

Minnesota Senate



Minnesota House of Representatives

Steve Simon
Minnesota Secretary of State
Via Electronic Delivery

September 30, 2026

Secretary Simon,

As you are no doubt aware, this morning the U.S. Department of Justice unsealed indictments against 10 non-citizen residents of Minnesota alleging multiple instances of voter fraud. This is highly concerning to law-abiding citizens of Minnesotans and to us as elected officials who serve on the elections committees in the Legislature.

We remind you of the letter sent to you February this year pertaining to Mr. Morris Brown, a non-citizen registered voter in Minnesota, AWOL from the National Guard, and who worked as an employee of the State of Minnesota. In that letter we called on you and your office to cooperate with our federal partners to ensure non-citizens are removed from Minnesota's voter rolls.

In that February letter, we offered to work with you on legislation that would allow your office to partner with the federal government. However, you refused to cooperate with us or the federal government to ensure election integrity and the betterment of Minnesota elections. One of the indictments unsealed today showed a non-citizen did in fact vote this year and had their ballot counted. Crimes like this against our democratic system and the citizens of Minnesota could easily have been prevented.

At least one of the accused fraudsters voted via absentee ballot. We bring your attention to HF3723/SF4081, authored by Co-Chair Quam and Senator Koran, which could have prevented a non-citizen from casting a ballot by requiring verification of voter eligibility and citizenship before they receive an absentee ballot. Your office testified against that bill, and it failed on a party line vote both in committee and on the House Floor when it was offered as an amendment by Rep. Altendorf. Had you and your DFL legislative colleagues worked with us on this commonsense legislation, we likely could have prevented illegal votes being cast in this election.

Some of the people indicted today have been registered to vote for years. In fact, one of these illegal voters has been registered to vote since 2014, the year you were first elected as Secretary of State. The fact an ineligible voter was registered to vote and cast ballots for the entirety of your three terms is something that shocks all Minnesotans.

The very foundation of our Republic rests on the idea only eligible citizens are entitled to vote. It is clear illegally cast votes during your tenure as Secretary of State is undermining confidence in Minnesota's elections. Looking the other way and pretending this is not a problem is not a solution.

You are the chief elections officer in this state, and it is your duty to ensure that legally eligible citizens are the only voters casting ballots. We as legislators who serve on the committees with oversight of Minnesota's election system, as well as our fellow elected Republicans, demand that you take your job seriously. Your office needs to spend less time sending staff to spy on federal elections observers who are trying to ensure that every polling place complies with federal disability standards, and more time on ensuring illegal and ineligible votes are not cast or counted in Minnesota elections.

Duane Quam
House Elections Committee Co-Chair

Pam Altendorf
House Elections Committee Co-Vice Chair

Joe McDonald
State Representative, 29A

Ben Davis

Mark Koran
Ranking Minority Member
Senate Election Committee

Eric Lucero
Senator, District 30

Andrew Mathews
Senator, District 27