## Proposed Amendments to NFB of MN Bylaws, 2024

*At the affiliate board meeting in June of 2024, the committee working on the adoption of national policies was asked to develop related amendments to our state bylaws to better follow those policies. We are proposing an amendment to Article IV that includes a voice vote as the primary voting method in elections and requires that those voting be members and present in the meeting room. We also have a proposed amendment to Article VI that outlines when and how virtual meetings should be conducted.*

*[Article IV, Section 2 currently reads as follows:]*

Section 2. Election.

All candidates for each office shall be nominated from the floor at the time of the election. Officers shall be elected by secret ballot; the nominee receiving the majority of the votes for each respective office shall be declared elected to that office. If no nominee receives a majority vote on the first ballot, the person receiving the fewest votes shall be dropped from the list of nominees and a second ballot shall be taken. This procedure shall continue until one of the nominees has received a majority vote from the regular members present and voting. There shall be no proxy or cumulative voting. The term of all officers shall begin at the close of the convention at which they are elected and qualified.

*[We propose the following language:]*

**Section 2. Election.**

**All candidates for each office shall be nominated from the floor at the time of the election. Officers shall be elected by voice vote. If the result of the voice vote is uncertain, then the election shall be conducted by secret ballot. The nominee receiving the majority of the votes for each respective office shall be declared elected to that office. If no nominee receives a majority vote on the first ballot, the person receiving the fewest votes shall be dropped from the list of nominees and a second ballot shall be taken. This procedure shall continue until one of the nominees has received a majority vote from the regular members present and voting. Except in the case of a meeting held under Article VI Section 3 of these bylaws, voting is limited to those members in good standing who are physically present in the room. There shall be no proxy or cumulative voting. The term of all officers shall begin at the close of the convention at which they are elected and qualified.**

*[An entirely new section to Article VI is proposed, dealing with meetings. Article VI currently has three sections. Section 1 defines the require for an annual convention. Section 2 defines how special meetings are called. Section 3 currently defines how parliamentary procedure is used in our meetings. We propose to renumber Section 3 on parliamentary procedure to be Section 4, but we are proposing no changes to the existing language in Article VI. A new Section 3 regarding virtual meetings would be inserted as follows:]*

**[New] Section 3. Virtual Meetings**

**If gathering in person is unsafe or impossible because of a state of emergency, the annual convention or a special meeting may be conducted via remote communication on a platform that allows for contemporaneous voice communication among all participants. Written notice for such a virtual meeting shall include clear technical instructions on how to participate via the virtual meeting platform, along with the telephone number and email address of a person who can provide technical assistance with the meeting platform, both before and during the meeting. If, at a convention or special meeting held by provision of this section, the outcome of a voice vote for an election is uncertain, the vote shall be conducted by a secret ballot to the extent that technology permits. A proposed secret ballot procedure, designed so that only members in good standing may vote, shall be distributed to the membership by the Board of Directors prior to the meeting and shall be adopted at the start of the meeting.**

*[end]*