

January 14, 2019

**To** Elections Subcommittee

**From** Matt Gehring, Legislative Analyst

**Subject** Frequently-requested Elections Laws

This document provides a guide to finding frequently-requested laws that are within the jurisdiction of the Elections Subcommittee.

## State and Local Campaign Finance

### Definitions. § 10A.01

- Lobbyist. § 10A.01, subd. 21
- Expressly advocating. § 10A.01, subd. 16a.
- Independent expenditure. § 10A.01, subd. 18
- Principal. § 10A.01, subd. 33
- Public Official. § 10A.01, subd. 35

### Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board. § 10A.02

- Confirmation of Board appointees. § 10A.02, subd. 1
- Advisory opinions. § 10A.02, subd. 12 and 12a
- Rulemaking authority. § 10A.02, subd. 13
- Enforcement powers. § 10A.022

Lobbyist registration and reporting. § 10A.03 to 10A.05, Rules 4511

Local campaign finance laws, chapter 211A

Hennepin County campaign finance, §§ 383B.042 to 383B.058

Noncampaign disbursements. sec. 10A.01, subd. 26; 10A.173, 10A.179

Conflicts of interest. § 10A.07

Coordinated expenditures. sec. 10A.175; 10A.176

Non-coordinated expenditures. sec. 10A.177

Disclaimer requirement. sec. 211B.04

Gift law. § 10A.071, Rules 4512

Statements of economic interest. § 10A.09

Candidate campaign committees (state).

Registration § 10A.105

Political committees and funds (state).

Registration § 10A.14

Political contributions (state).

Anonymous contributions § 10A.15, subd. 1

How political contributions can be used. § 211B.12

Corporate contributions. § 211B.15

Contribution limits § 10A.27

General limits § 10A.27, subd. 1

Candidate-to-candidate § 10A.27, subd. 9

Contributions from lobbyists and political groups § 10A.27, subd. 11

Contributions during legislative session. § 10A.273

Campaign finance reporting (state).

Schedule of reports. § 10A.20, subd. 1, 2, 5

What must be included in a report. § 10A.20, subd. 3

Public subsidy program

Spending limits for candidates who take subsidy; adjustment for inflation. §§ 10A.25, 10A.255, 10A.322, Rules 4503.1400

General structure of public subsidy program §§10A.30 to 10A.324

Tax checkoff to fund program and distribution of funds §10A.31

Political contribution refund program (PCR), §290.06, subd. 23.

Sale of goods and services for political fundraising purposes. sec. 10A.271

## **Campaign Practices and Activities**

Closed captioning of ads. § 10A.38

Fair campaign practices, generally. Chapter 211B

Disclaimer requirement. § 211B.04

Campaign lawn signs. § 211B.045

Bribery, treating, payments to vote (including parades), § 211B.13

Campaigning in apartment buildings, § 211B.20

Complaint process, § 211B.32 to 211B.36

*Other resources for fair campaign practices*

OAH decisions on chapter 211B complaints.

## **Redistricting**

Size of legislature and apportionment. § 2.021, 2.031

Size of congressional delegation. § 2.731

Redistricting plans and corrections. § 2.91

Conduct of redistricting, deadlines to create precincts. §§ 204B.135 to 204B.15

Other resources for redistricting; Minnesota history:

LCC's Redistricting 2020 webpage: <https://www.gis.leg.mn/html/redistricting.html>

## **Elections Administration**

### Voter registration

General requirements, chapter 201

Voter residence, § 200.031; 201.016; Minn. Const. Art. VII, § 2

Registration process, § 201.061

Same-day registration, § 201.061, subd. 3

IDs allowed for same-day registration (including vouching), § 201.061, subd. 3, Rules 8200.5100

Online registration, § 201.061, subd. 1, 8

Public access to registration list, § 201.091

Maintenance of registration records, §§ 201.11 to 201.195

Guardian, felons, and noncitizens, § 201.145

Investigation of registration crimes, sec. 201.275

Eligibility to vote. Minn. Const. art. VII, § 1; Statute § 201.014

“Errors and omissions” process, including review of candidate eligibility. § 204B.44

### Precinct caucuses and party conventions

Generally, chapter 202A

Date of precinct caucus, § 202A.14, subd. 1

Pre-emption of public events for caucus, § 202A.19

Time off of work, § 202A.19, subd. 2

### Absentee voting

Generally, chapter 203B, Rules 8210

“Regular” absentee voting, §§ 203B.04 to 203B.15

Military and overseas absentee voting, § 203B.16 to 203B.27

New “early voting” procedure. § 203B.081, subd. 3

Schedule for absentee voting, § 203B.081, 203B.085

Candidate filing, § 204B.03 to 204B.12

Vacancies in Nomination, §§ 204B.13 and 204B.131

Mail balloting, § 204B.45 to 204B.46

Election judges, § 204B.19 to 204B.26, Rules 8240

Time off of work to vote, § 204C.04

Pre-emption of public events on election day, §204C.03

Polling place conduct, §§ 204C.06, 211B.11

Challenges to voter eligibility in polling place, §§ 204C.12, 204C.13, subd. 6. Rules 8200.7100

Check-in of voters on election day, § 204C.10  
Electronic pollbooks/rosters, sec. 201.225

Voter intent standards, § 204C.22

Canvassing, §§ 204C.31 to 204C.33

Recounts, §§ 204C.35 to 204C.361, Rules 8235

State election dates, § 204D.03

Vacancies in office

State legislature, § 204D.17 to 204D.27

Congress, (U.S. Senate, § 204D.28 (U.S. Senate); sec. 204D.29 (U.S. House)

What constitutes a vacancy. § 351.02

Resignations. § 351.01

Municipal elections, chapter 205

School district elections, chapter 205A

Presidential primary, chapter 207A  
Electoral College, chapter 208

Election contests, chapter 209

Recalls

of state officials, chapter 211C

of county officials § § 351.14 to 351.23

(there is no recall or removal of federal, city, school board, or town officials)

Post-election review of voting equipment, § 206.89

*Other resources for election administration:*

Secretary of State election administration guides:

<https://www.sos.state.mn.us/election-administration-campaigns/>

League of Minnesota Cities handbook:

<https://www.lmc.org/page/1/handbook-for-mn-cities.jsp>