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ELECTION '88
IN
MINNESOTA:

register
and
vote



V8TER
88

INFORMATION

from
Minnesota
Statutes

ELECTION DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

180 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155-1299
612-296-2805



OFFICIALS TO BE ELECTED IN 1988

Office	Term
President and Vice-President	4 years
1 U.S. Senator	6 years
8 U.S. Representatives	2 years
134 State Representatives	2 years
1 Associate Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court	6 years
1 Judge of the Minnesota Court of Appeals	6 years
Numerous district court judges and other nonpartisan officers.	

VOTER ELIGIBILITY

You are qualified to vote in Minnesota if:

- You are 18 years of age.
- You are a citizen of the United States.
- You have lived in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding the election.
- You are registered to vote.

You are not qualified if:

- You are convicted of treason or a felony and not yet restored to your civil rights.
- You are under guardianship of your person.
- You are found by a court of law to be legally incompetent.
- You are not registered to vote.

DETERMINATION OF RESIDENCE. Your residence is that place where you actually live and call home. If you live in more than one place, you may vote at the one you consider to be your place of residence. You may vote in only one precinct.

STUDENT RESIDENCE. A student may vote from either school address or home address depending upon which address the student considers to be the place of residence.

VOTER REGISTRATION

PRE-REGISTRATION. You may pre-register in most Minnesota counties:

- By completing a voter registration card and mailing it to your county's voter registration office.
- At any state agency, county auditor, or the city clerk's office in most cities. A registration card attached to the drivers license application form can be completed at the time you renew or change your drivers license or Minnesota identification card.

PRE-REGISTRATION CLOSES. To allow for processing, you must submit your pre-registration at least 20 days before the next election you wish to vote in. For the primary election on September 13th, you must pre-register by August 23rd; for the general (presidential) election November 8th, by October 18th. *If it is too late to pre-register, you can still vote by registering at the polling place on election day.*

ELECTION DAY. In all Minnesota counties you may register at the polling place on election day with any of the following authorized proofs of residence:

1. Valid Minnesota driver's license or learner's permit (or receipt for either) showing correct address in precinct.
2. Valid Minnesota identification card (or receipt) showing correct address in precinct.
3. Oath of a voter registered in the precinct, who is not a poll challenger, signed in the presence of an election judge. (A voter who registers by using this method may not confirm the residency of another voter on the day of the same election.)
4. A current registration in the same precinct indicating a previous address.
5. A mailed notice received from the registration office indicating an insufficient registration.
6. Students may use one of the following if it shows the student's current address in the precinct:
 - current student fee statement.
 - current student identification card.
 - current student registration card.
 - photo I.D. with certified student housing list.

Only authorized proofs of residence can be used. Other documents are not acceptable proofs of residence for election day registration.

REGISTRATION IS PERMANENT. Unless you change your address, change your name, or fail to vote at least once every four years, your voter registration is permanent. You do not need to declare your political party in order to register to vote.

ASSISTANCE TO HANDICAPPED VOTERS. All polling places must meet accessibility standards unless no available building can be made accessible. Voters who are unable to enter a polling place may, with the assistance of two election judges of different political parties, register and vote without leaving their vehicles. Absentee ballots are also available to the handicapped voter through their county auditor.

All accessible polling places must have one booth or other voting station accessible to the handicapped. In a precinct using lever voting machines, a handicapped voter who cannot enter the machine will be provided with paper ballots. A chair will be available.

Persons who are blind, disabled or otherwise unable to mark their ballots may request the assistance of two election judges of different political parties or an individual of the voter's choice. That individual may not be a candidate, the voter's employer or agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union. The assisting individual must take an oath.

Consult your county auditor about the availability of voter registration and absentee ballot instructions in large print, Braille or cassette. Every county and most cities will have a TTY device for providing voter registration information.

VOTING

LOCATION. Each voter must vote at the polling place designated to serve the precinct where the voter resides. Precinct boundaries and polling places are designated by the governing body of each municipality. Your municipal clerk or county auditor can tell you the location of your polling place.

HOURS. At the September 13, 1988 and November 8, 1988 state elections, polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in most precincts in the state.

PROCEDURES. If you are already registered, sign the voter registration list. If you have not registered beforehand, you may register at the polling place with proper identification. Election judges will check your registration and direct you to a voting booth.

PRIMARIES. In a partisan election, voters nominate candidates to the general election ballot from among those who filed within their party for each office. In a nonpartisan primary, twice the number of candidates to be elected are nominated by the electors. Nonpartisan primaries occur only when more than twice the number to be elected file for a nonpartisan office.

"Ticket-splitting" cannot be done at a primary election. The purpose of a partisan primary election is to allow the voters to select the nominees of their party. Minnesota has a consolidated primary ballot which allows voters to make a secret choice of major party primary. Primary ballots marked for candidates from more than one party are defective and not counted.

ABSENTEE VOTING.

You may vote by absentee ballot if:

- You are going to be absent from the precinct on election day.
- Illness or physical disability will prevent your going to the polling place.
- Religious holiday or discipline prohibits your attendance at the polling place.
- You are an election judge serving in another precinct.

ABSENTEE APPLICATION: Write to your county auditor or municipal clerk or stop into the office and give the following information:

- Your name and residence address;
- Reason you will be away from the polling place on election day;
- Date, and;
- Address to which you wish ballots sent;
- Signature.

An application need not be made on an official or standard form. An application submitted by mail shall be accepted if it contains the information required.

If an individual applies for an absentee ballot and must register by enclosing a completed registration card with the ballot, the individual must furnish authorized proof of residence as required for election day registration.

HOSPITAL AND HEALTH CARE FACILITIES. Special absentee voting procedures may be available to voters in hospital or health care facilities. Consult your county auditor or municipal clerk for additional information.

DEADLINE. Unless you are a patient or resident in certain health care facilities, your request must be received by the county auditor or municipal clerk no later than the day before the election.

RECEIPT OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS. Absentee ballots will be printed at least 30 days before the election. At that time, the county auditor or municipal clerk may mail them to you or you may pick up ballots at the office of the auditor or clerk. Only the voter may pick up the voter's absentee ballots directly from the auditor or clerk.

The auditor's office in every county will be open from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the Saturday (September 10/November 5) and from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on the Monday (September 12/November 7) immediately before the primary and general election for the acceptance of absentee ballot applications and the casting and return of the absentee ballots.

ABSENT VOTERS IN THE MILITARY OR OUTSIDE THE U.S. The voting residence of an armed forces member is the place the member last lived in Minnesota. The ballot application is the only registration required for absentee voters in the military or outside the United States. The voter may request a ballot at any time. A parent, spouse, brother, sister, or child over 18 years of age may request a ballot on behalf of the voter in the military.

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY:

September 13, 1988

GENERAL ELECTION DAY:

November 8, 1988

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS 1988 GENERAL ELECTION

Three amendments to the state constitution are proposed. Each amendment requires a separate vote. If a majority of all who vote in the November 8 election vote "YES," an amendment is adopted. **A voter at the election who does not vote on an amendment is in effect voting "NO."**

Amendment One—

ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND: TO ESTABLISH:

- Yes** "Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to establish a Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund for environmental, natural resource, and wildlife purposes?"
- No**

According to the Attorney General, the purpose and effect of the amendment proposed in Minnesota Laws 1988, ch. 690, article I, section 1, is:

1. A permanent Minnesota Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund would be established in the state treasury.
2. The Legislature would appropriate earnings from the Fund for protection, conservation, preservation and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife and other natural resources.
3. The principal of the Fund would be perpetual and inviolate forever, except that appropriations could be made from up to 25 percent of the annual revenue deposited in the Fund until fiscal year 1997 and loans could be made of up to 5 percent of the principal of the Fund for water system improvements as provided by law. Investments of the Fund could be sold at less than cost to the Fund, but losses not offset by gains would be repaid to the Fund from earnings.

In chapter 690, the Legislature also adopted statutory provisions which will be effective only if the people ratify the proposed amendment. The statutory provisions would, among other things, require that the Fund not be used as a substitute for traditional sources of funding environmental and natural resources activities, but supplement traditional sources; require certain proceeds from a state-operated lottery to be credited to the Fund; permit gifts and donations to be made to the Fund; create a Minnesota Future Resources Commission to develop a budget plan for expenditures from the Fund; create a citizens advisory committee to advise the Minnesota Future Resources Commission, and provide that money in the Fund may be spent only for specified types of programs.

Amendment Two—

JURIES: TO ALLOW LESS THAN TWELVE MEMBERS

- Yes** "Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to allow the use of juries of less than 12 members in civil and nonfelony cases?"
- No**

According to the Attorney General, the purpose and effect of the amendment proposed in Minnesota Laws 1988, chapter 716, is:

1. The Legislature would be authorized to enact a statute providing for the number of jurors in a civil action, but the statute would have to provide for at least six jurors.
2. A person accused of a felony crime would have the right to a jury of twelve members. The Legislature would be authorized to enact a statute providing for the number of jurors in other criminal prosecutions, but the statute would have to provide for at least six jurors.

Amendment Three— STATE LOTTERY: TO PERMIT LEGISLATURE TO AUTHORIZE

___ **Yes** "Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended
___ **No** to permit the Legislature to authorize a lottery
operated by the state?"

According to the Attorney General, the purpose and effect of the amendment proposed in Minnesota Laws 1988, chapter 690, article 1, section 2, is that the Legislature would be authorized to enact a statute authorizing a lottery and sale of lottery tickets for a lottery operated by the state.

In chapter 690, the Legislature also adopted statutory provisions which will be effective only if the people ratify the proposed amendment. The statutory provisions would, among other things, require that during the first five full fiscal years in which proceeds from the lottery are received, the net lottery proceeds from the state-operated lottery would be shared equally by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resource Trust Fund and the Greater Minnesota Corporation Fund. Thereafter, as determined by law each biennium, up to one-half of the net proceeds of the state-operated lottery must be credited to each of the two funds.

ELECTION CALENDAR

August 23	Pre-registration closes for Primary Election
September 10	County auditors' office open for absentee voting 1:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.
September 12	County auditors' office open for absentee voting 5:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.
September 13	State Primary Election. Polls open from 7:00 A.M.-8:00 P.M. in most precincts in the state.
October 18	Pre-registration closes for General Election.
November 5	County auditors' offices open for absentee voting 1:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.
November 7	County auditors' offices open for absentee voting 5:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.
November 8	State General Election. Polls open from 7:00 A.M.-8:00 P.M. in most precincts in state.

Additional information about elections is available from:

Election Division

Office of the Secretary of State

180 State Office Building

St. Paul, MN 55155-1299

Telephone: (612) 296-2805

or

your county auditor

or

your municipal clerk

County

Auditor _____

(telephone)

Municipal

Clerk _____

(telephone)



PRIMARY ELECTION DAY:
September 13, 1988
GENERAL ELECTION DAY:
November 8, 1988

TO:

PLACE
POSTAGE
STAMP
HERE