

AN ANALYSIS OF THE USE OF REFERENDUM
PROCEDURES TO EXCEED MAINTENANCE LEVY
LIMITATIONS 1971-1976

(STATE FINANCE POLICY STUDY #6)

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Through November, 1976, 87 school districts attempted 100 referendums to get authority to exceed levy limitations. Fifty-seven of the 100 elections since 1971 were held in the past 12 month period. Those districts which passed the levy override tend to be in southern and western rural Minnesota, are significantly smaller than the average school district, asked for very little in total dollars, but, because of the small enrollments, a relatively large amount per pupil. They are small, fairly wealthy school districts which have gone to their public for permission to maintain programs even if it costs more than the limits imposed by the state.

Those school districts which have defeated such referendums are mostly larger and in the metropolitan region. The total amount asked in dollars was great but the per-pupil amount was considerably less than those which succeeded reflecting the larger enrollment in those districts.

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I. Introduction

The 1971 Legislature enacted a law (M.S. 275.125, Subdivision 2) later amended in 1973, 1974, 1975 and 1976 which imposed limitations upon the revenue raised by means of property tax levies and set forth procedures for holding referendums to raise a districts' levy. The most important levy limit on schools and the limit addressed by referendum procedures covers the levy for all general and special school purposes, or the school maintenance levy.

The limitation on the school district maintenance levy varies with the type of district. The three basic formulas to be used beginning with the 1976-77 school year are as follows:

1. A school district with established expenditures equal to the statewide average has a simple levy limit of 29 mills on the equalized assessed value of the district;
2. A school district with established below average expenditures has a levy limit proportionately reduced from 29 mills; and
3. A district with established above average expenditures in 1970-71 is allowed to levy more than 29 miles based on the amount their 1970-71 expenditure level exceeded the state average in that year.

The result of one of these formulas times the preceding year Equalization Aid Review Committee (EARC) value for the school district results in the basic levy limitation for maintenance purposes. This amount is also subject to reductions for agricultural differential mill rate school aid, attached machinery aid, and for some school districts, categorical aids.

If a school districts' board does not feel that it has enough operating revenues, a referendum may be held to raise the districts' levy. If approved, a continuing annual levy is authorized. The authorized excess levy may be subsequently repealed by a referendum called for that purpose. The referendum provision allows referendums to be held at any time but no more than once per school year in each school district. Petitions to initiate the reverse referendum must be signed by an excess of 15 percent of the average number of voters in the two most recent district-wide school elections.

II. Study Purpose and Data Sources

The purpose of this finance policy study on school district use of referendum procedures was to determine what relationships exist between the use by school districts of current referendum procedures and enrollment trends, expenditure levels, revenue sources district wealth, and size and location of the school districts.

The primary source of data for this study was the Referendum Maintenance Levy Limitation Report completed by each Minnesota school district in the Fall of 1976 for the School Financial Management section of the Minnesota Department of Education. The referendum date, election status, 1975 EARC valuation, amount of levy, resident pupil units 1975-76 and regular maintenance levy amounts were assembled from individual district files. The data on percent of receipts from state sources, total expenditures per pupil unit and 1974 Personal Income were taken from the Spring 1976 Update-Special Report. The data on enrollment trends from 1969-70 to 1974-75

were taken from the state demographers study of enrollment trends in Minnesota school districts (An Analysis of Public School Enrollments in Minnesota 1970-74).

III. Findings

The study findings are presented in response to the major questions addressed by the study:

A. WHICH MINNESOTA SCHOOL DISTRICTS HAVE UTILIZED REFERENDUM PROCEDURES?

Between December 7, 1971 and November 30, 1976 a total of 100 referendums were held in Minnesota school districts. Sixty-one were successful and 39 failed. Table 1 shows the distribution of elections by region and outcome.

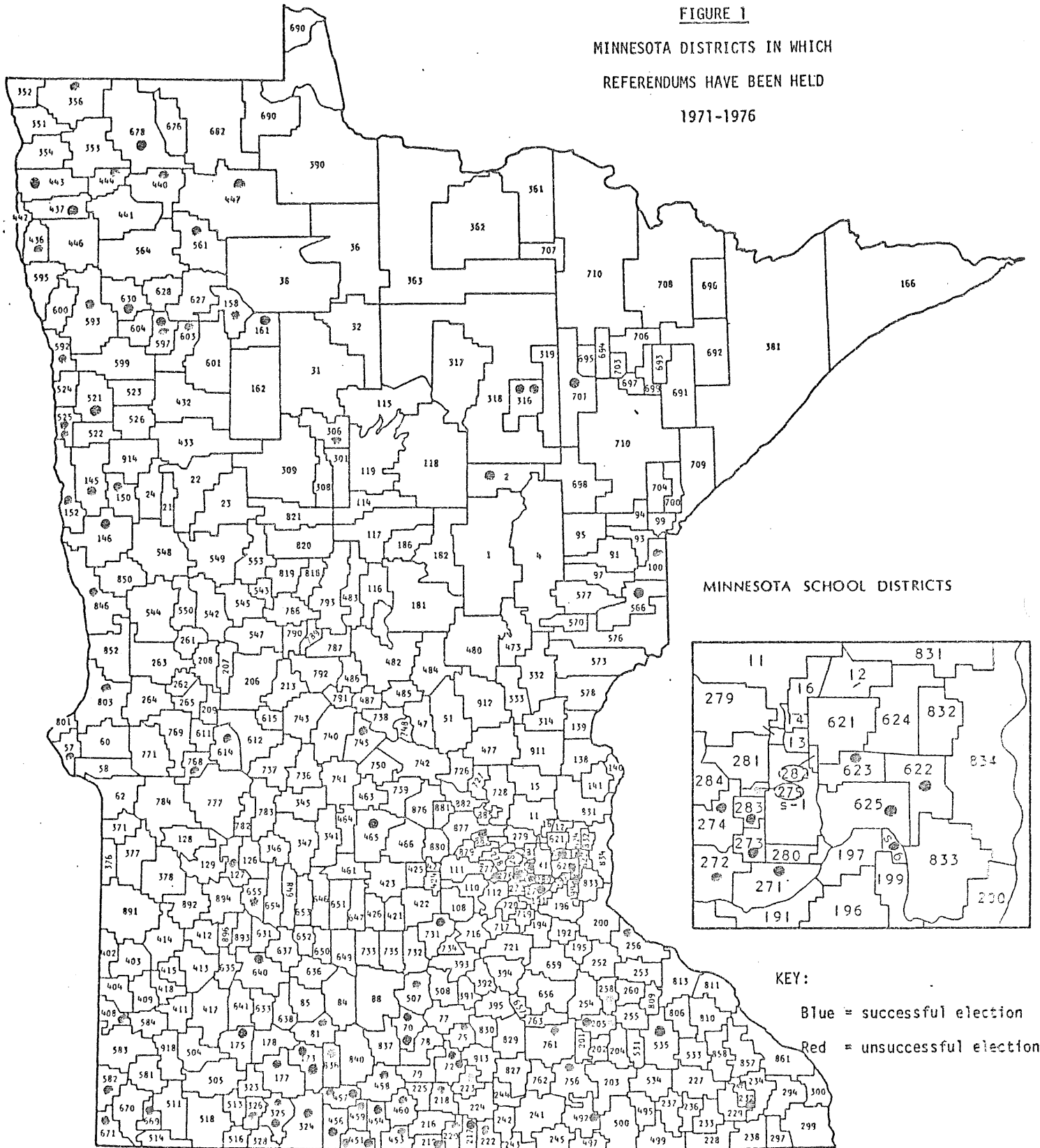
Table 1

DISTRIBUTION OF REFERENDUMS HELD
BY REGION/DISTRICT
12/7/71 - 11/30/76

Outcome	REGION											Total		
	1	2	3	4	5	6E	6W	7E	7W	8	9		10	11
Pass	12	2	2	7	0	1	2	0	1	9	15	7	3	61
Fail	6	1	3	1	0	1	0	1	1	4	10	3	8	39
Total	18	3	5	8	0	2	2	1	2	13	25	10	11	100

School districts in Regions 1, 4, 8, 9 and 11 held 75 of the 100 elections. These regions contained the districts with 46 of 61 successful elections. Districts in Region 9 held 25 elections of which 15 were successful and Region 1 districts held 18 elections of which 12 were successful. Only 3 of the elections held in Region 11 have succeeded.

FIGURE 1
MINNESOTA DISTRICTS IN WHICH
REFERENDUMS HAVE BEEN HELD
1971-1976



MINNESOTA SCHOOL DISTRICTS

KEY:
 Blue = successful election
 Red = unsuccessful election

Updated and generalized from map prepared by the
 Department of Geography, Mankato State College.

Almost 60 percent of the elections held were conducted in the 12 month period from December 1, 1975 to November 30, 1976. Thirty-three of the 61 successful elections were held in 1976. Table 2 provides a summary of the elections held by year and outcome.

Table 2
ELECTIONS HELD BY YEAR AND OUTCOME

Election Status/Year ¹	71-72	72-73	73-74	74-75	75-76	Total	%
Fail	3	0	8	4	24	39	39.0
Pass	4	2	11	11	33	61	61.0
Total	7	2	19	15	57	100	

¹Dec. 1 - Nov. 30 each year

As of November 30, 1976 eleven Minnesota school districts had held more than one referendum. Two districts have passed referendums twice (Peterson, Hendrum); three districts (Coleraine, Lake Crystal and Mapleton) have failed referendums twice. Five districts have passed referendums on their second attempt (Ceylon, Lakefield, Mt. Lake, West Concord and Trimont) and one district failed on a second attempt after having passed a referendum earlier.

Table 3 provides additional data on those Minnesota school districts which have held more than one referendum.

Table 3

DISTRICTS HOLDING TWO OR MORE ELECTIONS

1.	Peterson	(9/24/74)	<u>Pass</u>	\$ 27,624	and	(9/23/75)	<u>Pass</u>	\$ 18,747
2.	Hendrum	(9/29/75)	<u>Pass</u>	\$ 21,000	and	(9/28/76)	<u>Pass</u>	\$ 98,865
3.	Ceylon	(6/8/76)	<u>Fail</u>	\$ 52,000	and	(9/20/76)	<u>Pass</u>	\$ 45,501
4.	Coleraine	(11/5/74)	<u>Fail</u>	\$226,619	and	(5/18/76)	<u>Fail</u>	\$226,619
5.	Mapleton	(12/30/71)	<u>Fail</u>	\$ 90,000	and	(4/30/76)	<u>Fail</u>	\$ 90,000
6.	Lakefield	(10/22/74)	<u>Fail</u>	\$ 50,000	and	(4/20/76)	<u>Pass</u>	\$ 67,950
7.	Trimont	(4/11/76)	<u>Fail</u>	\$ 90,000	and	(9/28/76)	<u>Pass</u>	\$ 90,000
8.	Erskine	(5/15/72)	<u>Pass</u>	\$ 24,690	and	(10/22/76)	<u>Fail</u>	\$ 37,762
9.	Lake Crystal	(9/26/75)	<u>Fail</u>	\$ 45,036	and	(11/8/76)	<u>Fail</u>	\$ 74,000
10.	Mt. Lake	(5/18/76)	<u>Fail</u>	\$ 67,500	and	(11/11/76)	<u>Pass</u>	\$ 67,936
11.	West Concord	(4/6/76)	<u>Fail</u>	\$115,000	and	(11/9/76)	<u>Pass</u>	\$ 31,250

B. DO THE DISTRICTS WHICH HAVE HAD SUCCESSFUL ELECTIONS DIFFER FROM THOSE WHERE THE EXTRA LEVY HAS FAILED? HOW?

Appendixes A, B and C provide a complete listing of all elections by district, region and by selected descriptive data. Table 4 provides comparative data on selected district characteristics by election outcome. The following observations can be made:

1. The median referendum amount in dollars for successful districts is less by 1/3 than in those districts where elections did not pass;
2. The median district size in pupil units for districts holding successful elections was 480; for districts failing to approve an extra levy the median size was 1335;

Table 4

MEDIANS AND RANGES FOR SELECTED DATA ELEMENTS BY REFERENDUM OUTCOME

Election/Descriptive Outcome/ Data	Referendum Amount \$	Resident Pupil Units 1975-76	EARC (75) Per p.u.	Extra Levy Per p.u.	Extra Levy % of Reg. Maint. Levy	Extra Levy in EARC Mills	Percent Receipts State Sources	Total Exp. Per p.u. 74-75	1974 Income	Extra Levy % of Total Expenditures	Enrollment Trend % 69-70/ 74-75	
Pass	Median	\$56,249	480	\$20,460	\$108.06	21%	6.2	57%	\$ 1,373	\$12,803	8.25%	-9%
N=61	Range	\$16,143 - \$472,746	164 - 9,036	\$5,713 - \$43,633	\$23.82 - \$596.48	2.2%-71.4%	1.5 -25.7	25-72%	\$1,010 - \$2,731	\$5,265 - \$40,557	1.5%-33.5%	+35 -27%
Fail	Median	\$99,246	1,335	\$20,353	\$ 74.67	12.4%	3.65	50.5%	\$ 1,383	\$15,732	5.35%	-10.5%
N=39	Range	\$37,762 - \$2,500,000	299 - 46,968	\$5,410 - \$34,383	\$31.15 - \$227.27	4.6%-35.6%	1.7 - 13.0	31%-75%	\$1,183 - \$2,538	\$6,353 - \$30,439	2.2%-15.2%	+37% to - 21%

3. The 1975 EARC valuation for "pass" and "fail" districts was almost identical. The median EARC per pupil unit for all districts holding elections was considerably higher than the state-wide average;
4. The median extra levy in successful districts raised 30 percent more per pupil unit (\$108.06) than the median unsuccessful district (\$74.67);
5. The median extra levy in successful districts accounted for over 20 percent of the regular maintenance levy. In the districts where elections failed this impact was only 12.4 percent;
6. The median extra levy in EARC mills was 6.2 mills in successful districts and only 3.65 mills in unsuccessful districts;
7. The median total expenditure per pupil unit was almost identical in districts passing and failing referendums;
8. The 1974 income average for districts passing referendums was almost \$3,000 less per year than in districts failing referendums;
9. The median extra levy in successful districts was 8.25 percent of the total expenditure and only 5.35 percent in the districts which failed to approve extra levies; and
10. The median "pass" and median "fail" districts both had enrollment declines between 1970-75 of over 9 percent.

Table 5 displays data on the relative impact of the referendums by outcome. The total dollar amount voted on exceeds 17 million dollars.

The elections which passed total almost five million dollars in additional property taxes or 27.1 percent of the total. Elections were held in districts having 261,584 resident pupil units. The referendums which passed were in districts having 64,942 pupil units or 24.8 percent of the total for all districts holding elections. The average amount of new revenue was almost \$9 per pupil unit more in those districts which passed referendums than in those which had unsuccessful elections.

Table 5

TOTAL EXTRA LEVY AMOUNTS, DISTRICT ENROLLMENTS AND PER PUPIL UNIT AMOUNTS BY REFERENDUM OUTCOME

Referendum Outcome	%	Referendum Amount	%	Resident Pupil Units	%	Average Amount Per Pupil Unit
Pass N = 61	61.0	\$ 4,787,665	27.1	64,942	24.8	\$73.72
Fail N = 39	39.0	\$12,864,329	72.9	196,642	75.2	\$65.42
Total N = 100	100.0	\$17,651,994	100.0	261,584	100.0	\$67.48

C. DO THE DISTRICTS WHICH HAVE HELD A REFERENDUM RECEIVE MORE OR LESS REVENUE FROM STATE SOURCES THAN THE AVERAGE FOR THE STATE?

The data in Appendixes A, B and C and in Table 4 indicate that the median of the districts which passed referendums received 57 percent of their revenues from state sources as compared with a median of 50.5 percent in districts where referendums failed. The average Minnesota school district received 54 percent of their total receipts from state sources in 1974-75.

D. DO THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHICH HAVE HELD REFERENDUMS DIFFER FROM OTHER DISTRICTS IN MINNESOTA IN CHARACTERISTICS SUCH AS SIZE, WEALTH, EXPENDITURE AND ENROLLMENT TRENDS?

Table 6 displays comparative data on all Minnesota school districts and those districts in which referendums have been held. It is clear that those districts holding referendums tend to be smaller than the state average and those districts passing a referendum issue are markedly smaller in enrollment than the median or average size Minnesota school district.

The median total expenditures per pupil unit for referendum districts is less than the average for all Minnesota districts by a small amount. The wealth indicators suggest that referendum districts have EARC property valuation per pupil unit well in excess of the average for all Minnesota districts. The 1974 Personal Income data indicates that districts in which referendums have failed have a median income level very close to the state average for all districts while the districts which passed referendum show lower income levels than all districts and the districts in which elections were not successful.

The referendum districts differ from all state districts in enrollment trends. The referendum districts, pass or fail, are declining in enrollment at a rate which is sharper than the state average.

Table 6
COMPARATIVE DATA ON REFERENDUM
DISTRICTS AND AVERAGE MINNESOTA DISTRICTS

Districts/ Characteristics	Size Pupil Units	Total Expenditures Per Pupil	Wealth	
			EARC Per Pupil	1974 Income
Median - "Pass" Districts	480	\$ 1,373	\$ 20,460	\$ 12,803
Median - "Fail" Districts	1335	\$ 1,383	\$ 20,353	\$ 15,732
Mean - State of Minnesota All Districts	2380 (median 820)	\$ 1,442	\$ 15,200 (est.)	\$ 15,621

- E. ARE THERE ADDITIONAL DISTRICTS IN THE STATE WHICH MATCH THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE REFERENDUM-HOLDERS AND COULD BE PREDICTED FOR REFERENDUMS IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR?

Based on characteristics of size, expenditure level, wealth and enrollment trends there are probably an additional 150-190 school districts which could meet several or all of the characteristics descriptive of those districts which have held referendums since 1971. In addition, the significant number of elections held during 1976 would suggest that the financial condition in an increasing number of school districts are causing consideration of a referendum.

IV. Policy Implications

The descriptive material presented in the preceding sections suggest the following policy questions:

- A. Does the current school district maintenance levy limitation law and referendum provision create a dis-equalizing impact on Minnesota school finance?
- B. Will increased useage of the referendum procedure by smaller wealthier school districts create an uneven property tax burden in outstate Minnesota?
- C. In concert with the "grandfather levy" provisions does the referendum provision provide the impetus for an increasing advantage for districts which expend more than the state average per pupil? Will increased expenditure disparities result?

- D. Should the state interfere with the willingness of local elected officials and the will of the electorate to increase property taxes?
- E. Would a relaxation of levy limitations for school districts accompanied by a "power-equalized" excess levy provide for greater equity than the present law?
- F. Does the increased use of the referendum provision mean that the foundation aid and categorical aid programs are not adequate? That local districts are not managing their fiscal affairs in an appropriate manner? That the structure for funding educational services is not responsive to sharply declining enrollments?
- G. Does the fact that referendum districts are declining districts indicate that staff reductions are not being made proportionately?
- H. Is the condition on referendum usage creating a critical problem requiring immediate action? Will the issues become critical within the 1977-79 biennium?

APPENDIX A

DATA ON MINNESOTA DISTRICTS HOLDING SUCCESSFUL REFERENDUMS
12-7-71 to 11-2-76

District/Region		Referendum Amount \$	Resident Pupil Units 1975-76	EARC(75) / p.u.	Extra Levy Per p.u.	Extra Levy % of Maint. Levy (76-77)	Extra Levy in EARC Mills	Percent Receipts -State	Total Expenditure Per p.u. 1974-75	1974 Income	Extra Levy % of Total Expenditure	% Enrollment Trend 1969-70/ 1974-75	Referendum Date
Alvarado 436	1	49,931	296	22,491	168.69	24.2	7.5	50	1,210	12,742	13.9	- 1	12/ 7/71
Erskine 597	1	24,690	333	8,723	74.14	23.3	8.5	64	1,382	9,241	5.4	+ 8	5/15/72
Crookston 593	1	67,203	2,720	16,223	24.71	5.3	1.5	51	1,430	16,802	1.7	- 8	5/16/73
McIntosh 603	1	36,428	499	10,429	73.00	24.0	7.0	65	1,130	9,786	6.5	- 9	10/ 8/74
Hendrum 525	1	135,400	227	32,242	596.48	64.5	18.5	33	1,780	23,262	33.5	-19	9/29/75
Hendrum 525	1												9/28/76
Middle River 440	1	50,000	341	4,713	146.63	71.4	25.7	64	1,728	7,406	8.5	-12	9/30/75
Climax-Shelly 592	1	109,000	268	32,763	406.72	35.6	12.4	33	1,556	22,222	26.1	- 9	11/17/75
Lancaster 356	1	55,163	321	19,309	171.85	28.8	8.9	56	1,536	8,557	11.2	-13	11/18/75
Goodridge 561	1	19,523	348	8,563	56.10	22.1	6.6	65	1,839	7,914	3.1	-27	6/23/76
Grygla 447	1	16,143	425	5,88	37.98	22.6	6.5	65	2,731	5,265	1.4	+35	6/23/76
Strandquist 444	1	45,060	176	12,801	256.02	52.3	20.0	58	1,468	4,471	17.4	-10	8/ 2/76
Gonvick 158	2	79,325	375	21,153	211.53	27.3	10.0	39	1,459	7,177	14.5	+17	5/16/72
LaPorte 306	2	17,500	341	8,592	51.32	16.2	6.0	65	1,519	6,261	3.4	+ 8	5/18/76
Wrenshall 100	3	54,229	429	23,487	126.41	16.4	5.4	57	1,432	8,389	8.8	+ 3	5/21/74
Hill City 2	3	50,000	520	6,571	96.15	57.1	14.6	72	1,178	6,919	8.2	- 2	6/29/76
Glyndon-Felton 145	4	77,192	999	19,317	77.27	13.4	4.0	53	1,350	12,865	5.7	+ 7	9/23/74
Starbuck 614	4	54,385	620	14,257	87.72	21.5	6.2	61	1,257	13,349	7.0	-17	5/21/74
Hancock 768	4	61,389	431	13,901	142.43	35.9	10.2	57	1,071	13,237	13.3	- 7	9/ 5/74
Moorhead 152	4	181,863	7,634	13,427	23.82	5.3	1.8	60	1,288	16,002	1.8	- 5	2/25/75
Hawley 150	4	56,200	866	10,439	64.90	21.8	6.2	63	1,169	12,519	5.6	- 3	10/19/76
Wheaton 803	4	120,138	1,018	16,263	118.01	24.0	7.3	47	1,910	15,577	6.2	-15	10/19/76
Breckenridge 846	4	80,954	1,631	16,830	49.63	10.2	2.9	57	1,308	16,452	3.8	- 3	9/28/76
Sacred Heart 655	6E	18,057	423	23,172	42.69	5.9	1.8	38	1,773	15,416	2.4	- 7	5/20/75
Maynard 127	6W	30,786	473	19,362	65.09	11.8	3.4	51	1,361	11,534	4.8	-16	10/19/76
Beardsley 57	6W	26,517	260	14,420	101.99	24.7	7.0	55	1,249	10,672	8.2	- 3	5/20/75
Albany 745	7W	40,418	2,071	8,310	19.52	8.2	2.3	65	1,272	8,372	1.5	+ 5	7/31/75

DATA ON MINNESOTA DISTRICTS HOLDING SUCCESSFUL REFERENDUMS (Continued)

District/Region		Referendum Amount \$	Resident Pupil Units 1975-76	EARC(75) / p.u.	Extra Levy Per p.u.	Extra Levy % of Maint. Levy (76-77)	Extra Levy in EARC Mills	Percent Receipts -State	Total Expenditure Per p.u. 1974-75	1974 Income	Extra Levy % of Total Expenditure	% Enrollment Trend 1969-70/ 1974-75	Referendum Date
Jackson Hills-Beaver Crk 324	8	89,500	1,610	23,011	55.59	8.4	2.4	72	1,699	15,997	3.3	- 9	10/26/76
671	8	48,000	650	19,139	73.85	13.3	3.9	67	1,355	11,278	5.5	- 6	5/16/72
Verdi 408	8	17,361	164	27,307	105.86	10.9	3.9	63	1,099	10,021	9.6	-23	9/11/74
Jasper 582	8	31,916	486	21,890	65.67	10.5	3.0	55	1,133	9,344	5.8	-18	10/ 7/75
Okabena 326	8	53,485	223	36,641	239.84	29.1	6.5	35	1,624	15,691	14.8	-15	2/17/76
Lakefield 325	8	67,952	755	24,427	90.00	12.7	3.7	45	1,384	16,566	4.8	-16	4/20/76
Magnolia 669	8	56,398	255	26,557	221.17	26.0	8.3	60	1,478	10,939	15.0	-22	8/11/76
Delevan 218	9	75,000	294	36,110	255.10	23.1	7.1	41	1,597	17,532	16.0	-20	4/26/76
Kiester-Walters 222	9	62,000	531	19,767	116.76	20.5	5.9	60	1,010	12,416	11.6	-11	11/12/74
Comfrey 81	9	48,215	445	30,244	108.35	12.6	3.6	42	1,309	13,799	8.3	-14	10/10/75
East Chain 453	9	41,174	351	29,409	117.30	11.4	4.0	52	1,995	10,481	5.9	- 2	2/26/76
Frost 220	9	25,000	239	35,992	188.28	14.4	5.2	43	1,648	16,639	11.4	-18	2/13/76
Nicollet 507	9	133,018	507	32,795	262.36	26.0	8.0	47	1,480	18,409	17.7	-13	5/18/76
Truman 458	9	74,800	694	33,264	107.78	11.1	3.2	36	1,299	18,983	8.3	-10	9/13/76
Ceylon 451	9	45,501	299	32,758	152.18	15.3	4.6	47	1,344	19,788	11.3	-18	9/20/76
Trimont 457	9	90,000	396	34,383	227.27	22.2	6.6	39	1,494	17,794	15.2	-15	9/28/76
Welcome 459	9	45,961	457	24,801	100.57	14.0	4.1	46	1,341	13,827	7.5	- 9	9/22/76
St. Clair 75	9	83,947	694	17,846	120.96	22.2	6.8	58	1,365	8,985	8.9	- 8	10/ 8/76
Granada-Huntley 460	9	72,878	547	28,125	133.23	15.2	4.7	50	1,308	12,583	10.2	-13	10/13/76
Elmore 219	9	60,000	353	23,387	169.97	22.2	7.3	45	1,358	14,026	12.5	-20	9/ 8/76
Red Wing 256	10	114,106	4,090	43,633	27.90	2.2	6.4	30	1,236	11,621	2.3	0	5/21/74
Owatonna 761	10	359,866	5,820	15,736	61.83	13.5	3.9	60	1,194	16,081	5.2	+ 1	9/24/74
Peterson 232	10	46,374	264	15,209	175.66	31.3	11.5	50	1,579	12,001	11.1	- 5	9/24/74
Peterson 232	10												9/23/75
Blooming Prairie 736	10	98,715	1,416	17,429	69.71	14.0	4.0	61	1,188	11,645	5.9	- 8	10/ 1/74
Eden Prairie 272	11	472,746	3,058	25,655	154.59	20.3	6.0	30	1,362	16,075	11.4	+12	10/ 9/73
Minnetonka 276	11	300,000	9,036	15,919	33.20	5.5	2.1	51	1,335	23,682	2.5	- 4	10/ 5/76

APPENDIX B

DATA ON MINNESOTA DISTRICTS HOLDING UNSUCCESSFUL REFERENDUMS
12-7-71 to 11-2-76

District/Region		Referendum Amount \$	Resident Pupil Units 1975-76	EARC(75) Per p.u.	Extra Levy Per p.u.	Extra Levy % of Reg. Maintenance Levy	Extra Levy in EARC Mills	Percent Receipts State 1974-75	Total Expenditure Per p.u. 1974-75	1974 Income	Extra Levy % of Total Expenditure	% Enroll- ment Trend 1969-70/ 1974-75	Referendum Date
Argyle 437	1	64,000	400	23,926	160.00	22.6	6.7	39	2,538	19,031	6.3	- 12	5/18/76
Ersvine 597	1	37,762	333	8,723	113.40	35.6	18.0	64	1,382	9,241	8.2	+ 8	10/22/76
Hibbing 701	3	200,000	5,832	9,560	34.29	12.4	3.6	68	1,419	15,672	2.4	- 12	5/18/76
Coleraine 316	3	226,619	2,521	9,135	89.89	21.7	9.8	68	1,422	9,884	6.3	- 10	11/ 5/74
Coleraine 316	3	226,619	2,521										5/18/76
Barnesville 146	4	66,000	1,290	17,800	51.16	10.1	2.9	59	1,236	11,936	4.1	0	11/25/75
Litchfield 465	6E	100,000	2,557	13,777	39.11	9.8	2.8	60	1,309	13,448	3.0	- 11	7/ 8/76
Rockford 883	7W	98,492	1,380	9,848	71.37	22.8	7.2	63	3,282	12,802	2.2	+ 37	12/ 9/71
Wabasso 640	8	74,616	1,070	22,656	69.73	10.8	3.1	48	1,284	11,230	5.4	+ 18	12/ 8/71
Lakefield 325	8	50,000	755	24,426	66.23	9.3	2.7	45	1,384	16,566	4.8	- 16	10/22/74
Westbrook 175	8	47,700	632	20,768	75.47	12.6	3.6	53	1,555	12,141	4.9	+ 3	2/ 3/76
Mt. Lake 173	8	67,500	891	19,939	75.76	13.1	3.8	51	1,329	14,558	5.7	- 7	5/18/76
Mapleton 72	9	90,000	731	25,495	123.12	16.9	4.8	57	1,919	15,601	6.4	- 10	12/30/71
Mapleton 72	9	90,000	731										
Fairmont 454	9	112,200	2,792	19,863	40.19	6.5	2.0	49	1,378	19,169	2.9	- 7	4/30/76
Arlington 731	9	40,000	1,186	16,127	33.73	7.3	2.1	62	1,183	12,245	2.9	- 8	10/14/75
Ceylon 451	9	52,000	299	32,757	173.91	17.5	5.3	47	1,344	19,788	12.9	- 18	6/ 8/76
Sherburne 456	9	85,280	818	29,313	104.17	12.3	3.6	33	1,331	13,977	7.8	- 14	9/28/76
Lake Crystal 70	9	45,036	841	21,935	53.55	8.4	2.4	48	1,330	17,328	4.0	- 15	9/26/75
Trimont 457	9	90,000	396	34,383	227.27	22.1	6.6	39	1,494	17,794	15.2	- 15	4/11/76
Austin 492	10	481,000	7,469	12,256	64.40	14.1	5.3	55	1,217	11,567	5.3	- 11	2/18/75
West Concord 205	10	115,000	631	18,077	182.25	34.8	10.1	59	1,267	10,644	14.4	- 15	4/11/76
Edina 273	11	1,064,120	11,875	27,092	89.61	9.6	3.3	31	1,374	28,515	6.5	- 6	3/19/74
Roseville 623	11	433,745	13,925	18,711	31.15	4.6	1.7	45	1,404	15,607	2.2	- 6	3/26/74
St. Louis Park 283	11	826,622	9,262	24,173	89.25	9.2	3.7	35	1,513	23,909	5.9	- 18	6/ 4/74
Hopkins 274	11	800,000	10,830	22,720	73.87	8.0	3.3	37	1,488	19,263	5.0	- 10	10/ 8/74
Bloomington 271	11	1,683,825	25,014	17,431	67.32	10.5	3.9	44	1,327	15,792	5.1	- 11	9/10/74
No. St. Paul 622	11	784,000	13,431	16,373	58.37	10.1	3.6	50	1,336	11,575	4.4	- 0	10/ 8/74
So. St. Paul 6	11	460,000	5,886	13,033	78.15	14.8	6.0	55	1,402	17,226	5.6	- 9	11/ 2/75
St. Paul 625	11	2,500,000	46,968	22,968	53.23	7.4	2.3	41	1,992	30,439	2.7	- 12	11/ 2/76
		26,167,334	173,267										

APPENDIX C

DATA ON MINNESOTA SCHOOL DISTRICTS HOLDING REFERENDUMS
11-3-76 to 11-30-76

District/Region		Referendum Amount \$	Resident Pupil Units 1975-76	EARC-75 Per p.u. \$	Extra Levy Per p.u. \$	Extra Levy % of 76-77 Maintenance Levy	Extra Levy in EARC Mills	Percent Receipts - State	Total Expenditures Per p.u. 1974-75 \$	1974 Income \$	Extra Levy % of Total Expenditure	Enrollment Trend 1969-70 to 1974-75	Referendum Date
A. Successful Elections													
Mt. Lake 223	8	67,936	892	19,916	76.16	13.2	3.8	51	1,329	14,558	5.7	- 7	11/11/76
Windom 177	8	100,000	2,064	15,477	48.45	10.8	3.1	57	1,289	13,758	3.8	- 5	11/29/76
Butterfield-Odin 836	9	65,000	421	28,816	154.39	17.4	5.4	41	1,280	16,567	12.1	-14	11/29/76
Minnesota Lake 223	9	52,800	479	23,599	110.23	14.8	4.7	50	1,477	15,078	7.5	-14	11/22/76
Wanamingo 258	10	29,322	561	19,668	52.27	8.3	2.7	56	1,236	11,621	4.2	- 9	11/10/76
West Concord 205	10	31,250	632	18,048	49.45	9.5	2.7	59	1,267	10,664	3.9	-15	11/ 9/76
Golden Valley 275	11	250,000	1,723	25,841	145.10	14.2	5.6	25	1,723	40,557	8.4	-10	11/16/76
B. Unsuccessful Elections													
Ada 521	1	134,000	787	23,439	170.27	24.5	7.3	51	1,184	16,434	14.4	-21	11/16/76
Greenbush 678	1	60,000	745	7,950	80.54	34.3	10.1	71	1,385	7,249	5.8	+ 2	11/12/76
Stephen 443	1	48,116	599	23,168	80.33	11.4	3.5	46	1,305	15,744	6.2	- 6	11/ 8/76
Red Lake Falls 630	1	60,000	866	8,617	69.28	27.0	8.0	65	1,326	10,384	5.2	- 1	10/26/76
Clearbrook 161	2	100,000	721	15,028	138.70	31.5	9.2	45	1,464	6,918	9.5	+ 4	11/ 9/76
Askov 566	7E	27,649	566	5,410	48.85	26.2	9.0	75	1,885	6,353	2.6	+ 3	11/23/76
Bricelyn 217	9	48,500	354	23,090	137.01	20.2	5.9	49	1,280	17,816	10.7	- 2	11/23/76
Lake Crystal 70	9	74,000	841	21,935	87.99	13.8	4.0	57	1,330	17,323	6.6	-15	11/ 8/76
Rochester 535	10	1,300,000	17,896	19,295	72.64	10.1	3.8	47	1,374	19,601	5.3	- 3	11/23/76