

Senate Elections Committee

Monday, March 21, 2005

Members present:

Fischbach

Higgins

Hottinger

Kleis

Limmer

Marko

Marty

Pariseau

Scheid

Wiger

Senator Wiger called the meeting to order at 3:12 p.m.

Agenda item #1 S.F. 1086-Higgins: Authorizing early voting by absentee ballot at certain locations without qualification.

Joe Mansky, Ramsey County Elections Manager, testified on behalf of the bill. He discussed Ramsey County's absentee pilot program and gave an overview of the nuts and bolts of the project.

Senator Higgins moved the A-1 amendment. Amendment passed.

Senator Higgins moved the bill be passed to the floor. Motion carried. Bill passed as amended to the floor.

Agenda #2 S.F. 852-Higgins: Facilitating voter registration by college students. Amended and passed to the floor.

Senator Higgins moved to pass the A-6 amendment. Amendment adopted.

Dr. Stephen Franz, MNSCU Office of the Chancellor, testified regarding the federal data practices act.

Sen. Higgins moved to amend the bill.

Senator Kleis offered a friendly amendment to insert "valid residential" before "address" on page 2, lines 1, 5, 15, 18, 20. Amendment adopted.

Senator Higgins moved to pass the bill as amended. Motion carried. Bill passed as amended to the floor.

Agenda item #3 S.F. 1551-Hottinger: Extending the deadline for submitting voter registration applications. Amended and passed to Crime Prevention

Senator Hottinger moved the A-6 author's amendment. Amendment adopted.

Nancy Witta, League of Women Voters, testified in support of the bill.

Pam Costain, Wellstone Action, testified in support of the bill.

Jorge Saavedra, Centro Legal, testified in support of the bill.

Luanne Crowe and Donna Whitefeather, testified in support of the bill.

Maggie Kazel, Duluth Tribal College, testified in support of the bill

Malcolm Bisson, Dakota County, testified in support of the bill.

Lana Stevens, Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women, testified in support of the bill.

Josh Schneck, Student, testified in support of the bill.

Tom Johnson, Council on Crime and Justice, testified in support of the bill.

Beth Fraser, MAPA, testified in support of the bill.

Senator Hottinger moved the A-7 amendment.

Oral amendment page 1, line 11, before "county" insert "appropriate" and page 1, line 22, before "county" insert "appropriate"

A-7 amendment passed.

Senator Marko moved to amend S.F. 1551 as follows: page 9, line 8, after "challenger" insert "who is not a registered voter in this state" Amendment passed.

Senator Marty moved the A-4 amendment. Amendment passed.

Senator Marty moved the A-5 amendment.

Beth Fondell, ARC Hennepin-Carver MN, testified.

Amendment A-5 passed.

Senator Hottinger moved the bill be recommended to pass to Crime Prevention and Safety. Amended and passed to Crime Prevention and Safety.

Agenda item #4 S.F. 1319-Marko: Reporting requirements; redefining inactivity

Jeanne Olson, Executive Director, Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board, testified.

Brandon Rettke, Education Minnesota, testified.

Senator Marko moved the A-1 author's amendment.

Senator Higgins moves to amend page 1, line 16, delete \$15,000 and insert \$50,000. Amendment adopted.

Senator Marty moves to amend page 7, line 14, reinstate the stricken language and delete the new language. Page 7, lines 15 and 16, delete the new language. Amendment adopted.

Senator Marko withdrew the A- amendment.

Senator Marko moved that S.F. 1319 as amended be recommended to pass and moved to the floor. Motion carried. Bill passed as amended to the floor.

Agenda item #5 S.F. 1769- Requiring notice of certain independent expenditures

Brandon Rettke, Education Minnesota, testified.

Kathy Nelson, testified.

Bill was laid over for the next meeting.

Agenda item #6 S.F. 387- Marty: Establishing a voluntary clean campaign council. Laid over for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Senate Committee Meeting Log

Committee Name: Elections

Date: 3/21/05 Day: Monday Start Time: 3:00pm

Agenda

Bill # (or Topic)	SF 1086
Author	Higgins
Short Descriptor	Authorizing early voting by absentee ballot at certain business locations without qualifications
Action(s)	passed as amended
Bill # (or Topic)	SF 852
Author	Higgins
Short Descriptor	Facilitating voter registration by college students
Action(s)	passed as amended
Bill # (or Topic)	SF 1551
Author	Hathager
Short Descriptor	Extending the deadline for submitting voter registration applications
Action(s)	Recommended passed as amended referred to Crime Prevention
Bill # (or Topic)	SF 1319
Author	Marko
Short Descriptor	Reporting requirements; redefining inactivity
Action(s)	passed as amended to floor

Bill # → SF 1769

Author → Scheid

Descriptor → Requiring notice of ^{certain} Independent Expenditures

Actions → laid over

03:10:28

Senate Elections Committee

Chair: Chuck Wiger
Monday, March 21, 2005
3:00 p.m.
Room 107 Capitol

1. S.F. 852-Higgins: Facilitating voter registration by college students
2. S.F. 1551-Hottinger: Extending the deadline for submitting voter registration applications
 Testifying: Nancy Witta, League of Women Voters
 Pam Costain, Wellstone Action
 Lana Stevens, Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women
 Luanne Crowe, Red Lake
 Maggie Kazel, Duluth
 Tom Johnson, Council on Crime and Justice
 Jorge Saavedra, Centro Legal
 Josh Schenck, Student
3. S.F. 1086-Higgins: Authorizing early voting by absentee ballot at certain locations without qualification.
4. S.F. 1319-Marko: Reporting requirements; redefining inactivity
 Testifying: Jeanne Olson, Executive Director, Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board
5. S.F. 1769-Scheid: Requiring notice of certain independent expenditures
 Testifying: David Schultz, Professor, Hamline University Graduate School of Public Administration and Management
6. S.F. 387-Marty: Establishing a voluntary clean campaign council