

# APPOINTMENT LETTER FOR SENATE CONFIRMATION

FILE NUMBER **044**

REPORTED IN THE SENATE JOURNAL **3/1/2006**

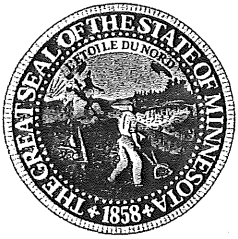
APPOINTMENTS TO THE **Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board**

APPOINTEES AND TERMS:

**Sven A. Wehrwein**

**5/9/2005-1/5/2009**

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON **Elections**



# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155

May 3, 2005

The Honorable James P. Metzen  
President of the Senate  
322 State Capitol  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Senator Metzen:

The following appointment is hereby respectfully submitted to the Senate for confirmation as required by law:

**Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board:**

Sven A. Wehrwein, 4877 East Lake Harriet Parkway, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419, in the county of Hennepin, effective May 9, 2005, for a four-year term that expires on January 5, 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "TP", written over a horizontal line.

Tim Pawlenty  
Governor

TP/jh

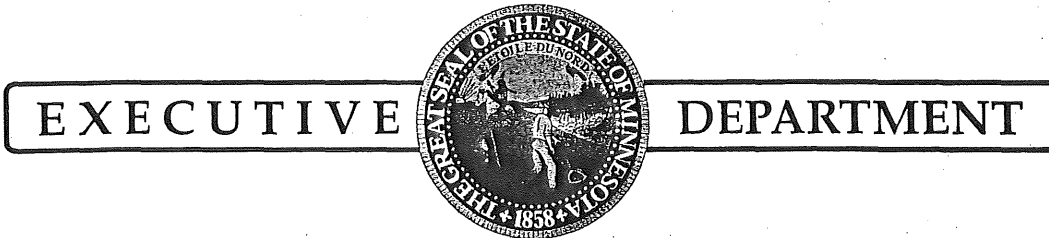
Enclosures

**RECEIVED**

MAY 26 2005

President of the Senate

# STATE of MINNESOTA



TIM PAWLENTY  
GOVERNOR

## NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

# SVEN A. WEHRWEIN

4877 East Lake Harriet Parkway  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419  
County of Hennepin  
Congressional District Five

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment and ability, I have appointed and commissioned you to have and to hold the said office of:

**MEMBER**

**CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD**

Effective: May 9, 2005  
Term Expires: January 5, 2009

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the Capitol in the City of Saint Paul, May 3, 2005.



Replacing: Wilbur Fluegel

Handwritten signature of Tim Pawlenty.

Governor

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Handwritten signature of Mary Kiltmeyer.

Secretary of State

MAY 26 2005

President of the Senate

**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
OPEN APPOINTMENTS APPLICATION FOR SERVICE ON STATE AGENCY**

*All information on this form is available to the public upon request.*

Agency Name: \* Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board  
(Name of board, council, commission or task force to which you are applying.)

Position Sought: Board  
(Membership position sought or enter "member" if no specific requirements exist for position sought.)

Applicant Name: \* Sven A. WEHRWEIN  
(First Name) (Last Name)

Applicant Address: \* 4877 E. Lake Harriet Parkway, Minneapolis 55419  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Work Phone: \* (612) 927-4614 Home Phone: ( ) - Same

E-MAIL: \* Sawehrwein@aol.com

County: Hennepin MN House of Rep District: 60B U.S. House of Rep District: 5th

\* Indicates information that will appear on the Office of the Secretary of State web site: [www.sos.state.mn.us](http://www.sos.state.mn.us)

Have you ever been convicted of a felony: Yes  No

Did the Appointing Authority suggest you submit your application? YES  NO

**Please attach a current resume or a biographical statement containing work history, education, community activities, etc., and any other information the Applicant or Nominating Person feels would be helpful to the Appointing Authority.** See attached

**OPTIONAL STATISTICAL INFORMATION**

The following information is optional and voluntary. Information is collected for, and compiled in, the annual report on the open appointments process pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes* §15.0597.

Sex:  Female  Male

Political Party:  Democratic-Farmer-Labor  
 Green  
 Independence  
 Republican  
 Other  
 No party preference

Race\*:  African American / Black  
 American Indian / Alaska Native  
 Asian  
 Hispanic  
 Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander  
 White  
 Other Race \_\_\_\_\_

Disability:  Yes  No

National Origin: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Country of Origin or Principle Tribe)

(\* Select as many as apply)

I swear that, to the best of my knowledge, the above information is correct and that I satisfy all legally prescribed qualifications for the position sought.

Sven A. Wehrwein 4/25/05  
(Signature of Applicant)\* (Date)

\* If another person or group is nominating the applicant, the applicant's signature indicates consent to nomination.

**MAIL, FAX, OR SUBMIT  
APPLICATION IN  
PERSON, TO:**

Office of the Secretary of State, Open Appointments  
 180 State Office Building  
 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd  
 St. Paul, MN 55155-1299

FAX: (651) 296-9073  
 Phone: (651) 297-5845  
 Email: [open.appointments@state.mn.us](mailto:open.appointments@state.mn.us)

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Applicants will not receive an acknowledgement of submitted applications; the appointing authority will notify you if an interview is desired.

*By request, this application will be made available in alternative format (for example, braille, large print, audio tape, or computer disk.)*

FOR OFFICE USE: Sub by AA: \_\_\_\_\_ AA: \_\_\_\_\_ Trans Date: 5/0 2005

President of the Senate

## Public Official Information

### Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Name: Wehrwein, Sven  
 Occupation: Self-employed  
 Business Address: 4877 East Lake Harriet Parkway  
 Minneapolis, MN 55419  
 Employer Name:  
 Appointment Date: 05/09/05

## Sources of Compensation

### Applicable categories

Name of Source	Director	Officer	Owner	Member	Partner	Employer	Employee	Honorar
Key Enterprises							X	
Synovis Life Technologies	X							
Van Wagoner Funds						X		
Vital Images			X					

## Securities

**Name of Securities**  
 Affinity Capital Management  
 Archivers'  
 Cohen & Steers  
 Eaton Vance  
 Fidelity Blue Chip Growth Fund  
 Fidelity ContraFund  
 Johnson & Johnson  
 Keyspan  
 Kopp Emerging Growth Fund  
 Medtronic  
 Polaris Industries  
 Schwab 1000 Index Fund

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- Schwab 500 Index Fund
- Schwab Small-cap Index Fund
- Scudder Real Estate Fund
- Sit Investment MN Tax-free Fund
- Vanguard 500 Index Fund
- Vanguard Capital Opportunity Fund
- Vanguard Short-term Investment Grade Fund
- Vanguard Tax-managed International Fund
- Vanguard Total International Stock Fund
- Vanguard Total Stock Market Index Fund
- Vital Images

### Real Property

None Reported

### Pari-Mutuel Horse Racing Interests

None Reported

**LINKS**	
<u>Current Agency</u>	<u>Agency Index</u>
<u>Current Public Official</u>	<u>Public Official Index</u>
<u>Campaign Finance Home Page</u>	

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MAY 31 2005

President of the Senate



## OFFICE OF GOVERNOR TIM PAWLENTY

130 State Capitol ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155 ♦ (651) 296-0001

# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
May 3, 2005

**Contact:** Brian McClung  
(651) 296-0001

### GOVERNOR PAWLENTY APPOINTS WEHRWEIN TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

**Saint Paul** – Governor Tim Pawlenty today announced the appointment of Sven A. Wehrwein to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board.

Wehrwein, of Minneapolis, brings a strong financial background to the board. He is a member of the board of directors of two Twin Cities-based public companies, Synovis Life Technologies, and Vital Images. Previously, he was chief financial officer for InStent and Digi International; an investment banker with Dean Witter in New York, Drexel Burnham Lambert in New York and London, and Wessels, Arnold and Henderson in Minneapolis; and a certified public accountant with Coopers and Lybrand in Minneapolis.

Wehrwein earned his masters in finance (MBA) from the Sloan School at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his bachelor's degree from Loyola University in Chicago. He has been an adjunct instructor at the University of Minnesota School of Journalism and Mass Communications and is a member of the Loft Literary Center board. Wehrwein replaces Wilbur Fluegel on the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board for a four-year term that expires on January 5, 2009.

The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board administers programs for campaign finance disclosure for state candidates, economic interest disclosure for state and local officials, lobbyist registration and disclosure, and public subsidy of state candidates and political party committees. The board consists of six members appointed by the Governor, not more than three of whom may support the same political party.

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President of the Senate

## Backgrounder

**Sven A. Wehrwein**  
4877 E. Lake Harriet Parkway  
Minneapolis, MN 55419

612-927-4614; e-mail: Sawehrwein@aol.com

**Summary of Financial Qualifications:** CPA, MBA, Investment Banker, CFO, and director of public companies.

### Background

- Born in Denmark; raised in Chicago and Minneapolis.
- CPA with Coopers & Lybrand audit staff from 1976 to 1979 in Minneapolis.
- Masters in Finance (MBA) from the Sloan School at MIT (1980). Bachelor's from Loyola University, Chicago (1976).
- Investment Banker with Dean Witter (New York), Drexel Burnham Lambert (New York and London), and Wessels, Arnold & Henderson (Minneapolis). Total career in investment banking = 14 years, from 1980 to 1994. Managing Director at both Drexel and Wessels.
- CFO for two public companies: InStent (1995-96) and Digi International (1998-1999). InStent was sold to Medtronic in 1996 for \$240 million.
- Director of Twin Cities-based public companies: 1. Since 2004, Synovis (Nasdaq: SYNO) (medical products), and 2. Since 1997, Vital Images (Nasdaq: VTAL) (3D-visualization software for healthcare market). Chair of audit committee at Vital Images, and member of audit committee at Synovis. Previously a director for publicly traded Zamba Corporation until it was acquired in December 2004.
- Freelance financial journalist with over 115 features and columns for *Twin Cities Business Monthly* magazine. (Received national awards -- Gold in 2002 and Bronze in 2003 -- for Best By-Lined Commentary from the Association of Area Business Publications)
- Financial consultant to emerging-growth companies since 1999.
- Community Involvement: Board of Loft Literary Center (from 2004); adjunct instructor, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, University of Minnesota (spring of 2003, 2004); coach for various youth sports; and scout leader.

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MAY 26 2005

President of the Senate

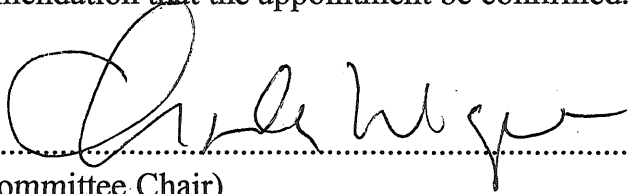


1.1 **Senator Wiger from the Committee on Elections, to which was referred the**  
1.2 **following appointment:**

1.3 **CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD**

**Sven A. Wehrwein**

1.5 **Reports the same back with the recommendation that the appointment be confirmed.**

1.6   
1.7 (Committee Chair)

1.8 **March 8, 2006 .....**  
1.9 **(Date of Committee recommendation)**

1.10 **Senator Johnson, D.E. moved that the foregoing committee report be laid on the**  
1.11 **table. The motion prevailed.**

Minnesota

# *Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board*

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190 Centennial Building . 658 Cedar Street . St. Paul, MN 55155-1603

**DATE:** 22 February 2006

**TO:** Senator Chuck Wiger ✓  
Representative Jeff Johnson

**FROM** Jeanne Olson  
Executive Director

**TELEPHONE:** 651/296-1721  
800/657-3889

**SUBJECT:** Scott Heintzeman

Hello

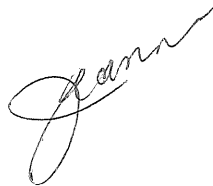
Enclosed are the Notice of Appointment, News Release, and application for Scott Heintzeman. Mr. Heintzeman was appointed by Governor Pawlenty for an appointment effective February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Heintzeman's appointment must be confirmed by both the House and Senate no later than adjournment sine die.

Mr. Heintzeman's Statement of Economic Interest is due March 1<sup>st</sup>. You may wish to download the Statement from the Board's website, [cfboard.state.mn.us](http://cfboard.state.mn.us) after that date.

I understand that each of your committee's will act on Mr. Heintzeman's confirmation on March 8<sup>th</sup> along with the confirmation hearing for Sven Wehrwein's appointment.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Please let me know if you need additional information.





# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155

### MEMORANDUM

**To:** Jeanne Olson, Executive Director  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board  
First Floor South, Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**From:** John Hultquist, Director of Judicial, Board and Commission Appointments

**Date:** February 10, 2006

**Re:** Notice of Appointment

Enclosed is a copy of the Notice of Appointment, application materials and news release for the following Governor-appointed member:

**Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board:**

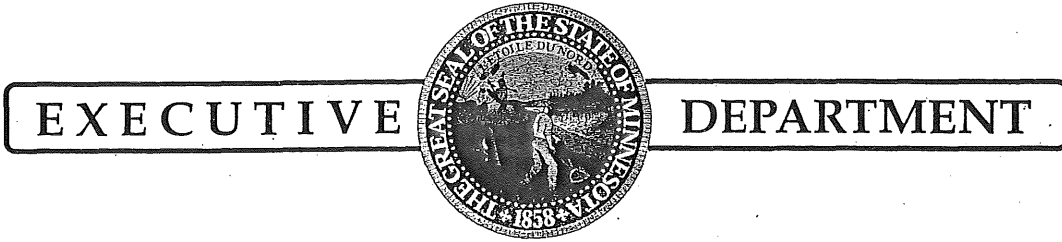
Scott B. Heintzeman

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via telephone at 651-296-0019 or e-mail at [john.hultquist@state.mn.us](mailto:john.hultquist@state.mn.us).

Enclosures

06 FEB 10 PM 2:40  
CAMPAIGN FINANCE &  
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

# STATE of MINNESOTA



TIM PAWLENTY  
GOVERNOR

## NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

# SCOTT B. HEINTZEMAN

4610 Polaris Lane  
Plymouth, Minnesota 55446  
County of Hennepin  
Congressional District Three

06 FEB 10 PM 2:41  
CAMPAIGN FINANCE &  
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment and ability, I have appointed and commissioned you to have and to hold the said office of:

**MEMBER**  
**CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD**

Effective: February 15, 2006  
Term Expires: January 4, 2010

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

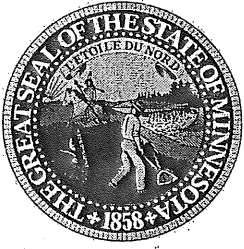
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the Capitol in the City of Saint Paul, February 10, 2006.



*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Governor

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Secretary of State

Replacing: Clyde Miller



**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR TIM PAWLENTY**  
130 State Capitol ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155 ♦ (651) 296-0001

# *NEWS RELEASE*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
February 10, 2006

**Contact:** Brian McClung  
(651) 296-0001

## **GOVERNOR PAWLENTY APPOINTS HEINTZEMAN TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD**

**Saint Paul** – Governor Tim Pawlenty today announced the appointment of Scott B. Heintzeman to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board.

Heintzeman, of Plymouth, is a vice president and the chief information officer for Carlson Marketing Group in Minnetonka where he oversees Carlson Marketing's technology efforts as well as information, security, project management, and technical architecture. Previously, Heintzeman worked for Carlson Hotels Worldwide where he was responsible for many technical innovations during his 33 years with the company.

Heintzeman earned his master of business administration degree from the University of Minnesota and completed the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management Minnesota Management Program and Minnesota Executive Program. He was inducted into the Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals' International Hospitality Technology Hall of Fame in 1999. Heintzeman replaces Clyde Miller on the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board for a four-year term that expires on January 4, 2010.

The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board administers programs for campaign finance disclosure for state candidates, economic interest disclosure for state and local officials, lobbyist registration and disclosure, and public subsidy of state candidates and political party committees. The board consists of six members appointed by the Governor, not more than three of whom may support the same political party.

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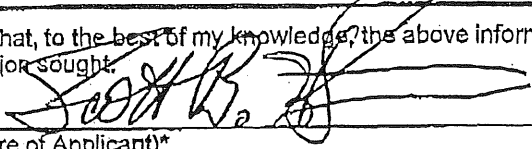
## STATE OF MINNESOTA OPEN APPOINTMENTS APPLICATION FOR SERVICE ON STATE AGENCY

*All information on this form is available to the public upon request.*

<b>Agency Name:</b>	Campaign Finance Board			
	<small>(Name of board, council, commission or task force to which you are applying.)</small>			
<b>Position Sought:</b>	Member			
	<small>(Membership position sought or enter "member" if no specific requirements exist for position sought.)</small>			
<b>Applicant Name:</b>	Scott B. Heintzeman			
	<small>(First Name)</small>	<small>(Last Name)</small>		
<b>Applicant Address:</b>	4610 Polaris Lane	Plymouth	MN	55446
	<small>(Street)</small>	<small>(City)</small>	<small>(State)</small>	<small>(Zip)</small>
<b>Work Phone:</b>	*( 763 ) 212- 3333		<b>Home Phone:</b> ( 763 ) 559 - 9386	
<b>E-MAIL:</b>	*_ScottBH@att.net		CELL PHONE: 612-723-4610	
<b>County:</b>	Hennepin		<b>MN House of Rep District:</b>	43
			<b>U.S. House of Rep District:</b>	3
<small>* Indicates information that will appear on the Office of the Secretary of State web site: www.sos.state.mn.us</small>				
<b>Have you ever been convicted of a felony:</b>	Yes _____		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Did the Appointing Authority suggest you submit your application?</b>	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		NO _____	
<b>Please attach a current resume or a biographical statement containing work history, education, community activities, etc., and any other information the Applicant or Nominating Person feels would be helpful to the Appointing Authority.</b>				

OPTIONAL STATISTICAL INFORMATION			
<small>The following information is optional and voluntary. Information is collected for, and compiled in, the annual report on the open appointments process pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §15.0597.</small>			
<b>Sex:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male	<b>Political Party:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Democratic-Farmer-Labor <input type="checkbox"/> Green <input type="checkbox"/> Independence <input type="checkbox"/> Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No party preference
<b>Disability:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<b>Race*:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> African American / Black <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian / Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Other Race _____
<b>National Origin:</b>	USA <small>(Country of Origin or Principle Tribe)</small>		<small>(* Select as many as apply)</small>

I swear that, to the best of my knowledge, the above information is correct and that I satisfy all legally prescribed qualifications for the position sought.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Signature of Applicant)\*

4/31/06  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Date)

\* If another person or group is nominating the applicant, the applicant's signature indicates consent to nomination.

**MAIL, FAX, OR SUBMIT APPLICATION IN PERSON, TO:**

Office of the Secretary of State, Open Appointments  
180 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1299

**FAX:** (651) 296-9073  
**Phone:** (651) 297-5845  
**Email:** open.appointments@state.mn.us

Applicants will not receive an acknowledgement of submitted applications; the appointing authority will notify you if an interview is desired.

By request, this application will be made available in alternative format (for example, braille, large print, audio tape, or computer disk.)

**FOR OFFICE USE:** Sub by AA: \_\_\_\_\_ AA: \_\_\_\_\_ Trans Date: \_\_\_\_\_

May 27, 2005

**From: Jim Schroer, president and CEO-CMG and  
Steve Geiger, vice president, Enterprise Transformation and Integration**

**To: CMG colleagues worldwide**

**Scott Heintzeman named VP / CIO for Carlson Marketing Group**

We're pleased to announce that Scott Heintzeman, a 33-year veteran of Carlson Hotels Worldwide, has been named to the new position of **chief information officer** for Carlson Marketing Group. In this role, he will identify, develop and continue strategies that will support a focused, effective and efficient customer-centric marketing approach, using modular, shared-systems architecture.

Scott will lead all of CMG's IT efforts across the company as well as security, project management, and enterprise and technical architecture. In his similar role at CHW, Scott led technology initiatives for the Carlson hotel brands (Regent International Hotels; Radisson Hotels & Resorts; Park Plaza Hotels & Resorts; Country Inns & Suites By Carlson; and Park Inn).

Throughout his career, Scott has kept Carlson Hotels on the leading edge of technical innovation within the hospitality industry. Most recently, he was responsible for the launch of Radisson's "Express Yourself," the hotel industry's first online check-in system that allows guests to check-in to their hotel up to seven days in advance of their arrival via the Radisson.com web site.

Scott was also instrumental in several other technology initiatives for the company including: acquiring registered patents for "Look To Book," Carlson's travel agent incentive program; deploying Carlson's first web site in 1995; helping create the seamless interface standard for the Global Distribution Systems; and directing the development of Carlson's central reservations system, "Curtis-C," which has been named as a Cornell University "Best Practice." In addition, "Curtis-C" is recorded in the permanent archives of the Smithsonian Institute for its innovative and industry leading capabilities.

Scott received his master of business administration degree from the University of Minnesota and completed the university's Carlson School of Management Minnesota Management Program and Minnesota Executive Program. In 1999, he was inducted into the International Hospitality Technology Hall of Fame, a very prestigious honor sponsored by the Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals.

## Public Official Information

### Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Name: Heintzeman, Scott  
 Occupation: CIO Information Technology  
 Business Address: PO Box 59159  
 Minneapolis, MN 55459

Employer Name: Carlson Marketing

Appointment Date: 02/15/06

## Sources of Compensation

### Applicable categories

Name of Source	Director	Officer	Owner	Member	Partner	Employer	Employee	Honorarium
Carlson Marketing							X	

## Securities

**Name of Securities**

Ameriprise Retirement Services  
 Carlson Companies Deferred Comp Plan  
 CGM Focus Fund  
 CGM Realty Fund

## Real Property

County	Street Address and Municipality or Section, Township and Range	Own	Mortgage	Contract for deed	option to buy, \$2500	option to buy, \$50,000	Acreage
Wright	6355 North Shore Dr	Yes	No	No	No	No	

## Pari-Mutuel Horse Racing Interests

None Reported

**LINKS**	
<a href="#">Current Agency</a>	<a href="#">Agency Index</a>
<a href="#">Current Public Official</a>	<a href="#">Public Official Index</a>
<a href="#">Campaign Finance Home Page</a>	



**Bill Summary****Senate**

Senate Counsel &amp; Research

State of Minnesota

**S.F. No. 1389 - State Primary in June**

**Author:** Senator Linda Higgins  
**Prepared by:** Peter S. Wattson, Senate Counsel (651/296-3812)  
**Date:** March 7, 2005

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**S.F. No. 1389** moves the date of the primary from September to the first Tuesday in June.

**Sections 1 to 5** make conforming amendments to change the deadlines for filing certain campaign finance reports and affidavits and the notice of the opening of filings for office.

**Section 1** changes from September 1 to one week before the state primary the date when the Commissioner of Revenue must certify the amount of available funds in each party account for distribution to party candidates who survive the primary.

**Section 2** advances from July 1 to one week before the first day for filing for office the deadline for the Commissioner of Revenue to estimate the amount each candidate will be eligible to receive from the general account and the party account and the state elections campaign fund. It also advances from August 15 to two weeks after the last day for filing for office, the deadline for the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board to notify candidates of the estimated amounts they will be eligible to receive in public subsidies.

**Section 3** changes the deadline for candidates to file spending limit agreements from September 1 to one week before the candidate's state primary.

**Section 4** changes the deadline for candidates to submit affidavits of matching contributions from September 1 to one week before the state primary.

**Section 5** changes the deadline for the Secretary of State to notify each county auditor of the offices to be voted on in that county at the next state general election from the month of June to no later than 15 weeks before the state primary. In 2006, if the state primary is the first Tuesday in June, this deadline will be February 21.

**Section 6** changes the date of the state primary to the first Tuesday in June.

**Section 7** moves the date of the municipal primary to the first Tuesday in June in even-numbered years, but leaves it in September in odd-numbered years.

**Section 8** does likewise for the school district primary.

**Section 9** makes the act effective for the state primary in 2006 and thereafter.

1.1 A bill for an act  
 1 relating to elections; moving the state primary from September to June and  
 1.3 making conforming changes; amending Minnesota Statutes 2004, sections  
 1.4 10A.31, subdivision 6; 10A.321; 10A.322, subdivision 1; 10A.323; 204B.33;  
 1.5 204D.03, subdivision 1; 205.065, subdivision 1; 205A.03, subdivision 2.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 10A.31, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

1.8 Subd. 6. **Distribution of party accounts.** As soon as the board has obtained from  
 1.9 the secretary of state the results of the primary election, but no later than one week after  
 1.10 certification by the State Canvassing Board of the results of the primary, the board must  
 1.11 distribute the available money in each party account, as certified by the commissioner of  
 1.12 revenue ~~on September 1~~ one week before the state primary, to the candidates of that party  
 1.13 who have signed a spending limit agreement under section 10A.322 and filed the affidavit  
 1.14 of contributions required by section 10A.323, who were opposed in either the primary  
 1.15 election or the general election, and whose names are to appear on the ballot in the general  
 1.16 election, according to the allocations set forth in subdivisions 5 and 5a. The public subsidy  
 1.17 from the party account may not be paid in an amount greater than the expenditure limit  
 1.18 of the candidate or the expenditure limit that would have applied to the candidate if the  
 1.19 candidate had not been freed from expenditure limits under section 10A.25, subdivision  
 1.20 10. If a candidate files the affidavit required by section 10A.323 ~~after September 1 of the~~  
 1.21 ~~general election year~~ less than one week before the state primary, the board must pay the  
 1.22 candidate's allocation to the candidate at the next regular payment date for public subsidies  
 for that election cycle that occurs at least 15 days after the candidate files the affidavit.

2.1 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 10A.321, is amended to read:

2.2 **10A.321 ESTIMATES OF MINIMUM AMOUNTS TO BE RECEIVED.**

2 Subdivision 1. **Calculation and certification of estimates.** The commissioner of  
2.4 revenue must calculate and certify to the board one week before ~~July 1~~ the first day for  
2.5 filing for office in each election year an estimate of the total amount in the state general  
2.6 account of the state elections campaign fund and the amount of money each candidate  
2.7 who qualifies, as provided in section 10A.31, subdivisions 6 and 7, may receive from the  
2.8 candidate's party account in the state elections campaign fund. This estimate must be  
2.9 based upon the allocations and formulas in section 10A.31, subdivisions 5 and 5a, any  
2.10 necessary vote totals provided by the secretary of state to apply the formulas in section  
2.11 10A.31, subdivisions 5 and 5a, and the amount of money expected to be available after  
2.12 100 percent of the tax returns have been processed.

2.13 Subd. 2. **Publication, certification, and notification procedures.** Before the  
2.14 first day of filing for office, the board must publish and forward to all filing officers  
2.15 the estimates calculated and certified under subdivision 1 along with a copy of section  
2.16 10A.25, subdivision 10. Within ~~seven days~~ one week after the last day for filing for  
2.17 office, the secretary of state must certify to the board the name, address, office sought, and  
2.18 party affiliation of each candidate who has filed with that office an affidavit of candidacy  
2.19 or petition to appear on the ballot. The auditor of each county must certify to the board  
2.20 the same information for each candidate who has filed with that county an affidavit of  
2.21 candidacy or petition to appear on the ballot. ~~By August 15~~ Within two weeks after the last  
2.22 day for filing for office, the board must notify all candidates of their estimated minimum  
2.23 amount. The board must include with the notice a form for the agreement provided in  
2.24 section 10A.322 along with a copy of section 10A.25, subdivision 10.

2.25 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 10A.322, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

2.26 Subdivision 1. **Agreement by candidate.** (a) As a condition of receiving a public  
2.27 subsidy, a candidate must sign and file with the board a written agreement in which the  
2.28 candidate agrees that the candidate will comply with sections 10A.25; 10A.27, subdivision  
2.29 10; 10A.31, subdivision 7, paragraph (c); and 10A.324.

2.30 (b) Before the first day of filing for office, the board must forward agreement forms  
2.31 to all filing officers. The board must also provide agreement forms to candidates on  
2.32 request at any time. The candidate must file the agreement with the board ~~by September 1~~  
2.33 ~~preceding the candidate's general election or a special election held at the general election~~  
2.34 at least one week before the candidate's state primary. An agreement may not be filed  
2.35 after that date. An agreement once filed may not be rescinded.

3.1 (c) The board must notify the commissioner of revenue of any agreement signed  
3.2 under this subdivision.

3.3 (d) Notwithstanding paragraph (b), if a vacancy occurs that will be filled by means  
3.4 of a special election and the filing period does not coincide with the filing period for the  
3.5 general election, a candidate may sign and submit a spending limit agreement not later  
3.6 than the day after the candidate files the affidavit of candidacy or nominating petition  
3.7 for the office.

3.8 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 10A.323, is amended to read:

3.9 **10A.323 AFFIDAVIT OF CONTRIBUTIONS.**

3.10 In addition to the requirements of section 10A.322, to be eligible to receive a public  
3.11 subsidy under section 10A.31 a candidate or the candidate's treasurer must file an affidavit  
3.12 with the board stating that during that calendar year the candidate has accumulated  
3.13 contributions from persons eligible to vote in this state in at least the amount indicated for  
3.14 the office sought, counting only the first \$50 received from each contributor:

- 3.15 (1) candidates for governor and lieutenant governor running together, \$35,000;  
3.16 (2) candidates for attorney general, \$15,000;  
3.17 (3) candidates for secretary of state and state auditor, separately, \$6,000;  
3.18 (4) candidates for the senate, \$3,000; and  
3.19 (5) candidates for the house of representatives, \$1,500.

3.20 The affidavit must state the total amount of contributions that have been received  
3.21 from persons eligible to vote in this state, disregarding the portion of any contribution in  
3.22 excess of \$50.

3.23 The candidate or the candidate's treasurer must submit the affidavit required by  
3.24 this section to the board in writing ~~by September 1 of the general election year~~ at least  
3.25 one week before the state primary.

3.26 A candidate for a vacancy to be filled at a special election for which the filing period  
3.27 does not coincide with the filing period for the general election must submit the affidavit  
3.28 required by this section to the board within five days after filing the affidavit of candidacy.

3.29 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 204B.33, is amended to read:

3.30 **204B.33 NOTICE OF FILING.**

3.31 (a) ~~Between June 1 and July 1 in each even numbered year~~ At least 15 weeks before  
3.32 the state primary, the secretary of state shall notify each county auditor of the offices to be  
3.33 voted for in that county at the next state general election for which candidates file with the  
3.34 secretary of state. The notice shall include the time and place of filing for those offices.

4.1 Within ten days after notification by the secretary of state, each county auditor shall notify  
4.2 each municipal clerk in the county of all the offices to be voted for in the county at that  
4.3 election and the time and place for filing for those offices. The county auditors and  
4.4 municipal clerks shall promptly post a copy of that notice in their offices.

4.5 (b) At least two weeks before the first day to file an affidavit of candidacy, the  
4.6 county auditor shall publish a notice stating the first and last dates on which affidavits of  
4.7 candidacy may be filed in the county auditor's office and the closing time for filing on the  
4.8 last day for filing. The county auditor shall post a similar notice at least ten days before  
4.9 the first day to file affidavits of candidacy.

4.10 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 204D.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

4.11 Subdivision 1. **State primary.** The state primary shall be held on the first Tuesday  
4.12 ~~after the second Monday in September~~ June in each even-numbered year to select  
4.13 the nominees of the major political parties for partisan offices and the nominees for  
4.14 nonpartisan offices to be filled at the state general election, other than presidential electors.

4.15 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 205.065, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

4.16 Subdivision 1. **Establishing primary.** A municipal primary for the purpose of  
4.17 nominating elective officers may be held in any city on the first Tuesday after the second  
4.18 Monday in September of ~~any~~ an odd-numbered year or on the date of the state primary in  
4.19 an even-numbered year. The municipal primary must be held in the same year in which a  
4.20 municipal general election is to be held for the purpose of electing officers.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 205.13, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

4.22 Subd. 1a. **Filing period.** In municipalities nominating candidates at a municipal  
4.23 primary, an affidavit of candidacy for a city office or town office voted on in November  
4.24 must be filed not more than 70 days nor less than 56 days before ~~the first Tuesday after the~~  
4.25 ~~second Monday in September~~ preceding the municipal general election primary. In all  
4.26 other municipalities, an affidavit of candidacy must be filed not more than 70 days and not  
4.27 less than 56 days before the municipal general election.

4.28 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 205A.03, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

4.29 Subd. 2. **Date.** The school district primary must be held on the first Tuesday after  
4.30 the second Monday in September of an odd-numbered year or on the date of the state  
4.31 primary in an even-numbered year. The primary must be held in the year when the school

5.1 district general election is held. The clerk shall give notice of the primary in the manner  
5.2 provided in section 205A.07.

5.3 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 205A.06, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

5.4 Subd. 1a. **Filing period.** Affidavits of candidacy must be filed with the school  
5.5 district clerk no earlier than the 70th day and no later than the 56th day before the first  
5.6 Tuesday after the second Monday in September ~~in the year~~ when the school district  
5.7 general election is held in an odd-numbered year or before the state primary when the  
5.8 school district general election is held in an even-numbered year.

5.9 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2005 Supplement, section 447.32, subdivision 4, is  
5.10 amended to read:

5.11 Subd. 4. **Candidates; ballots; certifying election.** A person who wants to be a  
5.12 candidate for the hospital board shall file an affidavit of candidacy for the election either  
5.13 as member at large or as a member representing the city or town where the candidate  
5.14 resides. The affidavit of candidacy must be filed with the city or town clerk not more than  
5.15 70 days nor less than 56 days before the ~~first Tuesday after the first Monday in November~~  
5.16 ~~of the year in which the general election is held~~ state primary. The city or town clerk must  
5.17 forward the affidavits of candidacy to the clerk of the hospital district or, for the first  
5.18 election, the clerk of the most populous city or town immediately after the last day of  
5.19 the filing period. A candidate may withdraw from the election by filing an affidavit of  
5.20 withdrawal with the clerk of the district no later than 5:00 p.m. two days after the last  
5.21 day to file affidavits of candidacy.

5.22 Voting must be by secret ballot. The clerk shall prepare, at the expense of the  
5.23 district, necessary ballots for the election of officers. Ballots must be printed on tan paper  
5.24 and prepared as provided in the rules of the secretary of state. The ballots must be marked  
5.25 and initialed by at least two judges as official ballots and used exclusively at the election.  
5.26 Any proposition to be voted on may also authorize the use of voting systems subject  
5.27 to chapter 206. Enough election judges may be appointed to receive the votes at each  
5.28 polling place. The election judges shall act as clerks of election, count the ballots cast,  
5.29 and submit them to the board for canvass.

5.30 After canvassing the election, the board shall issue a certificate of election to the  
5.31 candidate who received the largest number of votes cast for each office. The clerk shall  
5.32 deliver the certificate to the person entitled to it in person or by certified mail. Each  
5.33 person certified shall file an acceptance and oath of office in writing with the clerk within  
5.34 30 days after the date of delivery or mailing of the certificate. The board may fill in any

6.1 office as provided in subdivision 1 if the person elected fails to qualify within 30 days, but  
6.2 qualification is effective if made before the board acts to fill the vacancy.

6.3 Sec. 12. EFFECTIVE DATE.

6.4 This act is effective for the state primary in 2006 and thereafter.

1 Senator ..... moves to amend S.F. No. 1389 as follows:

2 Page 5, after line 30, insert:

3 "Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 205.13,  
4 subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

5 Subd. 1a. [FILING PERIOD.] In municipalities nominating  
6 candidates at a municipal primary, an affidavit of candidacy for  
7 a city office or town office voted on in November must be filed  
8 not more than 70 days nor less than 56 days before ~~the-first~~  
9 ~~Tuesday-after-the-second-Monday-in-September-preceding~~ the  
10 municipal ~~general-election~~ primary. In all other  
11 municipalities, an affidavit of candidacy must be filed not more  
12 than 70 days and not less than 56 days before the municipal  
13 general election."

14 Page 6, after line 3, insert:

15 "Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 205A.06,  
16 subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

17 Subd. 1a. [FILING PERIOD.] Affidavits of candidacy must be  
18 filed with the school district clerk no earlier than the 70th  
19 day and no later than the 56th day before the first Tuesday  
20 after the second Monday in September ~~in-the-year~~ when the school  
21 district general election is held in an odd-numbered year or  
22 before the state primary when the school district general  
23 election is held in an even-numbered year.

24 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 447.32,  
25 subdivision 4, is amended to read:

26 Subd. 4. [CANDIDATES; BALLOTS; CERTIFYING ELECTION.] A  
27 person who wants to be a candidate for the hospital board shall  
28 file an affidavit of candidacy for the election either as member  
29 at large or as a member representing the city or town where the  
30 candidate resides. The affidavit of candidacy must be filed  
31 with the city or town clerk not more than ten weeks nor less  
32 than eight weeks before the ~~Tuesday-after-the-second-Monday-in~~  
33 ~~September-of-the-year-in-which-the-general-election-is-held~~  
34 state primary. The city or town clerk must forward the  
35 affidavits of candidacy to the clerk of the hospital district  
36 or, for the first election, the clerk of the most populous city



1 or town immediately after the last day of the filing period. A  
2 candidate may withdraw from the election by filing an affidavit  
3 of withdrawal with the clerk of the district no later than 5:00  
4 p.m. two days after the last day to file affidavits of candidacy.

5 Voting must be by secret ballot. The clerk shall prepare,  
6 at the expense of the district, necessary ballots for the  
7 election of officers. Ballots must be printed on tan paper and  
8 prepared as provided in the rules of the secretary of state.  
9 The ballots must be marked and initialed by at least two judges  
10 as official ballots and used exclusively at the election. Any  
11 proposition to be voted on may be printed on the ballot provided  
12 for the election of officers. The hospital board may also  
13 authorize the use of voting systems subject to chapter 206.  
14 Enough election judges may be appointed to receive the votes at  
15 each polling place. The election judges shall act as clerks of  
16 election, count the ballots cast, and submit them to the board  
17 for canvass.

18 After canvassing the election, the board shall issue a  
19 certificate of election to the candidate who received the  
20 largest number of votes cast for each office. The clerk shall  
21 deliver the certificate to the person entitled to it in person  
22 or by certified mail. Each person certified shall file an  
23 acceptance and oath of office in writing with the clerk within  
24 30 days after the date of delivery or mailing of the  
25 certificate. The board may fill any office as provided in  
26 subdivision 1 if the person elected fails to qualify within 30  
27 days, but qualification is effective if made before the board  
28 acts to fill the vacancy."

29 Renumber the sections in sequence and correct the internal  
30 references

31 Amend the title accordingly



**Senators Higgins, Wiger, Lourey and McGinn introduced--  
S.F. No. 1086: Referred to the Committee on Elections.**

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A bill for an act

relating to elections; authorizing early voting by  
absentee ballot at certain locations without  
qualification; amending Minnesota Statutes 2004,  
section 203B.02, by adding a subdivision.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 203B.02, is  
amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4. [EARLY VOTING.] Any eligible voter who desires to  
vote in person at the office of the county auditor or municipal  
clerk, or at another location designated by the county auditor  
or municipal clerk for early voting, may vote by absentee ballot  
as provided in sections 203B.04 to 203B.15 at any time after  
absentee ballots become available.

1.1 Senator ..... moves to amend S.F. No. 1086 as follows:

1.2 Page 3, delete section 3 and insert:

1.3 "Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2005 Supplement, section 203B.04, subdivision 1,  
1.4 is amended to read:

1.5 Subdivision 1. **Application procedures.** Except as otherwise allowed by  
1.6 subdivision 2, an application for absentee ballots for any election may be submitted at  
1.7 any time not less than one day before the day of that election. The county auditor shall  
1.8 prepare absentee ballot application forms in the format provided by the secretary of state,  
1.9 notwithstanding rules on absentee ballot forms, and shall furnish them to any person on  
1.10 request. By January 1 of each even-numbered year, the secretary of state shall make the  
1.11 forms to be used available to auditors through electronic means. An application submitted  
1.12 pursuant to this subdivision shall be in writing and shall be submitted to:

- 1.13 (a) (1) the county auditor of the county where the applicant maintains residence; or
- 1.14 (b) (2) the municipal clerk of the municipality, or school district if applicable, where
- 1.15 the applicant maintains residence.

1.16 An application shall be approved if it is timely received, signed and dated by the  
1.17 applicant, contains the applicant's name and residence and mailing addresses, and states  
1.18 that the applicant is eligible to vote by absentee ballot ~~for one of the reasons specified in~~  
1.19 ~~section 203B.02~~. The application may contain a request for the voter's date of birth, which  
1.20 must not be made available for public inspection. An application may be submitted to  
1.21 the county auditor or municipal clerk by an electronic facsimile device. An application  
1.22 mailed or returned in person to the county auditor or municipal clerk on behalf of a voter  
1.23 by a person other than the voter must be deposited in the mail or returned in person to  
1.24 the county auditor or municipal clerk within ten days after it has been dated by the voter  
1.25 and no later than six days before the election. The absentee ballot applications or a list of  
1.26 persons applying for an absentee ballot may not be made available for public inspection  
1.27 until the close of voting on election day.

- 2.1 An application under this subdivision may contain an application under subdivision
- 2.2 5 to automatically receive an absentee ballot application."

*early*

1 Senator ..... moves to amend S.F. No. 1086 as follows:

2 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

3 "Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 201.022,  
4 subdivision 1, is amended to read:

5 Subdivision 1. [ESTABLISHMENT.] The secretary of state  
6 shall maintain a statewide voter registration system to  
7 facilitate voter registration and to provide a central database  
8 containing voter registration information from around the  
9 state. The system must be accessible to the county auditor of  
10 each county in the state. The system must also:

11 (1) provide for voters to submit their voter registration  
12 applications to any county auditor, the secretary of state, or  
13 the Department of Public Safety;

14 (2) provide for the definition, establishment, and  
15 maintenance of a central database for all voter registration  
16 information;

17 (3) provide for entering data into the statewide  
18 registration system;

19 (4) provide for electronic transfer of completed voter  
20 registration applications from the Department of Public Safety  
21 to the secretary of state or the county auditor;

22 (5) assign a unique identifier to each legally registered  
23 voter in the state;

24 (6) provide for the acceptance of the Minnesota driver's  
25 license number, Minnesota state identification number, and last  
26 four digits of the Social Security number for each voter record;

27 (7) coordinate with other agency databases within the  
28 state;

29 (8) allow county auditors and the secretary of state to add  
30 or modify information in the system to provide for accurate and  
31 up-to-date records;

32 (9) allow county auditors, municipal and school district  
33 clerks, and the secretary of state to have electronic access to  
34 the statewide registration system for review and search  
35 capabilities;

36 (10) provide security and protection of all information in

1 the statewide registration system and ensure that unauthorized  
2 access is not allowed;

3 (11) provide access to municipal clerks to use the system;

4 (12) provide a system for each county to identify the  
5 precinct to which a voter should be assigned for voting  
6 purposes;

7 (13) provide daily reports accessible by county auditors on  
8 the driver's license numbers, state identification numbers, or  
9 last four digits of the Social Security numbers submitted on  
10 voter registration applications that have been verified as  
11 accurate by the secretary of state; and

12 (14) provide reports on the number of absentee ballots  
13 transmitted to and returned and cast by voters under section  
14 203B.16; and

15 (15) provide rosters, master lists, and other reports  
16 necessary for early voting.

17 The appropriate state or local official shall provide  
18 security measures to prevent unauthorized access to the  
19 computerized list established under section 201.021.

20 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 203B.02,  
21 subdivision 1, is amended to read:

22 Subdivision 1. [~~UNABLE-TO-GO-TO-POLLING-PLACE~~ ELIGIBILITY  
23 FOR ABSENTEE VOTING.] Any eligible voter ~~who-reasonably-expects~~  
24 ~~to-be-unable-to-go-to-the-polling-place-on-election-day-in-the~~  
25 ~~precinct-where-the-individual-maintains-residence-because-of~~  
26 ~~absence-from-the-precinct,-illness,-disability,-religious~~  
27 ~~discipline,-observance-of-a-religious-holiday,-or-service-as-an~~  
28 ~~election-judge-in-another-precinct~~ may vote by absentee ballot  
29 as provided in sections 203B.04 to 203B.15.

30 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 203B.04,  
31 subdivision 1, is amended to read:

32 Subdivision 1. [APPLICATION PROCEDURES.] Except as  
33 otherwise allowed by subdivision 2, an application for absentee  
34 ballots for any election may be submitted at any time not less  
35 than one day before the day of that election. The county  
36 auditor shall prepare absentee ballot application forms in the

1 format provided in the rules of the secretary of state and shall  
2 furnish them to any person on request. An application submitted  
3 pursuant to this subdivision shall be in writing and shall be  
4 submitted to:

5 {a} (1) the county auditor of the county where the  
6 applicant maintains residence; or

7 {b} (2) the municipal clerk of the municipality, or school  
8 district if applicable, where the applicant maintains residence.

9 An application shall be approved if it is timely received,  
10 signed and dated by the applicant, contains the applicant's name  
11 and residence and mailing addresses, and states that the  
12 applicant is eligible to vote by absentee ballot ~~for one of the~~  
13 ~~reasons specified in section 203B.02~~. The application may  
14 contain a request for the voter's date of birth, which must not  
15 be made available for public inspection. An application may be  
16 submitted to the county auditor or municipal clerk by an  
17 electronic facsimile device. An application mailed or returned  
18 in person to the county auditor or municipal clerk on behalf of  
19 a voter by a person other than the voter must be deposited in  
20 the mail or returned in person to the county auditor or  
21 municipal clerk within ten days after it has been dated by the  
22 voter and no later than six days before the election. The  
23 absentee ballot applications or a list of persons applying for  
4 an absentee ballot may not be made available for public  
25 inspection until the close of voting on election day.

26 An application under this subdivision may contain an  
27 application under subdivision 5 to automatically receive an  
28 absentee ballot application.

29 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 203B.085, is  
30 amended to read:

31 203B.085 [COUNTY AUDITOR'S AND MUNICIPAL CLERK'S OFFICES TO  
32 REMAIN OPEN DURING CERTAIN HOURS PRECEDING ELECTION.]

33 The county auditor's office in each county and the clerk's  
34 office in each city or town authorized under section 203B.05 to  
35 administer absentee balloting must be open for acceptance of  
36 absentee ballot applications and casting of absentee ballots



1 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday and until 5:00  
2 ~~p.m.~~ 12:00 noon on the day immediately preceding a primary,  
3 special, or general election unless that day falls on a Saturday  
4 or Sunday. Town clerks' offices must be open for absentee  
5 voting from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the Saturday before a  
6 town general election held in March. The school district clerk,  
7 when performing the county auditor's election duties, need not  
8 comply with this section.

9 Sec. 5. [203B.30] [EARLY VOTING.]

10 Subdivision 1. [AUTHORIZATION; POLLING PLACE DESIGNATION.]

11 An eligible voter may cast a ballot at the county auditor's  
12 office or at any other polling place designated for early voting  
13 by the county auditor during the eight days before a regularly  
14 scheduled primary or election. Early voting on the Saturday and  
15 Monday before the election must occur during the same hours  
16 provided for absentee voting. The county auditor shall  
17 designate the polling places for early voting no later than 90  
18 days before the election and publish a notice of the early  
19 voting polling place locations one week before the first day for  
20 early voting.

21 Subd. 2. [VOTING PROCEDURE.] A voter shall sign an early  
22 voting roster that must include the certification provided in  
23 section 204C.10. An individual who is not registered to vote  
24 must register in the manner provided in section 201.061,  
25 subdivision 3. After the roster has been signed, the  
26 appropriate ballot for the voter's precinct, initialed by two  
27 election judges, must be provided to the voter. The ballot must  
28 be marked by the voter and deposited in either a precinct voting  
29 system or in a sealed ballot box. A voter may not leave the  
30 polling place with the ballot.

31 Subd. 3. [RECORD OF VOTING.] The county auditor shall  
32 provide the municipal clerks with the names of individuals who  
33 have signed the early voting roster. The polling place rosters  
34 must be marked no later than 7:00 a.m. on election day to  
35 indicate the voters who have cast a ballot by early voting. The  
36 rosters may be marked either by the municipal clerk before

1 election day or by the election judges on election day. A voter  
2 who has cast a ballot by early voting must not be permitted to  
3 vote at the polling place on election day. An absentee ballot  
4 received from a voter who has cast a ballot by early voting must  
5 be rejected by the election judges.

6 Subd. 4. [COUNTING AND COMPILING VOTES.] Before election  
7 day, the county auditor shall remove the early-voted ballots  
8 from the ballot box or precinct voting system, sort the ballots  
9 by precinct, and enclose them in a sealed envelope or container.  
10 If the ballots have not been counted, they must be delivered  
11 either to the election judges at the appropriate polling place  
12 or to the counting center before the close of voting on election  
13 day. Ballots that have been counted must be securely stored by  
14 the county auditor with the balance of the ballots from each  
15 respective precinct and the vote totals from these ballots must  
16 be added to the results from the polling place.

17 Vote totals from early voting may not be made public until  
18 the close of voting on election day.

19 Subd. 5. [SPECIAL ELECTIONS.] Early voting for a special  
20 election must begin no earlier than four days before the  
21 election."

22 Delete the title and insert:

23 "A bill for an act  
24 relating to elections; authorizing early voting;  
25 making it easier to vote by absentee ballot; amending  
26 Minnesota Statutes 2004, sections 201.022, subdivision  
27 1; 203B.02, subdivision 1; 203B.04, subdivision 1;  
28 203B.085; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota  
29 Statutes, chapter 203B."

Higgins

EARLY VOTING

By Kae Warnock

Early voters are not required to give a reason.

Early voting was created to encourage more people to vote.

Early voting is the latest twist on absentee voting in the states. Traditionally, voting absentee was a choice for those who were planning to be outside the state or had health problems that would preclude their voting on election day. Unlike traditional absentee voting, those choosing to vote early are not required to give a reason for it, they merely need to be eligible to vote. In some early voting states, satellite voting locations are made available or extended hours are offered.

Early voting was created to encourage more people to go to the polls and to offer an alternative to the long lines and hassles on election day. The method varies from filing unrestricted in-person absentee ballots in OKLAHOMA to opening special polling places in TEXAS. ARIZONA, COLORADO, IOWA, NEVADA, OKLAHOMA, TENNESSEE and TEXAS have enacted some type of early voting law.

Advocates for early voting cite increases in voter turnout and convenience. Other advantages include reduction in the paperwork required for regular absentee voting and greater accessibility for elderly and disabled voters as well as those who might not ordinarily be able to go to the polls on election day or during regular hours.

Provisions for Early Voting		
State	Satellite Polling Place	Voting Period
Arizona	Yes	33 days before election to the Friday before election
Colorado	No	24 days before election to the Friday before election
Iowa	Yes	40 days before election up through the election
Nevada	Yes	Third Saturday before election to the Friday before election
Oklahoma	No	Thursday, Friday and Monday before election
Tennessee	No	20 days before election to 5 days before election
Texas	Yes	20 days before election to 4 days before election

Temporary polling places can result in significant costs.

Setting up and operating temporary polling places for as long as three weeks can result in significant costs, however. Also, some candidates fear that if early voting becomes popular, they may have to change their campaign methods to accommodate a longer voting period.

One of the biggest concerns regarding traditional absentee ballots has been the problem of voter fraud. With early voting, voters must sign in and signatures can be checked on site. In early voting states, polling places have a list or database of registered voters in order to ensure that no one votes twice. And, voters may have to show a voting card or official identification at the polling place.

Several states report increased voter turnout.

TEXAS opened the first early voting polling places in 1987. In 1992, data from 15 of the most populous counties indicated that early votes constituted approximately 33 percent of the votes cast in those counties during that election. Texas estimates that in some counties early voting accounted for 50 percent of voters. COLORADO allowed early voting in the 1992 election, but the only figures available are for total absentee voters. Colorado's absentee voters accounted for 13.45 percent of the total in that election. In the 1992 election, OKLAHOMA absentee voters accounted for 3.44 percent of

the total vote. In ARIZONA, Yavapai County showed an increase of four times as many early voters in 1992 as absentee voters in 1988. Data are still limited, however, and it will take several elections before accurate comparative information exists for the states with newer early voting laws.

Although most states have not collected data on the costs of early voting, some counties in TEXAS have. The combined cost of in-person and mail-in early voting in Dallas County for the 1992 general election was an estimated \$2.07 per vote and estimated election day voting costs were 84 cents per vote. In the 1992 Republican primary election, total early voting cost an estimated, \$3.74 per vote while election day voting cost 74 cents per vote. And in the 1994 Republican primary, election costs rose to \$11.81 per vote versus an election day cost of \$2.07. In Travis County, in-person early voting cost an estimated 78 cents per vote in 1992, and mail-in early votes cost an estimated \$2.74 per vote. Tarrant County estimates that in the 1992 primary early voting cost \$12.14 per vote; in the 1992 November election it cost 88 cents per vote; and in the 1994 primary it cost \$17.92 per vote.

*A final  
verdict on  
costs is not in  
yet.*

*Polling places  
vary from  
state to state.*

For in-person absentee voting to qualify as early voting, there must be some significant difference between it and standard absentee voting. ARIZONA, IOWA and OKLAHOMA all have variations of in-person absentee voting. Although all three states require voters to fill out an application, voters are not required to give a reason for voting early. Oklahoma accepts in-person absentee ballots at county election commission offices. COLORADO residents may vote at precinct polling places or at special early voting polling places. In Arizona, voters in some counties have satellite offices available in addition to the main offices of the county recorders. Iowa counties are still experimenting with locations for absentee voting sites. Some counties have tried government buildings, schools, shopping malls, senior citizen centers and a library.

Because many of its polling places are temporary, TEXAS has opened stations in some unlikely places. Some of the counties have mobile polling stations that move from location to location much like the bookmobiles of the 1960s. Other counties have opened polling stations at malls and retail outlets such as Wal-Mart. Early voters in TENNESSEE will cast their ballots at county election commission offices. Those in NEVADA will have permanent polling places in county election offices and temporary branch polling places.

### Selected References

- Committee on Elections, Texas House of Representatives. *Interim Report to the Legislature*. Austin, Texas, 1992.
- Florida House of Representatives, Committee on Ethics and Elections. *Early Voting*. Tallahassee, Fla., 1993.
- National Clearinghouse on Election Administration, Federal Election Commission. *Innovations in Election Administration 9, Early Voting*. Washington, D.C., 1994.

*Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. §16-541 to 16-552 (West 1993)*

*Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. §1-8-101 to 1-8-128 (West 1993)*

*Iowa Code Ann. §53.1 to 53.50 (West 1994)*

*Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. §293.356 to 293.361 (1993)*

*Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 26, §14-115.4 (West 1994)*

*Tenn. Code Ann. §2-6-101 to 111 (1994)*

*Tex. Elec. Code Ann. tit. 7 §81.001 to 85.072 (Vernon 1994)*

### Contacts For More Information

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Higgins



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## Absentee and Early Voting

Updated October 27, 2004

### Introduction

All states offer voters the option of voting prior to the election. In some states, the ballots are returned by mail. This is referred to as absentee voting. Other states permit voters to vote in person at the offices of county clerks or at other satellite voting locations. This is referred to as early voting or in-person absentee voting.

### Absentee Voting

Absentee voting is conducted by mail-in paper ballot prior to the day of the election. While all states offer some version of it, there is quite a lot of variation in states' procedures for absentee voting. For instance, some states offer "no-excuse" absentee voting, allowing any registered voter to vote absentee without requiring that the voter state a reason for his/her desire to vote absentee. Other states permit voters to vote absentee only under a limited set of circumstances.

#### No-Excuse Absentee Voting

The following states permit any registered voter to vote by absentee ballot. Voters are not required to state their reason or excuse for voting by absentee ballot.

Alaska	Nevada
Arizona	New Mexico
California	North Carolina
Colorado	North Dakota
Florida	Oklahoma
Hawaii	Oregon*
Idaho	South Dakota
Indiana	Utah
Iowa	Vermont
Kansas	Washington
Maine	West Virginia
Montana	Wisconsin
Nebraska	Wyoming

\* Oregon conducts all elections solely by mail ballot.

**Postage:** In most states, the voter must put a stamp on the return envelope for the absentee ballot. Just four states pay the return postage for absentee ballots. Those states are Hawaii, Minnesota, Nevada, and West Virginia.

			commissioners
Wisconsin	Close of polls	Between open and close of polls	Ward election inspectors
Wyoming	7pm election day	Close of polls	County clerk or 3 election judges

*Note:* Data in this chart was compiled from the web site of the Federal Elections Commission, [www.fec.gov/pages/faqabsentee.htm](http://www.fec.gov/pages/faqabsentee.htm), on August 18, 2004.

### Early Voting

About half the states—23, to be exact—offer some sort of early voting. Early voting differs from absentee voting in that voters may visit an election official’s office or, in some states, other satellite voting locations, and cast a vote in person. Satellite voting locations vary by state, and may include other county and state offices (besides the election official’s office), grocery stores, shopping malls, schools, libraries, and other locations. Early voting generally is conducted on the same voting equipment used in the regular election, as opposed to absentee voting, which is conducted on mail-in paper ballots. The time period for early voting varies from state to state, but most often it is available during a period of 10-14 days before the election, generally ending on the Friday or Saturday immediately preceding the election.

Early Voting	
The following states permit in-person early voting at election offices and, in some states, other satellite locations.	
Alaska	Nebraska
Arizona	Nevada
Arkansas	New Mexico
California	North Carolina
Colorado	North Dakota*
Florida	Oklahoma
Georgia	Tennessee
Hawaii	Texas
Indiana	Utah
Iowa	Vermont
Kansas	West Virginia
Maine	

\* Early voting is not offered in all counties, but may be offered at the county election officer’s discretion.

### For More Information

Other sources of information on absentee and early voting include the following:

[Election Assistance Commission](#)

[Federal Voting Assistance Program](#) (for military and overseas voters)

[Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act](#) (text of federal law)

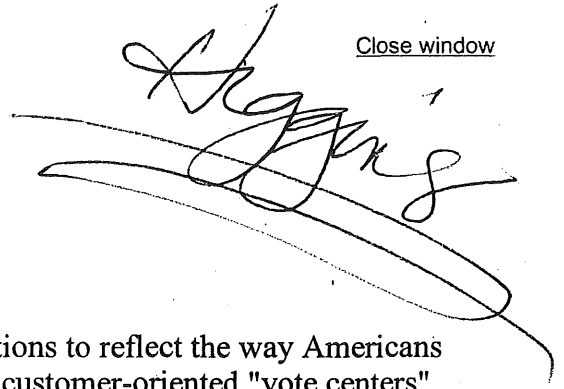
[Federal Post Card Application](#) (for registration and absentee ballot request)

[startribune.com](http://startribune.com)

Last updated: June 7, 2005 at 7:37 AM

[Close window](#)

## Vote cast for new kind of U.S. elections

**Robert Tanner**Associated Press  
Published June 7, 2005

The nation's election administrators say it's time to restructure elections to reflect the way Americans live, scrapping neighborhood precincts and Election Day for large, customer-oriented "vote centers" where people could cast ballots over a period of weeks.

In a sweeping report to be released today, state and local officials focus much of their attention on voters and poll workers rather than voting machines -- the subject of so much debate since the 2000 presidential race.

"We are looking forward. We are looking at ways to make elections better," said Dawn Williams, who oversees voting in Marshall County, Iowa. She co-chaired a task force of officials and former officials from 15 states set up by the Houston-based Election Center.

So-called "universal vote centers," introduced two years ago on a limited basis in Colorado, could end some of the biggest flaws in the U.S. voting system, administrators said.

Such centers eliminate confusion over where to vote, since everyone in a county can vote at any center; reduce lines by allowing for more equipment and staff at fewer locations, and prevent mistakes by better marshaling well-trained election officials along with day workers.

"It addresses what happened in Florida in 2000 better than the Help America Vote Act" -- the law Congress passed three years ago, said Scott Doyle, county clerk in Larimer County, Colo., who came up with the idea. "It's the way America lives. Why shouldn't America vote that way?"

Doyle got Colorado law changed to allow him to replace 143 precincts with 20 vote centers. The larger facilities -- hotel ballrooms and state fairgrounds -- allow easier access and parking for voters and more efficient concentration of resources for administrators.

Doyle said the centers allow counties to save several hundred thousand dollars by buying fewer handicapped-accessible voting machines, since the new federal law requires one at each polling location.

The report also backs a growing trend toward voting over days and weeks, rather than just on Election Day.

At least 30 states already have expanded absentee voting to "no excuse" voting -- so anyone who wants to vote absentee is allowed. In some places, residents also can vote, in person, as much as a month ahead of Election Day.

The report also urges state legislators to consider an "independently verifiable" record of each voter's ballot from ATM-style touch-screen voting machines that could be electronic, video or some other form -- pointedly downplaying a widespread push for paper receipts from touchscreens.

The task force also suggested that states:

- Prohibit companies that register new voters from getting paid by the number of registrants.
- Assist felons by providing them with a faster way to regain voting rights, where allowed.
- Share voter registration information among states to avoid duplication and safeguard against fraud.

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Senators Ranum, Hottinger, Marty, Higgins and Wiger introduced—

S.F. No. 2737: Referred to the Committee on Elections.

.1 A bill for an act  
 1.2 relating to elections; allowing eligible voters to vote by absentee ballot under  
 1.3 certain public health circumstances; amending Minnesota Statutes 2004, section  
 1.4 203B.02, subdivision 1.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 203B.02, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Unable to go to polling place.** Any eligible voter who reasonably  
 1.8 expects to be unable to go to the polling place on election day in the precinct where the  
 1.9 individual maintains residence ~~because of~~ may vote by absentee ballot as provided in  
 1.10 sections 203B.04 to 203B.15 for any of the following reasons: absence from the precinct;  
 1.11 illness; disability; religious discipline; observance of a religious holiday; isolation or  
 1.12 quarantine orders under sections 144.419 to 144.4196; an advisory to avoid public places  
 1.13 in the precinct due to bioterrorism, the spread of a communicable disease, or other threat  
 1.14 to public health issued by the governor, commissioner of health, or commissioner of  
 1.15 public safety; or service as an election judge in another precinct may vote by absentee  
 1.16 ballot as provided in sections 203B.04 to 203B.15.

1.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

March 6, 2006

## Recent Spread of Bird Flu Confounds Experts

By ELISABETH ROSENTHAL

OZZANO EMILIA, Italy — As new outbreaks of bird flu have peppered Europe and Africa in recent weeks, experts are realizing that they still have much to learn about how migrating birds spread the A (H5N1) virus, leaving the continents vulnerable to unexpected outbreaks.

After new scientific research published in February clarified the role of wild birds in **spreading the** disease from its original territory in southern China, the virus promptly moved into **dozens of locations** in Europe and Africa, following no apparent pattern and upsetting many scientific **assumptions about the** virus and its course around the world. In fact, knowledge of how the virus is spreading in **Europe and Africa** is so rudimentary that experts say there is no way of predicting where it will **strike next, although** they are now certain that it will, again and again.

"We know next to nothing about this virus; we have only anecdotal information about **where it exists** and what birds it infects," said Vittorio Guberti, head veterinarian at the Italian National Institute for Wildlife here in a rural corner of northeastern Italy. He has been studying influenza in wild birds for more than 10 years.

"We don't even know where to focus. We have to sit and wait for the big epidemic to occur, **and in the** meantime there will probably be small outbreaks all the time."

Scientists do not know, for example, which species are the major carriers of A(H5N1). **While they** suspect that there may be a few areas at the fringes of Europe that are perpetually infected with the virus, they are not sure exactly where. And while they are convinced that the virus can be carried on trucks, on soles of shoes and in fertilizer, they are not sure how significant those routes are.

"Think about this," Mr. Guberti said in his cluttered laboratory here. "Two million ducks from Nigeria, where there is a big problem, will arrive in Italy. And we don't know a thing about them."

Outbreaks in Nigeria have occurred in commercial poultry, but there is no information about whether the disease is in wild birds. Samples from African birds have been shipped to Italy for analysis, but the laboratory has been overwhelmed by samples from Europe, a United Nations official confirmed.

If they are infected, North American birds may be vulnerable, too, since some wading birds from Africa will fly as far north as Canada and the United States in the months to come, experts said.

While A(H5N1) does not now readily infect humans or spread from person to person, scientists are worried that it could acquire that ability, setting off a worldwide human pandemic. Until this year, Europe's small fraternity of wild bird researchers was severely underfinanced, its warnings about bird flu unheeded. Now the researchers are racing to fill gaps in knowledge and answer crucial questions.

In February, new research provided clues about how the A(H5N1) virus broke out of its original stalking grounds in Southeast Asia, moving to western China and on to the edges of Europe late last year.

Dr. Guan Yi and his colleagues at the University of Hong Kong reported in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences that some birds infected with A(H5N1) could survive for a week, and so were capable of spreading the disease over vast areas — to China's remote west and to Mongolia, for example. Previously, scientists thought that infected birds would be too sick to cover such distances.

From there, A(H5N1) predictably moved on to Russia, Ukraine, Turkey, Romania and the Balkans. But the recent pattern of spread, into European and African nations, has been far more confusing.

"For a couple of weeks, it was raining dead swans all over Europe, which left everyone scratching their heads," said Jan Slingenbergh, a senior veterinary official at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome.

Wetlands International, a Dutch nonprofit organization that has sent teams to several African nations to sample wild birds, has made a list of 17 species it believes are particularly likely to spread A(H5N1) in Europe. There is no list for Africa or Asia. Some species, like pigeons, which have provoked angst in European cities, are not particularly susceptible, so there is little point in directing vigilance there, officials said.

Mr. Guberti and others say they suspect that there are now permanent reservoirs of the disease on Europe's doorstep, so that birds like the mute swan may pick up the disease every time they enter the Continent. Suspects include the Black Sea and the lower Volga River, areas that have suffered previous outbreaks of A(H5N1), and where mute swans often winter.

Nations must identify such reservoirs, Mr. Guberti said, so that scientists can see which birds live there and where they migrate, creating a kind of early warning system.

The dead ducks that have been found in various corners of Europe, from Geneva to central Italy and the suburbs of Lyon, have proved even more disquieting to scientists.

"It's hard to explain," said Alex Kaat, spokesman for Wetlands International, noting that scientists have no idea whether the ducks got the virus from infected poultry nearby, from mute swans, from another species that is spreading the disease undetected in Europe — or if they are birds making an early migration from infected parts of Africa.

While ornithologists think that most of the cases in Europe are tied to migration, they are also quick to note that wild birds are sometimes unfairly blamed, as in Turkey and Nigeria. "It's easy to blame migrating birds, because then no one is responsible," said Juan Lubroth, a senior veterinary health officer at the Food and Agriculture Organization.

In Croatia, for example, Mr. Kaat said, fertilizer made of manure from infected poultry probably spread A(H5N1). The manure is commonly used to fertilize fish ponds, which are frequent stopover points for migrating birds that probably contracted the virus there, he said. The virus persists in water for weeks.

In Nigeria, the first huge outbreak occurred in January in hens in the north, a dry area far from the wetlands that are home to the country's migratory birds.

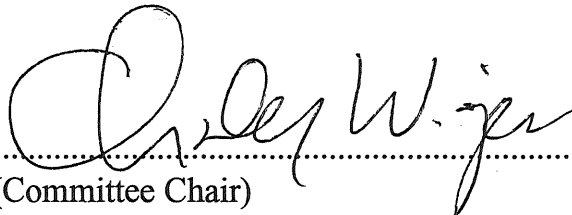
"The outbreaks were in the wrong place and at the wrong time of year," Mr. Kaat said.

Instead, he and others believe, Nigeria's problem was probably caused by the transport of sick birds or bird products infected with A(H5N1) from another country in Africa or even Asia.

1.1 **Senator Wiger from the Committee on Elections, to which was referred**

1.2 **S.F. No. 2737: A bill for an act relating to elections; allowing eligible voters to**  
1.3 **vote by absentee ballot under certain public health circumstances; amending Minnesota**  
1.4 **Statutes 2004, section 203B.02, subdivision 1.**

1.5 Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill do pass. Report  
1.6 adopted.

1.7   
1.8 (Committee Chair)

1.9 March 8, 2006 .....  
1.10 (Date of Committee recommendation)



**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE**

**S.F. No. 642**

(SENATE AUTHORS: MARTY, Scheid and Pappas)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
01/31/2005	223	Introduction and first reading
01/31/2005		Referred to Elections
02/03/2005		Committee report: To pass as amended
02/03/2005		Second reading
02/03/2005		Author added Pappas

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A bill for an act

relating to elections; authorizing alternative methods of voting in city elections; permitting instant runoff voting; requiring a report; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 205.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. [205.85]. [METHODS OF VOTING IN CITY ELECTIONS.]

Nothing in Minnesota Statutes prohibits a city from adopting by ordinance for use in city elections cumulative voting, ranked-order voting, or another method of voting with a form of ballot that differs from the form required by section 204B.36, subdivision 2. If a city conducts a city election using an alternative method described in this section, the city is requested to report on its experience to the senate and house committees with jurisdiction over election laws within 30 days after the opening of the first legislative session after the city first uses the alternative voting method.

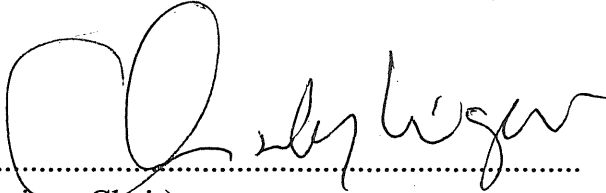


1.1 **Senator Wiger from the Committee on Elections, to which was re-referred**

1.2 **S.F. No. 642:** A bill for an act relating to elections; authorizing alternative methods  
1.3 of voting in city elections; permitting instant runoff voting; requiring a report; proposing  
coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 205.

1.5 Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill do pass. Report  
1.6 adopted.

1.7  
1.8

  
.....  
(Committee Chair)

1.9  
1.10

March 8, 2006 .....  
(Date of Committee recommendation)



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# Senate

State of Minnesota

## S.F. No. 385 - Absentee Ballot

**Author:** Senator John Marty

**Prepared by:** Peter S. Wattson, Senate Counsel (651/296-3812) *PSW*

**Date:** March 11, 2005

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S.F. No. 385, as amended by the Committee on Elections, is designed to make it easier to vote by absentee ballot. It authorizes any eligible voter to vote by absentee ballot, and it authorizes a voter to request that an absentee ballot be sent to the voter using a commercial shipper at the voter's expense.

The substance of S.F. No. 385 has passed the Senate in other forms in previous sessions. It passed the Senate as part of S.F. No. 1483 during the 1994 session but died on General Orders in the House of Representatives. It also passed as part of S.F. No. 35 in the 1995 session but again died on General Orders in the House. In 1997, it passed as part of S.F. No. 78 but was vetoed by the Governor because of other provisions that allowed hospital patients to vote by fax. In 1998, it was presented to the Governor as S.F. No. 2148, which left out the provisions authorizing hospital patients to vote by fax, but was again vetoed by the Governor, this time because it had been supported by only one Republican in the House and "scant more" in the Senate. In 1999, it was introduced as S.F. No. 138, heard and amended in committee, and laid on the table. In 2001, it failed on final passage in the Senate, 32-31. In 2003, it passed the Subcommittee on Elections but was defeated in the Committee on Rules and Administration. In 2004, it was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules and Administration and referred to the Committee on Elections, which passed it to the floor, where it died on General Orders.

**Section 1** authorizes any eligible voter to vote by absentee ballot. It strikes the specific reasons a voter must now give for being unable to vote in person.

**Section 2** strikes from the absentee ballot application any reference to the reason the voter will be unable to vote in person at the polling place on election day.



1 pursuant to this subdivision shall be in writing and shall be  
2 submitted to:

3       (a) (1) the county auditor of the county where the  
4 applicant maintains residence; or

5       (b) (2) the municipal clerk of the municipality, or school  
6 district if applicable, where the applicant maintains residence.

7       An application shall be approved if it is timely received,  
8 signed and dated by the applicant, contains the applicant's name  
9 and residence and mailing addresses, and states that the  
10 applicant is eligible to vote by absentee ballot ~~for one of the~~  
11 ~~reasons specified in section 203B.02~~. The application may  
12 contain a request for the voter's date of birth, which must not  
13 be made available for public inspection. An application may be  
14 submitted to the county auditor or municipal clerk by an  
15 electronic facsimile device. An application mailed or returned  
16 in person to the county auditor or municipal clerk on behalf of  
17 a voter by a person other than the voter must be deposited in  
18 the mail or returned in person to the county auditor or  
19 municipal clerk within ten days after it has been dated by the  
20 voter and no later than six days before the election. The  
21 absentee ballot applications or a list of persons applying for  
22 an absentee ballot may not be made available for public  
23 inspection until the close of voting on election day.

24       An application under this subdivision may contain an  
25 application under subdivision 5 to automatically receive an  
26 absentee ballot application.

27       Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 203B.06,  
28 subdivision 3, is amended to read:

29       Subd. 3. [DELIVERY OF BALLOTS.] If an application for  
30 absentee ballots is accepted at a time when absentee ballots are  
31 not yet available for distribution, the county auditor, or  
32 municipal clerk accepting the application shall file it and as  
33 soon as absentee ballots are available for distribution shall  
34 mail them to the address specified in the application. If an  
35 application for absentee ballots is accepted when absentee  
36 ballots are available for distribution, the county auditor or

1 municipal clerk accepting the application shall promptly:

2 (a) (1) mail the ballots to the voter whose signature  
3 appears on the application if the application is submitted by  
4 mail and does not request commercial shipping under clause (2);

5 (2) ship the ballots to the voter using a commercial  
6 shipper requested by the voter at the voter's expense;

7 (b) (3) deliver the absentee ballots directly to the voter  
8 if the application is submitted in person; or

9 (c) (4) deliver the absentee ballots in a sealed  
10 transmittal envelope to an agent who has been designated to  
11 bring the ballots to a voter who is disabled or who is a patient  
12 in a health care facility or a participant in a residential  
13 program for adults, as provided in section 203B.11, subdivision  
14 4.

15 If an application does not indicate the election for which  
16 absentee ballots are sought, the county auditor or municipal  
17 clerk shall mail or deliver only the ballots for the next  
18 election occurring after receipt of the application. Only one  
19 set of ballots may be mailed or, shipped, or delivered to an  
20 applicant for any election, except as provided in section  
21 203B.13, subdivision 2, or when a replacement ballot has been  
22 requested by the voter for a ballot that has been spoiled or  
23 lost in transit.

24 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 203B.11,  
25 subdivision 4, is amended to read:

26 Subd. 4. [AGENT DELIVERY OF BALLOTS.] During the four days  
27 preceding an election and until 2:00 p.m. on election day, an  
28 eligible voter who is disabled or who is a patient of a health  
29 care facility or is a participant in a residential program for  
30 adults licensed under section 245A.02, subdivision 14, may  
31 designate an agent to deliver the ballots to the voter from the  
32 county auditor or municipal clerk. A candidate at the election  
33 may not be designated as an agent. The voted ballots must be  
34 returned to the county auditor or municipal clerk no later than  
35 3:00 p.m. on election day. The voter must complete an affidavit  
36 requesting the auditor or clerk to provide the agent with the

1 ballots in a sealed transmittal envelope. The affidavit must  
2 include a statement from the voter stating that the ballots were  
3 delivered to the voter by the agent in the sealed transmittal  
4 envelope. An agent may deliver ballots to no more than three  
5 persons in any election. The secretary of state shall provide  
6 samples of the affidavit and transmission envelope for use by  
7 the county auditors.

*Adopted 3/8/2006*

1.1 Senator ..... moves to amend S.F. No. 385 as follows:

1.2 Page 1, delete section 2 and insert:

1.3 "Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2005 Supplement, section 203B.04, subdivision 1,  
1.4 is amended to read:

1.5 Subdivision 1. **Application procedures.** Except as otherwise allowed by  
1.6 subdivision 2, an application for absentee ballots for any election may be submitted at  
1.7 any time not less than one day before the day of that election. The county auditor shall  
1.8 prepare absentee ballot application forms in the format provided by the secretary of state,  
1.9 notwithstanding rules on absentee ballot forms, and shall furnish them to any person on  
1.10 request. By January 1 of each even-numbered year, the secretary of state shall make the  
1.11 forms to be used available to auditors through electronic means. An application submitted  
1.12 pursuant to this subdivision shall be in writing and shall be submitted to:

- 1.13 (a) (1) the county auditor of the county where the applicant maintains residence; or
- 1.14 (b) (2) the municipal clerk of the municipality, or school district if applicable, where  
1.15 the applicant maintains residence.

1.16 An application shall be approved if it is timely received, signed and dated by the  
1.17 applicant, contains the applicant's name and residence and mailing addresses, and states  
1.18 that the applicant is eligible to vote by absentee ballot ~~for one of the reasons specified in~~  
1.19 ~~section 203B.02~~. The application may contain a request for the voter's date of birth, which  
1.20 must not be made available for public inspection. An application may be submitted to  
1.21 the county auditor or municipal clerk by an electronic facsimile device. An application  
1.22 mailed or returned in person to the county auditor or municipal clerk on behalf of a voter  
1.23 by a person other than the voter must be deposited in the mail or returned in person to  
1.24 the county auditor or municipal clerk within ten days after it has been dated by the voter  
1.25 and no later than six days before the election. The absentee ballot applications or a list of  
1.26 persons applying for an absentee ballot may not be made available for public inspection  
1.27 until the close of voting on election day.

*Adopted*

1.1 Senator ..... moves to amend S.F. No. 385 as follows:

1.2 Pages 2 to 4, delete sections 3 and 4 and insert:

1.3 "Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 203B.06, subdivision 3, is amended to  
1.4 read:

1.5 Subd. 3. **Delivery of ballots.** If an application for absentee ballots is accepted at a  
1.6 time when absentee ballots are not yet available for distribution, the county auditor, or  
1.7 municipal clerk accepting the application shall file it and as soon as absentee ballots are  
1.8 available for distribution shall mail them to the address specified in the application. If  
1.9 an application for absentee ballots is accepted when absentee ballots are available for  
1.10 distribution, the county auditor or municipal clerk accepting the application shall promptly:

1.11 ~~(a)~~ (1) mail the ballots to the voter whose signature appears on the application if  
1.12 the application is submitted by mail and does not request commercial shipping under  
1.13 clause (2);

1.14 (2) ship the ballots to the voter using a commercial shipper requested by the voter at  
1.15 the voter's expense;

1.16 ~~(b)~~ (3) deliver the absentee ballots directly to the voter if the application is submitted  
1.17 in person; or

1.18 ~~(c)~~ (4) deliver the absentee ballots in a sealed transmittal envelope to an agent who  
1.19 has been designated to bring the ballots to a voter who is disabled or who is a patient in  
1.20 a health care facility, a participant in a residential program for adults, or a resident of a  
1.21 shelter for battered women, as provided in section 203B.11, subdivision 4.

1.22 If an application does not indicate the election for which absentee ballots are sought,  
1.23 the county auditor or municipal clerk shall mail or deliver only the ballots for the next  
1.24 election occurring after receipt of the application. Only one set of ballots may be mailed  
1.25 or, shipped, or delivered to an applicant for any election, except as provided in section  
1.26 203B.13, subdivision 2, or when a replacement ballot has been requested by the voter for a  
1.27 ballot that has been spoiled or lost in transit.





1.1 **Senator Wiger from the Committee on Elections, to which was re-referred**

1.2 **S.F. No. 385:** A bill for an act relating to elections; making it easier to vote by  
1.3 absentee ballot; amending Minnesota Statutes 2004, sections 203B.02, subdivision 1;  
1.4 203B.04, subdivision 1; 203B.06, subdivision 3; 203B.11, subdivision 4.

1.5 Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

1.6 Pages 1 to 4, delete sections 2 to 4 and insert:

1.7 "Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2005 Supplement, section 203B.04, subdivision 1, is  
1.8 amended to read:

1.9 Subdivision 1. **Application procedures.** Except as otherwise allowed by  
1.10 subdivision 2, an application for absentee ballots for any election may be submitted at  
1.11 any time not less than one day before the day of that election. The county auditor shall  
1.12 prepare absentee ballot application forms in the format provided by the secretary of state,  
1.13 notwithstanding rules on absentee ballot forms, and shall furnish them to any person on  
1.14 request. By January 1 of each even-numbered year, the secretary of state shall make the  
1.15 forms to be used available to auditors through electronic means. An application submitted  
1.16 pursuant to this subdivision shall be in writing and shall be submitted to:

1.17 ~~(a)~~ (1) the county auditor of the county where the applicant maintains residence; or

1.18 ~~(b)~~ (2) the municipal clerk of the municipality, or school district if applicable, where  
1.19 the applicant maintains residence.

1.20 An application shall be approved if it is timely received, signed and dated by the  
1.21 applicant, contains the applicant's name and residence and mailing addresses, and states  
1.22 that the applicant is eligible to vote by absentee ballot ~~for one of the reasons specified in~~  
1.23 ~~section 203B.02~~. The application may contain a request for the voter's date of birth, which  
1.24 must not be made available for public inspection. An application may be submitted to  
1.25 the county auditor or municipal clerk by an electronic facsimile device. An application  
1.26 mailed or returned in person to the county auditor or municipal clerk on behalf of a voter  
1.27 by a person other than the voter must be deposited in the mail or returned in person to  
1.28 the county auditor or municipal clerk within ten days after it has been dated by the voter  
1.29 and no later than six days before the election. The absentee ballot applications or a list of  
1.30 persons applying for an absentee ballot may not be made available for public inspection  
1.31 until the close of voting on election day.

1.32 An application under this subdivision may contain an application under subdivision  
1.33 5 to automatically receive an absentee ballot application.

1.34 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 203B.06, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

1.35 Subd. 3. **Delivery of ballots.** If an application for absentee ballots is accepted at a  
1.36 time when absentee ballots are not yet available for distribution, the county auditor, or  
1.37 municipal clerk accepting the application shall file it and as soon as absentee ballots are

2.1 available for distribution shall mail them to the address specified in the application. If  
2.2 an application for absentee ballots is accepted when absentee ballots are available for  
2.3 distribution, the county auditor or municipal clerk accepting the application shall promptly:

2.4 (a) (1) mail the ballots to the voter whose signature appears on the application if  
2.5 the application is submitted by mail and does not request commercial shipping under  
2.6 clause (2);

2.7 (2) ship the ballots to the voter using a commercial shipper requested by the voter at  
2.8 the voter's expense;

2.9 (b) (3) deliver the absentee ballots directly to the voter if the application is submitted  
2.10 in person; or

2.11 (c) (4) deliver the absentee ballots in a sealed transmittal envelope to an agent who  
2.12 has been designated to bring the ballots to a voter who is disabled or who is a patient in  
2.13 a health care facility, a participant in a residential program for adults, or a resident of a  
2.14 shelter for battered women, as provided in section 203B.11, subdivision 4.

2.15 If an application does not indicate the election for which absentee ballots are sought,  
2.16 the county auditor or municipal clerk shall mail or deliver only the ballots for the next  
2.17 election occurring after receipt of the application. Only one set of ballots may be mailed  
2.18 ~~or, shipped, or delivered~~ to an applicant for any election, except as provided in section  
2.19 203B.13, subdivision 2, or when a replacement ballot has been requested by the voter for a  
2.20 ballot that has been spoiled or lost in transit.

2.21 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2005 Supplement, section 203B.11, subdivision 1, is  
2.22 amended to read:

2.23 Subdivision 1. **Generally.** Each full-time municipal clerk or school district clerk  
2.24 who has authority under section 203B.05 to administer absentee voting laws shall  
2.25 designate election judges to deliver absentee ballots in accordance with this section. The  
2.26 county auditor must also designate election judges to perform the duties in this section. A  
2.27 ballot may be delivered only to an eligible voter who is disabled or who is a temporary  
2.28 or permanent resident or patient in a health care facility ~~or hospital~~, a participant in a  
2.29 residential program for adults, or a resident of a shelter for battered women located in the  
2.30 municipality in which the voter maintains residence. The ballots shall be delivered by two  
2.31 election judges, each of whom is affiliated with a different major political party. When  
2.32 the election judges deliver or return ballots as provided in this section, they shall travel  
2.33 together in the same vehicle. Both election judges shall be present when an applicant  
2.34 completes the certificate of eligibility and marks the absentee ballots, and may assist an  
2.35 applicant as provided in section 204C.15. The election judges shall deposit the return

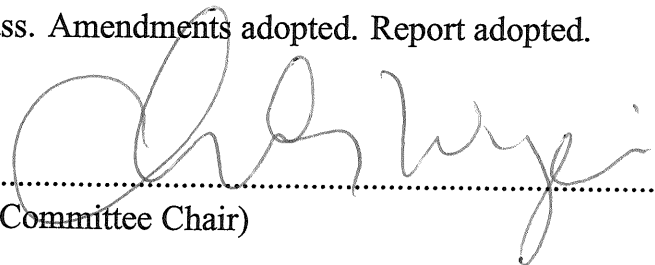
3.1 envelopes containing the marked absentee ballots in a sealed container and return them to  
3.2 the clerk on the same day that they are delivered and marked.

3.3 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 203B.11, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

3.4 Subd. 4. **Agent delivery of ballots.** During the four days preceding an election and  
3.5 until 2:00 p.m. on election day, an eligible voter who is disabled or who is a patient of a  
3.6 health care facility, a participant in a residential program for adults licensed under section  
3.7 245A.02, subdivision 14, or a resident of a shelter for battered women as defined in section  
3.8 611A.37, subdivision 4, may designate an agent to deliver the ballots to the voter from the  
3.9 county auditor or municipal clerk. A candidate at the election may not be designated as  
3.10 an agent. The voted ballots must be returned to the county auditor or municipal clerk no  
3.11 later than 3:00 p.m. on election day. The voter must complete an affidavit requesting the  
3.12 auditor or clerk to provide the agent with the ballots in a sealed transmittal envelope. The  
3.13 affidavit must include a statement from the voter stating that the ballots were delivered to  
3.14 the voter by the agent in the sealed transmittal envelope. An agent may deliver ballots to  
3.15 no more than three persons in any election. The secretary of state shall provide samples of  
3.16 the affidavit and transmission envelope for use by the county auditors."

3.17 Amend the title accordingly

3.18 And when so amended the bill do pass. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

3.19   
3.20 .....  
(Committee Chair)

3.21 March 8, 2006 .....  
3.22 (Date of Committee recommendation)


**Senate Counsel, Research,  
and Fiscal Analysis**

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**Senate**  
State of Minnesota

**S.F. No. 2758 - School Board Elections**

**Author:** Senator Charles W. Wiger

**Prepared by:** Peter S. Wattson, Senate Counsel (651/296-3812) 

**Date:** March 13, 2006

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**S.F. 2758**, as amended by the committee on Elections, makes a variety of changes to the election laws governing school boards and other local governments.

**Section 1** eliminates the requirement that a county, municipality, or school district get the approval of the county auditor before conducting an election by mail.

**Section 2** permits a school board to decide whether or not to hold a primary election. The decision must be made before June 1. If the school district decides to hold a primary, but no more than two candidates file for each position, no primary need be held.

**Section 3** provides that if a school district has decided to hold a primary, affidavits of candidacy must be filed in early July. If the school district has decided not to hold a primary, even if there are more than two candidates for a position, affidavits of candidacy need not be filed until early September.

**Section 4** confirms the school board's authority to use electronic voting systems in elections held not in conjunction with a statewide election.

**Section 5** makes the act effective the day following enactment and applies it to school board elections held in 2006 and thereafter.

PSW:ph

cc: Carolyn LaViolette

*Amended:  
3/12/2006*

**Senator Wiger introduced-**

**S.F. No. 2758: Referred to the Committee on Elections.**

1.1 A bill for an act  
 1.2 relating to elections; changing certain school district election provisions;  
 1.3 eliminating an approval requirement for mail elections; authorizing certain  
 1.4 school board primary elections; amending Minnesota Statutes 2004, sections  
 1.5 204B.46; 205A.03, subdivision 1; 205A.06, subdivision 1a; 205A.12, by adding  
 1.6 a subdivision; 206.58, by adding a subdivision.

1.7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.8 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 204B.46, is amended to read:

1.9 **204B.46 MAIL ELECTIONS; QUESTIONS.**

1.10 A county, municipality, or school district submitting questions to the voters at a  
 1.11 special election may ~~apply to the county auditor for approval of~~ conduct an election by  
 1.12 mail with no polling place other than the office of the auditor or clerk. No more than two  
 1.13 questions may be submitted at a mail election and no offices may be voted on. Notice  
 1.14 of the election ~~and~~ must be given to the county auditor at least 53 days prior to the  
 1.15 election. This notice also fulfills the requirements of Minnesota Rules, part 8210.3000.  
 1.16 The special mail ~~procedure~~ ballot procedures must be ~~given~~ posted at least six weeks prior  
 1.17 to the election. No earlier than 20 or later than 14 days prior to the election, the auditor  
 1.18 or clerk shall mail ballots by nonforwardable mail to all voters registered in the county,  
 1.19 municipality, or school district. Eligible voters not registered at the time the ballots are  
 1.20 mailed may apply for ballots pursuant to chapter 203B.

1.21 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 205A.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.22 Subdivision 1. ~~Required~~ Resolution requiring primary in certain circumstances.  
 1.23 ~~In a school district election,~~ The school board of a school district may, by resolution  
 1.24 adopted by June 1 of any year, decide to choose nominees for school board by a primary as

3.1 secretary of state pursuant to section 206.57. The school district shall notify the secretary  
3.2 of state of its decision in compliance with subdivision 4.

3.3 Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

3.4 This act is effective the day following final enactment and applies to school board  
3.5 elections held in 2006 and thereafter.

PRIMARY DATA \_005

SF2758

	Seats Open	Candidates on Ballot	Candidates Eliminated	District Divided	Total Eligible Voters	Eligible Voters Who Voted	Percentage	Total Cost	Cost per Vote	Other Info.
Anoka-Hennepin	3	3	1	Yes	20,900	692	3.3%	\$16,100	\$23.27	Only one district required a Primary
Bertha-Hewitt	1	4	2	No	1,300	122	9.4%	\$2,000	\$16.52	
Cloquet	4	11	3	1	8,072	632	8%	\$1,118.12	\$0.57	
Forest Lake	3	8	2	Elected at-large	27,687	851	3%	\$6,000	\$7	
Hastings	3	9	3	Same as General		1,345	7.6 (Dakota) & 5% (Washington)	\$24,161.07	\$17.96	
Howard Lake										
Marshall	4	4	2	No	8,200	276	3%	\$2,700	\$0.204	
Moorhead	3	7	1	No	21,449	440	2%	\$8,900	\$20.22	
NRHEG	4	9	1	No	3,060	364	11.9%	\$1,384.74	\$3.80	
Osseo	3	10	4	No						
Parker's Prairie	4	11	3	No		278	Unknown	\$900	\$3.23	
Pequot Lakes	3	7	1	No	6,220	390		\$999.50	\$2.56	
Red Wing	3	11	5	No		1,039		\$3,500	\$3.36	
Robbinsdale	4	9	1	Yes	62,620	1,290	2.06%	\$31,998	\$24.80	
ROCORI	3	11	5	No	7,825	594	8%	\$6,415	\$10.80	
Shakopee	4	10	2	No	18,433	2,764	15%	\$2,550	\$0.91	
St. Cloud	4	9	1	No	55,772	2,599	4.66%	\$12,080	\$4.65	
St. Francis	3	8	2	No	17,694	352	2%	\$5,445	\$15.47	
Stillwater	3	10	4	No	35,986	2,627	7.3%	\$14,735.51	\$5.61	None
W. St. Paul/ Mendota Hgts	3	7	1	No			1%	\$25,000	\$50	Terribly expensive to eliminate one candidate

1.1 **Senator Wiger from the Committee on Elections, to which was referred**

1.2 **S.F. No. 2758:** A bill for an act relating to elections; changing certain school  
1.3 district election provisions; eliminating an approval requirement for mail elections;  
1 authorizing certain school board primary elections; amending Minnesota Statutes 2004,  
1.5 sections 204B.46; 205A.03, subdivision 1; 205A.06, subdivision 1a; 205A.12, by adding a  
1.6 subdivision; 206.58, by adding a subdivision.

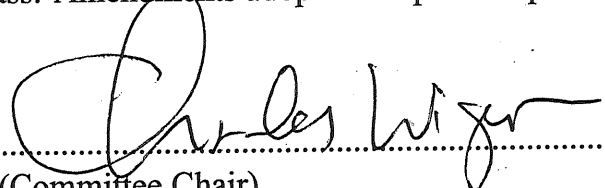
1.7 Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

1.8 Page 2, delete section 4

1.9 Renumber the sections in sequence

1.10 Amend the title accordingly

1.11 And when so amended the bill do pass. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.



1.12 .....  
1.13 (Committee Chair)

1.14 March 8, 2006 .....  
1.15 (Date of Committee recommendation)



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**Bill Summary**

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**Senate**

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Senate Counsel &amp; Research

State of Minnesota

**S.F. No. 1086 - Early Voting**

**Author:** Senator Linda Higgins  
**Prepared by:** Peter S. Wattson, Senate Counsel (651/296-3812)  
**Date:** March 31, 2005

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**S.F. No. 1086**, as amended by the Committee on Elections, permits a voter to vote by absentee ballot without an excuse and authorizes any voter to vote early in person. Early voting would be permitted at a polling place established by the county auditor during the eight days preceding a primary or general election.

**Section 1** requires the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) to provide rosters, master lists, and other reports necessary for early voting.

**Section 2** authorizes any eligible voter to vote by absentee ballot. It strikes the specific reasons a voter must now give for being unable to vote in person.

**Section 3** strikes from the absentee ballot application any reference to the reason the voter will be unable to vote in person at the polling place on election day.

**Section 4** closes the offices of the county auditor and municipal clerk for absentee balloting at noon, rather than 5:00 p.m., on the day before a primary or special or general election.

**Section 5** authorizes an eligible voter to cast a ballot at the county auditor's office or at any other polling place designated for early voting by the county auditor during the eight days before a regularly scheduled primary or election. It requires a voter to sign the voting roster or register to vote, just as on election day. The voter must vote at the polling place and not take the ballot from the polling place. Election officials must mark the polling place rosters to indicate the voters who have cast ballots by early voting, and those voters may not vote on election day or have an absentee ballot counted. Vote totals from early voting may not be made public until the close of voting on election day. Early voting in a special election must begin no earlier than four days before the election.

PSW:ph

[Check on the status of this bill](#)

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