



## Laws 2026, Chapter 102 – Election Policy Provisions (H.F. No. 4240)

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**Date:** June 2, 2026

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**Section 1 [Minn. Stat. 203B.05, subd. 1; Generally]** amends the requirements for the designation or notice that a full-time city clerk will administer absentee voting. The bill requires that the municipality must determine whether the municipality's office will be designated to administer in-person absentee voting starting on the 46th day before the election or early voting starting on the 18th day before the election. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Section 2 [Minn. Stat. 203B.06, subd. 3; Delivery of ballots]** amends the statute that directs the county auditor or municipal clerk who accepts the absentee ballot application to promptly deliver the absentee ballots to an agent who has been designated to bring the ballots as provided in the statute on agent delivery. Strikes language that is redundant because it is included in the statute that is being cross-referenced.

**Section 3 [Minn. Stat. 203B.065; Using the registration system]** provides that a clerk administering absentee ballots must meet specified requirements before using the statewide voter registration systems. The requirements of this section do not apply to a town election held in March, but a town may use the SVRS to administer absentee voting in a March town election. This section is effective September 1, 2027.

**Section 4 [Minn. Stat. 203B.30, subd. 2; Voting procedure]** requires the early voting official to maintain a printed copy of the voter certificate. This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes' receipt of the early voting certification and applies to elections held on or after the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification.

**Section 5 [Minn. Stat. 203B.30, subd. 3; Processing of ballots]** requires the early voting official to use current law procedures to determine the proper number of ballots when ensuring that the number of ballots removed from the ballot box is equal to the number of voter certificates that were signed by voters. Requires the early voting official to also seal and secure signed voter certificates. This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes' receipt of the early voting certification and applies to elections held on or after the 85th day after the revisor of statutes receives the certification.

**Section 6 [Minn. Stat. 204B.27, subd. 2; Election law and instructions]** eliminates the requirement for the Secretary of State to provide hardcopies of election law books to county auditors and municipal clerks every other year. Instead, the Secretary is required to prepare and make an electronic copy of the volume available on the office’s website by July 15 annually. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Section 7 [Minn. Stat. 204C.26, subd. 2; Summary statements; contents]** and **Section 8 [Minn. Stat. 204C.26, subd. 4; Envelopes for counted ballots]** strike obsolete references to ballots printed on colored paper.

**Section 9 [Minn. Stat. 205.185, subd. 3; Canvass of returns, certificate of election, ballots, disposition]** extends the time for a city or town canvassing board to meet so that they must meet by the 14th day after the election, instead of the tenth day. Requires the canvassing boards to declare the candidate duly elected who received the highest number of votes or each municipal or town office and declare the results of any ballot question.

**Section 10 [Minn. Stat. 205A.10, subd. 3; Canvass of returns, certificate of election, ballots, disposition]** extends the time for a school district canvassing board to meet so that they must meet by the 14th day after a school district election and removes certain exceptions. The school board must declare the candidate duly elected who received the highest number of votes for each school district office and the results of any ballot question. The recounted results of a certain referenda must be certified by the canvassing board.

**Section 11 [Minn. Stat. 205A.11, subd. 2; Combined polling place]** requires that at a special election conducted by a school district with boundaries that include more than one county, at least one polling place must be designated within each county in which more than 5,000 of the school district’s registered voters reside.

**Section 12 [Minn. Stat. 211B.25; Prohibitions on elected officials and candidates betting on elections]** makes it a petty misdemeanor if a candidate places a wager with a prediction market on the outcome of an election in which the candidate is running. Provides definitions.

**Section 13 [Minn. Stat. 211B.32; Administrative remedy; exhaustion]** allows for enforcement of section 12 as a petty misdemeanor as an alternative to the administrative process in chapter 211B.

**Section 14 [Minn. Stat. 375.20; Ballot questions]** amends the timing for county elections on ballot questions. Instead of holding the election within 84 days of passing the resolution authorizing the ballot question, the bill requires the election to be held at least 84 days after the resolution is passed. The election must be held on a uniform election date.

**Section 15 [Laws 2026, Chapter 55, Section 1, Effective Date]** provides that a provision passed earlier in the session relating to statements of economic interest for the Three Rivers Park District is effective retroactively to May 1, 2026, and applies to statements filed on or after May 19, 2026. The relevant section may be found in Laws 2026, chapter [55](#), section 1. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Section 16 [Notification to administer voting]** provides that for a municipality already designated to or that has already given notice of the intent to administer absentee voting, the municipality and county must come to an agreement by June 12, 2026, and notify the secretary of state whether the municipality will administer absentee voting for the 46 days or 18 days before election day in the 2026 state primary. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Section 17 [Superseding effect]** provides that the changes in section 2, amending Minn. Stat. 203B.06, supersede and prevail over amendments made to the same provision of law made in S.F. 4760, if enacted, regardless of the order of enactment. (S.F. 4760 was enacted in chapter [97](#); Minn. Stat. 203B.06m, subd. 3, was amended in article 1, section 11.)

**Section 19 [Repealer]** repeals Minn. Stat. 5.31, which allows the secretary of state to sell intellectual property rights associated with the statewide voter registration system to other states or to units of local governments in other states.



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