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Members of the Elections Subcommittee,

Representing over 800 member cities across the state, the League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) supports HF983 to allow all political subdivisions the option to consider and adopt Ranked Choice Voting and provides statewide standards for those cities that choose to adopt RCV. The following policy is LMC's position on RCV.

Ranked Choice Voting

Issue: Current law allows charter cities to consider and adopt Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) as an alternative voting method in local elections. State statute does not extend this authority to statutory cities. Additionally, there are no statewide standards for conducting RCV. The lack of consistent guidelines on how to effectively implement a RCV system imposes significant challenges for election administrators and voters.

Response: The League of Minnesota Cities supports legislation that would give statutory cities the same authority given to charter cities to consider and adopt RCV. The League of Minnesota Cities also supports statewide standards for those cities that choose to adopt RCV to ensure it is implemented consistently throughout the state to give voters confidence in the fairness of the alternative process of casting their ballots and in the outcome of such elections.

Thank you for consideration of this bill. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at alindstrom@lmc.org or 651-281-1261.

Thank you,

Ann Lindstrom
Intergovernmental Relations Representative