

1.1 Freiberg and Quam from the Committee on Elections Finance and Government Operations
1.2 to which was referred:

1.3 H. F. No. 4240, A bill for an act relating to elections; making various changes related
1.4 to election administration; modifying provisions related to absentee voting; modifying
1.5 timelines; making technical and clarifying changes; appropriating money; amending
1.6 Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 203B.05, subdivision 1; 203B.06, subdivision 3; 203B.065;
1.7 204B.27, subdivision 2; 204C.26, subdivisions 2, 4; Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement,
1.8 sections 203B.30, subdivisions 2, 3; 375.20; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota
1.9 Statutes, chapter 204D; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 5.31.

1.10 Reported the same back with the following amendments:

1.11 Page 7, line 24, delete "is" and insert "are" and after "annually" insert "from the general
1.12 fund"

1.13 Page 7, after line 27, insert:

1.14 "Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 205.185, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

1.15 Subd. 3. **Canvass of returns, certificate of election, ballots, disposition.** (a) Between
1.16 the third and ~~tenth~~ 14th days after an election, the governing body of a city conducting any
1.17 election including a special municipal election, or the governing body of a town conducting
1.18 the general election in November shall act as the canvassing board, canvass the returns, and
1.19 declare the candidate duly elected who received the highest number of votes for each
1.20 municipal office and the results of the election any ballot questions. The governing body
1.21 of a town conducting the general election in March shall act as the canvassing board, canvass
1.22 the returns, and declare the candidate duly elected who received the highest number of votes
1.23 for each town office and the results of the election any ballot question within two days after
1.24 an election.

1.25 (b) After the time for contesting elections has passed, the municipal clerk shall issue a
1.26 certificate of election to each successful candidate. In case of a contest, the certificate shall
1.27 not be issued until the outcome of the contest has been determined by the proper court.

(c) In case of a tie vote, the canvassing board having jurisdiction over the municipality shall determine the result by lot. The clerk of the canvassing board shall certify the results of the election to the county auditor, and the clerk shall be the final custodian of the ballots and the returns of the election.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 205A.10, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Canvass of returns, certificate of election, ballots, disposition.** Between the third and ~~tenth~~ 14th days after a school district election ~~other than a recount of a special election conducted under section 126C.17, subdivision 9, or 475.59~~, the school board shall canvass the returns and declare the candidate duly elected who received the highest number of votes for each school district office and the results of the election any ballot question. The recounted results of a referendum conducted under section 126C.17, subdivision 9, or 475.59 must be certified by the canvassing board. After the time for contesting elections has passed, the school district clerk shall issue a certificate of election to each successful candidate. If there is a contest, the certificate of election to that office must not be issued until the outcome of the contest has been determined by the proper court. If there is a tie vote, the school board shall determine the result by lot. The clerk shall deliver the certificate of election to the successful candidate by personal service or certified mail. The successful candidate shall file an acceptance and oath of office in writing with the clerk within 30 days of the date of mailing or personal service. A person who fails to qualify prior to the time specified shall be deemed to have refused to serve, but that filing may be made at any time before action to fill the vacancy has been taken. The school district clerk shall certify the results of the election to the county auditor, and the clerk shall be the final custodian of the ballots and the returns of the election.

A school district canvassing board shall perform the duties of the school board according to the requirements of this subdivision for a recount of a special election conducted under section 126C.17, subdivision 9, or 475.59."

Renumber the sections in sequence

Correct the title numbers accordingly

With the recommendation that when so amended the bill be re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3.1

This Committee action taken March 18, 2026

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....., Co-Chair

3.3

....., Co-Chair