

Rep. Michael Nelson
Chair
House State Government Finance Division

Re: HF3499 (A5) - to be heard 4/16/20

Dear Chair Nelson:

I am writing to strongly express my support for HF 3499 that will facilitate greater voting by mail in Minnesota this year. In light of the difficulty in voting at the polls due to COVID-19, we need greater access to voting by mail in order to maximize the vote in our state in 2020. Minnesota can lead the way by an expansion of absentee voting.

In addition to maximizing access for voting by Minnesota citizens, voting by mail will protect citizens health and save funds for the state of Minnesota. If the majority of citizens continued to vote in person risking exposure to COVID -19 it could lead to another outbreak with the concomitant negative effects to the state's economy: lost jobs and loss of revenue for the state.

These are uncertain times. Thank you for supporting this sensible approach to our elections at this time of crisis.

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