

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to elections; imposing additional requirements on polling place  
1.3 challengers; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, sections 204C.07, subdivisions  
1.4 3a, 4; 204C.12, subdivision 2; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2008, section  
1.5 204C.07, subdivision 3.

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

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 204C.07, subdivision 3a, is amended to  
1.8 read:

1.9 Subd. 3a. **Residence Registration requirement.** A challenger must be a ~~resident~~  
1.10 ~~of this state~~ registered voter as provided in section 201.054. ~~An appointed challengers~~  
1.11 ~~challenger~~ seeking admission to a polling place to serve in that capacity must ~~prove their~~  
1.12 ~~status as a resident of this state by presenting one of the documents listed in section~~  
1.13 ~~201.061, subdivision 3. Challengers need not prove residence in the precinct in which they~~  
1.14 ~~seek to act as a challenger.~~ sign a written statement under penalty of perjury affirming: (1)  
1.15 the challenger's status as a registered voter in this state; and (2) that the challenger has  
1.16 reviewed and agrees to comply with the requirements of this section, including, but not  
1.17 limited to, the standards of conduct for a polling place challenger.

1.18 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 204C.07, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

1.19 Subd. 4. **Restrictions on conduct.** An election judge may not be appointed as a  
1.20 challenger. The election judges shall permit challengers appointed pursuant to this section  
1.21 to be present in the polling place during the hours of voting and to remain there until the  
1.22 votes are counted and the results declared. ~~No~~ A challenger must comply with an order  
1.23 from a head election judge to leave a polling place for the remainder of the election day  
1.24 for failure to comply with the requirements of this section. A challenger shall not:

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- 2.1           (1) handle or inspect registration cards, files, or lists. ~~Challengers shall not;~~  
2.2           (2) prepare in any manner any list of individuals who have or have not voted. ~~They~~  
2.3 ~~shall not;~~  
2.4           (3) attempt to influence voting in any manner. ~~They shall not;~~  
2.5           (4) converse with a voter except to determine, in the presence of an election judge,  
2.6 ~~whether the voter is eligible to vote in the precinct;~~  
2.7           (5) use any electronic communication device inside the polling place; or  
2.8           (6) interfere with an election judge who is performing official duties.

2.9           Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 204C.12, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

2.10           Subd. 2. **Statement of grounds; oath.** Before making a challenge, a challenger  
2.11 must be ~~a resident of this state~~ admitted to a polling place as provided in section 204C.07,  
2.12 subdivision 3a. The secretary of state shall prepare a form that challengers must complete  
2.13 and sign when making a challenge. The form must include space to state the ground  
2.14 for the challenge, a statement that the challenge is based on the challenger's personal  
2.15 knowledge, and a statement that the challenge is made under oath. The form must include  
2.16 a space for the challenger's printed name, signature, telephone number, and address.

2.17           An election judge shall administer to the challenged individual the following oath:

2.18           "Do you solemnly swear that you will fully and truly answer all questions put to  
2.19 you concerning your eligibility to vote at this election?"

2.20           The election judge shall then ask the challenged individual sufficient questions to  
2.21 test that individual's residence and right to vote.

2.22           Sec. 4. **REPEALER.**

2.23           Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 204C.07, subdivision 3, is repealed.