

**File Number:** H.F. 463  
**Version:** As introduced

**Date:** January 25, 2017

**Authors:** Fenton and others

**Subject:** In-Person Absentee Voting

**Analyst:** Matt Gehring, 651-296-5052

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: [www.house.mn/hrd/](http://www.house.mn/hrd/).

---

In 2016, a law was enacted authorizing counties to provide in-person absentee voters with an alternative method for casting a ballot. If a county chooses to provide this option, an in-person absentee voter may place their absentee ballot directly into a ballot counter, rather than submitting their ballot in the same manner used for submitting an absentee ballot by mail.

As enacted in 2016, counties were only authorized to provide this option during the seven days immediately preceding an election.

This bill removes the seven-day limitation. Without that limitation, counties may choose to offer a ballot counter for in-person absentee voters at any time during the absentee voting period. The absentee voting period typically begins 46 days prior to an election (for town elections conducted in March, the absentee voting period begins 30 days prior to the election).