

## **An Explanation of a Congressional District Convention**

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## What is a Congressional District Organization?

Minnesota state statute requires:

“Each major political party shall also provide for each congressional district...an executive committee consisting of a chair and such other officers as may be necessary ([§202A.13, paragraph 1](#)).”

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“The rules of each major political party shall provide that for each congressional district...a convention shall be held at least once every state general election year ([§202A.13, paragraph 1](#)).”

So each of the eight congressional districts in Minnesota has an executive committee and conducts annual conventions that are attended by district delegates from the various BPOUs within a congressional district.

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## What Does a District Delegate do at an Even Year Congressional District Convention?

All district delegates attend a district convention that is required by statute.

“The rules of each major political party shall provide that for each congressional district...a convention shall be held at least once every state general election year ([§202A.13, paragraph 1](#)).”

As required by state statute, the Republican Party of Minnesota establishes, by its Constitution, provisions regulating a congressional district convention ([MNGOP Constitution, Article VII](#)).

1. In a **gubernatorial general election year**, two things occur at a district convention:

**A. Consider resolutions**

Resolutions are proposals to change the state party platform. Every precinct resolution that is passed by a BPOU is then considered at a district convention by all the district delegates from all the BPOUs in the district.

All the resolutions that are passed by the district delegates at a congressional district convention are forwarded to the state convention.

**B. Endorse a congressional candidate**

At a congressional district convention, the district delegates from all the BPOUs in the district endorse a candidate to run for the U.S. House of Representatives. A congressional district endorsing convention is governed by the state party constitution ([MNGOP Constitution, Article V](#)) and the congressional district's constitution which must not be inconsistent with the MNGOP constitution.

Each county or organizing unit has a proportional delegate representation in a congressional district convention.

2. In a **presidential general election year**, a congressional district convention follows the pattern in a gubernatorial election year and adds some things.

**A. Consider resolutions**

**B. Endorse a congressional candidate**

**C. Elect presidential electors**

Each congressional district convention elects one presidential elector and one alternate ([MNGOP Constitution, Article VI, Section 8 and Article VII, Section 3](#)). Republican presidential electors cast the votes in the electoral college for a Republican who is elected in Minnesota as the U.S. president.

**D. Elect delegates to the Republican National Convention**

Each congressional district convention elects delegates to the RNC ([MNGOP Constitution, Article V, Section 5 C](#)). At the national convention, all the Minnesota RNC delegates, along with the RNC delegates from all the other states, endorse

a Republican presidential candidate.

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## What Does a District Delegate do at an Odd Year Congressional District Convention?

The odd year district convention is held a whole year after caucus.

In an odd year, two things occur at a district convention:

### **1. Elect Executive Committee Members**

As required by state statute ([§202A.13, paragraph 1](#)), a congressional district holds a convention to elect its executive committee. District delegates elected in the even year elect the congressional executive committee members in the odd year.

### **2. Amend the Constitution**

At the odd year convention, the district delegates amend the congressional district's constitution if it is needed.

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