

Elections Committee  
Thursday, March 7, 2024  
3:00 PM, 1200 Minnesota Senate Bldg.

## Minutes

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**Present:** Senator Jim Carlson - Chair, Senator Bonnie S. Westlin Vice Chair, Senator Bruce D. Anderson, Senator Calvin K. Bahr, Senator Liz Boldon, Senator Steve A. Cwodzinski, Senator Gene Dornink, Senator Mark W. Koran, Senator Warren Limmer, Senator John Marty, Senator Andrew Mathews, Senator Nicole Mitchell, Senator Lindsey Port, Senator Ann H. Rest

**Absent:** No Members Absent

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Senator Jim Carlson called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

### Call to order

A quorum is present.

**S.F. 3994:** Senator Champion: Minnesota Voting Rights Act establishment, prohibiting certain actions, establishing civil cause of action for violations.

### Testifiers:

Senator Champion  
Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon  
Michael Pernick, Attorney, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund  
Lata Nott, Senior Legal Counsel, Campaign Legal Center  
(zoom) Reverend JaNaé Bates, Co-Executive Director, ISALAH  
Khalid Omar, Community Organizer, ISALAH  
David Fisher, Strategic Advisors, Clean Elections Minnesota  
Alex Hassel, Intergovernmental Relations Representative, League of Minnesota Cities  
Matt Hilgart, Government Relations Director, Association of Minnesota Counties  
Munira Mohamed, Policy Associate, ACLU of Minnesota

Senator Mathews moved an Oral Amendment. On page 6, line 3, after "any", insert "particular". On page 6, line 4, after "violation", insert "for any other factor."

Senator Mitchell moved for division of the Oral Amendment insertions. Senator Mathews agreed to the division.

Senator Mathews moved an Oral Amendment. On page 6, line 3, after "any", insert "particular". By a voice vote, the motion prevailed.

Senator Mathews moved an Oral Amendment. On page 6, line 4, after "violation", insert "for any other factor." By a voice vote, a division was called. A hand count was required. By a hand count of 6 Ayes

and 7 Nays, the motion failed.

Senator Boldon moved that S.F. 3994, as amended, recommended to pass and re-referred to the State and Local Government and Veterans Committee. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

**S.F. 3878: Senator Mitchell: Incarcerated persons districting provisions.**

**Testifiers:**

Senator Mitchell

Lata Nott, Senior Legal Counsel, Campaign Legal Center

Wintana Melekin, Voting Rights Advocate

Chris Cantey, Information Systems Manager, Legislative Coordinating Commission

Senator Mitchell moved the A7 Author's Amendment. By a voice vote, the motion prevailed, and the A7 Author's Amendment was adopted.

**Senator Mitchell moved that S.F. 3878, as amended, recommended to pass and re-referred to the State and Local Government and Veterans Committee. By a voice vote - MOTION PREVAILED.**

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**The meeting was adjourned at 5:34 p.m.**



Senator Jim Carlson, Chair



Christine Blood, Legislative Assistant