

**2024 Elections Policy Bill: HF 4772**  
**Comparison of Senate and House**

	Start Page	Topic	House Section(s): HF 4772, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Engrossment	House/Senate Comparison	Senate Section(s): HF 4772, 1 <sup>st</sup> Unofficial Engrossment (from SF 4729)	Summary Description/Notes
<b>Elections Administration Provisions</b>						
1.	R1, R47	<b>Local government .gov domains</b>		Senate only	3, 91	Requires counties and cities that administer elections to use a .gov domain website. Allows funds from the VOTER account to be used to transition to a .gov domain website.
2.	R1	<b>School board vacancies</b>	1	Similar; technical differences	18	Provides that an appointment to fill a vacancy on a school board that occurs less than two years prior to the expiration of the term is valid for the remainder of the unexpired term, and no special election is required. It further provides that a school board may, but is not required to, fill a vacancy that occurs less than 90 days prior to the expiration of the term.
3.	R2	<b>Major political party status</b>	2	Same	19	Modifies and corrects a typographical error related to the standard for a political party seeking to be recognized as a major political party in Minnesota, to provide that the party must have received at least votes from at least eight percent of the total number of voters in an election for a statewide office. Under current law, the eight percent requirement only applies to elections held in November 2024 and later.
4.	R12, R14, R16, R18, R50	<b>Miscellaneous identical voter registration provisions</b>	12, 13, 15, 16, 66	Same	20, 21, 23, 25, 100	Provides a number of miscellaneous amendments to laws governing voter registration.
5.	R19, R20	<b>Miscellaneous identical absentee voting provisions</b>	17, 18	Same	26, 27	Provides amendments to two provisions in law governing voter registration.

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6.	R21, R22, R24, R25, R26, R27, R37	<b>Miscellaneous identical election administration provisions</b>	20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 40, 46, 47, 53, 54	Same	28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, 47, 53, 54, 60, 61	Provides a number of miscellaneous amendments to laws governing elections administration.
7.	R28, R29, R35, R36	<b>Miscellaneous identical timeline modifications (ECRA)</b>	33, 34, 48, 49, 50, 51	Same	40, 41, 55, 56, 57, 58	Provides a number of amendments to timelines to comply with the federal Electoral Count Reform Act.
8.	R29, R30, R31, R32	<b>Miscellaneous identical recount provisions</b>	35, 36, 37, 38, 39	Same	42, 43, 44, 45, 46	Provides a number of miscellaneous amendments to laws governing recounts.
9.	R33, R34, R47	<b>Miscellaneous identical timeline modifications (notice to county auditor)</b>	41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 61	Same	48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 90	Amends a number of laws to uniformly provide 84 days' notice to a county auditor before an election.
10.	R15	<b>Voter registration applications</b>	14	Substantive differences	22	Requires space on the voter registration application for a voter to indicate a physical description of their location of residence.  <b>House:</b> provides further specificity about the description being sufficient to identify the voter's correct precinct.
11.	R17	<b>Public information lists</b>		Senate only	24	Prohibits making information from the public voter information list available on the internet on a list or database and from selling or providing access to information from the list to any other person or entity with certain exceptions.

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12.	R21	<b>Temporary polling place on postsecondary institution campus</b>	19	House only		Requires the county auditor or municipal clerk to establish a polling place for at least one day on a postsecondary institution’s campus, upon request by the institution or its student government organization.
13.	R27	<b>Determination of proper number</b>	30	Technical (Senate corrects a drafting error)	37	Modifies standards related to determining the number of ballots to be counted in a polling place on election night.
14.	R36	<b>Presidential electors</b>	52	Substantive difference	59	Designates the location for the meeting of presidential electors.  <b>House:</b> includes contingency language in the event the State Capitol is determined to be an impractical meeting location.
15.	R37, R38, R39, R52	<b>Presidential election contests</b>		Senate only	62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 101	Establishes a separate process for recounts for presidential elector recounts.
16.	R43, R48	<b>Dissemination of personal information about an elections official</b>		Senate only	82, 92, 93	Amends the doxing laws relating to election officials and law enforcement officials. Expands the definition of “personal information.”

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17.	R44	<b>Absentee ballot applications distributed by committees and private organizations</b>		Senate only	83	Requires any mailing sent by a committee or private organization that includes an absentee ballot application or sample ballot to include statements that indicate that the mailing is not official communication from a unit of government. If a sample ballot is included, the ballot must state that it is not an official ballot.
18.	R44, R48, R49, R50	<b>Deepfake campaign ads</b>	55, 56, 62, 63, 64, 65	Similar; some substantive differences	84, 85, 94, 95, 96, 97	Prohibits certain types of “deepfake” advertisements in a campaign.
19.	R45, R52	<b>Restoration of voting rights notice</b>		Senate only	87, 102 (243.205 repealer only)	Amends the notice that is provided to a person upon release from incarceration notifying the person that the person’s right to vote has been restored. Replaces the notice language that is being repealed.
20.	R45, R46	<b>County Sheriff and County Attorney; Vacancies</b>	57; 58	Similar, some substantive differences related to vacancies occurring prior to the end of term	88; 89	Authorizes a county board to call for a special election to fill a vacancy in the office of sheriff or county attorney. A schedule for when the special election must be conducted and other related details are provided.
21.	R52	<b>Hennepin County Board of Commissioner Vacancies</b>	68	Same (structural difference)	102	Repeals a provision related to filling vacancies on the Hennepin County Board
<b>Minnesota Voting Rights Act</b>						

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22.	R4	<b>Title</b>	3	Similar	1	Establishes a title for the Minnesota Voting Rights Act
23.	R4	<b>Definitions</b>	4	Similar; grammatical differences	2	Provides definitions for a number of terms used throughout the Minnesota Voting Rights Act.  <b>Senate only:</b> Defines the term “disparity.”
24.	R5	<b>Construction and use of authority</b>	5	Similar	3	Requires that laws, rules, local laws, charter provisions, local ordinances, and local codes relating to the right to vote be construed liberally in favor of a voter’s exercise of the right of suffrage. In exercising its discretion on procedural matters, courts are also required to weigh that discretion in favor of this right.
25.	R5	<b>Voter suppression and vote dilution prohibited</b>	6	Substantive differences in Voter Suppression standard. Vote dilution standard is identical.	4	Establishes the substantive prohibitions on conduct that form the basis for the Minnesota Voting Rights Act judicial actions and remedies that are provided elsewhere in the Minnesota Voting Rights Act.
26.	R7	<b>Relevant factors for determining violation</b>	7	Substantive and grammatical differences	5	Provides a list of factors that may be considered by a court when determining whether a Minnesota Voting Rights Act violation related to voter suppression or vote dilution has occurred, but further establishes that any individual factor or combination of factors is not dispositive or necessary to show a violation. A number of other details, including a list of factors that the court is prohibited from considering when determining whether a violation has been established, is also included.

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27.	R9	<b>Presuit notice</b>	8	Substantive differences	6	Requires a potential Minnesota Voting Rights Act plaintiff who may file an action alleging a voter suppression or vote dilution violation to first send a notice letter to the political subdivision, in certain circumstances.
28.	R10	<b>Right of action; venue; preliminary relief</b>	9	Substantive differences	7	Establishes judicial procedures related to filing claims for a violation of the Minnesota Voting Rights Act, including identifying the types of plaintiffs that are permitted to file, and related court venue and scheduling matters. Additional procedures would apply in actions where the plaintiff seeks a preliminary remedy with respect to an upcoming election.  <b>House only:</b> specifies certain actions in which the state is a necessary party. Substantive differences in standard for preliminary relief.
29.	R11	<b>Remedies</b>	10	Substantive differences	8	Grants the court authority to tailor Minnesota Voting Rights Act remedies to best mitigate a violation of the law. Among other things, the court is permitted to consider remedies that have been ordered by a federal court or the court of another jurisdiction based on a similar set of facts or similar violation. The court must consider remedies proposed by named parties in the case and may also consider remedies proposed by interested nonparties. The court is prohibited from providing deference or priority to a proposed remedy offered by a defendant or political subdivision simply because it was proposed by that defendant or political subdivision.
30.	R11	<b>Fees and costs</b>	11	Substantive differences	9	Requires the court to award reasonable attorney fees and litigation costs, including expert witness fees and expenses, to a Minnesota Voting Rights Act prevailing party other than the state or a political subdivision. Standards for determining when a party has “prevailed” are provided. If a defending

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						party prevails in the action, costs must not be awarded unless the court finds that the action was frivolous.
31.	R12	<b>Effective date</b>		Senate only, but reflects a technical difference in structuring the effective date of the Minnesota Voting Rights Act. Policy is substantively the same.	11	Effective the day following final enactment.
32.	R23	<b>Change of polling place in an emergency</b>	22	Similar; Grammatical differences	10	Provides authority for a local government to change a polling place location or designate additional locations, when required to remedy a potential Minnesota Voting Rights Act violation.
33.	R46	<b>Adoption of city council wards; statutory cities</b>	59, 60	House only		Authorizes a city to adopt an ordinance to elect council members by ward, if submitted for approval by the voters at a regular or special election; if approved or ordered to do so by a court acting in response to a challenge to the city's method of conducting elections; or upon petition by the voters of the city. Additional details are provided.
34.	R51	<b>Legislative findings</b>	67	House only		Provides a number of legislative findings related to historical discrimination practices in Minnesota, and a public policy statement affirming that it is the policy of the state to encourage participation in the elective franchise by all

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						eligible voters to the maximum extent; and to ensure that eligible voters who are members of a racial, color, or language minority group have an equal opportunity to participate in the political process of the state and to exercise the elective franchise.
<b>Campaign Finance Provisions</b>						
35.	R39, R40, R41, R42, R43, R52, R53, R56	<b>Campaign Finance Provisions impacting local candidates and campaigns</b>	See HF 4411	Senate only, but House is carrying similar provisions in its Elections finance bill	71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 102 (211A repealers only), 4, 5, 10	Amends laws governing reporting of expenditures to the Campaign Finance Board related to local campaigns.
36.	R52, R58, R59, R60, R61	<b>Electioneering Communications</b>	10, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	Similar (structural differences only)	102, Para (b) plus effective date, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16	Amends standards governing electioneering communications to include certain types of digital advertisements.
37.	R53, R55	<b>Lobbying; political subdivisions</b>	1, 2, 3	Similar	6, 7, 8	Amends provisions related to lobbying of certain officials within a political subdivision.
38.	R55	<b>Principal reports</b>		Senate only	9	Requires a principal to report to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board total amounts, rounded to the nearest \$5,000 spent by the principal on specified types of lobbying.
39.	R57, R61	<b>Campaign finance penalties</b>		Senate only	11, 17	Amends the Board’s authority to impose late filing fees.



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40.	R62	<b>State and local lobbying activity study</b>	9	Substantive differences	99	Requires a study and recommendations related to lobbying of state government officials vs. local government officials.  <b>Senate:</b> Lobbying registration requirements related to certain local lobbying is stayed until June 1, 2025.
<b>Census and Redistricting Provisions</b>						
41.	R63	<b>Census worker access to multi-unit residential buildings</b>	1	Same	1	Requires certain multiunit housing facilities to provide access to units within the facility to employees of the United States Census engaged in official business, any time decennial census activities are conducted.
42.	R63	<b>Incarcerated persons in district plans</b>	2, 3, 4	Minor grammatical differences; Senate: effective date	2, 86, 98, 103	Provides that, for purposes of redistricting, the legislature and local governments must use the federal census data as modified by reallocating and excluding persons who are incarcerated.