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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 811

01/25/2023 Authored by Brand, Freiberg, Frederick, Pérez-Vega, Greenman and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Elections Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to elections; requiring multiple unit residential facilities to permit candidates
1.3 and volunteers to access the facility for the purpose of traveling door-to-door to
1.4 speak with individual residents; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, section
1.5 211B.20, subdivision 1.

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

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 211B.20, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.8 Subdivision 1. Prohibition. (a) It is unlawful for a person, either directly or indirectly,
1.9 to deny access to an apartment house, dormitory, nursing home, manufactured home park,
1.10 other multiple unit facility used as a residence, or an area in which two or more single-family
1.11 dwellings are located on private roadways to a candidate who has:

1.12 (1) organized a campaign committee under applicable federal or state law;

1.13 (2) filed a financial report as required by section 211A.02; or

1.14 (3) filed an affidavit of candidacy for elected office.

1.15 A candidate granted access under this section must be allowed to be accompanied by
1.16 campaign volunteers.

1.17 (b) Access to a facility or area is only required if it is located within the district or territory
1.18 that will be represented by the office to which the candidate seeks election, and the candidate
1.19 and any accompanying campaign volunteers seek access exclusively for the purpose of
1.20 campaigning for a candidate or registering voters. The candidate must be seeking election
1.21 to office at the next general or special election to be held for that office.

2.1 (c) A candidate and any accompanying campaign volunteers granted access under this
2.2 section must be permitted to travel door-to-door to speak with individual residents and to
2.3 leave campaign materials for residents at their doors, except that the manager of a nursing
2.4 home may direct that the campaign materials be left at a central location within the facility.
2.5 The campaign materials must be left in an orderly manner.

2.6 (d) If a facility or area contains multiple buildings, a candidate and accompanying
2.7 volunteers must be permitted to access more than one building on a single visit, but access
2.8 is limited to only one building at a time. If multiple candidates are traveling together, each
2.9 candidate and that candidate's accompanying volunteers is limited to one building at a time,
2.10 but all of the candidates and accompanying volunteers traveling together must not be
2.11 restricted to accessing the same building at the same time.

2.12 (e) A violation of this section is a petty misdemeanor.