



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
NOTARIES

April 1, 2024

The Honorable Ginny Klevorn
Chairperson, State and Local Government Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
581 State Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

RE: House Bill 4972, Notary Public Issues

Dear Chairperson Klevorn,

I am writing to share our organization's support for House Bill 4972, dealing with various notary public issues.

In addition to streamlining the workflow for a Minnesota notary public to register their intent to perform electronic and remote notarial acts, House Bill 4972 clarifies that changes to state-prescribed information elements ("format") that must appear in a notary public's official stamp do not invalidate the stamp in use during a notary's current commission term. An already-commissioned notary would obtain a stamp reflecting any updated elements/format upon commission renewal.

Though some prescribed details might change, a notary's official stamp (whenever it has been issued) will always reflect the most essential information about the notary and their commission: name as commissioned, commissioning state, and duration of the current commission. Allowing a notary public to continue using their existing stamp through their current term of office—rather than change to an updated stamp midterm—avoids any possible confusion over different stamp images on documents notarized during the same commission term, reduces commission management steps for notaries and their employers, and makes good sense from both a fiscal and workflow management perspective.

We appreciate your, and the Committee's, consideration of support for House Bill 4972.

Kind regards,

Kathleen Butler, Executive Director
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