Charter and Bylaws  
of the  
Democratic Party of New Mexico Labor Caucus  
(A Standing Caucus of the DPNM)  

Adopted:  
4-20-11 (Albuquerque, NM)  
Amended at the following meetings of the DPNM Labor Caucus:  
10-7-17 (Las Vegas, NM)  
4-21-18 (Truth or Consequences, NM)  
10-13-18 (Roswell, NM)  

Article 1 – Name and Purpose  

1.1  
The name of this organization shall be the Democratic Party of New Mexico Labor Caucus (Caucus). The Caucus is chartered as an affiliated organization of the Democratic Party of New Mexico (DPNM) in accordance with Rule 24 of the DPNM. The elected Chairperson of the Caucus and one additional member chosen by the Caucus shall, upon approval of this Charter and By Laws by the State Central Committee of the DPNM, become members of the State Central Committee.  

1.2  
The purpose of this Caucus is to promote and encourage full participation by the labor movement in the Democratic Party of New Mexico and its activities at all levels. It shall be the further purpose of this Caucus to initiate and support party policies and issues, which reflect the interests and welfare of working people, and to act as the vehicle for the implementation of these policies.  

Article 2 – Membership  

2.1  
Voting members of the Caucus shall be registered Democrats committed to the DPNM, and also members of unions whose members work under terms of a Collective Bargaining Agreement. Additionally, retired union members who maintain an active affiliation with their local retiree chapter or the Alliance for Retired Americans shall be voting members of the Caucus.  

2.2  
Associate members of the Caucus shall be any registered Democrat in New Mexico having a commitment to the labor movement in New Mexico, or any staff member employed by a union, who is not covered by a Collective Bargaining Agreement.  

2.3  
The Caucus membership is open regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, gender expression, age, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, or economic status.  

2.4
Caucus membership for both voting and associate members shall be one calendar year, starting January 1, and will be valid through December 31 of the same calendar year.

2.5 Members may, should they choose, affiliate with the DPNM Labor Caucus as a Lifetime Member. Both Voting Members and Associate Members are eligible for Lifetime Membership in the DPNM Labor Caucus.

Article 3 – Officers

3.1 Officers of the Caucus shall be a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

3.2 Officers shall be elected at a meeting of the Caucus held in odd numbered years, and prior to the spring DPNM State Central Committee meeting. Election of officers shall be by non-secret ballot, and by a simple majority of members present and voting in accordance with all applicable DPNM rules.

3.3 All voting members of the Caucus shall be eligible for any elective or appointive offices in the Caucus.

3.4 Officers shall serve two (2) year terms and may serve consecutive terms.

3.5 A Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Caucus Chair with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. Chairpersons of all standing committees shall be appointed by the Caucus Chair with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.

Article 4 – Executive Committee

4.1 The Executive Committee of the Caucus shall be composed of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, the Chairpersons of all standing committees, who shall be appointed by the Chair with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, and no more than seven (7) at-large members, who shall be appointed by the Chair with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.

4.2 The duties and powers of the Executive Committee are:
   A. Exercise general supervisory and administrative authority over the Labor Caucus;
   B. Confirm appointments made by the Chair for the office of Parliamentarian and for the Chairs of all standing committees or of any special committees which the Chair may deem necessary from time to time in the execution or implementation of his/her administrative program for the interest, betterment, improvement, growth and/or
advancement of the Caucus or the causes which the Caucus espouses, promotes or supports, and;
C. To formulate and implement the plans, programs and agenda for the operation, functioning, work and service of the Caucus, and the labor community which the Caucus is dedicated to serve.

**Article 5 - Power and Duties of Officers**

5.1 The Chair shall be the chief executive of the Caucus.

5.2 The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the caucus and shall be the official spokesperson of the Caucus. The Chair shall carry out the policies of the Caucus and shall perform the actions necessary and reasonable to effectuate the purposes of the Caucus.

5.3 The Vice Chair shall do all things that are necessary to aid and assist the Chair in the performance of his/her duties, and in the absence of the Chair, shall assume the responsibilities of the Chair.

5.4 The Secretary shall maintain all records of the Caucus, serve all required notices, and discharge all such duties as pertain to the office of Secretary.

5.5 The Treasurer shall take custody of all funds raised directly or indirectly or received by the Caucus, after having the same made and entered into the records of the Secretary. The Treasurer shall make reports at each regular or special meeting of the Caucus of all receipts, disbursements and cash balances and shall, at times, make the reports available to all Caucus member and/or members of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer, when directed, shall prepare a biennial budget for approval by the Caucus. The Treasurer, when required, shall also prepare and submit to the Secretary of State all reports required by the Fair Political Practices Act.

**Article 6 – Meetings**

6.1 Regular meetings of the Caucus will be held in conjunction with the regularly scheduled meetings of the DPNM State Central Committee.

6.2 Special meetings of the Labor Caucus may be called:
   A. Upon call of the Caucus Chair
   B. Upon call of the Caucus Chair, within 15 days immediately following his/her receipt of a written request for a special meeting signed by not fewer than 25 members of the Caucus
   C. Upon the call of the Executive Committee of the Democratic Party of New Mexico.
6.3
All meetings shall be conducted in compliance with Robert’s Rules of Order except as otherwise provided in these By-laws, as interpreted by the Parliamentarian, or by the Chair in absence of the Parliamentarian.

6.4
Meetings of the Caucus shall be scheduled at a time and locations that provides for optimum attendance.

6.5
A statewide conference of the Caucus may be called, annually in any of the methods and manners set forth in Section 2, and must be held at least once biennially, at a time and place to be determined by the Executive Committee of the Caucus.

**Article 7 – Voting**

7.1
All voting must be in person.

**Article 8 – Removal from Office or Membership**

8.1
Reasons:
   A. Intentional conduct in violation of these rules or the law;
   B. Nonfeasance;
   C. Aiding or supporting any political party other than the Democratic Party;
   D. Conviction of a felony.

8.2
Procedure:
A written petition shall be filed by any member of the caucus by delivery to the highest-ranking officer of the caucus not named in the petition with a copy to the officer named as violator in the petition. The highest-ranking officer not named in the petition shall call a meeting of the Executive Committee within thirty (30) days of the date of the petition. The named officer or member in the petition shall be advised of the meeting and be permitted to contest the removal. The officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee.

**Article 9 – Quorum**

9.1
Ten voting members of the Caucus shall constitute a quorum when meeting in conjunction with a meeting of the DPNM State Central Committee.

9.2
For any other meeting of the Caucus, a quorum shall be 25% of voting members in attendance.
Article 10 – Dues

10.1 The annual membership dues of the Caucus shall be an amount as set, from time to time, by the Executive Committee and approved by the Caucus.

10.2 The dues for associate members shall be the same as those of voting members.

10.3 The dues for Lifetime Members shall be an amount as set by the Executive Committee and approved by the Caucus. Previously paid dues will not be counted towards Lifetime Membership dues.

10.4 The Executive Committee may waive or reduce the amount of dues from eligible members in cases of economic hardship.

10.5 The Executive Committee may establish a sponsorship program for labor organizations in order to encourage their financial support of the activities of the Caucus.

Article 11 – Standing Committees

11.1 There shall be a standing committee on by-laws, which shall be known as the Laws and Revisions Committee, whose function, duty and responsibilities shall be to write and prepare proposed amendments and revisions to these by-laws. The committee shall consist of the officers of the Caucus and/or any other members appointed by the Caucus chair.

11.2 There shall be a standing committee on voter registration and voter education, whose responsibility shall be to design voter registration programs to increase the registration of Democrats, who are supporters of the labor movement. These programs shall include district and community seminars and workshops to educate union members on the importance and necessity of participation in the political process. Programs shall be approved and implemented by all members of the Caucus.

11.3 There shall be a standing committee on membership whose responsibility shall be to promote and solicit membership of all eligible individuals in the Labor Caucus of the New Mexico Democratic Central Committee. The Chairperson shall maintain application forms on credentialed and associate members.

11.4
The Chair of the Caucus shall be an ex-officio member of every standing committee and any and all special committees of the Caucus. Each standing committee shall meet at the regularly scheduled Caucus meetings or at the call of the Chairperson.

**Article 12 – Resolutions and Endorsements**

12.1 Only resolutions presented in writing by members of the Caucus will be considered for adoption by the Caucus.

12.2 The Caucus shall not endorse any candidate for any Democratic Primary Election. Candidates in non-partisan elections seeking endorsement of the Caucus must be presented to the Caucus by a member of the Caucus. Candidates may be endorsed by the Caucus only upon a two-thirds vote of the Caucus members present at the meeting at which the endorsement vote is taken. All candidates for the same office must be invited to address the Caucus.

**Article 13 – Amendments**

13.1 These by-laws may be amended at any meeting of the Caucus by a two-thirds majority of the Caucus members present and voting.

13.2 Copies of any amendment must be communicated to each member of the Caucus at least 15 days prior to the meeting at which they are to be considered and voted on.

13.3 Amendments to these by-laws shall become effective immediately upon their adoption by the Caucus. A copy will be filed with the Rules Committee of the New Mexico Democratic State Central Committee.

**Article 14 – Enactment**

This Charter and By-Laws of the Democratic Labor Caucus of New Mexico was duly enacted in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on the 4th day of April 2011, by registered Democrats on the above-mentioned day with duly elected officers of the Caucus.

_________________________  ________________
Chair  
DPNM Labor Caucus  
Vice-Chair  
DPNM Labor Caucus

_________________________  ________________
Secretary  
DPNM Labor Caucus  
Treasurer  
DPNM Labor Caucus