

1.1 moves to amend H.F. No. 4772 as follows:

1.2 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.3 "ARTICLE 1

1.4 ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATION

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 123B.09, subdivision 5b, is amended to read:

1.6 Subd. 5b. **Appointments to fill vacancies; special elections.** (a) Any vacancy on the
 1.7 board, other than a vacancy described in subdivision 4, must be filled by board appointment
 1.8 at a regular or special meeting. The appointment shall be evidenced by a resolution entered
 1.9 in the minutes and shall be effective 30 days following adoption of the resolution, subject
 1.10 to paragraph ~~(b)~~ (d). If the appointment becomes effective, it shall continue for the remainder
 1.11 of the unexpired term or until an election is held under this subdivision, as applicable. All
 1.12 elections to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired term. A special election to fill the
 1.13 vacancy must be held no later than the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November
 1.14 following the vacancy. If the vacancy occurs less than 90 days prior to the first Tuesday
 1.15 after the first Monday in November in the year in which the vacancy occurs, the special
 1.16 election must be held no later than the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of
 1.17 the following calendar year. ~~If the vacancy occurs less than 90 days prior to the first Tuesday~~
 1.18 ~~after the first Monday in November in the third year of the term, no special election is~~
 1.19 ~~required. If the vacancy is filled by a special election, the person elected at that election for~~
 1.20 ~~the ensuing term shall take office immediately after receiving the certificate of election,~~
 1.21 ~~filing the bond, and taking the oath of office.~~

1.22 (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), if the vacancy occurs less than two years prior to the
 1.23 expiration of the term, no special election is required and the appointee of the board shall
 1.24 serve for the remainder of the unexpired term, subject to paragraph (d).

2.1 (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), if the vacancy occurs less than 90 days prior to the
 2.2 expiration of the term, the board may, but is not required to, fill the vacancy by board
 2.3 appointment at a regular or special meeting.

2.4 ~~(b)~~ (d) An appointment made under paragraph (a) shall not be effective if a petition to
 2.5 reject the appointee is filed with the school district clerk. To be valid, a petition to reject an
 2.6 appointee must be signed by a number of eligible voters residing in the district equal to at
 2.7 least five percent of the total number of voters voting in the district at the most recent state
 2.8 general election, and must be filed within 30 days of the board's adoption of the resolution
 2.9 making the appointment. If a valid petition is filed according to the requirements of this
 2.10 paragraph, the appointment by the school board is ineffective and the board must name a
 2.11 new appointee as provided in paragraph (a).

2.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024, and applies to vacancies
 2.13 occurring on or after that date.

2.14 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 200.02, subdivision 7, is amended
 2.15 to read:

2.16 Subd. 7. **Major political party.** (a) "Major political party" means a political party that
 2.17 maintains a party organization in the state; has complied with the party's constitution and
 2.18 rules; is in compliance with the requirements of sections 202A.12 and 202A.13; files with
 2.19 the secretary of state no later than December 1 of each odd-numbered year a certification
 2.20 that the party has met the foregoing requirements, including a list of the dates and locations
 2.21 of each convention held; and meets all other qualification requirements of this subdivision.

2.22 (b) A political party qualifies as a major political party by:

2.23 (1) presenting at least one candidate for election to the office of:

2.24 (i) governor and lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor, or attorney general
 2.25 at the last preceding state general election for those offices; or

2.26 (ii) presidential elector or U.S. senator at the last preceding state general election for
 2.27 presidential electors; and

2.28 whose candidate received votes in each county in that election and received votes from ~~not~~
 2.29 ~~less than five percent of the total number of individuals who voted in that election, if the~~
 2.30 ~~state general election was held on or before November 8, 2022, or not less than eight percent~~
 2.31 ~~of the total number of individuals who voted in that election, at a state general election held~~
 2.32 ~~on or after November 7, 2024;~~

3.1 (2) presenting at least 45 candidates for election to the office of state representative, 23
3.2 candidates for election to the office of state senator, four candidates for election to the office
3.3 of representative in Congress, and one candidate for election to each of the following offices:
3.4 governor and lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, and state auditor, at
3.5 the last preceding state general election for those offices; or

3.6 (3) presenting to the secretary of state at any time before the close of filing for the state
3.7 partisan primary ballot a petition for a place on the state partisan primary ballot, which
3.8 petition contains valid signatures of a number of the party members equal to at least five
3.9 percent of the total number of individuals who voted in the preceding state general election.
3.10 A signature is valid only if signed no more than one year prior to the date the petition was
3.11 filed.

3.12 (c) A political party whose candidate receives a sufficient number of votes at a state
3.13 general election described in paragraph (b), clause (1), or a political party that presents
3.14 candidates at an election as required by paragraph (b), clause (2), becomes a major political
3.15 party as of January 1 following that election. A political party that complies with paragraph
3.16 (a) retains its major party status for at least two state general elections even if the party fails
3.17 to present a candidate who receives the number and percentage of votes required under
3.18 paragraph (b), clause (1), or fails to present candidates as required by paragraph (b), clause
3.19 (2), at subsequent state general elections.

3.20 (d) A major political party whose candidates fail to receive the number and percentage
3.21 of votes required under paragraph (b), clause (1), and that fails to present candidates as
3.22 required by paragraph (b), clause (2), at each of two consecutive state general elections
3.23 described by paragraph (b), clause (1) or (2), respectively, loses major party status as of
3.24 December 31 following the later of the two consecutive state general elections.

3.25 (e) A major political party that does not submit the certification required by this
3.26 subdivision loses major party status on December 31 of the year in which the party did not
3.27 file the certification.

3.28 (f) The secretary of state must notify the chair of the major political party, the
3.29 commissioner of revenue, and the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board if the
3.30 political party's status is changed pursuant to this section.

3.31 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2024.

3.32 **Sec. 3. [200.50] MINNESOTA VOTING RIGHTS ACT.**

3.33 **Sections 200.50 to 200.59 may be cited as the "Minnesota Voting Rights Act."**

4.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

4.2 Sec. 4. **[200.52] DEFINITIONS.**

4.3 Subdivision 1. **Application.** As used in sections 200.50 to 200.59, the terms as defined
4.4 in this section have the meanings given.

4.5 Subd. 2. **Disparity.** "Disparity" means any variance that is supported by validated
4.6 methodologies and, where relevant, is statistically significant.

4.7 Subd. 3. **Government official.** "Government official" means any individual who is
4.8 elected or appointed to an office in this state or a political subdivision or who is authorized
4.9 to act in an official capacity on behalf of the state or a political subdivision.

4.10 Subd. 4. **Language minority group.** "Language minority group" means a language
4.11 minority group as that term is defined in the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended,
4.12 as of the effective date of this act.

4.13 Subd. 5. **Method of election.** (a) "Method of election" means the method by which
4.14 candidates are elected to the legislative body of a political subdivision, and includes at-large
4.15 method of election, district-based method of election, or any alternative method of election.
4.16 Method of election also includes the districting or redistricting plan used to elect candidates
4.17 to the legislative body of a political subdivision.

4.18 (b) "At-large method of election" means a method of electing candidates to the legislative
4.19 body of a political subdivision in which candidates are voted on by all voters of the political
4.20 subdivision or that combines at-large with district-based elections. At-large method of
4.21 election does not include any alternative method of election.

4.22 (c) "District-based method of election" means a method of electing candidates to the
4.23 legislative body of a political subdivision in which, for political subdivisions divided into
4.24 districts, a candidate for any district is required to reside in the district and candidates
4.25 representing or seeking to represent the district are voted on by only the voters who reside
4.26 in the district. District-based method of election does not include any alternative method of
4.27 election.

4.28 (d) "Alternative method of election" means a method of electing candidates to the
4.29 legislative body of a political subdivision other than an at-large method of election or a
4.30 district-based method of election and includes but is not limited to cumulative voting, limited
4.31 voting, and proportional ranked choice voting.

5.1 Subd. 6. **Political subdivision.** "Political subdivision" means a county, city, town, or
5.2 school district.

5.3 Subd. 7. **Politically cohesive.** "Politically cohesive" means that members of a group
5.4 tend to prefer the same candidates, electoral choices, or policies.

5.5 Subd. 8. **Protected class.** "Protected class" means a class of citizens who are members
5.6 of a racial, color, or language minority group, or who are members of a federally recognized
5.7 Indian Tribe, including a class of two or more such groups.

5.8 Subd. 9. **Polarized voting.** "Polarized voting" means voting in which the candidate or
5.9 electoral choice preferred by a protected class diverges from the candidate or electoral choice
5.10 preferred by other voters.

5.11 Subd. 10. **Vote; voting.** "Vote" or "voting" includes any action necessary to cast a ballot
5.12 and make that ballot count in any election, including but not limited to: registering to vote;
5.13 applying for an absentee ballot; and any other action required by law as a prerequisite to
5.14 casting a ballot and having that ballot counted, canvassed, certified, and included in the
5.15 appropriate totals of votes cast with respect to an election.

5.16 Subd. 11. **Voting eligible population.** "Voting eligible population" means those
5.17 individuals who are eligible to register and vote, regardless of whether the individuals are
5.18 registered to vote.

5.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

5.20 Sec. 5. **[200.53] CONSTRUCTION AND USE OF AUTHORITY.**

5.21 A law, rule, local law, charter provision, local ordinance, or local code relating to the
5.22 right to vote, or which grants authority to prescribe or maintain voting or elections policies
5.23 and practices, must be construed or applied liberally in favor of a voter's exercise of the
5.24 right of suffrage. To the extent a court is afforded discretion on an issue, including but not
5.25 limited to discovery, procedure, admissibility of evidence, or remedies, the court must
5.26 exercise that discretion and weigh other equitable discretion in favor of this right.

5.27 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

5.28 Sec. 6. **[200.54] VOTER SUPPRESSION AND VOTE DILUTION PROHIBITED.**

5.29 Subdivision 1. **Voter suppression.** A political subdivision or any other government
5.30 official or entity responsible for election administration must not adopt or apply a
5.31 qualification for eligibility to vote or other prerequisite to voting; adopt or apply any law,

6.1 ordinance, rule, standard, practice, procedure, or policy regarding the administration of
6.2 elections; or take any other action or fail to take any action that results in, is likely to result
6.3 in, or is intended to result in:

6.4 (1) a disparity in voter participation, access to voting opportunities, or the opportunity
6.5 or ability to participate in the political process between a protected class and other members
6.6 of the electorate; or

6.7 (2) based on the totality of the circumstances, a denial or impairment of the opportunity
6.8 or ability of members of a protected class to vote or participate in the political process.

6.9 Subd. 2. **Vote dilution.** (a) A political subdivision or any other government official or
6.10 entity responsible for election administration must not adopt or enforce any method of
6.11 election, or cause an annexation, incorporation, dissolution, consolidation, or division of a
6.12 political subdivision, that has the effect of impairing the equal opportunity or ability of
6.13 members of a protected class to nominate or elect candidates of their choice as a result of
6.14 diluting the vote of members of that protected class.

6.15 (b) A violation of paragraph (a) exists when it is shown that:

6.16 (1) either:

6.17 (i) elections in a political subdivision exhibit polarized voting resulting in an impairment
6.18 of the equal opportunity or ability of protected class members to nominate or elect candidates
6.19 of their choice; or

6.20 (ii) based on the totality of the circumstances, the equal opportunity or ability of protected
6.21 class members to nominate or elect candidates of their choice is impaired; and

6.22 (2) one or more new methods of election or changes to the existing method of election
6.23 exist that the court could order pursuant to section 200.58 would likely mitigate the
6.24 impairment.

6.25 (c) To the extent that a new method of election or change to the existing method of
6.26 election that is presented under paragraph (b), clause (2), is a proposed district-based plan
6.27 that provides protected class members with one or more reasonably configured districts in
6.28 which the protected class members would have an equal opportunity or ability to nominate
6.29 or elect candidates of the protected class members' choice, it is not necessary to show that
6.30 members of a protected class comprise a majority of the total population, voting age
6.31 population, voting eligible population, or registered voter population in any such district or
6.32 districts.

7.1 (d) The fact that members of a protected class are not geographically compact does not
7.2 preclude a finding of a violation of this subdivision but may be a factor in determining
7.3 whether an appropriate remedy exists that would likely mitigate the impairment.

7.4 (e) For claims brought on behalf of a protected class, including one consisting of two
7.5 or more racial, color, Tribal, or language minority groups that are politically cohesive in
7.6 the political subdivision, the court shall consider only the combined electoral preferences
7.7 of those racial, color, Tribal, or language minority groups in determining whether voting
7.8 by the protected class is polarized from other voters. It is not necessary to demonstrate that
7.9 voting by members of each racial, color, Tribal, or language minority group within a protected
7.10 class, or by any subgroup within a racial, color, or language minority group, is separately
7.11 polarized from other voters.

7.12 (f) Evidence concerning the causes of, or the reasons for, the occurrence of polarized
7.13 voting is not relevant to the determination of whether polarized voting occurs, or whether
7.14 candidates or electoral choices preferred by a protected class would usually be defeated.
7.15 Evidence concerning alternate explanations for polarized voting patterns or election
7.16 outcomes, including but not limited to partisan explanations, must not be considered.

7.17 (g) Evidence concerning projected changes in population or demographics may only be
7.18 considered when determining whether an appropriate remedy exists that would likely mitigate
7.19 the impairment.

7.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

7.21 **Sec. 7. [200.55] RELEVANT FACTORS FOR DETERMINING VIOLATION.**

7.22 Subdivision 1. **Factors established.** In determining whether, under the totality of the
7.23 circumstances, a violation of section 200.54 has occurred with respect to a protected class,
7.24 a court may consider any of the following factors:

7.25 (1) the history of discrimination affecting members of the protected class;

7.26 (2) the extent to which members of the protected class are disadvantaged, or otherwise
7.27 bear the effects of past public or private discrimination, in any areas that may hinder their
7.28 ability to participate effectively in the political process, including education, employment,
7.29 health, criminal justice, housing, transportation, land use, or environmental protection;

7.30 (3) whether members of the protected class vote at a lower rate than other voters;

7.31 (4) the use of overt or subtle racial appeals in political campaigns or by government
7.32 officials;

8.1 (5) the extent to which members of the protected class have been elected to office;

8.2 (6) the extent to which members of the protected class have faced barriers with respect
8.3 to accessing the ballot, receiving financial support, or receiving any other support for their
8.4 candidacies for elective office;

8.5 (7) the extent to which candidates who are members of a protected class face hostility
8.6 or barriers while campaigning due to the protected class membership;

8.7 (8) the extent of polarized voting;

8.8 (9) the use of any standard, practice, procedure, or policy that may enhance the dilutive
8.9 effects of a challenged method of election;

8.10 (10) the lack of responsiveness by elected officials to the particularized needs of protected
8.11 class members or a community of protected class members;

8.12 (11) whether the challenged method of election, ordinance, resolution, rule, policy,
8.13 standard, regulation, procedure, or law was designed to advance, and does materially advance,
8.14 a compelling state interest that is substantiated and supported by evidence; and

8.15 (12) other factors the court may deem relevant.

8.16 Subd. 2. **Necessity of factors.** No one factor in subdivision 1 is dispositive or necessary
8.17 to establish the existence of a violation of section 200.54, nor shall any specified number
8.18 or combination of factors be required in establishing that such a violation has occurred. The
8.19 court shall consider a particular factor only if and to the extent evidence pertaining to that
8.20 factor is introduced. The absence of evidence as to any factor does not preclude a finding
8.21 of a violation.

8.22 Subd. 3. **Claims involving a political subdivision.** To the extent a claim concerns a
8.23 political subdivision, evidence of the factors in subdivision 1 is most probative if the evidence
8.24 relates to the political subdivision in which the alleged violation occurred, but still holds
8.25 probative value if the evidence relates to the geographic region in which that political
8.26 subdivision is located or to this state.

8.27 Subd. 4. **Evidence of intent.** Evidence concerning the intent of voters, elected officials,
8.28 or the political subdivision to discriminate against members of a protected class is not
8.29 required to find a violation of section 200.54.

8.30 Subd. 5. **Factors that must be excluded.** In determining whether a violation of section
8.31 200.54 has occurred, a court shall not consider any of the following:

9.1 (1) the number of protected class members not burdened by the challenged qualification,
9.2 prerequisite, standard, practice, or procedure;

9.3 (2) the degree to which the challenged qualification, prerequisite, standard, practice, or
9.4 procedure has a long pedigree or was in widespread use at some earlier date;

9.5 (3) the use of an identical or similar qualification, prerequisite, standard, practice, or
9.6 procedure in other states or jurisdictions;

9.7 (4) the availability of other forms of voting unimpacted by the challenged qualification,
9.8 prerequisite, standard, practice, or procedure to all members of the electorate, including
9.9 members of the protected class;

9.10 (5) an impact on potential criminal activity by individual voters, if those crimes have
9.11 not occurred in the political subdivision in substantial numbers, or if the connection between
9.12 the challenged policy and any claimed prophylactic effect is not supported by substantial
9.13 evidence; or

9.14 (6) mere invocation of interests in voter confidence or prevention of fraud.

9.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

9.16 Sec. 8. **[200.56] PRESUIT NOTICE.**

9.17 Subdivision 1. **Notice required.** Except as provided in this section, before filing an
9.18 action a prospective plaintiff shall send a notice letter to the political subdivision identifying
9.19 the potential violation, the affected protected class, and the type of remedy the potential
9.20 plaintiff believes may address the potential violation. The party may not file an action related
9.21 to the violations described in the notice within 60 days after sending the notice letter.

9.22 Subd. 2. **Responsibility of political subdivision.** The political subdivision shall work
9.23 in good faith with the party that provided notice to implement a remedy that cures the
9.24 potential violation. If the political subdivision adopts a resolution identifying a remedy,
9.25 affirming its intent to enact and implement a remedy, and establishing a timeline and specific
9.26 steps it will take to do so, it shall have 90 days after passing the resolution to enact and
9.27 implement a remedy, during which time the party who sent a notice letter under this section
9.28 may not file an action related to those violations against that political subdivision.

9.29 Subd. 3. **Approval of remedies.** (a) If an administrative deadline prevents a political
9.30 subdivision from enacting or implementing an identified remedy, the political subdivision
9.31 may nonetheless enact or implement the remedy upon authorization by the secretary of
9.32 state. Notwithstanding the applicable deadline, the secretary of state may provide this

10.1 authorization upon determining that the political subdivision may otherwise be in violation
10.2 of this act, that the identified remedy would address the potential violation, and that
10.3 implementation of the identified remedy is feasible. The secretary of state's authorization
10.4 does not bar an action to challenge the remedy. The secretary of state may adopt rules
10.5 necessary to implement this paragraph, including but not limited to rules identifying specific
10.6 administrative deadlines to which this paragraph applies, and to provide for notice and
10.7 comment procedures that must be followed by political subdivisions prior to implementing
10.8 a remedy.

10.9 (b) If the political subdivision lacks authority to enact or implement an identified remedy,
10.10 including a remedy subject to paragraph (a), the political subdivision may nonetheless enact
10.11 and implement the remedy upon approval by the district court. To seek approval, the political
10.12 subdivision must file a petition in district court that identifies with specificity the law or
10.13 other authority that prevents the remedy from being enacted or implemented. The venue
10.14 for a petition under this paragraph is in the district court of the county where the challenged
10.15 act or practice occurred, or in the District Court of Ramsey County. The district court may
10.16 authorize the political subdivision to implement or enact the identified remedy
10.17 notwithstanding the applicable law or authority to the contrary, if the court determines that
10.18 the prospective plaintiff is likely to succeed in a lawsuit on the merits of the alleged violation;
10.19 that the proposed remedy would address the alleged violation; and that the proposed remedy
10.20 is narrowly tailored to that purpose.

10.21 Subd. 4. **When presuit notice is not required.** Notwithstanding subdivisions 1 and 2,
10.22 a prospective plaintiff may file an action without first providing a notice letter if:

10.23 (1) the party is seeking preliminary relief with respect to an upcoming election in
10.24 accordance with section 200.57;

10.25 (2) another party has already submitted a notice letter alleging a substantially similar
10.26 violation and that party is eligible to file an action under this act;

10.27 (3) following the party's submission of a notice letter, the political subdivision has enacted
10.28 a remedy that would not remedy the violation identified in the party's notice letter; or

10.29 (4) the prospect of obtaining relief would be futile, consistent with Minnesota's doctrine
10.30 of exhaustion of administrative remedies.

10.31 Subd. 5. **Cost sharing.** (a) If a political subdivision enacts or implements a remedy in
10.32 response to a notice letter submitted under subdivision 1, the political subdivision and the
10.33 party who sent the notice letter must mutually agree on a reimbursement amount to be paid
10.34 by the political subdivision to that party. The reimbursement amount must reflect the

11.1 reasonable costs associated with producing and sending the letter and any accompanying
11.2 evidence, subject to the limitations of this subdivision.

11.3 (b) To be eligible for a reimbursement, the party who submitted the notice letter must
11.4 submit a request to the political subdivision in writing. The request must:

11.5 (1) be received by the political subdivision within 30 days of its enactment or adoption
11.6 of the remedy; and

11.7 (2) be substantiated with financial documentation including, as applicable, detailed
11.8 invoices for expert analysis and reasonable attorney's fees.

11.9 (c) The cumulative amount of reimbursements to all parties must not exceed \$30,000.
11.10 Reimbursement amounts for attorney's fees are limited to amounts calculated using a lodestar
11.11 methodology.

11.12 (d) To the extent a party requests reimbursement for a purported notice letter that fails
11.13 to comply with the requirements in subdivision 1, or the request fails to comply with this
11.14 subdivision, the political subdivision may dismiss the request. If the request is dismissed,
11.15 the political subdivision must notify the party in writing of the reasons for the dismissal.

11.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

11.17 Sec. 9. **[200.57] RIGHT OF ACTION; VENUE; PRELIMINARY RELIEF.**

11.18 Subdivision 1. **Right of action.** (a) The attorney general, a county attorney, any individual
11.19 aggrieved by a violation of this act, any entity whose membership includes individuals
11.20 aggrieved by a violation of this act, any entity whose mission would be frustrated by a
11.21 violation of this act, or any entity that would expend resources in order to fulfill its mission
11.22 as a result of a violation of this act, may file an action in the district court for the county
11.23 where the challenged act or practice has occurred, or in the district court of Ramsey County.
11.24 Actions brought under this act are subject to expedited pretrial and trial proceedings and
11.25 must receive an automatic calendar preference. The state is a necessary party in any action
11.26 in which an alleged violation is based on a political subdivision's implementation of a state
11.27 law, if the state law does not afford discretion to the political subdivision in its
11.28 implementation of the law.

11.29 (b) In an action related to a districting or redistricting plan, any individual with standing
11.30 to challenge any single district shall be deemed to have standing to challenge the districting
11.31 or redistricting plan as a whole.

12.1 Subd. 2. Preliminary relief prior to election. In any action alleging a violation of this
12.2 act in which a plaintiff seeks preliminary relief with respect to an upcoming election, the
12.3 court shall grant relief if the court determines that:

12.4 (1) the plaintiffs are more likely than not to succeed on the merits; and

12.5 (2) it is possible to implement appropriate preliminary relief that would address the
12.6 alleged violation before the election.

12.7 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

12.8 Sec. 10. [200.58] REMEDIES.

12.9 Notwithstanding any other law, if the court finds a violation of any provision of section
12.10 200.54, the court has authority to order remedies that are tailored to best mitigate the
12.11 violation. Any remedy ordered by the court must be constructed liberally in favor of a voter's
12.12 exercise of the right of suffrage. The court may consider, among others, any remedy that
12.13 has been ordered by a federal court or the court of another state jurisdiction, including
12.14 through a court-approved consent decree or settlement adopted in the context of similar
12.15 facts or to remedy a similar violation. The court shall consider remedies proposed by any
12.16 parties and may consider remedies proposed by interested nonparties. The court may not
12.17 provide deference or priority to a proposed remedy offered by a defendant or political
12.18 subdivision simply because the remedy has been proposed by the defendant or political
12.19 subdivision.

12.20 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

12.21 Sec. 11. [200.59] FEES AND COSTS.

12.22 In any action brought under this act, the court shall award reasonable attorney fees and
12.23 litigation costs, including expert witness fees and expenses, to the party, other than a state
12.24 or a political subdivision, that filed the action and prevailed in the action. The party that
12.25 filed the action is considered to have prevailed if, as a result of the action, the party against
12.26 whom the action was filed has yielded or was ordered to yield some or all of the relief sought
12.27 in the action. If the party against whom the action was filed prevails in the action, the court
12.28 shall not award that party any costs unless the court finds the action is frivolous.

12.29 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

13.1 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 201.061, subdivision 3, is amended
13.2 to read:

13.3 Subd. 3. **Election day registration.** (a) An individual who is eligible to vote may register
13.4 on election day by appearing in person at the polling place for the precinct in which the
13.5 individual maintains residence, by completing a registration application, making an oath in
13.6 the form prescribed by the secretary of state and providing proof of residence. An individual
13.7 may prove residence for purposes of registering by:

13.8 (1) presenting a driver's license or Minnesota identification card issued pursuant to
13.9 section 171.07;

13.10 (2) presenting any document approved by the secretary of state as proper identification;

13.11 (3) presenting ~~one of the following:~~

13.12 ~~(i) a current valid student identification card from a postsecondary educational institution~~
13.13 ~~in Minnesota, if a list of students from that institution has been prepared under section~~
13.14 ~~135A.17 and certified to the county auditor in the manner provided in rules of the secretary~~
13.15 ~~of state; or~~

13.16 ~~(ii) a current student fee statement that contains the student's valid address in the precinct~~
13.17 ~~together with a picture identification card; or~~

13.18 (4) having a voter who is registered to vote in the precinct, or an employee employed
13.19 by and working in a residential facility in the precinct and vouching for a resident in the
13.20 facility, sign an oath in the presence of the election judge vouching that the voter or employee
13.21 personally knows that the individual is a resident of the precinct. A voter who has been
13.22 vouched for on election day may not sign a proof of residence oath vouching for any other
13.23 individual on that election day. A voter who is registered to vote in the precinct may sign
13.24 up to eight proof-of-residence oaths on any election day. This limitation does not apply to
13.25 an employee of a residential facility described in this clause. The secretary of state shall
13.26 provide a form for election judges to use in recording the number of individuals for whom
13.27 a voter signs proof-of-residence oaths on election day. The form must include space for the
13.28 maximum number of individuals for whom a voter may sign proof-of-residence oaths. For
13.29 each proof-of-residence oath, the form must include a statement that the individual: (i) is
13.30 registered to vote in the precinct or is an employee of a residential facility in the precinct,
13.31 (ii) personally knows that the voter is a resident of the precinct, and (iii) is making the
13.32 statement on oath. The form must include a space for the voter's printed name, signature,
13.33 telephone number, and address.

14.1 The oath required by this subdivision and Minnesota Rules, part 8200.9939, must be
14.2 attached to the voter registration application.

14.3 (b) The operator of a residential facility shall prepare a list of the names of its employees
14.4 currently working in the residential facility and the address of the residential facility. The
14.5 operator shall certify the list and provide it to the appropriate county auditor no less than
14.6 20 days before each election for use in election day registration.

14.7 (c) "Residential facility" means transitional housing as defined in section 256E.33,
14.8 subdivision 1; a supervised living facility licensed by the commissioner of health under
14.9 section 144.50, subdivision 6; a nursing home as defined in section 144A.01, subdivision
14.10 5; an assisted living facility licensed by the commissioner of health under chapter 144G; a
14.11 veterans home operated by the board of directors of the Minnesota Veterans Homes under
14.12 chapter 198; a residence licensed by the commissioner of human services to provide a
14.13 residential program as defined in section 245A.02, subdivision 14; a residential facility for
14.14 persons with a developmental disability licensed by the commissioner of human services
14.15 under section 252.28; setting authorized to provide housing support as defined in section
14.16 256I.03, subdivision 10a; a shelter for battered women as defined in section 611A.37,
14.17 subdivision 4; a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter or dwelling designed to
14.18 provide temporary living accommodations for the homeless; a facility where a provider
14.19 operates a residential treatment program as defined in section 245.462, subdivision 23; or
14.20 a facility where a provider operates an adult foster care program as defined in section
14.21 245A.02, subdivision 6c.

14.22 (d) For tribal band members, an individual may prove residence for purposes of
14.23 registering by:

14.24 (1) presenting an identification card issued by the tribal government of a tribe recognized
14.25 by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, United States Department of the Interior, that contains the
14.26 name, address, signature, and picture of the individual; or

14.27 (2) presenting an identification card issued by the tribal government of a tribe recognized
14.28 by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, United States Department of the Interior, that contains the
14.29 name, signature, and picture of the individual and also presenting one of the documents
14.30 listed in Minnesota Rules, part 8200.5100, subpart 2, item B.

14.31 (e) A county, school district, or municipality may require that an election judge
14.32 responsible for election day registration initial each completed registration application.

14.33 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2024.

15.1 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 201.061, subdivision 3a, is amended
15.2 to read:

15.3 Subd. 3a. **Additional proofs of residence permitted for students.** (a) ~~An eligible~~ If an
15.4 eligible voter's name; student identification number, if available; and address within the
15.5 precinct appear on a current residential housing list under section 135A.17 certified to the
15.6 county auditor by the postsecondary educational institution, the voter may prove residence
15.7 by presenting a current valid photo identification issued by a postsecondary educational
15.8 institution in Minnesota ~~if the voter's name; student identification number, if available; and~~
15.9 ~~address within the precinct appear on a current residential housing list under section 135A.17,~~
15.10 ~~certified to the county auditor by the postsecondary educational institution; identification~~
15.11 ~~authorized in subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (1) or (2); or identification authorized in~~
15.12 ~~subdivision 3, paragraph (d), clause (1) or (2).~~

15.13 (b) This additional proof of residence for students must not be allowed unless the
15.14 postsecondary educational institution submits to the county auditor no later than 60 days
15.15 prior to the election a written agreement that the postsecondary educational institution will
15.16 certify for use at the election accurate updated residential housing lists under section 135A.17.
15.17 A written agreement is effective for the election and all subsequent elections held in that
15.18 calendar year, including the November general election.

15.19 (c) The additional proof of residence for students must be allowed on an equal basis for
15.20 voters who reside in housing meeting the requirements of section 135A.17, if the residential
15.21 housing lists certified by the postsecondary educational institution meet the requirements
15.22 of this subdivision.

15.23 (d) An updated residential housing list must be certified to the county auditor no ~~earlier~~
15.24 later than 20 days prior to each election. The certification must be dated and signed by the
15.25 chief officer or designee of the postsecondary educational institution and must state that the
15.26 list is current and accurate and includes only the names of persons residing as of the date
15.27 of the certification.

15.28 (e) The county auditor shall instruct the election judges of the precinct in procedures for
15.29 use of the list in conjunction with photo identification. The auditor shall supply a list to the
15.30 election judges with the election supplies for the precinct.

15.31 (f) The county auditor shall notify all postsecondary educational institutions in the county
15.32 of the provisions of this subdivision.

15.33 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2024.

16.1 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 201.071, subdivision 1, is amended
16.2 to read:

16.3 Subdivision 1. **Form.** Both paper and electronic voter registration applications must
16.4 contain the same information unless otherwise provided by law. A voter registration
16.5 application must contain spaces for the following required information: voter's first name,
16.6 middle name, and last name; voter's previous name, if any; voter's current address; voter's
16.7 previous address, if any; voter's date of birth; voter's municipality and county of residence;
16.8 voter's telephone number, if provided by the voter; date of registration; current and valid
16.9 Minnesota driver's license number or Minnesota state identification number, or if the voter
16.10 has no current and valid Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota state identification, the
16.11 last four digits of the voter's Social Security number; a box to indicate a voter's preference
16.12 to join the permanent absentee voter list; and voter's signature. The paper registration
16.13 application must provide a space for a voter to provide a physical description of the location
16.14 of their residence, if the voter resides in an area lacking a specific physical address. The
16.15 paper registration application may include the voter's email address, if provided by the voter.
16.16 The electronic voter registration application must include the voter's email address. The
16.17 registration application may include the voter's interest in serving as an election judge, if
16.18 indicated by the voter. The application must also contain the following certification of voter
16.19 eligibility:

16.20 "I certify that I:

16.21 (1) am at least 16 years old and understand that I must be at least 18 years old to be
16.22 eligible to vote;

16.23 (2) am a citizen of the United States;

16.24 (3) will have maintained residence in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding
16.25 election day;

16.26 (4) maintain residence at the address or location given on the registration form;

16.27 (5) am not under court-ordered guardianship in which the court order revokes my right
16.28 to vote;

16.29 (6) have not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote;

16.30 (7) am not currently incarcerated for a conviction of a felony offense; and

16.31 (8) have read and understand the following statement: that giving false information is a
16.32 felony punishable by not more than five years imprisonment or a fine of not more than
16.33 \$10,000, or both."

17.1 The certification must include boxes for the voter to respond to the following questions:

17.2 "(1) Are you a citizen of the United States?" and

17.3 "(2) Are you at least 16 years old and will you be at least 18 years old on or before the
17.4 day of the election in which you intend to vote?"

17.5 And the instruction:

17.6 "If you checked 'no' to either of these questions, do not complete this form."

17.7 The form of the voter registration application and the certification of voter eligibility
17.8 must be as provided in this subdivision and approved by the secretary of state. Voter
17.9 registration forms authorized by the National Voter Registration Act must also be accepted
17.10 as valid. The federal postcard application form must also be accepted as valid if it is not
17.11 deficient and the voter is eligible to register in Minnesota.

17.12 An individual may use a voter registration application to apply to register to vote in
17.13 Minnesota or to change information on an existing registration.

17.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2024.

17.15 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 201.071, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

17.16 Subd. 3. **Deficient registration.** No voter registration application is deficient if it contains
17.17 the voter's name, address or location of residence, date of birth, current and valid Minnesota
17.18 driver's license number or Minnesota state identification number, or if the voter has no
17.19 current and valid Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota state identification number, the
17.20 last four digits of the voter's Social Security number, if the voter has been issued a Social
17.21 Security number, prior registration, if any, and signature. The absence of a zip code number
17.22 does not cause the registration to be deficient. Failure to check a box on an application form
17.23 that a voter has certified to be true does not cause the registration to be deficient. The election
17.24 judges shall request an individual to correct a voter registration application if it is deficient
17.25 or illegible. No eligible voter may be prevented from voting unless the voter's registration
17.26 application is deficient or the voter is duly and successfully challenged in accordance with
17.27 section 201.195 or 204C.12.

17.28 A voter registration application accepted prior to August 1, 1983, is not deficient for
17.29 lack of date of birth. The county or municipality may attempt to obtain the date of birth for
17.30 a voter registration application accepted prior to August 1, 1983, by a request to the voter
17.31 at any time except at the polling place. Failure by the voter to comply with this request does
17.32 not make the registration deficient.

18.1 A voter registration application accepted before January 1, 2004, is not deficient for lack
18.2 of a valid Minnesota driver's license or state identification number or the last four digits of
18.3 a Social Security number. A voter registration application submitted by a voter who does
18.4 not have a Minnesota driver's license or state identification number, or a Social Security
18.5 number, is not deficient for lack of any of these numbers.

18.6 A voter registration application submitted electronically through the website of the
18.7 secretary of state prior to April 30, 2014, is not invalid as a result of its electronic submission.

18.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2024.

18.9 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 201.1611, subdivision 1, is amended
18.10 to read:

18.11 Subdivision 1. **Forms.** (a) All postsecondary institutions that enroll students accepting
18.12 state or federal financial aid must provide voter registration forms to each student during
18.13 the fall and spring of each year. In state election years, it must be provided 15 days in
18.14 advance of the deadline for registering to vote for the state general election. If the voter
18.15 registration forms are provided electronically, the electronic message must be devoted
18.16 exclusively to voter registration.

18.17 (b) All school districts must make available paper or electronic voter registration
18.18 applications each May and September to all students registered as students of the school
18.19 district who ~~will be~~ are eligible to register or preregister to vote ~~at the next election after~~
18.20 ~~those months~~. A school district has no obligation to provide voter registration applications
18.21 to students who participate in a postsecondary education option program or who otherwise
18.22 maintain residence in the district but do not attend a school operated by the district. A school
18.23 district fulfills its obligation to a student under this section if it provides a voter registration
18.24 application to the student one time.

18.25 (c) The voter registration forms must contain spaces for the information required in
18.26 section 201.071, subdivision 1, and applicable rules of the secretary of state. The institutions
18.27 and school districts may request these forms from the secretary of state. Institutions must
18.28 consult with their campus student government in determining the most effective means of
18.29 distributing the forms and in seeking to facilitate election day registration of students under
18.30 section 201.061, subdivision 3. School districts must advise students that completion of the
18.31 voter registration application is not a school district requirement.

18.32 (d) The institutions must report to the secretary of state by November 30 of each year
18.33 on their implementation of this section. At a minimum, the report must include how and

19.1 when the forms were distributed and the voter engagement plan under subdivision 3,
19.2 paragraph (b), clause (2). Institutions may include information about methods that were
19.3 effective in increasing student registrations.

19.4 (e) By February 1 of each year, the secretary of state must report to the chairs and ranking
19.5 minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over elections on the
19.6 information under paragraph (d). The secretary must highlight best practices and innovative
19.7 methods that were most effective in registering students to vote.

19.8 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 203B.04, subdivision 1, is amended
19.9 to read:

19.10 Subdivision 1. **Application procedures.** (a) Except as otherwise allowed by subdivision
19.11 2 or by section 203B.11, subdivision 4, an application for absentee ballots for any election
19.12 may be submitted at any time not less than one day before the day of that election. The
19.13 county auditor shall prepare absentee ballot application forms in the format provided by the
19.14 secretary of state and shall furnish them to any person on request. By January 1 of each
19.15 even-numbered year, the secretary of state shall make the forms to be used available to
19.16 auditors through electronic means. An application submitted pursuant to this subdivision
19.17 shall be in writing. An application may be submitted in person, by electronic facsimile
19.18 device, by electronic mail, or by mail to:

19.19 (1) the county auditor of the county where the applicant maintains residence; or

19.20 (2) the municipal clerk of the municipality, or school district if applicable, where the
19.21 applicant maintains residence.

19.22 ~~For a federal, state, or county election,~~ (b) An absentee ballot application may
19.23 alternatively be submitted electronically through a secure website that shall be maintained
19.24 by the secretary of state for this purpose. Notwithstanding paragraph ~~(b)~~ (d), the secretary
19.25 of state must require applicants using the website to submit the applicant's email address
19.26 and verifiable Minnesota driver's license number, Minnesota state identification card number,
19.27 or the last four digits of the applicant's Social Security number. This paragraph does not
19.28 apply to a town election held in March.

19.29 (c) An application submitted electronically under this paragraph may only be transmitted
19.30 to the county auditor for processing if the secretary of state has verified the application
19.31 information matches the information in a government database associated with the applicant's
19.32 driver's license number, state identification card number, or Social Security number. The
19.33 secretary of state must review all unverifiable applications for evidence of suspicious activity

20.1 and must forward any such application to an appropriate law enforcement agency for
20.2 investigation.

20.3 ~~(b)~~ (d) An application shall be approved if it is timely received, signed and dated by the
20.4 applicant, contains the applicant's name and residence and mailing addresses, date of birth,
20.5 and at least one of the following:

20.6 (1) the applicant's Minnesota driver's license number;

20.7 (2) Minnesota state identification card number;

20.8 (3) the last four digits of the applicant's Social Security number; or

20.9 (4) a statement that the applicant does not have any of these numbers.

20.10 ~~(e)~~ (e) To be approved, the application must contain an oath that the information contained
20.11 on the form is accurate, that the applicant is applying on the applicant's own behalf, and
20.12 that the applicant is signing the form under penalty of perjury.

20.13 ~~(d)~~ (f) An applicant's full date of birth, Minnesota driver's license or state identification
20.14 number, and the last four digits of the applicant's Social Security number must not be made
20.15 available for public inspection. An application may be submitted to the county auditor or
20.16 municipal clerk by an electronic facsimile device. An application mailed or returned in
20.17 person to the county auditor or municipal clerk on behalf of a voter by a person other than
20.18 the voter must be deposited in the mail or returned in person to the county auditor or
20.19 municipal clerk within ten days after it has been dated by the voter and no later than six
20.20 days before the election.

20.21 ~~(e)~~ (g) An application under this subdivision may contain an application under subdivision
20.22 5 to automatically receive an absentee ballot.

20.23 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective September 1, 2025, and applies to
20.24 elections occurring on or after November 4, 2025.

20.25 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 203B.07, subdivision 3, is amended
20.26 to read:

20.27 Subd. 3. **Eligibility certificate.** A certificate of eligibility to vote by absentee ballot
20.28 shall be printed on the back of the signature envelope. The certificate shall contain space
20.29 for the voter's Minnesota driver's license number, state identification number, or the last
20.30 four digits of the voter's Social Security number, or to indicate that the voter does not have
20.31 one of these numbers. The space must be designed to ensure that the voter provides the
20.32 same type of identification as provided on the voter's absentee ballot application for purposes

21.1 of comparison. The certificate must also contain a statement to be signed and sworn by the
21.2 voter indicating that the voter meets all of the requirements established by law for voting
21.3 by absentee ballot and space for a statement signed by a person who is ~~registered to vote in~~
21.4 Minnesota at least 18 years of age on or before the day of the election and a citizen of the
21.5 United States or by a notary public or other individual authorized to administer oaths stating
21.6 that:

21.7 (1) the ballots were displayed to that individual unmarked;

21.8 (2) the voter marked the ballots in that individual's presence without showing how they
21.9 were marked, or, if the voter was physically unable to mark them, that the voter directed
21.10 another individual to mark them; and

21.11 (3) if the voter was not previously registered, the voter has provided proof of residence
21.12 as required by section 201.061, subdivision 3.

21.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for elections for which the absentee
21.14 ballot period begins on or after January 1, 2025.

21.15 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 203B.081, subdivision 4, is amended
21.16 to read:

21.17 Subd. 4. **Temporary locations.** (a) A county auditor or municipal clerk authorized under
21.18 section 203B.05 to administer voting before election day may designate additional polling
21.19 places with days and hours that differ from those required by section 203B.085. A designation
21.20 authorized by this subdivision must be made at least 47 days before the election. The county
21.21 auditor or municipal clerk must provide notice to the secretary of state at the time that the
21.22 designations are made.

21.23 (b) At the request of a federally recognized Indian Tribe with a reservation in the county,
21.24 the county auditor must establish an additional polling place for at least one day on the
21.25 Indian reservation on a site agreed upon by the Tribe and the county auditor that is accessible
21.26 to the county auditor by a public road.

21.27 (c) At the request of a postsecondary institution or the student government organization
21.28 of a postsecondary institution in the county or municipality, the county auditor or municipal
21.29 clerk must establish an additional polling place for at least one day on the institution's
21.30 campus at a location that is agreed upon by the institution and the county auditor or municipal
21.31 clerk and that is accessible to the public. The request must be made at least 53 days before
21.32 an election, and is valid only for that election. This paragraph applies to postsecondary

22.1 institutions with an undergraduate in-person enrollment of at least 1,500, including full-time
22.2 and part-time students.

22.3 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 204B.09, subdivision 3, is amended
22.4 to read:

22.5 Subd. 3. **Write-in candidates.** (a) A candidate for county, state, or federal office who
22.6 wants write-in votes for the candidate to be counted must file a written request with the
22.7 filing office for the office sought not more than 84 days before the primary and no later
22.8 than the seventh day before the general election. The filing officer shall provide copies of
22.9 the form to make the request. The filing officer shall not accept a written request later than
22.10 5:00 p.m. on the last day for filing a written request.

22.11 (b) The governing body of a statutory or home rule charter city may adopt a resolution
22.12 governing the counting of write-in votes for local elective office. The resolution may:

22.13 (1) require the candidate to file a written request with the chief election official no later
22.14 than the seventh day before the city election if the candidate wants to have the candidate's
22.15 write-in votes individually recorded; or

22.16 (2) require that write-in votes for an individual candidate only be individually recorded
22.17 if the total number of write-in votes for that office is equal to or greater than the fewest
22.18 number of non-write-in votes for a ballot candidate.

22.19 If the governing body of the statutory or home rule charter city adopts a resolution authorized
22.20 by this paragraph, the resolution must be adopted and the city clerk must notify the county
22.21 auditor before the first day of filing for office. A resolution adopted under this paragraph
22.22 remains in effect until a subsequent resolution on the same subject is adopted by the
22.23 governing body of the statutory or home rule charter city.

22.24 (c) The governing body of a township, school board, hospital district, park district, soil
22.25 and water district, or other ancillary elected district may adopt a resolution governing the
22.26 counting of write-in votes for local elective office. The resolution may require that write-in
22.27 votes for an individual candidate only be individually recorded if the total number of write-in
22.28 votes for that office is equal to or greater than the fewest number of non-write-in votes for
22.29 a ballot candidate. If a governing body adopts a resolution authorized by this paragraph,
22.30 the resolution must be adopted and the clerk must notify the county auditor before the first
22.31 day of filing for office. A resolution adopted under this paragraph remains in effect until a
22.32 subsequent resolution on the same subject is adopted by the governing body.

23.1 (d) A candidate for president of the United States who files a request under this
 23.2 subdivision must include the name of a candidate for vice president of the United States.
 23.3 The request must also include the name of at least one candidate for presidential elector.
 23.4 The total number of names of candidates for presidential elector on the request may not
 23.5 exceed the total number of electoral votes to be cast by Minnesota in the presidential election.

23.6 (e) A candidate for governor who files a request under this subdivision must file jointly
 23.7 with another individual seeking nomination as a candidate for lieutenant governor. A
 23.8 candidate for lieutenant governor who files a request under this subdivision must file jointly
 23.9 with another individual seeking nomination as a candidate for governor.

23.10 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 204B.16, subdivision 1, is amended
 23.11 to read:

23.12 Subdivision 1. **Authority; location.** (a) By December 31 of each year, the governing
 23.13 body of each municipality and of each county with precincts in unorganized territory must
 23.14 designate by ordinance or resolution any changes to a polling place location. A polling place
 23.15 must be maintained ~~for the following calendar year~~ unless changed in accordance with this
 23.16 paragraph, or:

23.17 (1) ~~by ordinance or resolution by December 31 of the previous year;~~

23.18 (2) pursuant to section 204B.175;

23.19 (3) (2) because a polling place has become unavailable;

23.20 (4) (3) because a township designates one location for all state, county, and federal
 23.21 elections and one location for all township only elections; and

23.22 (5) (4) pursuant to section 204B.14, subdivision 3.

23.23 (b) Polling places must be designated and ballots must be distributed so that no one is
 23.24 required to go to more than one polling place to vote in a school district and municipal
 23.25 election held on the same day. The polling place for a precinct in a city or in a school district
 23.26 located in whole or in part in the metropolitan area defined by section 200.02, subdivision
 23.27 24, shall be located within the boundaries of the precinct or within one mile of one of those
 23.28 boundaries unless a single polling place is designated for a city pursuant to section 204B.14,
 23.29 subdivision 2, or a school district pursuant to section 205A.11. The polling place for a
 23.30 precinct in unorganized territory may be located outside the precinct at a place which is
 23.31 convenient to the voters of the precinct. If no suitable place is available within a town or
 23.32 within a school district located outside the metropolitan area defined by section 200.02,
 23.33 subdivision 24, then the polling place for a town or school district may be located outside

24.1 the town or school district within five miles of one of the boundaries of the town or school
24.2 district.

24.3 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 204B.295, subdivision 1, is amended
24.4 to read:

24.5 Subdivision 1. **Duty.** The secretary of state or county auditor must contract with a
24.6 translator certified by the American Translators Association to develop voting instructions
24.7 and sample ballots in languages other than English, to be made available in polling places
24.8 during elections as required by this section. At a minimum, the secretary of state must
24.9 prepare voting instructions and make the instructions available in polling places in the three
24.10 most commonly spoken non-English languages in the state as determined by the state
24.11 demographer for the previous calendar year. For state elections, the secretary of state must
24.12 prepare and provide example ballots to county auditors and post voting instructions in print,
24.13 electronic, and audio-visual formats, on the secretary of state's website in at least the three
24.14 most commonly spoken non-English languages in the state as determined by the state
24.15 demographer for the previous calendar year.

24.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2024.

24.17 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 204B.295, subdivision 2, is amended
24.18 to read:

24.19 Subd. 2. **Designation of language minority districts.** ~~No later than 90 days before an~~
24.20 ~~election~~ By January 1 of each year, the secretary of state or county auditor, in consultation
24.21 with the state demographer, must determine the percentage of residents in each census tract
24.22 who are members of a language minority and who lack sufficient skills in English to vote
24.23 without assistance. Language minority districts will be designated if three percent or more
24.24 of the population in a corresponding census tract speak English "less than very well"
24.25 according to the most recent census data. The state demographer must consider the identified
24.26 margin of error in the census data when identifying census tracts. Designations made in
24.27 January apply to elections for which absentee balloting begins on or after January 1 of each
24.28 year and continue through the end of the calendar year.

24.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2024.

25.1 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 204B.295, subdivision 3, is amended
25.2 to read:

25.3 Subd. 3. **Translation required; interpreter required.** (a) If the number of residents
25.4 determined under subdivision 2 equals three percent or more of a census tract, or if interested
25.5 citizens or organizations provide information that gives the secretary of state or county
25.6 auditor sufficient reason to believe a need exists, at least two copies of the translated voting
25.7 instructions and sample ballots must be provided to each precinct in that district during any
25.8 regular or special state election conducted in that district. If more than one language is
25.9 represented in three or more percent of residents as determined in subdivision 2, translated
25.10 materials must be provided in, at minimum, the highest determined language and any
25.11 language representing three percent or more of a census tract.

25.12 (b) If the number of residents determined under subdivision 2 equals 20 percent or more
25.13 of the population of a census tract, or if interested citizens or organizations provide
25.14 information that gives the secretary of state or county auditor sufficient reason to believe a
25.15 need exists, at least four copies of the translated voting instructions and sample ballots must
25.16 be provided to each precinct in that district during any regular or special state election
25.17 conducted in that district. If more than one language is represented in the 20 or more percent
25.18 of residents as determined in subdivision 2, translated materials must be provided in, at
25.19 minimum, the highest determined language and any language representing three percent or
25.20 more of a census tract. In these precincts, the county auditor or municipal clerk must appoint
25.21 at least one interpreter to translate in a specified language if ten or more registered voters
25.22 in the precinct file a request for interpretive services for that language with the secretary of
25.23 state or county auditor at least 30 days prior to the date of the election. This interpreter must
25.24 wear a name tag or other badge indicating the interpreter's language certification. For
25.25 purposes of section 204C.06 and any other applicable law, an interpreter appointed under
25.26 this section is considered an election official and may be present in a polling place for the
25.27 purpose of conducting duties assigned by the county auditor or municipal clerk.

25.28 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2024.

25.29 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 204B.295, is amended by adding
25.30 a subdivision to read:

25.31 Subd. 5. **Sample ballot format requirements.** For the purposes of this section, sample
25.32 ballots must accurately reflect the offices, candidates, and rotation sequence on the ballots
25.33 used in that polling place. Sample ballots may deviate from other ballot formatting
25.34 requirements to the extent required to accommodate the translated content.

26.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2024.

26.2 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204C.06, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

26.3 Subdivision 1. **Persons allowed near polling place.** An individual shall be allowed to
26.4 go to and from the polling place for the purpose of voting without unlawful interference.
26.5 No one except an election official or an individual who is waiting to register or to vote or
26.6 an individual who is conducting exit polling shall stand within 100 feet of the building in
26.7 which a polling place is located. ~~"Exit polling" is defined as approaching voters in a
26.8 predetermined pattern as they leave the polling place after they have voted and asking voters
26.9 to fill out an anonymous, written questionnaire.~~

26.10 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204C.06, is amended by adding a subdivision
26.11 to read:

26.12 Subd. 1a. **Exit polling.** (a) "Exit polling" is defined as approaching voters in a
26.13 predetermined pattern as they leave the polling place after they have voted and asking voters
26.14 to fill out an anonymous, written questionnaire.

26.15 (b) An individual conducting exit polling must present photo identification to the head
26.16 judge upon arrival at the polling place, along with a letter or credential from the news media.

26.17 (c) A person must not conduct exit polling in a manner that unlawfully interferes with
26.18 a person going to or from the polling place or allows any person to view another person's
26.19 responses to the poll.

26.20 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204C.19, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

26.21 Subd. 3. **Premature disclosure of count results.** No count results from any precinct
26.22 shall be disclosed by any election judge or other individual until all count results from that
26.23 precinct are available, nor shall the public media disclose any count results from any precinct
26.24 before the time when voting is scheduled to end in the state. Count results from absentee
26.25 ballots received by the county after 3:00 p.m. on election day may be added to the total
26.26 count results after the initial results reporting of the precinct. If the precinct results do not
26.27 include all absentee ballots, the county must report to the secretary of state and on the
26.28 county's website the number of absentee ballots remaining to be processed. After processing
26.29 the remaining ballots, the county must post on the county's website how many of the
26.30 remaining ballots were accepted and added to the totals and how many were rejected and
26.31 therefore not counted.

27.1 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204C.20, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

27.2 Subdivision 1. **Determination of proper number.** The election judges shall determine
27.3 the number of ballots to be counted by ~~adding the number of return envelopes from accepted~~
27.4 ~~absentee ballots to~~ tallying the number of signed voter's certificates, or to the number of
27.5 names entered in the election register. The election judges shall then remove all the ballots
27.6 from the box. Without considering how the ballots are marked, the election judges shall
27.7 ascertain that each ballot is separate and shall count them to determine whether the number
27.8 of ballots in the box corresponds with the number of ballots to be counted.

27.9 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2024.

27.10 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204C.20, is amended by adding a subdivision
27.11 to read:

27.12 Subd. 5. **Precincts with ballot tabulators.** In precincts using ballot tabulators, once the
27.13 final count of ballots agrees with the number of ballots to be counted, election judges must
27.14 immediately prepare the summary statement in accordance with section 204C.24 and seal
27.15 the ballots in accordance with section 204C.25 for return to the county auditor.

27.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2024.

27.17 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 204C.24, subdivision 1, is amended
27.18 to read:

27.19 Subdivision 1. **Information requirements.** Precinct summary statements shall be
27.20 submitted by the election judges in every precinct. For all elections, the election judges
27.21 shall complete three or more copies of the summary statements, and each copy shall contain
27.22 the following information for each kind of ballot:

27.23 (1) the number of ballots delivered to the precinct as adjusted by the actual count made
27.24 by the election judges, the number of unofficial ballots made, and the number of absentee
27.25 ballots delivered to the precinct;

27.26 (2) the number of votes each candidate received or the number of yes and no votes on
27.27 each question, the number of undervotes, the number of overvotes, and the number of
27.28 defective ballots with respect to each office or question;

27.29 (3) the number of spoiled ballots, the number of duplicate ballots made, the number of
27.30 absentee ballots rejected, and the number of unused ballots, presuming that the total count
27.31 provided on each package of unopened prepackaged ballots is correct;

28.1 (4) the number of voted ballots indicating only a voter's choices as provided by section
28.2 206.80, paragraph (b), clause (2), item (ii), in precincts that use an assistive voting device
28.3 that produces this type of ballot;

28.4 (5) the number of individuals who voted at the election in the precinct which must equal
28.5 the total number of ballots cast in the precinct, as required by sections 204C.20 and 206.86,
28.6 subdivision 1;

28.7 (6) the number of voters registering on election day in that precinct;

28.8 (7) the signatures of the election judges who counted the ballots certifying that all of the
28.9 ballots cast were properly piled, checked, and counted; and that the numbers entered by the
28.10 election judges on the summary statements correctly show the number of votes cast for each
28.11 candidate and for and against each question;

28.12 (8) the number of election judges that worked in that precinct on election day; and

28.13 (9) the number of voting booths used in that precinct on election day.

28.14 At least two copies of the summary statement must be prepared for elections not held
28.15 on the same day as the state elections.

28.16 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 204C.28, subdivision 1, is amended
28.17 to read:

28.18 Subdivision 1. **County auditor.** (a) Every county auditor must remain at the auditor's
28.19 office to receive delivery of the returns, to permit public inspection of the summary
28.20 statements, and to tabulate the votes ~~until all have been tabulated and the results made~~
28.21 ~~known, or~~ until 24 hours have elapsed since the end of the hours for voting, ~~whichever~~
28.22 ~~occurs first~~ unless the county auditor adjourns absentee ballot counting. Every county auditor
28.23 must, in the presence of the municipal clerk or the election judges who deliver the returns,
28.24 make a record of all materials delivered, the time of delivery, and the names of the municipal
28.25 clerk or election judges who made delivery. The record must include the number of ballots
28.26 delivered to the precinct, as certified by section 204B.28, and the total number of ballots
28.27 returned, as certified by the election judges under section 204C.24. A discrepancy between
28.28 the number of ballots delivered to the precinct and the number of total ballots returned by
28.29 election judges that cannot be reconciled by taking into account the adjustments made by
28.30 the election judge counts and any unofficial ballots must be noted, but does not necessarily
28.31 require disqualification of the votes from that precinct or invalidation of the election. The
28.32 county auditor must file the record and all envelopes containing ballots in a safe and secure
28.33 place with envelope seals unbroken. Access to the record and ballots must be strictly

29.1 controlled. Accountability and a record of access must be maintained by the county auditor
29.2 during the period for contesting elections or, if a contest is filed, until the contest has been
29.3 finally determined. Thereafter, the record must be retained in the auditor's office for the
29.4 same period as the ballots as provided in section 204B.40.

29.5 (b) The county auditor must file all envelopes containing ballots in a safe place with
29.6 seals unbroken. If the envelopes are opened by proper authority for examination or recount
29.7 as specifically authorized by a court or statute, the county auditor must have the envelopes
29.8 sealed again and signed by the individuals who made the inspection or recount. The envelopes
29.9 may be opened by the county auditor if necessary to procure election returns that the election
29.10 judges inadvertently may have sealed in the envelopes with the ballots. In that case, the
29.11 envelopes must be sealed again and signed in the same manner as otherwise provided in
29.12 this subdivision.

29.13 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204C.35, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

29.14 Subd. 2. **Discretionary candidate recounts.** (a) A losing candidate whose name was
29.15 on the ballot for nomination or election to a statewide federal office, state constitutional
29.16 office, statewide judicial office, congressional office, state legislative office, or district
29.17 judicial office may request a recount in a manner provided in this section at the candidate's
29.18 own expense when the vote difference is greater than the difference required by this section.
29.19 The votes shall be manually recounted as provided in this section if the candidate files a
29.20 request during the time for filing notice of contest of the primary or election for which a
29.21 recount is sought.

29.22 (b) The requesting candidate shall file with the filing officer a bond, cash, or surety in
29.23 an amount set by the filing officer for the payment of the recount expenses. The requesting
29.24 candidate is responsible for the following expenses: the compensation of the secretary of
29.25 state, or designees, and any election judge, municipal clerk, county auditor, administrator,
29.26 or other personnel who participate in the recount; necessary supplies and travel related to
29.27 the recount; the compensation of the appropriate canvassing board and costs of preparing
29.28 for the canvass of recount results; and any attorney fees incurred in connection with the
29.29 recount by the governing body responsible for the recount.

29.30 (c) A discretionary recount of a primary must not delay delivery of the notice of
29.31 nomination to the winning candidate under section 204C.32.

29.32 (d) The requesting candidate may provide the filing officer with a list of up to three
29.33 precincts that are to be recounted first and may waive the balance of the recount after these

30.1 precincts have been counted. If the candidate provides a list, the recount official must
30.2 determine the expenses for those precincts in the manner provided by paragraph (b).

30.3 (e) The results of the recount must be certified by the canvassing board as soon as
30.4 possible.

30.5 (f) If the winner of the race is changed by the optional recount, the cost of the recount
30.6 must be paid by the jurisdiction conducting the recount.

30.7 (g) If a result of the vote counting in the manual recount is different from the result of
30.8 the vote counting reported on election day by a margin greater than ~~the standard for~~
30.9 ~~acceptable performance of voting systems provided in section 206.89, subdivision 4, two~~
30.10 votes and greater than one-quarter of one percent of the number of ballots counted, the cost
30.11 of the recount must be paid by the jurisdiction conducting the recount.

30.12 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204C.36, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

30.13 Subd. 2. **Discretionary candidate recounts.** (a) A losing candidate for nomination or
30.14 election to a county, municipal, or school district office may request a recount in the manner
30.15 provided in this section at the candidate's own expense when the vote difference is greater
30.16 than the difference required by subdivision 1, paragraphs (a) to (e). The votes shall be
30.17 manually recounted as provided in this section if the requesting candidate files with the
30.18 county auditor, municipal clerk, or school district clerk a bond, cash, or surety in an amount
30.19 set by the governing body of the jurisdiction or the school board of the school district for
30.20 the payment of the recount expenses.

30.21 (b) The requesting candidate may provide the filing officer with a list of up to three
30.22 precincts that are to be recounted first and may waive the balance of the recount after these
30.23 precincts have been counted. If the candidate provides a list, the recount official must
30.24 determine the expenses for those precincts in the manner provided by paragraph (b).

30.25 (c) A discretionary recount of a primary must not delay delivery of the notice of
30.26 nomination to the winning candidate under section 204C.32.

30.27 (d) The results of the recount must be certified by the canvassing board as soon as
30.28 possible.

30.29 (e) If the winner of the race is changed by the optional recount, the cost of the recount
30.30 must be paid by the jurisdiction conducting the recount.

30.31 (f) If a result of the vote counting in the manual recount is different from the result of
30.32 the vote counting reported on election day by a margin greater than ~~the standard for~~

31.1 ~~acceptable performance of voting systems provided in section 206.89, subdivision 4~~ two
31.2 votes and greater than one-quarter of one percent of the number of ballots recounted, the
31.3 cost of the recount must be paid by the jurisdiction conducting the recount.

31.4 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204C.36, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

31.5 Subd. 3. **Discretionary ballot question recounts.** ~~A recount may be conducted for a~~
31.6 ~~ballot question when the difference between the votes for and the votes against the question~~
31.7 ~~is less than or equal to the difference provided in subdivision 1.~~ A recount for a ballot
31.8 question may be requested by any person eligible to vote on the ballot question. A written
31.9 request for a recount must be filed with the filing officer of the county, municipality, or
31.10 school district placing the question on the ballot and must be accompanied by a petition
31.11 containing the signatures of 25 voters eligible to vote on the question. Upon receipt of a
31.12 written request when the difference between the votes for ~~and the votes against~~ the question
31.13 and the number required for passage is less than or equal to the difference provided in
31.14 subdivision 1, the county auditor shall recount the votes for a county question at the expense
31.15 of the county, the governing body of the municipality shall recount the votes for a municipal
31.16 question at the expense of the municipality, and the school board of the school district shall
31.17 recount the votes for a school district question at the expense of the school district. If the
31.18 ~~difference between the votes for and the votes against~~ the question and the number required
31.19 for passage is greater than the difference provided in subdivision 1, the person requesting
31.20 the recount shall also file with the filing officer of the county, municipality, or school district
31.21 a bond, cash, or surety in an amount set by the appropriate governing body for the payment
31.22 of recount expenses. The written request, petition, and any bond, cash, or surety required
31.23 must be filed during the time for notice of contest for the election for which the recount is
31.24 requested.

31.25 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 205.16, subdivision 2, is amended
31.26 to read:

31.27 Subd. 2. **Sample ballot, publication.** For every municipal election not held in conjunction
31.28 with a statewide election, the municipal clerk must, at least two weeks before the election,
31.29 publish a notice to voters pursuant to section 204D.16 in the official newspaper of the
31.30 municipality, except that the governing body of a fourth class city or a town not located
31.31 within a metropolitan county as defined in section 473.121 may dispense with publication.

32.1 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 205.16, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

32.2 Subd. 4. **Notice to auditor.** At least ~~74~~ 84 days before every municipal election, the
32.3 municipal clerk shall provide a written notice to the county auditor, including the date of
32.4 the election, the offices to be voted on at the election, and the title and language for each
32.5 ballot question to be voted on at the election. At least ~~74~~ 84 days before every municipal
32.6 election, the municipal clerk must provide written notice to the county auditor of any special
32.7 election canceled under section 205.10, subdivision 6.

32.8 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 205.16, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

32.9 Subd. 5. **Notice to secretary of state.** At least ~~74~~ 84 days before every municipal election
32.10 for which a notice is provided to the county auditor under subdivision 4, the county auditor
32.11 shall provide a notice of the election to the secretary of state, in a manner and including
32.12 information prescribed by the secretary of state.

32.13 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 205A.05, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

32.14 Subd. 3. **Cancellation.** A special election ordered by the school board on its own motion
32.15 under subdivision 1 may be canceled by motion of the school board, but not less than ~~74~~
32.16 84 days before ~~an any election held in conjunction with a regularly scheduled election for~~
32.17 ~~federal, state, county, city, or school board office or a special election for federal office, or~~
32.18 ~~46 days before any other election.~~

32.19 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 205A.07, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

32.20 Subd. 3. **Notice to auditor.** At least ~~74~~ 84 days before every school district election, the
32.21 school district clerk shall provide a written notice to the county auditor of each county in
32.22 which the school district is located. The notice must include the date of the election, the
32.23 offices to be voted on at the election, and the title and language for each ballot question to
32.24 be voted on at the election. For the purposes of meeting the timelines of this section, in a
32.25 bond election, a notice, including a proposed question, may be provided to the county auditor
32.26 before receipt of a review and comment from the commissioner of education and before
32.27 actual initiation of the election. At least ~~74~~ 84 days before every school district election,
32.28 the school district clerk must provide written notice to the county auditor of any special
32.29 election canceled under section 205A.05, subdivision 3.

33.1 Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 205A.07, subdivision 3b, is amended to read:

33.2 Subd. 3b. **Notice to secretary of state.** At least ~~74~~ 84 days before every school district
33.3 election for which a notice is provided to the county auditor under subdivision 3, the county
33.4 auditor shall provide a notice of the election to the secretary of state, in a manner and
33.5 including information prescribed by the secretary of state.

33.6 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 205A.11, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

33.7 Subd. 2. **Combined polling place.** (a) When no other election is being held in a school
33.8 district, the school board may designate combined polling places at which the voters in
33.9 those precincts may vote in the school district election.

33.10 (b) By December 31 of each year, the school board must designate, by resolution, any
33.11 changes to combined polling places. The combined polling places designated in the resolution
33.12 are the polling places ~~for the following calendar year~~, unless a change is made in accordance
33.13 with this paragraph or:

33.14 (1) pursuant to section 204B.175; or

33.15 (2) because a polling place has become unavailable.

33.16 (c) If the school board designates combined polling places pursuant to this subdivision,
33.17 polling places must be designated throughout the district, taking into account both
33.18 geographical distribution and population distribution. A combined polling place must be at
33.19 a location designated for use as a polling place by a county or municipality.

33.20 (d) In school districts that have organized into separate board member election districts
33.21 under section 205A.12, a combined polling place for a school general election must be
33.22 arranged so that it does not include more than one board member election district.

33.23 Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 206.61, subdivision 1, is amended
33.24 to read:

33.25 Subdivision 1. **Official responsible for providing ballots.** (a) The official charged with
33.26 providing paper ballots when they are used shall provide all ballot cards, sample ballots,
33.27 precinct summary statements, and other necessary supplies needed for electronic voting
33.28 systems, except as otherwise provided by this section.

33.29 (b) At general elections and primaries the county auditor of each county in which an
33.30 electronic voting system is used shall provide all ballot cards and other necessary printed
33.31 forms and supplies needed for the electronic voting system, including all forms needed for

34.1 voting on candidates and questions, the ballots for which are required by the election laws
34.2 to be provided by the state when paper ballots are used.

34.3 (c) In precincts using a ballot format as provided by section 206.80, paragraph (b), clause
34.4 (2), item (ii), voters must be provided the option of voting with a regularly printed optical
34.5 scan ballot or paper ballot in precincts that hand count ballots.

34.6 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 211B.17, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

34.7 Subdivision 1. **Forfeiture of nomination or office.** Except as provided in subdivision
34.8 2, if a candidate is found guilty of violating this chapter or section 609.771 or an offense
34.9 was committed by another individual with the knowledge, consent, or connivance of the
34.10 candidate, the court, after entering the adjudication of guilty, shall enter a supplemental
34.11 judgment declaring that the candidate has forfeited the nomination or office. If the court
34.12 enters the supplemental judgment, it shall transmit to the filing officer a transcript of the
34.13 supplemental judgment, the nomination or office becomes vacant, and the vacancy must be
34.14 filled as provided by law.

34.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024, and applies to crimes
34.16 committed on or after that date.

34.17 Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 211B.18, is amended to read:

34.18 **211B.18 DISQUALIFIED CANDIDATE NOT TO HOLD VARIOUS POSITIONS.**

34.19 A candidate whose election to office has been set aside for a violation of this chapter or
34.20 section 609.771 may not be appointed, during the period fixed by law as the term of the
34.21 office, to fill a vacancy in that office. A candidate or other individual who is convicted of
34.22 a violation of this chapter or section 609.771 may not be appointed, during the period fixed
34.23 by law as the term of the office with respect to which the election was held and the offense
34.24 was committed, to fill a vacancy that may occur in the office. An appointment to an office
34.25 made contrary to the provisions of this section is void.

34.26 A candidate or other individual who is convicted of a violation of this chapter or section
34.27 609.771 is not qualified, during the period fixed by law as the term of the office with respect
34.28 to which the election was held and the offense was committed, to fill a vacancy in an office
34.29 for which the legislature may establish qualifications under article XII, section 3, of the
34.30 Minnesota Constitution.

34.31 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024, and applies to crimes
34.32 committed on or after that date.

35.1 Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 375.08, is amended to read:

35.2 **375.08 BOARD TO FILL VACANCIES IN COUNTY OFFICES.**

35.3 Except for vacancies filled under section 375.081, when a vacancy occurs in the office
35.4 of an elected county auditor, county treasurer, county recorder, sheriff, county attorney,
35.5 county surveyor, or coroner, the county board shall fill it by appointment. For that purpose
35.6 it shall meet at the usual place of meeting, upon one day's notice from the chair or clerk,
35.7 which shall be served personally upon each member in the same manner as a district court
35.8 summons. The person appointed shall give the bond and take the oath required by law, and
35.9 serve the remainder of the term, and until a successor qualifies. When a vacancy occurs in
35.10 an office that has a chief deputy or first assistant, the chief deputy or first assistant may
35.11 perform all the duties and functions of the office until it is filled by appointment by the
35.12 county board.

35.13 Sec. 47. **[375.081] VACANCY IN OFFICE OF SHERIFF OR COUNTY ATTORNEY.**

35.14 (a) As an alternative to the appointment procedure provided in section 375.08, a vacancy
35.15 in the office of sheriff or county attorney may be filled at a special election as provided in
35.16 this section. The county board may by resolution call for a special election to be held on
35.17 one of the following dates: the second Tuesday in February; the second Tuesday in April;
35.18 the second Tuesday in May; the second Tuesday in August; or the first Tuesday after the
35.19 first Monday in November. The special election must be conducted and the returns canvassed
35.20 in the manner provided for the county general election.

35.21 (b) The person elected at the special election shall take office immediately after receipt
35.22 of the certificate of election and upon filing the bond and taking the oath of office and shall
35.23 serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

35.24 Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 412.02, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

35.25 Subd. 6. **Council increased or reduced.** The council may by ordinance adopted at least
35.26 60 days before the next regular city election submit to the voters of the city the question of
35.27 whether the city council should be increased or reduced to seven or five members. The
35.28 ordinance shall include a schedule of elections and terms and ward boundary changes, if
35.29 applicable, to accomplish the change. The proposal shall be voted on at the next city general
35.30 election and, if approved by a majority of those voting on the question, go into effect in
35.31 accordance with the schedule and ward boundaries, if applicable.

35.32 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

36.1 Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 412.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to
36.2 read:

36.3 Subd. 7. **Wards.** A city may by ordinance provide for the election of city council
36.4 members by ward. The ordinance must designate the boundaries of the wards. The ordinance
36.5 must also state whether the city will otherwise operate as a statutory standard plan city or
36.6 statutory optional plan city, subject to voter approval as may be required under this chapter.

36.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

36.8 Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 447.32, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

36.9 Subd. 3. **Election notices.** At least two weeks before the first day to file affidavits of
36.10 candidacy, the clerk of the district shall publish a notice stating the first and last day on
36.11 which affidavits of candidacy may be filed, the places for filing the affidavits and the closing
36.12 time of the last day for filing. The clerk shall post a similar notice in at least one conspicuous
36.13 place in each city and town in the district at least ten days before the first day to file affidavits
36.14 of candidacy.

36.15 At least ~~74~~ 84 days prior to every hospital district election, the hospital district clerk
36.16 shall provide a written notice to the county auditor of each county in which the hospital
36.17 district is located. The notice must include the date of the election, the offices to be voted
36.18 on at the election, and the title and language for each ballot question to be voted on at the
36.19 election. The county auditor shall immediately provide a notice to the secretary of state in
36.20 a manner and including information prescribed by the secretary of state.

36.21 The notice of each election must be posted in at least one public and conspicuous place
36.22 within each city and town included in the district at least two weeks before the election. It
36.23 must be published in the official newspaper of the district or, if a paper has not been
36.24 designated, in a legal newspaper having general circulation within the district, at least two
36.25 weeks before the election. Failure to give notice does not invalidate the election of an officer
36.26 of the district. A voter may contest a hospital district election in accordance with chapter
36.27 209. Chapter 209 applies to hospital district elections.

36.28 Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 609.771, subdivision 2, is amended
36.29 to read:

36.30 Subd. 2. **Use of deep fake to influence an election; violation.** (a) A person who
36.31 disseminates a deep fake or enters into a contract or other agreement to disseminate a deep
36.32 fake is guilty of a crime and may be sentenced as provided in subdivision 3 if the person

37.1 knows or ~~reasonably should know that~~ acts with reckless disregard about whether the item
37.2 being disseminated is a deep fake and dissemination:

37.3 (1) takes place within 90 days before ~~an~~ a political party nominating convention, or after
37.4 the start of the absentee voting period, prior to a presidential nomination primary, state
37.5 primary, local primary, special primary, special election, or general election;

37.6 (2) is made without the consent of the depicted individual; and

37.7 (3) is made with the intent to injure a candidate or influence the result of an election.

37.8 (b) This subdivision does not apply to a broadcaster who disseminates a deep fake
37.9 produced by a candidate, if the broadcaster's dissemination is required by federal law.

37.10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024, and applies to crimes
37.11 committed on or after that date.

37.12 Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 609.771, subdivision 3, is amended
37.13 to read:

37.14 Subd. 3. **Use of deep fake to influence an election; penalty.** (a) A person convicted of
37.15 violating subdivision 2 may be sentenced as follows:

37.16 (1) if the person commits the violation within five years of one or more prior convictions
37.17 under this section, to imprisonment for not more than five years or to payment of a fine of
37.18 not more than \$10,000, or both;

37.19 (2) if the person commits the violation with the intent to cause violence or bodily harm,
37.20 to imprisonment for not more than 364 days or to payment of a fine of not more than \$3,000,
37.21 or both; or

37.22 (3) in other cases, to imprisonment for not more than 90 days or to payment of a fine of
37.23 not more than \$1,000, or both.

37.24 (b) In the case of a candidate for state or local office convicted of violating subdivision
37.25 2, the court must enter a supplemental judgment declaring that the candidate has forfeited
37.26 the nomination or office in accordance with section 211B.17.

37.27 (c) A candidate for state or local office or other individual convicted of violating
37.28 subdivision 2 is disqualified from being appointed to that office or any other office for which
37.29 the legislature may establish qualifications under the Minnesota Constitution, article XII,
37.30 section 3, in accordance with section 211B.18.

38.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024, and applies to crimes
38.2 committed on or after that date.

38.3 Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 609.771, subdivision 4, is amended
38.4 to read:

38.5 Subd. 4. **Injunctive relief.** A cause of action for injunctive or equitable relief may be
38.6 maintained against any person who is reasonably believed to be about to violate or who is
38.7 in the course of violating this section by:

38.8 (1) the attorney general;

38.9 (2) a county attorney or city attorney;

38.10 (3) the depicted individual; or

38.11 (4) a candidate for nomination or election to a public office who is injured or likely to
38.12 be injured by dissemination.

38.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024, and applies to acts committed
38.14 on or after that date.

38.15 Sec. 54. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 609.771, is amended by adding a
38.16 subdivision to read:

38.17 Subd. 5. **Severability.** If any one or more provision, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase,
38.18 or word of this section or the application of it to any person or circumstance is found to be
38.19 unconstitutional, it is declared to be severable and the balance of this section shall remain
38.20 effective notwithstanding that unconstitutionality. The legislature intends that it would have
38.21 passed this section, and each provision, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or word,
38.22 regardless of the fact that any one provision, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or word
38.23 is declared unconstitutional.

38.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024.

38.25 Sec. 55. **TRANSITION TO NEW VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS.**

38.26 Notwithstanding the requirements of this act, a completed voter registration application
38.27 submitted by a voter is not deficient for purposes of registering that voter if the application
38.28 form was printed or provided to the voter prior to the effective date of any modification
38.29 required by this act. Beginning on the effective date of a modification required by this act,
38.30 an election official must not print or copy a blank voter registration application that does
38.31 not include the required modification.

39.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2024.

39.2 Sec. 56. **LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.**

39.3 (a) The legislature finds that election practices, procedures, and methods that deny or
39.4 impair the equal opportunity of racial, color, or language minority groups and Tribal
39.5 communities to participate in the political process or elect candidates of their choice are
39.6 inconsistent with the fundamental right to vote, and the rights and privileges guaranteed by
39.7 the Minnesota Constitution as well as protections found in the Fourteenth and Fifteenth
39.8 Amendments to the United States Constitution.

39.9 (b) The legislature finds that there is a history in Minnesota, as in the United States
39.10 overall, of discrimination based on race, color, language-minority status, and Tribal
39.11 membership, including in access to the political process. For example, that:

39.12 (1) the state constitution of 1857 limited the right to vote to white residents and Native
39.13 American voters "who have adopted the customs and habits of civilization," and invoked a
39.14 cultural purity test for Native American residents, requiring only Native American applicants
39.15 to appear before a district court to determine whether each individual was "capable of
39.16 enjoying the rights of citizenship within the State";

39.17 (2) Minnesota voters twice rejected expanding suffrage to Black residents, voting down
39.18 proposed constitutional amendments to do so in 1865 and again in 1867, and only granted
39.19 nonwhite men the right to vote in 1868, three years after the end of the Civil War;

39.20 (3) civil rights plaintiffs and the federal government have filed litigation and taken other
39.21 action against political subdivisions in Minnesota under the Federal Voting Rights Act of
39.22 1965, as amended, alleging violations of section 2 of that act;

39.23 (4) individuals who are members of racial, color, or language minority groups have
39.24 faced voter intimidation and disinformation in Minnesota, and that, for example, voters of
39.25 color in 2020 in the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul were targeted by a plan to hire and
39.26 deploy armed paramilitia to polling locations, an attempt that was enjoined by a federal
39.27 district court judge; and

39.28 (5) the history of discrimination in Minnesota further includes but is not limited to
39.29 discrimination in housing, including the use of redlining, racially restrictive covenants on
39.30 housing deeds, and predatory lending practices; education; employment; health; criminal
39.31 justice; public works; transportation; land use; environmental protection; and other areas
39.32 of life.

40.1 (c) As a result of this history and persistent discrimination and socioeconomic inequities
40.2 that bear on the right to vote, members of racial, color, or language minority groups and
40.3 Tribal communities continue to face unequal barriers in exercising the franchise and
40.4 participating effectively in the political process.

40.5 (d) In light of these conditions, it is the legislature's intent by this act to encourage
40.6 participation in the elective franchise by all eligible voters and to provide voters in this state
40.7 with a means to secure their constitutional right to vote free from discrimination.

40.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

40.9 Sec. 57. **REPEALER.**

40.10 Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 383B.031, is repealed.

40.11 **ARTICLE 2**

40.12 **CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND LOBBYING**

40.13 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 10A.01, is amended by adding a subdivision
40.14 to read:

40.15 **Subd. 16b. Employee of a political subdivision.** "Employee of a political subdivision"
40.16 includes an individual hired or appointed by the political subdivision. An individual is also
40.17 an employee of a political subdivision if the individual is:

40.18 (1) hired to provide the political subdivision services as a consultant or independent
40.19 contractor; or

40.20 (2) employed by a business that has contracted with the political subdivision to provide
40.21 legal counsel, professional services, or policy recommendations to the political subdivision.

40.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and
40.23 applies to activities occurring on or after that date.

40.24 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 10A.01, subdivision 21, is amended
40.25 to read:

40.26 Subd. 21. **Lobbyist.** (a) "Lobbyist" means an individual:

40.27 (1) engaged for pay or other consideration of more than \$3,000 from all sources in any
40.28 year:

41.1 (i) for the purpose of attempting to influence legislative or administrative action, or the
41.2 official action of a political subdivision, by communicating ~~or urging others to communicate~~
41.3 with public or local officials; or

41.4 (ii) from a business whose primary source of revenue is derived from facilitating
41.5 government relations or government affairs services if the individual's job duties include
41.6 offering direct or indirect consulting or advice that helps the business provide those services
41.7 to clients; or

41.8 (2) who spends more than \$3,000 of the individual's personal funds, not including the
41.9 individual's own traveling expenses and membership dues, in any year for the purpose of
41.10 attempting to influence legislative or administrative action, or the official action of a political
41.11 subdivision, by communicating ~~or urging others to communicate~~ with public or local officials.

41.12 (b) "Lobbyist" does not include:

41.13 (1) a public official;

41.14 (2) an employee of the state, including an employee of any of the public higher education
41.15 systems;

41.16 (3) an elected local official;

41.17 (4) a nonelected local official or an employee of a political subdivision acting in an
41.18 official capacity, unless the nonelected official or employee of a political subdivision spends
41.19 more than 50 hours in any month attempting to influence legislative or administrative action,
41.20 or the official action of a political subdivision other than the political subdivision employing
41.21 the official or employee, by communicating or urging others to communicate with public
41.22 or local officials, including time spent monitoring legislative or administrative action, or
41.23 the official action of a political subdivision, and related research, analysis, and compilation
41.24 and dissemination of information relating to legislative or administrative policy in this state,
41.25 or to the policies of political subdivisions;

41.26 (5) a party or the party's representative appearing in a proceeding before a state board,
41.27 commission, or agency of the executive branch unless the board, commission, or agency is
41.28 taking administrative action;

41.29 (6) an individual while engaged in selling goods or services to be paid for by public
41.30 funds;

41.31 (7) a news medium or its employees or agents while engaged in the publishing or
41.32 broadcasting of news items, editorial comments, or paid advertisements which directly or
41.33 indirectly urge official action;

42.1 (8) a paid expert witness whose testimony is requested by the body before which the
42.2 witness is appearing, but only to the extent of preparing or delivering testimony; ~~or~~

42.3 (9) a party or the party's representative appearing to present a claim to the legislature
42.4 and communicating to legislators only by the filing of a claim form and supporting documents
42.5 and by appearing at public hearings on the claim;

42.6 (10) an individual providing information, data, advice, professional opinions, variables,
42.7 options, or direction on a topic on which the individual has particular expertise through
42.8 education or professional or occupational training to a local official at a lobbyist's request;
42.9 or

42.10 (11) an individual providing information or advice to members of a collective bargaining
42.11 unit when the unit is actively engaged in the collective bargaining process with a state
42.12 agency or a political subdivision.

42.13 (c) An individual who volunteers personal time to work without pay or other consideration
42.14 on a lobbying campaign, and who does not spend more than the limit in paragraph (a), clause
42.15 (2), need not register as a lobbyist.

42.16 (d) An individual who provides administrative support to a lobbyist and whose salary
42.17 and administrative expenses attributable to lobbying activities are reported as lobbying
42.18 expenses by the lobbyist, but who does not communicate or urge others to communicate
42.19 with public or local officials, need not register as a lobbyist.

42.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and
42.21 applies to activities occurring on or after that date.

42.22 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 10A.01, subdivision 33, is amended to read:

42.23 Subd. 33. **Principal.** "Principal" means an individual or association that:

42.24 (1) spends more than ~~\$500~~ \$3000 in the aggregate in any calendar year to engage a
42.25 lobbyist, compensate a lobbyist, or authorize the expenditure of money by a lobbyist; or

42.26 (2) ~~is not included in clause (1) and~~ spends a total of at least \$50,000 in any calendar
42.27 year ~~on efforts~~ to influence legislative action, administrative action, or the official action
42.28 of ~~metropolitan governmental units~~ political subdivisions, as described in section 10A.04,
42.29 subdivision 6.

42.30 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and
42.31 applies to activities occurring on or after that date.

43.1 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 10A.201, subdivision 3, is amended
43.2 to read:

43.3 Subd. 3. ~~Can be received by 10,000 or more individuals~~ Targeted to the relevant
43.4 electorate. (a) ~~"Can be received by 10,000 or more individuals"~~ "Targeted to the relevant
43.5 electorate" means that a communication can be received in the district the candidate seeks
43.6 to represent, in the case of a candidate for representative, senator, or other office represented
43.7 by district; or in the entire state, if the candidate seeks a statewide office, as follows:

43.8 (1) in the case of a communication transmitted by an FM radio broadcast station or
43.9 network, where the district lies entirely within the station's or network's protected or primary
43.10 service contour, that the population of the district is 10,000 or more;

43.11 (2) in the case of a communication transmitted by an FM radio broadcast station or
43.12 network, where a portion of the district lies outside of the protected or primary service
43.13 contour, that the population of the part of the district lying within the station's or network's
43.14 protected or primary service contour is 10,000 or more;

43.15 (3) in the case of a communication transmitted by an AM radio broadcast station or
43.16 network, where the district lies entirely within the station's or network's most outward service
43.17 area, that the population of the district is 10,000 or more;

43.18 (4) in the case of a communication transmitted by an AM radio broadcast station or
43.19 network, where a portion of the district lies outside of the station's or network's most outward
43.20 service area, that the population of the part of the district lying within the station's or
43.21 network's most outward service area is 10,000 or more;

43.22 (5) in the case of a communication appearing on a television broadcast station or network,
43.23 where the district lies entirely within the station's or network's Grade B broadcast contour,
43.24 that the population of the district is 10,000 or more;

43.25 (6) in the case of a communication appearing on a television broadcast station or network,
43.26 where a portion of the district lies outside of the Grade B broadcast contour:

43.27 (i) that the population of the part of the district lying within the station's or network's
43.28 Grade B broadcast contour is 10,000 or more; or

43.29 (ii) that the population of the part of the district lying within the station's or network's
43.30 broadcast contour, when combined with the viewership of that television station or network
43.31 by cable and satellite subscribers within the district lying outside the broadcast contour, is
43.32 10,000 or more;

44.1 (7) in the case of a communication appearing exclusively on a cable or satellite television
44.2 system, but not on a broadcast station or network, that the viewership of the cable system
44.3 or satellite system lying within a district is 10,000 or more; ~~or~~

44.4 (8) in the case of a communication appearing on a cable television network, that the
44.5 total cable and satellite viewership within a district is 10,000 or more; or

44.6 (9) in the case of an email blast, a text message blast, a telephone bank, or a qualifying
44.7 paid digital advertisement or communication, that the communication is capable of being
44.8 received by 2,500 or more individuals in a district.

44.9 (b) Cable or satellite television viewership is determined by multiplying the number of
44.10 subscribers within a district, or a part thereof, as appropriate, by the current average
44.11 household size for Minnesota, as determined by the Bureau of the Census.

44.12 (c) A determination that a communication can be received by 10,000 or more individuals
44.13 based on the application of the formula in this section shall create a rebuttable presumption
44.14 that may be overcome by demonstrating that:

44.15 (1) one or more cable or satellite systems did not carry the network on which the
44.16 communication was publicly distributed at the time the communication was publicly
44.17 distributed; and

44.18 (2) applying the formula to the remaining cable and satellite systems results in a
44.19 determination that the cable network or systems upon which the communication was publicly
44.20 distributed could not be received by 10,000 individuals or more.

44.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025, and applies to
44.22 communications disseminated on or after that date.

44.23 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 10A.201, subdivision 4, is amended
44.24 to read:

44.25 Subd. 4. **Direct costs of producing or airing electioneering communications.** "Direct
44.26 costs of producing or airing electioneering communications" means:

44.27 (1) costs charged by a vendor, including studio rental time, staff salaries, costs of video
44.28 or audio recording media, and talent; ~~and~~

44.29 (2) the cost of airtime on broadcast, cable, or satellite radio and television stations, studio
44.30 time, material costs, and the charges for a broker to purchase the airtime; and

44.31 (3) the cost to access any platform used to disseminate messages digitally online or by
44.32 electronic means to a recipient's telephone or other personal device.

45.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025, and applies to
45.2 communications disseminated on or after that date.

45.3 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 10A.201, subdivision 6, is amended
45.4 to read:

45.5 Subd. 6. **Electioneering communication.** (a) "Electioneering communication" means
45.6 any broadcast, cable, ~~or~~ satellite, or digital communication that:

45.7 (1) refers to a clearly identified candidate for state office;

45.8 (2) is publicly distributed within 60 days before a general election for the office sought
45.9 by the candidate; or within 30 days before a primary election, or 30 days before a convention
45.10 ~~or caucus~~ of a political party that has authority to ~~nominate~~ endorse a candidate, for the
45.11 office sought by the candidate, and the candidate referenced is seeking the ~~nomination~~
45.12 endorsement of that political party; and

45.13 (3) is targeted to the relevant electorate.

45.14 (b) A communication is not an electioneering communication if it:

45.15 (1) is publicly disseminated through a means of communication other than a broadcast,
45.16 cable, ~~or~~ satellite television or radio station, or by digital means through an electronic device;

45.17 (2) appears in a news story, commentary, or editorial distributed through the facilities
45.18 of any broadcast, cable, or satellite television or radio station, unless such facilities are
45.19 owned or controlled by any political party, political committee, or candidate, provided that
45.20 a news story distributed through a broadcast, cable, or satellite television or radio station
45.21 owned or controlled by any political party, political committee, or candidate is not an
45.22 electioneering communication if the news story meets the requirements described in Code
45.23 of Federal Regulations, title 11, section 100.132 (a) and (b);

45.24 (3) constitutes an expenditure or independent expenditure, provided that the expenditure
45.25 or independent expenditure is required to be reported under this chapter;

45.26 (4) constitutes a candidate debate or forum, or that solely promotes such a debate or
45.27 forum and is made by or on behalf of the person sponsoring the debate or forum; or

45.28 (5) is paid for by a candidate.

45.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025, and applies to
45.30 communications disseminated on or after that date.

46.1 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 10A.201, subdivision 9, is amended
46.2 to read:

46.3 Subd. 9. **Publicly distributed.** "Publicly distributed" means aired, broadcast, cablecast,
46.4 or otherwise disseminated through the facilities of a television station, radio station, cable
46.5 television system, ~~or~~ satellite system, or disseminated in a digital format online or by other
46.6 electronic means to a recipient's telephone or other personal device.

46.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025, and applies to
46.8 communications disseminated on or after that date.

46.9 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 10A.202, subdivision 1, is amended
46.10 to read:

46.11 Subdivision 1. **Reports required.** Any person who has made an electioneering
46.12 communication, as defined in section 10A.201, aggregating in excess of \$10,000 during
46.13 any calendar year shall file a statement with the board no later than 11:59 p.m. on the day
46.14 following the disclosure date. The statement shall be filed under penalty of perjury, and
46.15 must contain the information set forth in subdivision 2. Political committees, political funds,
46.16 and political party units that make a communication described in section 10A.201 must
46.17 report the communication as a campaign expenditure or independent expenditure as otherwise
46.18 provided by this chapter and are not required to file a report under this section.

46.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024, and applies to penalties
46.20 assessed on or after that date.

46.21 Sec. 9. **STATE AND LOCAL LOBBYING ACTIVITY; STUDY REQUIRED.**

46.22 The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board must study and, if appropriate,
46.23 make recommendations to the legislature on the definition of "lobbyist" for purposes of the
46.24 Minnesota Statutes. The study and recommendations must focus primarily on whether the
46.25 law does or should distinguish between activities that constitute lobbying of a state
46.26 government official and activities that constitute lobbying of a local official. If the study
46.27 determines that a distinction between these activities is appropriate, the board must
46.28 recommend options for the legislature to consider in adopting that distinction by law. The
46.29 board must submit a report describing the study, its results, and any associated
46.30 recommendations to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees
46.31 with jurisdiction over campaign finance and lobbyist registration policy no later than January
46.32 15, 2025.

47.1 Sec. 10. **REPEALER.**

47.2 Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 10A.201, subdivision 11, is repealed.

47.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025, and applies to
47.4 communications disseminated on or after that date.

47.5 **ARTICLE 3**

47.6 **CENSUS AND REDISTRICTING**

47.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 2.92, subdivision 4, is amended
47.8 to read:

47.9 Subd. 4. **Applicability.** This section applies ~~from January 1 to July 1 in any year during~~
47.10 ~~which a~~ to all decennial census is activities conducted under the authority of the United
47.11 States Constitution, article 1, section 2.

47.12 Sec. 2. **[2.93] INCARCERATED PERSONS IN DISTRICT PLANS.**

47.13 Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For the purposes of this section, the definitions have the
47.14 meanings given.

47.15 (b) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of corrections.

47.16 (c) "Director" means the director of the Legislative Coordinating Commission.

47.17 (d) "Legislative Coordinating Commission" means the Legislative Coordinating
47.18 Commission established in section 3.303.

47.19 Subd. 2. Reallocation and exclusion of incarcerated persons. (a) For purposes of
47.20 drawing congressional, legislative, and all other election districts, the legislature and local
47.21 governments must use the population from the federal decennial census as modified by
47.22 reallocating and excluding persons who are incarcerated.

47.23 (b) A person who was incarcerated in a state or federal correctional facility, as determined
47.24 by the decennial census, and who has a last known address in Minnesota must be reallocated
47.25 to the census block of the last known address.

47.26 (c) A person who was incarcerated in a state or federal correctional facility, as determined
47.27 by the decennial census, and who has a last known address outside of Minnesota or does
47.28 not have a last known address must:

47.29 (1) be excluded from the population count for purposes of drawing congressional,
47.30 legislative, or political subdivision districts; and

48.1 (2) be counted as part of the statewide population total.

48.2 Subd. 3. **Department of Corrections duties.** (a) On or before June 1 in a year ending
48.3 in zero, the commissioner must provide to the director of the Legislative Coordinating
48.4 Commission the following information, in electronic form, for each person incarcerated in
48.5 a state correctional facility on April 1 in the year of the decennial census:

48.6 (1) a unique identifier that does not include the person's name, Department of Corrections
48.7 identification number, or other identifying information;

48.8 (2) the street address of the correctional facility in which the person was incarcerated at
48.9 the time of the report;

48.10 (3) the residential address of the person immediately prior to incarceration, if known,
48.11 or if the person resided in an area lacking a specific physical address immediately prior to
48.12 incarceration, a description of the physical location where the person regularly stayed
48.13 immediately prior to being incarcerated;

48.14 (4) the following demographic information, if known: the racial and ethnic information
48.15 collected by the census and whether the person is over the age of 18; and

48.16 (5) any additional information the director of the Legislative Coordinating Commission
48.17 deems necessary.

48.18 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the commissioner must provide the director
48.19 with access to the best available data necessary to conduct the reallocations and exclusions
48.20 required by this section.

48.21 Subd. 4. **Federal correctional facilities.** By April 15 in a year ending in zero, the director
48.22 must request each agency that operates a federal facility in Minnesota that incarcerates
48.23 persons convicted of a criminal offense to provide the director with a report, including the
48.24 information listed in subdivision 3. The information must reflect the persons incarcerated
48.25 in the federal facility on April 1 of that year. If information is provided pursuant to this
48.26 subdivision, the information must be provided by June 1 of the year ending in zero. If
48.27 information is not provided pursuant to this subdivision, persons incarcerated at federal
48.28 facilities must be treated as having no known last address and must be excluded as provided
48.29 in subdivision 2, paragraph (c).

48.30 Subd. 5. **Legislative Coordinating Commission duties.** (a) The director must reallocate
48.31 and exclude people who are incarcerated in state or federal correctional facilities as provided
48.32 in this subdivision and subdivision 2. Within 30 calendar days of receiving the Public Law
48.33 94-171 data from the United States Census Bureau, the director must post the population

49.1 counts that reflect all required reallocations and exclusions on the Legislative Coordinating
49.2 Commission's website.

49.3 (b) The director must, in consultation with the commissioner, develop a standardized
49.4 format and technical guidelines to be used in collecting addresses from incarcerated persons.
49.5 The commissioner must use this format and follow the guidelines in collecting addresses.
49.6 The commissioner and the director may enter a memorandum of understanding detailing
49.7 the additional details regarding the methodology to be used and the format and manner in
49.8 which the data will be provided. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the commissioner
49.9 must provide the director with access to the best available data necessary to conduct the
49.10 reallocations and exclusions required by this section.

49.11 (c) Prior to reallocating and excluding incarcerated persons, the director must geocode
49.12 addresses received from the commissioner. When geocoding addresses, the director must
49.13 accept an address that is an exact match or is approximated to the street level and reject any
49.14 address that is approximated to the center of a zip code, city, county, or state. The director
49.15 must only reallocate those addresses that are accepted pursuant to this paragraph. The
49.16 director must not reallocate any person at an address that was rejected but must instead
49.17 count that person as part of the statewide population total.

49.18 (d) The director must not disseminate data received pursuant to this section in any
49.19 manner, except as explicitly required by state or federal law.

49.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2030, and applies to population
49.21 counts used for redistricting conducted on or after that date.

49.22 Sec. 3. **[241.062] COLLECTION OF INCARCERATED PERSON'S ADDRESS.**

49.23 (a) As part of an incarcerated person's intake process, the commissioner of corrections
49.24 must make all reasonable efforts to ensure that the information listed in section 2.93,
49.25 subdivision 3, clauses (1) to (5), is collected and recorded. The information must be collected
49.26 in compliance with the format and guidelines developed pursuant to section 2.93, subdivision
49.27 5. An incarcerated person who was participating in the Safe at Home program established
49.28 in chapter 5B, has safety concerns about providing a last residential address, or has safety
49.29 concerns for people residing at that address may decline to provide an address.

49.30 (b) The incarcerated person's last residential address and the information listed in section
49.31 2.93, subdivision 3, clauses (1) to (5), collected on intake and maintained by the
49.32 commissioner are private data on individuals as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12.

50.1 (c) Beginning in 2030, the commissioner must provide the information described in this
50.2 section electronically to the director of the Legislative Coordinating Commission as required
50.3 in section 2.93.

50.4 Sec. 4. **COLLECTION OF CURRENT INCARCERATED PERSON'S ADDRESS.**

50.5 Prior to April 1, 2030, the commissioner of corrections must make reasonable efforts to
50.6 collect from or confirm with each incarcerated person the following information:

50.7 (1) the residential address of the person immediately prior to incarceration or, if the
50.8 person resided in an area lacking a specific physical address immediately prior to
50.9 incarceration, a description of the physical location where the person regularly stayed
50.10 immediately prior to being incarcerated; and

50.11 (2) the following demographic information: the racial and ethnic information collected
50.12 by the census and whether the person is over the age of 18.

50.13 This section only applies to an incarcerated person who was incarcerated prior to the date
50.14 the commissioner started routinely collecting the information in clauses (1) and (2) as part
50.15 of the intake process."

50.16 Amend the title accordingly