

SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-THIRD SESSION

S.F. No. 1978

(SENATE AUTHORS: WESTROM)

DATE  
02/20/2023

D-PG  
925

Introduction and first reading  
Referred to State and Local Government and Veterans

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to local government; requiring retention elections for persons appointed  
1.3 to certain county offices; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 375A.12,  
1.4 by adding a subdivision.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 375A.12, is amended by adding a subdivision  
1.7 to read:

1.8 Subd. 7. Retention election on appointee. (a) For any office made an appointed office,  
1.9 the county must at the first general election following the effective date of this section hold  
1.10 an election on whether to retain the person appointed. If the voters do not approve retention  
1.11 of the person appointed to the position, the appointee may stay in the position only until  
1.12 January 1 immediately following the election, at which time the county board of  
1.13 commissioners must appoint another person to the position. If the voters approve retention  
1.14 of the person appointed to the position, the county may retain the person and shall hold a  
1.15 retention election at a general election every four years while the office is appointed.

1.16 (b) The ballot question shall be:

1.17 "May the county board retain [name] as the person appointed and responsible for the  
1.18 functions of [county office title]?"

1.19 Yes .....

1.20 No ....."

1.21 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.