

Subject Local general elections

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Overview

This bill requires most cities, towns, and school districts to conduct their general elections on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of an even-numbered year. Cities of the first class would retain the authority to choose to conduct their general elections in either the odd- or even-numbered year.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Date of election. Provides that a city may choose to conduct its municipal general election in the even- or odd-numbered year, only if the city is classified as a city of the first class. As defined in law, a city of the “first class” means a city with more than 100,000 inhabitants, or a city which has met that population threshold in the past without a population decrease of more than 25 percent since it qualified. Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester, and Duluth qualify as cities of the first class under this definition.
2	Effect of ordinance; referendum. Provides a conforming change to reflect the modified authority for a city of the first class to choose to conduct its municipal general election in the even- or odd-numbered year.
3	Alternate date (town elections). Eliminates an existing authority for a town to choose to conduct its general election on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in an odd-numbered year. Towns would retain the authority to schedule their general election on that same date in an even-numbered year.
4	Resolution requiring primary in certain circumstances. Provides a conforming change to reflect the modified authority requiring school districts to conduct their general elections in an even-numbered year.

Section	Description
5	Date. Provides a conforming change to reflect the modified authority requiring school districts to conduct their general elections in an even-numbered year.
6	School district general election. Requires a school district to conduct its general election on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of an even-numbered year, and eliminates the authority for the election to be conducted on that date in an odd-numbered year.
7	Applicability. Provides a confirming change to reflect the modified authority requiring school districts to conduct their general elections in an even-numbered year, in the law allowing certain elections to be postponed for inclement weather.
8	Repealer. Repeals a section of statute that provides a process for school districts to transition between even- and odd-numbered year general elections.
9	Effective date; transition. Provides an effective date for the bill, and requires affected cities, towns, and school districts to adopt an orderly transition plan no later than January 1, 2026.



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