

organization, if it can be established the purchasing organization's goods, materials, supplies, equipment, or services that are purchased, rented, or leased, have been awarded through a competitive or request for proposal process.

(f) This subdivision applies to the medical center, ambulatory health centers, or other clinics authorized under section 383B.219, as well as any other organization, association, partnership, or corporation authorized by Hennepin county under section 144.581.

Presented to the governor March 26, 2002

Signed by the governor March 27, 2002, 3:38 p.m.

CHAPTER 303—S.F.No. 2814

An act relating to cooperatives; authorizing electronic voting; amending Minnesota Statutes 2000, sections 308A.311, subdivisions 4, 5; 308A.635, subdivisions 4, 6.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2000, section 308A.311, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **VOTE BY MAIL OR ELECTRONIC MEANS.** (a) A member may not vote by mail or electronic means for a director unless mail or electronic voting is authorized for election of directors by the articles or bylaws.

(b) The ballot shall be in a form prescribed by the board.

(c) If the vote is by mail, the member shall mark the ballot for the candidate chosen and mail the ballot to the cooperative in a sealed plain envelope inside another envelope bearing the member's name.

(d) The member may vote by electronic means if the cooperative is able to authenticate that it is the cooperative member who is casting the vote.

(e) If the ballot of the member is received by the cooperative on or before the date of the regular members' meeting, the ballot shall be accepted and counted as the vote of the absent member.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2000, section 308A.311, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **VOTE BY MAIL OR ELECTRONIC MEANS FOR TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE.** If voting by mail or by electronic means is authorized by the articles or the bylaws of a telephone cooperative, a member may vote by mail or by electronic means for the director in the manner prescribed in the articles or bylaws. The mail voting shall be by secret ballot.

New language is indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2000, section 308A.635, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **VOTING METHOD.** A member's vote at a members' meeting must be in person or by mail if a mail vote is authorized by the board, or by electronic means if an electronic vote is authorized by the board, and not by proxy except as provided in subdivisions 2 and 5.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2000, section 308A.635, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **ABSENTEE BALLOTS.** (a) A member who is absent from a members' meeting may vote by mail or by electronic means on the ballot prescribed in this subdivision on any motion, resolution, or amendment that the board submits for vote by mail to the members.

(b) The ballot shall be in the form prescribed by the board and contain:

(1) the exact text of the proposed motion, resolution, or amendment to be acted on at the meeting; and

(2) spaces opposite the text of the motion, resolution, or amendment in which the member may indicate an affirmative or negative vote.

(c) If the vote is by mail, the member shall express a choice by marking an "X" in the appropriate space on the ballot and mail or deliver the ballot to the cooperative in a plain, sealed envelope inside another envelope bearing the member's name.

(d) The member may vote by electronic means if the cooperative is able to authenticate that it is the cooperative member who is casting the vote.

(e) A properly executed ballot shall be accepted by the board and counted as the vote of the absent member at the meeting.

Presented to the governor March 26, 2002

Signed by the governor March 27, 2002, 3:36 p.m.

CHAPTER 304—S.F.No. 2673

An act relating to family law; providing for custody of children by de facto custodians and third parties; making related technical changes; providing for hearings on petitions for orders of protection; providing for notice to law enforcement agencies of continuance of order for protection; amending Minnesota Statutes 2000, sections 518.156, subdivision 1; 518B.01, subdivisions 5, 7, 13; Minnesota Statutes 2001 Supplement, section 260C.201, subdivision 11; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 257C; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2000, section 518.158.

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

New language is indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.