

CHAPTER 236—H.F.No. 1542

VETOED

CHAPTER 237—H.F.No. 398

An act relating to elections; providing for high school students 16 years old or more to act as election judges; clarifying the right to take time off from work without penalty to serve as an election judge; permitting students in polling places for educational purposes; amending Minnesota Statutes 1990, sections 204B.19, subdivision 1, and by adding a subdivision; 204B.195; 204B.27, by adding a subdivision; 204C.06, subdivision 2; and 204D.165.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 204B.19, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **INDIVIDUALS QUALIFIED TO BE ELECTION JUDGES.** Except as provided in section 2, any individual who is eligible to vote in an election precinct is qualified to be appointed as an election judge for that precinct subject to this section. If the files of the appointing authority do not contain sufficient voters within a precinct who are qualified and willing to serve as election judges, election judges may be appointed who reside in another precinct in the same municipality, or for school district elections, in the same school district. If there are not sufficient voters within the municipality or school district who are qualified and willing to serve as election judges, election judges may be appointed who reside in the county where the precinct is located.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 204B.19, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6. HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS. Notwithstanding any other requirements of this section, a student enrolled in a high school in Minnesota who has attained the age of 16 is eligible to be appointed as a without party affiliation trainee election judge in the municipality in which the student resides. The student must meet qualifications for trainee election judges specified in rules of the secretary of state. A student appointed as a trainee election judge may be excused from school attendance during the hours that the student is serving as a trainee election judge if the student submits a written request signed and approved by the student's parent or guardian to be absent from school and a certificate from the appointing authority stating the hours during which the student will serve as a trainee election judge to the principal of the school at least ten days prior to the election. Students shall not serve as trainee election judges after 10:00 p.m. Notwithstanding section 177.24 to the contrary, trainee election judges may be paid not less than two-thirds of the minimum wage for a large employer. The principal of the school may approve a request to be absent from school conditioned on acceptable academic performance and the requirement that the student must have completed or be enrolled in a course of study in government at the time of service as a trainee election judge.

New language is indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.