

# Strengthening Democracy

Leading the Nation on Election Access, Security, and Accuracy



Democracy itself was on the ballot in 2022, and Minnesota voters spoke loudly and clearly. With the results of the November Election, the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State has a directive from the people to build on Minnesota's success story as a leader in elections and voting. Voters have shown that they want non-partisanship and inclusion at the heart of reforms as we create election laws for the next generation.

The six legislative priorities outlined in this document feature large and small policy changes that will modernize our election laws and ensure that every Minnesotan has access to free, fair, secure, and accurate elections. Among the proposals are a broad array of reforms that will reduce disparities, expand access, and strengthen voter participation. These policies have been proven effective and adopted with success in states across the country.

## Automatic Voter Registration



- All eligible adults will be automatically registered to vote when they get a state-issued ID or interact with other government agencies.
- Automatic registration can be used for first-time registrations or to update existing voter registrations.
- Local election officials must mail any prospective voter a notice explaining how they can opt-out of the process.

Estimated to add or update **450,000 voter registrations** each year

## Restoration of Rights



- Allows otherwise eligible adults who were convicted of a felony to vote once they completed any term of incarceration resulting from that conviction.
- Contributes to re-entry efforts by welcoming the person's participation in our democracy.

Restores access to the polls for **66,000 Minnesotans**

## Election Worker Protection



- Prohibits activities that impact an election official's ability to perform their duties including: intimidation, interference, dissemination of personal information, making false allegations, and obstructing access.

Offers protection to more than **30,000 Minnesotans** upholding our democracy

## Preregistration for 16- and 17-year-olds



- Allows otherwise eligible 16- and 17-year-olds to preregister to vote.
- Registration marked "pending" until the person turns 18.
- After their 18th birthday, they will automatically appear on a polling place roster on Election Day.

## Removing Restrictions from Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Funds



- Expands the use of federal funds to support elections administration.
- Brings Minnesota into parity with 40 other states' policies regarding federal election funds.

## Local Reimbursements for Presidential Nominating Primaries



- Update the reimbursement allowance to ensure the state is covering the full cost of Presidential Nominating Primaries and not passing costs to local officials.

---

### About the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State

The work of the Secretary of State's Office affects Minnesotans in all 87 counties of the state. Our main responsibilities include overseeing statewide elections; the review, approval, and filing for all businesses and organizations operating in the state; and administering the state's address confidentiality program to help protect those who fear for their safety.