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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3589

02/23/2026

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Elections Finance and Government Operations

- 1.1

A bill for an act
- 1.2

relating to elections; permitting a voter to briefly leave a polling place to address
- 1.3

an unexpected need, at the discretion of the head election judge; amending
- 1.4

Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 204C.13, subdivision 7.
- 1.5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.6

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 204C.13, subdivision 7, is amended to read:
- 1.7

Subd. 7. **Leaving the polling place.** (a) An individual who has voted or whose ballot
- 1.8

has been rejected shall leave the polling place and shall not return except as provided by
- 1.9

section 204C.06 or 204C.07.
- 1.10

(b) At the discretion of the head election judge, a voter with a demonstrated need who
- 1.11

has been issued a ballot may be permitted to briefly leave the polling place to address that
- 1.12

need and then return to cast the voter's ballot. If a voter is granted this permission, the
- 1.13

original ballot issued to the voter must remain in the polling place and must be spoiled, and
- 1.14

a new ballot must be issued to the voter upon the voter's return.