

Senate Elections Committee

Monday, February 14, 2005

Members Present:

Wiger
Fischbach
Higgins
Hottinger
Limmer
Marty
Marko
Kleis
Pariseau
Scheid

Senator Wiger called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Agenda item # 1 S.F. 959-Higgins: Post-election security and certification review to apply to federal constitutional and legislative offices.

Senator Higgins provided an overview of the bill. She identified the bill as a housekeeping bill that made some technical corrections in the HAVA legislation.

Senator Higgins recommended the bill be passed and moved to the floor.

Hearing no objections, Senator Wiger recommended the bill be sent to the Consent Calendar. Motion adopted.

Agenda item #2 S.F. 852-Higgins: Facilitating voter registration by college students.

Senator Higgins provided an overview of the bill. The bill addressed concerns raised by college students regarding the last election regarding forms of voter identification and voter registration lists.

Senator Higgins offered the A-1 author's amendment. Amendment was adopted.

Loren DeJonge, Public Affairs Coordinator, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly testified on behalf of the bill. She organized a voter registration drive at the University of Minnesota. During this time, she witnessed many problems students had with the voter ID requirements. This bill updates voter registration laws to make it easier for students to vote.

Dan Miller, Vice-President Public Affairs, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly also testified in support of the bill. He emphasized the need for updated laws to allow all students to vote.

Brad Krasaway, State Chair for Minnesota State University Student Association, testified in support.

Travis Reese, Minnesota State University Student Association, Winona State, testified in support and detailed problems in the Winona State voter registration drive.

Justin Pahl, Minnesota State University Student Association, testified in support.

John Corbid, Minnesota Private College Council, testified. Minnesota Private College Council had a problem with the language that mandated colleges to be in compliance. The request was to change to language to "may" instead of "shall".

Senator Higgins requested that the bill be laid over for further consideration. Motion was adopted.

Agenda item #3 S.F. 733-Wiger: Changing campaign finance and public disclosure provisions.

Senator Wiger introduced the bill. This was the Campaign Finance Board's technical bill.

Jeanne Olson, Executive Director for the Campaign Finance and Disclosure Board, testified on behalf of the bill. There were two definitions the board thought would be useful to define "associated business" and "immediate family member". The bill allowed for electronic filing and repealed some obsolete rules.

Senator Wiger moved to delete Section 4. Motion prevailed.

Senator Wiger moved S.F. 733 as amended be recommended to pass and placed on the Consent Calendar. Motion carried.

Senator Wiger adjourned the committee at 4:00 p.m.

Senate Committee Meeting Log

Committee Name: Elections Committee

Date: 2-14-05 Day: Monday Start Time: 3:12 p.m.

Agenda

Bill # (or Topic)	959 Higgins Audit of Election Returns
Author	Higgins
Short Descriptor	Provisions for the post-election security and certification review to apply to federal constitutional and legislative offices.
Action(s)	passed and moved consent calendar.
Bill # (or Topic)	852
Author	Higgins
Short Descriptor	Facilitating voters registration
Author Amendment	A-1 amended
Action(s)	bill laid over.
Bill # (or Topic)	733
Author	Wise
Short Descriptor	changing campaign finance and public disclosure provisions.
Action(s)	Moved to consent calendar passed as amended.
Bill # (or Topic)	
Author	
Short Descriptor	
Action(s)	

Senate Elections Committee

Chair: Chuck Wiger
Monday, February 14, 2005
3:00 p.m.
Room 107 Capitol

Agenda

1. S.F. 733-Wiger: Changing campaign finance and public disclosure provisions

Testifying: Jeanne Olson, Campaign Finance and Disclosure Board

2. S.F. 852-Higgins: Facilitating voter registration by college students

Testifying: Loren DeJonge, Public Affairs Coordinator, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA)

Dan Miller, Vice-President Public Affairs, GAPSA

Brad Krasaway, State Chair for MSUSA-Minnesota State University Student Association

3. S.F.959-Higgins: Providing for the post-election security and certification review to apply to federal constitutional and legislative offices