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## **S.F. No. 4432 – Election administration provisions (as amended by the A-3 amendment)**

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**Section 1 [§203B.04, subd. 1; Application procedures]** allows for electronic submission of absentee ballot applications to be used for all elections except for town elections in March. Currently, this process is only allowed for federal, state, and county elections. This section is effective September 1, 2025.

**Section 2 [§203B.07; subd. 3; Eligibility certificate]** allows a US citizen who is 18 or older to sign the eligibility certificate on an absentee ballot signature envelope. This is a change from the current requirement that the person be a registered voter. This section is effective for elections for which the absentee ballot period begins on or after January 1, 2025.

**Section 3 [§204C.06, subd. 1; Persons allowed near polling place]** strikes the definition of “exit polling,” which is moved to section 4.

**Section 4 [§204C.06, subd. 1a; Exit polling]** includes the definition of “exit polling” that was stricken in section 3. Requires a person conducting exit polling to present photo identification and a letter or credential from the news media to the head judge upon arriving at the polling place. A person must not conduct exit polling in a manner that unlawfully interferes with a person entering the polling place or allows any person to view another person’s response to the poll.

**Section 5 [§204C.19, sub.3; Premature disclosure of count results]** allows count results from absentee ballots received by the county after 3 p.m. on election day to be added to the total results after initial results reporting of the precinct. If the precinct results do not include all absentee ballots, the county must report to the secretary of state and on the county’s website the number of absentee ballots yet to be processed. After processing the remaining ballots, the county must post on the county’s website how many of the ballots were accepted and added to the totals.

**Section 6 [§204C.28, subd. 1; County auditor]** requires the county auditor to remain at the auditor's office to receive returns, to permit public inspections, and to tabulate votes until 24 hours have elapsed since the end of voting hours unless the county auditor adjourns absentee ballot counting. Current law requires the county auditor to remain at the auditor's office for 24 hours after the end of voting hours or until all votes have been tabulated and the results made known, whichever is earlier.

**Section 7 [Repealer]** repeals a section related to vacancies on the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners. By repealing this section, the general law on vacancies on county boards will govern.