

H.F. 979

As introduced

Subject Landlord distribution of voter registration materials

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Overview

This bill directs the secretary of state to prepare written materials designed to assist tenants in the process of voter registration and locating the precinct in which the tenant resides. The bill further requires that landlords provide a copy of these materials to each tenant who is at least 18 years of age within 30 days after a lease is entered.

The cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul have both adopted local ordinances requiring landlords in their cities to provide similar voter registration information to new tenants. A legal challenge has been filed against those ordinances, alleging that they violate the First Amendment. The case is in the early stages of litigation and remains pending in federal district court.