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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2984

03/12/2014 Authored by Moran
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Elections

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to corrections; restoring the civil right to vote after incarceration for
1.3 persons convicted of a felony; amending Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections
1.4 201.014, by adding a subdivision; 201.071, subdivision 1; 609.165, subdivision 1.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 201.014, is amended by adding a
1.7 subdivision to read:

1.8 Subd. 2a. **Felony conviction; restoration of civil right to vote.** An individual
1.9 convicted of a felony has the civil right to vote restored when the individual completes
1.10 any incarceration imposed and executed by the court for the offense, or upon sentencing if
1.11 no incarceration is imposed. If the individual is later incarcerated for the same offense, the
1.12 individual's civil right to vote is lost only during the period of incarceration.

1.13 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 201.071, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.14 Subdivision 1. **Form.** A voter registration application must be of suitable size and
1.15 weight for mailing and contain spaces for the following required information: voter's first
1.16 name, middle name, and last name; voter's previous name, if any; voter's current address;
1.17 voter's previous address, if any; voter's date of birth; voter's municipality and county
1.18 of residence; voter's telephone number, if provided by the voter; date of registration;
1.19 current and valid Minnesota driver's license number or Minnesota state identification
1.20 number, or if the voter has no current and valid Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota
1.21 state identification, the last four digits of the voter's Social Security number; and voter's
1.22 signature. The registration application may include the voter's e-mail address, if provided

2.1 by the voter, and the voter's interest in serving as an election judge, if indicated by the
 2.2 voter. The application must also contain the following certification of voter eligibility:

2.3 "I certify that I:

2.4 (1) will be at least 18 years old on election day;

2.5 (2) am a citizen of the United States;

2.6 (3) will have resided in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding election day;

2.7 (4) maintain residence at the address given on the registration form;

2.8 (5) am not under court-ordered guardianship in which the court order revokes my
 2.9 right to vote;

2.10 (6) have not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote;

2.11 (7) ~~have the right to vote because, if I have been convicted of a felony, my felony~~
 2.12 ~~sentence has expired (been completed) or I have been discharged from my sentence~~ am
 2.13 not currently incarcerated for a felony offense; and

2.14 (8) have read and understand the following statement: that giving false information
 2.15 is a felony punishable by not more than five years imprisonment or a fine of not more
 2.16 than \$10,000, or both."

2.17 The certification must include boxes for the voter to respond to the following
 2.18 questions:

2.19 "(1) Are you a citizen of the United States?" and

2.20 "(2) Will you be 18 years old on or before election day?"

2.21 And the instruction:

2.22 "If you checked 'no' to either of these questions, do not complete this form."

2.23 The form of the voter registration application and the certification of voter eligibility
 2.24 must be as provided in this subdivision and approved by the secretary of state. Voter
 2.25 registration forms authorized by the National Voter Registration Act must also be accepted
 2.26 as valid. The federal postcard application form must also be accepted as valid if it is not
 2.27 deficient and the voter is eligible to register in Minnesota.

2.28 An individual may use a voter registration application to apply to register to vote in
 2.29 Minnesota or to change information on an existing registration.

2.30 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 609.165, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

2.31 Subdivision 1. **Restoration.** When a person has been deprived of civil rights by
 2.32 reason of conviction of a crime and is thereafter discharged, such discharge shall restore the
 2.33 person to all civil rights and to full citizenship, with full right to ~~vote and~~ hold office, the
 2.34 same as if such conviction had not taken place, and the order of discharge shall so provide.