the Environment
- Public Safety & Crime Prevention
- Retirement Security
- Tax & Budget Policy
- Transportation
- Veterans Affairs
- Local or Party Issues

Individuals at their precinct caucuses can submit resolutions. When a majority of the caucus adopts a resolution, it advances to the Organizing Unit convention for consideration to send to the State Platform, Issues, and Legislative Affairs Committee. Resolutions having support from at least five Organizing Units drawn from at least two Congressional Districts may be selected for consideration at the State Convention (for inclusion in the DFL Ongoing Platform or Action Agenda).

RESOLUTION TITLE *Sustainable Farming*

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: *(Please print or attach your resolution here. Be concise and use everyday language.)*

Eliminate corporate farm subsidies and support sustainable farming by promoting local sourcing of food, funding education, and providing added incentives for pesticide-free and GMO-free crops.

- With the fifth-largest agricultural economy in the nation, Minnesota is ideally positioned to lead the nation in agricultural policies that benefit local communities and the natural systems that keep Minnesotans safe and healthy.
- Corporate domination of agriculture - enabled by government subsidies - has led to the collapse of family farms, the degradation of vital soil and water resources, and the hollowing out of rural communities.
- Supporting family farms and forward-thinking farming practices can reverse this decline and keep Minnesota farms thriving in spite of long-term threats of trade shocks and climate change.
- Farmers are caught between monopolized sellers and buyers. They must pay ever higher prices to the giants who dominate the market for the supplies they need, like seed and fertilizer. Corn and soybean seed prices are about 3.5 times more than they were 20 years ago. All together, the average farmer spends three times more on inputs per acre today than in the 1990s.
- Farmers must accept ever lower prices from the giant agribusinesses, like crops and livestock. Corporate concentration affects the prices farmers pay. In 1994, the top four seed companies controlled only 21 percent of the global seed market. By 2013, just the top three controlled 55 percent, with Monsanto alone controlling more than a quarter.
- In the 1980s, when American consumers spent a dollar on food, 37 cents went back to the farmer. Today, it's less than 15 cents. The difference is increasingly flowing to concentrated agribusinesses, middlemen, and retailers.
- Supporting sustainable farming includes big policy levers such as busting up ag monopolies and reforming giant food co-ops.

To be filled out at the Precinct Caucus:

This resolution was: Adopted

Defeated

(Adopted 21 September 2019, Rev A)

A-1

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