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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 3652

02/21/2022

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on State Government Finance and Elections

1.1A bill for an act

1.2relating to local government; requiring retention elections for persons appointed

1.3to certain county offices; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 375A.12,

1.4by adding a subdivision.

1.5BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 375A.12, is amended by adding a subdivision

1.7to read:

1.8Subd. 7. **Retention election on appointee.** (a) At the first general election after the

1.9effective date of this section, for any office made an appointed office after the effective date

1.10of this section, the county must at the first general election following appointment hold an

1.11election on whether to retain the person appointed. If the voters do not approve retention

1.12of the person appointed to the position, the appointee may stay in the position only until

1.13January 1 immediately following the election, at which time the county board of

1.14commissioners must appoint another person to the position. If the voters approve retention

1.15of the person appointed to the position, the county may retain the person and shall hold a

1.16retention election at a general election every four years while the same person holds the

1.17appointed office.

1.18(b) The ballot question shall be:

1.19"May the county board retain [name] as the person appointed and responsible for the

1.20functions of [county office title]?"

1.21Yes

1.22No"

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