



# REPUBLICAN PARTY OF MINNESOTA

7400 Metro Boulevard, Edina, MN 55439

March 10, 2023

Senator Jim Carlson, Chair  
3221 Minnesota Senate Bldg.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Mark Koran, Ranking Member  
2203 Minnesota Senate Bldg.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Senators Carlson and Koran:

I write in support of SF 1827, legislation currently pending in the Minnesota State Senate to raise the vote threshold required to attain major political party status from 5 percent to 10 percent, and to require parties to continue to reach this figure in subsequent elections to maintain such status.

Raising the vote threshold for Minnesota's major political party status will save taxpayer time and resources, minimize voter confusion, and improve the administration of our state's elections.

I support this small but important change in Minnesota law for several key reasons:

- Due to major party access to public financing, a higher threshold will help improve stewardship of taxpayer dollars;
- Making this change will help ensure that the parties and candidates offered to the voters in our statewide elections have broader appeal and are more reflective of the diversity of our state; and,
- Raising the threshold for major party status may also help prevent groups from playing games or abusing our elections process, as has happened in recent years.

It is also important to note that enacting this change as written still allows smaller political parties access to the ballot with our state's petition signature requirements. I support SF 1827 in its current form.

Sincerely,

David Hann  
Chairman  
Republican Party of Minnesota