



STATE OF MINNESOTA
Office of Minnesota Secretary of State
Steve Simon

January 12, 2026

Senator Jim Carlson, Chair
Senate Elections Committee
3221 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Mark Koran, Ranking Minority
Member
Senate Elections Committee
2203 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Tou Xiong, Chair
Senate State and Local Government
3203 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Andrew Lang, Ranking Minority
Member
Senate State and Local Government
2205 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Mike Freiberg, Co-Chair
House Elections Finance and Government
Operations Committee
5th Floor, Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Duane Quam, Co-Chair
House Elections Finance and Government
Operations Committee
2nd Floor, State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Ginny Klevorn, Co-Chair
House State Government Finance and Policy
Committee
5th Floor, Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Jim Nash, Co-Chair
House State Government Finance and Policy
Committee
2nd Floor, Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55155

Subject: Report on Rulemaking Docket and Rules Completed in 2025

Dear Legislators,

This letter provides the report of the Office of the Secretary of State under Minnesota Statutes, section 14.116 (a), regarding the Office's rulemaking docket and rules adopted during the preceding calendar year.

The Office of the Secretary of State encloses a copy of its public rulemaking docket, which is also available on the office's website:

- <https://www.sos.mn.gov/about-the-office/rulemaking-data-practice/safe-at-home-rulemaking/> (for Safe at Home rulemaking)
- <https://www.sos.mn.gov/about-the-office/rulemaking-data-practice/elections-rulemaking-2025-2026/> (for elections rulemaking)

The Office of the Secretary of State completed one rulemaking in 2025, related to the Office's Safe at Home program, Minn. R. Ch. 8290. Amendments to the rules addressed the application process and contents; qualifications of application assistants; emergency situations; safety planning; mail holds; service of process; certification continuance; enrollment of minor children; signature verification; transfer of school records; the cancellation, withdrawal, and expiration processes; and voting procedures. The majority of the proposed changes were technical or clarifying in nature or were to conform the rules with Minnesota Statutes.

The rules were approved by the ALJ and were adopted in 2025, but became effective on January 2, 2026.

In addition, the ALJ approved the Office's proposed rules related to election administration in December 2025. The Office expects to complete the rulemaking process for those rules in early 2026.

All documents related to the Office's rulemakings can be found on the Revisor's website at <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/status/>.

Please let me know if I can provide further assistance.

Sincerely,



Lauren Bethke
Deputy General Counsel

Search



About the Office

SAFE AT HOME RULEMAKING

**Proposed Permanent Rules Relating to the Safe at Home Program;
Revisor's ID Number R-4825; OAH Docket No. 28-9019-39642;
Minnesota Rules Chapter 8290**

The Office of the Secretary of State is proposing amendments to rules governing the address confidentiality programs of the Safe at Home Division. This page contains public information about this rulemaking project as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 14.366.

The rules were approved by the Court of Administrative Hearings on August 13, 2025, and were adopted on September 15, 2025. They will become effective on January 2, 2026.

Documents available:

- [Documents submitted to the Court of Administrative Hearings on August 6, 2025 \[PDF\]](#)

Agency contact person:

Lauren Bethke, Deputy General Counsel
lauren.bethke@state.mn.us
651-201-1326

Subject matter of the proposed rule: The proposed rules are about the Safe at Home address confidentiality program. In particular, the proposed rules modify language related to the application process and contents; qualifications of application assistants; emergency situations; safety planning; mail holds; service of process; certification continuance; enrollment of minor children; signature verification; transfer of school records; the cancellation, withdrawal, and expiration processes; and voting procedures. The majority of the proposed changes are technical or clarifying in nature or are to conform the rules with Minnesota Statutes. No rule parts are proposed to be repealed.

Citation to all published notices relating to the proceeding: The initial request for comments was published in the State Register on **December 18, 2023**. The Dual Notice was published in the State Register on **May 27, 2025**. The adoption of the rules was published in the State Register on September 15, 2025.

Where written comments on the proposed rule may be inspected: Comments in response to the initial request for comments or the Dual Notice can be requested from the agency contact person via the contact information listed above.

The time during which written comments may be made: The comment period in response to the Dual Notice ended June 27, 2025.

The names of persons who have made written requests for a public hearing, where those requests may be inspected, and where and when the hearing will be held: The Office received zero requests for a public hearing, so the tentative hearing date has been cancelled.

The current status of the proposed rule: The rules have been adopted and will become effective January 2, 2026.

Any known timetable for agency decisions or other action in this proceeding: There are currently no anticipated agency decisions or other actions relating to this proceeding.

1/12/26, 12:17 PM

Minnesota Secretary Of State - Safe at Home Rulemaking

The date of the rule's adoption: September 15, 2025

The date the rule was filed with the Secretary of State: August 22, 2025

When the rule will become effective: January 2, 2026

Search



About the Office

ELECTIONS RULEMAKING 2025-2026

Proposed Permanent Rules Relating to Elections Administration; Revisor's ID Number R-4824; OAH Docket No. 8-9019-39440; Minnesota Rules Chapter 8200-8250

The Office of the Secretary of State is proposing amendments to rules governing elections administration. This page contains public information about this rulemaking project as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 14.366.

Prehearing comments on the rule draft were accepted in writing from August 25 to September 26 at 4:30 p.m. Posthearing comments on the rule draft were accepted in writing until October 30, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. Rebuttal comments were accepted in writing until November 6, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. To review the comments, please visit the [Office of Administrative Hearing's eComments page](#). You may also contact the agency contact person below for a copy of all comments.

Documents available:

- [Current rule draft \[PDF\]](#)
- [Statement of Need and Reasonableness \[PDF\]](#)

- [Dual Notice \(also published in the State Register on August 25\) \[PDF\]](#)
- [Hearing Exhibits \[PDF\]](#)
- [Hearing Slides \[Powerpoint\]](#)
- [Response to Prehearing Comments \[PDF\]](#)
- [Response to Hearing Comments \[PDF\]](#)
- [Posthearing comments \[PDF\]](#)
- [Final Response to Comments \[PDF\]](#)
- [Rebuttal Comments \[PDF\]](#)
- [Administrative Law Judge Report](#)

Agency contact person:

- Justin R. Erickson, General Counsel
- justin.erickson@state.mn.us
- 651-201-6895

Subject matter of the proposed rule: The proposed rules are related to election administration. In particular, the proposed rules modify language related to voter registration; ballot formatting and instructions; absentee ballot administration; ballot safeguard procedures; mail balloting procedures; testing of voting systems; and election official training. The majority of the proposed changes are technical or clarifying in nature or are to conform to the rules with Minnesota Statutes. The Office also proposes to eliminate rules that are duplicative of, or inconsistent with, changes made to Minnesota Statutes.

Citation to all published notices relating to the proceeding: The initial request for comments was published in the State Register on [August 21, 2023](#). The Dual Notice will be published in the State Register on August 25, 2025, and is [linked above](#).

Where written comments on the proposed rule may be inspected: Comments in response to the initial request for comments can be requested from the agency contact person via the contact information listed above. Comments submitted (1) in response to the Dual Notice; (2) following the hearing; and (3) during the rebuttal period can be found on the [Office of Administrative Hearing's eComments page](#) or requested from the agency contact via the contact information above.

The time during which written comments may be made: Written comments in response to the Dual Notice were accepted from August 25 to September 26 at 4:30 p.m., via the [Office of Administrative Hearing's eComments page](#). Written comments following the hearing were accepted October 30, 2025 at 4:30 p.m., via the [Office of Administrative Hearing's eComments page](#). Rebuttal comments were accepted until November 6, 2025 at 4:30 p.m., via the [Office of Administrative Hearing's eComments page](#).

The names of persons who have made written requests for a public hearing, where those requests may be inspected, and where and when the hearing will be held: A hearing was held via Webex at 12:00 p.m. on October 10. More information can be found in the Dual Notice, linked above. All comments in response to the Dual Notice, including requests for a public hearing, can be found on the [Office of Administrative Hearing's eComments page](#) or requested from the agency contact person above.

The current status of the proposed rule: Written comments were in response to the dual notice were accepted from August 25 to September 26, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. To review the comments, please contact the agency contact person listed above or visit the [Office of Administrative Hearing's eComments page](#). Written comments following the hearing were accepted until October 30, 2025 at 4:30 p.m., via the [Office of Administrative Hearing's eComments page](#). Rebuttal comments following the hearing were accepted until November 6, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. To review any of the comments, please contact the agency contact person listed above or visit the Office of Administrative Hearing's eComments page.

The agency has published its responses to public comments (linked above).

The Office of Administrative Hearings recommended that rules be approved on December 8, 2025. The report of the Administrative Law Judge is linked above.

Any known timetable for agency decisions or other action in this proceeding: There are currently no anticipated agency decisions or other actions relating to this proceeding.

The date of the rule's adoption: Not yet available

The date the rule was filed with the secretary of state: Not yet available

When the rule will become effective: Not yet available