

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Authors:** Lipman and others

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**Analyst:** Deborah K. McKnight, 651-296-5056

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### Section

- 1 **Election day registration.** Specifies what an individual may use as proof of identity for purposes of election day registration: driver license, Minnesota identification card for non-drivers, passport, military identification, Minnesota post-secondary school identification, state or local government employee photo identification, or medical assistance photo identification card.  
Specifies that an individual may prove residence if one of the above items does not include a current address by providing: a utility bill that is due within 30 days after election day; a driver license, learner permit, or receipt for either of these; notice of late voter registration; or a student dormitory list prepared under current law and certified to the county auditor by the secretary of state's rules.  
This differs from current law in separating the concepts of identification and residence, where current law deals only with residence. It also specifies in law kinds of proof currently accepted under the secretary of state's rules but not listed in statute.  
Requires an election judge to initial each registration card completed on election day. Currently, initialing would be optimal.
- 2 **Revolving loan fund.** Creates a loan fund so political subdivisions can purchase ballot tabulation equipment, including equipment that would allow individuals with disabilities to cast a secret ballot. Requires the secretary of state to set a maximum amount and repayment period for loans, in consultation with the commissioner of finance. Requires the secretary to certify to the commissioner that (1) the proposed loan is for purposes of purchasing ballot tabulation equipment and (2) the local government has insufficient resources to purchase the equipment.  
Sets interest at the rate the state earns on invested treasurer's cash, as determined monthly by the commissioner of finance. Requires deposit of repayments into the loan fund. Requires crediting investment gains or losses on fund money to the fund account. Appropriates money in the account to the secretary to make loans under this section.

Cancels the appropriation June 30, 2008, and requires deposit of canceled money in the general fund.

- 3 **Electronic voting systems; experimental use.** Lets the secretary of state authorize experimental use of touch-sensitive equipment to let visually impaired voters vote independently and privately.
- 4 **County attorney inquiry.** Amends the law that requires a county attorney to investigate alleged fair campaign practices act violations. Requires the county attorney to make a probable cause determination within 14 days or notify the complainant when such a determination will be made.
- 5 **Legislative auditor study.** Requests the legislative auditor to study and report to the legislature by January 15, 2002:
  - (1) whether the secretary of state and county auditors have enough resources to detect and prevent vote fraud, voting by felons on probation, and voting by non-citizens; (2) why a large number of follow up cards sent to voters to confirm addresses given by election day registrants were returned; (3) what populations are served by the practice of letting a registered voter vouch for an election day registrant's address, and whether there are alternatives to the practice, and (4) whether change is needed in the practice of certifying dormitory lists under present law.
- 6 **Appropriation.** An unspecified amount from the general fund in fiscal year 2002 to the secretary of state to capitalize the revolving loan fund.