

Melissa Hortman
State Representative
Speaker of the House

District 36B
Anoka
Hennepin



Minnesota House of Representatives

February 14, 2019

Dear Majority Leader Gazelka:

The House of Representatives is prepared to take immediate action on HF 14/Nelson (SF 93/Kiffmeyer), the bill that would finally enable Minnesota to take advantage of the \$6.6 million that the federal government set aside for us almost a year ago for election security under the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).

As you probably know, Minnesota is now the only state in America that has not yet received all of its HAVA funds. The money was intended by Congress and President Trump to help states to secure their election systems, starting with the 2018 election. The delay in authorizing the use of this federal money prevented Minnesota from making crucial security upgrades for the 2018 election. At this point, every additional delay makes it harder for Minnesota to secure the 2020 election.

We ask for your cooperation in moving this legislation without delay, and without diminishing authorization for the full amount of \$6.6 million. There is no reason to limit access to these funds. We can help secure the integrity of Minnesota's election system by passing HF 14/SF 93 and authorizing Secretary Simon to access the full \$6.6 million the federal government has authorized for Minnesota.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melissa Hortman".

Melissa Hortman
Speaker of the House