

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

1.2 **S.F. No. 1636:** A bill for an act relating to elections; appropriating money to the secretary
1.3 of state; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 5.30, subdivision 2.

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

1.5 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.6 **"ARTICLE 1**
1.7 **ELECTIONS APPROPRIATIONS**

1.8 Section 1. **STATE GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS.**

1.9 The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies
1.10 and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the general fund,
1.11 or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose.

1.12 The figures "2024" and "2025" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under
1.13 them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or June 30, 2025, respectively.

1.14 "The first year" is fiscal year 2024. "The second year" is fiscal year 2025. "The biennium"
1.15 is fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

		<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	
		<u>Available for the Year</u>	
		<u>Ending June 30</u>	
		<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
1.20	Sec. 2. <u>LEGISLATURE.</u>	<u>\$ 244,000</u>	<u>\$ 245,000</u>

1.21 These amounts are for the Legislative
1.22 Coordinating Commission to support the
1.23 Ranked Choice Voting and Voter Engagement
1.24 Advisory Task Force established under article
1.25 2, section 50. This is a onetime appropriation.

1.26	Sec. 3. <u>SECRETARY OF STATE.</u>	<u>\$ 1,908,000</u>	<u>\$ 549,000</u>
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1.27 The base for this appropriation is \$538,000 in
1.28 fiscal year 2026 and each fiscal year thereafter.
1.29 \$800,000 the first year is for the secretary of
1.30 state to make grants to counties and
1.31 municipalities to improve access to polling
1.32 places for individuals with disabilities and to
1.33 provide the same opportunity for access and

2.1 participation in the electoral process, including
 2.2 privacy and independence, to voters with
 2.3 disabilities as that which exists for voters with
 2.4 no disabilities. Funds may be used to purchase
 2.5 equipment or to make capital improvements
 2.6 to publicly owned facilities. This is a onetime
 2.7 appropriation and is available until June 30,
 2.8 2027.

2.9 \$200,000 the first year is to develop and
 2.10 implement an educational campaign relating
 2.11 to the restoration of the right to vote to
 2.12 formerly incarcerated individuals, including
 2.13 voter education materials and outreach to
 2.14 affected individuals.

2.15 \$210,000 the first year is for ranked choice
 2.16 voting education grants under article 2, section
 2.17 49. This is a onetime appropriation and is
 2.18 available until June 30, 2026. The secretary
 2.19 of state may use up to \$10,000 of this
 2.20 appropriation for administrative costs.

2.21	Sec. 4. <u>CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC</u>			
2.22	<u>DISCLOSURE BOARD.</u>	\$	<u>1,743,000</u>	\$ <u>1,731,000</u>

2.23	Sec. 5. <u>CORRECTIONS.</u>	\$	<u>165,000</u>	\$ <u>33,000</u>
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2.24 For changes to the report required under
 2.25 Minnesota Statutes, section 201.145,
 2.26 subdivision 3.

2.27 **Sec. 6. APPROPRIATION; SECRETARY OF STATE; HELP AMERICA VOTE**
 2.28 **ACT STATE MATCHING FUNDS.**

2.29 \$461,000 in fiscal year 2023 is transferred from the general fund to the Help America
 2.30 Vote Act (HAVA) account established in Minnesota Statutes, section 5.30, and is credited
 2.31 to the state match requirement of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022, Public Law
 2.32 117-103, and the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, Public Law 117-328. This is a
 2.33 onetime appropriation.

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

3.2 Sec. 7. **APPROPRIATION; SECRETARY OF STATE; COURT ORDERED**
 3.3 **ATTORNEY FEES.**

3.4 \$495,000 in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the general fund to the secretary of
 3.5 state for the payment of attorney fees and costs awarded by court order in the legislative
 3.6 and congressional redistricting cases Peter Wattson, et al.; Paul Anderson, et al.; and Frank
 3.7 Sachs, et al. v. Steve Simon, Secretary of State of Minnesota, Nos. A21-0243 and A21-0546,
 3.8 and interest thereon. This is a onetime appropriation.

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

3.10 Sec. 8. **TRANSFER; STATE ELECTIONS CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT.**

3.11 \$3,689,000 in fiscal year 2025 is transferred from the general fund to the general account
 3.12 of the state elections campaign account established in Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.31.
 3.13 This is a onetime transfer.

3.14 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 5.30, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

3.15 Subd. 2. **Appropriation.** ~~Notwithstanding section 4.07,~~ Money in the Help America
 3.16 Vote Act account ~~may be spent only pursuant to direct appropriations enacted from time to~~
 3.17 ~~time by law. Money in the account must be spent~~ is appropriated to the secretary of state
 3.18 to improve the administration of elections in accordance with the Help America Vote Act,
 3.19 the state plan certified by the governor under the act, and for reporting and administrative
 3.20 requirements under the act and plan. To the extent required by federal law, money in the
 3.21 account must be used in a manner that is consistent with the maintenance of effort
 3.22 requirements of section 254(a)(7) of the Help America Vote Act, Public Law 107-252,
 3.23 based on the level of state expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000.

3.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and
 3.25 applies to any balances in the Help America Vote Act account existing on or after that date.

3.26 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 10A.31, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

3.27 Subd. 4. **Appropriation.** (a) The amounts designated by individuals for the state elections
 3.28 campaign account, less three percent, are appropriated from the general fund, must be
 3.29 transferred and credited to the appropriate account in the state elections campaign account,
 3.30 and are annually appropriated for distribution as set forth in subdivisions 5, 5a, 6, and 7.
 3.31 The remaining three percent must be kept in the general fund for administrative costs.

4.1 (b) In addition to the amounts in paragraph (a), ~~\$1,020,000~~ \$4,932,000 for each general
4.2 election is appropriated from the general fund for transfer to the general account of the state
4.3 elections campaign account.

4.4 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

4.5

ARTICLE 2

4.6

ELECTIONS POLICY

4.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 8.31, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

4.8 Subdivision 1. **Investigate offenses against provisions of certain designated sections;**
4.9 **assist in enforcement.** The attorney general shall investigate violations and assist in the
4.10 enforcement of the following laws as provided in this section:

4.11 (1) the law of this state respecting unfair, discriminatory, and other unlawful practices
4.12 in business, commerce, or trade, and specifically, but not exclusively, the Nonprofit
4.13 Corporation Act (sections 317A.001 to 317A.909), the Act Against Unfair Discrimination
4.14 and Competition (sections 325D.01 to 325D.07), the Unlawful Trade Practices Act (sections
4.15 325D.09 to 325D.16), the Antitrust Act (sections 325D.49 to 325D.66), section 325F.67
4.16 and other laws against false or fraudulent advertising, the antidiscrimination acts contained
4.17 in section 325D.67, the act against monopolization of food products (section 325D.68), the
4.18 act regulating telephone advertising services (section 325E.39), the Prevention of Consumer
4.19 Fraud Act (sections 325F.68 to 325F.70), and chapter 53A regulating currency exchanges
4.20 and assist in the enforcement of those laws as in this section provided.; and

4.21 (2) section 211B.076, regulating intimidation and interference related to the performance
4.22 of duties by an election official.

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

4.24 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 10A.01, subdivision 21, is amended to read:

4.25 Subd. 21. **Lobbyist.** (a) "Lobbyist" means an individual:

4.26 (1) engaged for pay or other consideration of more than \$3,000 from all sources in any
4.27 year:

4.28 (i) for the purpose of attempting to influence legislative or administrative action, or the
4.29 official action of a ~~metropolitan governmental unit~~ political subdivision, by communicating
4.30 or urging others to communicate with public or local officials; or

- 5.1 (ii) from a business whose primary source of revenue is derived from facilitating
5.2 government relations or government affairs services between two third parties; or
- 5.3 (2) who spends more than \$250, not including the individual's own traveling expenses
5.4 and membership dues, in any year for the purpose of attempting to influence legislative or
5.5 administrative action, or the official action of a ~~metropolitan governmental unit~~ political
5.6 subdivision, by communicating or urging others to communicate with public or local officials.
- 5.7 (b) "Lobbyist" does not include:
- 5.8 (1) a public official;
- 5.9 (2) an employee of the state, including an employee of any of the public higher education
5.10 systems;
- 5.11 (3) an elected local official;
- 5.12 (4) a nonelected local official or an employee of a political subdivision acting in an
5.13 official capacity, unless the nonelected official or employee of a political subdivision spends
5.14 more than 50 hours in any month attempting to influence legislative or administrative action,
5.15 or the official action of a ~~metropolitan governmental unit~~ political subdivision other than
5.16 the political subdivision employing the official or employee, by communicating or urging
5.17 others to communicate with public or local officials, including time spent monitoring
5.18 legislative or administrative action, or the official action of a ~~metropolitan governmental~~
5.19 ~~unit~~ political subdivision, and related research, analysis, and compilation and dissemination
5.20 of information relating to legislative or administrative policy in this state, or to the policies
5.21 of ~~metropolitan governmental units~~ political subdivisions;
- 5.22 (5) a party or the party's representative appearing in a proceeding before a state board,
5.23 commission, or agency of the executive branch unless the board, commission, or agency is
5.24 taking administrative action;
- 5.25 (6) an individual while engaged in selling goods or services to be paid for by public
5.26 funds;
- 5.27 (7) a news medium or its employees or agents while engaged in the publishing or
5.28 broadcasting of news items, editorial comments, or paid advertisements which directly or
5.29 indirectly urge official action;
- 5.30 (8) a paid expert witness whose testimony is requested by the body before which the
5.31 witness is appearing, but only to the extent of preparing or delivering testimony; or

6.1 (9) a party or the party's representative appearing to present a claim to the legislature
 6.2 and communicating to legislators only by the filing of a claim form and supporting documents
 6.3 and by appearing at public hearings on the claim.

6.4 (c) An individual who volunteers personal time to work without pay or other consideration
 6.5 on a lobbying campaign, and who does not spend more than the limit in paragraph (a), clause
 6.6 (2), need not register as a lobbyist.

6.7 (d) An individual who provides administrative support to a lobbyist and whose salary
 6.8 and administrative expenses attributable to lobbying activities are reported as lobbying
 6.9 expenses by the lobbyist, but who does not communicate or urge others to communicate
 6.10 with public or local officials, need not register as a lobbyist.

6.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2024.

6.12 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 10A.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to
 6.13 read:

6.14 **Subd. 26b. Official action of political subdivisions.** "Official action of political
 6.15 subdivisions" means any action that requires a vote or approval by one or more elected local
 6.16 officials while acting in their official capacity; or an action by an appointed or employed
 6.17 local official to make, to recommend, or to vote on, as a member of the governing body,
 6.18 major decisions regarding the expenditure or investment of public money.

6.19 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 10A.04, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

6.20 Subd. 4. **Content.** (a) A report under this section must include information the board
 6.21 requires from the registration form and the information required by this subdivision for the
 6.22 reporting period.

6.23 (b) A lobbyist must report the specific subjects of interest for an entity represented by
 6.24 the lobbyist on each report submitted under this section. A lobbyist must describe a specific
 6.25 subject of interest in the report with enough information to show the particular issue of
 6.26 importance to the entity represented.

6.27 ~~(b)(c) A lobbyist must report the lobbyist's total disbursements on lobbying, separately~~
 6.28 ~~listing lobbying to influence legislative action, lobbying to influence administrative action,~~
 6.29 ~~and lobbying to influence the official actions of a metropolitan governmental unit, and a~~
 6.30 ~~breakdown of disbursements for each of those kinds of lobbying into categories specified~~
 6.31 ~~by the board, including but not limited to the cost of publication and distribution of each~~
 6.32 ~~publication used in lobbying; other printing; media, including the cost of production; postage;~~

7.1 ~~travel; fees, including allowances; entertainment; telephone and telegraph; and other~~
 7.2 ~~expenses.~~ every state agency that had administrative action that the represented entity sought
 7.3 to influence during the reporting period. The lobbyist must report the specific subjects of
 7.4 interest for each administrative action and the revisor of statutes rule draft number assigned
 7.5 to the administrative rulemaking.

7.6 (d) A lobbyist must report every political subdivision that considered official action that
 7.7 the represented entity sought to influence during the reporting period. The lobbyist must
 7.8 report the specific subjects of interest for each action.

7.9 (e) A lobbyist must report general lobbying categories and up to four specific subjects
 7.10 of interest related to each general lobbying category on which the lobbyist attempted to
 7.11 influence legislative action during the reporting period. If the lobbyist attempted to influence
 7.12 legislative action on more than four specific subjects of interest for a general lobbying
 7.13 category, the lobbyist, in consultation with the represented entity, must determine which
 7.14 four specific subjects of interest were the entity's highest priorities during the reporting
 7.15 period and report only those four subjects.

7.16 (f) A lobbyist must report the Public Utilities Commission project name for each rate
 7.17 setting, power plant and powerline siting, or granting of certification of need before the
 7.18 Public Utilities Commission that the represented entity sought to influence during the
 7.19 reporting period.

7.20 ~~(e)~~ (g) A lobbyist must report the amount and nature of each gift, item, or benefit,
 7.21 excluding contributions to a candidate, equal in value to \$5 or more, given or paid to any
 7.22 official, as defined in section 10A.071, subdivision 1, by the lobbyist or an employer or
 7.23 employee of the lobbyist. The list must include the name and address of each official to
 7.24 whom the gift, item, or benefit was given or paid and the date it was given or paid.

7.25 ~~(d)~~ (h) A lobbyist must report each original source of money in excess of \$500 in any
 7.26 year used for the purpose of lobbying to influence legislative action, administrative action,
 7.27 or the official action of a ~~metropolitan governmental unit~~ political subdivision. The list must
 7.28 include the name, address, and employer, or, if self-employed, the occupation and principal
 7.29 place of business, of each payer of money in excess of \$500.

7.30 ~~(e)~~ (i) ~~On the each report due June 15, the~~ a lobbyist must ~~provide a~~ disclose the general
 7.31 description of the subjects lobbying categories that were lobbied on in the previous 12
 7.32 months reporting period.

7.33 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2024.

8.1 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 10A.04, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

8.2 Subd. 6. **Principal reports.** (a) A principal must report to the board as required in this
8.3 subdivision by March 15 for the preceding calendar year.

8.4 (b) ~~Except as provided in paragraph (d),~~ The principal must report the total amount,
8.5 ~~rounded to the nearest \$20,000,~~ spent by the principal during the preceding calendar year
8.6 ~~to influence legislative action, administrative action, and the official action of metropolitan~~
8.7 ~~governmental units.~~ on each type of lobbying listed below:

8.8 (1) lobbying to influence legislative action;

8.9 (2) lobbying to influence administrative action, other than lobbying described in clause
8.10 (3);

8.11 (3) lobbying to influence administrative action in cases of rate setting, power plant and
8.12 powerline siting, and granting of certificates of need under section 216B.243; and

8.13 (4) lobbying to influence official action of political subdivisions.

8.14 (c) ~~Except as provided in paragraph (d),~~ For each type of lobbying listed in paragraph
8.15 (b), the principal must report ~~under this subdivision~~ a total amount that includes:

8.16 (1) the portion of all direct payments for compensation and benefits paid by the principal
8.17 to lobbyists in this state for that type of lobbying;

8.18 (2) the portion of all expenditures for advertising, mailing, research, consulting, surveys,
8.19 expert testimony, studies, reports, analysis, compilation and dissemination of information,
8.20 social media and public relations campaigns related to legislative action, administrative
8.21 action, or the official action of metropolitan governmental units, and legal counsel used to
8.22 support that type of lobbying in this state; and

8.23 (3) a reasonable good faith estimate of the portion of all salaries and administrative
8.24 overhead expenses attributable to activities of the principal relating to efforts to influence
8.25 legislative action, administrative action, or the official action of metropolitan governmental
8.26 units for that type of lobbying in this state.

8.27 ~~(d) A principal that must report spending to influence administrative action in cases of~~
8.28 ~~rate setting, power plant and powerline siting, and granting of certificates of need under~~
8.29 ~~section 216B.243 must report those amounts as provided in this subdivision, except that~~
8.30 ~~they must be reported separately and not included in the totals required under paragraphs~~
8.31 ~~(b) and (c).~~

9.1 (d) The principal must report disbursements made and obligations incurred that exceed
9.2 \$2,000 for paid advertising used for the purpose of urging members of the public to contact
9.3 public or local officials to influence official actions during the reporting period. Paid
9.4 advertising includes the cost to boost the distribution of an advertisement on social media.
9.5 The report must provide the date that the advertising was purchased, the name and address
9.6 of the vendor, a description of the advertising purchased, and any specific subjects of interest
9.7 addressed by the advertisement.

9.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2024.

9.9 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 10A.05, is amended to read:

9.10 **10A.05 LOBBYIST REPORT.**

9.11 Within 30 days after each lobbyist filing date set by section 10A.04, the executive director
9.12 of the board must publish the names of the lobbyists registered who were not previously
9.13 reported, the names of the individuals, associations, political subdivisions, or public higher
9.14 education systems whom they represent as lobbyists, the subject or subjects on which they
9.15 are lobbying, and whether in each case they lobby to influence legislative action,
9.16 administrative action, or the official action of a ~~metropolitan governmental unit~~ political
9.17 subdivision.

9.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2024.

9.19 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 10A.06, is amended to read:

9.20 **10A.06 CONTINGENT FEES PROHIBITED.**

9.21 No person may act as or employ a lobbyist for compensation that is dependent upon the
9.22 result or outcome of any legislative or administrative action, or of the official action of a
9.23 ~~metropolitan governmental unit~~ political subdivision. A person who violates this section is
9.24 guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

9.25 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2024.

9.26 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 10A.071, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

9.27 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) The definitions in this subdivision apply to this section.

9.28 (b) "Gift" means money, real or personal property, a service, a loan, a forbearance or
9.29 forgiveness of indebtedness, or a promise of future employment, that is given and received
9.30 without the giver receiving consideration of equal or greater value in return.

10.1 (c) "Official" means a public official, an employee of the legislature, or a local official
10.2 ~~of a metropolitan governmental unit.~~

10.3 (d) "Plaque" means a decorative item with an inscription recognizing an individual for
10.4 an accomplishment.

10.5 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2024.

10.6 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 201.022, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

10.7 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The secretary of state shall maintain a statewide voter
10.8 registration system to facilitate voter registration and to provide a central database containing
10.9 voter registration information from around the state. The system must be accessible to the
10.10 county auditor of each county in the state. The system must also:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

10.28 (10) provide security and protection of all information in the statewide registration
10.29 system and ensure that unauthorized access is not allowed;

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

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

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

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

11.9 (15) provide reports necessary for early voting.

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

11.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes's receipt of
11.13 the certification described in section 48 and applies to elections held on or after January 1,
11.14 2024, or the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification, whichever is
11.15 later.

11.16 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 201.071, subdivision 1, as amended by Laws
11.17 2023, chapter 12, section 2, is amended to read:

11.18 Subdivision 1. **Form.** Both paper and electronic voter registration applications must
11.19 contain the same information unless otherwise provided by law. A voter registration
11.20 application must contain spaces for the following required information: voter's first name,
11.21 middle name, and last name; voter's previous name, if any; voter's current address; voter's
11.22 previous address, if any; voter's date of birth; voter's municipality and county of residence;
11.23 voter's telephone number, if provided by the voter; date of registration; current and valid
11.24 Minnesota driver's license number or Minnesota state identification number, or if the voter
11.25 has no current and valid Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota state identification, the
11.26 last four digits of the voter's Social Security number; and voter's signature. The paper
11.27 registration application may include the voter's email address, if provided by the voter. The
11.28 electronic voter registration application must include the voter's email address. The
11.29 registration application may include the voter's interest in serving as an election judge, if
11.30 indicated by the voter. The application must also contain the following certification of voter
11.31 eligibility:

11.32 "I certify that I:

11.33 (1) will be at least 18 years old on election day;

- 12.1 (2) am a citizen of the United States;
- 12.2 (3) will have ~~resided~~ maintained residence in Minnesota for 20 days immediately
- 12.3 preceding election day;
- 12.4 (4) maintain residence at the address given on the registration form;
- 12.5 (5) am not under court-ordered guardianship in which the court order revokes my right
- 12.6 to vote;
- 12.7 (6) have not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote;
- 12.8 (7) am not currently incarcerated for a conviction of a felony offense; and
- 12.9 (8) have read and understand the following statement: that giving false information is a
- 12.10 felony punishable by not more than five years imprisonment or a fine of not more than
- 12.11 \$10,000, or both."
- 12.12 The certification must include boxes for the voter to respond to the following questions:
- 12.13 "(1) Are you a citizen of the United States?" and
- 12.14 "(2) Will you be 18 years old on or before election day?"
- 12.15 And the instruction:
- 12.16 "If you checked 'no' to either of these questions, do not complete this form."
- 12.17 The form of the voter registration application and the certification of voter eligibility
- 12.18 must be as provided in this subdivision and approved by the secretary of state. Voter
- 12.19 registration forms authorized by the National Voter Registration Act must also be accepted
- 12.20 as valid. The federal postcard application form must also be accepted as valid if it is not
- 12.21 deficient and the voter is eligible to register in Minnesota.
- 12.22 An individual may use a voter registration application to apply to register to vote in
- 12.23 Minnesota or to change information on an existing registration.
- 12.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.
- 12.25 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 201.091, subdivision 4a, is amended to read:
- 12.26 Subd. 4a. **Presidential primary political party list.** The secretary of state must maintain
- 12.27 a list of the voters who voted in a presidential nomination primary and the political party
- 12.28 each voter selected. Information maintained on the list is private data on individuals as
- 12.29 defined under section 13.02, subdivision 12, except that the secretary of state must provide
- 12.30 ~~the list~~ to the chair of each major political party the list of voters who selected that party.

13.1 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 201.145, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

13.2 Subd. 3. **Commissioner of corrections report; ~~state court administrator report.~~** (a)

13.3 ~~The state court administrator must report on individuals 17 years of age or older who have~~
13.4 ~~been convicted of a felony.~~

13.5 (b) The commissioner of corrections must report on individuals ~~17~~ 16 years of age or
13.6 older who are currently:

13.7 (1) ~~serv~~ ing incarcerated for felony sentences under the commissioner's jurisdiction; ~~or~~

13.8 (2) ~~on probation for felony offenses that resulted in the loss of civil rights, as indicated~~
13.9 ~~by the statewide supervision system established under section 241.065.~~

13.10 (e) ~~(b)~~ Each report under this subdivision must include the following information for
13.11 each individual: name, address or last known residential address that is not a correctional
13.12 facility, and date of birth. If available, each report must also include the individual's:
13.13 corrections' state identification number, last four digits of the Social Security number,
13.14 driver's license or state identification card number, ~~date of sentence, effective date of the~~
13.15 ~~sentence, county in which the conviction occurred, and date of discharge~~ and most recent
13.16 date of incarceration.

13.17 ~~(d)~~ (c) No later than seven calendar days after receiving a report under this subdivision,
13.18 the secretary of state must determine ~~if a person identified under paragraph (a) is registered~~
13.19 ~~to vote and must prepare a list of those registrants for the county auditor. No later than seven~~
13.20 ~~calendar days after receiving a report under this subdivision, the secretary of state must~~
13.21 ~~determine~~ if any data newly indicates that a person identified under paragraph ~~(b)~~ (a) is
13.22 registered to vote and must prepare a list of those registrants for the county auditor. No later
13.23 than seven calendar days after receiving the list from the secretary of state, the county auditor
13.24 must challenge the status on the record in the statewide voter registration system of each
13.25 individual named in the list.

13.26 (e) ~~(d)~~ The county auditor must identify an individual who ~~registered to vote or voted~~
13.27 ~~while serving incarcerated for a felony sentence under the commissioner's jurisdiction or~~
13.28 ~~while on probation for a felony offense that resulted in the loss of civil rights during a period~~
13.29 ~~when the individual's civil rights were revoked.~~ The county auditor must immediately send
13.30 notice to the county attorney. The notice must include the name of the individual and any
13.31 other identifying information as well as the evidence that shows the individual ~~registered~~
13.32 ~~to vote or voted during the period when the individual's civil rights were revoked~~ of
13.33 incarceration.

14.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.

14.2 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 201.145, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

14.3 Subd. 4. **Reports; restoration of right to vote.** (a) The state court administrator must
14.4 report on each individual whose guardianship was modified to restore the ward's right to
14.5 vote or whose guardianship was terminated by order of the court under section 524.5-317
14.6 after being ineligible to vote for any of the reasons specified in subdivision 2, paragraph
14.7 (a).

14.8 ~~(b) The state court administrator must report on individuals previously convicted of a~~
14.9 ~~felony whose civil rights have been restored.~~

14.10 ~~(e) The commissioner of corrections must report on individuals who were serving~~
14.11 ~~incarcerated for a felony sentence under the commissioner's jurisdiction or who were on~~
14.12 ~~probation for a felony offense under the commissioner's jurisdiction that resulted in the loss~~
14.13 ~~of civil rights but who have been discharged from the sentence and have been released from~~
14.14 ~~incarceration.~~

14.15 ~~(d)~~ (c) Each report under this subdivision must include the following information for
14.16 each individual: name, address, date of birth, and, if available, the last four digits of the
14.17 Social Security number. For ~~reports~~ the report required by ~~paragraphs~~ paragraph (b) ~~and~~
14.18 ~~(e), each~~ the report must also include the individual's, if available: corrections' state
14.19 identification number, driver's license or state identification card number, date of ~~sentenee,~~
14.20 ~~effective date of the sentenee~~ incarceration, county in which the conviction occurred, and
14.21 date of discharge.

14.22 ~~(e)~~ (d) No later than seven calendar days after receiving a report under this subdivision,
14.23 the secretary of state must determine if a person identified under paragraph (a) ~~or (b)~~ is
14.24 registered to vote and must prepare a list of those registrants for the county auditor. No later
14.25 than seven calendar days after receiving a report under this subdivision, the secretary of
14.26 state must determine if any data newly indicates that a person identified under paragraph
14.27 ~~(e)~~ (b) is registered to vote and must prepare a list of those registrants for the county auditor.
14.28 No later than seven calendar days after receiving the list from the secretary of state, the
14.29 county auditor must remove the challenge status on the record in the statewide voter
14.30 registration system of each individual named in the list.

14.31 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.

15.1 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.001, is amended to read:

15.2 **203B.001 ELECTION LAW APPLICABILITY.**

15.3 The Minnesota Election Law is applicable to voting by absentee ballot and early voting
15.4 unless otherwise provided in this chapter.

15.5 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes's receipt of
15.6 the certification described in section 48 and applies to elections held on or after January 1,
15.7 2024, or the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification, whichever is
15.8 later.

15.9 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.01, is amended by adding a subdivision
15.10 to read:

15.11 **Subd. 5. Early voting.** "Early voting" means voting in person before election day as
15.12 provided in section 203B.30.

15.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes's receipt of
15.14 the certification described in section 48 and applies to elections held on or after January 1,
15.15 2024, or the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification, whichever is
15.16 later.

15.17 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

15.18 Subdivision 1. **Violation.** (a) No individual shall intentionally:

15.19 (1) make or sign any false certificate required by this chapter;

15.20 (2) make any false or untrue statement in any application for absentee ballots;

15.21 (3) apply for absentee ballots more than once in any election with the intent to cast an
15.22 illegal ballot;

15.23 (4) exhibit a ballot marked by that individual to any other individual;

15.24 (5) do any act in violation of the provisions of this chapter for the purpose of casting a
15.25 illegal vote in any precinct or for the purpose of aiding another to cast an illegal vote;

15.26 (6) use information from absentee ballot or early voting materials or records for purposes
15.27 unrelated to elections, political activities, or law enforcement;

15.28 (7) provide assistance to an absentee or early voter except in the manner provided by
15.29 section 204C.15, subdivision 1;

16.1 (8) solicit the vote of an absentee voter while in the immediate presence of the voter
16.2 during the time the individual knows the absentee voter is voting; or

16.3 (9) alter an absentee ballot application after it has been signed by the voter, except by
16.4 an election official for administrative purposes.

16.5 (b) Before inspecting information from absentee ballot or early voting materials or
16.6 records, an individual shall provide identification to the public official having custody of
16.7 the material or information.

16.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes's receipt of
16.9 the certification described in section 48 and applies to elections held on or after January 1,
16.10 2024, or the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification, whichever is
16.11 later.

16.12 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

16.13 Subdivision 1. **Generally.** The full-time clerk of any city or town shall administer the
16.14 provisions of sections 203B.04 to 203B.15 and 203B.30 if:

16.15 (1) the county auditor of that county has designated the clerk to administer them; or

16.16 (2) the clerk has given the county auditor of that county notice of intention to administer
16.17 them.

16.18 The designation or notice must specify whether the clerk will be responsible for the
16.19 administration of a ballot board as provided in section 203B.121.

16.20 A clerk of a city that is located in more than one county may only administer the
16.21 provisions of sections 203B.04 to 203B.15 and 203B.30 if the clerk has been designated
16.22 by each of the county auditors or has provided notice to each of the county auditors that the
16.23 city will administer absentee voting. A clerk may only administer the provisions of sections
16.24 203B.04 to 203B.15 and 203B.30 if the clerk has technical capacity to access the statewide
16.25 voter registration system in the secure manner prescribed by the secretary of state. The
16.26 secretary of state must identify hardware, software, security, or other technical prerequisites
16.27 necessary to ensure the security, access controls, and performance of the statewide voter
16.28 registration system. A clerk must receive training approved by the secretary of state on the
16.29 use of the statewide voter registration system before administering this section. A clerk may
16.30 not use the statewide voter registration system until the clerk has received the required
16.31 training. The county auditor must notify the secretary of state of any municipal clerk who
16.32 will be administering the provisions of this section and the duties that the clerk will
16.33 administer.

17.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes's receipt of
17.2 the certification described in section 48 and applies to elections held on or after January 1,
17.3 2024, or the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification, whichever is
17.4 later.

17.5 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.081, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

17.6 Subdivision 1. **Location; timing for absentee voting.** An eligible voter may vote by
17.7 absentee ballot in the office of the county auditor and at any other polling place designated
17.8 by the county auditor during the 46 days before the election, except as provided in this
17.9 section.

17.10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes's receipt of
17.11 the certification described in section 48 and applies to elections held on or after January 1,
17.12 2024, or the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification, whichever is
17.13 later.

17.14 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.081, is amended by adding a subdivision
17.15 to read:

17.16 Subd. 1a. **Location; timing for early voting.** An eligible voter may vote using early
17.17 voting during the 18 days before a federal, state, or county election, and during the 18 days
17.18 before a municipal election if authorized under section 203B.05, in the office of the county
17.19 auditor and at any other polling place designated by the county auditor. In elections in which
17.20 early voting is provided, the alternative voting procedure authorized by subdivision 3 must
17.21 not be provided.

17.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes's receipt of
17.23 the certification described in section 48 and applies to elections held on or after January 1,
17.24 2024, or the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification, whichever is
17.25 later.

17.26 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.081, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

17.27 Subd. 3. **Alternative procedure.** (a) The county auditor may make available a ballot
17.28 counter and ballot box for use by the voters during the ~~seven~~ 18 days before the election.
17.29 If a ballot counter and ballot box is provided, a voter must be given the option either (1) to
17.30 vote using the process provided in section 203B.08, subdivision 1, or (2) to vote in the
17.31 manner provided in this subdivision.

18.1 (b) If a voter chooses to vote in the manner provided in this subdivision, the voter must
18.2 state the voter's name; and address; and, upon request of the election official, the voter's
18.3 date of birth to the county auditor or municipal clerk. The voter shall sign a voter's certificate,
18.4 which must include the voter's name, identification number, and the certification required
18.5 by section 201.071, subdivision 1. The signature of an individual on the voter's certificate
18.6 and the issuance of a ballot to the individual is evidence of the intent of the individual to
18.7 vote at that election.

18.8 (c) After signing the voter's certificate, the voter shall be issued a ballot and immediately
18.9 retire to a voting station or other designated location in the polling place to mark the ballot.
18.10 The ballot must not be taken from the polling place. If the voter spoils the ballot, the voter
18.11 may return it to the election official in exchange for a new ballot. After completing the
18.12 ballot, the voter shall deposit the ballot into the ballot box.

18.13 (d) The election official must immediately record that the voter has voted in the manner
18.14 provided in section 203B.121, subdivision 3.

18.15 (e) The election duties required by this subdivision must be performed by an election
18.16 judge, the county auditor, municipal clerk, or a deputy of the auditor or clerk.

18.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.

18.18 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.081, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

18.19 Subd. 3. **Alternative procedure.** (a) In elections not eligible to use early voting under
18.20 subdivision 1a, the county auditor may make available a ballot counter and ballot box for
18.21 use by the voters during the ~~seven~~ 18 days before the election. If a ballot counter and ballot
18.22 box is provided, a voter must be given the option either (1) to vote using the process provided
18.23 in section 203B.08, subdivision 1, or (2) to vote in the manner provided in this subdivision.

18.24 (b) If a voter chooses to vote in the manner provided in this subdivision, the voter must
18.25 state the voter's name; and address; and, upon the request of the election official, the voter's
18.26 date of birth to the county auditor or municipal clerk. The voter shall sign a voter's certificate,
18.27 which must include the voter's name, identification number, and the certification required
18.28 by section 201.071, subdivision 1. The signature of an individual on the voter's certificate
18.29 and the issuance of a ballot to the individual is evidence of the intent of the individual to
18.30 vote at that election.

18.31 (c) After signing the voter's certificate, the voter shall be issued a ballot and immediately
18.32 retire to a voting station or other designated location in the polling place to mark the ballot.
18.33 The ballot must not be taken from the polling place. If the voter spoils the ballot, the voter

19.1 may return it to the election official in exchange for a new ballot. After completing the
19.2 ballot, the voter shall deposit the ballot into the ballot box.

19.3 (d) The election official must immediately record that the voter has voted in the manner
19.4 provided in section 203B.121, subdivision 3.

19.5 (e) The election duties required by this subdivision must be performed by an election
19.6 judge, the county auditor, municipal clerk, or a deputy of the auditor or clerk.

19.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes's receipt of
19.8 the certification described in section 48 and applies to elections held on or after January 1,
19.9 2024, or the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification, whichever is
19.10 later.

19.11 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.081, is amended by adding a subdivision
19.12 to read:

19.13 **Subd. 4. Temporary locations.** A county auditor or municipal clerk authorized under
19.14 section 203B.05 to administer voting before election day may designate additional polling
19.15 places with days and hours that differ from those required by section 203B.085.

19.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.

19.17 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.081, is amended by adding a subdivision
19.18 to read:

19.19 **Subd. 5. Town elections.** Voters casting absentee ballots in person for a town election
19.20 held in March may do so during the 30 days before the election.

19.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.

19.22 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.081, is amended by adding a subdivision
19.23 to read:

19.24 **Subd. 6. Designation of locations.** The county auditor must make polling place
19.25 designations at least 14 weeks before the election and must provide the notice to the secretary
19.26 of state at the time the designations are made.

19.27 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.

20.1 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.081, is amended by adding a subdivision
20.2 to read:

20.3 Subd. 7. **Notice to voters.** The county auditor must prepare a notice to the voters of the
20.4 days, times, and locations for voting before election day as authorized by this section. This
20.5 notice must be posted on the secretary of state's website, the county's website, and the
20.6 website for each municipality in which a voting location under this section is located at
20.7 least 14 days before the first day of the absentee voting period. If a county or municipality
20.8 does not have a website, the county auditor or municipal clerk must publish the notice at
20.9 least once in the jurisdiction's official newspaper at least seven days and not more than 14
20.10 days before the first day of the absentee voting period.

20.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.

20.12 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.081, is amended by adding a subdivision
20.13 to read:

20.14 Subd. 8. **Equipment.** The county auditor must provide each polling place with at least
20.15 one voting booth; a ballot box; an electronic ballot counter, unless it has not adopted use
20.16 of one; and at least one electronic ballot marker for individuals with disabilities pursuant
20.17 to section 206.57, subdivision 5.

20.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.

20.19 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.085, is amended to read:

20.20 **203B.085 COUNTY AUDITOR'S AND MUNICIPAL CLERK'S OFFICES TO**
20.21 **REMAIN OPEN DURING CERTAIN HOURS PRECEDING ELECTION.**

20.22 Subdivision 1. **State general elections.** Prior to a state general election, the county
20.23 auditor's office in each county and the clerk's office in each city or town authorized under
20.24 section 203B.05 to administer voting before election day must be open:

20.25 (1) until 7:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before the election;

20.26 (2) from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the two Saturdays before the election;

20.27 (3) from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the Sunday immediately before the election; and

20.28 (4) until 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election.

20.29 A polling place designated under section 203B.081, subdivision 4, may be open alternate
20.30 days and hours.

21.1 Subd. 2. **Other elections.** In elections other than the state general election, the county
 21.2 auditor's office in each county and the clerk's office in each city or town authorized under
 21.3 section 203B.05 to administer ~~absentee balloting~~ voting before election day must be open
 21.4 for acceptance of absentee ballot applications and casting of absentee ballots voting as
 21.5 authorized under section 203B.081 from ~~10:00~~ 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday and until
 21.6 5:00 p.m. on the day immediately preceding a primary, special, or general election unless
 21.7 that day falls on a Saturday or Sunday. Town clerks' offices, and county auditors' offices if
 21.8 the county auditor has agreed to perform those duties on behalf of the township, must be
 21.9 open for absentee voting from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the Saturday before a town
 21.10 general election held in March. The school district clerk, when performing the county
 21.11 auditor's election duties, need not comply with this section.

21.12 Subd. 3. **Voters in line.** All voters in line at a time when a polling place is scheduled to
 21.13 close must be allowed to vote in the same manner as provided in section 204C.05, subdivision
 21.14 2.

21.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.

21.16 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.12, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

21.17 Subd. 7. **Names of persons; rejected absentee ballots.** ~~(a)~~ The names of voters who
 21.18 have submitted an absentee ballot to the county auditor or municipal clerk that has not been
 21.19 accepted ~~may not be made available for public inspection until the close of voting on election~~
 21.20 ~~day.~~

21.21 ~~(b) After the close of voting on election day, the lists~~ must be available to the public in
 21.22 the same manner as public information lists in section 201.091, subdivisions 4, 5, and 9.

21.23 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2024.

21.24 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.12, is amended by adding a subdivision
 21.25 to read:

21.26 Subd. 9. **Names of persons; early voting.** The secretary of state must maintain a list of
 21.27 voters who cast a ballot using the early voting procedures established in section 203B.30
 21.28 for all elections at which those procedures are used. The list must be available to the public
 21.29 in the same manner as public information lists in section 201.091, subdivisions 4, 5, and 9.

21.30 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes's receipt of
 21.31 the certification described in section 48 and applies to elections held on or after January 1,

22.1 2024, or the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification, whichever is
22.2 later.

22.3 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.121, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

22.4 Subdivision 1. **Establishment; applicable laws.** (a) The governing body of each county,
22.5 municipality, and school district with responsibility to accept and reject absentee ballots or
22.6 to administer early voting must, by ordinance or resolution, establish a ballot board. The
22.7 board must consist of a sufficient number of election judges appointed as provided in sections
22.8 204B.19 to 204B.22. The board may include deputy county auditors or deputy city clerks
22.9 who have received training in the processing and counting of absentee ballots. Each member
22.10 of the ballot board must be provided adequate training on the processing and counting of
22.11 absentee ballots, including but not limited to instruction on accepting and rejecting absentee
22.12 ballots, storage of absentee ballots, timelines and deadlines, the role of the ballot board,
22.13 procedures for opening absentee ballot envelopes, procedures for counting absentee ballots,
22.14 and procedures for reporting absentee ballot totals.

22.15 (b) Each jurisdiction must pay a reasonable compensation to each member of that
22.16 jurisdiction's ballot board for services rendered during an election.

22.17 (c) Except as otherwise provided by this section, all provisions of the Minnesota Election
22.18 Law apply to a ballot board.

22.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes's receipt of
22.20 the certification described in section 48 and applies to elections held on or after January 1,
22.21 2024, or the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification, whichever is
22.22 later.

22.23 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.121, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

22.24 Subd. 2. **Duties of ballot board; absentee ballots.** (a) The members of the ballot board
22.25 shall take possession of all signature envelopes delivered to them in accordance with section
22.26 203B.08. Upon receipt from the county auditor, municipal clerk, or school district clerk,
22.27 two or more members of the ballot board shall examine each signature envelope and shall
22.28 mark it accepted or rejected in the manner provided in this subdivision. Election judges
22.29 performing the duties in this section must be of different major political parties, unless they
22.30 are exempt from that requirement under section 205.075, subdivision 4, or section 205A.10,
22.31 subdivision 2.

23.1 (b) The members of the ballot board shall mark the signature envelope "Accepted" and
23.2 initial or sign the signature envelope below the word "Accepted" if a majority of the members
23.3 of the ballot board examining the envelope are satisfied that:

23.4 (1) the voter's name and address on the signature envelope are the same as the information
23.5 provided on the absentee ballot application;

23.6 (2) the voter signed the certification on the envelope;

23.7 (3) the voter's Minnesota driver's license, state identification number, or the last four
23.8 digits of the voter's Social Security number are the same as a number on the voter's absentee
23.9 ballot application or voter record. If the number does not match, the election judges must
23.10 compare the signature provided by the applicant to determine whether the ballots were
23.11 returned by the same person to whom they were transmitted;

23.12 (4) the voter is registered and eligible to vote in the precinct or has included a properly
23.13 completed voter registration application in the signature envelope;

23.14 (5) the certificate has been completed as prescribed in the directions for casting an
23.15 absentee ballot; and

23.16 (6) the voter has not already voted at that election, either in person or, if it is after the
23.17 close of business on the ~~seventh~~ 19th day before the election, ~~by absentee ballot as provided~~
23.18 by section 203B.081.

23.19 The signature envelope from accepted ballots must be preserved and returned to the
23.20 county auditor.

23.21 (c)(1) If a majority of the members of the ballot board examining a signature envelope
23.22 find that an absentee voter has failed to meet one of the requirements provided in paragraph
23.23 (b), they shall mark the signature envelope "Rejected," initial or sign it below the word
23.24 "Rejected," list the reason for the rejection on the envelope, and return it to the county
23.25 auditor. There is no other reason for rejecting an absentee ballot beyond those permitted by
23.26 this section. Failure to place the ballot within the secrecy envelope before placing it in the
23.27 outer white envelope is not a reason to reject an absentee ballot.

23.28 (2) If an envelope has been rejected at least five days before the election, the envelope
23.29 must remain sealed and the official in charge of the ballot board shall provide the voter with
23.30 a replacement absentee ballot and signature envelope in place of the rejected ballot.

23.31 (3) If an envelope is rejected within five days of the election, the envelope must remain
23.32 sealed and the official in charge of the ballot board must attempt to contact the voter by

24.1 telephone or email to notify the voter that the voter's ballot has been rejected. The official
24.2 must document the attempts made to contact the voter.

24.3 (d) The official in charge of the absentee ballot board must mail the voter a written notice
24.4 of absentee ballot rejection between six and ten weeks following the election. If the official
24.5 determines that the voter has otherwise cast a ballot in the election, no notice is required.
24.6 If an absentee ballot arrives after the deadline for submission provided by this chapter, the
24.7 notice must be provided between six to ten weeks after receipt of the ballot. A notice of
24.8 absentee ballot rejection must contain the following information:

24.9 (1) the date on which the absentee ballot was rejected or, if the ballot was received after
24.10 the required deadline for submission, the date on which the ballot was received;

24.11 (2) the reason for rejection; and

24.12 (3) the name of the appropriate election official to whom the voter may direct further
24.13 questions, along with appropriate contact information.

24.14 (e) An absentee ballot signature envelope marked "Rejected" may not be opened or
24.15 subject to further review except in an election contest filed pursuant to chapter 209.

24.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.

24.17 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.121, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

24.18 Subd. 3. **Record of voting.** (a) When applicable, the county auditor or municipal clerk
24.19 must immediately record that a voter's absentee ballot has been accepted. After the close
24.20 of business on the ~~seventh~~ nineteenth day before the election, a voter whose record indicates that
24.21 an absentee ballot has been accepted must not be permitted to cast another ballot at that
24.22 election. In a state primary, general, or state special election for federal ~~or~~ state, or county
24.23 office, the auditor or clerk must also record this information in the statewide voter registration
24.24 system.

24.25 (b) The roster must be marked, and a supplemental report of absentee voters who
24.26 submitted a voter registration application with their ballot must be created, no later than the
24.27 start of voting on election day to indicate the voters that have already cast a ballot at the
24.28 election. The roster may be marked either:

24.29 (1) by the county auditor or municipal clerk before election day;

24.30 (2) by the ballot board before election day; or

24.31 (3) by the election judges at the polling place on election day.

25.1 ~~The record of a voter whose absentee ballot was received after the close of business on~~
 25.2 ~~the seventh day before the election is not required to be marked on the roster or contained~~
 25.3 ~~in a supplemental report as required by this paragraph.~~

25.4 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** The amendment to paragraph (a) is effective June 1, 2023. The
 25.5 amendment to paragraph (b) is effective the day following final enactment.

25.6 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.121, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

25.7 Subd. 3. **Record of voting.** (a) When applicable, the county auditor or municipal clerk
 25.8 must immediately record that a voter's absentee ballot has been accepted or that the voter
 25.9 has cast a ballot pursuant to the early voting procedures provided in this chapter. After the
 25.10 close of business on the ~~seventh~~ 19th day before the election, a voter whose record indicates
 25.11 that an absentee ballot has been accepted or that the voter has cast an early ballot must not
 25.12 be permitted to cast another ballot at that election. In a state primary, general, or state special
 25.13 election for federal ~~or~~ state, or county office, the auditor or clerk must also record this
 25.14 information in the statewide voter registration system.

25.15 (b) The roster must be marked, and a supplemental report of absentee and early voters
 25.16 who submitted a voter registration application with their ballot must be created, no later
 25.17 than the start of voting on election day to indicate the voters that have already cast a ballot
 25.18 at the election. The roster may be marked either:

25.19 (1) by the county auditor or municipal clerk before election day;

25.20 (2) by the ballot board before election day; or

25.21 (3) by the election judges at the polling place on election day.

25.22 ~~The record of a voter whose absentee ballot was received after the close of business on~~
 25.23 ~~the seventh day before the election is not required to be marked on the roster or contained~~
 25.24 ~~in a supplemental report as required by this paragraph.~~

25.25 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes's receipt of
 25.26 the certification described in section 48 and applies to elections held on or after January 1,
 25.27 2024, or the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification, whichever is
 25.28 later.

25.29 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.121, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

25.30 Subd. 4. **Opening of envelopes.** After the close of business on the ~~seventh~~ 19th day
 25.31 before the election, the ballots from secrecy envelopes within the signature envelopes marked

26.1 "Accepted" may be opened, duplicated as needed in the manner provided in section 206.86,
26.2 subdivision 5, initialed by the members of the ballot board, and deposited in the appropriate
26.3 ballot box. If more than one voted ballot is enclosed in the ballot envelope, the ballots must
26.4 be returned in the manner provided by section 204C.25 for return of spoiled ballots, and
26.5 may not be counted.

26.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.

26.7 Sec. 35. **[203B.30] PROCEDURES FOR EARLY VOTING.**

26.8 **Subdivision 1. Definition.** For purposes of this section, "early voting official" means
26.9 the county auditor, city clerk, a deputy of the auditor or clerk, or an election judge.

26.10 **Subd. 2. Voting procedure.** (a) When a voter appears in an early voting polling place,
26.11 the voter must state the voter's name, address, and, if requested, the voter's date of birth to
26.12 the early voting official. The early voting official must confirm that the voter's registration
26.13 is current in the statewide voter registration system and that the voter has not already cast
26.14 a ballot in the election. If the voter's status is challenged, the voter may resolve the challenge
26.15 as provided in section 204C.12. An individual who is not registered to vote or whose name
26.16 or address has changed must register in the manner provided in section 201.061, subdivision
26.17 3. A voter who has already cast a ballot in the election must not be provided with a ballot.

26.18 (b) Each voter must sign the certification provided in section 204C.10. The signature of
26.19 an individual on the voter's certificate and the issuance of a ballot to the individual is evidence
26.20 of the intent of the individual to vote at that election. After the voter signs the certification,
26.21 two early voting officials must initial the ballot and issue it to the voter. The voter must
26.22 immediately retire to a voting station or other designated location in the polling place to
26.23 mark the ballot. The voter must not take a ballot from the polling place. If the voter spoils
26.24 the ballot, the voter may return it to the early voting official in exchange for a new ballot.
26.25 After completing the ballot, the voter must deposit the ballot into the ballot counter and
26.26 ballot box. The early voting official must immediately record that the voter has voted in the
26.27 manner provided in section 203B.121, subdivision 3.

26.28 **Subd. 3. Processing of ballots.** Early voting officials must remove and secure ballots
26.29 cast during the early voting period following the procedures in section 203B.121, subdivision
26.30 5, paragraph (a). The absentee ballot board must count the ballots after the polls have closed
26.31 on election day following the procedures in section 203B.121, subdivision 5, paragraph (b).

26.32 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes's receipt of
26.33 the certification described in section 48 and applies to elections held on or after January 1,

27.1 2024, or the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification, whichever is
27.2 later.

27.3 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204B.09, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

27.4 Subd. 3. **Write-in candidates.** (a) A candidate for county, state, or federal office who
27.5 wants write-in votes for the candidate to be counted must file a written request with the
27.6 filing office for the office sought not more than 84 days before the primary and no later
27.7 than the seventh day before the general election. The filing officer shall provide copies of
27.8 the form to make the request. The filing officer shall not accept a written request later than
27.9 5:00 p.m. on the last day for filing a written request.

27.10 (b) The governing body of a statutory or home rule charter city may adopt a resolution
27.11 governing the counting of write-in votes for local elective office. The resolution may:

27.12 (1) require the candidate to file a written request with the chief election official at least
27.13 19 days before the city election if the candidate wants to have the candidate's write-in votes
27.14 individually recorded; or

27.15 (2) require that write-in votes for an individual candidate only be individually recorded
27.16 if the total number of write-in votes for that office is equal to or greater than the fewest
27.17 number of non-write-in votes for a ballot candidate.

27.18 If the governing body of the statutory or home rule charter city adopts a resolution authorized
27.19 by this paragraph, the resolution must be adopted before the first day of filing for office. A
27.20 resolution adopted under this paragraph remains in effect until a subsequent resolution on
27.21 the same subject is adopted by the governing body of the statutory or home rule charter
27.22 city.

27.23 (c) The governing body of a township, school board, hospital district, park district, soil
27.24 and water district, or other ancillary elected district may adopt a resolution governing the
27.25 counting of write-in votes for local elective office. The resolution may require that write-in
27.26 votes for an individual candidate only be individually recorded if the total number of write-in
27.27 votes for that office is equal to or greater than the fewest number of non-write-in votes for
27.28 a ballot candidate.

27.29 ~~(b)~~ (d) A candidate for president of the United States who files a request under this
27.30 subdivision must ~~file jointly with another individual seeking nomination as a candidate for~~
27.31 ~~vice president of the United States. A candidate for vice president of the United States who~~
27.32 ~~files a request under this subdivision must file jointly with another individual seeking~~
27.33 ~~nomination as~~ include the name of a candidate for vice president of the United States. The

28.1 request must also include the name of at least one candidate for presidential elector. The
28.2 total number of names of candidates for presidential elector on the request may not exceed
28.3 the total number of electoral votes to be cast by Minnesota in the presidential election.

28.4 ~~(e)~~ (e) A candidate for governor who files a request under this subdivision must file
28.5 jointly with another individual seeking nomination as a candidate for lieutenant governor.
28.6 A candidate for lieutenant governor who files a request under this subdivision must file
28.7 jointly with another individual seeking nomination as a candidate for governor.

28.8 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204B.26, is amended to read:

28.9 **204B.26 ELECTION JUDGES; VIOLATIONS; PENALTIES.**

28.10 A county auditor or municipal clerk may remove any precinct election official at any
28.11 time if the official engages in a neglect of duty, malfeasance, misconduct in office, or for
28.12 other cause. Any individual who serves as an election judge in violation of any of the
28.13 provisions of sections 204B.19 to 204B.25, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

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

28.15 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204B.28, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

28.16 Subd. 2. **Election supplies; duties of county auditors and clerks.** (a) Except as
28.17 otherwise provided for absentee ballots in this section and in section 204B.35, subdivision
28.18 4, the county auditor shall complete the preparation of the election materials for which the
28.19 auditor is responsible at least four days before every state primary and state general election.
28.20 At any time after all election materials are available from the county auditor but not later
28.21 than four days before the election each municipal clerk shall secure from the county auditor:

28.22 ~~(a)~~ (1) the forms that are required for the conduct of the election;

28.23 ~~(b)~~ (2) any printed voter instruction materials furnished by the secretary of state;

28.24 ~~(c)~~ (3) any other instructions for election officers; and

28.25 ~~(d)~~ (4) a sufficient quantity of the official ballots, registration files, envelopes for ballot
28.26 returns, and other supplies and materials required for each precinct in order to comply with
28.27 the provisions of the Minnesota Election Law. The county auditor may furnish the election
28.28 supplies to the municipal clerks in the same manner as the supplies are furnished to precincts
28.29 in unorganized territory pursuant to section 204B.29, subdivision 1.

29.1 (b) The county auditor must prepare and make available election materials for early
29.2 voting to municipal clerks designated to administer early voting under section 203B.05 on
29.3 or before the 19th day before the election.

29.4 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes's receipt of
29.5 the certification described in section 48 and applies to elections held on or after January 1,
29.6 2024, or the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification, whichever is
29.7 later.

29.8 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204B.45, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

29.9 Subdivision 1. **Authorization.** A town of any size ~~not located in a metropolitan county~~
29.10 ~~as defined by section 473.121,~~ or a city having fewer than 400 registered voters on June 1
29.11 of an election year ~~and not located in a metropolitan county as defined by section 473.121,~~
29.12 may provide balloting by mail at any municipal, county, or state election with no polling
29.13 place other than the office of the auditor or clerk or other locations designated by the auditor
29.14 or clerk. The governing body may apply to the county auditor for permission to conduct
29.15 balloting by mail. The county board may provide for balloting by mail in unorganized
29.16 territory. The governing body of any municipality may designate for mail balloting any
29.17 precinct having fewer than 100 registered voters, subject to the approval of the county
29.18 auditor.

29.19 Voted ballots may be returned in person to any location designated by the county auditor
29.20 or municipal clerk.

29.21 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204B.45, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

29.22 Subd. 2. **Procedure.** Notice of the election and the special mail procedure must be given
29.23 at least ten weeks prior to the election. Not more than 46 days nor later than 14 days before
29.24 a regularly scheduled election and not more than 30 days nor later than 14 days before any
29.25 other election, the auditor shall mail ballots by nonforwardable mail to all voters registered
29.26 in the city, town, or unorganized territory. No later than 14 days before the election, the
29.27 auditor must make a subsequent mailing of ballots to those voters who register to vote after
29.28 the initial mailing but before the 20th day before the election. Eligible voters not registered
29.29 at the time the ballots are mailed may apply for ballots as provided in chapter 203B. Ballot
29.30 return envelopes, with return postage provided, must be preaddressed to the auditor or clerk
29.31 and the voter may return the ballot by mail or in person to the office of the auditor or clerk.
29.32 The auditor or clerk must appoint a ballot board to examine the mail and absentee ballot
29.33 return envelopes and mark them "accepted" or "rejected" within three days of receipt if

30.1 there are 14 or fewer days before election day, or within five days of receipt if there are
30.2 more than 14 days before election day. The board may consist of deputy county auditors or
30.3 deputy municipal clerks who have received training in the processing and counting of mail
30.4 ballots, who need not be affiliated with a major political party. Election judges performing
30.5 the duties in this section must be of different major political parties, unless they are exempt
30.6 from that requirement under section 205.075, subdivision 4, or section 205A.10. If an
30.7 envelope has been rejected at least five days before the election, the ballots in the envelope
30.8 must remain sealed and the auditor or clerk shall provide the voter with a replacement ballot
30.9 and return envelope in place of the spoiled ballot. If the ballot is rejected within five days
30.10 of the election, the envelope must remain sealed and the official in charge of the ballot board
30.11 must attempt to contact the voter by telephone or email to notify the voter that the voter's
30.12 ballot has been rejected. The official must document the attempts made to contact the voter.

30.13 If the ballot is accepted, the county auditor or municipal clerk must mark the roster to
30.14 indicate that the voter has already cast a ballot in that election. After the close of business
30.15 on the ~~seventh~~ 19th day before the election, the ballots from return envelopes marked
30.16 "Accepted" may be opened, duplicated as needed in the manner provided by section 206.86,
30.17 subdivision 5, initialed by the members of the ballot board, and deposited in the ballot box.

30.18 In all other respects, the provisions of the Minnesota Election Law governing deposit
30.19 and counting of ballots apply.

30.20 The mail and absentee ballots for a precinct must be counted together and reported as
30.21 one vote total. No vote totals from mail or absentee ballots may be made public before the
30.22 close of voting on election day.

30.23 The costs of the mailing shall be paid by the election jurisdiction in which the voter
30.24 ~~resides~~ maintains residence. Any ballot received by 8:00 p.m. on the day of the election
30.25 must be counted.

30.26 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.

30.27 Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204B.46, is amended to read:

30.28 **204B.46 MAIL ELECTIONS; QUESTIONS.**

30.29 A county, municipality, or school district submitting questions to the voters at a special
30.30 election may conduct an election by mail with no polling place other than the office of the
30.31 auditor or clerk. No offices may be voted on at a mail election-, except in overlapping school
30.32 and municipality jurisdictions, where a mail election may include an office when one of the
30.33 jurisdictions also has a question on the ballot. Notice of the election must be given to the

31.1 county auditor at least 74 days prior to the election. This notice shall also fulfill the
31.2 requirements of Minnesota Rules, part 8210.3000. The special mail ballot procedures must
31.3 be posted at least six weeks prior to the election. Not more than 46 nor later than 14 days
31.4 prior to the election, the auditor or clerk shall mail ballots by nonforwardable mail to all
31.5 voters registered in the county, municipality, or school district. No later than 14 days before
31.6 the election, the auditor or clerk must make a subsequent mailing of ballots to those voters
31.7 who register to vote after the initial mailing but before the 20th day before the election.
31.8 Eligible voters not registered at the time the ballots are mailed may apply for ballots pursuant
31.9 to chapter 203B. The auditor or clerk must appoint a ballot board to examine the mail and
31.10 absentee ballot return envelopes and mark them "Accepted" or "Rejected" within three days
31.11 of receipt if there are 14 or fewer days before election day, or within five days of receipt if
31.12 there are more than 14 days before election day. The board may consist of deputy county
31.13 auditors, deputy municipal clerks, or deputy school district clerks who have received training
31.14 in the processing and counting of mail ballots, who need not be affiliated with a major
31.15 political party. Election judges performing the duties in this section must be of different
31.16 major political parties, unless they are exempt from that requirement under section 205.075,
31.17 subdivision 4, or section 205A.10. If an envelope has been rejected at least five days before
31.18 the election, the ballots in the envelope must remain sealed and the auditor or clerk must
31.19 provide the voter with a replacement ballot and return envelope in place of the spoiled ballot.
31.20 If the ballot is rejected within five days of the election, the envelope must remain sealed
31.21 and the official in charge of the ballot board must attempt to contact the voter by telephone
31.22 or email to notify the voter that the voter's ballot has been rejected. The official must
31.23 document the attempts made to contact the voter.

31.24 If the ballot is accepted, the county auditor or municipal clerk must mark the roster to
31.25 indicate that the voter has already cast a ballot in that election. After the close of business
31.26 on the ~~seventh~~ 19th day before the election, the ballots from return envelopes marked
31.27 "Accepted" may be opened, duplicated as needed in the manner provided by section 206.86,
31.28 subdivision 5, initialed by the ballot board, and deposited in the appropriate ballot box.

31.29 In all other respects, the provisions of the Minnesota Election Law governing deposit
31.30 and counting of ballots apply.

31.31 The mail and absentee ballots for a precinct must be counted together and reported as
31.32 one vote total. No vote totals from ballots may be made public before the close of voting
31.33 on election day.

31.34 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023.

32.1 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 204B.49, is amended to read:

32.2 **204B.49 "I VOTED" STICKERS.**

32.3 The secretary of state, county auditor, municipal clerk, school district clerk, or an election
32.4 judge may provide a sticker containing the words "I VOTED," and nothing more, to an
32.5 individual who:

32.6 (1) has successfully deposited a ballot into a ballot box, ~~under section 203B.081,~~
32.7 ~~subdivision 3, or 204C.13, subdivision 5;~~

32.8 (2) is provided an absentee ballot under section 203B.07, subdivision 1, or 203B.21,
32.9 subdivision 2; or

32.10 (3) is provided a ballot by mail under section 204B.45 or 204B.46.

32.11 Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 206.845, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

32.12 Subdivision 1. **Prohibited connections.** The county auditor and municipal clerk must
32.13 secure ballot recording and tabulating systems physically and electronically against
32.14 unauthorized access. Except for wired connections within the polling place, ballot recording
32.15 and tabulating systems must not be connected to or operated on, directly or indirectly, any
32.16 electronic network, including a local area network, a wide-area network, the Internet, or the
32.17 World Wide Web. Wireless communications may not be used in any way in a vote recording
32.18 or vote tabulating system. Wireless, device-to-device capability is not permitted. No
32.19 connection by modem is permitted.

32.20 Transfer of information from the ballot recording or tabulating system to another system
32.21 for network distribution or broadcast must be made by disk, tape, or other physical means
32.22 of communication, other than direct or indirect electronic connection of the vote recording
32.23 or vote tabulating system. A county auditor or municipal clerk may not create or disclose,
32.24 or permit any other person to create or disclose, an electronic image of the hard drive of
32.25 any vote recording or tabulating system or any other component of an electronic voting
32.26 system, except as authorized in writing by the secretary of state or for the purpose of
32.27 conducting official duties as expressly authorized by law.

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

32.29 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 211A.02, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

32.30 Subdivision 1. **When and where filed by committees.** (a) A committee or a candidate
32.31 who receives contributions or makes disbursements of more than \$750 in a calendar year

33.1 shall submit an initial report to the filing officer within 14 days after the candidate or
 33.2 committee receives or makes disbursements of more than \$750 and shall continue to make
 33.3 the reports listed in paragraph (b) until a final report is filed.

33.4 (b) The committee or candidate must file a report by January 31 of each year following
 33.5 the year when the initial report was filed and in a year when the candidate's name or a ballot
 33.6 question appears on the ballot, the candidate or committee shall file a report:

33.7 (1) ten days before the primary or special primary. In a jurisdiction where the local
 33.8 primary is eliminated due to the adoption of ranked choice voting, candidates running in a
 33.9 ranked choice voting election must file a report in the same manner as if a primary were
 33.10 being held for such offices;

33.11 (2) ten days before the general election or special election; and

33.12 (3) 30 days after a general or special election.

33.13 Sec. 45. **[211B.076] INTIMIDATION AND INTERFERENCE RELATED TO THE**
 33.14 **PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES BY AN ELECTION OFFICIAL; PENALTIES.**

33.15 Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For the purposes of this section, "election official" means a
 33.16 member of a canvassing board, the county auditor or municipal clerk charged with duties
 33.17 relating to elections, a member of an absentee ballot board, an election judge, an election
 33.18 judge trainee, or any other individual assigned by a state entity or municipal government
 33.19 to perform official duties related to elections.

33.20 Subd. 2. **Intimidation.** (a) A person may not directly or indirectly use or threaten force,
 33.21 coercion, violence, restraint, damage, harm, or loss, including loss of employment or
 33.22 economic reprisal, against another with the intent to influence an election official in the
 33.23 performance of a duty of election administration.

33.24 (b) In a civil action brought to prevent and restrain violations of this subdivision or to
 33.25 require the payment of civil penalties, the plaintiff must demonstrate that the action or
 33.26 attempted action would cause a reasonable person to feel intimidated. The plaintiff does
 33.27 not need to show that the defendant intended to cause the victim to feel intimidated.

33.28 Subd. 3. **Interfering with or hindering the administration of an election.** A person
 33.29 may not intentionally hinder, interfere with, or prevent an election official's performance
 33.30 of a duty related to election administration.

33.31 Subd. 4. **Dissemination of personal information about an election official.** (a) A
 33.32 person may not knowingly and without consent make publicly available, including but not

34.1 limited to through the Internet, personal information about an election official or an election
34.2 official's family or household member if:

34.3 (1) the dissemination poses an imminent and serious threat to the official's safety or the
34.4 safety of an official's family or household member; and

34.5 (2) the person making the information publicly available knows or reasonably should
34.6 know of any imminent and serious threat.

34.7 (b) As used in this subdivision, "personal information" means the home address of the
34.8 election official or a member of an election official's family, directions to that home, or
34.9 photographs of that home.

34.10 Subd. 5. **Obstructing access.** A person may not intentionally and physically obstruct
34.11 an election official's access to or egress from a polling place, meeting of a canvassing board,
34.12 place where ballots and elections equipment are located or stored, or any other place where
34.13 the election official performs a duty related to election administration.

34.14 Subd. 6. **Tampering with voting equipment.** (a) A person may not access without
34.15 authorization, tamper with, or facilitate unauthorized access to or tampering with an electronic
34.16 voting system, electromechanical voting equipment, or an election night reporting system
34.17 before, during, or after any election required by law.

34.18 (b) A person may not knowingly publish or cause to be published passwords or other
34.19 confidential information relating to an electronic voting system. In addition to any other
34.20 remedies and penalties provided by this section, the secretary of state, county auditor, or
34.21 municipal clerk must immediately revoke any authorized access rights of a person found
34.22 to be in violation of this paragraph.

34.23 Subd. 7. **Tampering with ballot box.** A person may not willfully tamper with or open
34.24 a ballot box, including a ballot drop box, except for the purpose of conducting official duties
34.25 as expressly authorized by law.

34.26 Subd. 8. **Tampering with statewide voter registration system, registration list, or**
34.27 **polling place roster.** Except for the purpose of conducting official duties as expressly
34.28 authorized by law, a person may not mutilate or erase any name, figure, or word on a voter
34.29 registration list or polling place roster; remove or destroy a registration list or polling place
34.30 roster; or mutilate, erase, or remove any part of a list or roster from the place where it has
34.31 been deposited with an intention to destroy it, to procure or prevent the election of any
34.32 person, or to prevent any voter from voting.

35.1 Subd. 9. **Unauthorized access to statewide voter registration system.** A person may
35.2 not knowingly access, or attempt to access, the statewide voter registration system except
35.3 for the purpose of conducting official duties as expressly authorized by law.

35.4 Subd. 10. **Vicarious liability; conspiracy.** A person may be held vicariously liable for
35.5 any damages resulting from the violation of this section and may be identified in an order
35.6 restraining violations of this section if that person:

35.7 (1) intentionally aids, advises, hires, counsels, abets, incites, compels, or coerces a person
35.8 to violate any provision of this section or attempts to aid, advise, hire, counsel, abet, incite,
35.9 compel, or coerce a person to violate any provision of this section; or

35.10 (2) conspires, combines, agrees, or arranges with another to either commit a violation
35.11 of this section or aid, advise, hire, counsel, abet, incite, compel, or coerce a third person to
35.12 violate any provision of this section.

35.13 Subd. 11. **Criminal penalties; civil remedies.** (a) Except as otherwise provided, a person
35.14 who violates this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

35.15 (b) The attorney general, a county attorney, or an election official may bring a civil
35.16 action to prevent or restrain a violation of this section.

35.17 (c) The attorney general, or an election official injured by an act prohibited by this
35.18 section, may bring a civil action pursuant to section 8.31 to recover damages, together with
35.19 costs of investigation and reasonable attorney fees, and receive other equitable relief as
35.20 determined by the court. An action brought by an election official under section 8.31,
35.21 subdivision 3a, is in the public interest. In addition to all other damages, the court may
35.22 impose a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 for each violation.

35.23 (d) Civil remedies allowable under this section are cumulative and do not restrict any
35.24 other right or remedy otherwise available. An action for a penalty or remedy under this
35.25 section must be brought within two years of the date the violation is alleged to have occurred.
35.26 The complaint process provided in sections 211B.31 to 211B.36 does not apply to violations
35.27 of this section.

35.28 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 15, 2023, and applies to violations
35.29 occurring on or after that date.

35.30 Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 211B.11, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

35.31 Subdivision 1. **Soliciting near polling places.** A person ~~may not display campaign~~
35.32 ~~material, post signs,~~ must not:

36.1 (1) ask, solicit, or in any manner try to induce or persuade a voter to vote for or refrain
 36.2 from voting for a candidate or ballot question; or

36.3 (2) wear, exhibit, or distribute any item that displays:

36.4 (i) the name, likeness, logo, or slogan of a candidate who appears on the ballot;

36.5 (ii) the number, title, subject, slogan, or logo of a ballot question that appears on the
 36.6 ballot; or

36.7 (iii) the name, logo, or slogan of a political party represented by a candidate on the ballot.

36.8 For purposes of this paragraph, "item" includes pamphlets, advertisements, flyers, signs,
 36.9 banners, stickers, buttons, badges, pencils, pens, shirts, hats, or any similar item.

36.10 (b) The prohibitions in paragraph (a) apply during voting hours:

36.11 (1) throughout the absentee and early voting periods:

36.12 (i) within a polling place; and

36.13 (ii) within 100 feet of the room in which a polling place is situated, to the extent
 36.14 practicable; and

36.15 (2) on the day of a primary or general election:

36.16 (i) within a polling place or;

36.17 (ii) within 100 feet of the building in which a polling place is situated, or; and

36.18 (iii) anywhere on the public property on which a polling place is situated, on primary
 36.19 or election day to vote for or refrain from voting for a candidate or ballot question. A person
 36.20 may not provide political badges, political buttons, or other political insignia to be worn at
 36.21 or about the polling place on the day of a primary or election. A political badge, political
 36.22 button, or other political insignia may not be worn at or about the polling place on primary
 36.23 or election day. This section applies to areas established by the county auditor or municipal
 36.24 clerk for absentee voting as provided in chapter 203B.

36.25 (c) Nothing in this subdivision prohibits the distribution of "I VOTED" stickers as
 36.26 provided in section 204B.49.

36.27 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 15, 2023.

36.28 Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 211B.32, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

36.29 Subdivision 1. **Administrative remedy; exhaustion.** (a) Except as provided in paragraph
 36.30 paragraphs (b) and (c), a complaint alleging a violation of chapter 211A or 211B must be

37.1 filed with the office. The complaint must be finally disposed of by the office before the
37.2 alleged violation may be prosecuted by a county attorney.

37.3 (b) Complaints arising under those sections and related to those individuals and
37.4 associations specified in section 10A.022, subdivision 3, must be filed with the Campaign
37.5 Finance and Public Disclosure Board.

37.6 (c) Violations of section 211B.076 may only be enforced as provided in section 211B.076.

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

37.8 **Sec. 48. CERTIFICATION.**

37.9 The secretary of state must certify to the revisor of statutes that the statewide voter
37.10 registration system has been tested and shown to properly allow for tracking of the
37.11 information required to conduct early voting and can handle the expected volume of use.

37.12 **Sec. 49. RANKED CHOICE VOTING EDUCATION GRANTS.**

37.13 Subdivision 1. **Authorized costs.** A home rule charter city that has adopted ranked
37.14 choice voting for local elections is eligible to apply to the secretary of state for a grant to
37.15 be used for a public education campaign on the use of ranked choice voting. The public
37.16 education campaign must provide information to voters citywide but must focus on
37.17 communities with language barriers, new voters, or low voter participation rates.

37.18 Subd. 2. **Application.** The secretary of state may make a grant to an eligible home rule
37.19 charter city only after receiving an application from the city. The application must contain:

37.20 (1) the date the application is submitted;

37.21 (2) the name of the home rule charter city;

37.22 (3) the name and title of the individual who prepared the application;

37.23 (4) the total amount of the grant requested and a description of the proposed public
37.24 education campaign, including how the campaign will reach communities with language
37.25 barriers, new voters, or low voter participation rates;

37.26 (5) the total amount and source of the home rule charter city's money to be used to match
37.27 a grant from the account;

37.28 (6) a certified statement by the home rule charter city that the grant will be used only
37.29 for purposes authorized by this section; and

37.30 (7) any other information required by the secretary of state.

38.1 The deadline to submit grant applications is December 1, 2024.

38.2 Subd. 3. **Awarding grants.** (a) The secretary of state must not award grants prior to
38.3 January 1, 2025. The secretary of state must not award more than \$40,000 in grants to any
38.4 home rule charter city.

38.5 (b) Subject to the limitations in paragraph (a), a home rule charter city is eligible to
38.6 receive a grant of no more than 50 percent of the total cost of public educational campaigns
38.7 related to use of ranked choice voting. A home rule charter city may partner with and provide
38.8 grant funds to third-party entities to assist with a public education campaign.

38.9 (c) The secretary of state must establish a procedure for awarding and distributing grants
38.10 and a process for verifying the proper use of the grants after distribution. In evaluating the
38.11 applications, the secretary of state must consider only the information set forth in the
38.12 application and is not subject to Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14. If the secretary of state
38.13 determines that the application has been fully and properly completed, and that there are
38.14 sufficient funds available to award the grant, either in whole or in part, the secretary of state
38.15 may approve the application, subject to the limitations in paragraph (a).

38.16 Subd. 4. **Report to the legislature.** No later than February 15, 2026, the secretary of
38.17 state must submit a report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over elections
38.18 policy on grants awarded by this section. The report must include:

38.19 (1) a list of each grant awarded including the home rule charter city, the amount of the
38.20 grant, and how the funding will be spent; and

38.21 (2) the remaining balance of the appropriation for grants, if any.

38.22 Sec. 50. **RANKED CHOICE VOTING AND VOTER ENGAGEMENT ADVISORY**
38.23 **TASK FORCE.**

38.24 Subdivision 1. **Scope.** A Ranked Choice Voting and Voter Engagement Task Force is
38.25 established. The purpose of the task force is to engage election officials, state and local
38.26 lawmakers, and community members for the purpose of assessing the adoption and
38.27 implementation of ranked choice voting for local and statewide elections and to study voter
38.28 engagement.

38.29 Subd. 2. **Membership.** (a) The task force consists of:

38.30 (1) the secretary of state or their designee;

38.31 (2) the state election director or their designee;

- 39.1 (3) four representatives of counties with experience administering elections, appointed
39.2 by the Minnesota Association of County Officers, as follows:
- 39.3 (i) one representative from the seven-county metropolitan area;
39.4 (ii) two representatives from outside the seven-county metropolitan area; and
39.5 (iii) one representative from a jurisdiction that has implemented ranked choice voting;
- 39.6 (4) four representatives of cities with experience administering elections, appointed by
39.7 the League of Minnesota Cities, as follows:
- 39.8 (i) one representative from the seven-county metropolitan area;
39.9 (ii) two representatives from outside the seven-county metropolitan area; and
39.10 (iii) one representative from a jurisdiction that has implemented ranked choice voting;
- 39.11 (5) one member of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house
39.12 of representatives;
- 39.13 (6) one member of the senate appointed by the majority leader of the senate;
- 39.14 (7) one member of the house of representatives appointed by the minority leader of the
39.15 house of representatives;
- 39.16 (8) one member of the senate appointed by the minority leader of the senate;
- 39.17 (9) one representative of community-based organizations with demonstrated experience
39.18 and interest in voting methods and election administration, appointed by the governor;
- 39.19 (10) one representative who has experience administering elections at the county or city
39.20 level, appointed by the governor;
- 39.21 (11) one town clerk with experience administering elections, appointed by the Minnesota
39.22 Association of Townships;
- 39.23 (12) one representative appointed by the Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans;
39.24 (13) one representative appointed by the Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs;
39.25 (14) one representative appointed by the Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage;
39.26 (15) one representative appointed by the Indian Affairs Council;
39.27 (16) one representative appointed by the Minnesota Council on Disability;
39.28 (17) one representative appointed by the Minnesota Commission of the Deaf, DeafBlind,
39.29 and Hard of Hearing;

- 40.1 (18) three public members appointed by the governor;
- 40.2 (19) two public members appointed by the senate majority leader;
- 40.3 (20) one public member appointed by the senate minority leader;
- 40.4 (21) two public members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and
- 40.5 (22) one public member appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives.
- 40.6 (b) The secretary of state, or the secretary's designee, serves as the chair of the task force.
- 40.7 Members of the task force and subcommittees are governed by Minnesota Statutes, section
- 40.8 15.059, subdivision 6.
- 40.9 Subd. 3. **Organization.** (a) Appointments to the task force must be made no later than
- 40.10 August 1, 2023. No later than August 15, 2023, the secretary of state, or the secretary's
- 40.11 designee, must convene the first meeting of the task force. Appointing authorities described
- 40.12 in subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses (18) to (22), must give preference to appointees
- 40.13 who are new Americans; seniors; infrequent voters; Black, Indigenous, or people of color;
- 40.14 individuals with disabilities; residents of greater Minnesota; or residents of cities that have
- 40.15 adopted ranked choice voting. Appointing authorities described in subdivision 2, paragraph
- 40.16 (a), clauses (18) to (22), must not appoint political party chairs, officers or employees of a
- 40.17 political party, elected officials, family members of elected officials, or registered lobbyists.
- 40.18 (b) The task force and subcommittees are subject to Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13D.
- 40.19 Subd. 4. **Staff.** The Legislative Coordinating Commission must provide support staff,
- 40.20 office space, and administrative services for the task force.
- 40.21 Subd. 5. **Duties.** The task force must study voter-facing issues related to ranked choice
- 40.22 voting including, but not limited to, ballot design, voter instructions, usability of equipment,
- 40.23 and other aspects of ranked choice voting that involve the voter. The task force must meet
- 40.24 at least twice between August 1, 2023, and February 15, 2024, and at least twice between
- 40.25 February 16, 2024, and February 15, 2025.
- 40.26 Subd. 6. **Report.** (a) By February 15, 2024, and February 15, 2025, the task force must
- 40.27 submit a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees
- 40.28 with jurisdiction over elections policy and finance. The report must include:
- 40.29 (1) findings, conclusions, or recommendations relating to the voter-facing issues;
- 40.30 (2) draft legislation, if any, to implement the task force's recommendations;
- 40.31 (3) the reports submitted to the task force chair by the subcommittees as required by
- 40.32 subdivisions 7 and 8.

41.1 Subd. 7. **Ranked choice voting technical subcommittee.** (a) A ranked choice voting
41.2 technical subcommittee is established within the task force. The ranked choice voting
41.3 technical subcommittee must assess the technical aspects of implementing ranked choice
41.4 voting for local and statewide elections. Members designated or appointed pursuant to
41.5 subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (11), are the members of the ranked choice voting
41.6 subcommittee. The ranked choice voting technical subcommittee must meet at least monthly
41.7 until the first report is submitted as provided in paragraph (d). After submission of the first
41.8 report, the ranked choice voting technical subcommittee must meet regularly.

41.9 (b) One member of the ranked choice voting technical subcommittee designated by the
41.10 secretary of state and the gubernatorial appointee with experience administering elections
41.11 at the county or city level serve as cochairs of the ranked choice voting technical
41.12 subcommittee. The cochairs of the ranked choice voting technical subcommittee are
41.13 encouraged to request the participation of at least two members of Minnesota's congressional
41.14 delegation, or their designees, including one member of the United States House of
41.15 Representatives and one member of the United States Senate. These members serve as ex
41.16 officio, nonvoting members of the ranked choice voting technical subcommittee.

41.17 (c) The ranked choice voting technical subcommittee must:

41.18 (1) assess the feasibility of local governments adopting ranked choice voting in
41.19 conjunction with state general elections, including cross-county municipalities and school
41.20 districts;

41.21 (2) assess the feasibility of adopting statewide ranked choice voting, particularly the
41.22 impact on local election administration and voter experience;

41.23 (3) assess system readiness and any challenges, obstacles, or barriers to adoption or
41.24 implementation of ranked choice voting for local and statewide elections;

41.25 (4) make recommendations on the standards and rules that would be needed to implement
41.26 ranked choice voting for local and statewide elections;

41.27 (5) assess the technology required to implement ranked choice voting for local and
41.28 statewide elections, including an inventory of current voting equipment across the state; an
41.29 assessment of the feasibility of ranked choice voting with varied election equipment and
41.30 systems; and recommendations for upgrading technology, where necessary or prudent; and

41.31 (6) recommend appropriations required to implement ranked choice voting for local and
41.32 statewide elections, including equipment and software, education, and training.

42.1 (d) By February 1, 2024, and February 1, 2025, the ranked choice voting technical
42.2 subcommittee must submit a report to the chair of the task force. The report must include:

42.3 (1) findings, conclusions, or recommendations relating to the duties of the subcommittee;
42.4 and

42.5 (2) draft legislation, if any, to implement the subcommittee's recommendations.

42.6 **Subd. 8. Voter engagement subcommittee.** (a) A voter engagement subcommittee is
42.7 established within the task force. The voter engagement subcommittee must assess voter
42.8 engagement. Members designated or appointed pursuant to subdivision 2, paragraph (a),
42.9 clauses (1) and (12) to (22), are the members of the voter engagement subcommittee. The
42.10 voter engagement subcommittee must meet at least monthly until the first report is submitted
42.11 as provided in paragraph (d). After submission of the first report, the voter engagement
42.12 subcommittee must meet regularly.

42.13 (b) The senate majority leader must designate one of the individuals appointed by the
42.14 senate majority leader as a cochair of the voter engagement subcommittee. The speaker of
42.15 the house of representatives must designate one of the individuals appointed by the speaker
42.16 of the house of representatives as a cochair of the voter engagement subcommittee.

42.17 (c) The voter engagement subcommittee must focus its analysis on eligible voters who
42.18 are new Americans; seniors; Black, Indigenous, or people of color; low income; and
42.19 individuals with disabilities. The voter engagement subcommittee must assess:

42.20 (1) current levels of understanding of voting methods used in Minnesota within the
42.21 communities of focus;

42.22 (2) voter education efforts that were undertaken in Bloomington, Minneapolis,
42.23 Minnetonka, Saint Louis Park, and Saint Paul after the adoption of ranked choice voting;
42.24 and

42.25 (3) best practices for educating and engaging voters in the communities of focus.

42.26 (d) By February 1, 2024, and February 1, 2025, the voter engagement subcommittee
42.27 must submit a report to the chair of the task force. The report must include:

42.28 (1) recommendations on how to increase voter participation in communities of focus;

42.29 (2) recommendations on how to further educate and engage voters in communities of
42.30 focus, including whether current voter education and outreach efforts are sufficient or should
42.31 be modified;

43.1 (3) recommendations on methods of voter outreach and education that should be
 43.2 employed within communities of focus in cases in which a jurisdiction is considering
 43.3 changing its method of voting and if it proceeds with changing its voting method; and

43.4 (4) any other recommendations related to voter engagement or education.

43.5 Subd. 9. **Sunset.** The task force and subcommittees expire March 1, 2025, or upon
 43.6 submission of the final report to the legislature, whichever is earlier.

43.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2023, provided that the designated
 43.8 appointing authorities may take actions necessary to name members to serve on the task
 43.9 force beginning the day following final enactment.

43.10 **Sec. 51. REPEALER.**

43.11 Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.081, subdivision 2, is repealed.


43.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 1, 2023."

43.13 Delete the title and insert:

43.14 "A bill for an act
 43.15 relating to elections; modifying provisions related to lobbying; modifying election
 43.16 administration provisions; establishing a task force on ranked choice voting and
 43.17 voter engagement; amending requirements related to soliciting near the polling
 43.18 place; prohibiting election judge intimidation; authorizing certain local governments
 43.19 to adopted ranked choice voting; authorizing rulemaking; requiring reports;
 43.20 appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 5.30, subdivision
 43.21 2; 8.31, subdivision 1; 10A.01, subdivision 21, by adding a subdivision; 10A.04,
 43.22 subdivisions 4, 6; 10A.05; 10A.06; 10A.071, subdivision 1; 10A.31, subdivision
 43.23 4; 201.022, subdivision 1; 201.071, subdivision 1, as amended; 201.091, subdivision
 43.24 4a; 201.145, subdivisions 3, 4; 203B.001; 203B.01, by adding a subdivision;
 43.25 203B.03, subdivision 1; 203B.05, subdivision 1; 203B.081, subdivisions 1, 3, by
 43.26 adding subdivisions; 203B.085; 203B.12, subdivision 7, by adding a subdivision;
 43.27 203B.121, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4; 204B.09, subdivision 3; 204B.26; 204B.28,
 43.28 subdivision 2; 204B.45, subdivisions 1, 2; 204B.46; 204B.49; 206.845, subdivision
 43.29 1; 211A.02, subdivision 1; 211B.11, subdivision 1; 211B.32, subdivision 1;
 43.30 proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 203B; 211B;
 43.31 repealing Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 203B.081, subdivision 2."

43.32 And when so amended the bill do pass and be re-referred to the Committee on Finance.

43.33 Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

43.34 
 43.35 (Committee Chair)

43.36 April 3, 2023.....
 43.37 (Date of Committee recommendation)