STATE OF MINNESOTA FOURTH MEETING

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES NINETY-THIRD SESSION

**ELECTIONS FINANCE AND POLICY MEETING MINUTES**

Representative Mike Freiberg, Chair of the Committee on Elections Finance and Policy, called the meeting to order at 8:32am on January 25, 2023, in Room 200 of the State Office Building.

The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll.

**Members Present:**

FREIBERG, Mike, Chair

GREENMAN, Emma, Vice Chair

TORKELSON, Paul, Republican Lead

AGBAJE, Esther

ALTENDORF, Pam

BAHNER, Kristin

BLISS, Matt

COULTER, Nathan

DAVIS, Ben

FREDERICK, Luke

PURSELL, Kristi

QUAM, Duane

STEPHENSON, Zack

A quorum was present.

Representative Greenman moved that the minutes from January 18, 2023, be adopted. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

HF 496 (Klevorn); A bill for an act relating to ethics in government; limiting certain types of contributions that grant registered lobbyists or other individuals special access to a meeting room, hospitality area, or other event space where public officials are likely to gather and the primary purpose of granting that special access is to facilitate informal meetings or socialization with public officials; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 10A.273, subdivision 1.

Representative Freiberg moved that HF 496 be placed on the General Register.

Representative Freiberg moved the HF0496DE1 amendment.

Representative Freiberg offered an oral amendment to the HF0496DE1 amendment as follows: Page 1, line 18, delete “house” and insert “body”

Page 1, line 23, delete “house” and insert “body”

THE MOTION PREVAILED, THE AMENDMENT WAS INCORPORATED.

Representative Freiberg renewed his motion to adopt the HF0496DE1 amendment, as amended. THE MOTION PREVAILED, THE AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.

Representative Klevorn presented HF 496, as amended.

Testifying on HF 496:

* Ken Peterson, Board Member, Clean Elections Minnesota
* Jeff Sigurdson, Executive Director, Minnesota Campaign Finance Board

Representative Freiberg renewed his motion that HF 496, as amended, be placed on the General Register. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

HF 477 (Wolgamott); A bill for an act relating to elections; allowing voters to join a permanent absentee voter list; requiring absentee ballots to automatically be sent before election to voters on permanent absentee voter list; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 201.071, subdivision 1; 203B.04, subdivision 5; 203B.06, subdivisions 1, 3; 203B.121, subdivision 2.

Representative Freiberg moved that HF 477 be re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Representative Freiberg moved the HF0477A1 amendment. THE MOTION PREVAILED, THE AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.

Representative Wolgamott presented HF 477, as amended.

Testifying on HF 477:

* Nicole Freeman, Government Relations, Minnesota Secretary of State
* Stephane Stoessel, Election Judge, St Paul
* Lilly Sasse, Executive Director, We Choose Us
* Elena Niehoff, Resident, Rochester

Representative Greenman moved the amendment HF0477A2. THE MOTION PREVAILED, THE AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.

Representative Freiberg renewed his motion that HF 477, as amended, be re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Representative Torkelson requested a roll call on the motion to re-refer HF0477, as amended, to the Committee on Ways and Means.

AYES:

Freiberg

Greenman

Agbaje

Bahner

Coulter

Frederick

Pursell

Stephenson

NAYS:

Torkelson

Altendorf

Bliss

Davis

Quam

There being 8 ayes and 5 nays, THE MOTION PREVAILED.

HF 95 (Frederick); Elections; prohibitions clarified on soliciting at or near a polling place.

Representative Frederick moved that HF 95 be placed on the General Register

Representative Frederick presented HF 95

Testifying on HF 95:

* Nicole Freeman, Government Relations, Minnesota Secretary of State
* Elena Niehoff, Resident, Rochester

Representative Frederick renewed his motion that HF 95 be placed on the General Register.

Representative Greenam requested a roll call on the motion to place HF 95 be placed on the General Register.

AYES:

Freiberg

Greenman

Torkelson

Agbaje
Altendorf

Bahner

Bliss

Coulter

Davis

Frederick

Pursell

Quam

Stephenson

NAYS:

None

There being 13 ayes and 0 nays, THE MOTION PREVAILED.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 AM.

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Representative Mike Freiberg, Chair

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Mike Hermanson, Committee Legislative Assistant