

## COUNTY CHOICE PROVISIONS

### Electronic Voting Systems-Proposed Amendment HF 1140/SF 1191

<https://www.house.mn.gov/comm/docs/BNEJIPVRrkeAVeDPpQLzNw.pdf>

#### Summary:

The proposed amendment permits Minnesota counties to have a full range of choices in adopting the most efficient and cost-effective assistive voting equipment upgrade options as we seek to replace outdated AutoMark ballot marking equipment.

This amendment language would allow assistive voting devices compatible with tabulators to seek certification at the state level.

- **The Office of the Secretary of State supports this policy change as it will provide counties with further choice in the assistive voting equipment they use at their polling places. Secretary of State Simon has consistently supported this request from many Minnesota counties for over 4 legislative sessions.**
- The language requires no jurisdiction to purchase this type of equipment. Still, it would allow additional vendors to seek state certification of their equipment – giving counties, cities, and towns more options when considering replacing their assistive voting technology.

#### SECURE EQUIPMENT THAT FITS ALL VOTERS

- Universally designed so that every voter can be afforded an equal voting experience.
- The universal voting solution combines paper-based voting with touch-screen technology to meet the needs of voters with disabilities and provide a permanent paper record.
- Reduces Election Day issues with over-voting and ballot shortages.
- Allows every voter to vote privately, autonomously, and intuitively.
- Provides multiple language capabilities
- Currently certified in more than 35 States

#### From the National Federation of the Blind Letter:

*“The amendment's privacy-related provision (making election judges from a given precinct ineligible to conduct a recount or postelection review in that precinct if ten or fewer voters used a ballot format) adequately addresses the concern for ensuring the privacy of the ballot throughout the election process.”*

#### The American Council of the Blind in Minnesota:

*Mike Malver of the ACB email, 3/11/23: “This message addresses our concerns.”*

*Revised 3/13/23*