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### Overview

This bill requires the secretary of state to develop a statewide plan to address emergencies that may disrupt an election, and requires each county to develop a similar plan to address emergencies that may disrupt a state, county, municipal, or school district election held within that county. Other local jurisdictions are also authorized to develop emergency plans.

This bill is one of two submitted to the legislature for consideration by the Elections Emergency Planning Task Force, which met during the 2015 legislative interim. H.F. 2775 contains another portion of the task force's recommendations.

### Section

**1 Election Emergency Plans.** Requires creation of plans to address emergencies that may disrupt an election.

**Subd. 1. State elections emergency plans.** Requires the Secretary of State to:

- (1) develop a state elections emergency plan, in consultation with the director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management;
- (2) work with the governor to incorporate elections needs in the state's continuity of government and continuity of operations plans; and
- (3) create a state guide to assist county and local officials to develop their own election emergency plans, including a model plan for counties, in consultation with the Minnesota State Council on Disability.

**Section**

**Subd. 2. County elections emergency plans.** Requires county elections officials to develop an elections emergency plan to be used for all state and local elections held within the county. Consultation with the county's applicable emergency management organization, and other political subdivisions within the county, is required.

Several standards for the content of a county's emergency plan are provided in paragraph (b). Cities, towns, and school districts are permitted to create their own elections emergency plan, consistent with the requirements of the county plan.

Review of each local elections emergency plan is required prior to every state general election; revisions to the plans must be filed with the secretary of state by July 1 of a state general election year.

**Effective date.** The bill is effective August 1, 2016, provided that initial county election emergency plans are due by September 1, 2016.