

March 3, 2020

Representative Raymond Dehn 537 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Representative Dehn:

The Minnesota Association of County Officers (MACO) supports HF 3429 (Dehn), which contains miscellaneous updates and changes to general election administration laws.

MACO is supportive of the non-controversial provisions in the bill and highlights three provisions that will best serve voters and election administrators.

- 1) Authorizing the option of mail balloting for all towns, and all cities with fewer than 400 registered voters will provide election administrative savings to counties and provide standardization across the state for municipalities to determine how to best serve their voters.
- 2) Extending the special election timeline for legislative vacancies by two weeks will provide election administrators and voters adequate time for administering absentee ballots.
- 3) Extending the availability of election equipment grants to June 30, 2022, will ensure that the remaining funds passed by the legislature will be utilized and voters will benefit.

Thank you for this opportunity to express support for this HF 3429 and for your efforts to make these administrative changes to Minnesota's election laws.

Sincerely yours,

Deborah Erickson

Deborah A. Erickson Chair, MACO Elections Committee