

Elections Committee
Thursday, March 9, 2023
3:00 PM
MSB 1200/Livestream YouTube

Minutes

Present: Senator Jim Carlson - Chair, Senator Bonnie S. Westlin Vice Chair, Senator Bruce D. Anderson, Senator Calvin K. Bahr, Senator Liz Boldon, Senator Steve A. Cwodzinski, Senator Gene Dornink, Senator Mark W. Koran, Senator John Marty, Senator Andrew Mathews, Senator Nicole L. Mitchell, Senator Lindsey Port, Senator Ann H. Rest

Absent: Senator Warren Limmer

Senator Jim Carlson called the meeting to order at 3:08 PM.

Call to order

S.F. 2270: Senator Morrison: Ranked voting in elections for federal and state offices establishment; jurisdiction adoption of ranked choice voting for local offices authorization.

Testifiers:

Senator Morrison
Alexis Stangl, Elections Committee Counsel
(zoom) Becky Norton, City Council Member, City of Red Wing
(zoom) Brooke Carlson, City Council President, City of Rochester
Simon Barnicle, Election and Campaign Associate, Elias Law Group
Nelsie Yang, City Council Member, City of Saint Paul
Mark Bohnhorst, Associate General Council, University of Minnesota
(zoom) Travis "Bull" Johnson, Member, Constitutional Republic Party
Erik van Mechelen, Citizen
Linda Blair, Judicial Law Clerk, United States District Court, District of Minnesota
Kathy Kranz, Partner, Kaufman & Kranz
Brian Cook, Director of Energy & Elections Policy, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
Jonathan Aanestad, Representing MN Election Integrity Solutions
Barbara Sutter, Secretary, Republican Party of Minnesota
Ellen Cousins, Regional Director of Accounts, Motion Display
(zoom) Rae Parker, Former School Board Candidate, City of Rochester
(zoom) Elena Niehoff, Former School Board Candidate, City of Rochester
Jeanne Massey, Executive Director, FairVote Minnesota

Senator Westlin moved the A3 Author's Amendment. By a voice vote, the motion prevailed, and the A3 Author's Amendment was adopted.

Senator Port moved that SF 2270 be recommended to pass and re-referred to the State and Local Government and Veterans Committee. Senator Anderson requested a roll call, and a roll call was granted.

Senator Carlson – Yea
Senator Westlin – Yea
Senator Koran – Nay
Senator Anderson – Nay
Senator Bahr – Nay

Senator Boldon – Yea
Senator Cwodzinski – Yea
Senator Dornink – Nay
Senator Limmer – Absent
Senator Marty – Yea
Senator Mathews – Nay
Senator Mitchell – Yea
Senator Port – Yea
Senator Rest – Yea

By a roll call vote of 8 Yeas, 5 Nays, and 1 Absence, the motion prevails.

Senator Port moved that S.F. 2270, as amended, recommended to pass and re-referred to the State and Local Government and Veterans Committee. - MOTION PREVAILED.

S.F. 1570: Senator Coleman: Redistricting cases attorneys fees appropriation.

Testifiers:

Senator Coleman


Nicole Freeman, Government Relations Director, Office of Secretary of State

Senator Westlin moved the A1 Author's Amendment. By a voice vote, the motion prevailed, and the A1 Author's Amendment was adopted.

Senator Carlson moved that SF 1570, as amended, be laid over. By a voice vote, the motion prevailed.

Senator Carlson moved that S.F. 1570, as amended, be laid over. - MOTION PREVAILED.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:48 PM.



Senator Jim Carlson, Chair



Christie Blood, Legislative Assistant for
Taylor Spreeman, Legislative Assistant