

(15) for filing a condominium plat or an amendment to it in accordance with chapter 515, §30;

(16) for a copy of a condominium plat filed pursuant to chapters 515 and 515A, the fee shall be \$1 for each page of the plat with a minimum fee of \$10;

(17) for filing a condominium declaration and condominium plat or an amendment to it in accordance with chapter 515A, \$10 for each certificate upon which the document is registered and \$30 for the filing of the condominium plat or an amendment to it;

(18) in counties in which the compensation of the examiner of titles is paid in the same manner as the compensation of other county employees, for each parcel of land contained in the application for a CPT, as the number of parcels is determined by the examiner, a fee which is reasonable and which reflects the actual cost to the county, established by the board of county commissioners of the county in which the land is located;

(19) for filing a registered land survey in triplicate in accordance with section 508A.47, subdivision 4, §30;

(20) for furnishing a certified copy of a registered land survey in accordance with section 508A.47, subdivision 4, §10.

#### Sec. 4. COUNTY RECORDER'S EQUIPMENT FUND.

For calendar years 1992 and 1993, \$1 of the fee collected under Minnesota Statutes, section 357.18, subdivision 1, clause (1), must be deposited in the county recorder's equipment fund and be available, at the recorder's discretion, to provide modern, retrievable information from the county's system of recorded documents.

Presented to the governor May 24, 1991

Signed by the governor May 28, 1991, 9:30 a.m.

#### CHAPTER 227—H.F.No. 478

*An act relating to elections; changing requirement of absentee ballot applications for deer hunters; facilitating voting by certain students; defining certain terms; providing for use of certain facilities for elections; clarifying uses to be made of lists of registered voters; requiring commissioner of health to report deaths to secretary of state; authorizing facsimile applications for absentee ballots; authorizing certain experimental election procedures; requiring notarized affidavits of candidacy; providing for allocation of certain election expenses; providing for voting methods in combined local elections; providing order of counting gray box ballots; changing time for issuance of certificates of election; clarifying effect of changing the year of municipal elections; changing certain deadlines and procedures in school district elec-*

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tions; authorizing an experimental school board election; changing disclaimer language; changing procedures for hospital district elections; amending Minnesota Statutes 1990, sections 97A.485, subdivision 1a; 200.02, by adding a subdivision; 201.061, subdivision 3; 201.091, subdivisions 1 and 4; 201.13, subdivision 1; 203B.02, by adding a subdivision; 203B.04, subdivision 1; 204B.09, subdivision 1; 204B.16, subdivision 6, and by adding a subdivision; 204B.32; 204B.35, by adding a subdivision; 204B.45, by adding a subdivision; 204C.19, subdivision 2; 204C.40, subdivision 2; 205.07, subdivision 1, and by adding a subdivision; 205.16, subdivision 4; 205A.04; 205A.07, subdivision 3; 211B.04; and 447.32, subdivisions 2, 3, and 4; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 135A and 201.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 97A.485, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **DEER LICENSE; ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION.** The commissioner and agents shall ~~include with every license~~ have available for each person purchasing a license to take deer with firearms or by archery, sold or issued during a general election year, an application for an absentee ballot and ~~a voter registration card~~ ballot. At the time of purchase, the commissioner or the commissioner's agent shall ask whether the person purchasing the license wants an application for an absentee ballot. The commissioner shall obtain absentee ballot application forms from the secretary of state and distribute them to the commissioner's agents.

Sec. 2. [135A.17] **PROVISIONS TO FACILITATE VOTING.**

Subdivision 1. IDENTIFICATION CARDS. All post-secondary institutions that enroll students accepting state or federal financial aid may provide every full-time student a student identification card that contains the enrolling student's photograph and name.

Subd. 2. RESIDENTIAL HOUSING LIST. All post-secondary institutions that enroll students accepting state or federal financial aid may prepare a current list of students enrolled in the institution and residing in the institution's housing or within ten miles of the institution's campus. The list shall include each student's current address. The list shall be certified and sent to the appropriate county auditor or auditors for use in election day registration as provided under section 201.061, subdivision 3.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 200.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 21. LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIAL. "Local election official" means the municipal clerk or principal officer charged with duties relating to elections.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 201.061, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

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Subd. 3. **ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION.** An individual who is eligible to vote may register on election day by appearing in person at the polling place for the precinct in which the individual maintains residence, by completing a registration card, making an oath in the form prescribed by the secretary of state and providing proof of residence. An individual may prove residence for purposes of registering by:

(1) showing a ~~drivers~~ driver's license or Minnesota identification card issued pursuant to section 171.07;

(2) showing any document approved by the secretary of state as proper identification; or

(3) showing one of the following:

(i) a current valid student identification card from a post-secondary educational institution in Minnesota, if a list of students from that institution has been prepared under section 135A.17 and certified to the county auditor in the manner provided in rules of the secretary of state; or

(ii) a current student fee statement that contains the student's valid address in the precinct together with a picture identification card; or

(4) having a voter who is registered to vote in the precinct sign an oath in the presence of the election judge vouching that the voter personally knows that the individual is a resident of the precinct. A voter who has been vouched for on election day may not sign a proof of residence oath vouching for any other individual on that election day.

A county, school district, or municipality may require that an election judge responsible for election day registration initial each completed registration card.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 201.091, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **MASTER LIST.** Each county auditor shall prepare and maintain a current list of registered voters in each precinct in the county which is known as the master list. The master list must be created by entering each completed voter registration card received by the county auditor into the state-wide registration system. It must show the name, residence address, and date of birth of each voter registered in the precinct. The information contained in the master list may only be made available to ~~election~~ public officials for purposes related to election administration, ~~to the state court administrator for jury selection, and in response to public officials authorized to carry out a law enforcement~~ duties inquiry concerning a violation of or failure to comply with any criminal statute or state or local tax statute.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 201.091, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

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Subd. 4. **PUBLIC INFORMATION LISTS.** The county auditor shall make available for inspection a public information list which must contain the name, address, and voting history of each registered voter in the county. The telephone number must be included on the list if provided by the voter. The public information list may also include information on voting districts. The county auditor may adopt reasonable rules governing access to the list. No individual inspecting the public information list shall tamper with or alter it in any manner. No individual who inspects the public information list or who acquires a list of registered voters prepared from the public information list may use any information contained in the list for purposes unrelated to elections, political activities, or law enforcement. The secretary of state may provide copies of the public information lists and other information from the statewide registration system for uses related to elections, political activities, or in response to a law enforcement inquiry from a public official concerning a failure to comply with any criminal statute or any state or local tax statute.

Before inspecting the public information list or obtaining a list of voters or other information from the list, the individual shall provide identification to the public official having custody of the public information list and shall state in writing that any information obtained from the list will not be used for purposes unrelated to elections, political activities, or law enforcement. Requests to examine or obtain information from the public information lists or the statewide registration system must be made and processed in the manner provided in the rules of the secretary of state.

Upon receipt of a written request and a copy of the court order, the secretary of state may withhold from the public information list the name of any registered voter placed under court-ordered protection.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 201.13, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **LOCAL REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH, REPORTS OF DECEASED RESIDENTS.** ~~The local registrar of vital statistics in each county or municipality commissioner of health shall report monthly to the county auditor secretary of state the name and, address, date of birth, and county of residence of each individual 18 years of age or older who has died while maintaining residence in that county or municipality Minnesota since the last previous report. The secretary of state shall determine if any of the persons listed in the report are registered to vote and shall prepare a list of those registrants for each county auditor. The county auditor shall change the status of those registrants to "deceased" in the statewide registration system.~~ Upon receipt of the report list, the county auditor shall remove from the files the original and duplicate registration cards of the voters reported to be deceased and make the appropriate changes in the data base of the central statewide registration system.

Sec. 8. **[201.1611] POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION VOTER REGISTRATION.**

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Subdivision 1. FORMS. All post-secondary institutions that enroll students accepting state or federal financial aid shall provide voter registration forms to each student upon payment of tuition, fees, and activities funds at the commencement of fall quarter. The forms must contain spaces for the information required in section 201.071, subdivision 1, and applicable rules of the secretary of state. The institutions may request these forms from the secretary of state.

Subd. 2. STUDENT VOTER REGISTRATION. Upon registration or receipt of payment of fees, students must be asked if they want to register to vote at the same time. A copy of each completed voter registration form must be sent to the county auditor of the county in which the voter maintains residence or to the secretary of state as soon as possible. All completed voter registration forms must be forwarded to the county auditor within five days and in no case later than 21 days before the general election.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 203B.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES. A county board may authorize any eligible voter in the county to vote by absentee ballot without qualification by submitting a written request to the county auditor between August 1, 1991 and November 30, 1992, notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 1. The county auditor shall notify the secretary of state immediately after the adoption of such a resolution of authorization by the county board.

The application for absentee ballots must include the voter's name, residence address in the county, address to which the ballots are to be mailed, the date of the request, and the voter's signature.

The county auditor shall maintain a record of the number of applications for absentee ballots submitted under this subdivision. No later than January 15, 1993, the secretary of state shall prepare a report to the legislature on the implementation of this subdivision.

Assistance to voters in marking absentee ballots is subject to section 204C.15, subdivision 1.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 203B.04, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **APPLICATION PROCEDURES.** Except as otherwise allowed by subdivision 2, an application for absentee ballots for any election may be submitted at any time not less than one day before the day of that election. An application submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be in writing and shall be submitted to:

(a) the county auditor of the county where the applicant maintains residence; or

(b) the municipal clerk of the municipality, or school district if applicable, where the applicant maintains residence.

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An application shall be accepted if it is signed and dated by the applicant, contains the applicant's residence and mailing addresses, and states that the applicant is eligible to vote by absentee ballot for one of the reasons specified in section 203B.02. An application may be submitted to the county auditor or municipal clerk by an electronic facsimile device, at the discretion of the auditor or clerk.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 204B.09, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **CANDIDATES IN STATE AND COUNTY GENERAL ELECTIONS.** Except as otherwise provided by this subdivision, affidavits of candidacy and nominating petitions for county, state and federal offices filed at the state general election shall be filed not more than 70 days nor less than 56 days before the state primary. The affidavit may be prepared and signed at any time between 60 days before the filing period opens and the last day of the filing period. Notwithstanding other law to the contrary, the affidavit of candidacy must be signed in the presence of a notarial officer. Candidates for presidential electors may file petitions on or before the state primary day. Nominating petitions to fill vacancies in nominations shall be filed as provided in section 204B.13. No affidavit or petition shall be accepted later than 5:00 p.m. on the last day for filing. Affidavits and petitions for offices to be voted on in only one county shall be filed with the county auditor of that county. Affidavits and petitions for offices to be voted on in more than one county shall be filed with the secretary of state.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 204B.16, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **PUBLIC FACILITIES.** Every statutory city, home rule charter city, county, town, school district, and other public agency, including the University of Minnesota and other public colleges and universities, shall make their facilities, including parking, available for the holding of city, county, school district, state, and federal elections, subject to the approval of the local election official. A charge for the use of the facilities may be imposed in an amount that does not exceed the lowest amount charged to any public or private group.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 204B.16, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 7. **APPROPRIATE FACILITIES.** The facilities provided in accordance with subdivision 6 shall be sufficient in size to accommodate all election activities and the requirements of subdivision 5. The space must be separated from other activities within the building. The local election official may approve space in two connecting rooms for registration and balloting activities. Except in the event of an emergency making the approved space unusable, the public facility may not move the election from the space approved by the local election official without prior approval. In addition to the requirements of subdivision 5, the public facility must make remaining parking spaces not in use for regularly scheduled activities available for voters.

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Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 204B.32, is amended to read:

**204B.32 ELECTION EXPENSES; PAYMENT.**

**Subdivision 1. PAYMENT.** (a) The secretary of state shall pay the compensation for presidential electors, the cost of printing the pink paper ballots, and all necessary expenses incurred by the secretary of state in connection with elections.

(b) The counties shall pay the compensation prescribed in section 204B.31, clauses (b) and (c), the cost of printing the canary ballots, the white ballots, the pink ballots when machines are used, the state partisan primary ballots, and the state and county nonpartisan primary ballots, all necessary expenses incurred by county auditors in connection with elections, and the expenses of special county elections.

(c) Subject to subdivision 2, the municipalities shall pay the compensation prescribed for election judges and sergeants at arms, the cost of printing the municipal ballots, providing ballot boxes, providing and equipping polling places and all necessary expenses of the municipal clerks in connection with elections, except special county elections.

(d) The school districts shall pay the compensation prescribed for election judges and sergeants-at-arms, the cost of printing the school district ballots, providing ballot boxes, providing and equipping polling places and all necessary expenses of the school district clerks in connection with school district elections not held in conjunction with state elections. When school district elections are held in conjunction with state elections, the school district shall pay the costs of printing the school district ballots, providing ballot boxes and all necessary expenses of the school district clerk.

All disbursements under this section shall be presented, audited, and paid as in the case of other public expenses.

**Subd. 2. ALLOCATION OF COSTS.** Municipalities or counties may allocate the costs of conducting elections to school districts for payment of their proportionate share of such expenses for elections held at the same time as the regular municipal or county primary and general election. Allocated costs include expenses for election equipment and supplies; polling locations; personnel (including election judge compensation and the portion of salaries of election administrative and technical employees attributable to the preparation and conduct of the election); transportation related to the conduct of the election; required election notices and newspaper publication of election information; communications devices; and postage (including mailings to election judges and for absentee voter applications and ballots).

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 204B.35, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

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**Subd. 5. COMBINED LOCAL ELECTIONS.** Municipalities shall determine the voting method in combined local elections when other election jurisdictions located wholly or partially within the municipality schedule elections on the same date as the regular municipal primary or general election.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 204B.45, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 1a. EXPERIMENTAL MAIL BALLOTING; AUTHORIZATION.** The secretary of state may authorize Ramsey and Kittson counties to conduct elections entirely by mail on an experimental basis. A request from a county board seeking authorization to conduct an experimental mail election must be submitted to the secretary of state at least 90 days prior to the election. The county auditor must pay all costs related to mailing the ballots to and from the voters.

The secretary of state shall prepare a report to the legislature on the implementation of this subdivision by January 15, 1993.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 204C.19, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

**Subd. 2. BALLOTS; ORDER OF COUNTING.** Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, the ballot boxes shall be opened, the votes counted, and the total declared one box at a time in the following order: the white box, the pink box, the canary box, the light green box, the blue box, the buff box, the goldenrod box, the gray box, and then the other kinds of ballots voted at the election. If enough election judges are available to provide counting teams of four or more election judges for each box, more than one box may be opened and counted at the same time. The election judges on each counting team shall be evenly divided between the major political parties. The numbers entered on the summary sheet shall not be considered final until the ballots in all the boxes have been counted and corrections have been made if ballots have been deposited in the wrong boxes.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 204C.40, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

**Subd. 2. TIME OF ISSUANCE; CERTAIN OFFICES.** No certificate of election shall be issued until ~~42 days~~ seven days after the canvassing board has declared the result of the election. In case of a contest, an election certificate shall not be issued until a court of proper jurisdiction has finally determined the contest. This subdivision shall not apply to candidates elected to the office of state senator or representative.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 205.07, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

**Subdivision 1. DATE.** The municipal general election in each statutory city,

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shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in every even-numbered year; ~~except that.~~ Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary and subject to the provisions of this section, the governing body of a statutory city may, by ordinance passed at a regular meeting held before September 1 of any year, elect to hold the election on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each odd-numbered year. A city which was a village on January 1, 1974 and before that date provided for a system of biennial elections in the odd-numbered year shall continue to hold its elections in that year until changed in accordance with this section. When a city changes its elections from one year to another, and does not provide for the expiration of terms by ordinance, the term of an incumbent expiring at a time when no municipal election is held in the months immediately prior to expiration is extended until the date for taking office following the next scheduled municipal election. If the change results in having three council members to be elected at a succeeding election, the two individuals receiving the highest vote shall serve for terms of four years and the individual receiving the third highest number of votes shall serve for a term of two years. To provide an orderly transition to the odd or even year election plan, the governing body of the city may adopt supplementary ordinances regulating initial elections and officers to be chosen at the elections and shortening or lengthening the terms of incumbents and those elected at the initial election so as to conform as soon as possible to the regular schedule provided in section 412.02, subdivision 1. Whenever the time of the municipal election is changed, the city clerk immediately shall notify in writing the county auditor and secretary of state of the change of date. Thereafter the municipal general election shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each odd-numbered or even-numbered year until the ordinance is revoked and notification of the change is made.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 205.07, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3. EFFECT OF ORDINANCE; REFERENDUM. An ordinance changing the year of the municipal election is effective 240 days after passage and publication or at a later date fixed in the ordinance. Within 180 days after passage and publication of the ordinance, a petition requesting a referendum on the ordinance may be filed with the city clerk. The petition shall be signed by eligible voters equal in number to ten percent of the total number of votes cast in the city at the last municipal general election. If the requisite petition is filed within the prescribed period, the ordinance shall not become effective until it is approved by a majority of the voters voting on the question at a general or special election held at least 60 days after submission of the petition. If the petition is filed, the governing body may reconsider its action in adopting the ordinance.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 205.16, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. NOTICE TO AUDITOR. At least ~~30~~ 45 days prior to every municipal election, the municipal clerk shall provide a written notice to the

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county auditor, including the date of the election and the offices and questions to be voted on at the election.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 205A.04, is amended to read:

**205A.04 GENERAL ELECTION.**

**Subdivision 1. SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL ELECTION.** Except as may be provided in a special law or charter provision to the contrary, the general election in each school district must be held on the third Tuesday in May, unless the school board provides by resolution for holding the school district general election on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. When the time of a school district's general election is changed from May to November, the terms of all board members shall be lengthened to expire on January 1; when the time of a school district's general election is changed from November to May, the terms of all board members shall be shortened to expire on July 1. Whenever the time of a school district election is changed, the school district clerk shall immediately notify in writing the county auditor or auditors of the counties in which the school district is located and the secretary of state of the change of date.

**Subd. 2. EXPERIMENTAL ELECTION; AUTHORIZATION.** The school board in independent school district No. 271 may, by resolution, designate the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of either the odd-numbered or the even-numbered year as the date for its general election, and may reduce the existing terms of school board members to provide for staggered four-year terms thereafter. The resolution shall provide that, to the extent mathematically possible, the same number of board members is chosen at each election, exclusive of those chosen to fill vacancies for unexpired terms. Whenever the year of a school district election is changed, the school district clerk shall immediately notify in writing the county auditors of Hennepin and Scott counties and the secretary of state of the change of date. The secretary of state shall report to the legislature by January 15, 1993, on the implementation of this subdivision.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 205A.07, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

**Subd. 3. NOTICE TO AUDITOR.** At least ~~30~~ 45 days prior to every school district election, the school district clerk shall provide a written notice to the county auditor of each county in which the school district is located. The notice must include the date of the election and the offices and questions to be voted on at the election. For the purposes of meeting the timelines of this section, in a bond election, a notice, including a proposed question, may be provided to the county auditor prior to receipt of a review and comment from the commissioner of education and prior to actual initiation of the election.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 211B.04, is amended to read:

**211B.04 CAMPAIGN LITERATURE MUST INCLUDE DISCLAIMER.**

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(a) A person who participates in the preparation or dissemination of campaign material other than as provided in section 211B.05, subdivision 1, that does not prominently include the name and address of the person or committee causing the material to be prepared or disseminated in a disclaimer substantially in the form provided in paragraph (b) or (c) is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) Except in cases covered by paragraph (c), the required form of disclaimer is: "Prepared and paid for by the ..... committee, .....(address)" for material prepared and paid for by a principal campaign committee, or "Prepared and paid for by the ..... committee, .....(address), in support of .....(insert name of candidate or ballot question)" for material prepared and paid for by a person or committee other than a principal campaign committee."

(c) In the case of broadcast media, the required form of disclaimer is: "Paid for by the ..... committee."

(d) Campaign material that is not circulated on behalf of a particular candidate or ballot question must also include in the disclaimer either that it is "in opposition to .....(insert name of candidate or ballot question.....)"; or that "this publication is not circulated on behalf of any candidate or ballot question."

(e) This section does not apply to objects stating only the candidate's name and the office sought, fundraising tickets, or personal letters that are clearly being sent by the candidate.

(f) This section does not modify or repeal section 211B.06.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 447.32, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **ELECTIONS.** Except as provided in this chapter, the Minnesota election law applies to hospital district elections, as far as practicable. Regular elections must be held in each hospital district at the same time, in the same election precincts, and at the same polling places as general elections of state and county officers. ~~Alternatively, the hospital board may by resolution fix a date for an election, not later than December 7 just before the expiration of board members' terms.~~ It may establish the whole district as a single election precinct or establish two or more different election precincts and polling places for the elections. If there is more than one precinct, the boundaries of the election precincts and the locations of the polling places must be defined in the notice of election, either in full or by reference to a description or map on file in the office of the clerk.

Special elections may be called by the hospital board ~~at any time~~ to vote on any matter required by law to be submitted to the voters. A special election may not be conducted either during the 30 days before and the 30 days after the state primary or state general election, or during the 20 days before and the 20 days after the regularly scheduled election of any municipality wholly or partially within the hospital district. Special elections must be held within the election

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precinct or precincts and at the polling place or places designated by the board. In the case of the first election of officers of a new district, precincts and polling places must be set by the governing body of the most populous city or town included in the district.

Advisory ballots may be submitted by the hospital board on any question it wishes, concerning the affairs of the district, but only at a regular election or at a special election required for another purpose.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 447.32, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **ELECTION NOTICES.** At least two weeks before the first day to file affidavits of candidacy, the clerk of the district shall publish a notice stating the first and last day on which affidavits of candidacy may be filed, the places for filing the affidavits and the closing time of the last day for filing. The clerk shall post a similar notice in at least one conspicuous place in each city and town in the district at least ten days before the first day to file affidavits of candidacy.

The notice of each election must be posted in at least one public and conspicuous place within each city and town included in the district at least ten days before the election. It must be published in the official newspaper of the district or, if a paper has not been designated, in a legal newspaper having general circulation within the district, at least ~~one week~~ two weeks before the election. Failure to give notice does not invalidate the election of an officer of the district. A voter may contest a hospital district election in accordance with chapter 209. Chapter 209 applies to hospital district elections.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 447.32, subdivision 4; is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **CANDIDATES; BALLOTS; CERTIFYING ELECTION.** A person who wants to be a candidate for the hospital board shall file an ~~application to be placed on the ballot as a candidate~~ affidavit of candidacy for the election either as member at large or as a member representing the city or town where the candidate resides. The ~~application~~ affidavit of candidacy must be filed with the city or town clerk not more than ~~60 or less than 45 days~~ ten weeks nor less than eight weeks before the election. ~~Applications~~ The city or town clerk must ~~be forwarded immediately forward the affidavits of candidacy~~ to the clerk of the hospital district or, for the first election, the clerk of the most populous city or town immediately after the last day of the filing period. A candidate may withdraw from the election by filing an affidavit of withdrawal with the clerk of the district no later than 12:00 p.m. on the day after the last day to file affidavits of candidacy.

Voting must be by secret ballot. The clerk shall prepare, at the expense of the district, necessary ballots for the election of officers. Ballots must contain the names of the proposed candidates for each office, the length of the term of each office, and an additional blank space for the insertion of another name by the

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voter. The ballots must be marked and initialed by at least two judges as official ballots and used exclusively at the election. Any proposition to be voted on may be printed on the ballot provided for the election of officers or on a different ballot. The hospital board may also authorize the use of voting machines subject to chapter 206. Enough election judges may be appointed to receive the votes at each polling place. They may be paid by the district at a rate set by the board. The election judges shall act as clerks of election, count the ballots cast, and submit them to the board for canvass.

After canvassing the election, the board shall issue a certificate of election to the candidate who received the largest number of votes cast for each office. The clerk shall deliver the certificate to the person entitled to it in person or by certified mail. Each person certified shall file an acceptance and oath of office in writing with the clerk within 30 days after the date of delivery or mailing of the certificate. The board may fill any office as provided in subdivision 1 if the person elected fails to qualify within 30 days, but qualification is effective if made before the board acts to fill the vacancy.

#### Sec. 28. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Sections 19 and 20 are effective the day following final enactment and apply to all ordinances passed within 180 days prior to the day following final enactment.

Presented to the governor May 24, 1991

Signed by the governor May 28, 1991, 9:31 a.m.

### CHAPTER 228—S.F.No. 837

*An act relating to natural resources; amending certain provisions concerning mineral exploration, exploratory boring, and data acquired in connection therewith; amending Minnesota Statutes 1990, sections 13.793, subdivision 2; 103I.601, subdivision 4; and 103I.605, subdivision 4.*

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 13.793, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **DATA BECOME PUBLIC.** (a) Data under subdivision 1, clause (1), become public data three years after the date the lease sale was held or, if not held, within three years after the date the lease sale was scheduled to be held. Except as provided in paragraph (b), data under subdivision 1, clause (2), become public data ~~90 days~~ one year after receipt by the commissioner.

(b) If data under subdivision 1, clause (2), relate to private land that is under mineral lease to the person submitting the data, and the mineral lease is in force at the time the data are submitted, the data become public data only

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