

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

S.F. No. 455

(SENATE AUTHORS: SIEBEN and Eken)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
02/02/2015	183	Introduction and first reading Referred to Rules and Administration
03/12/2015	707a 784	Comm report: To pass as amended and re-refer to Transportation and Public Safety Author added Eken
03/16/2015	844	Comm report: To pass and re-referred to State and Local Government
03/18/2015	924	Comm report: To pass and re-referred to Judiciary
03/23/2015	1063a	Comm report: To pass as amended and re-refer to Finance
05/06/2015	3310a 3392	Comm report: To pass as amended Second reading
05/11/2015	3493a 3515	Special Order: Amended Third reading Passed

A bill for an act

1.1 relating to elections; modifying various provisions related to election
1.2 administration, including provisions related to school districts, voters, ballots,
1.3 candidates, political party designation, military and overseas voting, and other
1.4 election-related provisions; establishing the Elections Emergency Planning
1.5 Task Force; enacting the Uniform Faithful Presidential Electors Act; amending
1.6 voter registration procedures; restoring right to vote upon release from
1.7 incarceration for a felony offense; providing for early voting; requiring use of
1.8 actual address for redistricting purposes; making conforming changes; making
1.9 technical changes; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2014,
1.10 sections 13.607, by adding a subdivision; 103C.311, subdivision 2; 123B.09,
1.11 subdivision 1, by adding a subdivision; 200.02, subdivisions 7, 23, by adding
1.12 subdivisions; 201.014, by adding a subdivision; 201.022, subdivision 1; 201.054,
1.13 subdivisions 1, 2; 201.061, by adding a subdivision; 201.071, subdivision
1.14 1; 201.091, subdivision 4; 201.12, subdivisions 2, 3; 201.13, subdivision 3;
1.15 201.14; 201.157; 201.158; 201.161; 203B.001; 203B.01, subdivision 3, by
1.16 adding a subdivision; 203B.03, subdivision 1; 203B.05, subdivision 1; 203B.07,
1.17 subdivision 1; 203B.08, subdivisions 1, 3; 203B.081; 203B.085; 203B.121,
1.18 subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, by adding a subdivision; 203B.16, subdivisions 1,
1.19 2; 203B.17, subdivisions 1, 2; 204B.06, subdivision 1b; 204B.07, subdivision
1.20 2; 204B.145; 204B.19, subdivisions 2, 6; 204B.28, subdivision 2; 204B.36,
1.21 subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4; 204B.45, subdivisions 1, 2; 204C.04, subdivision 2;
1.22 204C.08, subdivision 1d; 204C.10; 204C.13, subdivisions 2, 3, 5; 204C.15,
1.23 subdivision 1; 204C.22, subdivisions 3, 4, 7, 10; 204C.35, subdivisions 1, 2;
1.24 204C.36, subdivisions 1, 2; 204C.40, subdivision 2; 204D.11, subdivision 4;
1.25 204D.27, subdivision 11; 205.13, subdivision 3; 205.84, subdivision 1; 206.82,
1.26 subdivision 1; 206.83; 206.90, subdivision 6; 208.02; 208.03; 208.06; 209.01,
1.27 subdivision 2; 209.021, subdivisions 2, 3; 209.09, subdivision 2; 365.22,
1.28 subdivisions 2, 3; 367.31, subdivision 4; 368.85, subdivision 4; 375.025,
1.29 subdivision 1; 375A.09, subdivision 4; 376.04; 383B.68, subdivision 4; 412.551,
1.30 subdivision 2; 473.123, subdivision 3a; 609.165, subdivision 1; proposing coding
1.31 for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 123B; 201; 203B; 208; 241; 243;
1.32 repealing Minnesota Statutes 2014, sections 123B.09, subdivision 5; 201.155;
1.33 201.275; 204B.14, subdivision 6; 204C.13, subdivision 4; 204C.30, subdivision
1.34 1; 208.07; 208.08; 383A.555.

1.36 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

2.1 **ARTICLE 1**

2.2 **ELECTION ADMINISTRATION**

2.3 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 123B.09, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

2.4 Subdivision 1. **School board membership.** The care, management, and control of
2.5 independent districts is vested in a board of directors, to be known as the school board.

2.6 The term of office of a member shall be four years commencing on the first Monday in
2.7 January and until a successor qualifies. The membership of the board shall consist of six
2.8 elected directors together with such ex officio member as may be provided by law. The
2.9 board may submit to the electors at any school election the question whether the board
2.10 shall consist of seven members. If a majority of those voting on the proposition favor a
2.11 seven-member board, a seventh member shall be elected at the next election of directors
2.12 for a four-year term and thereafter the board shall consist of seven members.

2.13 Those districts with a seven-member board may submit to the electors at any school
2.14 election at least 150 days before the next election of three members of the board the
2.15 question whether the board shall consist of six members. If a majority of those voting on
2.16 the proposition favor a six-member board instead of a seven-member board, ~~two~~ three
2.17 members instead of ~~three~~ four members shall be elected at the next election of the board of
2.18 directors and thereafter the board shall consist of six members.

2.19 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 123B.09, is amended by adding a subdivision
2.20 to read:

2.21 Subd. 5a. **Vacancies.** A vacancy other than a vacancy described in subdivision 4
2.22 must be filled pursuant to section 123B.095.

2.23 Sec. 3. **[123B.095] VACANCY IN OFFICE OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER.**

2.24 Subdivision 1. **Option for filling vacancies; special election.** (a) Except as
2.25 provided in section 123B.09, subdivision 4, a vacancy in the office of school board may be
2.26 filled as provided in this subdivision and subdivision 2, or as provided in subdivision 3. If
2.27 the vacancy is to be filled under this subdivision and subdivision 2, it must be filled at a
2.28 special election. The school board may by resolution call for a special election to be held
2.29 according to the earliest of the following time schedules:

2.30 (1) not less than 120 days following the date the vacancy is declared, but no later
2.31 than 12 weeks prior to the date of the next regularly scheduled primary election;

2.32 (2) concurrently with the next regularly scheduled primary election and general
2.33 election; or

3.1 (3) no sooner than 120 days following the next regularly scheduled general election.

3.2 (b) The person elected at the special election shall take office immediately after
3.3 receipt of the certificate of election and upon filing the bond and taking the oath of office
3.4 and shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

3.5 Subd. 2. **When victor seated immediately.** If a vacancy for which a special
3.6 election is required occurs less than 120 days before the general election preceding the
3.7 end of the term, the vacancy shall be filled by the person elected at that election for the
3.8 ensuing term who shall take office immediately after receiving the certificate of election,
3.9 filing the bond and taking the oath of office.

3.10 Subd. 3. **Vacancies of less than one year; appointment option.** Except as provided
3.11 in section 123B.09, subdivision 4, and as an alternative to the procedure provided in
3.12 subdivisions 1 and 2, any other vacancy in the office of school board member may be
3.13 filled by board appointment at a regular or special meeting. The appointment shall be
3.14 evidenced by a resolution entered in the minutes and shall continue until an election is
3.15 held under this subdivision. All elections to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired term.
3.16 If one year or more remains in the unexpired term, a special election must be held under
3.17 subdivision 1. If less than one year remains in the unexpired term, the school board may
3.18 appoint a person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term, unless the
3.19 vacancy occurs within 90 days of the next school district general election, in which case
3.20 an appointment shall not be made and the vacancy must be filled at the general election.
3.21 The person elected to fill a vacancy at the general election takes office immediately in the
3.22 same manner as for a special election under subdivision 1, and serves the remainder of the
3.23 unexpired term and the new term for which the election was otherwise held.

3.24 Subd. 4. **School board vacancy appointment; public hearing.** Before making an
3.25 appointment to fill a vacancy under subdivision 3, the school board must hold a public
3.26 hearing not more than 30 days after the vacancy occurs with public notice given in the
3.27 same manner as for a special meeting of the school board. At the public hearing, the board
3.28 must invite public testimony from persons residing in the district in which the vacancy
3.29 occurs relating to the qualifications of prospective appointees to fill the vacancy. Before
3.30 making an appointment, the board also must notify public officials in the school district
3.31 on the appointment, including county commissioners, town supervisors, and city council
3.32 members, and must enter into the record at the board meeting in which the appointment is
3.33 made the names and addresses of the public officials notified. If, after the public hearing,
3.34 the board is unable or decides not to make an appointment under subdivision 3, it must
3.35 hold a special election under subdivision 1, but the time period in which the election must
3.36 be held begins to run from the date of the public hearing.

4.1 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 200.02, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

4.2 Subd. 7. **Major political party.** (a) "Major political party" means a political party
4.3 that maintains a party organization in the state, political division or precinct in question
4.4 and that has presented at least one candidate for election to the office of:

4.5 (1) governor and lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor, or attorney
4.6 general at the last preceding state general election for those offices; or

4.7 (2) presidential elector or U.S. senator at the last preceding state general election for
4.8 presidential electors; and

4.9 whose candidate received votes in each county in that election and received votes
4.10 from not less than five percent of the total number of individuals who voted in that election.

4.11 (b) "Major political party" also means a political party that maintains a party
4.12 organization in the state, political subdivision, or precinct in question and that has
4.13 presented at least 45 candidates for election to the office of state representative, 23
4.14 candidates for election to the office of state senator, four candidates for election to
4.15 the office of representative in Congress, and one candidate for election to each of the
4.16 following offices: governor and lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state,
4.17 and state auditor, at the last preceding state general election for those offices.

4.18 (c) "Major political party" also means a political party that maintains a party
4.19 organization in the state, political subdivision, or precinct in question and whose members
4.20 present to the secretary of state at any time before the close of filing for the state partisan
4.21 primary ballot a petition for a place on the state partisan primary ballot, which petition
4.22 contains valid signatures of a number of the party members equal to at least five percent
4.23 of the total number of individuals who voted in the preceding state general election. A
4.24 signature is valid only if signed no more than one year prior to the date the petition was filed.

4.25 (d) A political party whose candidate receives a sufficient number of votes at a state
4.26 general election described in paragraph (a) or a political party that presents candidates at
4.27 an election as required by paragraph (b) becomes a major political party as of January
4.28 1 following that election and retains its major party status for at least two state general
4.29 elections even if the party fails to present a candidate who receives the number and
4.30 percentage of votes required under paragraph (a) or fails to present candidates as required
4.31 by paragraph (b) at subsequent state general elections.

4.32 (e) A major political party whose candidates fail to receive the number and
4.33 percentage of votes required under paragraph (a) and that fails to present candidates as
4.34 required by paragraph (b) at each of two consecutive state general elections described by
4.35 paragraph (a) or (b), respectively, loses major party status as of December 31 following
4.36 the later of the two consecutive state general elections.

5.1 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 200.02, subdivision 23, is amended to read:

5.2 Subd. 23. **Minor political party.** (a) "Minor political party" means a political party
5.3 that has adopted a state constitution, designated a state party chair, held a state convention
5.4 in the last two years, filed with the secretary of state no later than December 31 following
5.5 the most recent state general election a certification that the party has met the foregoing
5.6 requirements, and met the requirements of paragraph (b) or (e), as applicable.

5.7 (b) To be considered a minor party in all elections statewide, the political party must
5.8 have presented at least one candidate for election to the office of:

5.9 (1) governor and lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor, or attorney
5.10 general, at the last preceding state general election for those offices; or

5.11 (2) presidential elector or U.S. senator at the preceding state general election for
5.12 presidential electors; and

5.13 (3) who received votes in each county that in the aggregate equal at least one percent
5.14 of the total number of individuals who voted in the election, or its members must have
5.15 presented to the secretary of state at any time before the close of filing for the state
5.16 partisan primary ballot a nominating petition in a form prescribed by the secretary of state
5.17 containing the valid signatures of party members in a number equal to at least one percent
5.18 of the total number of individuals who voted in the preceding state general election. A
5.19 signature is valid only if signed no more than one year prior to the date the petition was filed.

5.20 (c) A political party whose candidate receives a sufficient number of votes at a
5.21 state general election described in paragraph (b) becomes a minor political party as of
5.22 January 1 following that election and retains its minor party status for at least two state
5.23 general elections even if the party fails to present a candidate who receives the number
5.24 and percentage of votes required under paragraph (b) at subsequent state general elections.

5.25 (d) A minor political party whose candidates fail to receive the number and
5.26 percentage of votes required under paragraph (b) at each of two consecutive state general
5.27 elections described by paragraph (b) loses minor party status as of December 31 following
5.28 the later of the two consecutive state general elections.

5.29 (e) A minor party that qualifies to be a major party loses its status as a minor party
5.30 at the time it becomes a major party. Votes received by the candidates of a major party
5.31 must be counted in determining whether the party received sufficient votes to qualify as a
5.32 minor party, notwithstanding that the party does not receive sufficient votes to retain its
5.33 major party status. To be considered a minor party in an election in a legislative district,
5.34 the political party must have presented at least one candidate for a legislative office in that
5.35 district who received votes from at least ten percent of the total number of individuals
5.36 who voted for that office, or its members must have presented to the secretary of state a

6.1 nominating petition in a form prescribed by the secretary of state containing the valid
6.2 signatures of party members in a number equal to at least ten percent of the total number of
6.3 individuals who voted in the preceding state general election for that legislative office. A
6.4 signature is valid only if signed no more than one year prior to the date the petition was filed.

6.5 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 200.02, is amended by adding a subdivision
6.6 to read:

6.7 Subd. 27. **Partisan offices.** "Partisan offices" means federal offices, presidential
6.8 electors, constitutional offices, and legislative offices.

6.9 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 200.02, is amended by adding a subdivision
6.10 to read:

6.11 Subd. 28. **Nonpartisan offices.** "Nonpartisan offices" means all judicial, county,
6.12 municipal, school district, and special district offices.

6.13 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.158, is amended to read:

6.14 **201.158 USE OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY DATA.**

6.15 As required by the Help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law 107-252, the
6.16 commissioner of public safety shall make electronic data on citizenship available to the
6.17 secretary of state. The secretary of state must determine whether the data newly indicates
6.18 that any individuals who have active records in the statewide voter registration system
6.19 are not citizens. The secretary of state shall prepare a list of those voters for each county
6.20 auditor at least monthly. The county auditor shall change the status of those registrants in
6.21 the statewide voter registration system to reflect that they are challenged based upon their
6.22 citizenship and must notify the county attorney.

6.23 ~~In 2010, the secretary of state must make the determination and provide lists~~
6.24 ~~to the county auditors between 30 and 60 days before the general election and again~~
6.25 ~~between six and ten weeks after the election. In 2011, the secretary of state must make~~
6.26 ~~this determination again as part of the annual list maintenance. By August 1, 2012, the~~
6.27 ~~secretary of state must provide electronic lists to the counties at least monthly.~~

6.28 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.01, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

6.29 Subd. 3. **Military.** "Military" means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps,
6.30 Coast Guard or Merchant Marine of the United States, ~~and~~ all other uniformed services as
6.31 defined in United States Code, title 42, ~~section 1973ff-6~~ section 20310, and military
6.32 forces as defined by section 190.05, subdivision 3.

7.1 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.07, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

7.2 Subdivision 1. **Delivery of envelopes, directions.** The county auditor or the
7.3 municipal clerk shall prepare, print, and transmit a return envelope, a ballot envelope, and
7.4 a copy of the directions for casting an absentee ballot to each applicant whose application
7.5 for absentee ballots is accepted pursuant to section 203B.04. The county auditor or
7.6 municipal clerk shall provide first class postage for the return envelope. The directions
7.7 for casting an absentee ballot shall be printed in at least 14-point bold type with heavy
7.8 leading and may be printed on the ballot envelope. When a person requests the directions
7.9 in Braille or on ~~eassette-tape~~ audio file, the county auditor or municipal clerk shall provide
7.10 them in the form requested. The secretary of state shall prepare Braille and ~~eassette~~ audio
7.11 file copies and make them available.

7.12 When a voter registration application is sent to the applicant as provided in section
7.13 203B.06, subdivision 4, the directions on registration application shall include instructions
7.14 for registering to vote.

7.15 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.08, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

7.16 Subdivision 1. **Marking and return by voter.** An eligible voter who receives
7.17 absentee ballots as provided in this chapter shall mark them in the manner specified in the
7.18 directions for casting the absentee ballots. The return envelope containing marked ballots
7.19 may be mailed as provided in the directions for casting the absentee ballots or may be
7.20 left with the county auditor or municipal clerk who transmitted the absentee ballots to the
7.21 voter. If delivered in person ~~by an agent~~, the return envelope must be submitted to the
7.22 county auditor or municipal clerk by 3:00 p.m. on election day.

7.23 The voter may designate an agent to deliver in person the sealed absentee ballot
7.24 return envelope to the county auditor or municipal clerk or to deposit the return envelope
7.25 in the mail. An agent may deliver or mail the return envelopes of not more than three
7.26 voters in any election. Any person designated as an agent who tampers with either the
7.27 return envelope or the voted ballots or does not immediately mail or deliver the return
7.28 envelope to the county auditor or municipal clerk is guilty of a misdemeanor.

7.29 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.08, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

7.30 Subd. 3. **Procedures on receipt of ballots.** When absentee ballots are returned to a
7.31 county auditor or municipal clerk, that official shall stamp or initial and date the return
7.32 envelope and place it in a secure location with other return envelopes received by that
7.33 office. Within five days after receipt, the county auditor or municipal clerk shall deliver to
7.34 the ballot board all ballots received, except that during the 14 days immediately preceding

8.1 an election, the county auditor or municipal clerk shall deliver all ballots received to the
 8.2 ballot board within three days. Ballots received on election day either (1) after 3:00 p.m.,
 8.3 if delivered ~~by an agent in person~~; or (2) after ~~the last mail delivery~~ 8 p.m., if delivered by
 8.4 ~~another method~~ mail or a package delivery service, shall be marked as received late by the
 8.5 county auditor or municipal clerk, and must not be delivered to the ballot board.

8.6 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.121, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

8.7 Subd. 2. **Duties of ballot board; absentee ballots.** (a) The members of the ballot
 8.8 board shall take possession of all return envelopes delivered to them in accordance with
 8.9 section 203B.08. Upon receipt from the county auditor, municipal clerk, or school district
 8.10 clerk, two or more members of the ballot board shall examine each return envelope and
 8.11 shall mark it accepted or rejected in the manner provided in this subdivision. Election
 8.12 judges performing the duties in this section must be of different major political parties,
 8.13 unless they are exempt from that requirement under section 205.075, subdivision 4, or
 8.14 section 205A.10, subdivision 2.

8.15 (b) The members of the ballot board shall mark the return envelope "Accepted" and
 8.16 initial or sign the return envelope below the word "Accepted" if a majority of the members
 8.17 of the ballot board examining the envelope are satisfied that:

8.18 (1) the voter's name and address on the return envelope are the same as the
 8.19 information provided on the absentee ballot application;

8.20 (2) the voter signed the certification on the envelope;

8.21 (3) the voter's Minnesota driver's license, state identification number, or the last four
 8.22 digits of the voter's Social Security number are the same as ~~the~~ a number provided on the
 8.23 voter's absentee ballot application for ballots or voter record. If the number does not
 8.24 match ~~the number as submitted on the application, or if a number was not submitted on~~
 8.25 ~~the application~~, the election judges must compare the signature provided by the applicant
 8.26 to determine whether the ballots were returned by the same person to whom they were
 8.27 transmitted;

8.28 (4) the voter is registered and eligible to vote in the precinct or has included a
 8.29 properly completed voter registration application in the return envelope;

8.30 (5) the certificate has been completed as prescribed in the directions for casting an
 8.31 absentee ballot; and

8.32 (6) the voter has not already voted at that election, either in person or, if it is after the
 8.33 close of business on the seventh day before the election, by absentee ballot.

8.34 The return envelope from accepted ballots must be preserved and returned to the
 8.35 county auditor.

9.1 (c)(1) If a majority of the members of the ballot board examining a return envelope
 9.2 find that an absentee voter has failed to meet one of the requirements provided in
 9.3 paragraph (b), they shall mark the return envelope "Rejected," initial or sign it below the
 9.4 word "Rejected," list the reason for the rejection on the envelope, and return it to the
 9.5 county auditor. There is no other reason for rejecting an absentee ballot beyond those
 9.6 permitted by this section. Failure to place the ballot within the security envelope before
 9.7 placing it in the outer white envelope is not a reason to reject an absentee ballot.

9.8 (2) If an envelope has been rejected at least five days before the election, the
 9.9 envelope must remain sealed and the official in charge of the ballot board shall provide the
 9.10 voter with a replacement absentee ballot and return envelope in place of the rejected ballot.

9.11 (3) If an envelope is rejected within five days of the election, the envelope must
 9.12 remain sealed and the official in charge of the ballot board must attempt to contact the
 9.13 voter by telephone or e-mail to notify the voter that the voter's ballot has been rejected.
 9.14 The official must document the attempts made to contact the voter.

9.15 (d) The official in charge of the absentee ballot board must mail the voter a written
 9.16 notice of absentee ballot rejection between six and ten weeks following the election. If the
 9.17 official determines that the voter has otherwise cast a ballot in the election, no notice is
 9.18 required. If an absentee ballot arrives after the deadline for submission provided by this
 9.19 chapter, the notice must be provided between six to ten weeks after receipt of the ballot. A
 9.20 notice of absentee ballot rejection must contain the following information:

9.21 (1) the date on which the absentee ballot was rejected or, if the ballot was received
 9.22 after the required deadline for submission, the date on which the ballot was received;

9.23 (2) the reason for rejection; and

9.24 (3) the name of the appropriate election official to whom the voter may direct further
 9.25 questions, along with appropriate contact information.

9.26 (e) An absentee ballot return envelope marked "Rejected" may not be opened or
 9.27 subject to further review except in an election contest filed pursuant to chapter 209.

9.28 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.16, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

9.29 Subdivision 1. **Military service; temporary residence outside United States.**

9.30 Sections 203B.16 to 203B.27 provide alternative voting procedures for eligible voters who
 9.31 are absent from the precinct where they maintain residence because they are:

9.32 (1) either in the military or the spouses or dependents of individuals serving in
 9.33 the military; or

9.34 (2) temporarily outside the territorial limits of the United States.

10.1 Sections 203B.16 to 203B.27 are intended to implement the federal Uniformed and
10.2 Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, United States Code, title 42, ~~section 1973ff~~ 52,
10.3 sections 20301 to 20310.

10.4 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.16, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

10.5 Subd. 2. **Indefinite residence outside United States.** Sections 203B.16 to
10.6 203B.27 provide the exclusive voting procedure for United States citizens who are living
10.7 indefinitely outside the territorial limits of the United States who meet all the qualifications
10.8 of an eligible voter except residence in Minnesota, but who are authorized by federal law
10.9 to vote in Minnesota because they or, if they have never resided in the United States,
10.10 a parent maintained residence in Minnesota for at least 20 days immediately prior to
10.11 their departure from the United States. Individuals described in this subdivision shall be
10.12 permitted to vote only for the offices of president, vice-president, senator in Congress,
10.13 and representative in Congress.

10.14 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.17, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

10.15 Subdivision 1. **Submission of application.** (a) An application for absentee ballots
10.16 for a voter described in section 203B.16 must be in writing and may be submitted in
10.17 person, by mail, by electronic facsimile device, by electronic mail, or electronically
10.18 through a secure Web site that shall be maintained by the secretary of state for this
10.19 purpose, upon determination by the secretary of state that security concerns have been
10.20 adequately addressed. An application for absentee ballots for a voter described in section
10.21 203B.16 may be submitted by that voter or by that voter's parent, spouse, sister, brother, or
10.22 child over the age of 18 years. ~~For purposes of an application under this subdivision, a~~
10.23 ~~person's Social Security number, no matter how it is designated, qualifies as the person's~~
10.24 ~~military identification number if the person is in the military.~~

10.25 (b) An application for a voter described in section 203B.16, subdivision 1, shall be
10.26 submitted to the county auditor of the county where the voter maintains residence or
10.27 through the secure Web site maintained by the secretary of state.

10.28 (c) An application for a voter described in section 203B.16, subdivision 2, shall be
10.29 submitted to the county auditor of the county where the voter or the voter's parent last
10.30 maintained residence in Minnesota or through the secure Web site maintained by the
10.31 secretary of state.

10.32 (d) An application for absentee ballots shall be valid for any primary, special
10.33 primary, general election, or special election from the time the application is received
10.34 through the end of that calendar year.

11.1 (e) There shall be no limitation of time for filing and receiving applications for
11.2 ballots under sections 203B.16 to 203B.27.

11.3 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.17, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

11.4 Subd. 2. **Required information.** An application shall be accepted if it contains the
11.5 following information stated under oath:

11.6 (a) the voter's name, birthdate, and present address of residence in Minnesota, or
11.7 former address of residence or parent's former address of residence in Minnesota if the
11.8 voter is living permanently outside the United States;

11.9 (b) a statement indicating that the voter is in the military, or is the spouse or
11.10 dependent of an individual serving in the military, or is temporarily outside the territorial
11.11 limits of the United States, or is living permanently outside the territorial limits of the
11.12 United States and voting under federal law;

11.13 (c) a statement that the voter expects to be absent from the precinct at the time
11.14 of the election;

11.15 (d) the address to which absentee ballots are to be mailed;

11.16 (e) the voter's signature or the signature and relationship of the individual authorized
11.17 to apply on the voter's behalf;

11.18 (f) the voter's passport number, Minnesota driver's license or state identification card
11.19 number, or the last four digits of the voter's Social Security number; if the voter does not
11.20 have access to any of these documents, the voter or other individual requesting absentee
11.21 ballots may attest to the truthfulness of the contents of the application under penalty
11.22 of perjury; and

11.23 (g) the voter's e-mail address, if the application was submitted electronically through
11.24 the secure Web site maintained by the secretary of state.

11.25 Notwithstanding paragraph (f), an application submitted through the secretary of state's
11.26 Web site must include the voter's verifiable Minnesota driver's license number, Minnesota
11.27 state identification card number, or the last four digits of the voter's Social Security
11.28 number, and may only be transmitted to the county auditor for processing if the secretary
11.29 of state has verified the application information matches the information in a government
11.30 database associated with the applicant's driver's license number, state identification card
11.31 number, or Social Security number. The secretary of state must review all unverifiable
11.32 applications for evidence of suspicious activity and must forward any such application to
11.33 an appropriate law enforcement agency for investigation.

11.34 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204B.06, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

12.1 Subd. 1b. **Address and telephone number.** (a) An affidavit of candidacy must
12.2 state a telephone number where the candidate can be contacted. An affidavit must also
12.3 state the candidate's address of residence as determined under section 200.031, or at the
12.4 candidate's request in accordance with paragraph (c), the candidate's campaign contact
12.5 address. The form for the affidavit of candidacy must allow the candidate to request, if
12.6 eligible, that the candidate's address of residence be classified as private data, and to
12.7 provide the certification required under paragraph (c) for classification of that address.

12.8 (b) For an office whose residency requirement must be satisfied by the close of the
12.9 filing period, a registered voter in this state may request in writing that the filing officer
12.10 receiving the affidavit of candidacy review the address as provided in this paragraph, at
12.11 any time up to one day after the last day for filing for office. If requested, the filing officer
12.12 must determine whether the address provided in the affidavit of candidacy is within the
12.13 area represented by the office the candidate is seeking. If the filing officer determines
12.14 that the address is not within the area represented by the office, the filing officer must
12.15 immediately notify the candidate and the candidate's name must be removed from the
12.16 ballot for that office. A determination made by a filing officer under this paragraph is
12.17 subject to judicial review under section 204B.44.

12.18 (c) If the candidate requests that the candidate's address of residence be classified
12.19 as private data, the candidate must list the candidate's address of residence on a separate
12.20 form to be attached to the affidavit. The candidate must also certify on the affidavit that
12.21 a police report has been submitted or an order for protection has been issued in regard
12.22 to the safety of the candidate or the candidate's family, or that the candidate's address is
12.23 otherwise private pursuant to Minnesota law. The address of residence provided by a
12.24 candidate who makes a request for classification on the candidate's affidavit of candidacy
12.25 and provides the certification required by this paragraph is classified as private data,
12.26 as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12, but may be reviewed by the filing officer
12.27 as provided in this subdivision.

12.28 (d) The requirements of this subdivision do not apply to affidavits of candidacy for a
12.29 candidate for: (1) judicial office; (2) the office of county attorney; or (3) county sheriff.

12.30 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204B.19, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

12.31 Subd. 2. **Individuals not qualified to be election judges.** (a) Except as provided in
12.32 paragraph (b), no individual shall be appointed as an election judge for any precinct if
12.33 that individual:

12.34 (1) is unable to read, write, or speak the English language;

13.1 (2) is the spouse; parent, including a stepparent; child, including a stepchild; or
 13.2 sibling, including a stepsibling; of any election judge serving in the same precinct or of
 13.3 any candidate at that election; ~~or~~

13.4 (3) is domiciled, either permanently or temporarily, with any candidate on the ballot
 13.5 at that election; or

13.6 (4) is a candidate at that election.

13.7 (b) Individuals who are related to each other as provided in paragraph (a), clause (2),
 13.8 may serve as election judges in the same precinct, provided that they serve on separate
 13.9 shifts that do not run concurrently.

13.10 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204B.19, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

13.11 Subd. 6. **High school students.** Notwithstanding any other requirements of this
 13.12 section, a student enrolled in a high school in Minnesota or who is in a home school
 13.13 in compliance with sections 120A.22 and 120A.24, who has attained the age of 16 is
 13.14 eligible to be appointed as a without party affiliation trainee election judge ~~in the county in~~
 13.15 ~~which the student resides~~. The student must meet qualifications for trainee election judges
 13.16 specified in rules of the secretary of state. A student appointed as a trainee election judge
 13.17 may be excused from school attendance during the hours that the student is serving as a
 13.18 trainee election judge if the student submits a written request signed and approved by the
 13.19 student's parent or guardian to be absent from school and a certificate from the appointing
 13.20 authority stating the hours during which the student will serve as a trainee election judge
 13.21 to the principal of the school at least ten days prior to the election. Students shall not
 13.22 serve as trainee election judges after 10:00 p.m. Notwithstanding section 177.24 to the
 13.23 contrary, trainee election judges may be paid not less than two-thirds of the minimum
 13.24 wage for a large employer. The principal of the school may approve a request to be absent
 13.25 from school conditioned on acceptable academic performance at the time of service as
 13.26 a trainee election judge.

13.27 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204B.36, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

13.28 Subdivision 1. **Type.** All ballots shall be printed with black ink on paper of sufficient
 13.29 thickness to prevent the printing from being discernible from the back. All ballots shall be
 13.30 printed in easily readable type with suitable lines dividing candidates, offices, instructions
 13.31 and other matter printed on ballots. ~~The name of each candidate shall be printed in capital~~
 13.32 ~~letters.~~ The same type shall be used for the names of all candidates on the same ballot.

13.33 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204B.36, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

14.1 Subd. 2. **Candidates and offices.** The name of each candidate shall be printed at a
 14.2 right angle to the length of the ballot. At a general election the name of the political party
 14.3 or the political principle of each candidate for partisan office shall be printed above or
 14.4 below the name of the candidate. The name of a political party or a political principle
 14.5 shall be printed in capital and lowercase letters of the same type, with the capital letters
 14.6 at least one-half the height of the capital letters used for names of the candidates. At a
 14.7 general election, blank lines containing the words "write-in, if any" shall be printed below
 14.8 the name of the last candidate for each office, or below the title of the office if no candidate
 14.9 has filed for that office, so that a voter may write in the names of individuals whose names
 14.10 are not on the ballot. One blank line shall be printed for each officer of that kind to be
 14.11 elected. At a primary election, no blank lines shall be provided for writing in the names of
 14.12 individuals whose names do not appear on the primary ballot.

14.13 On the left side of the ballot at the same level with the name of each candidate and
 14.14 each blank line shall be printed ~~a square~~ an oval or similar target shape in which the
 14.15 voter may designate a vote by ~~a mark (X)~~ filling in the oval or similar mark if a different
 14.16 target shape is used. Each square shall be the same size. Above the first name on each
 14.17 ballot shall be ~~printed the words, "Put an (X) in the square opposite the name of each~~
 14.18 ~~candidate you wish to vote for."~~ At the same level with these words and directly above
 14.19 ~~the squares shall be printed a small arrow pointing downward~~ instructions for voting.
 14.20 Directly underneath the official title of each office shall be printed the words "Vote for
 14.21 one" or "Vote for up to ..." (any greater number to be elected).

14.22 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204B.36, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

14.23 Subd. 3. **Question; form of ballot.** When a question is to be submitted to a vote, a
 14.24 concise statement of the nature of the question shall be printed on the ballot. The words,
 14.25 "YES" "Yes" and "NO" "No" shall be printed to the left of this statement, with ~~a square~~
 14.26 an oval or similar target shape to the left of each word so that the voter may indicate by
 14.27 a mark (X) either a negative or affirmative vote. The ballot shall include instructions
 14.28 directing the voter to ~~put an (X) in the square~~ fill in the oval or similar mark if a different
 14.29 target shape is used, before the word "YES" "Yes" if the voter desires to vote for the
 14.30 question, or to ~~put an (X)~~ fill in the oval or similar mark if a different target shape is used,
 14.31 before the word "NO" "No" if the voter desires to vote against the question.

14.32 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204B.36, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

14.33 Subd. 4. **Judicial candidates.** The official ballot shall contain the names of all
 14.34 candidates for each judicial office and shall state the number of those candidates for

15.1 whom a voter may vote. Each seat for an associate justice, associate judge, or judge of
 15.2 the district court must be numbered. The words "~~SUPREME COURT,~~" "~~COURT OF~~
 15.3 ~~APPEALS,~~" "Supreme Court," "Court of Appeals," and "~~(number) DISTRICT COURT~~"
 15.4 "(number) District Court" must be printed above the respective judicial office groups on
 15.5 the ballot. The title of each judicial office shall be printed on the official primary and
 15.6 general election ballot as follows:

- 15.7 (a) In the case of the Supreme Court:
 15.8 "Chief justice";
 15.9 "Associate justice (number)";
 15.10 (b) In the case of the Court of Appeals:
 15.11 "Judge (number)"; or
 15.12 (c) In the case of the district court:
 15.13 "Judge (number)."

15.14 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204B.45, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

15.15 Subdivision 1. **Authorization.** A town of any size ~~not located in a metropolitan~~
 15.16 ~~county as defined by section 473.121,~~ in any location or a city having fewer than 400
 15.17 1,000 registered voters on June 1 of an election year and not located in a metropolitan
 15.18 county as defined by section 473.121, may provide balloting by mail at any municipal,
 15.19 county, or state election with no polling place other than the office of the auditor or clerk
 15.20 or other locations designated by the auditor or clerk. The governing body may apply to the
 15.21 county auditor for permission to conduct balloting by mail. The county board may provide
 15.22 for balloting by mail in unorganized territory. The governing body of any municipality
 15.23 may designate for mail balloting any precinct having fewer than 100 registered voters,
 15.24 subject to the approval of the county auditor.

15.25 Voted ballots may be returned in person to any location designated by the county
 15.26 auditor or municipal clerk.

15.27 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204B.45, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

15.28 Subd. 2. **Procedure.** Notice of the election and the special mail procedure must
 15.29 be given at least ten weeks prior to the election. Not more than 46 days nor later than 14
 15.30 days before a regularly scheduled election and not more than 30 days nor later than 14
 15.31 days before any other election, the auditor shall mail ballots by nonforwardable mail to
 15.32 all voters registered in the town or unorganized territory. No later than 14 days before
 15.33 the election, the auditor must make a subsequent mailing of ballots to those voters who
 15.34 register to vote after the initial mailing but before the 20th day before the election.

16.1 Eligible voters not registered at the time the ballots are mailed may apply for ballots as
16.2 provided in chapter 203B. Ballot return envelopes, with return postage provided, must
16.3 be preaddressed to the auditor or clerk and the voter may return the ballot by mail or in
16.4 person to the office of the auditor or clerk. The auditor or clerk must appoint a ballot board
16.5 to examine the mail and absentee ballot return envelopes and mark them "accepted" or
16.6 "rejected" within three days of receipt if there are 14 or fewer days before election day, or
16.7 within five days of receipt if there are more than 14 days before election day. The board
16.8 may consist of deputy county auditors or deputy municipal clerks who have received
16.9 training in the processing and counting of mail ballots, who need not be affiliated with
16.10 a major political party. Election judges performing the duties in this section must be of
16.11 different major political parties, unless they are exempt from that requirement under
16.12 section 205.075, subdivision 4, or section 205A.10. If an envelope has been rejected at
16.13 least five days before the election, the ballots in the envelope must remain sealed and the
16.14 auditor or clerk shall provide the voter with a replacement ballot and return envelope in
16.15 place of the spoiled ballot. If the ballot is rejected within five days of the election, the
16.16 envelope must remain sealed and the official in charge of the ballot board must attempt to
16.17 contact the voter by telephone or e-mail to notify the voter that the voter's ballot has been
16.18 rejected. The official must document the attempts made to contact the voter.

16.19 If the ballot is accepted, the county auditor or municipal clerk must mark the roster to
16.20 indicate that the voter has already cast a ballot in that election. After the close of business
16.21 on the ~~fourth~~ seventh day before the election, the ballots from return envelopes marked
16.22 "Accepted" may be opened, duplicated as needed in the manner provided by section 206.86,
16.23 subdivision 5, initialed by the members of the ballot board, and deposited in the ballot box.

16.24 In all other respects, the provisions of the Minnesota Election Law governing
16.25 deposit and counting of ballots apply.

16.26 The mail and absentee ballots for a precinct must be counted together and reported
16.27 as one vote total. No vote totals from mail or absentee ballots may be made public before
16.28 the close of voting on election day.

16.29 The costs of the mailing shall be paid by the election jurisdiction in which the voter
16.30 resides. Any ballot received by 8:00 p.m. on the day of the election must be counted.

16.31 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.04, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

16.32 Subd. 2. **Elections covered.** For purposes of this section, "election" means a
16.33 regularly scheduled ~~state primary or general~~ election, an election to fill a vacancy in the
16.34 office of United States senator or United States representative, an election to fill a vacancy

17.1 in nomination for a constitutional office, or an election to fill a vacancy in the office of
 17.2 state senator or state representative.

17.3 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.13, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

17.4 Subd. 2. **Voting booths.** One of the election judges shall explain to the voter the
 17.5 proper method of marking ~~and folding~~ the ballots and, during a primary election, the effect
 17.6 of attempting to vote in more than one party's primary. Except as otherwise provided in
 17.7 section 204C.15, the voter shall retire alone to an unoccupied voting booth or, at the
 17.8 voter's discretion, the voter may choose to use another writing surface. The voter shall
 17.9 mark the ballots without undue delay. The voter may take sample ballots into the booth to
 17.10 assist in voting. The election judges may adopt and enforce reasonable rules governing the
 17.11 amount of time a voter may spend in the voting booth marking ballots.

17.12 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.13, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

17.13 Subd. 3. **Marking ballots.** The voter shall mark each ballot in the following manner:

17.14 (a) ~~A mark (X) shall be placed in the square~~ The voter shall fill in the oval or similar
 17.15 mark if a different target shape is used, opposite the printed name of each candidate for
 17.16 whom the individual desires to vote, and in the ~~square~~ oval or other target shape before the
 17.17 "**YES**" "Yes" or "~~NO~~" "No" if the individual desires to vote for or against a question.

17.18 (b) The voter may write in other names on the lines provided under the printed
 17.19 names of the candidates, except that no names shall be written in on primary ballots.

17.20 (c) At a state primary an individual may vote for candidates of only one major
 17.21 political party on the partisan primary ballot. If a partisan primary ballot contains votes
 17.22 for the candidates of more than one major political party, the ballot is totally defective and
 17.23 no vote on the partisan section of the ballot shall be counted.

17.24 (d) An individual who spoils a ballot may return it to the election judges and receive
 17.25 another.

17.26 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.13, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

17.27 Subd. 5. **Deposit of ballots in ballot boxes** box. The voter shall then withdraw
 17.28 from the voting booth with the ballots ~~and hand them to the election judge in charge of the~~
 17.29 ~~ballot boxes. That election judge shall~~ and immediately deposit each ballot in the proper
 17.30 ballot box. Ballots that have not been initialed by the election judges as provided in
 17.31 section 204C.09, shall not be deposited in the ballot box.

17.32 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.15, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

18.1 Subdivision 1. **Physical assistance in marking ballots.** A voter who claims a need
18.2 for assistance because of inability to read English or physical inability to mark a ballot
18.3 may obtain the aid of two election judges who are members of different major political
18.4 parties. The election judges shall mark the ballots as directed by the voter and in as secret
18.5 a manner as circumstances permit. A voter in need of assistance may alternatively obtain
18.6 the assistance of any individual the voter chooses. Only the following persons may not
18.7 provide assistance to a voter: the voter's employer, an agent of the voter's employer, an
18.8 officer or agent of the voter's union, or a candidate for election. The person who assists the
18.9 voter shall, unaccompanied by an election judge, retire with that voter to a booth and mark
18.10 the ballot as directed by the voter. ~~No person who assists another voter as provided in~~
18.11 ~~the preceding sentence shall mark the ballots of more than three voters at one election.~~
18.12 Before the ballots are deposited, the voter may show them privately to an election judge to
18.13 ascertain that they are marked as the voter directed. An election judge or other individual
18.14 assisting a voter shall not in any manner request, persuade, induce, or attempt to persuade
18.15 or induce the voter to vote for any particular political party or candidate. The election
18.16 judges or other individuals who assist the voter shall not reveal to anyone the name of any
18.17 candidate for whom the voter has voted or anything that took place while assisting the voter.

18.18 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.22, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

18.19 Subd. 3. **Votes for too many candidates.** If a voter places a mark (X) beside the
18.20 names of more candidates for an office than are to be elected or nominated, the ballot is
18.21 defective with respect only to that office. No vote shall be counted for any candidate for
18.22 that office, but the rest of the ballot shall be counted if possible. At a primary, if a voter
18.23 has not indicated a party preference and places a mark (X) beside the names of candidates
18.24 of more than one party on the partisan ballot, the ballot is totally defective and no votes on
18.25 it shall be counted. If a voter has indicated a party preference at a primary, only votes cast
18.26 for candidates of that party shall be counted.

18.27 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.22, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

18.28 Subd. 4. **Name written in proper place.** If a voter has written the name of an
18.29 individual in the proper place on a general or special election ballot a vote shall be counted
18.30 for that individual whether or not the voter makes a mark (X) in the square oval or other
18.31 target shape opposite the blank.

18.32 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.22, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

19.1 Subd. 7. **All written names or marks counted up to limit.** If a number of
 19.2 individuals are to be elected to the same office, the election judges shall count all names
 19.3 written in and all printed names with ~~(X)~~ marks in squares oval or other target shape
 19.4 opposite them, not exceeding the whole number to be elected. When fewer names than the
 19.5 number to be elected are marked ~~with an (X)~~ or written in, only the marked or written in
 19.6 names shall be counted. When more names than the number to be elected are marked or
 19.7 written in, the ballot is defective with respect to that office and no vote shall be counted
 19.8 for that office.

19.9 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.22, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

19.10 Subd. 10. **Different marks.** If a voter uniformly uses a mark ~~other than (X)~~ which
 19.11 that clearly indicates an intent to mark a name or to mark yes or no on a question, and the
 19.12 voter does not use ~~(X)~~ the more standard mark anywhere else on the ballot, a vote shall
 19.13 be counted for each candidate or response to a question marked. If a voter uses two or
 19.14 more distinct marks, such as (X) and some other mark, a vote shall be counted for each
 19.15 candidate or response to a question marked, unless the ballot is marked by distinguishing
 19.16 characteristics that make the entire ballot defective as provided in subdivision 13.

19.17 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.35, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

19.18 Subdivision 1. **Publicly funded recounts.** (a) In a state primary when the difference
 19.19 between the votes cast for the candidates for nomination to:

19.20 (1) a state legislative office is less than one-half of one percent of the total number of
 19.21 votes counted for that nomination or is ten votes or less and the total number of votes cast
 19.22 for the nomination is 400 votes or less; or

19.23 (2) a statewide federal office, state constitutional office, statewide judicial office,
 19.24 congressional office, or district judicial office is less than one-quarter of one percent of
 19.25 the total number of votes counted for that nomination or is ten votes or less and the total
 19.26 number of votes cast for the nomination is 400 votes or less;

19.27 and the difference determines the nomination, the canvassing board with responsibility
 19.28 for declaring the results for that office shall manually recount the vote upon receiving a
 19.29 written request from the candidate whose nomination is in question.

19.30 Immediately following the meeting of the board that has responsibility for
 19.31 canvassing the results of the nomination, the filing officer must notify the candidate that
 19.32 the candidate has the option to request a recount of the votes at no cost to the candidate.
 19.33 This written request must be received by the filing officer no later than ~~48 hours~~ 5:00 p.m.
 19.34 on the second day after the canvass of the primary for which the recount is being sought.

20.1 (b) In a state general election when the difference between the votes of a candidate
20.2 who would otherwise be declared elected to:

20.3 (1) a state legislative office is less than one-half of one percent of the total number of
20.4 votes counted for that office or is ten votes or less and the total number of votes cast for
20.5 the office is 400 votes or less; or

20.6 (2) a statewide federal office, state constitutional office, statewide judicial office,
20.7 congressional office, or district judicial office and the votes of any other candidate for that
20.8 office is less than one-quarter of one percent of the total number of votes counted for that
20.9 office or is ten votes or less if the total number of votes cast for the office is 400 votes or less,
20.10 the canvassing board shall manually recount the votes upon receiving a written request
20.11 from the candidate whose election is in question.

20.12 Immediately following the meeting of the board that has responsibility for canvassing
20.13 the results of the general election, the filing officer must notify the candidate that the
20.14 candidate has the option to request a recount of the votes at no cost to the candidate. This
20.15 written request must be received by the filing officer no later than ~~48 hours~~ 5:00 p.m. on
20.16 the second day after the canvass of the election for which the recount is being sought.

20.17 (c) A recount must not delay any other part of the canvass. The results of the recount
20.18 must be certified by the canvassing board as soon as possible.

20.19 (d) Time for notice of a contest for an office which is recounted pursuant to this section
20.20 shall begin to run upon certification of the results of the recount by the canvassing board.

20.21 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.35, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

20.22 Subd. 2. **Discretionary candidate recounts.** (a) A losing candidate whose
20.23 name was on the ballot for nomination or election to a statewide federal office, state
20.24 constitutional office, statewide judicial office, congressional office, state legislative office,
20.25 or district judicial office may request a recount in a manner provided in this section at the
20.26 candidate's own expense when the vote difference is greater than the difference required
20.27 by this section. The votes shall be manually recounted as provided in this section if the
20.28 candidate files a request during the time for filing notice of contest of the primary or
20.29 election for which a recount is sought.

20.30 (b) The requesting candidate shall file with the filing officer a bond, cash, or surety in
20.31 an amount set by the filing officer for the payment of the recount expenses. The requesting
20.32 candidate is responsible for the following expenses: the compensation of the secretary of
20.33 state, or designees, and any election judge, municipal clerk, county auditor, administrator,
20.34 or other personnel who participate in the recount; necessary supplies and travel related to
20.35 the recount; the compensation of the appropriate canvassing board and costs of preparing

21.1 for the canvass of recount results; and any attorney fees incurred in connection with the
 21.2 recount by the governing body responsible for the recount.

21.3 (c) A discretionary recount of a primary must not delay delivery of the notice of
 21.4 nomination to the winning candidate under section 204C.32.

21.5 (d) The requesting candidate may provide the filing officer with a list of up to three
 21.6 precincts that are to be recounted first and may waive the balance of the recount after these
 21.7 precincts have been counted. If the candidate provides a list, the recount official must
 21.8 determine the expenses for those precincts in the manner provided by paragraph (b).

21.9 (e) The results of the recount must be certified by the canvassing board as soon as
 21.10 possible.

21.11 ~~(d)~~ (f) If the winner of the race is changed by the optional recount, the cost of the
 21.12 recount must be paid by the jurisdiction conducting the recount.

21.13 ~~(e)~~ (g) If a result of the vote counting in the manual recount is different from the
 21.14 result of the vote counting reported on election day by a margin greater than the standard
 21.15 for acceptable performance of voting systems provided in section 206.89, subdivision 4,
 21.16 the cost of the recount must be paid by the jurisdiction conducting the recount.

21.17 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.36, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

21.18 Subdivision 1. **Publicly funded recounts.** (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b)
 21.19 and (c), a losing candidate for nomination or election to a county, municipal, or school
 21.20 district office may request a recount of the votes cast for the nomination or election to
 21.21 that office if the difference between the vote cast for that candidate and for a winning
 21.22 candidate for nomination or election is less than one-quarter of one percent of the total
 21.23 votes counted for that office. In case of offices where two or more seats are being filled
 21.24 from among all the candidates for the office, the one-quarter of one percent difference
 21.25 is between the elected candidate with the fewest votes and the candidate with the most
 21.26 votes from among the candidates who were not elected.

21.27 (b) A losing candidate for nomination or election to a county, municipal, or school
 21.28 district office may request a recount of the votes cast for nomination or election to that
 21.29 office if the difference between the votes cast for that candidate and for a winning
 21.30 candidate for nomination or election is less than one-half of one percent, and the total
 21.31 number of votes cast for the nomination or election of all candidates is more than 400
 21.32 but less than 50,000. In cases of offices where two or more seats are being filled from
 21.33 among all the candidates for the office, the one-half of one percent difference is between
 21.34 the elected candidate with the fewest votes and the candidate with the most votes from
 21.35 among the candidates who were not elected.

22.1 (c) A losing candidate for nomination or election to a county, municipal, or school
22.2 district office may request a recount of the votes cast for nomination or election to that
22.3 office if the difference between the vote cast for that candidate and for a winning candidate
22.4 for nomination or election is ten votes or less, and the total number of votes cast for the
22.5 nomination or election of all candidates is no more than 400. In cases of offices where two
22.6 or more seats are being filled from among all the candidates for the office, the ten vote
22.7 difference is between the elected candidate with the fewest votes and the candidate with
22.8 the most votes from among the candidates who were not elected.

22.9 (d) Candidates for county offices shall file a written request for the recount with the
22.10 county auditor. Candidates for municipal or school district offices shall file a written
22.11 request with the municipal or school district clerk as appropriate. All requests shall be
22.12 filed ~~during the time for notice of contest of the primary or~~ by 5:00 p.m. on the fifth day
22.13 after the canvass of a primary or special primary or by 5:00 p.m. on the seventh day of the
22.14 canvass of a special or general election for which a recount is sought.

22.15 (e) Upon receipt of a request made pursuant to this section, the county auditor shall
22.16 recount the votes for a county office at the expense of the county, the governing body
22.17 of the municipality shall recount the votes for a municipal office at the expense of the
22.18 municipality, and the school board of the school district shall recount the votes for a
22.19 school district office at the expense of the school district.

22.20 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.36, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

22.21 Subd. 2. **Discretionary candidate recounts.** (a) A losing candidate for nomination
22.22 or election to a county, municipal, or school district office may request a recount in the
22.23 manner provided in this section at the candidate's own expense when the vote difference is
22.24 greater than the difference required by subdivision 1, paragraphs (a) to (e). The votes shall
22.25 be manually recounted as provided in this section if the requesting candidate files with
22.26 the county auditor, municipal clerk, or school district clerk a bond, cash, or surety in an
22.27 amount set by the governing body of the jurisdiction or the school board of the school
22.28 district for the payment of the recount expenses.

22.29 (b) The requesting candidate may provide the filing officer with a list of up to three
22.30 precincts that are to be recounted first and may waive the balance of the recount after these
22.31 precincts have been counted. If the candidate provides a list, the recount official must
22.32 determine the expenses for those precincts in the manner provided by paragraph (b).

22.33 (c) A discretionary recount of a primary must not delay delivery of the notice of
22.34 nomination to the winning candidate under section 204C.32.

23.1 (d) The results of the recount must be certified by the canvassing board as soon as
 23.2 possible.

23.3 (e) If the winner of the race is changed by the optional recount, the cost of the
 23.4 recount must be paid by the jurisdiction conducting the recount.

23.5 ~~(d)~~ (f) If a result of the vote counting in the manual recount is different from the
 23.6 result of the vote counting reported on election day by a margin greater than the standard
 23.7 for acceptable performance of voting systems provided in section 206.89, subdivision 4,
 23.8 the cost of the recount must be paid by the jurisdiction conducting the recount.

23.9 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.40, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

23.10 Subd. 2. **Time of issuance; certain offices.** No certificate of election shall be issued
 23.11 until seven days after the canvassing board has declared the result of the election. ~~In case~~
 23.12 ~~of a contest, an election certificate shall not be issued until a court of proper jurisdiction~~
 23.13 ~~has finally determined the contest. This subdivision shall not apply to candidates elected~~
 23.14 ~~to the office of state senator or representative.~~

23.15 Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204D.11, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

23.16 Subd. 4. **Special federal ballot.** (a) The names of all candidates for the offices
 23.17 of president and vice-president of the United States and senator and representative in
 23.18 Congress shall be placed on a ballot that shall be known as the "special federal ballot."

23.19 (b) This ballot shall be prepared by the county auditor in the same manner as the
 23.20 state general election ballot and shall be subject to the rules adopted by the secretary of
 23.21 state pursuant to subdivision 1. This ballot must be prepared and furnished in accordance
 23.22 with the federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, United States
 23.23 Code, title 42, ~~section 1973ff~~ 52, sections 20301 to 20310.

23.24 (c) The special federal ballot shall be the only ballot sent to citizens of the United
 23.25 States who are eligible to vote by absentee ballot for federal candidates in Minnesota.

23.26 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204D.27, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

23.27 Subd. 11. **Certificate of legislative election.** A certificate of election in a special
 23.28 election for state senator or state representative shall be issued by the secretary of state to
 23.29 ~~the individual declared elected by the county or state canvassing board~~ chief clerk of the
 23.30 house or the secretary of the senate two days, excluding Sundays and legal holidays, after
 23.31 the appropriate canvassing board finishes canvassing the returns for the election.

23.32 In case of a contest the certificate shall not be issued until the district court
 23.33 determines the contest.

24.1 Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 205.13, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

24.2 Subd. 3. **Filing fees.** ~~Unless the charter of a city provides the amount of the fee~~
 24.3 ~~for filing an application or affidavit of candidacy for city office~~ (a) Except as otherwise
 24.4 provided in this section, the filing fee for a municipal office is as follows:

24.5 ~~(a)~~ (1) in first class cities, \$20;

24.6 ~~(b)~~ (2) in second and third class cities, \$5; and

24.7 ~~(c)~~ (3) in fourth class cities and towns, \$2.

24.8 (b) A home rule charter or statutory city may adopt, by ordinance, a filing fee of a
 24.9 different amount not to exceed the following:

24.10 (1) in first class cities, \$80;

24.11 (2) in second and third class cities, \$40; and

24.12 (3) in fourth class cities, \$15.

24.13 (c) A home rule charter city that sets filing fees by authority provided in city charter
 24.14 is not subject to the fee limits in this section.

24.15 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 206.90, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

24.16 Subd. 6. **Ballots.** In precincts using optical scan voting systems, a single ballot card
 24.17 on which all ballot information is included must be printed in black ink on white colored
 24.18 material except that marks not to be read by the automatic tabulating equipment may be
 24.19 printed in another color ink. In state elections, a single ballot title must be used, as provided
 24.20 in sections 204D.08, subdivision 6, and 204D.11, subdivision 1. In odd-numbered years
 24.21 when both municipal and school district offices or questions appear on the ballot, the
 24.22 single ballot title "City (or Town) and School District Ballot" must be used.

24.23 On the front of the ballot must be printed the words "Official Ballot" and the date of
 24.24 the election and lines for the initials of at least two election judges.

24.25 When optical scan ballots are used, the offices to be elected must appear in the
 24.26 following order: federal offices; state legislative offices; constitutional offices; proposed
 24.27 constitutional amendments; county offices and questions; municipal offices and questions;
 24.28 school district offices and questions; special district offices and questions; and judicial
 24.29 offices.

24.30 On optical scan ballots, the names of candidates and the words "yes" and "no" for
 24.31 ballot questions must be printed as close to their corresponding vote targets as possible.

24.32 The line on an optical scan ballot for write-in votes must contain the words "write-in,
 24.33 if any."

24.34 If a primary ballot contains both a partisan ballot and a nonpartisan ballot, the
 24.35 instructions to voters must include a statement that reads substantially as follows: "THIS

25.1 ~~BALLOT CARD CONTAINS A PARTISAN BALLOT AND A NONPARTISAN~~
 25.2 ~~BALLOT. ON THE PARTISAN BALLOT YOU ARE PERMITTED TO VOTE FOR~~
 25.3 ~~CANDIDATES OF ONE POLITICAL PARTY ONLY."~~ "This ballot card contains a
 25.4 partisan ballot and a nonpartisan ballot. On the partisan ballot you are permitted to vote for
 25.5 candidates of one political party only." If a primary ballot contains political party columns
 25.6 on both sides of the ballot, the instructions to voters must include a statement that reads
 25.7 substantially as follows: ~~"ADDITIONAL POLITICAL PARTIES ARE PRINTED ON~~
 25.8 ~~THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS BALLOT. VOTE FOR ONE POLITICAL PARTY ONLY."~~
 25.9 "Additional political parties are printed on the other side of this ballot. Vote for one
 25.10 political party only." At the bottom of each political party column on the primary ballot,
 25.11 the ballot must contain a statement that reads substantially as follows: ~~"CONTINUE~~
 25.12 ~~VOTING ON THE NONPARTISAN BALLOT."~~ "Continue voting on the nonpartisan
 25.13 ballot." The instructions in section 204D.08, subdivision 4, do not apply to optical scan
 25.14 partisan primary ballots. Electronic ballot displays and audio ballot readers must follow
 25.15 the order of offices and questions on the optical scan or paper ballot used in the same
 25.16 precinct, or the sample ballot posted for that precinct.

25.17 Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 209.021, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

25.18 Subd. 2. **Notice filed with court.** If the contest relates to a nomination or
 25.19 election for statewide office, the contestant shall file the notice of contest with the court
 25.20 administrator of District Court in Ramsey County. For contests relating to any other office,
 25.21 the contestant shall file the notice of contest with the court administrator of district court
 25.22 in the county where the contestee resides.

25.23 If the contest relates to a constitutional amendment ~~or other question voted on~~
 25.24 ~~statewide~~, the contestant shall file the notice of contest with the court administrator
 25.25 of District Court in Ramsey County. If the contest relates to any other question, the
 25.26 contestant shall file the notice of contest with the court administrator of district court for
 25.27 the county or any one of the counties where the question appeared on the ballot.

25.28 Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 209.021, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

25.29 Subd. 3. **Notice served on parties.** In all contests relating to the nomination or
 25.30 election of a candidate, the notice of contest must be served on the candidate who is
 25.31 the contestee, a copy of the notice must be sent to the contestee's last known address
 25.32 by certified mail, and a copy must be furnished to the official authorized to issue the
 25.33 certificate of election. If personal or substituted service on the contestee cannot be made,
 25.34 an affidavit of the attempt by the person attempting to make service and the affidavit of

26.1 the person who sent a copy of the notice to the contestee by certified mail is sufficient to
 26.2 confer jurisdiction upon the court to decide the contest.

26.3 If the contest relates to a constitutional amendment ~~or other question voted on~~
 26.4 ~~statewide or voted on in more than one county~~, notice of contest must be served on the
 26.5 secretary of state, who is the contestee. If a contest relates to a question voted on within
 26.6 only one county, school district, or municipality, a copy of the notice of contest must be
 26.7 served on the county auditor, clerk of the school district, or municipal clerk, respectively,
 26.8 who is the contestee. If the contest is upon the question of consolidation or reorganization
 26.9 of a school district, a copy of the notice of contest must be served on the county auditor
 26.10 authorized by law to issue the order.

26.11 Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 209.09, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

26.12 Subd. 2. **Statewide offices and questions.** Section 209.10, subdivision 4, applies to
 26.13 a contest regarding a statewide office, or a constitutional amendment, ~~or other question~~
 26.14 ~~voted on statewide~~. A copy of the Supreme Court's decision must be forwarded to the
 26.15 contestant and the contestee.

26.16 Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 365.22, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

26.17 Subd. 2. **Questions, ballot details.** The questions to be voted on must be separately
 26.18 stated on the ballots, as worded in section 365.21. Two squares ovals or similar target
 26.19 shapes, one above the other, must be put just below each question with the word "yes"
 26.20 beside the upper square target shape and the word "no" beside the lower square target shape.

26.21 Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 365.22, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

26.22 Subd. 3. **Voting.** An elector must vote separately on each question for the elector's
 26.23 vote to be counted on that question. To vote "yes" on a question, the elector shall ~~mark an~~
 26.24 ~~"X" in the square~~ fill in the oval or similar target shape beside the word "yes" just below
 26.25 the question. To vote "no" on a question, the elector shall ~~mark an "X" in the square~~ fill in
 26.26 the oval or similar target shape beside the word "no" just below the question.

26.27 Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 367.31, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

26.28 Subd. 4. **Election; form of ballot.** The proposals for adoption of the options shall
 26.29 be stated on the ballot substantially as follows:

26.30 "Shall option A, providing for a five-member town board of supervisors, be adopted
 26.31 for the government of the town?"

27.1 "Shall option B, providing for the appointment of the clerk and treasurer by the town
27.2 board, be adopted for the government of the town?"

27.3 "Shall option C, providing for the appointment of a town administrator by the town
27.4 board, be adopted for the government of the town?"

27.5 "Shall option D, providing for combining the offices of clerk and treasurer, be
27.6 adopted for the government of the town?"

27.7 If a proposal under option B is to appoint only the clerk or only the treasurer, or if it
27.8 is to appoint the combined clerk-treasurer following the adoption of option D or when
27.9 submitted simultaneously with the ballot question for option D, the ballot question shall be
27.10 varied to read appropriately. If an option B ballot question is submitted for the combined
27.11 clerk-treasurer office at the same election in which option D is also on the ballot, the
27.12 ballot must note that the approval of option B is contingent on the simultaneous approval
27.13 of option D. In any of these cases, the question shall be followed by the words "Yes"
27.14 and "No" with an appropriate ~~square~~ oval or similar target shape before each in which
27.15 an elector may record a choice.

27.16 Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 368.85, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

27.17 Subd. 4. **Ballot.** The town board shall provide ballots which shall read "Shall
27.18 the territory described in the resolution adopted by the town board on the day of
27.19,, constitute a special fire protection district?" The question shall be followed
27.20 with a line with the word "Yes" and ~~a square~~ an oval or similar target shape after it and
27.21 another line with the word "No" and ~~a square~~ an oval or similar target shape after it. The
27.22 voters shall indicate their choice by placing a ~~cross~~ mark in one of the ~~squares~~ target
27.23 shapes, and a direction to so indicate their choice shall be printed on the ballot.

27.24 Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 376.04, is amended to read:

27.25 **376.04 ELECTION, SEPARATE BALLOT.**

27.26 The question of purchasing and constructing hospital buildings shall be submitted
27.27 to the voters of any county at a general election ~~and placed upon a separate ballot~~. This
27.28 election must be called by a resolution of the county board. The resolution must state the
27.29 time of the election, that a county hospital is proposed to be established, the proposed
27.30 location, and the cost, including equipment, for not more than the amount stated in the
27.31 resolution. When the resolutions are passed, the county auditor shall immediately notify
27.32 each town or city clerk in the county that the question of constructing hospital buildings
27.33 will be voted upon at the time stated in the resolution, in the manner provided under the
27.34 state election laws.

28.1 The ballot must be in the following form:

28.2 "For the purchase and construction of hospital buildings, including equipment, to
28.3 be located at (state location), at a cost not more than (state amount),
28.4 pursuant to the resolution of the board of county commissioners passed (state
28.5 date).

28.6 Yes
28.7 No "

28.8 To the left of each of the last two words, "yes" and "no," shall be followed by a
28.9 square in which the voter may indicate by a mark (X) either a negative or affirmative vote
28.10 printed an oval or similar target shape so that the voter may indicate by a mark either a
28.11 negative or affirmative vote. These votes shall be cast in the same manner as votes cast at
28.12 the general election and counted by the same officers. Returns must be made to the county
28.13 auditor, and canvassed in the same manner as the returns on county officers.

28.14 Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 412.551, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

28.15 Subd. 2. **Form of ballot.** The proposals for the adoption of optional plans shall be
28.16 stated on the ballot substantially as follows:

28.17 "Shall Optional Plan A, modifying the standard plan of city government by
28.18 providing for the appointment by the council of the clerk and treasurer be adopted for the
28.19 government of the city?"

28.20 "Shall Optional Plan B, providing for the council-manager form of city government,
28.21 be adopted for the government of the city?"

28.22 If the city has combined the offices of clerk and treasurer, the word "clerk-treasurer"
28.23 shall be substituted for the words "clerk and treasurer" in the question on the ballot on
28.24 adoption of Optional Plan A. In any of these cases, the question shall be followed by the
28.25 words, "Yes" and "No" with an appropriate square before each in which a voter may
28.26 record a choice oval or similar target shape to the left of each word so that the voter may
28.27 indicate by a mark either a negative or affirmative vote.

28.28 Sec. 54. **ELECTIONS EMERGENCY PLANNING TASK FORCE.**

28.29 Subdivision 1. **Membership.** (a) The Elections Emergency Planning Task Force
28.30 consists of the following members:

28.31 (1) the director of the Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security
28.32 and Emergency Management, or designee;

28.33 (2) the secretary of state, or designee;

29.1 (3) one individual designated by the secretary of state, from the elections division in
 29.2 the Office of the Secretary of State;

29.3 (4) one individual appointed by the Minnesota State Council on Disability;

29.4 (5) the Minnesota Adjutant General, or designee;

29.5 (6) one county auditor, appointed by the Minnesota Association of County Officers;

29.6 (7) one local professional emergency manager, appointed by the Association of
 29.7 Minnesota Emergency Managers;

29.8 (8) one town election official, appointed by the Minnesota Association of Townships;

29.9 (9) one city election official, appointed by the League of Minnesota Cities;

29.10 (10) one school district election official, appointed by the Minnesota School Boards
 29.11 Association;

29.12 (11) one representative appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

29.13 (12) one representative appointed by the minority leader of the house of
 29.14 representatives;

29.15 (13) one senator appointed by the senate majority leader; and

29.16 (14) one senator appointed by the senate minority leader.

29.17 (b) Any vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the appointing authority for the
 29.18 vacating member.

29.19 (c) Members shall be appointed by July 1, 2015.

29.20 Subd. 2. **Duties.** The task force must research the following issues:

29.21 (1) potential emergency scenarios that could impact elections;

29.22 (2) current capacity and authority to address emergency situations;

29.23 (3) potential direct and indirect costs of an emergency that disrupts elections;

29.24 (4) maintaining ballot security in event of an emergency;

29.25 (5) continuity of operations procedures; and

29.26 (6) communications plans and key emergency contacts.

29.27 Subd. 3. **First meeting; chair.** The secretary of state, or the secretary's designee,
 29.28 must convene the initial meeting of the task force by August 1, 2015. The members of
 29.29 the task force must elect a chair and vice-chair from the members of the task force at the
 29.30 first meeting.

29.31 Subd. 4. **Compensation.** Public members of the task force shall be compensated
 29.32 pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, subdivision 3.

29.33 Subd. 5. **Staff.** The Legislative Coordinating Commission shall provide staff
 29.34 support, as needed, to facilitate the task force's work.

29.35 Subd. 6. **Report.** The task force must submit a report by January 1, 2016, to the
 29.36 chairs and ranking minority members of the committees in the senate and house of

30.1 representatives with primary jurisdiction over elections, summarizing its findings and
 30.2 listing recommendations for the development of elections emergency plans statewide. The
 30.3 report shall include draft legislation to implement the recommendations of the task force.

30.4 Subd. 7. **Sunset.** The task force shall sunset the day following the submission of the
 30.5 report under subdivision 6, or January 1, 2016, whichever is earlier.

30.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

30.7 Sec. 55. **REPEALER.**

30.8 Minnesota Statutes 2014, sections 123B.09, subdivision 5; 204B.14, subdivision 6;
 30.9 204C.13, subdivision 4; 204C.30, subdivision 1; and 383A.555, are repealed.

30.10 **ARTICLE 2**

30.11 **UNIFORM FAITHFUL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS ACT**

30.12 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204B.07, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

30.13 Subd. 2. **Petitions for presidential electors and alternates.** This subdivision
 30.14 does not apply to candidates for presidential elector or alternate nominated by major
 30.15 political parties. Major party candidates for presidential elector or alternate are certified
 30.16 under section 208.03. Other presidential electors or alternates are nominated by petition
 30.17 pursuant to this section. On petitions nominating presidential electors or alternates, the
 30.18 names of the candidates for president and vice-president shall be added to the political
 30.19 party or political principle stated on the petition. One petition may be filed to nominate a
 30.20 slate of presidential electors equal in number to the number of electors to which the state
 30.21 is entitled and an alternate for each elector nominee.

30.22 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 208.02, is amended to read:

30.23 **208.02 ELECTION OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS AND ALTERNATES.**

30.24 Presidential electors and alternates shall be chosen at the state general election held
 30.25 in the year preceding the expiration of the term of the president of the United States.

30.26 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 208.03, is amended to read:

30.27 **208.03 NOMINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS AND**
 30.28 **ALTERNATES.**

30.29 Presidential electors and alternates for the major political parties of this state shall be
 30.30 nominated by delegate conventions called and held under the supervision of the respective
 30.31 state central committees of the parties of this state. At least 71 days before the general

31.1 election day the chair of the major political party shall certify to the secretary of state
 31.2 the names of the persons nominated as presidential electors, the names of eight persons
 31.3 nominated as alternate presidential electors, and the names of the party candidates for
 31.4 president and vice president. The chair shall also certify that the party candidates for
 31.5 president and vice president have no affidavit on file as a candidate for any office in
 31.6 this state at the ensuing general election.

31.7 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 208.06, is amended to read:

31.8 **208.06 ELECTORS AND ALTERNATES TO MEET AT STATE CAPITOL;**
 31.9 **FILLING OF VACANCIES.**

31.10 The presidential electors and alternate presidential electors, before 12:00 M. on the
 31.11 day before that fixed by Congress for the electors to vote for president and vice president
 31.12 of the United States, shall notify the governor that they are at the State Capitol and ready
 31.13 at the proper time to fulfill their duties as electors. The governor shall deliver to the
 31.14 electors present a certificate of the names of all the electors. ~~If any elector named therein~~
 31.15 ~~fails to appear before 9:00 a.m. on the day, and at the place, fixed for voting for president~~
 31.16 ~~and vice president of the United States, an alternate, chosen from among the alternates by~~
 31.17 ~~lot, shall be appointed to act for that elector. If more than eight alternates are necessary,~~
 31.18 ~~the electors present shall, in the presence of the governor, immediately elect by ballot a~~
 31.19 ~~person to fill the vacancy. If more than the number of persons required have the highest~~
 31.20 ~~and an equal number of votes, the governor, in the presence of the electors attending, shall~~
 31.21 ~~decide by lot which of those persons shall be elected~~ The electors shall meet at 12:00 p.m.
 31.22 in the executive chamber of the State Capitol and shall perform all the duties imposed
 31.23 upon them as electors by the Constitution and laws of the United States and this state
 31.24 in the manner provided in section 208.46.

31.25 Sec. 5. **[208.40] SHORT TITLE.**

31.26 Sections 208.40 to 208.48 may be cited as the "Uniform Faithful Presidential
 31.27 Electors Act."

31.28 Sec. 6. **[208.41] DEFINITIONS.**

31.29 (a) The definitions in this section apply to sections 208.40 to 208.48.

31.30 (b) "Cast" means accepted by the secretary of state in accordance with section
 31.31 208.46, paragraph (b).

31.32 (c) "Elector" means an individual selected as a presidential elector under this chapter.

31.33 (d) "President" means the president of the United States.

32.1 (e) "Unaffiliated presidential candidate" means a candidate for president who
 32.2 qualifies for the general election ballot in this state by means other than nomination by a
 32.3 political party.

32.4 (f) "Vice president" means the vice president of the United States.

32.5 **Sec. 7. [208.42] DESIGNATION OF STATE'S ELECTORS.**

32.6 For each elector position in this state, a political party contesting the position, or
 32.7 an unaffiliated presidential candidate, shall submit to the secretary of state the names of
 32.8 two qualified individuals. One of the individuals must be designated "elector nominee"
 32.9 and the other "alternate elector nominee."

32.10 Except as otherwise provided in sections 208.44 to 208.47, this state's electors are
 32.11 the winning elector nominees under the laws of this state.

32.12 **Sec. 8. [208.43] PLEDGE.**

32.13 Each elector nominee and alternate elector nominee of a political party shall execute
 32.14 the following pledge: "If selected for the position of elector, I agree to serve and to mark
 32.15 my ballots for president and vice president for the nominees for those offices of the party
 32.16 that nominated me." Each elector nominee and alternate elector nominee of an unaffiliated
 32.17 presidential candidate shall execute the following pledge: "If selected for the position
 32.18 of elector as a nominee of an unaffiliated presidential candidate, I agree to serve and
 32.19 to mark my ballots for that candidate and for that candidate's vice-presidential running
 32.20 mate." The executed pledges must accompany the submission of the corresponding names
 32.21 to the secretary of state.

32.22 **Sec. 9. [208.44] CERTIFICATION OF ELECTORS.**

32.23 In submitting this state's certificate of ascertainment as required by United States
 32.24 Code, title 3, section 6, the governor shall certify this state's electors and state in the
 32.25 certificate that:

32.26 (1) the electors will serve as electors unless a vacancy occurs in the office of elector
 32.27 before the end of the meeting at which elector votes are cast, in which case a substitute
 32.28 elector will fill the vacancy; and

32.29 (2) if a substitute elector is appointed to fill a vacancy, the governor will submit an
 32.30 amended certificate of ascertainment stating the names on the final list of this state's
 32.31 electors.

32.32 **Sec. 10. [208.45] PRESIDING OFFICER; ELECTOR VACANCY.**

33.1 (a) The secretary of state shall preside at the meeting of electors described in section
 33.2 208.06.

33.3 (b) The position of an elector not present to vote is vacant. The secretary of state
 33.4 shall appoint an individual as a substitute elector to fill a vacancy as follows:

33.5 (1) if the alternate elector is present to vote, by appointing the alternate elector
 33.6 for the vacant position;

33.7 (2) if the alternate elector for the vacant position is not present to vote, by appointing
 33.8 an elector chosen by lot from among the alternate electors present to vote who were
 33.9 nominated by the same political party or unaffiliated presidential candidate;

33.10 (3) if the number of alternate electors present to vote is insufficient to fill any
 33.11 vacant position pursuant to clauses (1) and (2), by appointing any immediately available
 33.12 individual who is qualified to serve as an elector and chosen through nomination by a
 33.13 plurality vote of the remaining electors, including nomination and vote by a single elector
 33.14 if only one remains;

33.15 (4) if there is a tie between at least two nominees for substitute elector in a vote
 33.16 conducted under clause (3), by appointing an elector chosen by lot from among those
 33.17 nominees; or

33.18 (5) if all elector positions are vacant and cannot be filled pursuant to clauses (1) to
 33.19 (4), by appointing a single presidential elector, with remaining vacant positions to be filled
 33.20 under clause (3) and, if necessary, clause (4).

33.21 (c) To qualify as a substitute elector under paragraph (b), an individual who has not
 33.22 executed the pledge required under section 208.43 shall execute the following pledge: "I
 33.23 agree to serve and to mark my ballots for president and vice president consistent with the
 33.24 pledge of the individual to whose elector position I have succeeded."

33.25 **Sec. 11. [208.46] ELECTOR VOTING.**

33.26 (a) At the time designated for elector voting in section 208.06, and after all vacant
 33.27 positions have been filled under section 208.45, the secretary of state shall provide each
 33.28 elector with a presidential and a vice-presidential ballot. The elector shall mark the
 33.29 elector's presidential and vice-presidential ballots with the elector's votes for the offices
 33.30 of president and vice president, respectively, along with the elector's signature and the
 33.31 elector's legibly printed name.

33.32 (b) Except as otherwise provided by law of this state other than this chapter, each
 33.33 elector shall present both completed ballots to the secretary of state, who shall examine
 33.34 the ballots and accept as cast all ballots of electors whose votes are consistent with their
 33.35 pledges executed under section 208.43 or 208.45, paragraph (c). Except as otherwise

34.1 provided by law of this state other than this chapter, the secretary of state may not accept
 34.2 and may not count either an elector's presidential or vice-presidential ballot if the elector
 34.3 has not marked both ballots or has marked a ballot in violation of the elector's pledge.

34.4 (c) An elector who refuses to present a ballot, presents an unmarked ballot, or
 34.5 presents a ballot marked in violation of the elector's pledge executed under section 208.43
 34.6 or 208.45, paragraph (c), vacates the office of elector, creating a vacant position to be
 34.7 filled under section 208.45.

34.8 (d) The secretary of state shall distribute ballots to and collect ballots from a
 34.9 substitute elector and repeat the process under this section of examining ballots, declaring
 34.10 and filling vacant positions as required, and recording appropriately completed ballots from
 34.11 the substituted electors, until all of this state's electoral votes have been cast and recorded.

34.12 **Sec. 12. [208.47] ELECTOR REPLACEMENT; ASSOCIATED CERTIFICATES.**

34.13 (a) After the vote of this state's electors is completed, if the final list of electors
 34.14 differs from any list that the governor previously included on a certificate of ascertainment
 34.15 prepared and transmitted under United States Code, title 3, section 6, the secretary of state
 34.16 immediately shall prepare an amended certificate of ascertainment and transmit it to
 34.17 the governor for the governor's signature.

34.18 (b) The governor immediately shall deliver the signed amended certificate of
 34.19 ascertainment to the secretary of state and a signed duplicate original of the amended
 34.20 certificate of ascertainment to all individuals entitled to receive this state's certificate of
 34.21 ascertainment, indicating that the amended certificate of ascertainment is to be substituted
 34.22 for the certificate of ascertainment previously submitted.

34.23 (c) The secretary of state shall prepare a certificate of vote. The electors on the final
 34.24 list shall sign the certificate. The secretary of state shall process and transmit the signed
 34.25 certificate with the amended certificate of ascertainment under United States Code, title
 34.26 3, sections 9, 10, and 11.

34.27 **Sec. 13. [208.48] UNIFORMITY OF APPLICATION AND CONSTRUCTION.**

34.28 In applying and construing sections 208.40 to 208.48, consideration must be given
 34.29 to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to their subject matter among
 34.30 states that enact the Uniform Faithful Presidential Electors Act or similar law.

34.31 **Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 209.01, subdivision 2, is amended to read:**

34.32 **Subd. 2. *Statewide office.*** For purposes of this chapter, "statewide office" means the
 34.33 office of governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, state auditor, secretary of state,

35.1 chief justice or associate justice of the Supreme Court, judge of the Court of Appeals,
 35.2 United States senator, or presidential elector or alternate.

35.3 Sec. 15. **REPEALER.**

35.4 Minnesota Statutes 2014, sections 208.07; and 208.08, are repealed.

35.5 ARTICLE 3

35.6 VOTER REGISTRATION

35.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 13.607, is amended by adding a
 35.8 subdivision to read:

35.9 Subd. 9. **Data derived from driver's license applications.** Data on an application
 35.10 for a driver's license, a Minnesota identification card, or an instruction permit transferred
 35.11 to the secretary of state that are provided by a person whom the secretary of state
 35.12 determines is not eligible to vote are governed by section 201.161.

35.13 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.054, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

35.14 Subdivision 1. **Registration.** (a) An individual may register to vote:

35.15 (1) at any time before the 20th day preceding any election as provided in section
 35.16 201.061, subdivision 1;

35.17 (2) on the day of an election as provided in section 201.061, subdivision 3; or

35.18 (3) when submitting an absentee ballot, by enclosing a completed registration
 35.19 application as provided in section 203B.04, subdivision 4.

35.20 (b) An individual who is under the age of 18, but who is at least 16 years of age and
 35.21 otherwise eligible, may submit an application to register to vote as provided in section
 35.22 201.061, subdivisions 1 and 1b.

35.23 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.054, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

35.24 Subd. 2. **Prohibitions; penalty.** No individual shall intentionally:

35.25 (a) cause or attempt to cause the individual's name to be registered in any precinct if
 35.26 the individual is not eligible to vote, except as permitted by section 201.061, subdivisions
 35.27 1 and 1b;

35.28 (b) cause or attempt to cause the individual's name to be registered for the purpose of
 35.29 voting in more than one precinct;

35.30 (c) misrepresent the individual's identity when attempting to register to vote; or

35.31 (d) aid, abet, counsel, or procure any other individual to violate this subdivision.

35.32 A violation of this subdivision is a felony.

36.1 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.061, is amended by adding a subdivision
36.2 to read:

36.3 Subd. 1b. Preregistration. An individual who is under the age of 18, but who is
36.4 at least 16 years of age and meets all requirements for eligibility contained in section
36.5 201.014, except for age, may submit an application to register in which the voter maintains
36.6 residence by completing a voter registration pursuant to subdivision 1. Nothing in this
36.7 section shall be construed to entitle an individual to cast a ballot at an election if the
36.8 individual does not meet all eligibility requirements for voting, including age.

36.9 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.071, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

36.10 Subdivision 1. **Form.** Both paper and electronic voter registration applications must
36.11 contain the same information unless otherwise provided by law. A voter registration
36.12 application must contain spaces for the following required information: voter's first name,
36.13 middle name, and last name; voter's previous name, if any; voter's current address; voter's
36.14 previous address, if any; voter's date of birth; voter's municipality and county of residence;
36.15 voter's telephone number, if provided by the voter; date of registration; current and valid
36.16 Minnesota driver's license number or Minnesota state identification number, or if the voter
36.17 has no current and valid Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota state identification, the
36.18 last four digits of the voter's Social Security number; and voter's signature. The paper
36.19 registration application may include the voter's e-mail address, if provided by the voter.
36.20 The electronic voter registration application must include the voter's e-mail address. The
36.21 registration application may include the voter's interest in serving as an election judge,
36.22 if indicated by the voter. The application must also contain the following certification
36.23 of voter eligibility:

36.24 "I certify that I:

36.25 (1) ~~will be at least 18 years old on election day~~ am at least sixteen years old and
36.26 understand that I must be at least eighteen years old to be eligible to vote;

36.27 (2) am a citizen of the United States;

36.28 (3) will have resided in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding election day;

36.29 (4) maintain residence at the address given on the registration form;

36.30 (5) am not under court-ordered guardianship in which the court order revokes my
36.31 right to vote;

36.32 (6) have not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote;

36.33 (7) ~~have the right to vote because, if I have been convicted of a felony, my felony~~
36.34 ~~sentence has expired (been completed) or I have been discharged from my sentence~~ am
36.35 not currently incarcerated for a felony offense; and

37.1 (8) have read and understand the following statement: that giving false information
37.2 is a felony punishable by not more than five years imprisonment or a fine of not more
37.3 than \$10,000, or both."

37.4 The certification must include boxes for the voter to respond to the following
37.5 questions:

37.6 "(1) Are you a citizen of the United States?" and

37.7 ~~"(2) Will you be 18 years old on or before election day?"~~

37.8 "(2) Are you at least 16 years of age and will you be at least 18 years of age on the
37.9 day of the election in which you intend to vote?"

37.10 And the instruction:

37.11 "If you checked 'no' to either of these questions, do not complete this form."

37.12 ~~A paper voter registration application must be of suitable size and weight for~~
37.13 ~~mailing.~~ The form of the voter registration application and the certification of voter
37.14 eligibility must be as provided in this subdivision and approved by the secretary of state.
37.15 Voter registration forms authorized by the National Voter Registration Act must also be
37.16 accepted as valid. The federal postcard application form must also be accepted as valid if
37.17 it is not deficient and the voter is eligible to register in Minnesota.

37.18 An individual may use a voter registration application to apply to register to vote in
37.19 Minnesota or to change information on an existing registration.

37.20 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.091, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

37.21 Subd. 4. **Public information lists.** The county auditor shall make available for
37.22 inspection a public information list which must contain the name, address, year of birth,
37.23 and voting history of each registered voter in the county who is at least 18 years of age.
37.24 The telephone number must be included on the list if provided by the voter. The public
37.25 information list may also include information on voting districts. The county auditor
37.26 may adopt reasonable rules governing access to the list. No individual inspecting the
37.27 public information list shall tamper with or alter it in any manner. No individual who
37.28 inspects the public information list or who acquires a list of registered voters prepared
37.29 from the public information list may use any information contained in the list for purposes
37.30 unrelated to elections, political activities, or law enforcement. The secretary of state may
37.31 provide copies of the public information lists and other information from the statewide
37.32 registration system for uses related to elections, political activities, or in response to a
37.33 law enforcement inquiry from a public official concerning a failure to comply with any
37.34 criminal statute or any state or local tax statute.

38.1 Before inspecting the public information list or obtaining a list of voters or other
 38.2 information from the list, the individual shall provide identification to the public official
 38.3 having custody of the public information list and shall state in writing that any information
 38.4 obtained from the list will not be used for purposes unrelated to elections, political
 38.5 activities, or law enforcement. Requests to examine or obtain information from the public
 38.6 information lists or the statewide registration system must be made and processed in the
 38.7 manner provided in the rules of the secretary of state.

38.8 Upon receipt of a statement signed by the voter that withholding the voter's name
 38.9 from the public information list is required for the safety of the voter or the voter's family,
 38.10 the secretary of state and county auditor must withhold from the public information list the
 38.11 name of a registered voter.

38.12 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.161, is amended to read:

38.13 **201.161 AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION OF DRIVER'S LICENSE,**
 38.14 **INSTRUCTION PERMIT, AND IDENTIFICATION CARD APPLICATIONS**
 38.15 **APPLICANTS.**

38.16 Subdivision 1. Automatic registration. An individual who properly completes
 38.17 an application for a new or renewed Minnesota driver's license, instruction permit, or
 38.18 identification card, and who is eligible to vote under section 201.014, must be registered to
 38.19 vote as provided in this section, unless the applicant declines to be registered.

38.20 Subd. 2. Applications. The Department commissioner of public safety, in
 38.21 consultation with the secretary of state, shall change its the applications for an original,
 38.22 duplicate, or change of address driver's license, instruction permit, or identification card so
 38.23 that the forms may also serve as voter registration applications. The forms must contain
 38.24 spaces for all information collected by voter registration applications prescribed by the
 38.25 secretary of state and a box for the applicant to decline to be registered to vote. Applicants
 38.26 for driver's licenses or identification cards must be asked if they want to register to vote at
 38.27 the same time and that Unless the applicant has declined to be registered to vote or has
 38.28 provided an address other than the applicant's address of residence under section 171.12,
 38.29 subdivision 7, paragraph (d), the commissioner shall transmit the information must be
 38.30 transmitted at least weekly daily by electronic means to the secretary of state. Pursuant
 38.31 to the Help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law 107-252, the computerized driver's
 38.32 license record containing the voter's name, address, date of birth, citizenship, driver's
 38.33 license number or state identification number, county, town, and city or town must be
 38.34 made available for access by the secretary of state and interaction with the statewide
 38.35 voter registration system.

39.1 Subd. 3. **Registration.** (a) The secretary of state shall determine whether the
39.2 applicant is currently registered in the statewide voter registration system. For each
39.3 currently registered voter whose registration is not changed, the secretary of state shall
39.4 update the voter's registration date in the statewide voter registration system. For each
39.5 currently registered voter whose registration is changed, the secretary of state shall
39.6 transmit the registration daily by electronic means to the county auditor of the county
39.7 where the voter resides.

39.8 (b) If the applicant is not currently registered in the statewide voter registration
39.9 system, the secretary of state shall determine whether the applicant is 18 years of age or
39.10 older and a citizen of the United States and compare the voter registration information
39.11 received from the commissioner of public safety with the information on wards,
39.12 incompetents, and felons received from the state court administrator under section 201.15,
39.13 and with data received from the commissioner of corrections under section 201.157, to
39.14 determine whether the applicant is eligible to vote. If an applicant is less than 18 years
39.15 of age, the secretary of state shall wait until the applicant has turned 18 years of age to
39.16 determine whether the applicant is eligible to vote. For each applicant the secretary of
39.17 state determines is an eligible voter, the secretary of state shall transmit the registration
39.18 daily by electronic means to the county auditor of the county where the voter resides.

39.19 (c) Any data on applicants who the secretary determines are not eligible to vote are
39.20 private data on individuals, as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12.

39.21 Subd. 4. **Notice.** Upon receipt of the registration, the county auditor shall mail to
39.22 the voter the notice of registration required by section 201.121, subdivision 2.

39.23 Subd. 5. **Effective date.** An application for registration that is dated during the 20
39.24 days before an election in any jurisdiction within which the voter resides is not effective
39.25 until the day after the election.

39.26 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** An applicant for a Minnesota driver's license, instruction
39.27 permit, or identification card must not be registered to vote under this section until the
39.28 commissioner of public safety has certified that the department's systems have been tested
39.29 and can accurately provide the necessary data, and the secretary of state has certified that
39.30 the system for automatic registration of those applicants has been tested and is capable of
39.31 properly determining whether an applicant is eligible to vote.

40.1 **ARTICLE 4**

40.2 **RESTORATION OF RIGHT TO VOTE**

40.3 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.014, is amended by adding a
40.4 subdivision to read:

40.5 Subd. 2a. **Felony conviction; restoration of civil right to vote.** An individual
40.6 convicted of a felony has the civil right to vote restored when the individual completes
40.7 any incarceration imposed and executed by the court for the offense, and during any other
40.8 period following conviction in which the individual is not incarcerated. If the individual
40.9 is later incarcerated for the same offense, the individual's civil right to vote is lost only
40.10 during the period of incarceration.

40.11 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.12, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

40.12 Subd. 2. **Moved within state.** If any nonforwardable mailing from an election
40.13 official is returned as undeliverable but with a permanent forwarding address in this state,
40.14 the county auditor may change the voter's status to "inactive" in the statewide registration
40.15 system and shall transmit a copy of the mailing to the auditor of the county in which the
40.16 new address is located. If an election is scheduled to occur in the precinct in which the voter
40.17 resides in the next 47 days, the county auditor shall promptly update the voter's address in
40.18 the statewide voter registration system. If there is not an election scheduled, the auditor
40.19 may wait to update the voter's address until after the next list of address changes is received
40.20 from the secretary of state. Once updated, the county auditor shall mail to the voter a notice
40.21 stating the voter's name, address, precinct, and polling place, except that if the voter's
40.22 record is challenged due to incarceration for a felony conviction offense, noncitizenship,
40.23 name change, incompetence, or a court's revocation of voting rights of individuals under
40.24 guardianship, the auditor must not mail the notice. The notice must advise the voter that
40.25 the voter's voting address has been changed and that the voter must notify the county
40.26 auditor within 21 days if the new address is not the voter's address of residence. The notice
40.27 must state that it must be returned if it is not deliverable to the voter at the named address.

40.28 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.12, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

40.29 Subd. 3. **Moved out of state.** If any nonforwardable mailing from an election
40.30 official is returned as undeliverable but with a permanent forwarding address outside this
40.31 state, the county auditor shall promptly mail to the voter at the voter's new address a
40.32 notice advising the voter that the voter's status in the statewide voter registration system
40.33 will be changed to "inactive" unless the voter notifies the county auditor within 21 days

41.1 that the voter is retaining the former address as the voter's address of residence. If the
41.2 voter's record is challenged due to incarceration for a felony conviction offense, lack of
41.3 United States citizenship, legal incompetence, or court-ordered revocation of voting rights
41.4 of persons under guardianship, the county auditor must not mail this notice. If the notice is
41.5 not received by the deadline, the county auditor shall change the voter's status to "inactive"
41.6 in the statewide voter registration system.

41.7 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.13, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

41.8 Subd. 3. **Use of change of address system.** (a) At least once each month the
41.9 secretary of state shall obtain a list of individuals registered to vote in this state who have
41.10 filed with the United States Postal Service a change of their permanent address. The
41.11 secretary of state may also periodically obtain a list of individuals with driver's licenses or
41.12 state identification cards to identify those who are registered to vote who have applied to
41.13 the Department of Public Safety for a replacement driver's license or state identification
41.14 card with a different address, and a list of individuals for whom the Department of Public
41.15 Safety received notification of a driver's license or state identification card cancellation
41.16 due to a change of residency out of state. However, the secretary of state shall not load
41.17 data derived from these lists into the statewide voter registration system within the 47 days
41.18 before the state primary or 47 days before a November general election.

41.19 (b) If the address is changed to another address in this state, the secretary of state
41.20 shall locate the precinct in which the voter resides, if possible. If the secretary of state
41.21 is able to locate the precinct in which the voter resides, the secretary must transmit the
41.22 information about the changed address by electronic means to the county auditor of the
41.23 county in which the new address is located. For addresses for which the secretary of
41.24 state is unable to determine the precinct, the secretary may forward information to the
41.25 appropriate county auditors for individual review. If the voter has not voted or submitted a
41.26 voter registration application since the address change, upon receipt of the information, the
41.27 county auditor shall update the voter's address in the statewide voter registration system.
41.28 The county auditor shall mail to the voter a notice stating the voter's name, address,
41.29 precinct, and polling place, unless the voter's record is challenged due to incarceration
41.30 for a felony conviction offense, noncitizenship, name change, incompetence, or a court's
41.31 revocation of voting rights of individuals under guardianship, in which case the auditor
41.32 must not mail the notice. The notice must advise the voter that the voter's voting address
41.33 has been changed and that the voter must notify the county auditor within 21 days if the
41.34 new address is not the voter's address of residence. The notice must state that it must be
41.35 returned if it is not deliverable to the voter at the named address.

42.1 (c) If the change of permanent address is to an address outside this state, the secretary
 42.2 of state shall notify by electronic means the auditor of the county where the voter formerly
 42.3 resided that the voter has moved to another state. If the voter has not voted or submitted a
 42.4 voter registration application since the address change, the county auditor shall promptly
 42.5 mail to the voter at the voter's new address a notice advising the voter that the voter's status
 42.6 in the statewide voter registration system will be changed to "inactive" unless the voter
 42.7 notifies the county auditor within 21 days that the voter is retaining the former address
 42.8 as the voter's address of residence, except that if the voter's record is challenged due to
 42.9 incarceration for a felony conviction offense, noncitizenship, name change, incompetence,
 42.10 or a court's revocation of voting rights of individuals under guardianship, the auditor must
 42.11 not mail the notice. If the notice is not received by the deadline, the county auditor shall
 42.12 change the voter's status to "inactive" in the statewide voter registration system.

42.13 (d) If, in order to maintain voter registration records, the secretary of state enters
 42.14 an agreement to share information or data with an organization governed exclusively by
 42.15 a group of states, the secretary must first determine that the data security protocols are
 42.16 sufficient to safeguard the information or data shared. If required by such an agreement,
 42.17 the secretary of state may share the following data from the statewide voter registration
 42.18 system and data released to the secretary of state under section 171.12, subdivision 7a:

- 42.19 (1) name;
- 42.20 (2) date of birth;
- 42.21 (3) address;
- 42.22 (4) driver's license or state identification card number;
- 42.23 (5) the last four digits of an individual's Social Security number; and
- 42.24 (6) the date that an individual's record was last updated.

42.25 If the secretary of state enters into such an agreement, the secretary and county auditors
 42.26 must process changes to voter records based upon that data in accordance with this section.
 42.27 Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, when data is shared with the secretary of
 42.28 state by another state, the secretary of state must maintain the same data classification that
 42.29 the data had while it was in the possession of the state providing the data.

42.30 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.14, is amended to read:

42.31 **201.14 COURT ADMINISTRATOR OF DISTRICT COURT; REPORT**
 42.32 **CHANGES OF NAMES.**

42.33 The state court administrator shall regularly report by electronic means to the
 42.34 secretary of state the name, address, and, if available, driver's license or state identification
 42.35 card number of each individual, 18 years of age or over, whose name was changed since

43.1 the last report, by marriage, divorce, or any order or decree of the court. The secretary of
 43.2 state shall determine if any of the persons in the report are registered to vote under their
 43.3 previous name and shall prepare a list of those registrants for each county auditor. Upon
 43.4 receipt of the list, the county auditor shall make the change in the voter's record and mail
 43.5 to the voter the notice of registration required by section 201.121, subdivision 2. A notice
 43.6 must not be mailed if the voter's record is challenged due to incarceration for a felony
 43.7 ~~conviction~~ offense, lack of United States citizenship, legal incompetence, or court-ordered
 43.8 revocation of voting rights of persons under guardianship.

43.9 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.157, is amended to read:

43.10 **201.157 USE OF DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS DATA.**

43.11 (a) The commissioner of corrections shall make electronic data available to the
 43.12 secretary of state on individuals 18 years of age or older who are currently: incarcerated in
 43.13 a state correctional facility.

43.14 ~~(1) serving felony sentences under the commissioner's jurisdiction; or~~

43.15 ~~(2) on probation for felony offenses that would result in the loss of civil rights, as~~
 43.16 ~~indicated by the statewide supervision system established under section 241.065.~~

43.17 The data must include the name, date of birth, last known residential address that is
 43.18 not a correctional facility, and, if available, corrections' state identification number, and
 43.19 the driver's license or state identification card number, and, if an individual has completed
 43.20 the sentence, the date of discharge.

43.21 (b) The secretary of state must determine if any data newly indicates that:

43.22 (1) an individual with an active voter registration in the statewide voter registration
 43.23 system is currently ~~serving a felony sentence under the commissioner's jurisdiction or is~~
 43.24 ~~on probation for a felony offense that would result in the loss of civil rights~~ incarcerated
 43.25 in a state correctional facility and the individual's voter record does not already have a
 43.26 challenged status due to a felony conviction;

43.27 (2) an individual with an active voter registration in the statewide voter registration
 43.28 system who is currently ~~serving a felony sentence under the commissioner's jurisdiction~~
 43.29 ~~or who is on probation for a felony offense that would result in the loss of civil rights~~
 43.30 incarcerated in a state correctional facility appears to have registered to vote or to have
 43.31 voted during a period when the individual's civil rights were revoked; and

43.32 (3) an individual with a voter record that has a challenged status due to a felony
 43.33 conviction who was serving a felony sentence under the commissioner's jurisdiction
 43.34 or who has been on probation for a felony offense that would result in the loss of civil
 43.35 rights has been discharged from a sentence.

44.1 The secretary of state shall prepare a list of the registrants included under clause (1),
 44.2 (2), or (3) for each county auditor. For individuals under clause (1), the county auditor
 44.3 shall challenge the individual's record in the statewide voter registration system. The
 44.4 county auditor must provide information to the county attorney about individuals under
 44.5 clause (2) for the county attorney's investigation. For individuals under clause (3), the
 44.6 county auditor must determine if the challenge status should be removed from the voter
 44.7 record for the individual, and if so, must remove the challenge.

44.8 The secretary of state must make the required determinations and provide the
 44.9 required lists to the county auditors at least monthly.

44.10 For each state general election that occurs prior to the statewide voter registration
 44.11 system being programmed to generate lists as required by this section, the secretary of
 44.12 state must make the determination and provide lists to the county auditors between 30 and
 44.13 60 days before the election and again between six and ten weeks after the election. In the
 44.14 year following that state election, the secretary of state must make this determination and
 44.15 provide lists to the county auditors again as part of the annual list maintenance.

44.16 **Sec. 7. [201.276] DUTIES OF SECRETARY OF STATE; INFORMATION**
 44.17 **ABOUT VOTING RIGHTS.**

44.18 The secretary of state shall develop accurate and complete information in a single
 44.19 publication about the voting rights of people who have been charged with or convicted of
 44.20 a crime. The secretary of state must make this publication available electronically to the
 44.21 state court administrator for distribution to judges, court personnel, probation officers,
 44.22 and the Department of Corrections for distribution to corrections officials, parole and
 44.23 supervised release agents, and the public. The secretary of state must make the publication
 44.24 available to the public on the Office of the Secretary of State's Web site.

44.25 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.08, subdivision 1d, is amended to read:

44.26 Subd. 1d. **Voter's Bill of Rights.** The county auditor shall prepare and provide to
 44.27 each polling place sufficient copies of a poster setting forth the Voter's Bill of Rights as set
 44.28 forth in this section. Before the hours of voting are scheduled to begin, the election judges
 44.29 shall post it in a conspicuous location or locations in the polling place. The Voter's Bill
 44.30 of Rights is as follows:

44.31 "VOTER'S BILL OF RIGHTS

44.32 For all persons residing in this state who meet federal voting eligibility requirements:

44.33 (1) You have the right to be absent from work for the purpose of voting in a state
 44.34 ~~of~~ federal, or regularly scheduled election without reduction to your pay, personal leave,

45.1 or vacation time on election day for the time necessary to appear at your polling place,
45.2 cast a ballot, and return to work.

45.3 (2) If you are in line at your polling place any time before 8:00 p.m., you have the
45.4 right to vote.

45.5 (3) If you can provide the required proof of residence, you have the right to register
45.6 to vote and to vote on election day.

45.7 (4) If you are unable to sign your name, you have the right to orally confirm your
45.8 identity with an election judge and to direct another person to sign your name for you.

45.9 (5) You have the right to request special assistance when voting.

45.10 (6) If you need assistance, you may be accompanied into the voting booth by a
45.11 person of your choice, except by an agent of your employer or union or a candidate.

45.12 (7) You have the right to bring your minor children into the polling place and into
45.13 the voting booth with you.

45.14 (8) ~~If you have been convicted of a felony but your felony sentence has expired~~
45.15 ~~(been completed) or you have been discharged from your sentence;~~ You have the right to
45.16 vote, even if you have been convicted of a felony, if you are not currently incarcerated for
45.17 the felony offense.

45.18 (9) If you are under a guardianship, you have the right to vote, unless the court
45.19 order revokes your right to vote.

45.20 (10) You have the right to vote without anyone in the polling place trying to
45.21 influence your vote.

45.22 (11) If you make a mistake or spoil your ballot before it is submitted, you have the
45.23 right to receive a replacement ballot and vote.

45.24 (12) You have the right to file a written complaint at your polling place if you are
45.25 dissatisfied with the way an election is being run.

45.26 (13) You have the right to take a sample ballot into the voting booth with you.

45.27 (14) You have the right to take a copy of this Voter's Bill of Rights into the voting
45.28 booth with you."

45.29 **Sec. 9. [243.205] NOTICE OF RESTORATION OF RIGHT TO VOTE.**

45.30 **Subdivision 1. Correctional facilities; designation of official.** The chief executive
45.31 officer of each state and local correctional facility shall designate an official within the
45.32 facility to provide the notice required under this section to persons to whom the civil right to
45.33 vote is restored by reason of the persons' release from actual incarceration. The official shall
45.34 maintain an adequate supply of voter registration informational materials for this purpose.

46.1 Subd. 2. **Notice requirement.** A notice of restoration of the civil right to vote must
 46.2 be provided as follows:

46.3 (1) the chief executive officer of each state and local correctional facility shall
 46.4 provide the notice to a person being released from the facility following incarceration for a
 46.5 felony-level offense; and

46.6 (2) a probation officer or supervised release agent shall provide the notice to all
 46.7 individuals under correctional supervision for a felony-level offense.

46.8 Subd. 3. **Form of notice.** The notice required by subdivision 2 must appear
 46.9 substantially as follows:

46.10 **"NOTICE OF RESTORATION OF YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE.**

46.11 Your receipt of this notice today means that your right to vote in Minnesota has been
 46.12 restored. Before you can vote on election day, you still need to register to vote and you
 46.13 must satisfy all other voter eligibility criteria. To register, you may complete a voter
 46.14 registration application and return it to the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State. You
 46.15 may also register to vote in your polling place on election day. You will not be permitted
 46.16 to cast a ballot until you register to vote. The first time you appear at your polling place to
 46.17 cast a ballot, you may be required to provide proof of your current residence."

46.18 Subd. 4. **Failure to provide notice.** A failure to provide proper notice as required
 46.19 by this section does not prevent the restoration of the person's civil right to vote.

46.20 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 609.165, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

46.21 Subdivision 1. **Restoration.** (a) When a person has been deprived of civil rights by
 46.22 reason of conviction of a crime and is thereafter discharged, such discharge shall restore the
 46.23 person to all civil rights and to full citizenship, with full right to vote and hold office, the
 46.24 same as if such conviction had not taken place, and the order of discharge shall so provide.

46.25 (b) Section 201.014, subdivision 2a, governs the restoration of voting rights for
 46.26 persons whose right to vote has been lost due to a felony conviction.

46.27 Sec. 11. **REPEALER.**

46.28 Minnesota Statutes 2014, sections 201.155; and 201.275, are repealed.

46.29 Sec. 12. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

46.30 This article is effective August 1, 2015, and applies to elections held on or after that
 46.31 date. Notices required to be provided by Minnesota Statutes, section 243.205, must be
 46.32 provided to individuals released from incarceration on or after August 1, 2015.

ARTICLE 5

EARLY VOTING

47.1

47.2

47.3 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 201.022, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

47.4 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The secretary of state shall maintain a statewide
47.5 voter registration system to facilitate voter registration and to provide a central database
47.6 containing voter registration information from around the state. The system must be
47.7 accessible to the county auditor of each county in the state. The system must also:

47.8 (1) provide for voters to submit their voter registration applications to any county
47.9 auditor, the secretary of state, or the Department of Public Safety;

47.10 (2) provide for the definition, establishment, and maintenance of a central database
47.11 for all voter registration information;

47.12 (3) provide for entering data into the statewide registration system;

47.13 (4) provide for electronic transfer of completed voter registration applications from
47.14 the Department of Public Safety to the secretary of state or the county auditor;

47.15 (5) assign a unique identifier to each legally registered voter in the state;

47.16 (6) provide for the acceptance of the Minnesota driver's license number, Minnesota
47.17 state identification number, and last four digits of the Social Security number for each
47.18 voter record;

47.19 (7) coordinate with other agency databases within the state;

47.20 (8) allow county auditors and the secretary of state to add or modify information in
47.21 the system to provide for accurate and up-to-date records;

47.22 (9) allow county auditors, municipal and school district clerks, and the secretary
47.23 of state to have electronic access to the statewide registration system for review and
47.24 search capabilities;

47.25 (10) provide security and protection of all information in the statewide registration
47.26 system and ensure that unauthorized access is not allowed;

47.27 (11) provide access to municipal clerks to use the system;

47.28 (12) provide a system for each county to identify the precinct to which a voter
47.29 should be assigned for voting purposes;

47.30 (13) provide daily reports accessible by county auditors on the driver's license
47.31 numbers, state identification numbers, or last four digits of the Social Security numbers
47.32 submitted on voter registration applications that have been verified as accurate by the
47.33 secretary of state; ~~and~~

47.34 (14) provide reports on the number of absentee ballots transmitted to and returned
47.35 and cast by voters under section 203B.16.; and

48.1 (15) provide reports necessary for early voting.

48.2 The appropriate state or local official shall provide security measures to prevent
48.3 unauthorized access to the computerized list established under section 201.021.

48.4 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.001, is amended to read:

48.5 **203B.001 ELECTION LAW APPLICABILITY.**

48.6 The Minnesota Election Law is applicable to voting by absentee ballot and early
48.7 voting unless otherwise provided in this chapter.

48.8 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.01, is amended by adding a subdivision
48.9 to read:

48.10 Subd. 5. **Early voting.** "Early voting" means voting in person before election
48.11 day at a polling place designated as provided in section 203B.33 during the time period
48.12 provided in section 203B.31.

48.13 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

48.14 Subdivision 1. **Violation.** No individual shall intentionally:

48.15 ~~(a)~~ (1) make or sign any false certificate required by this chapter;

48.16 ~~(b)~~ (2) make any false or untrue statement in any application for absentee ballots;

48.17 ~~(c)~~ (3) apply for absentee ballots or cast an early ballot more than once in any
48.18 election with the intent to cast an illegal ballot;

48.19 ~~(d)~~ (4) exhibit a ballot marked by that individual to any other individual;

48.20 ~~(e)~~ (5) do any act in violation of the provisions of this chapter for the purpose of
48.21 casting an illegal vote in any precinct or for the purpose of aiding another to cast an
48.22 illegal vote;

48.23 ~~(f)~~ (6) use information from absentee ballot or early voting materials or records for
48.24 purposes unrelated to elections, political activities, or law enforcement;

48.25 ~~(g)~~ (7) provide assistance to an absentee or early voter except in the manner provided
48.26 by section 204C.15, subdivision 1;

48.27 ~~(h)~~ (8) solicit the vote of an absentee or early voter while in the immediate presence
48.28 of the voter during the time the individual knows the absentee or early voter is voting; or

48.29 ~~(i)~~ (9) alter an absentee ballot application after it has been signed by the voter,
48.30 except by an election official for administrative purposes.

48.31 Before inspecting information from absentee ballot or early voting materials or
48.32 records, an individual shall provide identification to the public official having custody of
48.33 the material or information.

49.1 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

49.2 Subdivision 1. **Generally.** The full-time clerk of any city or town shall administer
49.3 the provisions of sections 203B.04 to 203B.15 if:

49.4 (1) the county auditor of that county has designated the clerk to administer them; or

49.5 (2) the clerk has given the county auditor of that county notice of intention to
49.6 administer them.

49.7 The designation or notice must specify whether the clerk will be responsible for the
49.8 administration of a ballot board as provided in section 203B.121.

49.9 A clerk of a city that is located in more than one county may only administer the
49.10 provisions of sections 203B.04 to 203B.15 and 203B.30 to 203B.35 if the clerk has been
49.11 designated by each of the county auditors or has provided notice to each of the county
49.12 auditors that the city will administer absentee voting. A clerk may only administer
49.13 the provisions of sections 203B.04 to 203B.15 and 203B.30 to 203B.35 if the clerk
49.14 has technical capacity to access the statewide voter registration system in the secure
49.15 manner prescribed by the secretary of state. The secretary of state must identify hardware,
49.16 software, security, or other technical prerequisites necessary to ensure the security,
49.17 access controls, and performance of the statewide voter registration system. A clerk
49.18 must receive training approved by the secretary of state on the use of the statewide voter
49.19 registration system before administering this section. A clerk may not use the statewide
49.20 voter registration system until the clerk has received the required training. The county
49.21 auditor must notify the secretary of state of any municipal clerk who will be administering
49.22 the provisions of this section and the duties that the clerk will administer.

49.23 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.081, is amended to read:

49.24 **203B.081 LOCATIONS FOR ABSENTEE VOTING IN PERSON.**

49.25 (a) An eligible voter may vote by absentee ballot in the office of the county auditor
49.26 and at any other polling place designated by the county auditor during the 46 days before
49.27 the election, except as provided in this section.

49.28 (b) Voters casting absentee ballots in person for a town election held in March
49.29 may do so during the 30 days before the election. The county auditor shall make such
49.30 designations at least 14 weeks before the election. At least one voting booth in each
49.31 polling place must be made available by the county auditor for this purpose. The county
49.32 auditor must also make available at least one electronic ballot marker in each polling place
49.33 that has implemented a voting system that is accessible for individuals with disabilities
49.34 pursuant to section 206.57, subdivision 5.

50.1 (c) No voter may vote by absentee ballot in person during the period designated for
 50.2 early voting, as provided in section 203B.31.

50.3 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.085, is amended to read:

50.4 **203B.085 COUNTY AUDITOR'S AND MUNICIPAL CLERK'S OFFICES TO**
 50.5 **REMAIN OPEN DURING CERTAIN HOURS PRECEDING ELECTION.**

50.6 The county auditor's office in each county and the clerk's office in each city or
 50.7 town authorized under section 203B.05 to administer absentee balloting must be open
 50.8 for acceptance of absentee ballot applications and casting of absentee ballots from 8:00
 50.9 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the day immediately preceding a federal, state, or county election,
 50.10 unless that day falls on a Sunday. When performing the duties of the county auditor in
 50.11 an election not held in conjunction with a federal, state, or county election, the clerk's
 50.12 office must be open from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday and until 5:00 p.m. on the
 50.13 day immediately preceding a primary, special, or general election unless that day falls
 50.14 on a Saturday or Sunday. Town clerks' offices must be open for absentee voting from
 50.15 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the Saturday before a town general election held in March.
 50.16 The school district clerk, when performing the county auditor's election duties, need not
 50.17 comply with this section.

50.18 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.121, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

50.19 Subdivision 1. **Establishment; applicable laws.** (a) The governing body of each
 50.20 county, municipality, and school district with responsibility to accept and reject absentee
 50.21 ballots or to administer early voting must, by ordinance or resolution, establish a ballot
 50.22 board. The board must consist of a sufficient number of election judges trained in the
 50.23 handling of absentee ballots and, administration of early voting, and the use of the statewide
 50.24 voter registration system. The members must be appointed as provided in sections 204B.19
 50.25 to 204B.22. The board may include deputy county auditors or deputy city clerks who have
 50.26 received training in the processing and counting of absentee and early voting ballots.

50.27 (b) Each jurisdiction must pay a reasonable compensation to each member of that
 50.28 jurisdiction's ballot board for services rendered during an election.

50.29 (c) Except as otherwise provided by this section, all provisions of the Minnesota
 50.30 Election Law apply to a ballot board.

50.31 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.121, is amended by adding a
 50.32 subdivision to read:

51.1 Subd. 2a. **Duties of ballot board; early voting.** The members of the ballot board
 51.2 shall administer the process of early voting as prescribed in section 203B.35, and shall
 51.3 make a record of voters who cast ballots early and count those ballots as provided in
 51.4 subdivisions 3 and 5.

51.5 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.121, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

51.6 **Subd. 3. Record of voting.** (a) When applicable, the county auditor or municipal
 51.7 clerk must immediately record that a voter's absentee ballot has been accepted or that the
 51.8 voter has cast a ballot pursuant to the early voting procedures provided in this chapter. A
 51.9 voter whose record indicates that the voter has cast an early ballot must not be permitted
 51.10 to cast another ballot in that election. After the close of business on the seventh day before
 51.11 the election day prior to the beginning of the early voting period as provided in section
 51.12 203B.31, a voter whose record indicates that an absentee ballot has been accepted must
 51.13 not be permitted to cast another ballot at that election. In a state primary, general, or state
 51.14 special election for federal ~~or~~, state, or county office, the auditor or clerk must also record
 51.15 this information in the statewide voter registration system.

51.16 (b) The roster must be marked, and a supplemental report of absentee and early
 51.17 voters who submitted a voter registration application with their ballot must be created, no
 51.18 later than the start of voting on election day to indicate the voters that have already cast a
 51.19 ballot at the election. The roster may be marked either:

51.20 (1) by the county auditor or municipal clerk before election day;

51.21 (2) by the ballot board before election day; or

51.22 (3) by the election judges at the polling place on election day.

51.23 The record of a voter whose absentee ballot was received after the close of business
 51.24 on the seventh day before the election is not required to be marked on the roster or
 51.25 contained in a supplemental report as required by this paragraph.

51.26 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.121, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

51.27 **Subd. 4. Opening of envelopes.** After the close of business on the ~~seventh day~~
 51.28 ~~before the election~~ day prior to the beginning of the early voting period as provided in
 51.29 section 203B.31, the ballots from return envelopes marked "Accepted" may be opened,
 51.30 duplicated as needed in the manner provided in section 206.86, subdivision 5, initialed by
 51.31 the members of the ballot board, and deposited in the appropriate ballot box. If more than
 51.32 one ballot is enclosed in the ballot envelope, the ballots must be returned in the manner
 51.33 provided by section 204C.25 for return of spoiled ballots, and may not be counted.

52.1 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 203B.121, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

52.2 Subd. 5. **Storage and counting of absentee and early voting ballots.** (a) On a
52.3 day on which absentee or early voting ballots are inserted into a ballot box, two members
52.4 of the ballot board must:

52.5 (1) remove the ballots from the ballot box at the end of the day;

52.6 (2) without inspecting the ballots, ensure that the number of ballots removed from
52.7 the ballot box is equal to the number of voters who cast early votes and whose absentee
52.8 ballots were accepted that day; and

52.9 (3) seal and secure all voted and unvoted ballots present in that location at the end
52.10 of the day.

52.11 (b) After the polls have closed on election day, two members of the ballot board
52.12 must count the ballots, tabulating the vote in a manner that indicates each vote of the voter
52.13 and the total votes cast for each candidate or question. In state primary and state general
52.14 elections, the results must indicate the total votes cast for each candidate or question in
52.15 each precinct and report the vote totals tabulated for each precinct. The count must be
52.16 recorded on a summary statement in substantially the same format as provided in section
52.17 204C.26. The ballot board shall submit at least one completed summary statement to the
52.18 county auditor or municipal clerk. The county auditor or municipal clerk may require
52.19 the ballot board to submit a sufficient number of completed summary statements to
52.20 comply with the provisions of section 204C.27, or the county auditor or municipal clerk
52.21 may certify reports containing the details of the ballot board summary statement to the
52.22 recipients of the summary statements designated in section 204C.27.

52.23 In state primary and state general elections, these vote totals shall be added to the
52.24 vote totals on the summary statements of the returns for the appropriate precinct. In other
52.25 elections, these vote totals may be added to the vote totals on the summary statement of
52.26 returns for the appropriate precinct or may be reported as a separate total.

52.27 The count shall be public. No vote totals from ballots may be made public before the
52.28 close of voting on election day.

52.29 (c) In addition to the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b), if the task has not been
52.30 completed previously, the members of the ballot board must verify as soon as possible, but
52.31 no later than 24 hours after the end of the hours for voting, that voters whose absentee
52.32 ballots arrived after the rosters were marked or supplemental reports were generated
52.33 and whose ballots were accepted did not vote in person on election day. An absentee
52.34 ballot submitted by a voter who has voted in person on election day must be rejected. All
52.35 other accepted absentee ballots must be opened, duplicated if necessary, and counted by

53.1 members of the ballot board. The vote totals from these ballots must be incorporated into
 53.2 the totals with the other absentee ballots and handled according to paragraph (b).

53.3 **Sec. 13. [203B.30] EARLY VOTING; APPLICABILITY.**

53.4 Subdivision 1. Federal, state, and county elections. Any eligible voter may vote in
 53.5 person for every primary, special, and general election for a federal, state, or county office
 53.6 prior to the date of the election, in the manner provided in sections 203B.30 to 203B.35.

53.7 Subd. 2. Municipal and school district elections. (a) Subject to the requirements
 53.8 in paragraph (b), for municipal or school district elections not held in conjunction with a
 53.9 federal, state, or county election, the municipality or school district may authorize eligible
 53.10 voters to vote in the manner provided in sections 203B.30 to 203B.35 upon resolution of
 53.11 the governing body of the municipality or school district. The resolution must be adopted
 53.12 at least 74 days before the election. A home rule charter city may alternatively provide for
 53.13 authorization pursuant to this subdivision in the city's charter.

53.14 (b) A municipality or school district may only authorize voting under sections
 53.15 203B.30 to 203B.35 if the municipal or school district clerk has the technical capacity
 53.16 to access the statewide voter registration system in the secure manner prescribed by the
 53.17 secretary of state. The secretary of state must identify hardware, software, security,
 53.18 or other technical prerequisites necessary to ensure the security, access controls, and
 53.19 performance of the statewide voter registration system. The clerk must receive training
 53.20 approved by the secretary of state on the use of the statewide voter registration system
 53.21 before administering voting authorized under this paragraph. The clerk may not use the
 53.22 statewide voter registration system until the clerk has received the required training.

53.23 **Sec. 14. [203B.31] TIME PERIOD FOR EARLY VOTING.**

53.24 In elections where early voting is required or authorized under section 203B.30, early
 53.25 voting must be available from 15 days before the election through 5:00 p.m. on the third
 53.26 day before the election. All voters in line at 5:00 p.m. on the third day before the election
 53.27 must be allowed to vote in the same manner as provided in section 204C.05, subdivision 2.

53.28 **Sec. 15. [203B.32] HOURS FOR EARLY VOTING.**

53.29 Early voting must be available between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on
 53.30 each weekday during the time period provided in section 203B.31, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00
 53.31 p.m. on at least one weekday, and from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the two Saturdays
 53.32 before the election. For a primary election, early voting polling places are not required to
 53.33 be open on the first Saturday of the early voting period.

54.1 Sec. 16. **[203B.33] LOCATIONS FOR EARLY VOTING; POLLING PLACE**
54.2 **REQUIREMENTS.**

54.3 Subdivision 1. **Locations.** Early voting must be made available at: (1) the county
54.4 auditor's office; (2) at the municipal clerk's office in every municipality that has been
54.5 delegated the responsibility to administer absentee voting as provided in section 203B.05;
54.6 and (3) at any other location designated by the county auditor or municipal clerk at least
54.7 90 days before the election.

54.8 Subd. 2. **Requirements for polling places.** (a) At least one voting station and one
54.9 ballot marking device for disabled voters must be made available in each polling place.

54.10 (b) The county auditor must make an electronic voting system available in each
54.11 polling place.

54.12 (c) Each polling place must have access to the statewide voter registration system in
54.13 a manner that allows election judges to enter data into the system from the polling place.

54.14 Sec. 17. **[203B.34] NOTICE TO VOTERS.**

54.15 The county auditor must prepare a notice to the voters of the days, times, and
54.16 locations for early voting. At least 14 days before the first day for early voting, the
54.17 notice must be posted on the county's Web site and the Web site for each municipality in
54.18 the county where an early voting location is designated for the election. If a county or
54.19 municipality does not have a Web site, the county auditor or municipal clerk must publish
54.20 the notice at least once in the jurisdiction's official newspaper at least seven days and not
54.21 more than 14 days before the first day for early voting.

54.22 Sec. 18. **[203B.35] PROCEDURES FOR EARLY VOTING.**

54.23 Subdivision 1. **Voting procedure.** (a) Before an individual is allowed to sign the
54.24 polling place roster or a voter signature certificate, a ballot board member must access the
54.25 statewide voter registration system to determine if the individual has cast a ballot in the
54.26 election. If the individual has already cast a ballot in the election, the voter must not be
54.27 allowed to sign the polling place roster or a voter signature certificate, and the individual
54.28 must not be given a ballot. If the individual has not already cast a ballot in the election,
54.29 the voter shall sign the polling place roster or a voter signature certificate as provided in
54.30 section 204C.10. An individual who is not registered to vote must register in the manner
54.31 provided in section 201.061, subdivision 3.

54.32 (b) After the voter has signed the polling place roster or a voter signature certificate,
54.33 a member of the ballot board must provide a ballot to the voter. As soon as possible, after
54.34 a ballot is provided to a voter, a ballot board member must indicate in the statewide voter

55.1 registration system that the voter has cast a ballot in the election. Ballots must be prepared
 55.2 and distributed by members of the ballot board in the manner provided in section 204C.09.
 55.3 The voter must mark the ballot and deposit it in either a precinct count voting system or a
 55.4 sealed ballot box. A voter may not leave the polling place with the ballot.

55.5 Subd. 2. **Processing of ballots.** Ballots cast pursuant to sections 203B.30 to
 55.6 203B.35 must be processed and counted as provided in section 203B.121, subdivision 2a.

55.7 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204B.28, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

55.8 Subd. 2. **Election supplies; duties of county auditors and clerks.** (a) Except as
 55.9 otherwise provided for absentee ballots in this section and in section 204B.35, subdivision
 55.10 4, the county auditor shall complete the preparation of the election materials for which
 55.11 the auditor is responsible at least four days before every state primary and state general
 55.12 election. At any time after all election materials are available from the county auditor
 55.13 but not later than four days before the election each municipal clerk shall secure from
 55.14 the county auditor:

55.15 ~~(a)~~ (1) the forms that are required for the conduct of the election;

55.16 ~~(b)~~ (2) any printed voter instruction materials furnished by the secretary of state;

55.17 ~~(c)~~ (3) any other instructions for election officers; and

55.18 ~~(d)~~ (4) a sufficient quantity of the official ballots, registration files, envelopes for
 55.19 ballot returns, and other supplies and materials required for each precinct in order to
 55.20 comply with the provisions of the Minnesota Election Law. The county auditor may
 55.21 furnish the election supplies to the municipal clerks in the same manner as the supplies are
 55.22 furnished to precincts in unorganized territory pursuant to section 204B.29, subdivision 1.

55.23 (b) At least one day prior to the beginning of the early voting period, as provided in
 55.24 section 203B.31, the county auditor must prepare and make available election materials
 55.25 for early voting to city clerks designated to administer early voting under section 203B.05.

55.26 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204C.10, is amended to read:

55.27 **204C.10 PERMANENT REGISTRATION; VERIFICATION OF**
 55.28 **REGISTRATION.**

55.29 (a) An individual seeking to vote shall sign a polling place roster or voter signature
 55.30 certificate which states that the individual:

55.31 (1) is at least 18 years of age;₂

55.32 (2) a citizen of the United States;₂

55.33 (3) has resided in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding the election;₂

55.34 (4) maintains residence at the address shown;₂

56.1 (5) is not under a guardianship in which the court order revokes the individual's
56.2 right to vote;₂

56.3 (6) has not been found by a court of law to be legally incompetent to vote ~~or has~~
56.4 ~~the right to vote because;~~₂

56.5 (7) ~~if the individual was convicted of a felony, the felony sentence has expired or~~
56.6 ~~been completed or the individual has been discharged from the sentence,~~ is not currently
56.7 incarcerated for a felony offense;

56.8 (8) is registered;₂ and

56.9 (9) has not already voted in the election.

56.10 The roster and voter signature certificate must also state: "I understand that deliberately
56.11 providing false information is a felony punishable by not more than five years
56.12 imprisonment and a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both."

56.13 (b) An individual voting early under section 203B.30 must sign the roster or a voter
56.14 signature certificate that meets the additional requirements of this paragraph. In addition
56.15 to the content required under paragraph (a), the roster or voter signature certificate must
56.16 also state: "I understand that after I have cast my ballot today, I cannot vote again in
56.17 this election."

56.18 (c) All of the text contained within the quotation marks in paragraphs (a) and (b)
56.19 must be in bold type on rosters or voter signature certificates provided to individuals
56.20 voting as provided in section 203B.30.

56.21 (d) A judge may, before the applicant signs the roster or voter signature certificate,
56.22 confirm the applicant's name, address, and date of birth.

56.23 ~~(e)~~ (e) After the applicant signs the roster or voter signature certificate, the judge
56.24 shall give the applicant a voter's receipt. The voter shall deliver the voter's receipt to the
56.25 judge in charge of ballots as proof of the voter's right to vote, and thereupon the judge
56.26 shall hand to the voter the ballot. The voters' receipts must be maintained during the
56.27 time for notice of filing an election contest.

56.28 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 206.82, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

56.29 Subdivision 1. **Program.** A program or programs for use in an election conducted
56.30 by means of an electronic voting system or using an electronic ballot marker shall be
56.31 prepared at the direction of the county auditor or municipal clerk who is responsible for
56.32 the conduct of the election and shall be independently verified by a competent person
56.33 designated by that official. The term "competent person" as used in this section means a
56.34 person who can demonstrate knowledge as a computer programmer and who is other than
56.35 and wholly independent of any person operating or employed by the counting center or the

57.1 corporation or other preparer of the program. A test deck prepared by a competent person
 57.2 shall be used for independent verification of the program; it shall test the maximum digits
 57.3 used in totaling the returns and shall be usable by insertion during the tabulation process
 57.4 as well as prior to tabulation. A test deck must also be prepared using the electronic ballot
 57.5 marker program and must also be used to verify that all valid votes counted by the vote
 57.6 tabulator may be selected using the electronic ballot marker. The computer program for
 57.7 any election and an exact duplicate of the program for use as backup must be completed
 57.8 and delivered to the election jurisdiction or the county auditor in charge of a common
 57.9 central counting center at least 27 days prior to the election. The secretary of state shall
 57.10 adopt rules further specifying test procedures.

57.11 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 206.83, is amended to read:

57.12 **206.83 TESTING OF VOTING SYSTEMS.**

57.13 ~~Within 14 days~~ No sooner than 22 days before election day and no later than 16 days
 57.14 before election day, the official in charge of elections shall have the voting system tested
 57.15 to ascertain that the system will correctly mark ballots using all methods supported by the
 57.16 system, including through assistive technology, and count the votes cast for all candidates
 57.17 and on all questions. Public notice of the time and place of the test must be given at least
 57.18 two days in advance by publication once in official newspapers. The test must be observed
 57.19 by at least two election judges, who are not of the same major political party, and must be
 57.20 open to representatives of the political parties, candidates, the press, and the public. The
 57.21 test must be conducted by (1) processing a preaudited group of ballots punched or marked
 57.22 to record a predetermined number of valid votes for each candidate and on each question,
 57.23 and must include for each office one or more ballot cards which have votes in excess of
 57.24 the number allowed by law in order to test the ability of the voting system tabulator and
 57.25 electronic ballot marker to reject those votes; and (2) processing an additional test deck
 57.26 of ballots marked using the electronic ballot marker for the precinct, including ballots
 57.27 marked using the electronic ballot display, audio ballot reader, and any assistive voting
 57.28 technology used with the electronic ballot marker. If any error is detected, the cause must
 57.29 be ascertained and corrected and an errorless count must be made before the voting system
 57.30 may be used in the election. After the completion of the test, the programs used and ballot
 57.31 cards must be sealed, retained, and disposed of as provided for paper ballots.

57.32 Sec. 23. **EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICABILITY.**

58.1 (a) This article is effective when the secretary of state makes the certification
 58.2 required in paragraph (b), and applies to elections held after the effective date or August 1,
 58.3 2015, whichever is later.

58.4 (b) The secretary of state shall certify that:

58.5 (1) the statewide voter registration system has been tested and shown to properly
 58.6 allow for the tracking of the information required to conduct early voting, and can handle
 58.7 the expected volume of use; and

58.8 (2) precinct count voting equipment that can tabulate at least 30 different ballot
 58.9 styles has been certified for use in this state.

58.10 **ARTICLE 6**

58.11 **REDISTRICTING**

58.12 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 103C.311, subdivision 2, is amended to
 58.13 read:

58.14 Subd. 2. **Supervisors elected by districts.** (a) A district board in the seven-county
 58.15 metropolitan area shall by resolution provide that supervisors will be elected by supervisor
 58.16 districts as provided in this subdivision.

58.17 (b) A district board outside of the seven-county metropolitan area, with the approval
 58.18 of the state board, may by resolution provide that supervisors will be elected by supervisor
 58.19 districts as provided in this subdivision.

58.20 (c) The supervisor districts must be composed of precincts established by county
 58.21 and municipal governing bodies under section 204B.14. The districts must be compact,
 58.22 include only contiguous territory, and be substantially equal in population. The districts
 58.23 must be numbered in a regular series. The districts must be drawn by the county board
 58.24 of the county containing the largest area of the soil and water conservation district,
 58.25 in consultation with the district board and with the approval of the state board. The
 58.26 boundaries of the districts must be redrawn after each decennial federal census as provided
 58.27 in section 204B.135. A certified copy of the resolution establishing supervisor districts
 58.28 must be filed by the chair of the district board with the county auditor of the counties
 58.29 where the soil and water conservation district is located, with the state board, and with
 58.30 the secretary of state, and the filings must occur within 80 days of the time when the
 58.31 legislature has been redistricted or at least 15 weeks before the state primary election in a
 58.32 year ending in two, whichever comes first.

58.33 (d) Each supervisor district is entitled to elect one supervisor. A supervisor must be
 58.34 a resident of the district from which elected.

59.1 (e) The district board shall provide staggered terms for supervisors elected by
 59.2 district. After each redistricting, there shall be a new election of supervisors in all the
 59.3 districts at the next general election, except that if the change made in the boundaries of a
 59.4 district is less than five percent of the average population of all the districts, the supervisor
 59.5 in office at the time of the redistricting shall serve for the full term for which elected. The
 59.6 district board shall determine by lot the seats to be filled for a two-year term, a four-year
 59.7 term, and a six-year term.

59.8 (f) "Population" as referenced in this section includes the redistricting population
 59.9 data prepared by the secretary of state pursuant to section 204B.145, subdivision 5.

59.10 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204B.145, is amended to read:

59.11 **204B.145 DUTIES OF SECRETARY OF STATE; REDISTRICTING.**

59.12 Subdivision 1. Exchange of information. Following the completion of legislative
 59.13 redistricting, the secretary of state may coordinate and facilitate the exchange of
 59.14 information between the legislative redistricting computer system, the statewide voter
 59.15 registration system, and a computer system developed to assist the counties, municipalities,
 59.16 and school districts in redrawing election districts and establishing election precincts.

59.17 Subd. 2. Corrections information transfer. (a) In each year in which the federal
 59.18 decennial census is taken but in which the United States Bureau of the Census allocates
 59.19 incarcerated persons as residents of correctional facilities, the commissioner of corrections
 59.20 shall by May 1 of that same year transfer to the secretary of state the following:

59.21 (1) a unique identifier, not including the name, or Offender Identification (OID)
 59.22 number for each incarcerated person subject to the jurisdiction of the department on the
 59.23 date for which the decennial census reports population. The unique identifier shall enable
 59.24 the secretary of state to address inquiries about specific address records to the Department
 59.25 of Corrections, without making it possible for anyone outside of the Department of
 59.26 Corrections to identify the inmate for whom the address record pertains;

59.27 (2) the street address of the correctional facility in which the person was incarcerated
 59.28 at the time of the report;

59.29 (3) the last known address of the person prior to incarceration or other legal
 59.30 residence, if known;

59.31 (4) the person's race, whether the person is of Hispanic or Latino origin, and whether
 59.32 the person is over the age of 18, if known; and

59.33 (5) any additional information as the secretary of state may request pursuant to law.

59.34 (b) The commissioner of corrections shall provide the information specified in
 59.35 paragraph (a) in a form specified by the secretary of state.

60.1 (c) The secretary of state must provide the information to the Legislative
60.2 Coordinating Commission.

60.3 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the information required to be
60.4 provided to the secretary of state and the Legislative Coordinating Commission pursuant
60.5 to this section shall not include the name or identification of any incarcerated person. The
60.6 information shall be treated as confidential, and shall not be disclosed by the secretary
60.7 of state or by the Legislative Coordinating Commission except as redistricting data
60.8 aggregated by census block for purposes specified in subdivision 4.

60.9 Subd. 3. **Federal facilities.** The secretary of state shall request each agency that
60.10 operates a federal facility in this state that incarcerates persons convicted of a criminal
60.11 offense to provide the secretary of state with a report including the information listed
60.12 in subdivision 2, paragraph (a).

60.13 Subd. 4. **Redistricting population.** The secretary of state shall work with the
60.14 Legislative Coordinating Commission to prepare redistricting population data to reflect
60.15 incarcerated persons at their residential address pursuant to subdivision 5. The data
60.16 prepared pursuant to subdivision 5 shall be the basis of state house of representatives
60.17 districts, state senate districts, and all local government districts that are based on
60.18 population. Incarcerated populations residing at unknown geographic locations within the
60.19 state, as determined under subdivision 5, paragraph (c), clause (2), shall not be used to
60.20 determine the ideal population of any set of districts, wards, or precincts.

60.21 Subd. 5. **Determinations and data publication by the secretary of state.** (a) For
60.22 each person included in a report received under subdivisions 2 and 3, the secretary of state
60.23 shall work with the Legislative Coordinating Commission to determine the geographic
60.24 units for which population counts are reported in the federal decennial census that contain
60.25 the facility of incarceration and the legal residence as listed according to the report.

60.26 (b) For each person included in a report received under subdivisions 2 and 3, if
60.27 the legal residence is known and in this state, the secretary of state shall work with the
60.28 Legislative Coordinating Commission to:

60.29 (1) ensure that the person is not represented in any population counts reported by the
60.30 secretary of state or the Legislative Coordinating Commission for the geographic units
60.31 that include the facility at which the person was incarcerated, unless that geographic unit
60.32 also includes the person's legal residence; and

60.33 (2) ensure that any population counts reported by the secretary of state and the
60.34 Legislative Coordinating Commission reflect the persons' residential address as reported
60.35 under subdivisions 2 and 3.

61.1 (c) For each person included in a report received under subdivisions 2 and 3 for
 61.2 whom a legal residence is unknown or not in this state, and for all persons reported in the
 61.3 census as residing in a federal correctional facility for whom a report was not provided,
 61.4 the secretary of state shall work with the Legislative Coordinating Commission to:

61.5 (1) ensure that the person is not represented in any population counts reported by the
 61.6 secretary of state or the Legislative Coordinating Commission for the geographic units
 61.7 that include the facility at which the person was incarcerated; and

61.8 (2) allocate the person to a state unit not tied to a specific determined geography, as
 61.9 other state residents with unknown state addresses are allocated, including but not limited
 61.10 to military and federal government personnel stationed overseas.

61.11 Subd. 6. **Data publishing.** The data prepared by the secretary of state and the
 61.12 Legislative Coordinating Commission pursuant to this section shall be completed and
 61.13 published no later than 30 days from the date that federal decennial Public Law 94-171
 61.14 data is published for the state of Minnesota.

61.15 Subd. 7. **Data use.** (a) The secretary of state shall notify each county, home rule
 61.16 charter and statutory city, soil and water conservation districts, Three Rivers Park District,
 61.17 and the Metropolitan Council that subdivision 4 requires those governments to use the
 61.18 data prepared by the secretary pursuant to this section for redistricting purposes.

61.19 (b) The data prepared by the secretary of state in subdivision 5 shall not be used in
 61.20 the distribution of any state or federal aid.

61.21 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 205.84, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

61.22 Subdivision 1. **General provisions.** (a) In a city electing council members by wards,
 61.23 wards shall be as equal in population as practicable and each ward shall be composed of
 61.24 compact, contiguous territory. Each council member shall be a resident of the ward for
 61.25 which elected, but, except as otherwise provided by paragraph (b), a change in ward
 61.26 boundaries does not disqualify a council member from serving for the remainder of a term.

61.27 (b) Notwithstanding any home rule charter provision to the contrary, in a city of the
 61.28 first class where council members are elected by ward to serve for four years to terms that
 61.29 are not staggered, if the population of any ward changes by five percent or more, all
 61.30 council members must be elected to new terms at the first municipal general election
 61.31 after ward boundaries are redefined under subdivision 2; provided, however, that if no
 61.32 municipal general election would otherwise occur in the year ending in "2" or the year
 61.33 ending in "3," a municipal general election must be held in one of those years.

61.34 (c) "Population" as referenced in this section includes the redistricting population
 61.35 data prepared by the secretary of state pursuant to section 204B.145, subdivision 5.

62.1 Sec. 4. [241.0241] LEGAL RESIDENCE OF PERSONS ENTERING CUSTODY.

62.2 (a) The commissioner of corrections shall collect and maintain an electronic record
 62.3 of the legal residence, presumptively outside of the facility, and other demographic data
 62.4 for any person entering its custody. At a minimum, this record shall contain the last
 62.5 known complete street address prior to incarceration, the person's race, whether the person
 62.6 is of Hispanic or Latino origin, and whether the person is over the age of 18. To the
 62.7 degree possible, the commissioner of corrections shall also allow the legal residence to be
 62.8 updated as appropriate.

62.9 (b) The commissioner shall transfer the data collected under this section to the
 62.10 secretary of state as provided under section 204B.145, subdivision 2.

62.11 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 375.025, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

62.12 Subdivision 1. **Standards.** (a) The redistricting plan in use in a county shall be
 62.13 used until a new plan is adopted in accordance with this section. Each county shall be
 62.14 divided into as many districts numbered consecutively as it has members of the county
 62.15 board. Commissioner districts shall be bounded by town, municipal, ward, or precinct
 62.16 lines. Each district shall be composed of contiguous territory as regular and compact in
 62.17 form as practicable, depending upon the geography of the county involved and shall be as
 62.18 nearly equal in population as possible. No district shall vary in population more than ten
 62.19 percent from the average for all districts in the county, unless the result forces a voting
 62.20 precinct to be split. A majority of the least populous districts shall contain not less than a
 62.21 majority of the population of the county. A county may be redistricted by the county board
 62.22 after each federal census. When it appears after a federal census that the districts of the
 62.23 county are not in accord with the standards set forth in this subdivision, the county shall
 62.24 be redistricted by the county board within the times set in section 204B.135, subdivision
 62.25 2. Before acting to redistrict, the county board, or a redistricting commission if one is
 62.26 appointed, shall publish three weeks' notice of its purpose, stating the time and place of
 62.27 the meeting where the matter will be considered, in the newspaper having the contract to
 62.28 publish the commissioners' proceedings for the county for the current year.

62.29 (b) "Population" as referenced in this section includes the redistricting population
 62.30 data prepared by the secretary of state pursuant to section 204B.145, subdivision 5.

62.31 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 375A.09, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

62.32 Subd. 4. **Apportionment, redistricting, staggering, timing.** (a) The county shall
 62.33 be divided into the number of districts from which commissioners are nominated and
 62.34 elected and the population of the county shall be apportioned to the several districts so that

63.1 each commissioner represents the same number of persons as nearly as may be possible.
63.2 When the number of commissioners has been changed, the county board shall proceed to
63.3 redistrict the county accordingly and it shall follow as nearly as possible the times and
63.4 procedures specified in section 375.025, including determining the two-year and four-year
63.5 terms first assigned to districts in order to provide as nearly as possible for an equal number
63.6 of overlapping four-year terms in the future. The resolution redistricting the county shall be
63.7 adopted not less than 30 days before the first day candidates may file for the office of county
63.8 commissioner. Commissioners to be elected pursuant to the modification of the county
63.9 board shall be elected at the general election following the adoption of the modification.

63.10 (b) "Population" as referenced in this section includes the redistricting population
63.11 data prepared by the secretary of state pursuant to section 204B.145, subdivision 5.

63.12 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 383B.68, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

63.13 Subd. 4. **Decennial redistricting.** (a) After September 1, 1985, and after at least
63.14 30 days' notice and public hearing, the Board of Park District Commissioners of the
63.15 Three Rivers Park District shall divide the territory of Hennepin County outside the city
63.16 of Minneapolis into five districts, which constitute the Three Rivers Park District. Each
63.17 district shall be composed of contiguous territory as regular and compact in form as
63.18 practicable and as nearly equal in population as possible, provided that no district shall
63.19 vary in population more than ten percent from the average of all the districts, unless
63.20 compliance with this requirement requires division of a voting precinct. After each federal
63.21 census and by the date prescribed for redistricting of election districts in section 204B.135,
63.22 subdivision 2, after at least 30 days' notice and public hearing, the Board of Park District
63.23 Commissioners of the Three Rivers Park District shall redistrict the territory of the
63.24 Three Rivers Park District into new commissioner districts as necessary to comply with
63.25 the provisions of this subdivision. The districts established pursuant to this subdivision
63.26 shall remain effective until new districts are established. Any person aggrieved by a
63.27 districting plan established pursuant to this subdivision may challenge the plan in the same
63.28 manner as a county commissioner districting plan may be challenged pursuant to section
63.29 375.025. The district court in reviewing any challenge to a districting plan under this
63.30 subdivision shall proceed in the manner prescribed by section 375.025. Each districting
63.31 plan established pursuant to this subdivision shall be filed in the office of the director of
63.32 finance of Hennepin County or any successor office and shall be effective 31 days after its
63.33 publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county.

63.34 (b) "Population" as referenced in this section includes the redistricting population
63.35 data prepared by the secretary of state pursuant to section 204B.145, subdivision 5.

64.1 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 473.123, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

64.2 Subd. 3a. **Redistricting.** (a) The legislature shall redraw the boundaries of the
64.3 council districts after each decennial federal census so that each district has substantially
64.4 equal population. Redistricting is effective in the year ending in the numeral "3." Within
64.5 60 days after a redistricting plan takes effect, the governor shall appoint members from the
64.6 newly drawn districts to serve terms as provided under subdivision 2a.

64.7 (b) "Population" as referenced in this section includes the redistricting population
64.8 data prepared by the secretary of state pursuant to section 204B.145, subdivision 5.

64.9 ARTICLE 7

64.10 APPROPRIATIONS

64.11 Section 1. **APPROPRIATION.**

64.12 (a) \$22,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the Legislative Coordinating
64.13 Commission in fiscal year 2016 for the purposes of the Elections Emergency Planning
64.14 Task Force established in article 1, section 54.

64.15 (b) \$77,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2016 from the general fund to the secretary
64.16 of state to implement early voting. The base for fiscal year 2018 is \$47,000 and for fiscal
64.17 year 2019 is \$6,000.

APPENDIX
Article locations in S0455-4

ARTICLE 1	ELECTION ADMINISTRATION	Page.Ln 2.1
ARTICLE 2	UNIFORM FAITHFUL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS ACT	Page.Ln 30.10
ARTICLE 3	VOTER REGISTRATION	Page.Ln 35.5
ARTICLE 4	RESTORATION OF RIGHT TO VOTE	Page.Ln 40.1
ARTICLE 5	EARLY VOTING	Page.Ln 47.1
ARTICLE 6	REDISTRICTING	Page.Ln 58.10
ARTICLE 7	APPROPRIATIONS	Page.Ln 64.9

123B.09 BOARDS OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

Subd. 5. **Appointments to fill vacancies.** Any other vacancy in a board must be filled by board appointment at a regular or special meeting. The appointment shall be evidenced by a resolution entered in the minutes and shall continue until an election is held under this subdivision. All elections to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired term. If the vacancy occurs before the first day to file affidavits of candidacy for the next school district general election and more than two years remain in the unexpired term, a special election shall be held in conjunction with the school district general election. The appointed person shall serve until the qualification of the successor elected to fill the unexpired part of the term at that special election. If the vacancy occurs on or after the first day to file affidavits of candidacy for the school district general election, or when less than two years remain in the unexpired term, there shall be no special election to fill the vacancy and the appointed person shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term and until a successor is elected and qualifies at the school district election.

201.155 REPORT ON FELONY CONVICTIONS.

Pursuant to the Help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law 107-252, the state court administrator shall report regularly by electronic means to the secretary of state the name, address, date of birth, and, if available, driver's license or state identification card number, date of sentence, effective date of the sentence, and county in which the conviction occurred of each person who has been convicted of a felony. The state court administrator shall also report the name, address, and date of birth of each person previously convicted of a felony whose civil rights have been restored. The secretary of state shall determine if any of the persons in the report is registered to vote and shall prepare a list of those registrants for each county auditor. The county auditor shall change the status of those registrants in the appropriate manner in the statewide registration system.

201.275 INVESTIGATIONS; PROSECUTIONS.

A law enforcement agency that is notified by affidavit of an alleged violation of this chapter shall promptly investigate. Upon receiving an affidavit alleging a violation of this chapter, a county attorney shall promptly forward it to a law enforcement agency with jurisdiction for investigation. If there is probable cause for instituting a prosecution, the county attorney shall proceed by complaint or present the charge, with whatever evidence has been found, to the grand jury. A county attorney who refuses or intentionally fails to faithfully perform this or any other duty imposed by this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall forfeit office. The county attorney, under the penalty of forfeiture of office, shall prosecute all violations of this chapter except violations of this section; if, however, a complainant withdraws an allegation under this chapter, the county attorney is not required to proceed with the prosecution.

Where the matter relates to a voter registration application submitted electronically through the secure Web site established in section 201.061, subdivision 1, alleged violations of this chapter may be investigated and prosecuted in the county in which the individual registered or attempted to register.

204B.14 ELECTION PRECINCTS.

Subd. 6. **Precinct boundaries to follow physical features.** (a) Unless a precinct consists entirely of unorganized territory or more than one precinct is entirely included within one census block, for the first two years following a decennial census an election precinct boundary must follow a census block line.

(b) The boundaries of election precincts must follow visible, clearly recognizable physical features. If it is not possible to establish the boundary between any two adjacent precincts along such features, the boundary around the two precincts combined shall be established in the manner provided in the rules of the secretary of state to comply with the provisions of this subdivision. The maps required by subdivision 5 shall clearly indicate which boundaries do not follow visible, clearly recognizable physical features.

(c) For the purposes of this subdivision, "visible, clearly recognizable physical feature" means a street, road, boulevard, parkway, river, stream, shoreline, drainage ditch, railway right-of-way, or any other line which is clearly visible from the ground. A street or other roadway which has been platted but not graded is not a visible, clearly recognizable physical feature for the purposes of this subdivision.

APPENDIX

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(d) If the secretary of state determines that a precinct boundary does not comply with this subdivision, the secretary of state shall send a notice to the county auditor or municipal clerk specifying the action needed to correct the precinct boundary. If, after 60 days, the county or municipal governing body has not taken action to correct the precinct boundary, the secretary of state shall correct the precinct boundary and notify the county auditor or municipal clerk of the action taken.

(e) If a visible, clearly recognizable physical feature is not available for use as a precinct boundary, an alternate boundary used by the United States Bureau of the Census may be authorized by the secretary of state.

204C.13 RECEIVING AND MARKING BALLOTS.

Subd. 4. **Folding ballots.** After marking the ballots, the voter shall fold each of them separately to conceal the face and all marks on it, and to expose only the initials of the election judges on the back of the ballot.

204C.30 ELECTION RETURNS; ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF COUNTY AUDITOR.

Subdivision 1. **Delivery of summary statements to secretary of state.** The county auditor shall promptly deliver to the secretary of state one of the sets of summary statements received from each precinct.

208.07 CERTIFICATE OF ELECTORS.

Immediately after the vacancies have been filled, the original electors and alternates present shall certify to the governor the names of the persons elected to complete their number, and the governor shall at once cause written notice to be given to each person elected to fill a vacancy. The persons so chosen shall be presidential electors and shall meet and act with the other electors.

208.08 ELECTORS TO MEET AT STATE CAPITOL.

The original, alternate, and substituted presidential electors, at 12:00 M., shall meet in the executive chamber at the State Capitol and shall perform all the duties imposed upon them as electors by the Constitution and laws of the United States and this state.

Each elector, as a condition of having been chosen under the name of the party of a presidential and a vice presidential candidate, is obligated to vote for those candidates. The elector shall speak aloud or affirm in a nonverbal manner the name of the candidate for president and for vice president for whom the elector is voting and then confirm that vote by written public ballot.

If an elector fails to cast a ballot for the presidential or vice presidential candidate of the party under whose name the elector was chosen, the elector's vote or abstention is invalidated and an alternate presidential elector, chosen by lot from among the alternates, shall cast a ballot in the name of the elector for the presidential and vice presidential candidate of the party under whose name the elector was chosen. The invalidation of an elector's vote or abstention on the ballot for president or vice president does not apply if the presidential candidate under whose party's name the elector was chosen has without condition released the elector or has died or become mentally disabled.

383A.555 ELECTION; BALLOT.

Subdivision 1. **Procedure; notice.** Upon delivery of the proposed charter to the board of county commissioners, the board shall submit it to the voters at the general election in 1990. The election shall be conducted as nearly as possible in accordance with chapter 372, provided that the polls shall remain open until 8:00 p.m. The notice of election must contain the complete charter and must be published once a week for two successive weeks in a qualified newspaper of general circulation within the county.

Subd. 2. **Ballot form.** The ballot must be in the following form:

"Shall the proposed new county charter be adopted?

Yes

No "

The voter shall place an "X" after one of the last two words to express the voter's choice.