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State of Minnesota

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION

H. F. No. 329

- 02/02/2011 Authored by Bills, Holberg, Dettmer, Drazkowski, McElpatrick and others  
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Education Reform
- 03/17/2011 Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:  
Amended and re-referred to the Committee on Education Finance without further recommendation
- 02/22/2012 Adoption of Report: Pass as Amended and Read Second Time
- 03/28/2012 Calendar for the Day  
Read Third Time  
Passed by the House and transmitted to the Senate

1.1 A bill for an act  
 1.2 relating to education; prohibiting public school employees from using public  
 1.3 funds and resources to advocate to pass, elect, or defeat a political candidate,  
 1.4 ballot question, or pending legislation; proposing coding for new law in  
 1.5 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 123B.

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

1.7 Section 1. **[123B.022] PROHIBITIONS ON POLITICAL ACTIVITIES BY**  
 1.8 **PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES.**

1.9 Local school boards shall develop and implement policies to ensure that publicly  
 1.10 funded resources, including but not limited to time, materials, equipment, facilities, and  
 1.11 e-mail and other forms of technology used to communicate are not used or authorized  
 1.12 for use by public employees to:

1.13 (1) advocate the election or defeat of any candidate for elective office;

1.14 (2) advocate the passage or defeat of any referendum question; or

1.15 (3) solicit funds for political purposes.

1.16 Such policies shall not prohibit public employees from engaging in political activities  
 1.17 except when they are performing duties assigned to them under their employment contract  
 1.18 with the district or representing their employer in an official capacity.

1.19 Such policies shall not prohibit the use of public funds for disseminating factual  
 1.20 information about a proposition appearing on a local ballot, if such information is factual  
 1.21 and does not advocate for or against the proposition.

1.22 All school districts must make these policies readily accessible to the public in paper  
 1.23 copy at the district office or on the district Web site.

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