March 9, 2023

Chair, Sen. Jim Carlson Senate Elections Committee 95 University Avenue W. Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3221

RE: SF2270 (Morrison) Ranked Choice Voting

Dear Chair Carlson and Members of the Senate Elections Committee:

The Minnesota Association of County Officers (MACO) is comprised of and represents County Auditors, Treasurers, Financial Officers, and county election administrators from all 87 Minnesota Counties.

The integrity of Minnesota's elections process is MACO's main guiding principle in election administration. The magnitude of process changes and the impact to Minnesota's voters contained in SF2270 will require a deliberate approach that identifies every issue and solution before implementation.

While MACO is supportive of local authorization of ranked-choice voting in stand-alone, nonconcurrent elections. We recommend that any legislation related to the implementation of ranked-choice voting for state or federal elections — or even for local office elections when conducted in conjunction with a nonranked choice election — is not considered until after a task force, including adequate numbers of election administrators, is convened to study the administrative complexity, voter education needs, and security and integrity of such elections.

Sincerely,

Deborah Erickson

Crow Wing County Administrative Services Director President, Minnesota Association of County Officers (MACO)