

Commissioner Dave Mills  
Cook County Minnesota  
196 County Road 44  
Grand Marais MN 55604

Monday, April 15, 2024

Chair Dziedzic  
MN Senate Committee on State and Local Government  
[beth.johnston@mnsenate.gov](mailto:beth.johnston@mnsenate.gov)

Re SF 3868

Greetings, Chair Dziedzic and members of the Committee on State and Local Government and Veterans!

My name is Dave Mills, I live in Grand Marais, and I am a Cook County Commissioner. Thank you for accepting this testimony, and thank you for your service to our communities.

I am writing today in support of SF 3868 for local options for Ranked Choice Voting in Minnesota. Please note the Cook County Board of Commissioners has previously passed a resolution in support of both local option and statewide Ranked Choice Voting.

I am concerned about the divisions in our Country, and I believe Ranked Choice Voting would assist in building consensus. A democracy built on consensus is one much more resilient to division and much more productive in serving the people. Most people are not radical, by definition, yet more and more radical leaders are being elected which divides us all even further.

Ranked Choice Voting is designed to build consensus and ensure our leaders are indeed representative of our populations.

Ranked Choice Voting makes negative campaigning much more difficult. There would be too many targets for negative ads to work, and positive ads are much more effective at sharing visions, values, and strategies.

Ranked Choice Voting will also increase voter participation as it brings voter disenchantment down.

Local Option Ranked Choice Voting would not mandate it be used but allow local communities to decide if it is right for them.

Thank you for your service, and please support SF 3868!

Sincerely,



Commissioner Dave Mills  
Cook County, MN