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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 1603

02/25/2019 Authored by Dehn
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to elections; authorizing mail balloting in any town or any city with fewer
1.3 than 400 registered voters; amending Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 204B.45,
1.4 subdivision 1.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 204B.45, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Authorization.** A town of any size ~~not located in a metropolitan county~~
1.8 ~~as defined by section 473.121~~, or a city having fewer than 400 registered voters on June 1
1.9 of an election year ~~and not located in a metropolitan county as defined by section 473.121~~,
1.10 may provide balloting by mail at any municipal, county, or state election with no polling
1.11 place other than the office of the auditor or clerk or other locations designated by the auditor
1.12 or clerk. The governing body may apply to the county auditor for permission to conduct
1.13 balloting by mail. The county board may provide for balloting by mail in unorganized
1.14 territory. The governing body of any municipality may designate for mail balloting any
1.15 precinct having fewer than 100 registered voters, subject to the approval of the county
1.16 auditor.

1.17 Voted ballots may be returned in person to any location designated by the county auditor
1.18 or municipal clerk.

1.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2020, and applies to elections
1.20 conducted on or after that date.