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Minnesota House of Representatives
Sub Committee on Elections
Subject: Proposed COVID-19 Contingency Plan
Attn: Amanda Randolph; Rep. Raymond Dehn; Rep. Jim Nash

Dear Committee Administrator, Representative Dehn and Representative Nash:

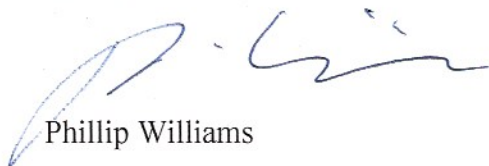
The need for all mail voting for the August and November elections in Minnesota is as clear as can be. The likelihood that one or both of these elections could result in the type of fiasco that occurred in Wisconsin today is significant. If that happens the Minnesota Legislature will deservedly receive the blame.

As a Minnesota citizen in an at-risk category with a 401k, I hope that things will be back to semi-normal by August or by November, but along with everyone else I don't know what will happen. Best case, things are reasonably normal and by passing this contingency plan we improve on Minnesota's role as a leader in voter participation. Worst case, social distancing is still required, we cannot find enough election judges to serve because of the risk, our election is chaotic and inconclusive, and those who opposed this contingency plan are held responsible. Another part of the worst case, unfortunately, is that by retaining our current voting system in the middle of a pandemic more lives are lost.

Please give this Proposed COVID-19 Contingency Plan serious thought and ensure that the legislature passes a plan with the option of all mail voting in our elections.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,



Phillip Williams