Rep. Michael Nelson Chair House State Government Finance Division

Re: HF3499 (A5) - to be heard 4/16/20

Dear Chair Nelson:

Minnesota Citizens for Clean Elections strongly supports allowing voting by mail in Minnesota this year. In light of the difficulty in voting at the polls due to COVID-19, we need voting by mail in order to maximize the vote in our state in 2020. While other states are attempting to suppress voting to advantage one political party, Minnesota can lead the way by this expansion of absentee voting.

We hope that polling places will remain open for those who cannot vote by mail and that local jurisdictions will receive clear guidelines on how this new process will work. Please be sure that adequate funding is provided to ensure the success of this effort.

Thank you for supporting this vital addition to our elections at this time of crisis.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Oker South Minneapolis