

To: Rep Raymond Dehn, Rep Jim Nash

Cc: Rep. Jim Davnie

Good morning,

My name is Lindsay Turner and I'm a constituent of Rep. Davnie's, copied here. I'm writing to express deep concern over what happened in Wisconsin yesterday, where Americans were forced to choose between doing everything they can to prevent the spread of a deadly virus, and exercising their right to vote.

I'm urging you to support SOS Simon's plans and proposed legislation to protect our elections, our right to vote, and our health.

I'm from Oregon and lived for years in Washington State. And there are more than 100,000 Minnesotans who live in towns of 400 or fewer who have been voting by mail. Statewide mail-in balloting is desirable, and can absolutely be done in a secure fashion.

I urge you to build on the infrastructure and best practices already out there and ensure that every eligible Minnesotan receives a ballot by mail (including eligible voters incarcerated pre-conviction, or on non-disqualifying convictions on voting days), and that local jurisdictions are provided with guidance to ensure that polling places identified for closure or consolidation are not done in a way that may negatively impact my neighbors of color, and my immigrant, indigent, disabled neighbors -- Minnesotans who've historically been subjected to structural violence and marginalization. I also urge you and SOS Simon to consider changing the deadline for balloting, so that those ballots postmarked by a deadline are counted, not just those received by a deadline. This could help mitigate decreased infrastructure capacity.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns, and thank you for everything you do to make sure that Minnesotans aren't needlessly exposed to coronavirus, and that we can still lead the nation in voting.

Best,

Lindsay

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