

Strother, Julie (OSS)

From: mlund8307@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, January 10, 2014 10:28 AM
To: *OAH_RuleComments.OAH
Cc: sknuth@lwvmn.org
Subject: Hearing on Election Law Changes

Dear Judge Eric L. Lipman,

As an election judge in Minnetonka for the past decade and a member of the League of Women Voters, I support the proposed changes to election law made by the Minnesota Secretary of State.

There is no evidence of organized voter fraud or election fraud at this time in Minnesota. Our recent recounts actually confirm our accuracy. Election officials have multiple checks to insure it. Voter education, however, is imperative as many do not understand the laws or the process. Some believe they may vote in any precinct!

Registration prior to general election days would streamline the process. The proposed enlargement of the documents needed to verify identity and residence will especially help wives whose names often do not appear on utility bills. Vouching, in my opinion, is an even better method to prove residence. Sometimes a voter must vouch for a spouse whose registration confirmation card has been returned as undeliverable! New state residents may not have time to get a state driver's license or I. D. prior to voting. Registered voters have an I. D. number that could track problems on over-votes statewide.

Online registration would make local address changes easier for residents. Many elderly in residential facilities change units at the same street address. This causes a problem when they come to vote on election day and must re-register.

Absentee ballots have been a problem in the past and are most vulnerable to organized election fraud by candidates or parties. Security should be focused there. Proposals to eliminate the witness to the ballot's being blank when received are misguided! Processing of these ballots in-house by city or county officials in recent years has been a vast improvement in getting reliable counts.

I believe Minnesota can be proud of its clean elections and voter turnout, but we can always improve. Thank you for your considerations and opinion.

Mary K. Lund
Minnetonka, Minnesota

Sent from Windows Mail