SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION

S.F. No. 1232

1.1   A bill for an act

1.2   relating to elections; establishing a pilot project for conducting elections using

1.3   electronic roster technology; creating the Electronic Roster Task Force; requiring

1.4   a report; appropriating money.

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

1.6   Section 1. **ELECTRONIC ROSTER PILOT PROJECT.**

1.7   Subdivision 1. **Established.** A pilot project is established to explore the use of

1.8   electronic rosters in conducting elections. Jurisdictions participating in the project may

1.9   use electronic rosters to process election day registration, to verify the registration status

1.10   of preregistered voters, or both. The pilot project shall apply to general elections for home

1.11   rule charter or statutory cities conducted in participating cities in 2013. The standards for

1.12   conducting the pilot project are provided in this section.

1.13   Subd. 2. **Participating cities.** Precincts located in Dilworth, Minnetonka,

1.14   Moorhead, Saint Anthony, and Saint Paul may participate in the project. In participating

1.15   cities, the head elections official may designate individual precincts in the jurisdiction to

1.16   participate. A city is not required to use electronic rosters in all precincts.

1.17   Subd. 3. **Technology requirements.** (a) In participating precincts, an electronic

1.18   poll book must:

1.19   (1) be able to be loaded with a data file that includes voter registration data in a file

1.20   format prescribed by the secretary of state;

1.21   (2) allow for data to be exported in a file format prescribed by the secretary of state;

1.22   (3) allow for data to be entered manually or by scanning a Minnesota driver's license

1.23   or identification card to populate a voter registration application that would be printed

1.24   and signed and dated by the voter;

2.1   (4) provide for a printed voter's signature certificate, containing the voter's name,

2.2   address of residence, date of birth, voter identification number, the oath required by

2.3   Minnesota Statutes, section 204C.10, and a space for the voter's original signature;

2.4   (5) immediately alert the election judge if the electronic poll book indicates that a

2.5   voter has already voted, the voter's registration status is challenged, or it appears the

2.6   voter resides in a different precinct;

2.7   (6) provide immediate instructions on how to resolve a particular type of challenge

2.8   when a voter's record is challenged; and

2.9   (7) perform any other functions necessary for the efficient and secure administration

2.10   of participating election, as determined by the secretary of state.

2.11   (b) In precincts using electronic rosters only for election day registration, the

2.12   technology does not need to comply with paragraph (a), clause (4), (5), or (6).

2.13   Subd. 4. **Minnesota election law; other law.** Except as provided in this section, the

2.14   provisions of the Minnesota Election Law apply to this pilot project, so far as practicable.

2.15   Voters participating in the safe at home program must be allowed to vote pursuant to

2.16   Minnesota Statutes, section 5B.06. Nothing in this section shall be construed to amend

2.17   absentee voting provisions in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 203B.

2.18   Subd. 5. **Election records retention.** All voter's signature certificates and voter

2.19   registration applications printed from an electronic poll book shall be retained pursuant to

2.20   Minnesota Statutes, section 204B.40. Data on election day registrants must be uploaded to

2.21   the statewide voter registration system for processing by county auditors.

2.22   Subd. 6. **Election day.** Participating precincts may use electronic rosters for

2.23   election day registration, to verify registration status of preregistered voters, or both. In

2.24   precincts using electronic rosters to verify registration status of preregistered voters, the

2.25   election judges shall also use a paper roster.

2.26   Subd. 7. **Evaluation.** The secretary of state must evaluate the pilot project and must

2.27   report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over elections by January 31, 2014,

2.28   on the results of the evaluation. The report must include:

2.29   (1) a description of the technology that was used and explanation of how that

2.30   technology was selected;

2.31   (2) the process used for implementing electronic poll books;

2.32   (3) a description of training that was conducted for election judges and other election

2.33   officials in precincts that used electronic poll books;

2.34   (4) the number of voters who voted in each precinct using electronic poll books;

2.35   (5) comments, feedback, or recommendations from election judges and others in a

2.36   precinct using electronic poll books;

3.1 (6) the costs associated with the use of electronic poll books, broken down by precinct;

3.2 (7) comments, feedback, or recommendations from the participating cities and

3.3 counties regarding data transfers and other exchanges of information; and

3.4 (8) any other feedback or recommendations the secretary of state believes are

3.5 relevant to evaluating the pilot project.

3.6 Subd. 8. **Expiration.** The authorization for this pilot project expires upon

3.7 submission of the report as provided in subdivision 7.

3.8 Sec. 2. **ELECTRONIC ROSTER TASK FORCE.**

3.9 Subdivision 1. **Membership.** (a) The Electronic Roster Task Force consists of the

3.10 following 15 members:

3.11 (1) the director of the Department of Public Safety, Division of Vehicle Services, or

3.12 designee;

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

3.14 (3) an individual designated by the secretary of state, from the elections division in

3.15 the Office of the Secretary of State;

3.16 (4) the chief information officer of the state of Minnesota, or designee;

3.17 (5) one county auditor appointed by the Minnesota Association of County Officers;

3.18 (6) one town election official appointed by the Minnesota Association of Townships;

3.19 (7) one city election official appointed by the League of Minnesota Cities;

3.20 (8) one school district election official appointed by the Minnesota School Boards

3.21 Association;

3.22 (9) one representative appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

3.23 (10) one representative appointed by the minority leader of the house of

3.24 representatives;

3.25 (11) one senator appointed by the senate Subcommittee on the Committee of the

3.26 Committee on Rules and Administration;

3.27 (12) one senator appointed by the senate minority leader;

3.28 (13) one person appointed by the governor, familiar with electronic roster technology

3.29 but who does not represent a specific vendor of the technology; and

3.30 (14) two election judges appointed by the governor.

3.31 (b) Any vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the appointing authority for the

3.32 vacating member.

3.33 (c) Members shall be appointed by June 1, 2013.

3.34 Subd. 2. **Conflict of interest.** No member of the task force may have a financial

3.35 interest in a manufacturer or distributor of electronic roster technology.

4.1   Subd. 3. **Duties.** The task force must research the following issues:

4.2   (1) electronic roster technology, including different types of electronic rosters;

4.3   (2) the ability to use photographs received from the Department of Vehicle Services;

4.4   (3) the ability to add photographs to the roster on election day;

4.5   (4) data security in electronic rosters, the statewide voter registration system, and the

4.6   Department of Vehicle Services;

4.7   (5) reliability of Department of Vehicle Services data, including the ability to match

4.8   names and photographs without duplication;

4.9   (6) ability of precincts across the state to connect an electronic roster to a secure

4.10   network to access the statewide voter registration system; and

4.11   (7) direct and indirect costs associated with using electronic rosters.

4.12   Subd. 4. **First meeting.** The secretary of state, or the secretary's designee, must

4.13   convene the initial meeting of the task force by July 1, 2013. The members of the task force

4.14   must elect a chair and a vice-chair from the members of the task force at the first meeting.

4.15   Subd. 5. **Compensation.** Public members of the task force shall be compensated

4.16   pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, subdivision 3.

4.17   Subd. 6. **Staff.** The Legislative Coordinating Commission shall provide staff

4.18   support, as needed, to facilitate the task force's work.

4.19   Subd. 7. **Report.** The task force must submit a report by January 31, 2014, to

4.20   the chairs and ranking minority members of the committees in the senate and house of

4.21   representatives with primary jurisdiction over elections, summarizing its findings and

4.22   listing recommendations on the implementation of electronic rosters statewide. The report

4.23   shall include draft legislation to implement the recommendations of the task force.

4.24   Subd. 8. **Sunset.** The task force shall sunset the day following submission of the

4.25   report under subdivision 7, or January 31, 2014, whichever is earlier.

4.26   Sec. 3. **APPROPRIATION.**

4.27   (a) $....... is appropriated from the general fund to the secretary of state to carry

4.28   out the requirements of section 1.

4.29   (b) $....... is appropriated to the Legislative Coordinating Commission for the

4.30   purposes of the task force established in section 2.

4.31   Sec. 4. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

4.32   This act is effective the day following final enactment.