

Minnesota Voters' Bill of Rights

For all eligible voters in Minnesota

- 1 You have the right to be absent from work for the purpose of voting during the morning of Election Day.
- 2 If you are in line at your polling place any time between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m., you have the right to vote.
- 3 If you can provide the required proof of residence, you have the right to register to vote and to vote on Election Day.
- 4 If you are unable to sign your name, you have the right to orally confirm your identity with an election judge and to direct another person to sign your name for you.
- 5 You have the right to request special assistance when voting.
- 6 If you need assistance, a person of your choice may accompany you into the voting booth. That person cannot be an agent of your employer, your union or a candidate.
- 7 You have the right to bring your minor children into the polling place and into the voting booth with you.
- 8 If you have been convicted of a felony but your felony sentence has expired (been completed) or you have been discharged from your sentence, you have the right to vote.
- 9 If you are under a guardianship, you have the right to vote unless the court order revokes your right to vote.
- 10 You have the right to vote without anyone in the polling place trying to influence your vote.
- 11 If you make a mistake or spoil your ballot before it is submitted, you have the right to receive a replacement ballot and vote.
- 12 You have the right to file a written complaint at your polling place if you are dissatisfied with the way an election is being run.
- 13 You have the right to take a sample ballot into the voting booth with you.
- 14 You have the right to take a copy of this Voters' Bill of Rights into the voting booth with you.

Minnesota Participation Project

<http://www.mncn.org/mpp/index.htm>

MAP PUBLIC POLICY

The overall goal of MAP Public Policy is to advocate for policies in support of a fair and smart response to HIV in Minnesota and the world. We proactively advance legislation that affects HIV in Minnesota; influence supportive public opinion about HIV; and organize, educate and mobilize a statewide network of grassroots advocates.

Visit our Web site regularly for public policy information and 2006 election updates at www.mnaidsproject.org/publicpolicy



Minnesota AIDS Project™

*Minnesota AIDS Project envisions a world free of AIDS.
Our mission is to lead Minnesota's fight to stop HIV
through advocacy, education and service.*

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2006 Minnesota Voter Guide



Minnesota AIDS Project™

Voting Information

When do I vote?

Primary: September 12, 2006

General: November 7, 2006

Where do I vote?

Voters must vote in the polling places for their precinct. To locate your polling place, visit:

<http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>

To be eligible to vote in Minnesota, you must:

- Be at least 18 years of age on Election Day
- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be a Minnesota resident for at least 20 days before the election
- Maintain residence at the address given on the registration form

To register before an election:

Fill out a Voter Registration Application and return it in person or by mail to your county auditor or the Secretary of State. You can download this application from the Minnesota Secretary of State at www.sos.state.mn.us

To register on the day of the election:

Bring to your polling place **one** of the following:

- A current, valid Minnesota Driver's License
- A "Notice of Late Registration" card mailed to you by your county auditor
- A person who is registered in the precinct where you live to vouch for your residence, **or**
- A U.S. passport, U.S. military identification card, tribal ID or student identification card that includes your name and photo *along with* an original bill for water, sewer, gas, electric, phone, solid waste or cable television services that includes your name and current address in the precinct and has a due date within 30 days of election day

You are not allowed to vote if you:

- Are under court-ordered guardianship and have not retained the right to vote or are legally incompetent
- Are convicted of a felony without having your civil rights restored

You may vote by absentee ballot if:

- You will be absent from the precinct on Election Day
- Illness or disability prevents your going to the polling place
- Religious discipline or observance prohibits your attendance at the polling place
- You are an election judge in another precinct

How to vote by absentee ballot:

In person: Beginning 30 days before Election Day, you can vote in person by going to your county auditor or city or township clerk's office. To find instructions on how to vote by absentee ballot, visit <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/home/index.asp?page=211>

By mail: You can request an absentee ballot application from your City Election Office, or you can download the application (PDF) at <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/docs/absenteeballotapplicationregular.pdf> *Remember to allow at least 7 days between requesting an absentee ballot and completing the voting process.*

If you are a student: You can register either at home or at school (but not both!) depending on your residence.

If you are homeless: You can register to vote using the address of a shelter where you are staying. You can also register to vote on Election Day using a person who can vouch for you.

Important Dates for the 2006 Election

Tuesday, August 22

Deadline to pre-register for Primary Election

Tuesday, September 12

PRIMARY ELECTION, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

In this preliminary election, voters choose candidates who will then advance to the General Election.

Tuesday, October 17

Deadline to pre-register for General Election

Tuesday, November 7

GENERAL ELECTION, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

In this election, a final decision is made and the winning candidate is elected to office.

Upcoming Elections in Minnesota

U.S. Senate

U.S. Senators are responsible for proposing, amending and voting on federal legislation in the U.S. Senate. Each state elects two U.S. senators, and one U.S. Senate position is up for election in Minnesota.

U.S. House of Representatives

The U.S. House of Representatives is the complementary body to the Senate of the Legislative branch of federal government. Representatives are apportioned by state population. Minnesota has eight Representative positions, all of which are up for election this year.

Minnesota State Senate

Members of the Minnesota Senate are responsible for proposing, amending, and voting on state legislation. There are 67 members in the Minnesota Senate, all of which are up for election this year.

Minnesota State House of Representatives

The Minnesota House of Representatives is composed of legislators apportioned by district population. Their responsibilities include proposing, amending and voting on state legislation. There are 134 members of the Minnesota House, all of which are up for election.

Minnesota Governor

The Governor's role is to ensure that state laws are faithfully carried out. (S)He may make appointments to public offices with the Senate's approval, and also directs the course of the legislative session. The Governor is also commander-in-chief of the state's naval and military forces, including the National Guard.

Minnesota Attorney General

The Attorney General is the chief legal officer for the state, as well as the primary legal advisor to the Governor and other state officers. The Attorney General represents and advocates consumer protection, antitrust oversight, and utilities regulation.

Minnesota Secretary of State

The Secretary of State is an independently elected public official, whose responsibilities include administering elections, recording public and business documents and contracts, and filing and preserving official state documents.

Minnesota State Auditor

The State Auditor serves as overseer for Minnesota taxpayers by ensuring the financial integrity, accountability, and cost-effectiveness in local government. Through financial audits, this governmental body helps assure that tax revenue is being used in compliance with the law.

Descriptions adapted from www.state.mn.us