



STATE OF MINNESOTA
Office of Minnesota Secretary of State
Steve Simon

February 20, 2019

Subcommittee on Elections
Minnesota State Office Building 400N
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: House File 983

Dear members of the Subcommittee on Elections:

I am writing to you today to express my support for House File 983 which authorizes local jurisdictions to adopt the use of ranked-choice voting for local elections, the same authority given to charter cities like Minneapolis, Saint Paul, and Duluth.

Under current law, cities that are governed by charters have the authority to consider and adopt ranked-choice voting but statutory cities do not. Instead, statutory cities must come to the legislature to ask for special legislation allowing them to use this method of voting. I believe that Minnesotans should have the authority to decide how the needs of their communities are best addressed, particularly when it comes to how they choose the people who represent them.

I ask members of the committee to support H.F. 983, and give statutory cities the same authority charter cities to have to decide for themselves if ranked-choice voting is right for their community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Simon".

Steve Simon
SECRETARY OF STATE