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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 1440

02/21/2019 Authored by Christensen
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to elections; authorizing towns in a metropolitan county with fewer than
1.3 2,000 registered voters to conduct elections by mail; amending Minnesota Statutes
1.4 2018, section 204B.45, subdivision 1.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 204B.45, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.7 Subdivision 1. Authorization. (a) The following towns and cities may provide balloting
1.8 by mail at any municipal, county, or state election with no polling place other than the office
1.9 of the auditor or clerk or other locations designated by the auditor or clerk:

1.10 (1) a town of any size not located in a metropolitan county as defined by section 473.121;

1.11 (2) a town having fewer than 2,000 registered voters on June 1 of an election year and
1.12 located in a metropolitan county as defined by section 473.121; or

1.13 (3) a city having fewer than 400 registered voters on June 1 of an election year and not
1.14 located in a metropolitan county as defined by section 473.121, may provide balloting by
1.15 mail at any municipal, county, or state election with no polling place other than the office
1.16 of the auditor or clerk or other locations designated by the auditor or clerk.

1.17 The governing body may apply to the county auditor for permission to conduct balloting
1.18 by mail. The county board may provide for balloting by mail in unorganized territory. The
1.19 governing body of any municipality may designate for mail balloting any precinct having
1.20 fewer than 100 registered voters, subject to the approval of the county auditor.

1.21 (b) Voted ballots may be returned in person to any location designated by the county
1.22 auditor or municipal clerk.