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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 2384

03/11/2019 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 education; elections; requiring certain information to be available in
1.3 the polling place for school district bond referendums; amending the ballot language
1.4 required for school district bond referendums; amending Minnesota Statutes 2018,
1.5 sections 205A.07, subdivision 2; 475.58, subdivision 4; 475.59, subdivision 1.

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

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 205A.07, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

1.8 Subd. 2. Sample ballot, posting. (a) For every school district primary, general, or special
1.9 election, the school district clerk shall must at least four days before the primary, general,
1.10 or special election, post a sample ballot in the administrative offices of the school district
1.11 for public inspection, and shall must post a sample ballot in each polling place on election
1.12 day.

1.13 (b) For a school district general or special election held to authorize the issuance of
1.14 bonds to finance a capital project requiring review and comment under section 123B.71,
1.15 the summary of the commissioner's review and comment and supplemental information
1.16 required under section 123B.71, subdivision 12, paragraph (a), must be posted in the same
1.17 manner as the sample ballot under paragraph (a).

1.18 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective for elections held on or after August 1,
1.19 2019.

1.20 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 475.58, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

1.21 Subd. 4. Proper use of bond proceeds. The proceeds of obligations issued after approval
1.22 of the electors under this section may must only be spent: (1) for the purposes stated in the

2.1 ballot language; or (2) to pay, redeem, or defease obligations and interest, penalties,
2.2 premiums, and costs of issuance of the obligations. The proceeds ~~may~~ must not be spent
2.3 for a different purpose or for an expansion of the original purpose without the approval by
2.4 a majority of the electors voting on the question of changing or expanding the purpose of
2.5 the obligations.

2.6 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 475.59, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

2.7 Subdivision 1. **Generally; notice.** (a) When the governing body of a municipality resolves
2.8 to issue bonds for any purpose requiring the approval of the electors, it shall provide for
2.9 submission of the proposition of their issuance at a general or special election or town or
2.10 school district meeting. Notice of such election or meeting shall be given in the manner
2.11 required by law and shall state the maximum amount and the purpose of the proposed issue.

2.12 (b) In any school district, the school board or board of education may, according to its
2.13 judgment and discretion, submit as a single ballot question or as two or more separate
2.14 questions in the notice of election and ballots the proposition of their issuance for any one
2.15 or more of the following, stated conjunctively or in the alternative: acquisition or enlargement
2.16 of sites, acquisition, betterment, erection, furnishing, equipping of one or more new
2.17 schoolhouses, remodeling, repairing, improving, adding to, betterment, furnishing, equipping
2.18 of one or more existing schoolhouses. The ballot question or questions submitted by a school
2.19 board must state the name of the plan or plans being proposed by the district as submitted
2.20 to the commissioner of education for review and comment under section 123B.71.

2.21 (c) In any city, town, or county, the governing body may, according to its judgment and
2.22 discretion, submit as a single ballot question or as two or more separate questions in the
2.23 notice of election and ballots the proposition of their issuance, stated conjunctively or in
2.24 the alternative, for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of any facilities at one or
2.25 more locations.

2.26 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for elections held on or after August 1,
2.27 2019.