2026 MDP State Nominating Convention – Rules Committee Report

Approved by the Standing Rules Committee on August 19, 2026

The Rules Committee for the 2026 State Nominating Convention, having met to prepare and ratify this report, does hereby recommend the following permanent officers, agenda, and rules for the convention to be held on Saturday, August 29, 2026 at the Lansing Center in Lansing, Michigan.

1 Convention Officers

Secretary, Nathan Triplett
Parliamentarian, Mary Ellen Gurewitz
Parliamentarian, Sheila Cummings

2 Caucus and Convention Agenda

1. District Caucuses, Saturday, August 29, 2026
    a. District caucuses shall convene between 1:00 PM and 2:30 PM in the rooms as assigned on the Convention website (michigandems.com/convention/). The duly elected district chair (or their designee) shall preside over the caucus meeting. In the event the district chair is not present and has failed to name a designee, a temporary chair shall be elected to preside. The duly elected district secretary shall serve as secretary. In the event the secretary is not present, a temporary secretary shall be elected.
    b. The order of business may include the following:
        i. Hearing from candidates for office
        ii. Additional business that is deemed proper and necessary
    c. District caucuses shall adjourn by 2:30 PM.
2. Plenary Session, Saturday, August 29, 2026
    a. The Convention shall be convened at 3:00 PM by the Chair of the Michigan Democratic Party and is scheduled to adjourn by 6:00 PM. The time of adjournment is tentative and subject to change at the discretion of the Convention Chair. The convention will be held in person at the Lansing Center in Lansing, Michigan.
    b. The order of business shall be as follows:
        i. Credentials Committee Report
        ii. Rules Committee Report
        iii. Election of Convention Chair
        iv. Nomination of candidates to the November General Election in the following contests:
            1. Nominating one (1) candidate for Lieutenant Governor
            2. Nominating one (1) candidate for Secretary of State
            3. Nominating one (1) candidate for Attorney General
            4. Nominating two (2) candidates for State Board of Education

5. Nominating two (2) candidates for University of Michigan Board of Regents
6. Nominating two (2) candidates for Michigan State University Board of Trustees
7. Nominating two (2) candidates for Wayne State University Board of Governors
8. Nominating two (2) candidates for State Supreme Court

v. Conducting any other business which is proper and necessary

c. The Michigan Democratic State Central Committee will meet on the floor of the convention immediately following the adjournment of the State Nominating Convention to canvass and ratify the convention proceedings.

3 General Rules

1. Proceedings of the Convention shall be conducted according to the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party, the Call to Convention, these Rules, and Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised, unless otherwise provided.
2. The Convention hall shall be open to all members of the Michigan Democratic Party.
3. The Credentials Committee shall meet at the call of the Chair of the Michigan Democratic Party at the State Convention, if necessary.
4. In order to vote in person at the State Convention or during a caucus, a person must have been issued a delegate credential in accordance with the eligibility standards outlined in the Official Call to Convention.
5. All action by the Convention shall require approval of a weighted majority of delegate votes at the Convention.
6. Each candidate will be permitted to have one representative of their campaign observe the tabulation process. These representatives are not permitted to interfere with the convention procedures, and any individuals who are disruptive will be asked to leave the tabulation area.
7. Any delegate seeking to address this Convention upon recognition of the Convention Chair shall identify themselves by name and District and show their credentialed card.
8. The Convention Chair shall exercise their discretion in presenting Democrats to address the Convention.
9. The Convention Chair shall be responsible for maintaining order and decorum during convention proceedings and may order the removal of delegates or other attendees behaving in a disorderly fashion.
10. Scheduled adjournment times may be extended at the discretion of the Convention Chair.
11. No business will be permitted on the Convention floor unless it is contained in the Call to Convention.

12. Debate on the items in the order of business is encouraged in the Constituency Caucus Meetings and Congressional District Caucus Meetings, but debate is not in order on these items from the Convention Floor.

4 Nomination Rules

1. Pursuant to the Call to Convention, candidates nomination for Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Board of Education, University of Michigan Board of Regents, Michigan State University Board of Trustees, Wayne State University Board of Governors, and State Supreme Court Justice were required to complete the Declaration of Candidacy Form in order to file their candidacy with the Michigan Democratic Party no later than Monday, August 10, 2026 at 5:00 PM ET. No candidates filed timely to seek nomination to any of the aforementioned offices, as a result only those candidates who won endorsement at the 2026 State Endorsement Convention are eligible to be nominated.
2. Pursuant to the Call to Convention, those candidates who won endorsement at the 2026 State Endorsement Convention are automatically placed into consideration for nomination to the office for which they were endorsed.
3. Pursuant to the Call to Convention, only the candidate duly identified by Democratic Nominee for Governor, Jocelyn Benson, to be placed into nomination as nominee for the office of Lieutenant Governor is eligible for that nomination.

5 Voting Rules

1. In order to vote at the state convention or during a caucus, a person must have been credentialed onsite. Those in attendance will be issued a delegate credential in accordance with the eligibility standards outlined in the Official Call to Convention.
2. Pursuant to the Call to Convention, there is only one individual eligible for each position available for the offices Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Board of Education, University of Michigan Board of Regents, Michigan State University Board of Trustees, Wayne State University Board of Governors, and State Supreme Court Justice. Each candidate shall therefore be nominated by acclamation of the Convention.
3. The Convention Chair shall determine the voting method most appropriate for a particular motion.
4. The following voting methods may be used on the floor of convention:
    a. Voice Vote, whereby a delegate expresses their preference verbally in response to a prompt, shall be permitted on the floor of convention and may be used to address convention business properly brought before the body. This shall be the primary method of voting except where other methods are proper or necessary.
    b. Hand Vote, whereby a delegate expresses their preference by raising their delegate credential in response to a prompt, shall be permitted on the floor of convention.

    c. Counted Vote by District, whereby each Congressional District takes a count by county for each vote result and records the count to report to the Convention Chair for tabulation. This method shall be permitted on the floor only if ordered by the convention.
5. The casting of secret ballots shall be prohibited.
6. Weighted voting shall be used in caucuses and on the floor of convention to ensure proper distribution of the State Allocation of Delegate Votes (SADV) in accordance with Section 4 of the Rules for Voting and Elections in the Michigan Democratic Party.