

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State

Safe at Home Division

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

Possible Amendments of Rules Governing the Address Confidentiality Programs of the Office of Secretary of State, Minnesota Rules, Chapter 8290; Revisor's ID No. 04825

Subject of Rules. The Office of the Secretary of State requests comments on its possible amendments to rules governing the address confidentiality program of the Office, known as "Safe at Home." The Office is considering rule amendments that relate to the Safe at Home Division generally, including but not limited to amendments to reflect statutory changes made in recent years as well as: the manner, format, content and procedures relating to applications to become a program participant; the requirements for, term of, renewal of, or withdrawal of, certification as a program participant; the use of the designated address and the use or restrictions upon the use of the actual address of the participant; service of process upon program participants; the effect of reaching age of majority upon program participants who are minors; changes in program participant information on file at the address confidentiality program or failure to notify the program of changes in that information; the transferring of school records of program participants; and application assistant certification and requirements, as well as other address confidentiality program related rule provisions that may arise but only as time permits, as well as changes suggested by the recipients of this request for comments, or the general public.

Persons Affected. The amendment to the rules would likely affect program participants, government offices, private businesses, landlords, law enforcement, and the general public.

Statutory Authority. *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 5B.03, subd. 3 and 5B.08, authorize the Office to adopt rules for the administration of the program generally and to establish a renewal procedure.

Public Comment. Interested persons or groups may submit comments or information on these possible rules in writing until 4:30 p.m. on February 16, 2024. The Office of Secretary of State does not plan to appoint an advisory committee to comment on the possible rules.

The Office of Secretary of State is also interested in whether local governments might be required to adopt or amend an ordinance or other regulation to implement these rules and therefore requests that local governments provide us with relevant information about their ordinances.

The Office of the Secretary of State also requests comments about the "cumulative effect of the rule with other federal and state regulations," as required by *Minnesota Statutes*, section 14.131(8) or whether the cost of complying with the rule in the first year after the rule takes effect will exceed \$25,000 for one small city or business under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 14.127.

Rules Drafts. The Office does not anticipate that a draft of the amendments will be available before the publication of the proposed rule amendments.

Agency Contact Person. Written comments, questions, and requests for more information on these possible rules should be directed to: Nicole Freeman, Government Relations Director, Office of the Secretary of State, 180 State Office Building, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Saint Paul MN 55155, 651-296-9073 (FAX), 651-201-1334 (Office) or Nicole.Freeman@state.mn.us. TTY users may call the Office at 711.

Alternative Format. Upon request, this information can be made available in an alternative format, such as large print, braille, or audio. To make such a request, please contact the agency contact person at the address or telephone number listed above.

NOTE: Comments received in response to this notice will not necessarily be included in the formal rulemaking record submitted to the administrative law judge, if and when a proceeding to adopt rules is started. The agency is required to submit to the judge only those written comments received in response to the rules after they are proposed. If you submitted comments during the development of the rules and you want to ensure that the Administrative Law Judge reviews the comments, you should resubmit the comments after the rules are formally proposed.

Dated: December 18, 2023



Steve Simon
Minnesota Secretary of State