

**4670.0500 POLITICAL ACTIVITY.**

Subpart 1. **Prohibition on elections.** No employee shall use his or her official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the result of an election or nomination for office.

Subp. 2. **Prohibition on contribution.** No employee shall directly coerce, attempt to coerce, command, or advise a merit system employee to pay, lend, or contribute anything of value to a party, committee, organization, agency, or person for political purposes.

Subp. 3. **Prohibition of candidacy.** No employee shall be a candidate in a partisan election for any public office which is obtained through a partisan election. Candidacy for political party office is not prohibited.

Subp. 4. **Applicability during sick leave, leave without pay, or administrative leave.** An employee continues to be covered by the federal Hatch Act restrictions including all the restrictions listed in subparts 1 to 5 while on annual leave, sick leave, leave without pay, or administrative leave. Any employee shall resign from the service upon filing as a candidate for public office, except as provided in subpart 5.

Subp. 5. **Candidate in nonpartisan elections.** Any employee may be a candidate in nonpartisan elections. These are elections in which none of the candidates is to be nominated or elected as representing a political party whose candidates for presidential elector received votes in the last presidential election.

Subp. 6. **Federal Hatch Act.** All prohibitions of political activity provided in the federal Hatch Act apply to employees under the merit system.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 144.071*

**Published Electronically:** *November 25, 2003*