

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 42

Providing for the establishment of a State of Minnesota Nonpartisan Citizens Committee on Voter Participation.

I, Wendell R. Anderson, Governor of the State of Minnesota, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, hereby issue this Executive Order:

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota can be justly proud of its long heritage of citizen participation in government; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota seeks to provide government which represents the will of the people by acknowledging the importance of voter registration and voter turnout as a means for the people to indicate their wishes and satisfy their needs; and,

WHEREAS, the 26th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States has extended the franchise to the age of 18 years, increasing the electorate in Minnesota by an estimated 221,000 people; and,

WHEREAS, changes of residence disenfranchise a substantial portion of the electorate, particularly the elderly who must move to old age or nursing homes and rural residents who leave areas where registration is not required for urban areas where it is; and,

WHEREAS, government inaction in the past, whether unintentional or not, has excluded minority and inner city groups from full participation in the political process, disregarding an important voice in government; and,

WHEREAS, public attention must be directed to the problem of registration as a prerequisite for the individual to exercise his or her vote, especially among the recently enfranchised segment of the electorate, and that segment persistently disenfranchised by government inaction;

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NOW, THEREFORE, I order that a Minnesota Nonpartisan Citizens Committee on Voter Participation to be appointed by the Governor be created to achieve the following two goals:

1. To do all that is possible within the present legal structure to broaden and enhance voter participation in the 1972 elections;
2. To recommend measures to the 1973 Legislature which would have the effect of facilitating voter participation and broaden citizen involvement in the political process for future years.

This Order shall supersede Executive Order No. 38 and shall be effective on September 19, 1972.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand on this nineteenth day of September, 1972.

*Wendell R. Anderson*  
Wendell R. Anderson

Filed according to Law:

*Arlen I. Erdahl*  
Arlen I. Erdahl  
Secretary of State

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
FILED  
SEP 19 1972  
*Arlen I. Erdahl*  
Secretary of State

*2/26/72*