

Kurt Daudt
State Representative
House Minority Leader

District 31A
Anoka, Isanti and
Sherburne Counties



Minnesota House of Representatives

January 22, 2014

COMMITTEES: RULES AND LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION
ELECTIONS

The Honorable Eric L. Lipman
Administrative Law Judge
600 N. Robert Street
PO Box 646230
St. Paul, MN 55164

Dear Judge Lipman,

I am writing to raise concerns to recently proposed rules changes, specifically to 8200.5100 subpart 2. This change expands the allowed proofs of residence for voting.

During the 2013 legislative session a bill was passed, with strong bipartisan support, which included reducing the total number of people a registered voter is allowed to vouch for on Election Day. This change was strongly supported by many legislators. The legislative intent of this action to improve and enhance the integrity of elections in Minnesota was a primary reason for the strong support.

The rulemaking process in Minnesota is clearly designed. The process authorizes agencies to further detail enacted Minnesota Statutes. The rulemaking attempt at issue here is an attempt by the Secretary of State to circumvent the legislative intent of the statute. The Secretary claims the additional proofs are necessary due to the reductions in vouching. This rationale cannot be found anywhere in the legislation passed by a strong majority of the Minnesota legislature. This rule change is neither needed nor reasonable.

The 2014 legislative session begins just over one month from today. There is adequate time for the Secretary to propose additional legislative changes for legislators to consider. Attempting to change this rule now would only serve to circumvent the legislative process. There is ample time to propose this change during the legislative session.

I respectfully at this time ask that your office reject these proposed changes and have the Secretary of State follow the legislative process to properly make this important alteration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kurt Daudt".

Representative Kurt Daudt
State Representative 31A
House Minority Leader

