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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. **636**

02/01/2021 Authored by Bierman  
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on State Government Finance and Elections

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to elections; limiting the use of schools as polling places; amending
- 1.3 Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 204B.16, subdivision 6.
- 1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 204B.16, subdivision 6, is amended to read:
- 1.6 Subd. 6. **Public facilities; schools.** (a) Every statutory city, home rule charter city,
- 1.7 county, town, school district, and other public agency, including the University of Minnesota
- 1.8 and other public colleges and universities, shall make their facilities, including parking,
- 1.9 available for the holding of city, county, school district, state, and federal elections, subject
- 1.10 to the approval of the local election official. A charge for the use of the facilities may be
- 1.11 imposed in an amount that does not exceed the lowest amount charged to any public or
- 1.12 private group.
- 1.13 (b) A governing body of a municipality or county must only designate a school as a
- 1.14 polling place when no other public or private location is reasonably available for use as a
- 1.15 polling place. If the governing body of a municipality or county has designated a school as
- 1.16 a polling place, the municipality or county election staff must work with school staff to
- 1.17 ensure that contact between students and voters is minimized. For purposes of this paragraph,
- 1.18 a school is any public or private school, college, or university.
- 1.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for elections held on or after January 1,
- 1.20 2022.