



MINNESOTA LEGISLATIVE MANUAL

BLUE BOOK

2013-2014 Pocket Edition

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DEDICATION OF BLUE BOOK

by Minnesota Secretary of State Mark Ritchie

This Blue Book is dedicated to you, the voters of Minnesota. Thanks to your devoted civic engagement we consistently lead the nation in voter turnout.

As citizens we make our voices heard by exercising our constitutional right to vote. Our nation's founders waged an armed struggle against Great Britain not to win the right to establish a new form of monarchy, but to create a new form of government — a representative democracy “of the people, by the people and for the people,” as Lincoln noted at Gettysburg 150 years ago this November.

While our voting rights are guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, each state has some discretion in administering elections. Some states have everyone vote by mail as is the case in more than 500 Minnesota townships. And in most states, citizens can vote prior to Election Day at county courthouses and city halls. In Minnesota we call this “in-person absentee voting.” Election law changes almost always produce lively debate — helping ensure balance and compromise in changing the way we exercise “the right that protects all other rights.”

Last year our right to vote here in Minnesota was subject of much debate. Citizens weighed in on a constitutional amendment related to elections, legislators discussed new voting restrictions, and federal and state courts issued significant opinions on a wide range of right-to-vote issues.

U.S. District Judge Donovan Frank was asked to review the constitutionality of Minnesota's Election Day voter registration system (*Minnesota Voters Alliance, et al v. Ritchie, et al*). In the early 1970s, state legislators had a spirited debate over whether a voter registration system should be imposed statewide. Many argued against it as a potential barrier to voting. The compromise they came up with was requiring voter registration but with a procedure developed by Wyoming allowing eligible citizens to register on Election Day. More than a dozen other states have adopted similar laws, all of which enjoy a much higher voter turnout than states that have not adopted same-day voter registration.

In his opinion, Judge Frank affirmed the constitutionality of Minnesota's election law system — including same-day registration — and stressed that it was a primary responsibility of our government to do everything in its power to protect the right to vote. Nearly 528,000 Minnesotans benefited from his ruling in the November 2012 elections, making use of Election Day voter registration to update their addresses or register for the first time.

Another significant judicial decision that affirmed our right to vote was made by Minnesota District Judge Jay Quam regarding the rights of Minnesota citizens in a guardianship relationship (*In re the Guardianship of Brian W. Erickson*). In this case, the person who had entered into a guardianship agreement with a local non-profit sought to clarify his right to vote as a citizen. Judge Quam affirmed this right and declared that any effort to restrict the right to vote of Minnesotans in guardianship relationships was not allowed under the U.S. Constitution.

While it is the citizens who keep Minnesota number-one in the nation in voting, this great success is only possible thanks to the dedicated efforts of the more than 30,000 Minnesotans who serve as volunteer election judges, and the thousands of local officials that provide efficient and safe polling places. Thanks to their efforts we set another voter turnout record in 2012.

I am grateful to the generations before us who secured and defended our right to vote — and created our great system of election administration that protects both our constitutional right to vote and the integrity of the process. They have bequeathed to us a system that we work vigilantly to protect and improve. Future generations will be grateful that we have kept Minnesota's democracy strong and they will, I believe, continue our tradition of leading the nation in civic engagement.

The right to vote cannot be overemphasized. In these eloquent yet simple words, Judge Quam captured the essence:

“The importance of this right cannot be overstated in a democratic system where voting is an act of self-definition and an expression of deeply held personal beliefs. It is also not solely a personal right without the potential for great societal consequence...the votes of a few can change the course of our nation.”



MINNESOTA IN PROFILE

Nicknames: “Land of 10,000 Lakes,” “The Gopher State,” “The North Star State”

Organized as territory: March 3, 1849

Entered Union: May 11, 1858 (32nd state)

Motto: L’Étoile du Nord (The Star of the North)

Area: 86,938.87 square miles (12th largest state)

Land area: 79,610.08 square miles

Inland waters: 7,328.79 square miles

Width: 348 miles

Length: 406 miles

Highest point: Eagle Mountain (Cook County), 2,301 feet above sea level

Lowest point: Surface of Lake Superior, 602 feet above sea level

Major river systems: Mississippi, Minnesota, and Red River of the North; Minnesota water flows in three directions: north to Hudson Bay, east to the Atlantic Ocean, and south to the Gulf of Mexico; no water flows into the state.

Number of lakes: 11,842 that are larger than 10 acres

Number of rivers and streams: 6,564 (69,200 miles)

Population: 5,303,925 (2010 Census)

Population density per square mile: 66.6 (2010 Census)

Largest cities: (2011 population estimates) Minneapolis 387,873; St. Paul 286,367; Rochester 107,630; Duluth 86,256; Bloomington 83,671; Brooklyn Park 76,238; Plymouth 71,263

Urban population: approximately 73 percent (Urban population includes those counties with core urban areas of 50,000 or more people and those counties with a high degree of social and economic integration, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget.)

Rural population: approximately 27 percent

Income:

Per capita personal income estimate: \$44,560 (2011 Bureau of Economic Analysis estimate)

2011 Median household income: \$56,869 (US Census Annual Social and Economic Supplement Three-Year Average)

2011 Median family income: \$71,826 (2011 American Community Survey Three-Year Average)

CLIMATE					
CLIMATE (Airport Weather Stations)	DULUTH	INTERNATIONAL FALLS	MINNEAPOLIS/ ST. PAUL	ROCHESTER	ST. CLOUD
Annual precipitation (inches)	30.96	24.22	30.61	33.02	27.73
Annual snowfall (inches)	86.1	71	54.4	51.9	45.7
Annual temperature (°F)	39.7	37.5	46.3	45.4	42.9
January temperature (°F)	10.2	4.4	15.6	15.7	11.6
July temperature (°F)	65.8	65.2	73.8	71.4	70.3
Growing season (days)*	125	112	161	151	138

*Days between median last spring freeze and median first fall freeze (1948-2005)

Sources: State Climatology Office, Department of Natural Resources, State Demographer’s Office, U.S. Census Bureau, National Weather Service, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

MINNESOTA STATE SYMBOLS

The Great Seal of the State of Minnesota

The Minnesota Secretary of State is the keeper of the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota and affixes the seal to government documents to make them official. Just as people authenticate a document by signing their name, the state seal acts as the state's signature.

When Minnesota became a state on May 11, 1858, it did not have an official state seal despite a constitutional requirement to have one. Minnesota's first secretary of state, Francis Baasen, wrote to Governor Henry Sibley requesting direction on the matter. Sibley authorized Secretary Baasen to use the seal from Minnesota's previous territorial government. In the meantime, Sibley began making design changes correcting errors discovered when the seal was cast in metal. He replaced a misspelled Latin motto, "Quo sursum velo videre," which means "I want to see what lies beyond" with a French motto, "L'Étoile du Nord," meaning "star of the north." He also reversed the picture on the seal to depict the sun setting in the west instead of east. Around the seal design he placed the words, "The Great Seal of the State of Minnesota 1858." In 1861, the Legislature adopted the new design, making it the official state seal. In 1983, the Legislature altered the seal in an attempt to spell out specific design details more clearly in hopes of avoiding the wide variations that occurred in past artistic interpretations.



The Great Seal of the State of Minnesota is rich in symbolism. The sun, visible on the western horizon, signifies the flat plains covering much of the state. The cultivated ground and plow symbolize the importance of agriculture. The Mississippi River and St. Anthony Falls are depicted to note the importance of Minnesota's natural resources for trade and commerce. The three pine trees represent the state tree, the Red or Norway pine, and the three great pine regions of the state including the St. Croix, Mississippi, and Lake Superior. The tree stump symbolizes the importance of Minnesota's lumber industry. The American Indian on horseback represents the great American Indian heritage of the state while the horse, spear, pioneer's axe, rifle, and plow represent important tools that were used for hunting and labor.

Editor's note on the private use of the state seal, from a 1988 attorney general's interpretation of *Minnesota Statutes*: "Private individuals can reproduce the state seal for their own purposes... the private enlargement, reduction, or embossment of the seal by private citizens is not prohibited. There are a number of consumer protection statutes that could conceivably prohibit the use of the state seal if it is used to misrepresent the nature of a business, or if a person in the course of his business, vocation, or occupation engages in any conduct that creates a likelihood of confusion or of misunderstanding..."



Photograph provided by the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources

State Bird

Minnesota's state bird, the loon (*Gavia immer*), was adopted by the Legislature in 1961. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.145) Loons are large black and white birds with red eyes. They have wingspans up to five feet, body lengths up to three feet, and can dive to depths of 90 feet. Its name comes from a Norwegian word that means "wild, sad cry." Approximately 12,000 loons make their summer homes in Minnesota.

State Butterfly

The monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*), also known as the milkweed butterfly, was adopted as the state's official butterfly in 2000. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.1497) The monarch is one of the few butterfly species that migrates with the change in seasons. Approximately four generations of monarchs are born in Minnesota each summer and live roughly four weeks; the exception is the last generation of the season, which survives for six months. Monarch caterpillars feed almost exclusively on milkweed, which grows throughout Minnesota.



Photograph provided by the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources



Photographs provided by the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources

State Drink and Muffin

Milk was adopted as the official state drink in 1984. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.1495) Our state produces 8.7 billion pounds of milk a year (4.7 percent of the nation's total) and ranks sixth in dairy production among the states.

The blueberry muffin was adopted as the official muffin of the state of Minnesota in 1988. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.1496)

State Fish

After being first proposed to be the state fish in 1953, the walleye (*Stizostedion vitreum*) was adopted in 1965. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.146) This popular game fish is found throughout Minnesota in lakes and rivers. The largest walleye ever caught in Minnesota weighed 17 pounds, 8 ounces.



Photograph provided by the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources

State Flag



Photograph provided by Rachel Rudy

The Minnesota state flag is royal blue with a gold fringe. In the center of the flag is the state seal. Around the state seal is a wreath of the state flower, the lady slipper. Three dates are woven into the wreath: 1819, the year Fort Snelling was established; 1858, the year Minnesota became a state; and 1893, the year the official flag was adopted. Nineteen stars ring the wreath, symbolizing that Minnesota was the 19th state to enter the Union after the original 13. The largest star represents the North Star and Minnesota. The present state flag was adopted by the Legislature in 1957. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.141)

State Flower

From the earliest days, the Legislature wanted the pink and white lady slipper (*Cypripedium reginae*) to be the state flower. However, in 1893, the Legislature passed a resolution mistakenly naming the wild lady slipper as the state flower. In 1967, the Legislature made the pink and white lady slipper a state symbol. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.142) One of Minnesota's rarest wildflowers, this plant thrives in open swamps, bogs and damp woods. Lady slippers grow slowly, taking four to 16 years to produce their first flowers, which bloom in late June or early July. The plants live for up to 50 years and grow up to four feet tall.



Photograph provided by the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources



Photography provided by University of Minnesota, David L. Hansen

State Fruit

The Honeycrisp™ apple was adopted as the state fruit in 2006. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.1475) It was produced from a 1960 cross of Macoun and Honeygold apples, as part of a University of Minnesota apple-breeding program to develop a winter-hardy tree with high quality fruit. Honeycrisp apples are about three inches in diameter, have an exceptionally crisp and juicy texture, and are harvested from September 15 to October 10 in east-central Minnesota.

State Gemstone

The Lake Superior agate was named the official state gemstone in 1969. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.147) This beautiful quartz stone is banded with rich red and orange colors derived from iron ore in the soil. These agates are normally about the size of a pea, but can be as large as 20 pounds. Dispersed throughout Minnesota by glaciers in the last Ice Age, these agates can be found on the banks of rivers, in gravel pits, or in other places where pebbles and gravel abound.



Photograph provided by the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources



Photograph provided by the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources

State Grain

Wild rice (*Zizania aquatica*), was adopted as the official state grain in 1977. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.148) This aquatic grass is not related to common rice and was a staple food for Minnesota's American Indian tribes for centuries. Wild rice is still harvested from lakes in the traditional way, by canoe. However, people interested in harvesting wild rice in Minnesota must purchase a wild ricing license, similar to a fishing or hunting license. Today, as in the past, much of the wild rice produced in the world comes from Minnesota.

State Mushroom

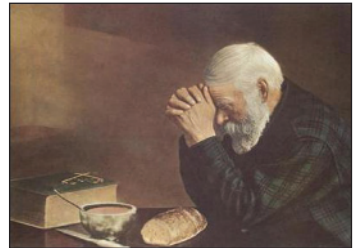
Morchella esculenta, commonly known as the morel, sponge mushroom or honeycomb morel, was adopted in 1984 as the official state mushroom. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.149) Morels are edible and considered a rare delicacy. They grow two to six inches high, are creamy tan or shades of brown and gray in color, and boast pitted, spongy heads, smooth stems and hollow interiors. In the spring, morels can often be found in south-eastern Minnesota fields and forests.



Photograph provided by Andrew VonBank

State Photograph

The photograph "Grace," depicting an elderly man bowing his head and giving thanks, taken by Eric Enstrom in 1918 in Bovey, Minnesota, was adopted as the official state photograph in 2002. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.1498) A copy of the photograph, presented to the state by Enstrom's daughter, Rhoda Nyberg, is on display in the secretary of state's office in St. Paul.



Source: www.gracebyenstrom.com/index.html



Photograph provided by Gary Elsner, MAPSS

State Soil

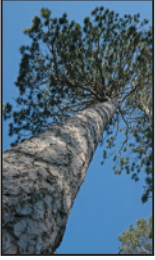
First proposed in 1939, Lester soil became the official state soil in 2012. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.485) Lester soils are well-drained, have a dark grayish brown surface with clay loam and loam subsoils. The characteristics of this soil developed from both grasslands and forests. This soil is a valuable resource for forage, corn and soybean production. Lester soil can be found in 16 central and south-central Minnesota counties.

State Sport

The 2009 Legislature designated ice hockey as the official state sport of Minnesota. (*Minnesota Statutes* 1.1499)



Photograph provided by Jim Rosvold



Photograph provided by the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources

State Tree

The Red or Norway pine (*Pinus resinosa*) became the official state tree in 1953. (*Minnesota Statutes 1.143*) Red pines can live to be 400 years old and can reach heights of nearly 150 feet with a trunk up to five feet in diameter. Its needles are four- to six-inches long and grow in pairs.

Red pines when small are popular as Christmas trees, and are harvested for use as structural timber and pulpwood when mature. They also make suitable poles, pilings, mining timbers and railroad ties.

STATE HISTORIC SITES

The following historic sites are maintained and operated by the Minnesota Historical Society. For more information, go to www.mnhs.org or call (651) 259-3000.

Alexander Ramsey House, St. Paul
Birch Coulee Battlefield, Morton
Comstock House, Moorhead
Forest History Center, Grand Rapids
Fort Ridgely, Fairfax
Grand Mound, International Falls
Harkin Store, New Ulm
Historic Forestville, Preston
Historic Fort Snelling, St. Paul
James J. Hill House, St. Paul
Jeffers Petroglyphs, Jeffers
Lac qui Parle Mission, Montevideo
Lindbergh House, Little Falls

Lower Sioux Agency, Morton
Mille Lacs Indian Museum, Onamia
Minnehaha Depot, Minneapolis
Minnesota State Capitol, St. Paul
North West Company Fur Post, Pine City
Oliver H. Kelley Farm, Elk River
St. Anthony Falls, Minneapolis
Sibley Historic Site, Mendota
Split Rock Lighthouse, Two Harbors
W. H. C. Folsom House, Taylors Falls
W. W. Mayo House, Le Sueur
William G. LeDuc House, Hastings

GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE

The governor's residence, located at 1006 Summit Avenue in Saint Paul, is the official home of the governor's family. The 20-room, 16,000-square-foot English Tudor mansion was donated to the state of Minnesota in 1965. Designed by Minneapolis architect William Channing Whitney, the residence has nine bedrooms, eight bathrooms, nine fireplaces, and sits on 1.5 acres of land. Five people work at the residence: the manager, assistant manager, chef, housekeeper and groundskeeper. Free guided public tours are typically available during the summer months; for more information visit: www.admin.state.mn.us/buildings/residence/index.html.



State Song

“Hail! Minnesota” was written in 1904 by University of Minnesota students Truman E. Rickard and Arthur E. Upson. A second verse was penned in 1905. The University of Minnesota Alumni Association, owner of the copyright to the song, released its copyright to the words and music and in 1945 the Legislature adopted “Hail Minnesota” as the state song.

The original University of Minnesota version of the song is pictured below.

Hail Minnesota
(S. A. T. B.) Rickard - Bencriscutto

The musical score is presented in five systems, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and lyrics. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: Min-ne so - ta - Hail to Thee! Hail to Thee our Col - lege Like the stream that bends to sea, Like the pine that seeks the dear! blue! Thy light shall ev - er be A - bea - con bright and Min-ne so - ta, still for Thee Thy - sons are strong and clear, true Thy - sons woods and daugh - ters true fair, will pro - from their claim Thee near and far, far; They will guard Thy fame and a - prar - ies wav - ing far; At Thy call thy throng with their doze shout Thy name; Thou shalt be their North - ern Start! and song, Hail - ing Thee their North - ern Start!

MINNESOTA STATE PARKS

For more information on Minnesota State Parks, visit: www.mndnr.gov/stateparks

Open year-round, Minnesota State Parks and recreation areas showcase the diverse and abundant natural resources of the “Land of 10,000 Lakes.” State parks offer a variety of educational and recreational programs, and activities such as camping, swimming, fishing, hiking, picnicking, birdwatching, canoeing, kayaking, biking and cross-country skiing. (Region of state where park is located: NW-Northwest; NE-Northeast; S-South; Metro-Twin Cities Metro Area)

MINNESOTA STATE PARKS CONTACT INFORMATION

Afton (Metro) - 6959 Peller Ave. S., Hastings, MN 55033 **Phone:** (651) 436-5391

Banning (NE) - 611101 Banning Park Road, Sandstone, MN 55072 **Phone:** (320) 245-2668

Bear Head Lake (NE) - 9301 Bear Head State Park Rd, Ely, MN 55731 **Phone:** (218) 365-7229

Beaver Creek Valley (S) - 15954 County Road 1, Caledonia, MN 55921 **Phone:** (507) 724- 2107

Big Bog State Recreation Area (NW) - 55716 Hwy 72, NE, Waskish, MN 56685 **Phone:** (218) 647-8592

Big Stone Lake (S) - 35889 Meadowbrook State Park Rd, Ortonville, MN 56278 **Phone:** (320) 839-3663

Blue Mounds (S) - 1410 161st St, Luverne, MN 56156 **Phone:** (507) 283-1307

Buffalo River (NW) - 565-155 St South - Hwy 10, Glyndon, MN 56547 **Phone:** (218) 498-2124

Camden (S) - 1897 Camden Park Rd, Lynd, MN 56157 **Phone:** (507) 865-4530

Carley (S) - c/o Whitewater State Park, 19041 Hwy 74, Altura, MN 55910 **Phone:** (507) 932-3007

Cascade River (NE) - 3481 West Hwy 61, Lutsen, MN 55612 **Phone:** (218) 387-3053

Charles A Lindbergh (NW) - P.O. Box 364, 1615 Lindbergh Drive S., Little Falls, MN 56345 **Phone:** (320) 616-2525

Crow Wing (NW) - 3124 State Park Rd, Brainerd, MN 56401 **Phone:** (218) 825-3075

Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area (NW) - 307 Third St, P.O. Box 404, Ironton, MN 56455 **Phone:** (218) 546-5926

Father Hennepin (NE) - 41294 Father Hennepin Park Rd, Isle, MN 56342 **Phone:** (320) 676-8763

Flandrau (S) - 1300 Summit Ave, New Ulm, MN 56073 **Phone:** (507) 233-9800

Forestville/Mystery Cave (S) - 21071 Co 118, Preston, MN 55965 **Phone:** Main Park- (507) 352-5111, Mystery Cave-(507) 937-3251

Fort Ridgely (S) - 72158 County Rd 30, Fairfax, MN 55332 **Phone:** (507) 426-7840

Fort Snelling (Metro) - 101 Snelling Lake Rd, St. Paul, MN 55111 **Phone:** (612) 725-2389 **Visitor Center:** (612) 725-2724

Franz Jevne (NE) - State Hwy 11, Birchdale, MN 56629; c/o Zippel Bay State Park, 3684 - 54th Ave. NW, Williams, MN 56686 **Phone:** (218) 783-6252

Frontenac (S) - 29223 Co 28 Blvd, Frontenac, MN 55026 **Phone:** (651) 345-3401

Garden Island State Recreation Area (NW) - c/o Zippel Bay State Park, 3684 - 54th Ave. NW, Williams, MN 56686 **Phone:** (218) 783-6252

George H. Crosby Manitou (NE) - c/o Tettegouche State Park, 5702 Hwy 61, Silver Bay, MN 55614 **Phone:** (218) 226-6365

Glacial Lakes (NW) - 25022 County Rd 41, Starbuck, MN 56381 **Phone:** (320) 239-2860

Glendalough (NW) - 25287 Whitetail Lane, Battle Lake, MN 56515 **Phone:** (218) 864-0110

Gooseberry Falls (NE) - 3206 Hwy 61 E., Two Harbors, MN 55616 **Phone:** (218) 834-3855

Grand Portage (NE) - 9399 E. Hwy 61, Grand Portage, MN 55605-3000 **Phone:** (218) 475-2360

Great River Bluffs (S) - 43605 Kipp Drive, Winona, MN 55987 **Phone:** (507) 643-6849

Greenleaf Lake State Recreation Area (S) - c/o DNR Parks and Trails Division Hutchinsonson Area Office, 20596 Hwy 7, Hutchinson, MN 55350 **Phone:** 320-234-2564 (open for day use only while under development)

Hayes Lake (NW) - 48990 County Rd 4, Roseau, MN 56751-8745 **Phone:** (218) 425-7504

Hill Annex Mine (NE) - c/o Scenic State Park, 56956 Hwy 7, Big Fork, MN 56628. **Phone:** (218) 247-7215

Interstate (Metro) - 307 Milltown Rd, P. O. Box 254, Taylors Falls, MN 55084 **Phone:** (651) 465-5711

Iron Range Off-Highway Vehicle State Recreation Area (NE), 7196 Pettit Road, Gilbert, MN 55741 **Phone:** (218) 748-2207

Itasca (NW) - 36750 Main Park Drive, Park Rapids, MN 56470 **Phone:** (218) 699-7251

Jay Cooke (NE) - 780 Hwy 210, Carlton, MN 55718 **Phone:** (218) 384-4610

John A. Latsch (S) - c/o Great River Bluffs State Park, 43605 Kipp Drive, Winona, MN 55987 **Phone:** (507) 643-6849

Judge C.R. Magney (NE) - 4051 E. Hwy 61, Grand Marais, MN 55604 **Phone:** (218) 387-3039

Kilen Woods (S) - 50200 860th St., Lakefield, MN 56150 **Phone:** (507) 662-6258

La Salle Lake State Recreation Area (NW) - c/o Itasca State Park, 36750 Main Park Drive, Park Rapids, MN 56470 **Phone:** (218) 699-7251

Lac qui Parle (S) - 14047 20th Street NW, Watson, MN 56295 **Phone:** (320) 734-4450

Lake Bemidji (NW) - 3401 State Park Rd. NE, Bemidji, MN 56601 **Phone:** (218) 308-2300

Lake Bronson (NW) - 3793 230th St. Box 9, Lake Bronson, MN 56734 **Phone:** (218) 754-2200

Lake Carlos (NW) - 2601 County Rd 38 NE, Carlos, MN 56319 **Phone:** (320) 852-7200

Lake Louise (S) - c/o Forestville/Mystery Cave State Park, 21071 Co 118, Preston, MN 55965; 12385 766th Ave., LeRoy, MN 55951 **Phone:** (507) 352-5111

Lake Maria (Metro) - 11411 Clementa Ave NW, Monticello, MN 55362 **Phone:** (763) 878-2325

Lake Shetek (S) - 163 State Park Rd, Currie, MN 56123 **Phone:** (507) 763-3256

MINNESOTA STATE PARKS

(continued)

Lake Vermillion (NE) - adjacent to Soudan Underground Mine State Park **Phone:** (218) 753-2245
Maplewood (NW) - 39721 Park Entrance Rd, Pelican Rapids, MN 56572 **Phone:** (218) 863-8383
McCarthy Beach (NE) - 7622 McCarthy Beach Rd, Side Lake, MN 55781 **Phone:** (218) 254-7979
Mille Lacs Kathio (NW) - 15066 Kathio State Park Rd, Onamia, MN 56359 **Phone:** (320) 532-3523
Minneopa (S) - 54497 Gadwall Rd, Mankato, MN 56001 **Phone:** (507) 389-5464
Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area (Metro) - 19825 Park Blvd, Jordan, MN 55352 **Phone:** (952) 492-6400
Monson Lake (NE) - 1690 15th St. NE, Sunburg, MN 56289 **Phone:** (320) 366-3797
Moose Lake (NE) - 4252 County Rd 137, Moose Lake, MN 55767 **Phone:** (218) 485-5420
Myre-Big Island (S) - 19499 780th Ave., Albert Lea, MN 56007 **Phone:** (507) 379-3403
Nerstrand Big Woods (S) - 9700 170 St E., Nerstrand, MN 55053 **Phone:** (507) 333-4840
Old Mill (NW) - 33489 240th Ave. NW, Argyle, MN 56713 **Phone:** (218) 437-8174
Red River State Recreation Area (NW) - 515 2nd St NW, East Grand Forks, MN 56721 **Phone:** (218) 773-4950
Rice Lake (S) - 8485 Rose St, Owatonna, MN 55060 **Phone:** (507) 455-5871
St. Croix Islands State Recreation Area (Metro) - c/o William O'Brien State Park, 16821 O'Brien Trail North, Marine-on-St. Croix, MN 55047 **Phone:** (651) 433-0500
St. Croix (NE) - 30065 St. Croix Park Rd, Hinckley, MN 55037 **Phone:** (320) 384-6591
Sakatah Lake (S) - 50499 Sakatah Lake State Park Rd, Waterville, MN 56096 **Phone:** (507) 362-4438
Savanna Portage (NE) - 55626 Lake Place, McGregor, MN 55760 **Phone:** (218) 426-3271
Scenic (NE) - 56956 Scenic Hwy 7, Bigfork, MN 56628 **Phone:** (218) 743-3362
Schoolcraft (S) - 9042 Schoolcraft Ln NE, Deer River, MN 56636; Mailing address: c/o Scenic State Park, 56956 Scenic Hwy 7, Bigfork, MN 56628 **Phone:** (218) 743-3362
Sibley (S) - 800 Sibley Park Rd NE, New London, MN 56273 **Phone:** (320) 354-2055
Soudan Underground Mine (NE) - 1302 McKinley Park Rd., P.O. Box 335, Soudan, MN 55782 **Phone:** (218) 753-2245
Split Rock Creek (S) - 336 50th Ave, Jasper, MN 56144 **Phone:** (507) 348-7908
Split Rock Lighthouse (NE) - 3755 Split Rock Lighthouse Rd, Two Harbors, MN 55616 **Phone:** (218) 226-6377
Temperance River (NE) - 7620 W. Hwy 61, Box 33, Schroeder, MN 55613 **Phone:** (218) 663-7476
Tettegouche (NE) - 5702 Hwy 61, Silver Bay, MN 55614 **Phone:** (218) 226-6365
Upper Sioux Agency (S) - 5908 Hwy 67, Granite Falls, MN 56241 **Phone:** (320) 564-4777
Whitewater (S) - 19041 Hwy 74, Altura, MN 55910 **Phone:** (507) 932-3007
Wild River (Metro) - 39797 Park Trail, Center City, MN 55012 **Phone:** (651) 583-2125 **Park Naturalist:** (651) 583-2925
William O'Brien (Metro) - 16821 O'Brien Trail North, Marine-on-St. Croix, MN 55047 **Phone:** (651) 433-0500
Zippel Bay (NW) - 3684 54th Ave NW, Williams, MN 56686 **Phone:** (218) 783-6252

NATIONAL PARKS, MONUMENTS AND RECREATION AREAS

For more information on national parks in Minnesota visit www.nps.gov.

Grand Portage National Monument - P.O. Box 426, 170 Mile Creek Rd, Grand Portage, MN 55605 **Phone:** (218) 475-0123

Mississippi National River and Recreation Area - 111 East Kellogg Blvd, Suite 105, St Paul, MN 55101
Headquarters Phone: (651) 290-4160 **Visitor Center Phone:** (651) 293-0200

North Country National Scenic Trail (runs through several states including Minnesota) -
700 Rayovac Dr, Suite 100, Madison, WI 53711 **Phone:** (608) 441-5610

Pipestone National Monument - 36 Reservation Ave, Pipestone, MN 56164 **Phone:** (507) 825-5464

Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway (runs through Minnesota and Wisconsin) - 401 North Hamilton St., Saint Croix Falls,
WI 54024 **Phone:** (715) 483-2274

Voyageurs National Park - 360 Highway 11 East, International Falls, MN 56649 **Phone:** (218) 283-6600,
Rainy Lake Visitor Center: (218) 286-5258

POPULATION

County	TOTAL	ONE RACE					ETHNICITY		AGE	
	Total Population (2011 Estimate)	White (2010)	Black/African American (2010)	American Indian / Alaskan Native (2010)	Asian/ Pacific Islander (2010)	Other (2010)	Two or More Races (2010)	Hispanic/Latino/ Any Race (2010)	Under 18 (2010)	65 or Older (2010)
Aitkin	16,220	15,494	57	390	31	21	209	151	2,918	4,413
Anoka	333,140	287,802	14,503	2,257	12,972	4,789	8,521	12,020	86,031	32,232
Becker	32,778	28,720	138	2,455	132	87	972	398	7,999	5,637
Beltrami	45,264	33,359	262	9,004	327	113	1,377	676	11,108	5,754
Benton	38,671	36,348	749	159	429	151	615	632	9,500	4,558
Big Stone	5,238	5,175	11	22	4	15	42	41	1,105	1,324
Blue Earth	64,384	59,400	1,741	178	1,271	398	1,025	1,586	12,381	7,562
Brown	25,734	25,245	61	21	155	228	183	860	5,698	4,899
Carlton	35,455	31,727	498	2,086	164	56	855	484	8,364	5,317
Carver	92,638	84,450	1,124	208	2,493	1,331	1,436	3,515	27,205	7,707
Cass	28,390	24,534	61	3,196	91	58	627	340	6,203	4,000
Chippewa	12,319	11,632	65	119	154	317	154	611	2,914	2,400
Chisago	53,916	51,621	645	324	488	139	670	835	13,847	6,247
Clay	59,803	54,684	642	803	867	528	1,275	2,036	13,744	7,078
Clearwater	8,774	7,579	30	782	22	17	265	120	2,170	1,621
Cook	5,218	4,559	17	446	30	13	111	58	871	1,051
Cottonwood	11,686	10,773	87	27	334	318	148	720	2,791	2,482
Crow Wing	62,763	60,368	313	526	248	137	908	652	14,372	11,564
Dakota	402,006	339,499	18,709	1,647	17,667	9,556	11,474	23,966	105,600	39,816
Dodge	20,243	19,294	60	54	94	312	273	915	5,824	2,460
Douglas	36,172	35,186	150	105	168	73	327	341	7,876	7,069
Fairbault	14,508	14,042	47	62	43	225	134	817	3,199	3,179
Fillmore	20,876	20,497	49	22	71	54	173	207	5,065	4,000
Freeborn	31,172	29,121	231	688	256	1,061	518	2,750	6,872	6,309
Goodhue	46,217	43,684	445	533	291	511	719	1,342	10,950	7,594
Grant	5,989	5,864	19	9	15	42	69	94	1,287	1,334
Hennepin	1,168,431	856,834	136,262	10,591	72,411	38,878	37,449	77,676	261,345	130,814
Houston	18,916	18,570	101	33	91	12	220	132	4,403	3,307
Hubbard	20,303	19,314	48	557	52	92	365	327	4,464	4,245
Isanti	38,283	36,319	245	174	328	134	616	582	9,805	4,680
Itasca	45,034	42,195	144	1,568	154	74	923	417	9,836	8,574
Jackson	10,202	9,830	47	24	141	120	104	277	2,320	2,044
Kanabec	16,169	15,754	55	90	56	34	250	214	3,896	2,659
Kandiyohi	42,173	39,206	984	130	191	1,221	507	4,710	10,157	6,832
Kittson	4,515	4,484	11	11	4	16	12	25	69	984
Koochiching	13,213	12,593	78	311	47	25	257	147	2,782	2,604
Lac Qui Parle	7,193	7,087	17	17	32	45	61	108	1,534	1,726
Lake	10,824	10,616	16	51	31	15	137	80	2,067	2,428
Lake of the Woods	4,007	3,874	14	28	33	13	83	35	814	821
Le Sueur	27,656	26,443	94	81	166	610	309	1,444	7,052	3,976
Lincoln	5,820	5,777	8	9	14	43	45	72	1,316	1,444
Lyon	25,891	23,360	587	114	686	708	402	1,541	6,265	3,519
McLeod	36,432	35,159	199	101	284	547	361	1,811	9,265	5,603
Mahnomen	5,456	5,213	11	2,215	4	3	467	99	1,586	855
Marshall	9,481	9,119	26	43	22	148	81	337	2,226	1,816
Martin	20,689	20,142	64	59	110	277	188	744	4,632	4,317
Mesher	23,265	22,663	77	44	72	272	172	767	5,920	3,835
Millie Lacs	25,979	23,778	97	1,571	90	78	483	377	6,615	4,206
Morrison	33,229	32,426	131	66	112	104	359	402	8,165	5,325
Mower	39,349	35,495	818	97	689	1,336	728	4,138	9,883	6,818
Murray	8,630	8,435	25	11	80	103	71	242	1,934	1,951
Nicollet	32,820	30,666	667	99	432	397	466	1,226	7,383	3,917
Nobles	21,397	16,206	743	111	1,178	2,746	394	4,820	5,483	3,420
Norman	6,869	6,455	13	109	25	92	158	276	1,666	1,465
Olmsted	145,769	123,605	6,870	353	7,871	2,368	3,181	6,081	36,440	18,133
Otter Tail	57,252	55,080	430	279	305	510	699	1,490	12,457	12,032
Pennington	14,072	13,067	192	213	88	121	249	380	3,311	2,212
Pine	29,604	27,347	597	921	139	188	558	723	6,599	4,856
Pipestone	9,501	8,975	56	100	69	216	180	355	2,391	1,901
Polk	31,456	29,495	270	453	220	497	665	1,720	7,521	5,220
Pope	10,894	10,766	38	24	41	29	97	95	2,337	2,338
Ramsey	514,696	356,547	56,170	4,043	59,548	14,776	17,556	36,483	118,493	61,181
Red Lake	4,105	3,934	8	52	8	27	60	101	1,007	701
Redwood	15,972	14,305	75	796	509	59	315	335	4,017	3,164
Renville	15,500	15,014	44	91	60	356	165	1,046	3,656	3,045
Rice	64,409	57,275	2,072	300	1,354	1,978	1,163	5,122	15,163	7,881
Rock	9,614	9,365	59	34	54	56	119	197	2,503	1,835
Roseau	15,540	14,767	39	201	395	17	210	116	4,104	2,250
St. Louis	200,255	186,212	2,739	4,477	1,838	445	4,515	2,409	39,559	31,816
Scott	132,556	112,212	3,376	1,072	7,444	2,886	2,938	5,771	39,228	10,016
Sherburne	89,319	83,211	1,689	439	1,149	511	1,500	1,941	25,777	7,307
Sibley	15,162	14,430	48	30	87	451	180	1,098	3,903	2,479
Stearns	151,343	138,262	4,658	473	3,043	1,871	2,335	4,190	34,900	18,228
Steele	36,534	34,038	1,013	86	289	640	510	2,282	9,650	5,270
Stevens	9,685	9,110	76	89	151	129	171	337	2,037	1,597
Swift	9,640	9,453	49	36	24	129	92	350	2,183	1,966
Todd	24,836	23,727	94	87	147	156	324	1,288	6,210	4,327
Traverse	3,523	3,352	13	139	5	9	40	50	778	937
Wabasha	21,600	21,000	80	38	98	245	215	592	5,053	3,692
Wadena	13,749	13,380	111	65	36	40	211	176	3,326	2,918
Waseca	19,273	17,933	380	148	133	250	292	985	4,523	2,819
Washington	241,280	209,012	8,579	1,088	12,148	2,300	5,009	8,127	63,598	24,984
Watonwan	11,201	9,740	82	48	81	1,118	132	2,338	2,808	2,125
Wilkin	6,592	6,381	15	64	18	27	71	130	1,574	1,169
Winona	51,378	48,573	650	133	1,103	401	601	1,244	9,969	6,891
Wright	126,437	118,518	1,328	419	1,522	1,007	1,906	3,052	37,361	11,934
Yellow Medicine	10,307	9,806	16	314	39	138	125	397	2,475	2,031
Minnesota	5,344,861	4,524,062	274,412	60,916	216,390	103,000	125,145	250,258	1,284,063	683,121

EDUCATION

K-12 STUDENTS						
ENROLLMENT 2011-2012			FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION RATES 2010-2011 (%)			
DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP	PRE-K-12 STUDENTS	% OF TOTAL	GRADUATE	CONTINUING	DROPOUT	UNKNOWN
White, not of Hispanic origin	619,092	73.8	83.5	9.6	3.3	3.5
Black, not of Hispanic origin	85,844	10.2	49.1	32.3	8.7	9.9
Hispanic	59,625	7.1	50.5	24.8	13.5	11.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	56,076	6.7	72.5	17.1	4.3	6.1
American Indian/Alaskan Native	18,789	2.2	42.4	28.3	18.8	10.5
TOTAL	839,426	100	76.9	13.5	4.8	4.9
SPECIAL POPULATIONS						
Free/Reduced Priced Lunch	311,871	37.2	58.3	23.8	10.1	7.8
Limited English Proficient	64,623	7.7	52.1	26.8	10.2	10.9

K-12 PRIMARY HOME LANGUAGE 2011		
LANGUAGE	STUDENTS K-12	% OF TOTAL
English	719,895	87.3
Spanish	39,187	4.7
Hmong	20,208	2.4
Somali	13,095	1.6
Vietnamese	3,965	0.5
Russian	2,543	0.3
Chinese, Mandarin	2,190	0.3
Arabic	1,922	0.2
Lao, Laotian	1,678	0.2
Karen	1,579	0.2
Khmer, Cambodian	1,507	0.2
199 Other Languages	17,308	2.1
Total	825,077	100.0

KEY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION TABLE BELOW

* Enrollment numbers as reported by Office of Higher Education (some totals may not match).

** Private online schools based in Minnesota are Capella University and Walden University. Most of their enrolled students are non-residents.

*** Private online and professional schools do not have separate data because they mostly enroll students in graduate programs.

+ Four-year nonprofit colleges only

++ Two-year for profit colleges only

HIGHER EDUCATION										
	Community & Technical Colleges	State Universities	University of Minnesota	Total Public	Private Colleges & Universities	Private Career Schools	Private Online Schools**	Private Graduate & Professional	Total Private	Total
2011 Enrollment*										
White	97,405	55,904	48,982	202,291	48,861	18,938	34,258	2,108	104,165	306,456
Black	14,341	3,068	2,161	19,570	2,880	2,963	29,822	71	35,736	56,035
Hispanic	6,477	1,727	1,595	9,799	1,828	833	3,850	50	6,561	16,360
Asian & Pacific Islander	6,662	2,152	4,271	13,085	2,803	1,404	1,607	99	5,913	18,998
American Indian	1,481	364	531	2,376	348	625	763	11	1,747	4,123
Two or More Races	5,422	1,634	1,345	8,401	1,097	581	725	38	2,441	10,842
International Students	892	2,839	6,432	10,163	2,115	94	3,283	63	5,555	15,718
No Race Reported	2,475	2,128	3,903	8,506	5,466	3,989	11,047	3,82	20,884	29,390
Total	135,155	69,816	69,220	274,191	65,457	29,445	85,355	2,817	183,074	457,265
Graduation Rates (First-time full-time undergraduate students; 4 & 6 year: 2005 cohort; 3 year & transfer: 2008 cohort)										
Transfer Rate	28%	NA	NA		NA	69%	**	**		
3-Year Graduation Rate	27%	NA	NA		NA	67%	**	**		
4-Year Graduation Rate	NA	22%	41%		63%	26%	**	**		
6-Year Graduation Rate	NA	48%	65%		73%	33%	**	**		
Financial Aid (First-time full-time undergraduate students, 2010-11)						+	++			
Average Full-Time Undergraduate Tuition (2011-2012)	\$5,173	\$7,323	\$13,062		\$31,862	NA	**	**		
% Students Receiving Any Student Aid	80%	84%	94%		95%	90%	**	**		87%
% Students Receiving Any Student Aid	60%	56%	91%		94%	74%	**	**		74%
Average Grant Amount Received	\$4,266	\$4,604	\$5,693		\$17,417	\$4,709	**	**		\$8,310
% Students Receiving Student Loan	58%	71%	58%		70%	77%	**	**		64%
Average Loan Amount Received	\$5,669	\$7,608	\$6,736		\$7,913	\$10,209	**	**		\$7,274

Sources: Minnesota Department of Education, Minnesota Office of Higher Education and U.S. Department of Education, IPEDS Survey.

MINNESOTA HIGHER EDUCATION

Admissions Office Contact Information

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU)

Alexandria Technical College, Alexandria, (888) 234-1222, www.alextech.edu
Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Cambridge and Coon Rapids, (763) 433-1450, www.anokaramsey.edu
Anoka Technical College, Anoka, (763) 576-4850, www.anokatech.edu
Bemidji State University, Bemidji, (877) 236-4354, www.bemidjistate.edu
Central Lakes College, Brainerd and Staples, (218) 855-8037, www.clecn.edu
Century College, White Bear Lake, (651) 773-1700, www.century.edu
Dakota County Technical College, Rosemount, (651) 423-8302, www.dctc.edu
Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College, Cloquet, (218) 879-0808, www.fdlctc.edu
Hennepin Technical College, Brooklyn Park and Eden Prairie, (763) 488-2500, www.hennepintech.edu
Hibbing Community College*, Hibbing, (218) 262-7207, www.hibbing.edu
Inver Hills Community College, Inver Grove Heights, (651) 450-8500, www.inverhills.edu
Itasca Community College*, Grand Rapids, (218) 322-2300, www.itascacc.edu
Lake Superior College, Duluth, (218) 733-7601, www.lsc.edu
Metropolitan State University, Minneapolis and St. Paul, (651) 793-1300, www.metrostate.edu
Mesabi Range Community & Technical College*, Eveleth, Virginia, (218) 749-0310, www.mesabirange.edu
Minneapolis Community and Technical College, Minneapolis, (612) 659-6200, www.minneapolis.edu
Minnesota State College - Southeast Technical, Red Wing and Winona, (877) 853-8324, www.southeastmn.edu
Minnesota State Community & Technical College, Detroit Lakes, Fergus Falls, Moorhead and Wadena, (888) 696-7282, www.minnesota.edu
Minnesota State University, Mankato, Mankato, (507) 389-1822, www.mnsu.edu
Minnesota State University Moorhead, Moorhead, (800) 593-7246, www.mnstate.edu
Minnesota West Community & Technical College, Canby, Granite Falls, Jackson, Pipestone and Worthington, (507) 825-6800, www.mnwest.edu
Normandale Community College, Bloomington, (952) 487-8201, www.normandale.edu
North Hennepin Community College, Brooklyn Park, (763) 424-0702, www.nhcc.edu
Northland Community & Technical College, East Grand Forks and Thief River Falls, (218) 683-8552, www.northlandcollege.edu
Northwest Technical College, Bemidji, (218) 333-6647, www.ntcmn.edu (aligned with Bemidji State University)
Pine Technical College, Pine City, (320) 629-5100, www.pinetech.edu
Rainy River Community College*, International Falls, (218) 285-2207, www.rrcc.mnscu.edu
Ridgewater College, Hutchinson and Willmar, (320) 222-5977, www.ridgewater.edu
Riverland Community College, Albert Lea, Austin and Owatonna, (507) 433-0820, www.riverland.edu
Rochester Community and Technical College, Rochester, (507) 285-7265, www.rctc.edu
St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, (320) 308-2244, www.stcloudstate.edu
St. Cloud Technical College, St. Cloud, (320) 308-5000, www.sctc.edu
St. Paul College, St. Paul, (651) 846-1600, www.saintpaul.edu
South Central College, Faribault and North Mankato, (507) 389-7220, www.southcentral.edu
Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall, (507) 537-6286, www.smsu.edu
Vermilion Community College*, Ely, (218) 235-2191, www.vcc.edu
Winona State University, Winona, (507) 457-5100, www.winona.edu

* Hibbing, Itasca, Mesabi Range, Rainy River and Vermilion make up the Northeast Higher Education District, a consortium of five state colleges.

University of Minnesota System

University of Minnesota (U of M), Twin Cities (612) 625-5000, www.umn.edu
University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC), (218) 281-6510, www2.crk.umn.edu
University of Minnesota, Duluth (UMD), (218) 726-8000, www.d.umn.edu
University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM), (320) 589-2211, www.morris.umn.edu
University of Minnesota, Rochester (UMR), (507) 280-2838, www.r.umn.edu

CITIZENSHIP

When you turn 18, you have the right to vote. Yet even before you turn 18, you may take part in many interesting and meaningful civic activities.

GRASSROOTS ACTIVISM

You may participate independently in all sorts of grassroots activities by:

- writing letters to the editor
- calling radio talk shows to express opinions
- organizing other students
- encouraging adults to participate and vote
- volunteering on political campaigns
- serving as an election judge trainee
- serving on a state board or commission.

You are never too young to have a meaningful impact on your government and on the issues that affect your life. You may participate in many political party activities, such as precinct caucuses, political party conventions, campaigns, and other opportunities. Contact Minnesota's political parties for more information about their activities:

Democratic-Farmer-Labor

255 E. Plato Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55107
(651) 293-1200
www.dfl.org

Independence

P.O. Box 40495
St. Paul, MN 55104
(651) 487-9700
www.mnip.org

Republican

525 Park St., Suite #250
St. Paul, MN 55103
(651) 222-0022
www.mngop.com

Green Party

180 5th St. E., Suite #222
St. Paul, MN 55101
(651) 288-2820
www.mngreens.org

Constitutional Party

36235 U.S. Highway 71
Redwood Falls, MN 56283
(507) 644-3183
www.cpmn.org

Libertarian Party

7249 E. Fish Lake Circle
Maple Grove, MN 55311
(763) 528-5163
www.lpmn.org

ELECTION JUDGE TRAINEE

At age 16 or 17, you may serve as an election judge trainee. Student election judge trainees serve on Election Day as actual election officials with important responsibilities such as opening and closing the polls, helping voters who need assistance, and certifying election results.

When you serve as an election judge trainee, you will be paid and may be excused from school attendance during your hours of service. To find more information about serving as an election judge trainee, visit www.sos.state.mn.us.

Upon turning 18, you may serve as a regular election judge. Visit www.sos.state.mn.us or contact the secretary of state's office (877) 600-VOTE to request an informational brochure.

SERVE ON A STATE BOARD OR COMMISSION

You may apply for volunteer positions on state councils, boards, task forces, and commissions through the Open Appointments process administered by the Office of the Secretary of State. Some positions are meant specifically for young people. Each month, a listing of position vacancies appears on the secretary of state's website and provides descriptions of the councils, boards, task forces, and commissions as well as who makes the appointments (the governor, for example, makes many appointments).

PREPARING TO VOTE

You can vote if you:

- will be at least 18 years old on Election Day
- are a citizen of the United States
- will have resided in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding Election Day
- are not under court-ordered guardianship in which the court order revokes your right to vote
- have completed the sentence for any felony conviction or had it discharged; and
- have not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote.

Registering to vote is the first step in the voting process. You can register by completing a Voter Registration Application at least 21 days prior to Election Day or on Election Day itself. The registration remains current until you move, change your name, or have not voted in the past four years. Should you need to update your registration, complete another Voter Registration Application. Visit www.sos.state.mn.us for more information or to download "Elections 101," a brochure for first time voters.

FLAG ETIQUETTE

The Office of the Minnesota Secretary of state has created a guide to flag etiquette. To order flag etiquette brochures, email secretary.state@state.mn.us or phone (651) 201-1324.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Secretary of State's Note: The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform, persons should remove their headdress [hat] with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. In addition, veterans and military members may remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute. The original version of the pledge, by Francis Bellamy, first appeared in 1892 in *Youth's Companion* and *Reader's Digest* magazines. It read, "I pledge allegiance to the flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible with liberty and justice for all."

RESPECT FOR THE FLAG

No disrespect should be shown to the U.S. flag; the flag should not be dipped to any person or thing. Regimental colors, state flags, and organization or institutional flags are dipped as a mark of honor.

The flag should never be displayed with the union down, except as a signal of dire distress in instances of extreme danger to life or property.

The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, floor, water or merchandise.

The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.

The flag should never be used as wearing apparel, bedding, or drapery. It should never be festooned, drawn back, nor up, in folds, but always allowed to free fall.

The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used, or stored in such a manner as to permit it to be easily torn, soiled or damaged.

The flag should never be used as a covering for a ceiling.

The flag should never have placed upon it, nor on any part of it, nor attached to it any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture, or drawing of any nature.

The flag should never be used for advertising purposes. It should not be embroidered on such articles as cushions or handkerchiefs and the like, printed or otherwise impressed on paper napkins or boxes or anything that is designed for temporary use and discard. Advertising signs should not be fastened to a staff or halyard from which the flag is flown.

No part of the flag should ever be used as a costume or athletic uniform. However, a flag patch may be affixed to the uniform of military personnel, firemen, policemen, and members of patriotic organizations. Lapel flag pins should be worn on the left lapel near the heart.

The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

DISPLAYING THE AMERICAN FLAG

It is the custom to display the flag from sunrise to sunset on buildings and stationary flagstaffs in the open. For patriotic effect, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated. The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously. The flag should not be displayed during inclement weather, except when an all-weather flag is displayed.

WHEN TO DISPLAY THE AMERICAN FLAG

The flag should be displayed on all days and such other days as may be proclaimed by the president of the United States; the birthdays of states (date of admission) and on state holidays. The flag should be displayed daily on or near the main administration building of every public institution. The flag should be displayed during school days in or near every school.

FLAG HOLIDAYS

New Year's Day, January 1

Inauguration Day, January 20

Lincoln's birthday, February 12

Washington's birthday, third Monday in February

Easter Sunday, date varies

Mother's Day, second Sunday in May

Armed Forces Day, third Saturday in May

Memorial Day (half-staff until noon), the last Monday in May

Flag Day, June 14

Independence Day, July 4

Labor Day, first Monday in September

Constitution Day, September 17

Columbus Day, second Monday in October

Navy Day, October 27

Election Days

Veterans Day, November 11

Thanksgiving Day, fourth Thursday in November

Christmas Day, December 25

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Secretary of State's Note: After witnessing the unsuccessful British attack against Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland, on September 13 and 14 in 1814, Francis Scott Key wrote this poem on September 20. An act of Congress made it the national anthem in 1931.

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

By Francis Scott Key

Oh, say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, now conceals, now discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines on the stream:
'Tis the star-spangled banner! O long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has wiped out their foul footsteps' pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave:
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.
Then conquer we must, for our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."
And the star-spangled banner forever shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

FOUNDING DOCUMENTS

Secretary of State's Note: Included in this section are charters and laws that are the foundation of Minnesota's government.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Secretary of State's Note: Drafted by Thomas Jefferson and adopted by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence outlined American colonial grievances suffered under British rule. The declaration formally proclaimed the 13 American colonies independent from Great Britain. The document is commonly referred to as America's birth certificate.

Copies of the declaration that came to be known as the Dunlap Broadside were printed at John Dunlap's print shop shortly after the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. These 200 copies were some of the first printed versions of the Declaration distributed to colonists.

There are only 25 Dunlap copies that still exist and only one travels for public exhibit. Secretary of State Mark Ritchie helped bring an original printing of the Dunlap Broadside to Minnesota in conjunction with the events celebrating the state's 150th year of statehood in May 2008. The copy of the Declaration of Independence was displayed at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul.

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

WE hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness—That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The History of the present King of Great-Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

HE has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

HE has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

HE has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inestimable to them, and formidable to Tyrants only.

HE has called together Legislative Bodies at Places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their public Records, for the sole Purpose of fatiguing them into Compliance with his Measures.

HE has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

HE has refused for a long Time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of the Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the Dangers of Invasion from without, and the Convulsions within.

HE has endeavoured to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migrations hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

HE has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

HE has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the Tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries.

HE has erected a Multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their Substance.

HE has kept among us, in Times of Peace, Standing Armies, without the consent of our Legislatures.

HE has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

HE has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

FOR quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us;

FOR protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

FOR cutting off our Trade with all Parts of the World:

FOR imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

FOR depriving us, in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury:

FOR transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended Offences:

FOR abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighboring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for introducing the same absolute Rules into these Colonies:

FOR taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

FOR suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all Cases whatsoever.

HE has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

HE has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our Towns, and destroyed the Lives of our People.

HE is, at this Time, transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the Works of Death, Desolation, and Tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty and Perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous Ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized Nation.

HE has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the Executioners of their Friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

HE has excited domestic Insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the Inhabitants of our Frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known Rule of Warfare, is an undistinguished Destruction, of all Ages, Sexes and Conditions.

IN every stage of these Oppressions we have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble Terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury. A Prince, whose Character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the Ruler of a free People.

NOR have we been wanting in Attentions to our British Brethren. We have warned them from Time to Time of Attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the Circumstances of our Emigration and Settlement here. We have appealed to their native Justice and Magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the Ties of our common Kindred to disavow these Usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our Connections and Correspondence. They too have been deaf to the Voice of Justice and of Consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the Necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of Mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace, Friends.

WE, therefore, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly Publish and Declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of Great-Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

GEORGIA, Button Gwinnett, Lyman Hall, George Walton.

NORTH-CAROLINA, William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, John Penn.

SOUTH-CAROLINA, Edward Rutledge, Thomas Heyward, Jr., Thomas Lynch, Jr., Arthur Middleton.

MARYLAND, Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, Charles Carroll, of Carrollton.

VIRGINIA, George Wythe, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Nelson, Jr., Francis Lightfoot Lee, Carter Braxton.

PENNSYLVANIA, Robert Morris, Benjamin Rush, Benjamin Franklin, John Morton, George Clymer, James Smith, George Taylor, James Wilson, George Ross.

DELAWARE, Caesar Rodney, George Read.

NEW-YORK, William Floyd, Phillip Livingston, Frank Lewis, Lewis Morris.

NEW-JERSEY, Richard Stockton, John Witherspoon, Francis Hopkinson, John Hart, Abraham Clark.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE, Josiah Bartlett, William Whipple, Matthew Thornton.

MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, Elbridge Gerry, John Hancock.

RHOLDE-ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE, C. Stephen Hopkins, William Ellery.

CONNECTICUT, Roger Sherman, Samuel Huntington, William Williams, Oliver Wolcott.

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Secretary of State's Note: In 1787, 12 of the 13 original states, with the exception of Rhode Island, appointed 70 men as delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia. These delegates or "framers" worked to construct a document to provide for a stronger central government than the Articles of Confederation had allowed. They were also careful not to infringe on the sovereignty of states and preserve individual rights consistent with the principles of the Declaration of Independence.

On September 17, 1787, a constitution was adopted consisting of a preamble and seven subsequent articles outlining a framework for a new federal government. The document established three separate but equal branches of government: executive, legislative and judicial. Learned from their experience under British monarchical rule, the framers created a series of "checks and balances" devised to ensure that one branch of government could not dominate another.

Over the next three years, states held conventions to ratify the constitution on the following dates: Delaware, December 7, 1787; Pennsylvania, December 12, 1787; New Jersey, December 18, 1787; Georgia, January 2, 1788; Connecticut, January 9, 1788; Massachusetts, February 6, 1788; Maryland, April 28, 1788; South Carolina, May 23, 1788; New Hampshire, June 21, 1788; Virginia, June 26, 1788; New York, July 26, 1788; North Carolina, November 21, 1789; and Rhode Island, May 29, 1790.

Since its inception, the U.S. Constitution has been amended 27 times. The first 10 amendments—known as the Bill of Rights—were proposed during the first session of the First Congress of the United States, on September 25, 1789. These amendments outline fundamental individual rights and liberties, which can not be infringed upon by the central government. The Bill of Rights was ratified by the required number of states December 15, 1791. While guaranteeing the right to liberty for some, the Constitution was not amended until 1865 to abolish slavery. In addition, voting rights were not extended to women until the 20th Century.

* Effective dates for constitutional amendments

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

ARTICLE I

Section 1. All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a congress of the United States, which shall consist of a senate and a house of representatives.

Sec. 2. The house of representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several states, and the electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.

No person shall be a representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years and been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state in which he shall be chosen. Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states which may be included within this Union according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons. The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The number of representatives shall not exceed one for every 30,000, but each state shall have at least one representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to choose 3; Massachusetts, 8; Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, 1; Connecticut, 5; New York, 6; New Jersey, 4; Pennsylvania, 8; Delaware, 1; Maryland, 6; Virginia, 10; North Carolina, 5; South Carolina, 5; Georgia, 3.

When vacancies happen in the representation from any state the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

The house of representatives shall choose their speaker and other officers, and shall have the sole power of impeachment.

Sec. 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two senators from each state, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each senator shall have one vote. The electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislatures.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided, as equally as may be, into three classes. The seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year; of the second class at the expiration of the fourth year; and of the third class at the expiration of the sixth year, so that one-third may be chosen every second year. When vacancies happen in the representation of any state in the Senate, the executive authority of such state shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies: Provided, that the legislature of any state may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.

No person shall be a senator who shall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state for which he shall be chosen.

The vice president of the United States shall be president of the senate, but shall have no vote unless they be equally divided.

The senate shall choose their own officers, and also a president pro tempore, in the absence of the vice president, or when he shall exercise the office of president of the United States. The senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. When sitting for that purpose they shall be on oath or affirmation. When the president of the United States is tried, the chief justice shall preside; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under the United States; but the party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment according to law.

Sec. 4. The times, places and manner of holding elections for senators and representatives shall be prescribed in each state by the legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by law make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meetings shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall, by law, appoint a different day.

Sec. 5. Each house shall be the judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as each house may provide.

Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member.

Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same; excepting such parts as may in their judgment require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house on any question shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.

Neither house, during the session of congress, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

Sec. 6. The senators and representatives shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law and paid out of the treasury of the United States. They shall, in all cases except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either house they shall not be questioned in any other place.

No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States which shall have been created or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no person holding any office under the United States shall be a member of either house during his continuance in office.

Sec. 7. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the house of representatives, but the senate may propose or concur with amendments, as on other bills.

Every bill which shall have passed the house of representatives and the senate shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the president of the United States; if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to that house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and, if approved by two-thirds of that house, it shall become a law. But in all cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the president within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their adjournment prevent its return; in which case it shall not be a law.

Every order, resolution, or vote to which the concurrence of the senate and house of representatives may be necessary (except on a question of adjournment) shall be presented to the president of the United States, and, before the same shall take effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two-thirds of the senate and house of representatives, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

Sec. 8. The Congress shall have power: To lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform through the United States;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes;

To establish a uniform rule of naturalization and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin money, regulate the value thereof and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures;

To provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States;

To establish post offices and post roads;

To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times, to authors and inventors, the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries;

To constitute tribunals inferior to the supreme court;

To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses, against the laws of nations;

To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water;

To raise and support armies; but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years;

To provide and maintain a navy;

To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces;

To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the states, respectively, the appointment of the officers and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever over such district (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular states and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of the government of the United States; and to exercise like authority over all places purchased by the consent of the legislature of the state in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dock yards, and other needful buildings; and To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

Sec. 9. The migration or importation of such persons as any of the states now existing shall think proper to admit shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight; but a tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person.

The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended unless when, in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

No bill of attainder, or ex post facto law, shall be passed.

No capitation or other direct tax shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration hereinbefore directed to be taken.

No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any state.

No preference shall be given, by any regulation of commerce or revenue, to the ports of one state over those of another; nor shall vessels bound to or from one state be obliged to enter, clear or pay duties in another.

No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.

No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States, and no person holding any office of profit and trust under them shall, without the consent of the Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office or title of any kind whatever, from any king, prince or foreign state.

Sec. 10. No state shall enter into any treaty, alliance or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts; pass any bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts or grant any title of nobility.

No state shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws; and the net produce of all duties and imposts laid by any state on imports or exports shall be for the use of the treasury of the United States; and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and control of the Congress.

No state shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops or ships of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another state or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unless actually invaded or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

ARTICLE II

Section 1. The executive power shall be vested in a president of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the vice president, chosen for the same term, be elected as follows: Each state shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors equal to the whole number of senators and representatives to which the state may be entitled in the Congress; but no senator or representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector. The electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for two persons, of whom one at least shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves. And they shall make a list of all the persons voted for, and the number of votes for each; which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit, sealed, to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the president of the senate. The president of the senate shall, in the presence of the senate and house of representatives, open all the certificates; and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be appointed, if such a number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the house of representatives shall immediately choose, by ballot, one of them for president; and if no person have a majority, then from the five highest on the list the said house shall, in like manner, choose the president. But in choosing the president the vote shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. In every case after the choice of the president, the person having the greatest number of votes of the electors shall be the vice president. But if there should remain two or more who have equal votes, the senate shall choose from them, by ballot, the vice president.

The Congress may determine the time of choosing the electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No person except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of president; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years and been fourteen years a resident within the United States.

In case of the removal of the president from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the vice president; and the Congress may by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation, or inability, both of the president and vice president, declaring what officer shall then act as president, and such officer shall act accordingly until the disability be removed, or a president shall be elected.

The president shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected; and he shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the execution of his office he shall take the following oath or affirmation:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of president of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Sec. 2. The president shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several states, when called into the actual service of the United States; he may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices; and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment. He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the senators present concur, and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the senate shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls, judges of the supreme court, and all other officers of the United States whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law. But the Congress may, by law, vest the appointment of such inferior officers as they think proper in the president alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments. The president shall have power to fill all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their next session.

Sec. 3. He shall, from time to time, give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both houses, or either of them; and in case of disagreement between them with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper; he shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and shall commission all the officers of the United States.

Sec. 4. The president, vice president, and all civil officers of the United States shall be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. The judicial power of the United States shall be vested in one supreme court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may, from time to time, ordain and establish. The judges, both of the supreme and inferior courts, shall hold their offices during good behavior, and shall, at stated times, receive for their services a compensation which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

Sec. 2. The judicial power shall extend to all cases in law and equity, arising under this Constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made under their authority; to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls; to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction; to controversies to which the United States shall be a party; to controversies between two or more states, between a state and citizens of another state, between citizens of different states, between citizens of the same state claiming lands under grants of different states, and between a state or the citizens thereof and foreign states, citizens or subjects.

In all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, and those in which a state shall be party, the supreme court shall have original jurisdiction. In all the other cases before mentioned the supreme court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions and under such regulations as the Congress shall make.

The trial of all crimes, except in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury, and such trial shall be held in the state where the said crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any state, the trial shall be at such place or places as the Congress may by law have directed.

Sec. 3. Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

The Congress shall have power to declare the punishment of treason, but no attainder of treason shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture, except during the life of the person attained.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1. Full faith and credit shall be given in each state to the public acts, records and judicial proceedings of every other state. And the Congress may by general laws prescribe the manner in which such acts, records and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

Sec. 2. The citizens of each state shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states.

A person charged in any state with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice and be found in another state, shall on demand of the executive authority of the state from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the state having jurisdiction of the crime.

No person held to service or labor in one state under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due.

Sec. 3. New states may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new state shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other state, nor any state be formed by the junction of two or more states or parts of states, without the consent of the legislatures of the states concerned, as well as of the Congress.

The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States, and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States or of any particular state.

Sec. 4. The United States shall guarantee to every state in the Union a republican form of government; and shall protect each of them against invasion, and, on application of the legislature, or of the executive (when the legislature cannot be convened), against domestic violence.

ARTICLE V

The Congress, whenever two-thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which in either case shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the congress; provided, that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no state, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the senate.

ARTICLE VI

All debts contracted and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the confederation.

This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof, and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land, and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, anything in the Constitution or laws of any state to the contrary notwithstanding.

The senators and representatives before mentioned, and the members of the several state legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several states, shall be bound by oath or affirmation to support this Constitution, but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.

ARTICLE VII

The ratification of the conventions of nine states shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution between the states so ratifying the same.

AMENDMENT I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, or to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

AMENDMENT II

A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

AMENDMENT III

No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

AMENDMENT IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrant shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized.

AMENDMENT V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service, in time of war and public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be witness against himself; nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

AMENDMENT VI

In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

AMENDMENT VII

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any court in the United States than according to the rules of the common law.

AMENDMENT VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

AMENDMENT IX

The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

AMENDMENT X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states, respectively, or to the people.

AMENDMENT XI

The judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another state, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign state. (*February 7, 1795)

AMENDMENT XII

The electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for president and vice president, one of whom at least shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as president, and in distinct ballot the person voted for as vice president; and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as president and of all persons voted for as vice president, and of the number of votes for each; which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit, sealed, to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the president of the senate; the president of the senate shall, in presence of the senate and house of representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted; the person having the greatest number of votes for president shall be the president; if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers, not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as president, the house of representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the president. But in choosing the president the vote shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states; and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. And if the house of representatives shall not choose a president whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the vice president shall act as president, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the president.

The person having the greatest number of votes as vice president shall be the vice president, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then, from the two highest numbers on the list, the senate shall choose the vice president; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice.

But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of president shall be eligible to that of vice president of the United States. (*June 15, 1804)

AMENDMENT XIII

Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Sec. 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (*December 18, 1865)

AMENDMENT XIV

Section 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Sec. 2. Representatives shall be apportioned among the several states according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each state, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for president and vice president of the United States, representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a state, or the members of the legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such state, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such state.

Sec. 3. No person shall be a senator or representative in Congress or elector of president and vice president, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any state, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any state legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any state, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each house remove such disability.

Sec. 4. The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any state shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

Sec. 5. The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article. (*July 28, 1868)

AMENDMENT XV

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any state, on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

Sec. 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (*March 30, 1870)

AMENDMENT XVI

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several states, and without regard to any census or enumeration. (*February 25, 1913)

AMENDMENT XVII

The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each state, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislatures.

When vacancies happen in the representation of any state in the Senate, the executive authority of such state shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies: Provided, that the legislature of any state may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointment until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.

This amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the Constitution. (*May 31, 1913)

AMENDMENT XVIII

Section 1. After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

Sec. 2. The Congress and the several states shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (*January 29, 1920)

AMENDMENT XIX

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state on account of sex.

Sec. 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (*August 18, 1920)

AMENDMENT XX

Section 1. The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the 3rd day of January, of the years in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

Sec. 2. The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3rd day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Sec. 3. If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President elect shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be selected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice President shall have qualified.

Sec. 4. The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose a President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them.

Sec. 5. Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article. (February 6, 1933)

AMENDMENT XXI

Section 1. The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

Sec. 2. The transportation or importation into any State, Territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby prohibited. (*December 5, 1933)

AMENDMENT XXII

Section 1. No person shall be elected to the office of President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of the President more than once. But this Article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this Article was proposed by the Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this Article becomes operative from holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the remainder of such term. (*March 1, 1951)

AMENDMENT XXIII

Section 1. The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct:

A number of electors of President and Vice President equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives in Congress to which the District would be entitled if it were a State, but in no event more than the least populous State; they shall be in addition to those appointed by the states, but they shall be considered, for the purposes of the election of President and Vice President, to be electors appointed by a State; and they shall meet in the District and perform such duties as provided by the twelfth article of amendment.

Sec. 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (*April 3, 1961)

AMENDMENT XXIV

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

Sec. 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (*February 4, 1964)

AMENDMENT XXV

Section 1. In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President.

Sec. 2. Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the President shall nominate a Vice President who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

Sec. 3. Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as acting President.

Sec. 4. Whenever the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive departments or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting President.

Thereafter, when the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that no inability exists, he shall resume the powers and duties of his office unless the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive department or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit within four days to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office. Thereupon Congress shall decide the issue, assembling within forty-eight hours for that purpose if not in session. If the Congress, within twenty-one days after receipt of the latter written declaration, or, if Congress is not in session, within twenty-one days after Congress is required to assemble, determines by two-thirds vote of both Houses that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall continue to discharge the same as Acting President; otherwise, the President shall resume the powers and duties of his office. (*February 23, 1967)

AMENDMENT XXVI

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

Sec. 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (*July 5, 1971)

AMENDMENT XXVII

No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened. (*May 18, 1992)

~ Voting in Minnesota ~

The Meaning of Suffrage

From the Latin *suffragium*, suffrage means more than simply the right to vote; it refers to obtaining the right to vote through the democratic process. The history of the United States has witnessed decades of struggle to ensure the right to vote regardless of race, gender, religious preference or wealth. While the states each define voting eligibility, the right to vote is addressed in the 14th, 15th, 23rd, 24th and 26th amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

NORTHWEST ORDINANCE OF 1787

Secretary of State's Note: Enacted by the Continental Congress on July 13, 1787, this act organized the Northwest Territory, a tract of land extending north of the Ohio River and west from the Appalachian Mountains to the Mississippi River. The act established a territorial government, provided for the congressional appointment of a governor and secretary, and called for the formation of not less than three, but no more than five new states.

The act is considered one of the most important legislative acts passed by the Continental Congress, second only to the Declaration of Independence. Among its lasting legacies, it set a precedent that westward expansion of the United States would occur through the admission of new states rather than by the extension of existing states' boundaries. In addition, new states were to be admitted into the union on equal footing with states previously established.

The act included civil rights provisions, which were precursors to the Bill of Rights in the U.S. Constitution. It included freedom of religion, the rights of habeas corpus and a trial by jury. It banned slavery in the territory, excessive fines, ex post facto laws, cruel and unusual punishment, and encouraged public education.

By May 1848, five states were carved from the Northwest Territory: Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Minnesota would incorporate the remaining territorial land west of the St. Croix River.

NORTHWEST ORDINANCE 1787

[Act of Congress, July 13, 1787]

An Ordinance for the government of the territory of the United States northwest of the river Ohio.

1. Be it ordained by the United States, in Congress assembled, That the said territory, for the purpose of temporary government, be one district, subject, however, to be divided into two districts, as future circumstances may, in the opinion of Congress, make it expedient.

2. Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the estates both of resident and non-resident proprietors in the said territory, dying intestate, shall descend to, and be distributed among, their children and the descendants of a deceased child in equal parts, the descendants of a deceased child or grandchild to take the share of their deceased parent in equal parts among them; and where there shall be no children or descendants, then in equal parts to the next of kin, in equal degree; and among collaterals, the children of a deceased brother or sister of the intestate shall have, in equal parts among them, their deceased parent's share; and there shall, in no case, be a distinction between kindred of the whole and half blood; saving in all cases to the widow of the intestate her third part of the real estate for life, and one-third part of the personal estate; and this law, relative to descents and dower, shall remain in full force until altered by the Legislature of the district. And until the Governor and judges shall adopt laws, as hereinafter mentioned, estates in the said territory may be devised or bequeathed by wills in writing, signed and sealed by him or her in whom the estate may be, (being of full age), and attested by three witnesses; and real estates may be conveyed by lease and release, or bargain and sale, signed, sealed, and delivered by the person, being of full age, in whom the estate may be, and attested by two witnesses, provided such wills be duly proved, and such conveyances be acknowledged, or the execution thereof duly proved, and be recorded within one year after proper magistrates, courts, and registers, shall be appointed for that purpose; and personal property may be transferred by delivery, saving, however, to the French and Canadian inhabitants, and other settlers of the Kaskaskies, Saint Vincents, and the neighboring villages, who have heretofore professed themselves citizens of Virginia, their laws and customs now in force among them, relative to the descent and conveyance of property.



The Northwest Territory in 1787

3. Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, That there shall be appointed, from time to time, by Congress, a Governor, whose commission shall continue in force for the term of three years, unless sooner revoked by Congress; he shall reside in the district, and have a freehold estate therein, in 1,000 acres of land, while in the exercise of his office.
4. There shall be appointed from time to time, by Congress, a Secretary, whose commission shall continue in force for four years, unless sooner revoked; he shall reside in the district, and have a freehold estate therein, in five hundred acres of land, while in the exercise of his office. It shall be his duty to keep and preserve the Acts and laws passed by the Legislature, and the public records of the district, and the proceedings of the Governor in his executive department, and transmit authentic copies of such Acts and proceedings every six months, to the Secretary of Congress. There shall also be appointed a court, to consist of three judges, any two of whom to form a court, who shall have a common law jurisdiction, and reside in the district, and have each therein a freehold estate in five hundred acres of land, while in the exercise of their offices; and their commission shall continue in force during good behavior.
5. The Governor and judges, or a majority of them, shall adopt and publish in the district such laws of the original States, criminal and civil, as may be necessary, and best suited to the circumstances of the district, and report them to Congress from time to time, which laws shall be in force in the district until the organization of the General Assembly therein, unless disapproved of by Congress; but afterwards the Legislature shall have authority to alter them as they shall think fit.
6. The Governor, for the time being, shall be commander-in-chief of the militia, appoint and commission all officers in the same below the rank of general officers; all general officers shall be appointed and commissioned by Congress.
7. Previous to the organization of the general assembly, the Governor shall appoint such magistrates, and other civil officers, in each county or township, as he shall find necessary for the preservation of the peace and good order in the same. After the General Assembly shall be organized the powers and duties of magistrates and other civil officers shall be regulated and defined by the said assembly; but all magistrates and other civil officers, not herein otherwise directed, shall, during the continuance of this temporary government, be appointed by the Governor.
8. For the prevention of crimes and injuries, the laws to be adopted or made shall have force in all parts of the district, and for the execution of process, criminal and civil, the Governor shall make proper divisions thereof; and he shall proceed, from time to time, as circumstances may require, to lay out the parts of the district in which the Indian titles shall have been extinguished, into counties and townships, subject, however, to such alterations as may thereafter be made by the Legislature.
9. So soon as there shall be five thousand free male inhabitants, of full age, in the district, upon giving proof thereof to the Governor, they shall receive authority, with the time and place, to elect Representatives from their counties or townships, to represent them in the General Assembly: Provided, that for every five hundred free male inhabitants there shall be one Representative, and so on, progressively, with the number of free male inhabitants, shall the right of representation increase, until the number of Representatives shall amount to twenty-five; after which the number and proportion of Representatives shall be regulated by the legislature: Provided, that no person be eligible or qualified to act as a Representative, unless he shall have been a citizen of one of the United States three years, and be a resident in the district, or unless he shall have resided in the district three years; and, in either case, shall likewise hold in his own right, in fee simple, two hundred acres of land within the same: Provided also, that a freehold in fifty acres of land in the district, having been a citizen of one of the States, and being resident in the district, or the like freehold and two years' residence in the district, shall be necessary to qualify a man as an elector of a Representative.
10. The Representatives thus elected shall serve for the term of two years; and in case of the death of a Representative, or removal from office, the Governor shall issue a writ to the county or township, for which he was a member, to elect another in his stead, to serve for the residue of the term.
11. The General Assembly, or Legislature, shall consist of the Governor, Legislative Council, and a House of Representatives. The Legislative Council shall consist of five members, to continue in office five years, unless sooner removed by Congress; any three of whom to be a quorum; and the members of the council shall be nominated and appointed in the following manner, to wit: As soon as Representatives shall be elected the Governor shall appoint a time and place for them to meet together, and when met they shall nominate ten persons, resident in the district, and each possessed of a freehold in five hundred acres of land, and return their names to Congress, five of whom Congress shall appoint and commission to serve as aforesaid; and whenever a vacancy shall happen in the Council, by death or removal from office, the House of Representatives shall nominate two persons, qualified as aforesaid, for each vacancy, and return their names to Congress, one of whom Congress shall appoint and commission for the residue of the term; and every five years, four months at least before the expiration of the time of service of the members of the Council, the said House shall nominate ten persons, qualified as aforesaid, and return their names to Congress, five of whom Congress shall appoint and commission to serve as members of the Council five years, unless sooner removed. And the Governor, Legislative Council, and House of Representatives shall have authority to make laws in all cases for the good government of the district, not repugnant to the principles and articles in this Ordinance established and declared. And all bills, having passed by a majority in the House, and by a majority in the Council, shall be referred to the Governor for his assent; but no bill or legislative Act whatever shall be of any force without his assent. The Governor shall have power to convene, prorogue, and dissolve the General Assembly when, in his opinion, it shall be expedient.

12. The Governor, judges, Legislative Council, Secretary, and such other officers as Congress shall appoint in the district, shall take an oath or affirmation of fidelity, and of office; the Governor before the President of Congress, and all other officers before the Governor. As soon as a legislature shall be formed in the district, the Council and House assembled, in one room, shall have authority, by joint ballot, to elect a delegate to Congress, who shall have a seat in Congress, with a right of debating, but not of voting, during this temporary government.

13. And for extending the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty, which form the basis whereon these republics, their laws and Constitutions, are erected; to fix and establish those principles as the basis of all laws, Constitutions, and governments, which forever hereafter shall be formed in the said territory; to provide, also, for the establishment of States, and permanent government therein, and for their admission to a share in the federal councils on an equal footing with the original States, at as early periods as may be consistent with the general interest.

14. It is hereby ordained and declared, by the authority aforesaid, that the following articles shall be considered as articles of compact, between the original States and the people and States in the said territory, and forever remain unalterable, unless by common consent, to wit:

Article I. No person demeaning himself in a peaceable and orderly manner shall ever be molested on account of his mode of worship, or religious sentiments in the said territories.

Art. II. The inhabitants of the said territory shall always be entitled to the benefits of the writs of habeas corpus, and of the trial by jury; of a proportionate representation of the people in the Legislature, and of judicial proceedings according to the course of the common law. All persons shall be bailable, unless for capital offenses, where the proof shall be evident or the presumption great. All fines shall be moderate, and no cruel or unusual punishments shall be inflicted. No man shall be deprived of his liberty or property, but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land, and should the public exigencies make it necessary, for the common preservation, to take any person's property, or to demand his particular services, full compensation shall be made for the same. And, in the just preservation of rights and property, it is understood and declared that no law ought ever to be made or have force in the said territory, that shall, in any manner whatever, interfere with or affect private contracts, or engagements bona fide and without fraud previously formed.

Art. III. Religion, morality, and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged. The utmost good faith shall always be observed towards the Indians; their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent; and in their property, rights, and liberty they never shall be invaded or disturbed, unless in just and lawful wars authorized by Congress; but laws founded in justice and humanity shall, from time to time, be made, for preventing wrongs being done to them, and for preserving peace and friendship with them.

Art. IV. The said territory, and the States which may be formed therein, shall forever remain a part of this Confederacy of the United States of America, subject to the Articles of Confederation, and to such alterations therein as shall be constitutionally made; and to all the Acts and Ordinances of the United States in Congress assembled, conformable thereto. The inhabitants and settlers in the said territory shall be subject to pay a part of the federal debts, contracted, or to be contracted, and a proportional part of the expenses of government, to be apportioned on them by Congress, according to the same common rule and measure by which apportionments thereof shall be made on the other States; and the taxes for paying their proportion shall be laid and levied by the authority and direction of the Legislatures of the district, or districts, or new States, as in the original States, within the time agreed upon by the United States in Congress assembled. The Legislatures of those districts, or new States, shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the soil by the United States in Congress assembled, nor with any regulations Congress may find necessary for securing the title in such soil to the bona fide purchasers. No tax shall be imposed on lands the property of the United States; and in no case shall nonresident proprietors be taxed higher than residents. The navigable waters leading into the Mississippi and Saint Lawrence, and the carrying places between the same, shall be common highways, and forever free, as well to the inhabitants of the said territory as to the citizens of the United States, and those of any other States that may be admitted into the Confederacy, without any tax, impost, or duty therefor.

Art. V. There shall be formed in the said territory not less than three nor more than five States; and the boundaries of the States, as soon as Virginia shall alter her Act of cession, and consent to the same, shall become fixed and established as follows, to wit: The western State, in the said territory, shall be bounded by the Mississippi, the Ohio, and the Wabash rivers; a direct line drawn from the Wabash and Post Vincents, due north, to the territorial line between the United States and Canada; and by the said territorial line to the Lake of the Woods and Mississippi. The middle States shall be bounded by the said direct line, the Wabash from Post Vincents to the Ohio, by the Ohio, by a direct line drawn due north from the mouth of the Great Miami to the said territorial line, and by the said territorial line. The eastern State shall be bounded by the last mentioned direct line, the Ohio, Pennsylvania, and the said territorial line: Provided, however, and it is further understood and declared, that the boundaries of these three States, shall be subject so far to be altered, that, if Congress shall hereafter find it expedient, they shall have authority to form one or two States in that part of the said territory which lies north of an east and west line drawn through the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan. And whenever any of the said States shall have sixty thousand free inhabitants therein, such State shall be admitted, by its delegates, into the Congress of the United States, on an equal footing with the original States, in all respects whatever; and shall be at liberty to form a permanent Constitution and State government: Provided, the Constitution and government, so to be formed, shall be republican, and in conformity to

the principles contained in these Articles, and, so far as it can be consistent with the general interest of the Confederacy, such admission shall be allowed at an earlier period, and when there may be a less number of free inhabitants in the State than sixty thousand.

Art. VI. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: Provided always, that any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the original States, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed, and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service as aforesaid.

Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the resolutions of the 23rd of April, 1784, relative to the subject of this Ordinance, be, and the same are hereby, repealed, and declared null and void.

Done by the United States, in Congress assembled, the 13th day of July, in the year of our Lord 1787, and of their sovereignty and independence the 12th.

ORGANIC ACT OF 1849

Secretary of State's Note: On March 3, 1849, Congress passed the Organic Act creating the Territory of Minnesota. The northern, southern and eastern boundaries of the territory formed the familiar border of the state of Minnesota we know today. However, the territory's western border extended into present day North Dakota and South Dakota to the White Earth and Missouri Rivers.

The movement to create a territorial government arose following the formation of the states of Iowa and Wisconsin, when expanses of land were left without a formal government. Elected as a delegate to Congress from the area, Henry H. Sibley worked with U.S. Senator Stephen A. Douglas, chairman of the Senate Committee on Territories, to pass legislation establishing a government for the Minnesota Territory.

The act provided for a governor, secretary, judicial system, legislative assembly, and delegate to Congress. The governor, secretary, chief justice and associate justices, attorney, and marshal of the territory were to be appointed by the president with the consent of the U.S. Senate. Legislators and congressional delegates were to be elected by eligible voters (free, white male inhabitants of the territory above the age of 21).

The territorial legislature's first session convened on September 3, 1849 in the Central House at the corner of Bench and Minnesota Streets in St. Paul. The legislative assembly consisted of two houses; a council of nine members and a house of representatives composed of 18 members. The act allowed for the number of councilors and representatives to increase proportionately as the population grew.

The act strongly recognized the importance of education by requiring that specific land sections in each township be reserved for schools.

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT OF MINNESOTA

[Passed March 3, 1849]

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That from and after the passage of this act, all that part of the territory of the United States which lies within the following limits, to-wit: Beginning in the Mississippi river at the point where the line of forty-three degrees and thirty minutes of north latitude crosses the same; thence running due west on said line, which is the northern boundary of the state of Iowa, to the northwest corner of the said state of Iowa; thence southerly along the western boundary of said state to the point where said boundary strikes the Missouri river; thence up the middle of the main channel of the Missouri river to the mouth of White Earth river; thence up the middle of the main channel of the White Earth river to the boundary line between the possessions of the United States and Great Britain, thence east and south of east along the boundary line between the possessions of the United States and Great Britain to Lake Superior; thence in a straight line to the northernmost point of the state of Wisconsin in Lake Superior; thence along the western boundary line of said state of Wisconsin to the Mississippi river; thence down the main channel of said river to the place of beginning, be and the same is hereby erected into a temporary government by the name of the Territory of Minnesota; provided, that nothing in this act contained shall be construed to inhibit the government of the United States from dividing said Territory into two or more territories, in such manner and at such times as Congress shall deem convenient and proper, or from attaching any portion of said Territory to any other state or territory of the United States.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the executive power and authority in and over said Territory of Minnesota shall be vested in a governor, who shall hold his office for four years, and until his successor shall be appointed and qualified, unless sooner removed by the president of the United States. The governor shall reside within said Territory; shall be commander-in-chief of the militia thereof; shall perform the duties and receive the emoluments of superintendent of Indian affairs. He may grant pardons for offenses against the law of said Territory, and reprieves for offenses against the laws of the United States until the decision of the president can be made known thereon; he shall commission all officers who shall be appointed to office under the laws of the said Territory, and shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be a secretary of said Territory, who shall reside therein, and hold his office for four years, unless sooner removed by the president of the United States; he shall record and preserve all the laws and proceedings of the legislative assembly hereinafter constituted, and all the acts and proceedings of the governor in his executive department; he shall transmit one copy of the laws and one copy of the executive proceedings, on or before the first day of December in each year, to the president of the United States, and at the same time two copies of the laws to the speaker of the house of representatives, and the president of the senate for the use of Congress. And in case of the death, removal, resignation, or necessary absence of the governor from the Territory, the secretary shall be and he is hereby authorized and required to execute and perform all the powers and the duties of the governor during such vacancy or necessary absence or until another governor shall be duly appointed to fill such vacancy.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the legislative power and authority of said Territory shall be vested in the governor and a legislative assembly. The legislative assembly shall consist of a council and house of representatives. The council shall consist of nine members having the qualifications of voters, as hereinafter prescribed, whose term of service shall continue two years. The house of representatives shall, at its first session, consist of eighteen members, possessing the same qualifications as prescribed for members of the council, and whose term of service shall continue one year. The number of councilors and representatives may be increased by the legislative assembly, from time to time, in proportion to the increase of population; provided, that the whole number shall never exceed fifteen councilors and thirty-nine representatives. An apportionment shall be made, as nearly equal as practicable, among the several counties or districts for the election of the council and representatives, giving to each section of the Territory representation in the ratio of its population, Indians excepted, as nearly as may be. And the members of the council and of the house of representatives shall reside in and be inhabitants of the districts for which they may be elected, respectively. Previous to the first election, the governor shall cause a census or enumeration of the inhabitants of the several counties and districts of the Territory to be taken, and the first election shall be held at such times and places and be conducted in such manner as the governor shall appoint and direct, and he shall, at the same time, declare the number of members of the council and house of representatives to which each of the counties and districts shall be entitled under this act. The number of persons authorized to be elected having the highest number of votes, in each of said council districts for members of the council, shall be declared by the governor to be duly elected to the council, and the person or persons authorized to be elected, having the greatest number of votes for the house of representatives, equal to the number to which each county or district shall be entitled, shall also be declared by the governor to be duly elected members of the house of representatives; provided, that in case of a tie between two or more persons voted for, the governor shall order a new election to supply the vacancy made by such tie. And the persons thus elected to the legislative assembly shall meet at such place on such day as the governor shall appoint, but thereafter the time, place and manner of holding and conducting all elections by the people, and the apportioning of the representation in the several counties or districts to the council and house of representatives, according to the population, shall be prescribed by laws, as well as the day of the commencement of the regular session of the legislative assembly; provided, that no one session shall exceed the term of sixty days.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That every free white male inhabitant above the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a resident of said Territory at the time of the passage of this act, shall be entitled to vote at the first election, and shall be eligible to any office within the said Territory; but the qualifications of voters and of holding office at all subsequent elections shall be such as shall be prescribed by the legislative assembly; provided, that the right of suffrage and of holding office shall be exercised only by citizens of the United States and those who shall have declared on oath their intention to become such, and shall have taken an oath to support the constitution of the United States and the provisions of this act.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the legislative power of the Territory shall extend to all rightful subjects of legislation, consistent with the Constitution of the United States and the provisions of this act; but no law shall be passed interfering with the primary disposal of the soil; no tax shall be imposed upon the property of the United States; nor shall the lands or other property of non-residents be taxed higher than the lands or other property of residents. All the laws passed by the legislative assembly and governor shall be submitted to the Congress of the United States, and if disapproved shall be null and of no effect.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That all township, district and county officers, not herein otherwise provided for, shall be appointed or elected, as the case may be, in such manner as shall be provided by the governor and legislative assembly of the Territory of Minnesota. The governor shall nominate and, by and with the advice and consent of the legislative council, appoint all officers not herein otherwise provided for, and, in the first instance, the governor alone may appoint all said officers, who shall hold their offices until the end of the next session of the legislative assembly.

Sec. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That no member of the legislative assembly shall hold or be appointed to any office which shall have been created, or the salary or emoluments of which shall have been increased, while he was a member, during the term for which he was elected, and for one year after the expiration of such term; and no person holding a commission or appointment under the United States, except postmasters, shall be a member of the legislative assembly, or shall hold any office under the government of said Territory.

Sec. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That the judicial power of said Territory shall be vested in a supreme court, district courts, probate courts, and in justices of the peace. The supreme court shall consist of a chief justice and two associate justices, any two of whom shall constitute a quorum, and who shall hold a term at the seat of government of said Territory annually; and they shall hold their offices during the period of four years. The said Territory shall be divided into three judicial districts, and a district court shall be held in each of said districts by one of the justices of the supreme court, at such time and places as may be prescribed by law; and the said judges shall, after their appointment, respectively, reside in the districts which shall be assigned them. The jurisdiction of the several courts herein provided for, both appellate and original, and that of probate courts and justices of the peace, shall be as limited by law; provided, that the justices of the peace shall not have jurisdiction of any matter in controversy when the title or boundaries of land may be in dispute, or where the debt or sum claimed shall exceed one hundred dollars; and the said supreme and district courts, respectively, shall possess chancery as well as common law jurisdiction. Each district court, or the judges thereof, shall appoint its clerk, who shall also be the register in chancery, and shall keep his office at the place where the court may be held. Writs of error, bills of exception and appeals shall be allowed in all cases from the final decisions of said district courts to the supreme court, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law, but in no case removed to the supreme court shall trial by jury be allowed in said court. The supreme court, or the justices thereof, shall appoint its own clerk, and every clerk shall hold his office at the pleasure of the court for which he shall have been appointed. Writs of error and appeals from the final decisions of said supreme court shall be allowed, and may be taken to the supreme court of the United States, in the same manner and under the same regulations as from the circuit courts of the United States, where the value of the property or the amount in controversy, to be ascertained by the oath or affirmation of either party, or other competent witness, shall exceed one thousand dollars; and each of the said district courts shall have and exercise the same jurisdiction, in all cases arising under the constitution and laws of the United States, as is vested in the circuit and district courts of the United States; and the first six days of every term of said courts, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, shall be appropriated to the trial of causes arising under the said constitution and laws; and writs of error and appeal in all such cases shall be made to the supreme court of said Territory, the same as in other cases. The said clerk shall receive in all such cases the same fees which the clerks of the district courts of the late Wisconsin Territory received for similar services.

Sec. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be appointed an attorney for said Territory, who shall continue in office for four years, unless sooner removed by the president, and who shall receive the same fees and salary as the attorney of the United States for the late Territory of Wisconsin received. There shall also be a marshal for the Territory appointed, who shall hold his office for four years, unless sooner removed by the president, and who shall hold his office for four years, unless sooner removed by the president, and who shall execute all processes issuing from the said courts, when exercising their jurisdiction as circuit and district courts of the United States; he shall perform the duties, be subject to the same regulations and penalties, and be entitled to the same fees as the marshal of the district court of the United States for the late Territory of Wisconsin; and shall, in addition, be paid two hundred dollars annually as a compensation for extra services.

Sec. 11. *And be it further enacted*, That the governor, secretary, chief justice and associate justices, attorney and marshal, shall be nominated and by and with the advice and consent of the senate, appointed by the president of the United States. The governor and secretary to be appointed as aforesaid shall, before they act as such, respectively, take an oath or affirmation, before the district judge, or some justice of the peace in the limits of said Territory, duly authorized to administer oaths and affirmations by the laws now in force therein, or before the chief justice, or some associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, to support the constitution of the United States, and faithfully to discharge the duties of their respective offices, which said oaths, when so taken, shall be certified by the person by whom the same shall have been taken, and such certificates shall be received and recorded by the said secretary among the executive proceedings; and the chief justice and associate justices, and all other civil officers in said Territory, before they act as such, shall take a like oath or affirmation, before the said governor or secretary, or some judge or justice of the peace of the Territory, who may be duly commissioned and qualified, which said oath or affirmation shall be certified and transmitted, by the person taking the same, to the secretary, to be by him recorded as aforesaid; and afterwards, the like oath or affirmation shall be taken, certified and recorded in such manner and form as may be prescribed by law. The governor shall receive an annual salary of \$1,500 as governor, and \$1,000 as superintendent of Indian affairs. The chief justice and associate justice shall each receive an annual salary of \$1,800. The secretary shall receive an annual salary of \$1,800. The said salaries shall be paid quarter-yearly, at the treasury of the United States. The members of the legislative assembly shall be entitled to receive three dollars each per day during their attendance at the session thereof, and three dollars each for every twenty miles traveled in going to and returning from the said sessions, estimated according to the nearest usually traveled route. There shall be appropriated, annually, the sum of \$1,000, to be expended by the governor to defray the contingent expenses of the Territory; and there shall also be appropriated, annually, a sufficient sum to be expended by the secretary of the Territory, and upon an estimate to be made by the secretary of the treasury of the United States, to defray the expenses of the legislative assembly, the printing of the laws, and other incidental expenses, and the secretary of the Territory shall annually account to the secretary of the treasury of the United States for the manner in which the aforesaid sum shall have been expended.

Sec. 12. *And be it further enacted*, That the inhabitants of the said Territory shall be entitled to all the rights, privileges and immunities heretofore granted and secured to the Territory of Wisconsin and to its inhabitants; and the laws in force in the Territory of Wisconsin at the date of the admission of the State of Wisconsin shall continue to be valid and operative therein, so far as the same be not incompatible with the provisions of this act, subject, nevertheless, to be altered, modified or repealed by the governor and legislative assembly of the said Territory of Minnesota; and the laws of the United States are hereby extended over and declared to be in force in said Territory, so far as the same, or any provision thereof, may be applicable.

Sec. 13. *And be it further enacted*, That the legislative assembly of the Territory of Minnesota shall hold its first session in St. Paul; and at said first session the governor and legislative assembly shall locate and establish a temporary seat of government for said Territory, at such place as they may deem eligible; and shall at such time as they shall see proper prescribe by law the manner of locating the permanent seat of government of said Territory by a vote of the people. And the sum of twenty thousand dollars, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, is hereby appropriated and granted to said Territory of Minnesota, to be applied by the governor and legislative assembly to the erection of suitable public buildings at the seat of government.

Sec. 14. *And be it further enacted*, That a delegate of the house of representatives of the United States, to serve for the term of two years, may be elected by the voters qualified to elect members of the legislative assembly, who shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges as are exercised and enjoyed by the delegates from the several other territories of the United States to the said house of representatives. The first election shall be held at such time and places and be conducted in such manner as the governor shall appoint and direct; and at all subsequent elections the times, places and manner of holding, the elections shall be prescribed by law. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be declared by the governor to be duly elected, and a certificate thereof shall be given accordingly.

Sec. 15. *And be it further enacted*, That all suits, process and proceedings, civil and criminal, at law or in chancery, and all indictments and information, which shall be pending and undetermined in the courts of the Territory of Wisconsin, within the limits of said Territory of Minnesota, when this act shall take effect, shall be transferred to be heard, tried, prosecuted and determined in the district courts hereby established, which may include the counties or districts where any such proceedings may be pending. All bonds, recognizances, and obligations of every kind whatsoever, valid under the existing laws, within the limits of said Territory, shall be valid under this act; and all crimes and misdemeanors against the laws, in force within said limits, may be prosecuted, tried, and punished in the courts established by this act; and all penalties, forfeitures, actions and causes of action may be recovered under this act the same as they would have been under the laws in force within the limits composing said Territory at the time this act shall go into operation.

Sec. 16. *And be it further enacted*, That all justices of the peace, constables, sheriffs, and all other judicial and ministerial officers, who shall be in office within the limits of said Territory, when this act shall take effect, shall be and they are hereby authorized and required to continue to exercise and perform the duties of their respective offices as officers of the Territory of Minnesota, temporarily, and until they or others shall be duly appointed and qualified to fill their places, in the manner herein directed, or until their offices shall be abolished.

Sec. 17. *And be it further enacted*, That the sum of \$5,000 be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be expended by and under the direction of the said governor of the Territory of Minnesota, in the purchase of a library, to be kept at the seat of government for the use of the governor, legislative assembly, judges of the supreme court, secretary, marshal, and attorneys of said Territory, and such other persons and under such regulations as shall be prescribed by law.

Sec. 18. *And be it further enacted*, That when the lands in said Territory shall be surveyed under the direction of the government of the United States, preparatory to bringing the same into market, sections numbered sixteen and thirty-six in each township in said Territory shall be and the same are hereby reserved for the purpose of being applied to schools in said Territory, and in the state and territories hereafter to be erected out of the same.

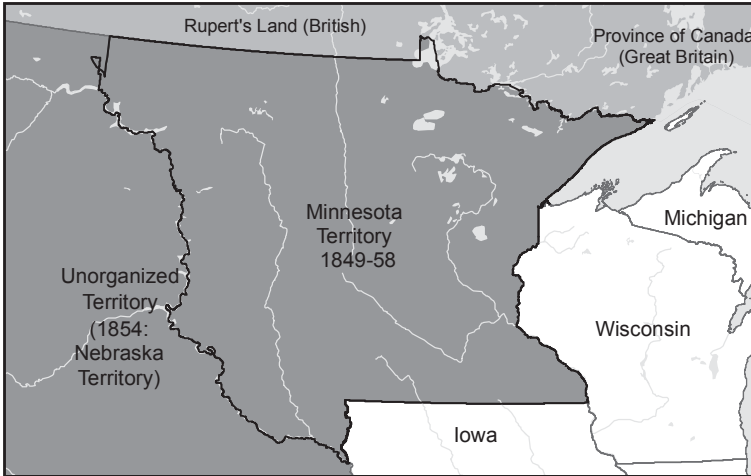
Sec. 19. *And be it further enacted*, That temporarily, and until otherwise provided by law, the governor of said territory may define the judicial districts of said Territory, and assign the judges who may be appointed for said Territory to the several districts, and also appoint the times and places for holding courts in the several counties or subdivisions in each of said judicial districts, by proclamation to be issued by him; but the legislative assembly, at their first or any subsequent session, may organize, alter or modify such judicial districts, and assign the judges, and alter the times and places of holding the courts, as to them shall seem proper and convenient.

Sec. 20. *And be it further enacted*, That every bill which shall or may pass the council and house of representatives, shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the governor of the Territory; if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not he shall return it, with his objections, to the house in which it originated; which shall cause the objections to be entered at large upon their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two-thirds of that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall also be reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of that house it shall become a law; but in all such cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for or against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each house, respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the governor within three days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the legislative assembly, by adjournment, prevent it, in which case it shall not become a law.

SETTLEMENT OF MINNESOTA

Secretary of State's Note: The history of the settlement of the state of Minnesota begins after the last glacial period when American Indian's followed the herds of large game to this area. Centuries later French fur traders discovered the region's rich natural resources. European and other immigrants began settling in the "Land of 10,000 Lakes" late in the 18th century. A bill to admit Minnesota into the Union was submitted to Congress in December 1857. Citizens were interested in controlling their own destiny and wanted to actively pursue the many advantages of organizing as a state rather than a territory.

MAP OF MINNESOTA TERRITORY



~ Voting in Minnesota ~

The Evolving Ballot

For the first 20 years of statehood, political parties in Minnesota printed their own ballots listing only their slate of candidates. Voters would mark their selections on a variety of ballots or write their choices on a blank piece of paper.

In 1889, Minnesota's largest cities began printing uniform ballots with all of the candidates listed on a single ballot, called the "Australian ballot." By 1891 the entire state had adopted the design. Voting instructions often were provided in languages other than English, including German, Norwegian or Swedish.

At the time the ballot was adopted, candidates were required to file their candidacy with the secretary of state in order to be included on a ballot. For a general election ballot, a candidate had to be nominated by delegates of a political party that had received at least 1 percent of the votes cast in the last district or state election. Candidates representing new political parties could get on the ballot through a petition process requiring signatures from 1 percent of the voters for that district or the state.

Source: *Reflections of the Political Process*, Minnesota Historical Society

MINNESOTA ENABLING ACT

Secretary of State's Note: During the opening of Congress in December of 1856, Henry Rice, delegate to Congress from the territory of Minnesota, introduced an act authorizing a state government for Minnesota. The Enabling Act passed Congress and was approved on February 26, 1857.

In addition to establishing state boundaries, the Enabling Act provided for a constitutional convention and election of delegates to that convention. It further stipulated that the constitutional convention consider the following proposals: setting aside 72 sections of land for a state university; granting ten sections of land to the state to complete and erect public buildings at the capitol; granting the state the exclusive rights to use all salt springs; and allocating five percent of the proceeds from the sale of public lands lying within the state by Congress to be used to build roads.

The Enabling Act authorized the state of Minnesota to have one representative in Congress and such additional representatives as the ratio for representation allowed. To determine the population of the territory, the act authorized a census to be taken by the United States marshal. The census was completed in October of 1857; the population of the territory was 150,037.



The Enabling Act established the final boundaries for the state of Minnesota

ACT AUTHORIZING A STATE GOVERNMENT

[Passed Feb. 26, 1857]

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That the inhabitants of that portion of the Territory of Minnesota which is embraced within the following limits, to-wit: Beginning at the point in the center of the main channel of the Red River of the North, where the boundary line between the United States and the British Possessions crosses the same; thence up the main channel of said river to that of the Bois de Sioux river; thence up the main channel of said river to Lake Traverse; thence up the center of said lake to the southern extremity thereof, thence in a direct line to the head of Big Stone lake; thence through its center to its outlet; thence by a due south line to the north line of the State of Iowa; thence along the northern boundary of said state to the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence up the main channel of said river, and following the boundary line of the State of Wisconsin, until the same intersects with the St. Louis river; thence down the said river to and through Lake Superior, on the boundary line of Wisconsin and Michigan, until it intersects the dividing line between the United States and the British Possessions; thence up Pigeon river and following said dividing line to the place of beginning, be and they hereby are authorized to form for themselves a constitution and state government by the name of the State of Minnesota, and to come into the Union on an equal footing with the original states, according to the Federal Constitution.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the State of Minnesota shall have concurrent jurisdiction on the Mississippi and all other rivers and waters bordering on the said State of Minnesota, so far as the same shall form a common boundary to said state and any state or states now or hereafter to be formed or bounded by the same; and said river or waters leading into the same shall be common highways, and forever free, as well to the inhabitants of said state as to all other citizens of the United States, without any tax, duty, impost, or toll therefor.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That on the first Monday in June next, the legal voters in each representative district then existing within the limits of the proposed state, are hereby authorized to elect two delegates for each representative to which said district shall be entitled according to the apportionment for representatives to the territorial legislature; which election for delegates shall be held and conducted, and the returns made, in all respects in conformity with the laws of said Territory regulating the election of representatives, and the delegates so elected shall assemble at the capitol of said Territory on the second Monday in July next, and first determine by a vote whether it is the wish of the people of the proposed State to be admitted into the Union at that time; and if so, shall proceed to form a constitution, and take all necessary steps for the establishment of a state government, in conformity with the Federal Constitution, subject to the approval and ratification of the people of the proposed State.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That in the event said convention shall decide in favor of the immediate admission of the proposed State into the Union, it shall be the duty of the United States marshal for said Territory to proceed to take a census or enumeration of the inhabitants within the limits of the proposed State, under such rules and regulations as shall be prescribed by the secretary of the interior, with the view of ascertaining the number of representatives to which said State may be entitled in the Congress of the United States. And said State shall be entitled to one representative, and such additional representatives as the population of the State shall, according to the census, show it would be entitled to according to the present ratio of representation.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the following propositions be and the same are hereby offered to the said convention of the people of Minnesota for their free acceptance or rejection, which, if accepted by the convention, shall be obligatory on the United States, and upon the said State of Minnesota, to-wit:

First: That sections numbered sixteen and thirty-six in every township of public lands in said State, and where either of said sections, or any part thereof, has been sold or otherwise been disposed of, other lands, equivalent thereto, and as contiguous as may be, shall be granted to said State for the use of schools.

Second: That seventy-two sections of land shall be set apart and reserved for the use and support of a state university, to be selected by the governor of said State, subject to the approval of the commissioner at the general land office, and to be appropriated and applied in such manner as the legislature of said State may prescribe; for the purpose aforesaid, but for not other purpose.

Third: Ten entire sections of land to be selected by the governor of said State, in legal subdivisions, shall be granted to said State for the purpose of completing the public buildings, or for the erection of others at the seat of government, under the direction of the legislature thereof.

Fourth: That all salt springs within said State, not exceeding twelve in number, with six sections of land adjoining or as contiguous as may be to each, shall be granted to said State for its use; and the same to be selected by the governor thereof within one year after the admission of said State, and, when so selected, to be used or disposed of on such terms, conditions and regulations as the legislature shall direct; provided, that no salt spring or land the right whereof is now vested in any individual or individuals, or which may be hereafter confirmed or adjudged to any individual or individuals, shall by this article be granted to said State.

Fifth: That five per centum of the net proceeds of sales of all public lands lying within said State, which shall be sold by Congress after the admission of said State into the Union, after deducting all the expenses incident to the same, shall be paid to said State for the purpose of making public roads and internal improvements as the legislature shall direct; provided, the foregoing propositions herein offered are on the condition that the said convention which shall form the constitution of said State shall provide, by a clause in said constitution, or an ordinance, irrevocable without the consent of the United States, that said State shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the soil within the same by the United States, or with any regulations Congress may find necessary for securing the title in said soil to bona fide purchasers thereof; and that no tax shall be imposed on lands belonging to the United States, and that in no case shall nonresident proprietors be taxed higher than residents.

MINNESOTA CONSTITUTION

Secretary of State's Note: On June 1, 1857, in accordance with the Enabling Act of February 26, 1857, Republican and Democratic delegates were elected to the constitutional convention. When these delegates assembled in St. Paul on July 13, 1857 to draft the Minnesota constitution, bitterness between the two parties was so intense that Republican delegates and Democratic delegates refused to meet in the same convention. As a result, each party held separate sessions in different rooms of the first capitol building.

The Democratic convention was presided over by Henry H. Sibley, later elected as the first governor of Minnesota. The Republican convention was presided over first by John W. North, and later by St. Andrew D. Balcombe. The political discord was so great that the two bodies never acted in joint meeting during the entire constitutional convention, which lasted from July 13 to August 29, 1857. The final work was done through a conference committee composed of five conferees from each of the conventions. The conferees, by reporting to and receiving advice from their respective conventions, were able to draft a constitution that would be acceptable to both bodies. On August 28, 1857, despite numerous protests by delegates, the report of the conference committee was adopted without amendment by both the Republican and Democratic conventions.

However, when it came time to sign the constitution, emotions were still so intense that Democrats would not sign a document signed by Republicans, and Republicans refused to sign a document signed by Democrats. The solution to this impasse: two constitutions. One constitution was written on white paper and signed by only Republicans. The other constitution was written on blue-tinted paper and signed by only Democrats.

Therefore, on the 29th day of August, after seven weeks of political dispute and disagreement, the two conventions adjourned—each with its own, signed constitution. The constitutions provided for an election to be held on October 13, 1857 for voters to accept or reject the constitution. The ballots used for this purpose were printed to provide for only affirmative votes. A voter who wished to reject the constitution had to alter his ballot and write in a negative vote. The result: 30,055 for the constitution and 571 against it.

The procedure for acquiring statehood not only required a constitution to be approved by the voters of the proposed state, but also that the constitution be approved by Congress. In December of 1857, the Minnesota constitution was submitted to the United States Senate for ratification. A certified copy of the Democratic constitution was transmitted to the Senate by the territorial secretary. This copy was attached to the bill for the admission of Minnesota into the union. However, when the bill was reported back from the Senate, historians report that the Republican constitution was attached. No one knows why, but it is likely that both constitutions were before Congress when Minnesota was admitted to the union on May 11, 1858.

In the election of October 13, 1857, in addition to voting on the constitution, voters elected executive, legislative and judicial officers. The executive and judicial officers were content to wait for an act from Congress before assuming office. But the legislature took the opposite view and convened on December 3, 1857, believing that under the Enabling Act, Minnesota became a state when voters approved the constitution. Even though the legislature convened under an incorrect interpretation of the Enabling Act, they proceeded to enact laws which remained undisturbed by the courts.

The first two acts passed by the legislature were proposed amendments to the constitution. One amendment authorized a loan to railroads of \$5 million and the other related to the term of office of the first state officers. These amendments were ratified by the voters at a special election held April 15, 1858. It appears that the constitution that Congress approved on May 11, 1858 included these amendments.

More recently, in 1971, the Minnesota legislature established a constitutional study commission to review the constitution and make recommendations to maintain its utility. After two years of study, the commission recommended that an amendment be prepared to restructure the constitution for easy reference and to rewrite it in modern language.

The amendment was introduced and passed in both houses, signed by the governor, and approved by the voters on November 5, 1974. The previous wording of the constitution is printed, with all the amendments approved by voters since its adoption in 1857, in the Minnesota Legislative Manual 1973–74. The amendment approved in 1974 did not alter the meaning of the constitution. In cases of constitutional law, the original document remains the final authority.

CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

[Generally Revised November 5, 1974]

Preamble

We, the people of the state of Minnesota, grateful to God for our civil and religious liberty, and desiring to perpetuate its blessings and secure the same to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

ARTICLE I

BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 1. **Object of government.** Government is instituted for the security, benefit and protection of the people, in whom all political power is inherent, together with the right to alter, modify or reform government whenever required by the public good.

Sec. 2. **Rights and privileges.** No member of this state shall be disfranchised or deprived of any of the rights or privileges secured to any citizen thereof, unless by the law of the land or the judgment of his peers. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the state otherwise than as punishment for a crime of which the party has been convicted.

Sec. 3. **Liberty of the press.** The liberty of the press shall forever remain inviolate, and all persons may freely speak, write and publish their sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of such right.

Sec. 4. **Trial by jury.** The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate, and shall extend to all cases at law without regard to the amount in controversy. A jury trial may be waived by the parties in all cases in the manner prescribed by law. The legislature may provide that the agreement of five-sixths of a jury in a civil action or proceeding, after not less than six hours' deliberation, is a sufficient verdict. The legislature may provide for the number of jurors in a civil action or proceeding, provided that a jury have at least six members.

Sec. 5. **No excessive bail or unusual punishments.** Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel or unusual punishments inflicted.

Sec. 6. **Rights of accused in criminal prosecutions.** In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury of the county or district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which county or district shall have been previously ascertained by law. In all prosecutions of crimes defined by law as felonies, the accused has the right to a jury of 12 members. In all other criminal prosecutions, the legislature may provide for the number of jurors, provided that a jury have at least six members. The accused shall enjoy the right to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation, to be confronted with the witnesses against him, to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor and to have the assistance of counsel in his defense.

Sec. 7. **Due process; prosecutions; double jeopardy; self-incrimination; bail; habeas corpus.** No person shall be held to answer for a criminal offense without due process of law, and no person shall be put twice in jeopardy of punishment for the same offense, nor be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. All persons before conviction shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital offenses when the proof is evident or the presumption great. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended unless the public safety requires it in case of rebellion or invasion.

Sec. 8. **Redress of injuries or wrongs.** Every person is entitled to a certain remedy in the laws for all injuries or wrongs which he may receive to his person, property or character, and to obtain justice freely and without purchase, completely and without denial, promptly and without delay, conformable to the laws.

Sec. 9. **Treason defined.** Treason against the state consists only in levying war against the state, or in adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act or on confession in open court.

Sec. 10. **Unreasonable searches and seizures prohibited.** The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched and the person or things to be seized.

Sec. 11. **Attainers, ex post facto laws and laws impairing contracts prohibited.** No bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or any law impairing the obligation of contracts shall be passed, and no conviction shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture of estate.

Sec. 12. **Imprisonment for debt; property exemption.** No person shall be imprisoned for debt in this state, but this shall not prevent the legislature from providing for imprisonment, or holding to bail, persons charged with fraud in contracting said debt. A reasonable amount of property shall be exempt from seizure or sale for the payment of any debt or liability. The amount of such exemption shall be determined by law. Provided, however, that all property so exempted shall be liable to seizure and sale for any debts incurred to any person for work done or materials furnished in the construction, repair or improvement of the same, and provided further, that such liability to seizure and sale shall also extend to all real property for any debt to any laborer or servant for labor or service performed.

Sec. 13. **Private property for public use.** Private property shall not be taken, destroyed or damaged for public use without just compensation therefor, first paid or secured.

Sec. 14. **Military power subordinate.** The military shall be subordinate to the civil power and no standing army shall be maintained in this state in times of peace.

Sec. 15. **Lands allodial; void agricultural leases.** All lands within the state are allodial and feudal tenures of every description with all their incidents are prohibited. Leases and grants of agricultural lands for a longer period than 21 years reserving rent or service of any kind shall be void.

Sec. 16. **Freedom of conscience; no preference to be given to any religious establishment or mode of worship.** The enumeration of rights in this constitution shall not deny or impair others retained by and inherent in the people. The right of every man to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience shall never be infringed; nor shall any man be compelled to attend, erect or support any place of worship, or to maintain any religious or ecclesiastical ministry, against his consent; nor shall any control or interference with the rights of conscience be permitted, or any preference be given by law to any religious establishment or mode of worship; but the liberty of conscience hereby secured shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness or justify practices inconsistent with the peace or safety of the state, nor shall any money be drawn from the treasury for the benefit of any religious societies or religious or theological seminaries.

Sec. 17. **Religious tests and property qualifications prohibited.** No religious test or amount of property shall be required as a qualification for any office of public trust in the state. No religious test or amount of property shall be required as a qualification of any voter at any election in this state; nor shall any person be rendered incompetent to give evidence in any court of law or equity in consequence of his opinion upon the subject of religion.

ARTICLE II NAME AND BOUNDARIES

Section 1. **Name and boundaries; acceptance of organic act.** This state shall be called the state of Minnesota and shall consist of and have jurisdiction over the territory embraced in the act of Congress entitled, "An act to authorize the people of the Territory of Minnesota to form a constitution and state government, preparatory to their admission into the Union on equal footing with the original states," and the propositions contained in that act are hereby accepted, ratified and confirmed, and remain irrevocable without the consent of the United States.

Sec. 2. **Jurisdiction on boundary waters.** The state of Minnesota has concurrent jurisdiction on the Mississippi and on all other rivers and waters forming a common boundary with any other state or states. Navigable waters leading into the same, shall be common highways and forever free to citizens of the United States without any tax, duty, impost or toll therefor.

ARTICLE III DISTRIBUTION OF THE POWERS OF GOVERNMENT

Section 1. **Division of powers.** The powers of government shall be divided into three distinct departments: legislative, executive and judicial. No person or persons belonging to or constituting one of these departments shall exercise any of the powers properly belonging to either of the others except in the instances expressly provided in this constitution.

ARTICLE IV LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

Section 1. **Composition of legislature.** The legislature consists of the senate and house of representatives.

Sec. 2. **Apportionment of members.** The number of members who compose the senate and house of representatives shall be prescribed by law. The representation in both houses shall be apportioned equally throughout the different sections of the state in proportion to the population thereof.

Sec. 3. **Census enumeration apportionment; congressional and legislative district boundaries; senate districts.** At its first session after each enumeration of the inhabitants of this state made by the authority of the United States, the legislature shall have the power to prescribe the bounds of congressional and legislative districts. Senators shall be chosen by single districts of convenient contiguous territory. No representative district shall be divided in the formation of a senate district. The senate districts shall be numbered in a regular series.

Sec. 4. **Terms of office of senators and representatives; vacancies.** Representatives shall be chosen for a term of two years, except to fill a vacancy. Senators shall be chosen for a term of four years, except to fill a vacancy and except there shall be an entire new election of all the senators at the first election of representatives after each new legislative apportionment provided for in this article. The governor shall call elections to fill vacancies in either house of the legislature.

Sec. 5. **Restriction on holding office.** No senator or representative shall hold any other office under the authority of the United States or the state of Minnesota, except that of postmaster or of notary public. If elected or appointed to another office, a legislator may resign from the legislature by tendering his resignation to the governor.

Sec. 6. **Qualification of legislators; judging election returns and eligibility.** Senators and representatives shall be qualified voters of the state, and shall have resided one year in the state and six months immediately preceding the election in the district from which elected. Each house shall be the judge of the election returns and eligibility of its own members. The legislature shall prescribe by law the manner for taking evidence in cases of contested seats in either house.

Sec. 7. **Rules of government.** Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, sit upon its own adjournment, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and with the concurrence of two-thirds expel a member; but no member shall be expelled a second time for the same offense.

Sec. 8. **Oath of office.** Each member and officer of the legislature before entering upon his duties shall take an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States, the constitution of this state, and to discharge faithfully the duties of his office to the best of his judgment and ability.

Sec. 9. **Compensation.** The compensation of senators and representatives shall be prescribed by law. No increase of compensation shall take effect during the period for which the members of the existing house of representatives may have been elected.

Sec. 10. **Privilege from arrest.** The members of each house in all cases except treason, felony and breach of the peace, shall be privileged from arrest during the session of their respective houses and in going to or returning from the same. For any speech or debate in either house they shall not be questioned in any other place.

Sec. 11. **Protest and dissent of members.** Two or more members of either house may dissent and protest against any act or resolution which they think injurious to the public or to any individual and have the reason of their dissent entered in the journal.

Sec. 12. **Biennial meetings; length of session; special sessions; length of adjournments.** The legislature shall meet at the seat of government in regular session in each biennium at the times prescribed by law for not exceeding a total of 120 legislative days. The legislature shall not meet in regular session, nor in any adjournment thereof, after the first Monday following the third Saturday in May of any year. After meeting at a time prescribed by law, the legislature may adjourn to another time. "Legislative day" shall be defined by law. A special session of the legislature may be called by the governor on extraordinary occasions.

Neither house during a session of the legislature shall adjourn for more than three days (Sundays excepted) nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be assembled without the consent of the other house.

Sec. 13. **Quorum.** A majority of each house constitutes a quorum to transact business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day and compel the attendance of absent members in the manner and under the penalties it may provide.

Sec. 14. **Open sessions.** Each house shall be open to the public during its sessions except in cases which in its opinion require secrecy.

Sec. 15. **Officers; journals.** Each house shall elect its presiding officer and other officers as may be provided by law. Both houses shall keep journals of their proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, and the yeas and nays, when taken on any question, shall be entered in the journals.

Sec. 16. **Elections viva voce.** In all elections by the legislature members shall vote viva voce and their votes shall be entered in the journal.

Sec. 17. **Laws to embrace only one subject.** No law shall embrace more than one subject, which shall be expressed in its title.

Sec. 18. **Revenue bills to originate in house.** All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the house of representatives, but the senate may propose and concur with the amendments as on other bills.

Sec. 19. **Reporting of bills.** Every bill shall be reported on three different days in each house, unless, in case of urgency, two-thirds of the house where the bill is pending deem it expedient to dispense with this rule.

Sec. 20. **Enrollment of bills.** Every bill passed by both houses shall be enrolled and signed by the presiding officer of each house. Any presiding officer refusing to sign a bill passed by both houses shall thereafter be disqualified from any office of honor or profit in the state. Each house by rule shall provide the manner in which a bill shall be certified for presentation to the governor in case of such refusal.

Sec. 21. **Passage of bills on last day of session prohibited.** No bill shall be passed by either house upon the day prescribed for adjournment. This section shall not preclude the enrollment of a bill or its transmittal from one house to the other or to the executive for his signature.

Sec. 22. **Majority vote of all members to pass a law.** The style of all laws of this state shall be: "Be it enacted by the legislature of the state of Minnesota." No law shall be passed unless voted for by a majority of all the members elected to each house of the legislature, and the vote entered in the journal of each house.

Sec. 23. Approval of bills by governor; action on veto. Every bill passed in conformity to the rules of each house and the joint rules of the two houses shall be presented to the governor. If he approves a bill, he shall sign it, deposit it in the office of the secretary of state and notify the house in which it originated of that fact. If he vetoes a bill, he shall return it with his objections to the house in which it originated. His objections shall be entered in the journal. If, after reconsideration, two-thirds of that house agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the governor's objections, to the other house, which shall likewise reconsider it. If approved by two-thirds of that house it becomes a law and shall be deposited in the office of the secretary of state. In such cases the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for or against the bill shall be entered in the journal of each house. Any bill not returned by the governor within three days (Sundays excepted) after it is presented to him becomes a law as if he had signed it, unless the legislature by adjournment within that time prevents its return. Any bill passed during the last three days of a session may be presented to the governor during the three days following the day of final adjournment and becomes law if the governor signs and deposits it in the office of the secretary of state within 14 days after the adjournment of the legislature. Any bill passed during the last three days of the session which is not signed and deposited within 14 days after adjournment does not become a law.

If a bill presented to the governor contains several items of appropriation of money, he may veto one or more of the items while approving the bill. At the time he signs the bill the governor shall append to it a statement of the items he vetoes and the vetoed items shall not take effect. If the legislature is in session, he shall transmit to the house in which the bill originated a copy of the statement, and the items vetoed shall be separately reconsidered. If on reconsideration any item is approved by two-thirds of the members elected to each house, it is a part of the law notwithstanding the objections of the governor.

Sec. 24. Presentation of orders, resolutions, and votes to governor. Each order, resolution or vote requiring the concurrence of the two houses except such as relate to the business or adjournment of the legislature shall be presented to the governor and is subject to his veto as prescribed in case of a bill.

Sec. 25. Disorderly conduct. During a session each house may punish by imprisonment for not more than 24 hours any person not a member who is guilty of any disorderly or contemptuous behavior in its presence.

Sec. 26. Banking laws; two-thirds votes. Passage of a general banking law requires the vote of two-thirds of the members of each house of the legislature.

ARTICLE V

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Section 1. Executive officers. The executive department consists of a governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor, and attorney general, who shall be chosen by the electors of the state. The governor and lieutenant governor shall be chosen jointly by a single vote applying to both offices in a manner prescribed by law.

Sec. 2. Term of governor and lieutenant governor; qualifications. The term of office for the governor and lieutenant governor is four years and until a successor is chosen and qualified. Each shall have attained the age of 25 years and, shall have been a bona fide resident of the state for one year next preceding his election, and shall be a citizen of the United States.

Sec. 3. Powers and duties of governor. The governor shall communicate by message to each session of the legislature information touching the state and country. He is commander-in-chief of the military and naval forces and may call them out to execute the laws, suppress insurrection and repel invasion. He may require the opinion in writing of the principal officer in each of the executive departments upon any subject relating to his duties. With the advice and consent of the senate he may appoint notaries public and other officers provided by law. He may appoint commissioners to take the acknowledgment of deeds or other instruments in writing to be used in the state. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed. He shall fill any vacancy that may occur in the offices of secretary of state, auditor, attorney general and the other state and district offices hereafter created by law until the end of the term for which the person who had vacated the office was elected or the first Monday in January following the next general election, whichever is sooner, and until a successor is chosen and qualified.

Sec. 4. Terms and salaries of executive officers. The term of office of the secretary of state, attorney general and state auditor is four years and until a successor is chosen and qualified. The duties and salaries of the executive officers shall be prescribed by law.

Sec. 5. Succession to offices of governor and lieutenant governor. In case a vacancy occurs from any cause whatever in the office of governor, the lieutenant governor shall be governor during such vacancy. The compensation of the lieutenant governor shall be prescribed by law. The last elected presiding officer of the senate shall become lieutenant governor in case a vacancy occurs in that office. In case the governor is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the same devolves on the lieutenant governor. The legislature may provide by law for the case of the removal, death, resignation, or inability both of the governor and lieutenant governor to discharge the duties of governor and may provide by law for continuity of government in periods of emergency resulting from disasters caused by enemy attack in this state, including but not limited to, succession to the powers and duties of public office and change of the seat of government.

Sec. 6. Oath of office of state officers. Each officer created by this article before entering upon his duties shall take an oath or affirmation to support the constitution of the United States and of this state and to discharge faithfully the duties of his office to the best of his judgment and ability.

Sec. 7. **Board of pardons.** The governor, the attorney general and the chief justice of the supreme court constitute a board of pardons. Its powers and duties shall be defined and regulated by law. The governor in conjunction with the board of pardons has power to grant reprieves and pardons after conviction for an offense against the state except in cases of impeachment.

ARTICLE VI JUDICIARY

Section 1. **Judicial power.** The judicial power of the state is vested in a supreme court, a court of appeals, if established by the legislature, a district court and such other courts, judicial officers and commissioners with jurisdiction inferior to the district court as the legislature may establish.

Sec. 2. **Supreme court.** The supreme court consists of one chief judge and not less than six nor more than eight associate judges as the legislature may establish. It shall have original jurisdiction in such remedial cases as are prescribed by law, and appellate jurisdiction in all cases, but there shall be no trial by jury in the supreme court.

The legislature may establish a court of appeals and provide by law for the number of its judges, who shall not be judges of any other court, and its organization and for the review of its decisions by the supreme court. The court of appeals shall have appellate jurisdiction over all courts, except the supreme court, and other appellate jurisdiction as prescribed by law.

As provided by law judges of the court of appeals or of the district court may be assigned temporarily to act as judges of the supreme court upon its request and judges of the district court may be assigned temporarily by the supreme court to act as judges of the court of appeals.

The supreme court shall appoint to serve at its pleasure a clerk, a reporter, a state law librarian and other necessary employees.

Sec. 3. **Jurisdiction of district court.** The district court has original jurisdiction in all civil and criminal cases and shall have appellate jurisdiction as prescribed by law.

Sec. 4. **Judicial districts; district judges.** The number and boundaries of judicial districts shall be established in the manner provided by law but the office of a district judge shall not be abolished during his term. There shall be two or more district judges in each district. Each judge of the district court in any district shall be a resident of that district at the time of his selection and during his continuance in office.

Sec. 5. **Qualifications; compensation.** Judges of the supreme court, the court of appeals and the district court shall be learned in the law. The qualifications of all other judges and judicial officers shall be prescribed by law. The compensation of all judges shall be prescribed by the legislature and shall not be diminished during their term of office.

Sec. 6. **Holding other office.** A judge of the supreme court, the court of appeals or the district court shall not hold any office under the United States except a commission in a reserve component of the military forces of the United States and shall not hold any other office under this state. His term of office shall terminate at the time he files as a candidate for an elective office of the United States or for a nonjudicial office of this state.

Sec. 7. **Term of office; election.** The term of office of all judges shall be six years and until their successors are qualified. They shall be elected by the voters from the area which they are to serve in the manner provided by law.

Sec. 8. **Vacancy.** Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of judge the governor shall appoint in the manner provided by law a qualified person to fill the vacancy until a successor is elected and qualified. The successor shall be elected for a six year term at the next general election occurring more than one year after the appointment.

Sec. 9. **Retirement, removal and discipline.** The legislature may provide by law for retirement of all judges and for the extension of the term of any judge who becomes eligible for retirement within three years after expiration of the term for which he is selected. The legislature may also provide for the retirement, removal or other discipline of any judge who is disabled, incompetent or guilty of conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice.

Sec. 10. **Retired judges.** As provided by law a retired judge may be assigned to hear and decide any cause over which the court to which he is assigned has jurisdiction.

Sec. 11. **Probate jurisdiction.** Original jurisdiction in law and equity for the administration of the estates of deceased persons and all guardianship and incompetency proceedings, including jurisdiction over the administration of trust estates and for the determination of taxes contingent upon death, shall be provided by law.

Sec. 12. **Abolition of probate court; status of judges.** If the probate court is abolished by law, judges of that court who are learned in the law shall become judges of the court that assumes jurisdiction of matters described in section 11.

Sec. 13. **District court clerks.** There shall be in each county one clerk of the district court whose qualifications, duties and compensation shall be prescribed by law. He shall serve at the pleasure of a majority of the judges of the district court in each district.

ARTICLE VII

ELECTIVE FRANCHISE

Section 1. **Eligibility; place of voting; ineligible persons.** Every person 18 years of age or more who has been a citizen of the United States for three months and who has resided in the precinct for 30 days next preceding an election shall be entitled to vote in that precinct. The place of voting by one otherwise qualified who has changed his residence within 30 days preceding the election shall be prescribed by law. The following persons shall not be entitled or permitted to vote at any election in this state: A person not meeting the above requirements; a person who has been convicted of treason or felony, unless restored to civil rights; a person under guardianship, or a person who is insane or not mentally competent.

Sec. 2. **Residence.** For the purpose of voting no person loses residence solely by reason of his absence while employed in the service of the United States; nor while engaged upon the waters of this state or of the United States; nor while a student in any institution of learning; nor while kept at any almshouse or asylum; nor while confined in any public prison. No soldier, seaman or marine in the army or navy of the United States is a resident of this state solely in consequence of being stationed within the state.

Sec. 3. **Uniform oath at elections.** The legislature shall provide for a uniform oath or affirmation to be administered at elections and no person shall be compelled to take any other or different form of oath to entitle him to vote.

Sec. 4. **Civil process suspended on election day.** During the day on which an election is held no person shall be arrested by virtue of any civil process.

Sec. 5. **Elections by ballot.** All elections shall be by ballot except for such town officers as may be directed by law to be otherwise chosen.

Sec. 6. **Eligibility to hold office.** Every person who by the provisions of this article is entitled to vote at any election and is 21 years of age is eligible for any office elective by the people in the district wherein he has resided 30 days previous to the election, except as otherwise provided in this constitution, or the constitution and law of the United States.

Sec. 7. **Official year of state.** The official year for the state of Minnesota commences on the first Monday in January in each year and all terms of office terminate at that time. The general election shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each even numbered year.

Sec. 8. **Election returns to secretary of state; board of canvassers.** The returns of every election for officeholders elected statewide shall be made to the secretary of state who shall call to his assistance two or more of the judges of the supreme court and two disinterested judges of the district courts. They shall constitute a board of canvassers to canvass the returns and declare the result within three days after the canvass.

Sec. 9. **Campaign spending limits.** The amount that may be spent by candidates for constitutional and legislative offices to campaign for nomination or election shall be limited by law. The legislature shall provide by law for disclosure of contributions and expenditures made to support or oppose candidates for state elective offices.

ARTICLE VIII

IMPEACHMENT AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1. **Impeachment powers.** The house of representatives has the sole power of impeachment through a concurrence of a majority of all its members. All impeachments shall be tried by the senate. When sitting for that purpose, senators shall be upon oath or affirmation to do justice according to law and evidence. No person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the senators present.

Sec. 2. **Officers subject to impeachment; grounds; judgment.** The governor, secretary of state, auditor, attorney general and the judges of the supreme court, court of appeals and district courts may be impeached for corrupt conduct in office or for crimes and misdemeanors; but judgment shall not extend further than to removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit in this state. The party convicted shall also be subject to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment according to law.

Sec. 3. **Suspension.** No officer shall exercise the duties of his office after he has been impeached and before his acquittal.

Sec. 4. **Service of impeachment papers.** No person shall be tried on impeachment before he has been served with a copy thereof at least 20 days previous to the day set for trial.

Sec. 5. **Removal of inferior officers.** The legislature of this state may provide for the removal of inferior officers for malfeasance or nonfeasance in the performance of their duties.

Sec. 6. **A member of the senate or house of representatives, an executive officer of the state identified in section 1 of article V of the constitution, or a judge of the supreme court, the court of appeals, or a district court is subject to recall from office by the voters.** The grounds for recall of a judge shall be established by the supreme court. The grounds for recall of an officer other than judge are serious malfeasance or nonfeasance during the term of office in the performance of the duties of the office or conviction during the term of office of a serious crime. A petition for recall must set forth the specific conduct that may warrant recall. A petition may not be issued until the supreme court has determined that the facts alleged in the petition are true and are sufficient grounds for issuing a recall petition. A petition must be signed by a number of eligible

voters who reside in the district where the officer serves and who number not less than 25 percent of the number of votes cast for the office at the most recent general election. Upon a determination by the secretary of state that a petition has been signed by at least the minimum number of eligible voters, a recall election must be conducted in the manner provided by law. A recall election may not occur less than six months before the end of the officer's term. An officer who is removed from office by a recall election or who resigns from office after a petition for recall issues may not be appointed to fill the vacancy that is created.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Section 1. **Amendments; ratification.** A majority of the members elected to each house of the legislature may propose amendments to this constitution. Proposed amendments shall be published with the laws passed at the same session and submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at a general election. If a majority of all the electors voting at the election vote to ratify an amendment, it becomes a part of this constitution. If two or more amendments are submitted at the same time, voters shall vote for or against each separately.

Sec. 2. **Constitutional convention.** Two-thirds of the members elected to each house of the legislature may submit to the electors at the next general election the question of calling a convention to revise this constitution. If a majority of all the electors voting at the election vote for a convention, the legislature at its next session, shall provide by law for calling the convention. The convention shall consist of as many delegates as there are members of the house of representatives. Delegates shall be chosen in the same manner as members of the house of representatives and shall meet within three months after their election. Section 5 of Article IV of the constitution does not apply to election to the convention.

Sec. 3. **Submission to people of constitution drafted at convention.** A convention called to revise this constitution shall submit any revision to the people for approval or rejection at the next general election held not less than 90 days after submission of the revision. If three-fifths of all the electors voting on the question vote to ratify the revision, it becomes a new constitution of the state of Minnesota.

ARTICLE X TAXATION

Section 1. **Power of taxation; exemptions; legislative powers.** The power of taxation shall never be surrendered, suspended or contracted away. Taxes shall be uniform upon the same class of subjects and shall be levied and collected for public purposes, but public burying grounds, public school houses, public hospitals, academies, colleges, universities, all seminaries of learning, all churches, church property, houses of worship, institutions of purely public charity, and public property used exclusively for any public purpose, shall be exempt from taxation except as provided in this section. There may be exempted from taxation personal property not exceeding in value \$200 for each household, individual or head of a family, and household goods and farm machinery as the legislature determines. The legislature may authorize municipal corporations to levy and collect assessments for local improvements upon property benefited thereby without regard to cash valuation. The legislature by law may define or limit the property exempt under this section other than churches, houses of worship, and property solely used for educational purposes by academies, colleges, universities and seminaries of learning.

Sec. 2. **Forestation.** To encourage and promote forestation and reforestation of lands whether owned by private persons or the public, laws may be enacted fixing in advance a definite and limited annual tax on the lands for a term of years and imposing a yield tax on the timber and other forest products at or after the end of the term.

Sec. 3. **Occupation tax; ores.** Every person engaged in the business of mining or producing iron ore or other ores in this state shall pay to the state an occupation tax on the valuation of all ores mined or produced, which tax shall be in addition to all other taxes provided by law. The tax is due on the first day of May in the calendar year next following the mining or producing. The valuation of ore for the purpose of determining the amount of tax shall be ascertained as provided by law. Funds derived from the tax shall be used as follows: 50 percent to the state general revenue fund, 40 percent for the support of elementary and secondary schools and ten percent for the general support of the university.

Sec. 4. **Motor fuel taxation.** The state may levy an excise tax upon any means or substance for propelling aircraft or for propelling or operating motor or other vehicles or other equipment used for airport purposes and not used on the public highways of this state.

Sec. 5. **Aircraft.** The legislature may tax aircraft using the air space overlying the state on a more onerous basis than other personal property. Any such tax on aircraft shall be in lieu of all other taxes. The legislature may impose the tax on aircraft of companies paying taxes under any gross earnings system of taxation notwithstanding that earnings from the aircraft are included in the earnings on which gross earnings taxes are computed. The law may exempt from taxation aircraft owned by a nonresident of the state temporarily using the air space overlying the state.

Sec. 6. **Taconite taxation.** Laws of Minnesota 1963, Chapter 81, relating to the taxation of taconite and semi-taconite, and facilities for the mining, production and beneficiation thereof shall not be repealed, modified or amended, nor shall any laws in conflict therewith be valid until November 4, 1989. Laws may be enacted fixing or limiting for a period not extending beyond the year 1990, the tax to be imposed on persons engaged in (1) the mining, production or beneficiation of copper, (2) the mining, production or beneficiation of copper-nickel, or (3) the mining, production or beneficiation of nickel. Taxes imposed on the mining or quarrying of taconite or semi-taconite and on the production of iron ore concentrates therefrom, which are in lieu of a tax on real or personal property, shall not be considered to be occupation, royalty, or excise taxes within the meaning of this amendment.

Sec. 7. **(Repealed, November 5, 1974).**

Sec. 8. **Pari-mutuel betting.** The legislature may authorize on-track pari-mutuel betting on horse racing in a manner prescribed by law.

ARTICLE XI APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCES

Section 1. **Money paid from state treasury.** No money shall be paid out of the treasury of this state except in pursuance of an appropriation by law.

Sec. 2. **Credit of the state limited.** The credit of the state shall not be given or loaned in aid of any individual, association or corporation except as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 3. **Internal improvements prohibited; exceptions.** The state shall not be a party in carrying on works of internal improvements except as authorized by this constitution. If grants have been made to the state especially dedicated to specific purposes, the state shall devote the proceeds of the grants to those purposes and may pledge or appropriate the revenues derived from the works in aid of their completion.

Sec. 4. **Power to contract public debt; public debt defined.** The state may contract public debts for which its full faith, credit and taxing powers may be pledged at the times and in the manner authorized by law, but only for the purposes and subject to the conditions stated in section 5. Public debt includes any obligation payable directly in whole or in part from a tax of state wide application on any class of property, income, transaction or privilege, but does not include any obligation which is payable from revenues other than taxes.

Sec. 5. **Public debt and works of internal improvement; purposes.** Public debt may be contracted and works of internal improvements carried on for the following purposes:

- (a) to acquire and to better public land and buildings and other public improvements of a capital nature and to provide money to be appropriated or loaned to any agency or political subdivision of the state for such purposes if the law authorizing the debt is adopted by the vote of at least three-fifths of the members of each house of the legislature;
- (b) to repel invasion or suppress insurrection;
- (c) to borrow temporarily as authorized in section 6;
- (d) to refund outstanding bonds of the state or any of its agencies whether or not the full faith and credit of the state has been pledged for the payment of the bonds;
- (e) to establish and maintain highways subject to the limitations of article XIV;
- (f) to promote forestation and prevent and abate forest fires, including the compulsory clearing and improving of wild lands whether public or private;
- (g) to construct, improve and operate airports and other air navigation facilities;
- (h) to develop the state's agricultural resources by extending credit on real estate security in the manner and on the terms and conditions prescribed by law;
- (i) to improve and rehabilitate railroad rights-of-way and other rail facilities whether public or private, provided that bonds issued and unpaid shall not at any time exceed \$200,000,000 par value; and
- (j) as otherwise authorized in this constitution.

As authorized by law political subdivisions may engage in the works permitted by (f), (g), and (i) and contract debt therefor.

Sec. 6. **Certificates of indebtedness.** As authorized by law certificates of indebtedness may be issued during a biennium, commencing on July 1 in each odd-numbered year and ending on and including June 30 in the next odd-numbered year, in anticipation of the collection of taxes levied for and other revenues appropriated to any fund of the state for expenditure during that biennium.

No certificates shall be issued in an amount which with interest thereon to maturity, added to the then outstanding certificates against a fund and interest thereon to maturity, will exceed the then unexpended balance of all money which will be credited to that fund during the biennium under existing laws. The maturities of certificates may be extended by refunding to a date not later than December 1 of the first full calendar year following the biennium in which the certificates were issued. If money on hand in any fund is not sufficient to pay all non-refunding certificates of indebtedness issued on a fund during any biennium and all certificates refunding the same, plus interest thereon, which are outstanding on December 1 immediately following the close of the biennium, the state auditor shall levy upon all taxable property in the state a tax collectible in the ensuing year sufficient to pay the same on or before December 1 of the ensuing year with interest to the date or dates of payment.

Sec. 7. **Bonds.** Public debt other than certificates of indebtedness authorized in section 6 shall be evidenced by the issuance of bonds of the state. All bonds issued under the provisions of this section shall mature not more than 20 years from their respective dates of issue and each law authorizing the issuance of bonds shall distinctly specify the purposes thereof and the maximum amount of the proceeds authorized to be expended for each purpose. A separate and special state bond fund shall be maintained on the official books and records. When the full faith and credit of the state has been pledged for the payment of bonds, the state auditor shall levy each year on all taxable property within the state a tax sufficient with the balance then on hand in the fund to pay all principal and interest on bonds issued under this section due and to become due within the ensuing year and to and including July 1 in the second ensuing year. The legislature by law may appropriate funds from any source to the state bond fund. The amount of money actually received and on hand pursuant to appropriations prior to the levy of the tax in any year shall be used to reduce the amount of tax otherwise required to be levied.

Sec. 8. Permanent school fund; source; investment; board of investment. The permanent school fund of the state consists of (a) the proceeds of lands granted by the United States for the use of schools within each township, (b) the proceeds derived from swamp lands granted to the state, (c) all cash and investments credited to the permanent school fund and to the swamp land fund, and (d) all cash and investments credited to the internal improvement land fund and the lands therein. No portion of these lands shall be sold otherwise than at public sale, and in the manner provided by law. All funds arising from the sale or other disposition of the lands, or income accruing in any way before the sale or disposition thereof, shall be credited to the permanent school fund. Within limitations prescribed by law, the fund shall be invested to secure the maximum return consistent with the maintenance of the perpetuity of the fund. The principal of the permanent school fund shall be perpetual and inviolate forever. This does not prevent the sale of investments at less than the cost to the fund; however, all losses not offset by gains shall be repaid to the fund from the interest and dividends earned thereafter. The net interest and dividends arising from the fund shall be distributed to the different school districts of the state in a manner prescribed by law. A board of investment consisting of the governor, the state auditor, the secretary of state, and the attorney general is hereby constituted for the purpose of administering and directing the investment of all state funds. The board shall not permit state funds to be used for the underwriting or direct purchase of municipal securities from the issuer or the issuer's agent.

Sec. 9. Investment of permanent university fund; restrictions. The permanent university fund of this state may be loaned to or invested in the bonds of any county, school district, city or town of this state and in first mortgage loans secured upon improved and cultivated farm lands of this state, but no such investment or loan shall be made until approved by the board of investment; nor shall a loan or investment be made when the bonds to be issued or purchased would make the entire bonded indebtedness exceed 15 percent of the assessed valuation of the taxable property of the county, school district, city or town issuing the bonds; nor shall any farm loan or investment be made when the investment or loan would exceed 30 percent of the actual cash value of the farm land mortgaged to secure the investment; nor shall investments or loans be made at a lower rate of interest than two percent per annum nor for a shorter period than one year nor for a longer period than 30 years.

Sec. 10. Exchange of public lands; reservation of rights. As the legislature may provide, any of the public lands of the state, including lands held in trust for any purpose, may be exchanged for any publicly or privately held lands with the unanimous approval of the governor, the attorney general and the state auditor. Lands so acquired shall be subject to the trust, if any, to which the lands exchanged therefor were subject. The state shall reserve all mineral and water power rights in lands transferred by the state.

Sec. 11. Timberlands set apart as state forests; disposition of revenue. School and other public lands of the state better adapted for the production of timber than for agriculture may be set apart as state school forests, or other state forests as the legislature may provide. The legislature may also provide for their management on forestry principles. The net revenue therefrom shall be used for the purposes for which the lands were granted to the state.

Sec. 12. County, township or municipal aid to railroads limited. The legislature shall not authorize any county, township or municipal corporation to become indebted to aid in the construction or equipment of railroads to any amount that exceeds five percent of the value of the taxable property within that county, township or municipal corporation. The amount of taxable property shall be determined by the last assessment previous to the incurring of the indebtedness.

Sec. 13. Safe keeping state funds; security; deposit of funds; embezzlement. All officers and other persons charged with the safekeeping of state funds shall be required to give ample security for funds received by them and to keep an accurate entry of each sum received and of each payment and transfer. If any person converts to his own use in any manner or form, or shall loan, with or without interest, or shall deposit in his own name, or otherwise than in the name of the state of Minnesota; or shall deposit in banks or with any person or persons or exchange for other funds or property, any portion of the funds of the state or the school funds aforesaid, except in the manner prescribed by law, every such act shall be and constitute an embezzlement of so much of the aforesaid state and school funds, or either of the same, as shall thus be taken, or loaned, or deposited or exchanged, and shall be a felony. Any failure to pay over, produce or account for the state school funds, or any part of the same entrusted to such officer or persons as by law required on demand, shall be held and be taken to be prima facie evidence of such embezzlement.

Sec. 14. A permanent environment and natural resources trust fund is established in the state treasury. Loans may be made of up to five percent of the principal of the fund for water system improvements as provided by law. The assets of the fund shall be appropriated by law for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. The amount appropriated each year of a biennium, commencing on July 1 in each odd-numbered year and ending on and including June 30 in the next odd-numbered year, may be up to 5 1/2 percent of the market value of the fund on June 30 one year before the start of the biennium. Not less than 40 percent of the net proceeds from any state-operated lottery must be credited to the fund until the year 2025.

ARTICLE XII

SPECIAL LEGISLATION; LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Section 1. **Prohibition of special legislation; particular subjects.** In all cases when a general law can be made applicable, a special law shall not be enacted except as provided in section 2. Whether a general law could have been made applicable in any case shall be judicially determined without regard to any legislative assertion on that subject. The legislature shall pass no local or special law authorizing the laying out, opening, altering, vacating or maintaining of roads, highways, streets or alleys; remitting fines, penalties or forfeitures; changing the names of persons, places, lakes or rivers; authorizing the adoption or legitimation of children; changing the law of descent or succession; conferring rights on minors; declaring any named person of age; giving effect to informal or invalid wills or deeds, or affecting the estates of minors or persons under disability; granting divorces; exempting property from taxation or regulating the rate of interest on money; creating private corporations, or amending, renewing, or extending the charters thereof; granting to any private corporation, association, or individual any special or exclusive privilege, immunity or franchise whatever or authorizing public taxation for a private purpose. The inhibitions of local or special laws in this section shall not prevent the passage of general laws on any of the subjects enumerated.

Sec. 2. **Special laws; local government.** Every law which upon its effective date applies to a single local government unit or to a group of such units in a single county or a number of contiguous counties is a special law and shall name the unit or, in the latter case, the counties to which it applies. The legislature may enact special laws relating to local government units, but a special law, unless otherwise provided by general law, shall become effective only after its approval by the affected unit expressed through the voters or the governing body and by such majority as the legislature may direct. Any special law may be modified or superseded by a later home rule charter or amendment applicable to the same local government unit, but this does not prevent the adoption of subsequent laws on the same subject. The legislature may repeal any existing special or local law, but shall not amend, extend or modify any of the same except as provided in this section.

Sec. 3. **Local government; legislation affecting.** The legislature may provide by law for the creation, organization, administration, consolidation, division and dissolution of local government units and their functions, for the change of boundaries thereof, for their elective and appointive officers including qualifications for office and for the transfer of county seats. A county boundary may not be changed or county seat transferred until approved in each county affected by a majority of the voters voting on the question.

Sec. 4. **Home rule charter.** Any local government unit when authorized by law may adopt a home rule charter for its government. A charter shall become effective if approved by such majority of the voters of the local government unit as the legislature prescribes by general law. If a charter provides for the consolidation or separation of a city and a county, in whole or in part, it shall not be effective without approval of the voters both in the city and in the remainder of the county by the majority required by law.

Sec. 5. **Charter commissions.** The legislature shall provide by law for charter commissions. Notwithstanding any other constitutional limitations the legislature may require that commission members be freeholders, provide for their appointment by judges of the district court, and permit any member to hold any other elective or appointive office other than judicial. Home rule charter amendments may be proposed by a charter commission or by a petition of five percent of the voters of the local government unit as determined by law and shall not become effective until approved by the voters by the majority required by law. Amendments may be proposed and adopted in any other manner provided by law. A local government unit may repeal its home rule charter and adopt a statutory form of government or a new charter upon the same majority vote as is required by law for the adoption of a charter in the first instance.

ARTICLE XIII

MISCELLANEOUS SUBJECTS

Section 1. **Uniform system of public schools.** The stability of a republican form of government depending mainly upon the intelligence of the people, it is the duty of the legislature to establish a general and uniform system of public schools. The legislature shall make such provisions by taxation or otherwise as will secure a thorough and efficient system of public schools throughout the state.

Sec. 2. **Prohibition as to aiding sectarian school.** In no case shall any public money or property be appropriated or used for the support of schools wherein the distinctive doctrines, creeds or tenets of any particular Christian or other religious sect are promulgated or taught.

Sec. 3. **University of Minnesota.** All the rights, immunities, franchises and endowments heretofore granted or conferred upon the University of Minnesota are perpetuated unto the University.

Sec. 4. **Lands taken for public way or use; compensation; common carriers.** Land may be taken for public way and for the purpose of granting to any corporation the franchise of way for public use. In all cases, however, a fair and equitable compensation shall be paid for land and for the damages arising from taking it. All corporations which are common carriers enjoying the right of way in pursuance of the provisions of this section shall be bound to carry the mineral, agricultural and other productions of manufacturers on equal and reasonable terms.

Sec. 5. **Prohibition of lotteries.** The legislature shall not authorize any lottery or the sale of lottery tickets, other than authorizing a lottery and sale of lottery tickets for a lottery operated by the state.

Sec. 6. **Prohibition of combinations to affect markets.** Any combination of persons either as individuals or as members or officers of any corporation to monopolize markets for food products in this state or to interfere with, or restrict the freedom of markets is a criminal conspiracy and shall be punished as the legislature may provide.

Sec. 7. **No license required to peddle.** Any person may sell or peddle the products of the farm or garden occupied and cultivated by him without obtaining a license therefor.

Sec. 8. **Veterans bonus.** The state may pay an adjusted compensation to persons who served in the armed forces of the United States during the period of the Vietnam conflict or the Persian Gulf War. Whenever authorized and in the amounts and on the terms fixed by law, the state may expend monies and pledge the public credit to provide money for the purposes of this section. The duration of the Vietnam conflict and the Persian Gulf War may be defined by law.

Sec. 9. **Militia organization.** The legislature shall pass laws necessary for the organization, discipline and service of the militia of the state.

Sec. 10. **Seat of government.** The seat of government of the state is in the city of St. Paul. The legislature may provide by law for a change of the seat of government by a vote of the people, or may locate the same upon the land granted by Congress for a seat of government. If the seat of government is changed, the capitol building and grounds shall be dedicated to an institution for the promotion of science, literature and the arts to be organized by the legislature of the state. The Minnesota Historical Society shall always be a department of this institution.

Sec. 11. **State seal.** A seal of the state shall be kept by the secretary of state and be used by him officially. It shall be called the great seal of the state of Minnesota.

Sec. 12. **Hunting and fishing** and the taking of game and fish are a valued part of our heritage that shall be forever preserved for the people and shall be managed by law and regulation for the public good.

ARTICLE XIV PUBLIC HIGHWAY SYSTEM

Section 1. **Authority of state; participation of political subdivisions.** The state may construct, improve and maintain public highways, may assist political subdivisions in this work and by law may authorize any political subdivision to aid in highway work within its boundaries.

Sec. 2. **Trunk highway system.** There is hereby created a trunk highway system which shall be constructed, improved and maintained as public highways by the state. The highways shall extend as nearly as possible along the routes number 1 through 70 described in the constitutional amendment adopted November 2, 1920, and the routes described in any act of the legislature which has made or hereafter makes a route a part of the trunk highway system.

The legislature may add by law new routes to the trunk highway system. The trunk highway system may not exceed 12,200 miles in extent, except the legislature may add trunk highways in excess of the mileage limitation as necessary or expedient to take advantage of any federal aid made available by the United States to the state of Minnesota.

Any route added by the legislature to the trunk highway system may be relocated or removed from the system as provided by law. The definite location of trunk highways numbered 1 through 70 may be relocated as provided by law but no relocation shall cause a deviation from the starting points or terminals nor cause any deviation from the various villages and cities through which the routes are to pass under the constitutional amendment adopted November 2, 1920. The location of routes may be determined by boards, officers or tribunals in the manner prescribed by law.

Sec. 3. **County state-aid highway system.** A county state-aid highway system shall be constructed, improved and maintained by the counties as public highways in the manner provided by law. The system shall include streets in municipalities of less than 5,000 population where necessary to provide an integrated and coordinated highway system and may include similar streets in larger municipalities.

Sec. 4. **Municipal state-aid street system.** A municipal state-aid street system shall be constructed, improved and maintained as public highways by municipalities having a population of 5,000 or more in the manner provided by law.

Sec. 5. **Highway user tax distribution fund.** There is hereby created a highway user tax distribution fund to be used solely for highway purposes as specified in this article. The fund consists of the proceeds of any taxes authorized by sections 9 and 10 of this article. The net proceeds of the taxes shall be apportioned: 62 percent to the trunk highway fund; 29 percent to the county state-aid highway fund; nine percent to the municipal state-aid street fund. Five percent of the net proceeds of the highway user tax distribution fund may be set aside and apportioned by law to one or more of the three foregoing funds. The balance of the highway user tax distribution fund shall be transferred to the trunk highway fund, the county state-aid highway fund, and the municipal state-aid street fund in accordance with the percentages set forth in this section. No change in the apportionment of the five percent may be made within six years of the last previous change.

Sec. 6. **Trunk highway fund.** There is hereby created a trunk highway fund which shall be used solely for the purposes specified in section 2 of this article and the payment of principal and interest of any bonds issued under the authority of section 11 of this article and any bonds issued for trunk highway purposes prior to July 1, 1957. All payments of principal and interest on bonds issued shall be a first charge on money coming into this fund during the year in which the principal or interest is payable.

Sec. 7. **County state-aid highway fund.** There is hereby created a county state-aid highway fund. The county state-aid highway fund shall be apportioned among the counties as provided by law. The funds apportioned shall be used by the counties as provided by law for aid in the construction, improvement and maintenance of county state-aid highways. The legislature may authorize the counties by law to use a part of the funds apportioned to them to aid in the construction, improvement and maintenance of other county highways, township roads, municipal streets and any other public highways, including but not limited to trunk highways and municipal state-aid streets within the respective counties.

Sec. 8. **Municipal state-aid street fund.** There is hereby created a municipal state-aid street fund to be apportioned as provided by law among municipalities having a population of 5,000 or more. The fund shall be used by municipalities as provided by law for the construction, improvement and maintenance of municipal state-aid streets. The legislature may authorize municipalities to use a part of the fund in the construction, improvement and maintenance of other municipal streets, trunk highways, and county state-aid highways within the counties in which the municipality is located.

Sec. 9. **Taxation of motor vehicles.** The legislature by law may tax motor vehicles using the public streets and highways on a more onerous basis than other personal property. Any such tax on motor vehicles shall be in lieu of all other taxes thereon, except wheelage taxes imposed by political subdivisions solely for highway purposes. The legislature may impose this tax on motor vehicles of companies paying taxes under the gross earnings system of taxation notwithstanding that earnings from the vehicles may be included in the earnings on which gross earnings taxes are computed. The proceeds of the tax shall be paid into the highway user tax distribution fund. The law may exempt from taxation any motor vehicle owned by a nonresident of the state properly licensed in another state and transiently or temporarily using the streets and highways of the state.

Sec. 10. **Taxation of motor fuel.** The legislature may levy an excise tax on any means or substance used for propelling vehicles on the public highways of this state or on the business of selling it. The proceeds of the tax shall be paid into the highway user tax distribution fund.

Sec. 11. **Highway bonds.** The legislature may provide by law for the sale of bonds to carry out the provisions of section 2. The proceeds shall be paid into the trunk highway fund. Any bonds shall mature serially over a term not exceeding 20 years and shall not be sold for less than par and accrued interest. If the trunk highway fund is not adequate to pay principal and interest of these bonds when due, the legislature may levy on all taxable property of the state in an amount sufficient to meet the deficiency or it may appropriate to the fund money in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated.

~ Voting in Minnesota ~

Citizens' Voting Rights Addressed by Amendments to the U.S. Constitution

Amendment XIV

Section 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Amendment XV

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any state, on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

Amendment XIX

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state on account of sex.

Amendment XXIV

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President of Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

Amendment XXVI

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by an State on account of age.

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINNESOTA CONSTITUTION PROPOSED TO THE VOTERS SINCE 1858

Secretary of State's Note: From 1858 until 1898, the Minnesota Constitution required that a proposed amendment be approved by a simple majority of both chambers of the Legislature and then ratified by a simple majority of the voters at the next general election.

In 1898, the constitution was amended, changing the standards for approving a constitutional amendment. Since that point, a constitutional amendment must be approved by a simple majority of both chambers of the Legislature at one session, and then ratified by a majority of voters in an election. For an amendment to pass it must receive a majority of all votes cast in the election, therefore not voting for or against the amendment is the same as a "no" vote (Article IX, Section 1 of the Constitution of Minnesota). The following table may indicate that more votes were cast to approve an amendment than the votes cast to reject the amendment, but the amendment may still have failed because a majority of all voters at the election did not cast a "yes" vote. The total election vote figures set forth below for 1858 through 1898 are for historical information only.

STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS CONSIDERED

Abbreviations: *s*—special election; *p*—number of votes cast for president; *g*—number of votes cast for governor; *l*—legislative election; *t*—total number of persons voting at election.

Year	Purpose of Amendment	Adopted or Rejected			Vote/ Election
		Yes	No		
1858	To authorize \$5 million railroad loan.	A	25,023	6,733	31,756s
1858	To establish state government May 1, 1858.	A	25,023	6,733	31,756s
1860	To limit legislative sessions to 60 days.	A	19,785	442	34,737p
1860	To require popular approval of tax to pay railroad bonds: to repeal the \$5 million amendment.	A	18,648	743	34,737p
1865	To authorize Negroes to vote.	R	12,135	14,651	31,160g
1867	To authorize Negroes to vote.	R	27,479	28,794	63,376g
1867	To subject shares in state and national banks to state taxation.	R	8,742	34,351	64,376g
1868	To authorize Negroes to vote.	A	39,493	30,121	71,818p
1868	To abolish requirement of grand jury.	R	14,763	30,544	71,818p
1868	To authorize sale of 500,000 acres of internal improvement lands and investment of proceeds in state or national securities.	R	19,398	28,729	71,818p
1869	To abolish Manomin county.	A	13,392	1,671	54,525g
1869	To authorize special assessments for local improvements.	A	26,636	2,560	54,525g
1870	To exempt holders of railroad stock from double liability.	R	7,446	11,210	18,656l
1871	To require popular approval of changes in railroad gross earnings tax law.	A	41,814	9,216	78,172g
1871	To authorize state loan for asylum buildings.	R	6,724	40,797	78,172g
1872	To authorize state loan for asylum buildings.	A	29,158	26,881	90,919p
1872	To exempt stockholders in manufacturing or mechanical businesses from double liability.	A	23,091	21,794	90,919p
1872	To restrict issuance of county, town, and municipal bonds to aid railroads.	A	27,916	7,796	90,919p
1872	To provide for sale of internal improvement lands.	A	55,438	4,331	90,919p
1873	To provide for biennial sessions of the legislature.	R	14,007	31,729	77,057g
1873	To extend terms of representatives and senators to two and four years, respectively.	R	11,675	24,331	77,057g
1873	To provide for state canvassing board.	R	12,116	25,694	77,057g
1873	To provide more effectively for the safekeeping of public funds.	A	27,143	5,438	77,057g
1875	To provide for an indefinite number of judges in each judicial district.	A	22,560	18,534	84,017g
1875	To authorize the legislature to grant women suffrage in school affairs.	A	24,340	19,468	84,017g
1875	To prescribe manner in which school funds could be invested.	A	28,755	10,517	84,017g
1875	To establish single liability for stockholders in ordinary business corporations.	R	16,349	25,858	84,017g

Year	Purpose of Amendment	Adopted or Rejected			Vote/ Election
		Yes	No		
1876	To authorize governor to veto items of appropriation bills.	A	47,302	4,426	123,931p
1876	To establish single liability for stockholders in all corporations except banks.	R	21,721	22,830	123,931p
1876	To authorize district judges to sit on supreme bench when supreme court justices disqualified.	A	41,069	6,063	123,931p
1877	To establish biennial sessions of legislature.	A	37,995	20,833	98,614g
1877	To extend terms of representatives and senators to two and four years, respectively.	A	33,072	25,099	98,614g
1877	To provide for state canvassing board.	A	36,072	21,814	98,614g
1877	To authorize women to vote in local option elections.	R	26,468	32,963	98,614g
1877	To establish single liability for stockholders in all corporations except banks.	R	24,415	26,020	98,614g
1877	To authorize sale of internal improvement lands and use of proceeds to pay railroad bonds.	R	17,324	59,176	98,614g
1877	To prohibit use of state school funds to support sectarian schools.	A	36,780	16,667	98,614g
1879	To restrict issuance of county, town, and municipal bonds to aid railroads.	A	54,810	1,700	99,048g
1881	To authorize levy of water-mains assessments on a frontage basis.	A	35,019	18,320	102,193g
1881	To remove time limitations from sessions of legislature.	R	*	*	102,193g
1881	To regulate compensation of legislators.	R	*	*	102,193g
1881	To prohibit special legislation on certain subjects.	A	56,491	8,369	102,193g
1881	To provide for sale of swamp lands and appropriation of proceeds of swamp land funds.	A	51,903	8,440	102,193g
1883	To make auditor's term four years, to conform to system of biennial elections.	A	74,375	24,359	130,713g
1883	To establish the official year and to provide for a system of biennial elections.	A	75,782	24,082	130,713g
1883	To make term of clerk of supreme court four instead of three years.	A	73,565	24,016	130,713g
1883	To make terms of justices of supreme court six instead of seven years.	A	73,565	24,016	130,713g
1883	To make terms of district judges six instead of seven years.	A	73,565	24,016	130,713g
1886	To provide for loans of state school funds to counties and school districts.	A	131,533	17,914	220,558g
1888	To prohibit the monopolization of the markets of food products.	A	194,932	13,064	261,632g
1888	To guarantee the payment of liens of workmen and material-men out of exempted property.	A	153,908	48,649	261,632g
1888	To extend biennial sessions of legislature to 90 days each.	A	150,003	52,946	261,632g
1890	To provide for verdicts by 5/6 of jury in civil cases.	A	66,929	41,341	240,892g
1892	To extend and strengthen the prohibition against special legislation.	A	77,614	19,583	255,921g
1892	To authorize various gross earnings taxes and a tonnage tax on iron ore.	R	53,372	82,910	255,921g
1894	To authorize inheritance taxes.	A	108,332	41,242	296,249g
1896	To take pardoning power from governor and to confer it on a pardon board.	A	130,354	45,097	337,229g
1896	To prohibit aliens from voting.	A	97,980	52,454	337,229g
1896	To authorize home rule for cities.	A	107,086	58,312	337,229g
1896	To require compensation for property destroyed or damaged for public use.	A	101,188	56,839	337,229g
1896	To permit cities, towns and villages, as well as counties and school districts, to borrow school and university funds.	A	127,151	36,134	337,229g
1896	To provide flexible system for taxing large corporations.	A	163,694	42,922	337,229g
1898	To permit women to vote for and serve on library boards.	A	71,704	43,660	252,562g
1898	To make it more difficult to amend constitution.	A	69,760	32,881	252,562g
1898	To amend the municipal home rule section.	A	68,754	32,068	252,562g
1898	To provide state road and bridge fund.	A	70,043	38,017	252,562g
.....Change in the amendment process (see note on page 52).....					
1900	To increase debt limit of municipalities borrowing permanent school funds.	R	108,681	30,160	314,181
1902	To increase state road and bridge tax, and to eliminate restrictions on expenditure of fund.	R	114,969	23,948	276,071

Year	Purpose of Amendment	Adopted or Rejected			Vote/ Election
		Yes	No		
1902	To increase debt limit of municipalities borrowing permanent school funds.	R	116,766	20,777	276,071
1902	To simplify the taxing provisions of the constitution.	R	124,584	21,251	276,071
1904	To increase debt limit of municipalities borrowing school and university funds.	A	190,718	39,334	322,692
1904	To abolish the requirement of a grand jury.	A	164,055	52,152	322,692
1906	To simplify the taxing provisions by a "wide open" section.	A	156,051	46,982	284,366
1906	To increase state road and bridge tax, and to reduce restrictions on expenditure of funds.	A	141,870	49,232	284,366
1906	To permit farmers to sell their produce without licenses.	A	190,897	34,094	284,366
1908	To limit the exemption of church property from taxation to that "used for religious purposes."	R	134,141	65,776	355,263
1908	To permit unlimited state taxation for road and bridge purposes.	R	154,226	56,557	355,263
1908	To authorize state hail insurance.	R	137,710	61,084	355,263
1908	To authorize legislature to establish educational qualifications for county superintendents of schools.	R	169,785	42,114	355,263
1910	To permit state to assume half the cost of any road or bridge project.	A	159,746	44,387	310,165
1910	To repeal the requirement as to publication of treasurer's report annually in a St. Paul newspaper and also in the biennial session laws.	R	123,787	51,650	310,165
1910	To authorize state hail insurance.	R	108,926	63,205	310,165
1910	To authorize reapportionment of legislative representation at any time.	R	95,181	61,520	310,165
1910	To authorize and require an annual state tax for reforestation work.	R	100,168	63,962	310,165
1910	To authorize tax exemptions to encourage reforestation.	R	87,943	73,697	310,165
1912	To authorize a one mill state tax for roads and bridges and to permit state to assume entire cost of any project.	A	195,724	51,135	349,678
1912	To authorize state hail insurance.	R	145,173	60,439	349,678
1912	To authorize investment of school and university funds in first mortgages on improved farms.	R	168,440	39,483	349,678
1912	To amend the municipal home rule clause to authorize commission government and for other purposes.	R	157,086	41,971	349,678
1912	To authorize legislature to establish educational qualifications for county superintendents of schools.	R	167,983	36,584	349,678
1912	To limit size of state senate and number of senators from any county.	R	122,457	77,187	349,678
1914	To establish initiative and referendum.	R	168,004	41,577	356,906
1914	To increase number of justices of supreme court, and to authorize the court to appoint its clerk.	R	127,352	68,886	356,906
1914	To authorize a revolving fund for improving state school and swamp lands.	R	162,951	47,906	356,906
1914	To repeal the requirement as to publication of treasurer's report annually in a St. Paul newspaper and also in the biennial session laws.	R	131,213	58,827	356,906
1914	To authorize investment of school and university funds in first mortgages on improved farms.	R	159,531	38,145	356,906
1914	To extend terms of probate judges to four years.	R	128,601	64,214	356,906
1914	To limit size of state senate and number of senators from any county.	R	98,144	84,436	356,906
1914	To authorize state bounties for reforestation.	R	108,352	63,782	356,906
1914	To authorize certain public lands to be set aside as state forests.	A	178,954	44,033	356,906
1914	To authorize the recall by the voters of "every public official in Minnesota, elective or appointive."	R	139,801	44,961	356,906
1914	To authorize special dog taxes and use of proceeds to compensate owners of animals injured by dogs.	R	136,671	59,786	356,906
1916	To authorized a revolving fund for improving state school and swamp lands.	A	240,975	58,100	416,215
1916	To authorize investment of school and university funds in first mortgages on improved farms.	A	211,529	56,147	416,215

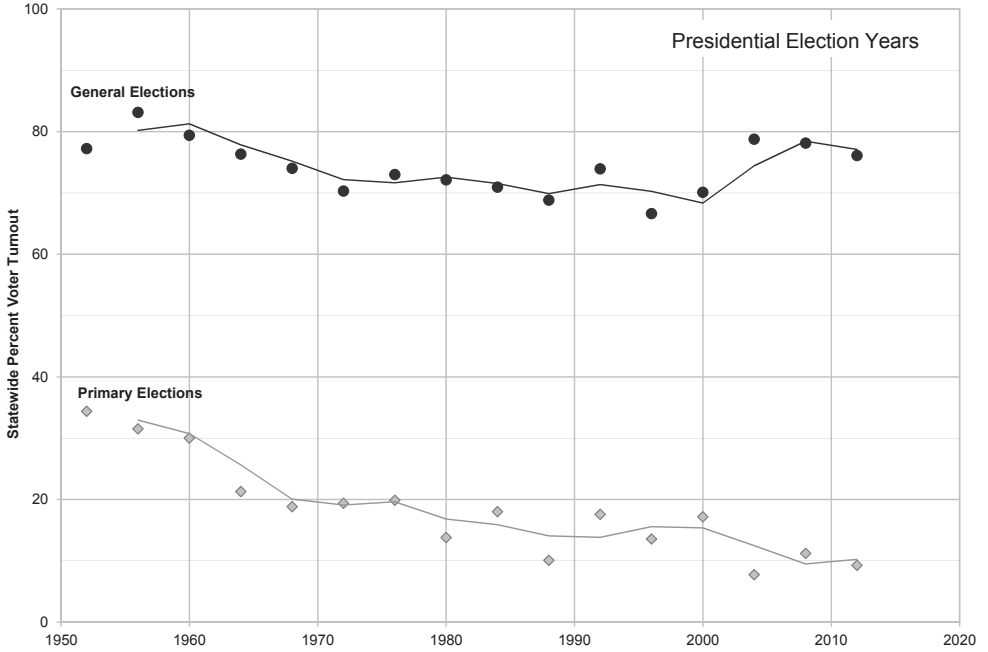
Year	Purpose of Amendment	Adopted or Rejected			Vote/ Election
		Yes	No		
1916	To authorize the state to mine ore under public waters.	R	183,597	64,255	416,215
1916	To increase number of justices of supreme court, and to authorize the court to appoint its own clerk.	R	130,363	108,002	416,215
1916	To authorize the governor to cut down items in appropriation.	R	136,700	83,324	416,215
1916	To authorize condemnation of private lands for construction bills of private drainage ditches.	R	132,741	97,432	416,215
1916	To establish initiative and referendum.	R	187,711	51,544	416,215
1916	To extend terms of probate judges to four years.	R	186,847	72,361	416,215
1918	To prohibit the manufacture and the sale of liquor.	R	189,614	173,665	380,604
1920	To provide a state trunk highway system.	A	526,936	199,603	797,945
1920	To extend terms of probate judges to four years.	A	446,959	171,414	797,945
1920	To authorize state income tax and to change provisions on tax-exempt property.	R	331,105	217,558	797,945
1922	To establish a state rural credit system to aid agricultural development.	A	534,310	73,917	714,630
1922	To tax mining of iron and other ores.	A	474,697	91,011	714,630
1924	To place revenue generated by excise taxes on motor fuels in trunk highway fund.	A	520,769	197,455	869,151
1924	To change requirements for publication of proposed amendments to city and village charters.	R	246,414	200,391	869,151
1924	To establish state-owned and operated public terminal grain elevators.	R	253,732	257,492	869,151
1924	To authorize enactment of laws promoting forestation and reforestation of public and private lands, including irrepealable provisions for forest land tax and a yield tax on timber products.	R	428,407	143,977	869,151
1924	To authorize state expenditure to prevent forest fires, including compulsory taxation, clearing and improvement of public and private wild lands.	A	460,965	143,518	869,151
1926	To fix the number of justices on the state supreme court.	R	331,964	148,784	722,781
1926	To authorize enactment of laws promoting forestation and reforestation of public and private lands.	A	383,003	127,592	722,781
1926	To authorize the legislature to limit the liability of stockholders in corporations.	R	323,322	140,422	722,781
1928	To place revenue generated by motor fuel tax 2/3 in trunk highway fund and 1/3 in bridge fund.	A	542,796	346,109	1,070,274
1928	To authorize the legislature to limit the liability of stockholders in corporations.	R	506,065	223,725	1,070,274
1930	To provide two elective associate supreme court justices to replace appointed court commissioners.	A	428,013	130,833	828,401
1930	To authorize the legislature to exchange state public lands for federal lands.	R	378,716	174,231	828,401
1930	To authorize the legislature to limit the liability of stockholders in corporations.	A	486,818	135,345	828,401
1932	To authorize taxation of income, franchises and privileges of railroad companies; to authorize legislation to make taxation of national banking associations conform to federal law.	R	420,052	409,924	1,054,203
1932	To authorize taxation of motor vehicles of companies paying taxes under the gross earnings taxation system.	A	537,292	227,634	1,054,203
1932	To authorize the legislature to exchange state public lands for federal lands.	R	433,913	258,257	1,054,203
1932	To authorize the taxation of lands acquired through rural credit system.	R	468,101	261,856	1,054,203
1934	To authorize legislature to add new routes to trunk highway system.	R	509,074	279,877	1,064,332
1934	To authorize taxation of lands acquired through rural credit system.	R	496,017	215,623	1,064,332
1934	To exempt all household goods and farm machinery and equipment from taxation.	A	630,125	181,126	1,064,332
1934	To authorize the legislature to exchange state public lands for federal lands.	R	468,617	216,760	1,064,332

Year	Purpose of Amendment	Adopted or Rejected			Vote Election
		Yes	No		
1934	To define "academies, colleges, universities and seminaries of learning" to mean, for tax purposes, property actually used in instruction and housing of students.	R	472,374	247,166	1,064,332
1936	To authorize the legislature to exchange state public lands for federal lands.	R	448,917	397,106	1,164,268
1936	To exempt personal property from state tax.	R	355,588	543,847	1,164,268
1938	To authorize the legislature to exchange state public lands for federal lands.	A	609,046	259,007	1,144,926
1938	To change requirements for publication of proposed amendments to city and village charters.	R	488,370	260,152	1,144,926
1940	To change requirements for publication of proposed amendments to city and village charters.	R	635,815	287,286	1,301,573
1942	To change requirements for investment or loan of permanent school and permanent university funds.	A	415,012	190,563	818,182
1942	To simplify and reduce the expense of publishing amendments to city and village charters.	A	459,868	144,842	818,182
1944	To authorize state construction and operation of airports; to authorize taxes on aircraft fuel and aircraft sales.	A	737,091	264,149	1,195,397
1948	To provide for 50-50 apportionment of excise tax on petroleum products.	R	534,538	539,224	1,257,804
1948	To authorize submission of two or more amendments without requiring voters to vote separately on each.	R	319,667	621,523	1,257,804
1948	To authorize 2/3 of the legislature to call for a constitutional convention without submitting the question to the voters.	R	294,842	641,013	1,257,804
1948	To authorize the state to pay a veterans' bonus.	A	664,703	420,518	1,257,804
1950	To authorize diversion of 1% of the proceeds of the occupation mining tax to the veterans' compensation fund.	A	594,092	290,870	1,067,967
1950	To authorize forestry management funds by diverting certain proceeds (25%) from the public land trust fund.	R	367,013	465,239	1,067,967
1950	To provide for a 50-44-6 apportionment of the excise tax on petroleum products.	R	420,530	456,346	1,067,967
1952	To authorize a change in the investment and loan requirements governing permanent school and university funds.	R	604,384	500,490	1,460,326
1952	To provide for a 60% popular majority of voters voting on the question before a new state constitution can be considered legally ratified by the electorate.	R	656,618	424,492	1,460,326
1952	To clarify meaning of who shall be entitled to vote.	R	716,670	371,508	1,460,326
1952	To permit legislature to extend probate jurisdiction by a 2/3 vote.	R	646,608	443,005	1,460,326
1952	To provide for a 65-10-25 apportionment of excise tax on motor vehicles.	R	580,316	704,336	1,460,326
1954	To permit legislature to extend probate jurisdiction by a 2/3 vote.	A	610,138	303,838	1,168,101
1954	To authorize the legislature to limit the liability of stockholders of state banks.	A	624,611	290,039	1,168,101
1954	To provide for a 60% popular vote before a new state constitution can be ratified and to remove constitutional bar precluding members of the legislature from serving in a constitutional convention.	A	638,818	266,434	1,168,101
1954	To permit gubernatorial appointments in case of vacancy in certain offices to run until end of term or January 1 to eliminate need for election to short terms.	A	636,237	282,212	1,168,101
1956	To permit the legislature to reorganize the judicial power of the state.	A	939,957	307,178	1,443,856
1956	To authorize the consolidation of present trunk highway articles and sections, to increase state aid and supervision of public highways; to permit tax of motor vehicles and fuel; to apportion funds for highway purposes 62-29-9 to state and local highways.	A	1,060,063	230,707	1,443,856
1956	To authorize the legislature to divert 50% of the occupation mining tax proceeds earmarked for education from permanent trust funds to current educational needs.	A	1,084,627	209,311	1,443,856
1958	To authorize the legislature to revise and consolidate provisions relating to local government, home rule and special laws.	A	712,552	309,848	1,178,173

Year	Purpose of Amendment	Adopted or Rejected			Vote Election
		Yes	No		
1958	To provide for four-year terms for state constitutional officers to take effect for terms beginning in 1963.	A	641,887	382,505	1,178,173
1958	To permit members of the legislature to hold certain elective and nonelective state offices.	R	576,300	430,112	1,178,731
1960	To extend the legislative session; to restrict the time during which bills can be introduced; to set qualifications for legislators running for other elective offices.	R	763,434	501,429	1,577,509
1960	To allow an extra legislative session for reapportionment if reapportionment is not completed during the regular session.	R	600,797	661,009	1,577,509
1960	To provide for succession to the office of governor: to provide for continuity of government in emergencies caused by enemy attack.	A	974,486	305,245	1,577,509
1960	To prescribe the place where a person moving to a new precinct within 30 days before an election may vote; eliminating obsolete provisions on the voting rights of persons of Indian blood.	A	993,186	302,217	1,577,509
1962	To consolidate the swamp land fund and the permanent school fund; to set distribution requirements and investment restrictions.	A	828,880	288,490	1,267,502
1962	To allow state to contract long- and short-term debts for public improvements upon approval of 3/5 of both houses of the legislature.	A	728,255	385,723	1,267,502
1962	To remove restrictions on length of legislative sessions.	A	706,761	393,538	1,267,502
1964	To prevent amendment or repeal of taconite tax policies for 25 years; to authorize legislature to impose limitations for not more than 25 years on taxation of copper and nickel mining.	A	1,272,590	204,133	1,586,173
1964	To remove obsolete language from constitution.	A	1,089,798	254,216	1,586,173
1966	To allow legislators to seek election to other offices and to provide resignation procedure for legislators.	R	575,967	471,427	1,312,288
1968	To allow legislators to assume another elective or appointive office upon resignation from the legislature.	A	1,012,235	359,088	1,601,515
1968	To allow legislature to present bills to governor within three days after legislature adjourns; allowing governor 14 days to sign or veto such bills.	A	1,044,418	316,916	1,601,515
1970	To authorize the legislature to define or limit categories of tax-exempt property.	A	969,774	287,858	1,388,525
1970	To reduce voting age requirement from 21 to 19 years; to provide an age requirement of 21 years to hold public office.	A	700,449	582,890	1,388,525
1972	To allow flexible legislative sessions.	A	968,088	603,385	1,773,838
1972	To reorganize the state judicial system; to provide for appointment of clerks of district court; to authorize discipline and removal of judges.	A	1,012,916	531,831	1,773,838
1972	To provide for the joint election of the governor and lieutenant governor; to remove the lieutenant governor as the presiding officer of the senate.	A	1,064,580	503,342	1,773,838
1972	To authorize bonus payment for Vietnam veterans.	A	1,131,921	477,473	1,773,838
1974	To revise organization and language of constitution.	A	815,064	311,781	1,296,209
1974	To ease vote requirement for amending constitution.	R	638,775	474,519	1,296,209
1974	To allow legislature to determine railroad taxes.	A	741,353	372,158	1,296,209
1976	To permit proceeds from increases in motor fuel taxes to be placed in the general fund; to remove restrictions on interest rate for and amount of highway bonds.	R	552,543	1,134,847	1,978,590
1980	To establish a bipartisan reapportionment commission.	R	1,036,581	754,935	2,079,411
1980	To require campaign spending limits for executive and legislative offices and public disclosure of campaign spending for all state candidates.	A	1,457,454	398,551	2,079,411
1980	To remove restrictions on the interest rate for and the amount of highway bonds.	R	964,212	823,192	2,079,411
1980	To establish initiative and referendum.	R	970,407	854,164	2,079,411
1980	To remove requirement of senate approval for notaries public.	R	944,883	850,251	2,079,411
1982	To allow the creation of a court of appeals.	A	1,304,127	385,738	1,834,737
1982	To remove restrictions on the interest rate for and the amount of trunk highway bonds.	A	1,103,221	563,865	1,834,737
1982	To permit the legislature to authorize on-track pari-mutuel betting on horse racing.	A	1,108,255	624,721	1,834,737

Year	Purpose of Amendment	Adopted or Rejected	Vote		Vote Election
			Yes	No	
1982	To provide state bonding authority for the improvement and rehabilitation of railroad facilities.	A	1,201,321	492,736	1,834,737
1984	To allow the exchange of state-owned lands for other lands owned by state or local governments.	A	1,176,809	611,200	2,114,842
1984	To remove restrictions on the investment of the permanent school and to allow the limits on the investment of the fund and the apportionment of the returns on the investment to school districts to be set by law.	A	1,139,390	631,378	2,114,842
1988	To establish a Minnesota Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund for environmental, natural resources, and wildlife purposes.	A	1,645,090	375,752	2,125,119
1988	To allow the use of juries of fewer than 12 members in civil and nonfelony cases.	A	1,205,730	806,766	2,125,119
1988	To permit the legislature to authorize a lottery operated by the state.	A	1,214,032	843,307	2,125,119
1990	To dedicate 40 percent of the state lottery proceeds to the environment and natural resources trust fund until the year 2001.	A	1,388,105	329,806	1,843,104
1994	To permit off-track wagering on horse racing in a manner prescribed by law.	R	841,277	847,802	1,794,618
1996	To authorize a bonus for Persian Gulf War veterans.	A	1,334,409	740,039	2,211,161
1996	To provide for recall of elected state officials.	A	1,833,523	248,778	2,211,161
1998	To extend use of lottery for environmental trust fund.	A	1,556,895	460,747	2,105,343
1998	To preserve hunting and fishing heritage.	A	1,570,720	462,749	2,105,343
1998	To abolish the office of state treasurer.	A	1,087,789	855,853	2,105,343
2006	To dedicate the motor vehicle sales tax to highways and public transportation.	A	1,270,042	947,776	2,217,818
2008	To protect our natural resources and preserve Minnesota's arts and cultural heritage by increasing the sales and use tax rate beginning July 1, 2009, by three-eighths of one percent on taxable sales until the year 2034.	A	1,635,046	1,141,540	2,920,214
2012	To provide that only a union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in Minnesota.	R	1,399,916	1,510,434	2,950,780
2012	To require all voters to present valid photo identification to vote and to require the state to provide free identification to eligible voters.	R	1,362,009	1,539,044	2,950,780

MINNESOTA VOTER TURNOUT IN GENERAL ELECTIONS SINCE 1950

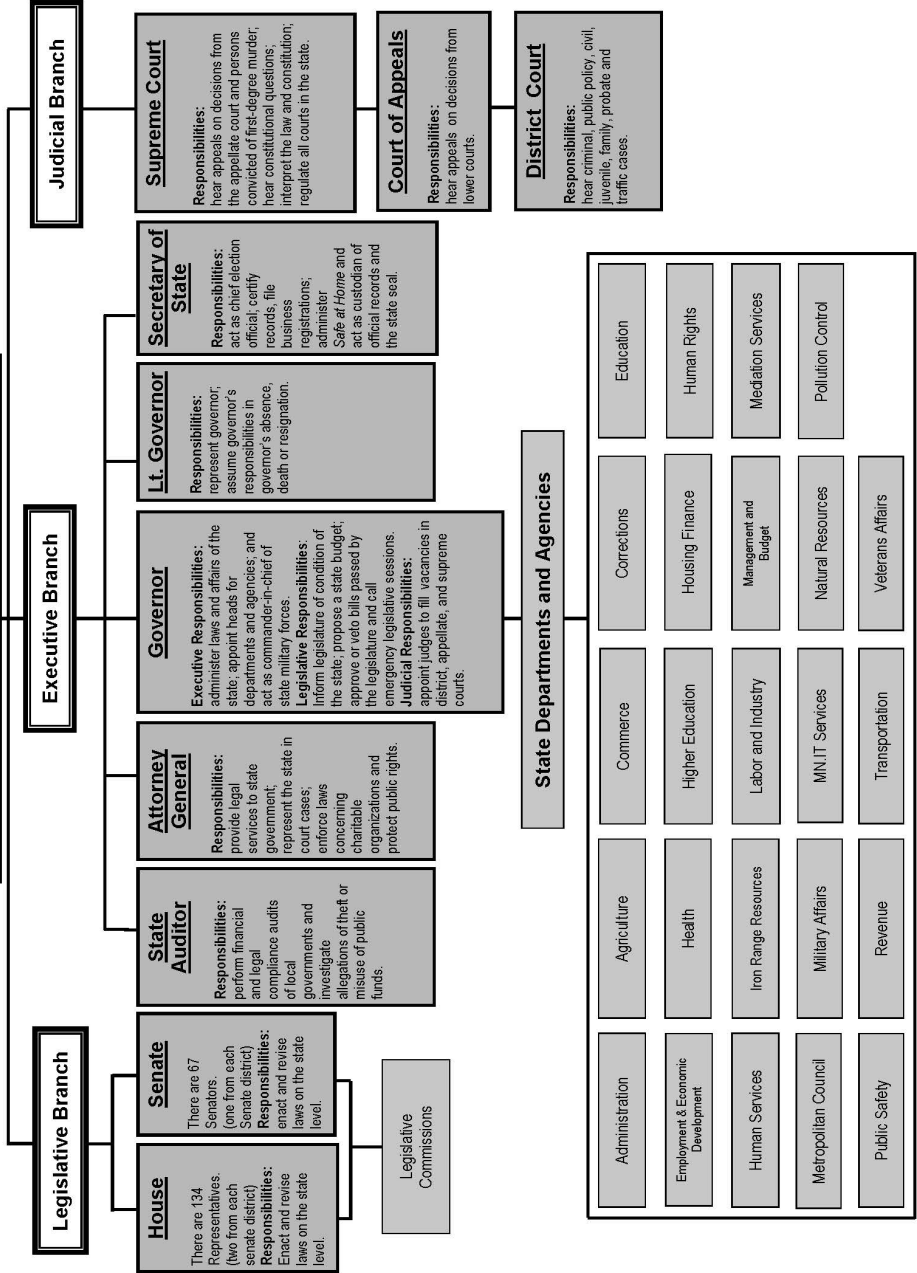


MINNESOTA GENERAL ELECTION STATISTICS 1950–2012

YEAR	# of ELIGIBLE VOTERS*	# WHO VOTED	% OF QUALIFIED WHO VOTED	# OF VOTERS REGISTERING ON ELECTION DAY	% OF VOTERS REGISTERING ON ELECTION DAY
1950	1,879,000	1,067,967	56.84		
1952	1,899,000	1,466,326	77.22		
1954	1,920,000	1,168,101	60.84		
1956	1,940,000	1,613,138	83.15		
1958	1,960,000	1,178,173	60.11		
1960	1,987,000	1,577,509	79.39		
1962	2,033,000	1,267,502	62.35		
1964	2,078,000	1,586,173	76.33		
1966	2,124,000	1,312,288	61.78		
1968	2,170,000	1,606,307	74.02		
1970	2,226,000	1,388,525	62.38		
1972	2,523,000	1,773,838	70.31		
1974	2,617,000	1,296,209	49.53	260,812	20.12
1976	2,710,000	1,978,590	73.01	454,147	22.95
1978	2,804,000	1,624,911	57.95	208,985	12.86
1980	2,882,406	2,079,411	72.14	433,567	20.85
1982	2,943,169	1,834,737	62.34	238,979	13.03
1984	2,982,015	2,115,317	70.94	344,157	16.27
1986	3,024,070	1,456,579	48.17	137,864	9.47
1988	3,087,194	2,125,119	68.84	364,625	17.16
1990	3,136,830	1,843,104	58.76	208,625	11.32
1992	3,187,255	2,355,796	73.91	427,639	18.15
1994	3,253,779	1,794,618	55.15	179,360	9.99
1996	3,319,509	2,211,161	66.61	337,297	15.25
1998	3,378,089	2,105,377	62.32	332,540	15.79
2000	3,506,432	2,458,303	70.11	464,155	18.88
2002	3,518,184	2,282,860	64.89	342,978	15.02
2004	3,609,185	2,842,912	78.77	581,904	20.47
2006	3,667,707	2,217,552	60.46	292,168	13.18
2008	3,721,943	2,921,498	78.09	542,257	18.56
2010	3,799,328	2,123,369	55.89	227,857	10.73
2012	3,876,752	2,950,780	76.11	527,867	17.89

*1950-1978 data from Curtis Gans of the Center for the Study of American Electorate
 1980-2012 data from Dr. Michael McDonald of George Mason University

The People of Minnesota



MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE

Minnesota Constitution provides: To be elected a state senator or representative, a person must be a qualified voter, 21 years old, a resident of Minnesota for one year, and a resident of the legislative district for six months immediately preceding the election (Article IV).

Website: www.leg.state.mn.us

House Information: 231 State Capitol, St. Paul 55155, **Phone:** (651) 296-0504

Senate Information: 175 State Office Building, St. Paul 55155, **Phone:** (651) 296-2146

Term: Senator: two or four years; representative: two years. Senators are elected in years ending in 0, 2, and 6. The two-year term at the beginning of each decade is due to redistricting. Legislative district boundaries change as a result of the census.

Compensation: \$31,140 annually; round trips between home and state capitol; per diem allowance for living expenses while conducting legislative business outside of their district.

Membership: The state of Minnesota is divided into 67 Senate districts, each of which is divided into two, creating the 134 House districts. Each Senate district elects one senator and each House district elects one representative.

Functions and powers: The principal legal task of the Legislature is to pass laws and to adopt a state budget, both of which affect a wide range of state programs and resources. The Legislature also proposes amendments to the state constitution to be placed on the ballot for approval by the voters, elects regents of the University of Minnesota, and performs legislative oversight or review. The Senate has additional authority to confirm certain gubernatorial appointments. The Legislature possesses a judicial function. It judges the election and qualifications of its members, may punish or expel members for contempt or disorderly behavior, and may impeach or remove members of the executive and judicial branches from office. Each legislative body has a rules committee that directs the operating procedures of the Legislature. The Legislature conducts business under the guidelines provided by the rules of that House, its joint rules, state statutes, the state constitution, and Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure.

Organization: Members of the Minnesota Legislature are nominated and elected in affiliation with political parties. Currently all Minnesota legislators are affiliated with either the Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) or Republican (R) parties. The legislators affiliated with each party in each body make up a "caucus," e.g., House DFL caucus or House Republican caucus. The DFL caucus currently holds a majority in both the House and the Senate.

Convening the Legislature: On the first day of a regular session, both houses of the Legislature convene at noon. The lieutenant governor, having already taken the oath of office, calls the Senate to order and presides until a president is elected and has taken the oath of office. The House is called to order by the secretary of state, who presides over that body until a speaker is elected and has taken the oath of office. After convening, the oath of office is administered to all members of each house.

Presiding officers and leadership: Senate members elect the president of the senate from among their members, and the House members elect the speaker of the house from among their members. The president presides over the Senate and the speaker of the house presides over the House. The speaker also presides over joint sessions of the House and Senate. Sandra L. Pappas (DFL-St. Paul) is president of the senate and Paul Thissen (DFL-Minneapolis) is speaker of the house. Each body elects the top staff members. The secretary of the Senate, JoAnne M. Zoff, and chief clerk of the House, Albin Mathiowetz, are the highest ranking staff officers in each body. Each caucus elects a leader, who serves as a leading spokesperson for caucus policies. In the Senate, the majority leader is Thomas M. Bakk (DFL-Cook) and the minority leader is David W. Hann (R-Eden Prairie). In the House, the majority leader is Erin Murphy (DFL-St. Paul) and the minority leader is Kurt Daudt (R-Crown).

Committees: The House and Senate have many committees that hold hearings on bills related to the topics assigned to them. The number of committees in each house and the number of members serving on each committee varies from session to session. In addition to the work they do during each legislative session, committees may hold informational hearings between legislative sessions. In the House, the speaker appoints members for each committee, including a member to chair the committee, a vice-chair, and a lead representative from the minority caucus. In the Senate, a committee names the chairs of each committee. The majority and minority caucuses decide among themselves which of their members will serve on each committee.

Regular sessions: The Minnesota Legislature convenes in regular session each odd-numbered year on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January. Although it is not required to do so, the Legislature also meets in even-numbered years, starting on a date agreed to by both bodies, usually in January or February. In total, between the two years, the Legislature may not meet for more than 120 legislative days and may not meet in regular session after the first Monday following the third Saturday in May of any year. Each two-year term of the House is considered one legislative session, also known as one "biennium." For this reason, the Legislature may take action in the second year on bills that were not passed in the first year, without having to reintroduce them. Bills are numbered consecutively in order of introduction through both years.

Passage of laws: Almost any idea may be turned into a bill – it may be an entirely new law, amend a current law or repeal a law.

Deadlines: Bills may be introduced at any time, but must meet certain benchmarks in the process in order to remain viable. There are usually three deadlines. By the “first deadline,” a bill must have passed through all of the required policy committees in one of the bodies. By the “second deadline,” its companion must have passed through all of the policy committees in the other body. By the “third deadline,” an omnibus appropriations bill and its companion must have passed through the required finance divisions in both bodies.

A bill follows eight steps on its way to becoming Minnesota law.

1. Legislative proposal: Anyone can come up with an idea for a bill—an individual, a consumer group, a corporation, a governmental unit, or the governor. Before a bill can be considered, it must be put into proper legal form by the revisor of statutes. Only a legislator, a constitutional officer, or a state agency can ask the revisor to prepare a bill.

2. Authors: Each bill must have one legislator in each body to serve as the chief author of the bill. The chief author is usually the one to ask the revisor to prepare the bill. The chief author in each body introduces the bill, presents it in committees and on the floor. Other legislators may sign on as “co-authors” to show their support for the proposal. There may be up to 34 co-authors in the House and four in the Senate. Co-authors are listed on the bill, but often do not take an active role in the passage of a bill

3. Introduction: When a bill is introduced, it is assigned a file number by which it is known. In the House, it is a House file number, e.g., H.F. 1531; in the Senate, a Senate file number, e.g., S.F. 1331. Numbers are assigned to bills in chronological order as they are introduced. The House and Senate versions of the bills are known as companions. At the time a bill is introduced, it is given its “first reading” and is referred to the appropriate committee. A bill must receive three readings on the floor of each body before it can be passed.

4. Committee consideration: The chair of the committee to which the bill was referred will decide when and if to give the bill a hearing. All committee meetings are open to the public. Committees often hear testimony from those in favor or opposed to a bill before taking action. Committees often amend the language of the bills.

Committees may vote on whether a bill should pass or may delay consideration of it by “laying it on the table.” A bill must receive the votes of a majority of the members present and voting in order to pass. Bills that are passed may be sent to another committee or to the floor for consideration by the entire House or Senate.

5. Second Reading, General Register and General Orders: Once a bill has passed through all of the required committees, it is sent to the full House or Senate and given its second reading and placed on the list of bills that the body may consider. In the House this list is called the General Register; in the Senate it is called General Orders.

6. Debate, Third Reading and Passage: At this point, House and Senate procedures differ slightly.

In the House, the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration chooses bills from the General Register for consideration by the full House by placing them on the Calendar for the Day or the Fiscal Calendar. The chief author presents the bill. Members may debate the merits of the bill and offer amendments. When there are no more amendments, the bill is given its third reading. After any additional debate, the House takes a roll call vote on the bill, meaning that each member’s vote for or against the bill is recorded.

The Senate uses a different procedure. The chair of the committee on Rules and Administration designates the bills from General Orders that the Senate will consider each day. The Senate then meets as the “committee of the whole,” and debates the issue and offers amendments to the bill. The Senate then votes the bill up or down.

Bills approved by the “committee of the whole” are placed on the calendar. At this point, the bill has its third reading and a roll call vote is taken on the bill. To pass, a bill needs the votes of a majority of the members in each body. The one exception are bonding bills which require a vote of three-fifths of the members to pass. A bonding bill authorizes the sale of bonds to raise money for the state.

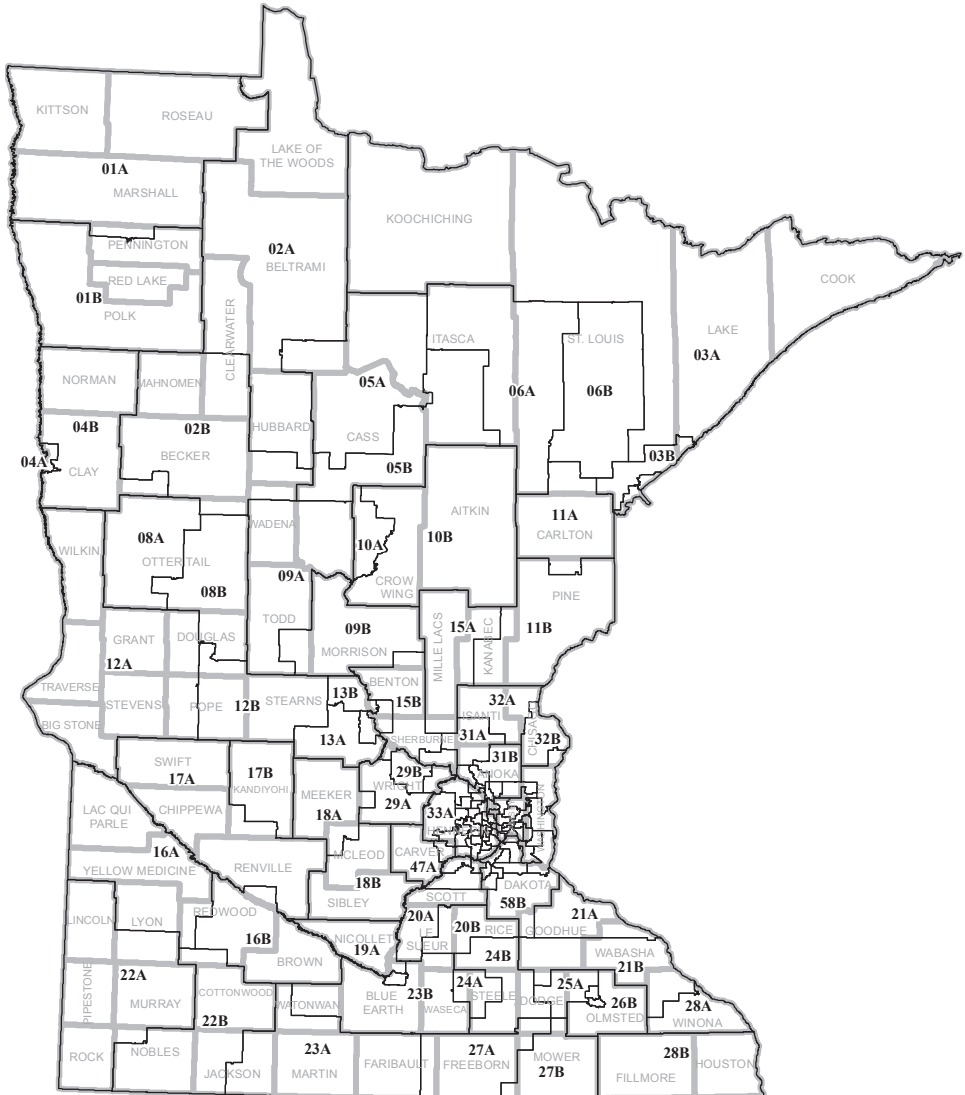
7. Conference committee: When the House and the Senate pass companion bills with language that is not identical, a conference committee is formed. Conference committees are made up of either three or five members from each body. Their goal is to find a compromise between the language passed by the House and the Senate. If they reach a compromise, their agreement must be passed by both bodies before it can be sent to the governor.

8. The governor: Once the House and Senate have agreed on and passed the identical bill—either when it was first passed or as a result of a conference committee—it is sent to the governor for his consideration. The governor has several options. He may sign it, in which case the bill becomes a law. The governor may veto it as a whole and provide an explanation for his decision. For bills that spend money, the governor may choose to “line item” certain expenditures, and sign the rest of the bill into law.

If the governor does not sign or veto a bill within three days after receiving it, the bill becomes a law. The governor has up to 14 days to take action on bills passed during the last three days of a legislative session in the second year of the biennium. If the governor does not take action on a bill passed during this time frame, it does not become law. The Legislature may override a governor’s veto if two thirds of the members of both bodies vote to do so.

Special sessions: The governor may call the Legislature into a special session at any time. Special sessions become necessary when legislative action is needed to meet emergencies or when legislative work is unfinished at the end of a regular session. The governor does not have the power to limit the length or scope of the session.

MINNESOTA LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS



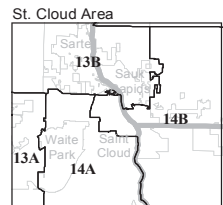
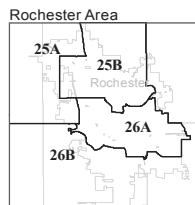
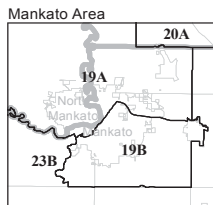
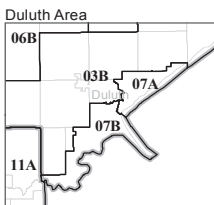
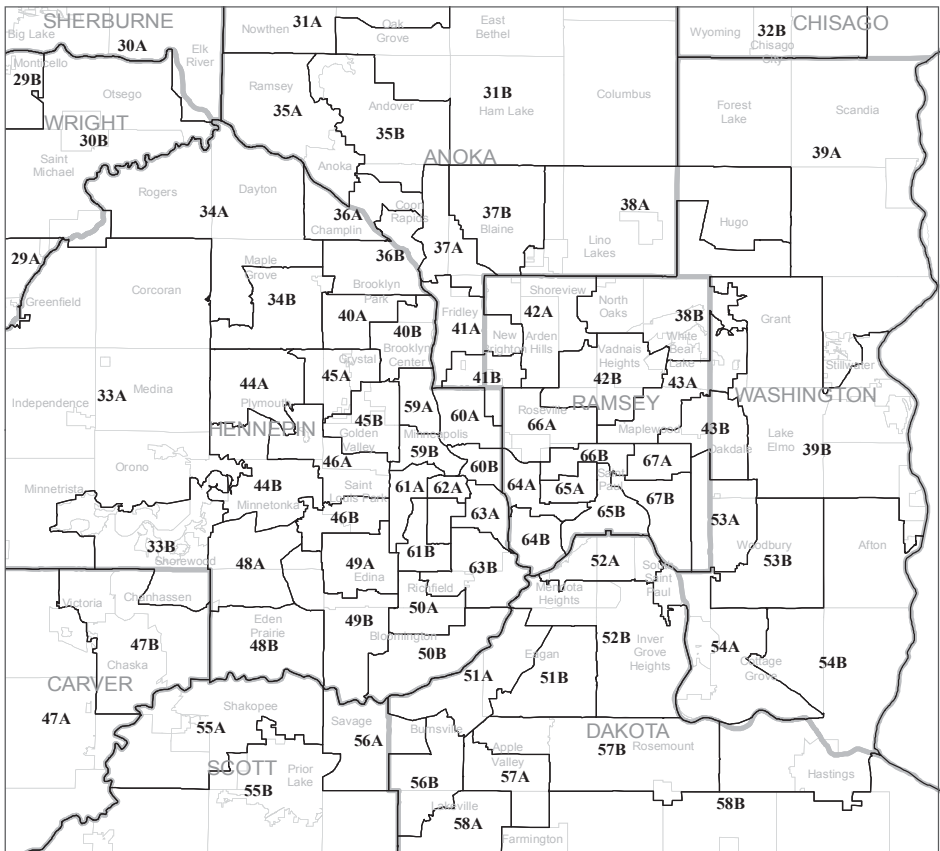
~ Voting in Minnesota ~

Leading the Nation

Since 1980, Minnesota has led the nation in voter turnout in eight of the nine presidential elections. Maine had the highest voter turnout in 1992 (74.3 percent) with Minnesota following in a very close second place (73.7 percent).

Source: United States Election Project, George Mason University

METROPOLITAN AREA LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS



~ Voting in Minnesota ~



Betty Crocker for Senate

Betty Crocker had been a household name to Minnesotans since 1921 due to print and radio advertising by General Mills. When World War II rationing adversely affected the market for baking products, General Mills began an advertising campaign to Vote for Betty for Senate as an April Fool's Day joke.

Image provided by the Minnesota Historical Society

MEMBERS OF THE STATE SENATE

Offices are located either in the Capitol (Cap.) or in the State Office Building (State). Senators' email addresses follow this format: sen.firstname.lastname@senate.mn. See district maps on the previous pages.

MINNESOTA SENATE MEMBERS – ALPHABETICALLY (Cap = Capitol; State = State Office Building)				
NAME (PARTY)	DISTRICT	OFFICE	PHONE (651)	EMAIL ADDRESS
Anderson, Bruce D. (R)	29	State 133	296-5981	sen.bruce.anderson@senate.mn
Bakk, Thomas M. (DFL)	3	Cap. 226	296-8881	Use Mail Form
Benson, Michelle R. (R)	31	State 115	296-3219	sen.michelle.benson@senate.mn
Bonoff, Terri E. (DFL)	44	Cap. 325	296-4314	sen.terri.bonoff@senate.mn
Brown, David M. (R)	15	State 109	296-8075	sen.david.brown@senate.mn
Carlson, Jim (DFL)	51	Cap. 111	297-8073	sen.jim.carlson@senate.mn
Chamberlain, Roger C. (R)	38	State 129	296-1253	sen.roger.chamberlain@senate.mn
Champion, Bobby Joe (DFL)	59	Cap. 306	296-9246	sen.bobby.champion@senate.mn
Clausen, Greg D. (DFL)	57	Cap. 320	296-4120	sen.greg.clausen@senate.mn
Cohen, Richard (DFL)	64	Cap. 121	296-5931	Use Mail Form
Dahle, Kevin L. (DFL)	20	Cap. 317	296-1279	sen.kevin.dahle@senate.mn
Dahms, Gary H. (R)	16	State 121	296-8138	sen.gary.dahms@senate.mn
Dibble, D. Scott (DFL)	61	Cap. 111	296-4191	sen.scott.dibble@senate.mn
Dziedzic, Kari (DFL)	60	Cap. 320	296-7809	Use Mail Form
Eaton, Chris A. (DFL)	40	Cap. 321	296-8869	Use Mail Form
Eken, Kent (DFL)	4	Cap. 303	296-3205	sen.kent.eken@senate.mn
Fischbach, Michelle L. (R)	13	State 15	296-2084	sen.michelle.fischbach@senate.mn
Franzen, Melisa (DFL)	49	Cap. 306	296-6238	sen.melisa.franzen@senate.mn
Gazelka, Paul E. (R)	9	State 145	296-4875	sen.paul.gazelka@senate.mn
Goodwin, Barb (DFL)	41	Cap. 124	296-4334	Use Mail Form
Hall, Dan D. (R)	56	State 103	296-5975	sen.dan.hall@senate.mn
Hann, David W. (R)	48	State 147	296-1749	Use Mail Form
Hawj, Foung (DFL)	67	Cap. G-24	296-5285	sen.foung.hawj@senate.mn
Hayden, Jeff (DFL)	62	Cap. 208	296-4261	sen.jeff.hayden@senate.mn
Hoffman, John A. (DFL)	36	Cap. G-24	296-4154	sen.john.hoffman@senate.mn
Housley, Karin (R)	39	State 21	296-4351	sen.karin.housley@senate.mn
Ingebrigtsen, Bill (R)	8	State 143	297-8063	sen.bill.ingebriigtsen@senate.mn
Jensen, Vicki (DFL)	24	Cap. G-24	296-9457	sen.vicki.jensen@senate.mn
Johnson, Alice M. (DFL)	37	Cap. 205	296-2556	Use Mail Form
Kent, Susan (DFL)	53	Cap. 205	296-4166	Use Mail Form
Kiffmeyer, Mary (R)	30	State 123	296-5655	sen.mary.kiffmeyer@senate.mn
Koenen, Lyle (DFL)	17	Cap. 124	296-5094	sen.lyle.koenen@senate.mn
Latz, Ron (DFL)	46	Cap. 303	297-8065	Use Mail Form
Limmer, Warren (R)	34	State 153	296-2159	sen.warren.limmer@senate.mn
Lourey, Tony (DFL)	11	Cap. 120	296-0293	sen.tony.lourey@senate.mn
Marty, John (DFL)	66	Cap. 323	296-5645	Use Mail Form
Metzen, James P. (DFL)	52	Cap. 322	296-4370	sen.jim.metzen@senate.mn
Miller, Jeremy R. (R)	28	State 135	296-5649	sen.jeremy.miller@senate.mn
Nelson, Carla J. (R)	26	State 117	296-4848	sen.carla.nelson@senate.mn
Newman, Scott J. (R)	18	State 141	296-4131	sen.scott.newman@senate.mn
Nienow, Sean R. (R)	32	State 105	296-5419	sen.sean.nienow@senate.mn
Ortman, Julianne E. (R)	47	State 119	296-4837	sen.julianne.ortman@senate.mn
Osmeck, David J. (R)	33	State 19	296-1282	sen.david.osmeck@senate.mn
Pappas, Sandra L. (DFL)	65	Cap. 120	296-1802	Use Mail Form
Pederson, John C. (R)	14	State 27	296-6455	sen.john.pederson@senate.mn
Petersen, Branden (R)	35	State 127	296-3733	sen.branden.petersen@senate.mn
Pratt, Eric R. (R)	55	State 23	296-4123	sen.eric.pratt@senate.mn
Reinert, Roger J. (DFL)	7	Cap. 325	296-4188	sen.roger.reinert@senate.mn
Rest, Ann H. (DFL)	45	Cap. 235	296-2889	Use Mail Form
Rosen, Julie A. (R)	23	State 139	296-5713	sen.julie.rosen@senate.mn
Ruud, Carrie (R)	10	State 25	296-4913	sen.carrie.ruud@senate.mn
Saxhaug, Tom (DFL)	5	Cap. 328	296-4136	sen.tom.saxhaug@senate.mn
Scalze, Bev (DFL)	42	Cap. 124	296-5537	sen.bev.scalze@senate.mn
Schmit, Matt (DFL)	21	Cap. G-24	296-4264	sen.matt.schmit@senate.mn
Senjem, David H. (R)	25	State 113	296-3903	sen.david.senjem@senate.mn
Sheran, Kathy (DFL)	19	Cap. 120	296-6153	sen.kathy.sheran@senate.mn
Sieben, Katie (DFL)	54	Cap. 208	297-8060	sen.katie.sieben@senate.mn
Skoe, Rod (DFL)	2	Cap. 235	296-4196	sen.rod.skoe@senate.mn
Sparks, Dan (DFL)	27	Cap. 328	296-9248	sen.dan.sparks@senate.mn
Stumpf, LeRoy A. (DFL)	1	Cap. 122	296-8660	Use Mail Form
Thompson, Dave (R)	58	State 131	296-5252	sen.dave.thompson@senate.mn
Tomassoni, David J. (DFL)	6	Cap. 317	296-8017	sen.david.tomassoni@senate.mn
Torres Ray, Patricia (DFL)	63	Cap. 309	296-4274	Use Mail Form
Weber, Bill (R)	22	State 125	296-5650	sen.bill.weber@senate.mn
Westrom, Torrey N. (R)	12	State 107	296-3826	sen.torrey.westrom@senate.mn
Wiger, Charles W. (DFL)	43	Cap. 205	296-6820	sen.chuck.wiger@senate.mn
Wiklund, Melissa H. (DFL)	50	Cap. 303	297-8061	sen.melissa.wiklund@senate.mn

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

All offices are in the State Office Building. Representatives' email addresses follow this format: rep.firstname.lastname@house.mn. See district maps on the previous pages.

MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MEMBERS – ALPHABETICALLY				
NAME (PARTY)	DISTRICT	OFFICE	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
Abeler, Jim (R)	35A	203	651-296-1729	rep.jim.abeler@house.mn
Albright, Tony (R)	55B	223	651-296-5185	rep.tony.albright@house.mn
Allen, Susan (DFL)	62B	577	651-296-7152	rep.susan.allen@house.mn
Anderson, Mark (R)	9A	327	651-296-4293	rep.mark.anderson@house.mn
Anderson, Paul (R)	12B	225	651-296-4317	rep.paul.anderson@house.mn
Anderson, Sarah (R)	44A	237	651-296-5511	rep.sarah.anderson@house.mn
Anzelc, Tom (DFL)	5B	517	651-296-4936	rep.tom.anzelc@house.mn
Atkins, Joe (DFL)	52B	583	651-296-4192	rep.joe.atkins@house.mn
Barrett, Bob (R)	32B	287	651-296-5377	rep.bob.barrett@house.mn
Beard, Michael (R)	55A	207	651-296-8872	rep.mike.beard@house.mn
Benson, John (DFL)	44B	417	651-296-9934	rep.john.benson@house.mn
Benson, Mike (R)	26B	215	651-296-4378	rep.mike.benson@house.mn
Bernardy, Connie (DFL)	41A	581	651-296-5510	rep.connie.bernardy@house.mn
Bly, David (DFL)	20B	559	651-296-0171	rep.david.bly@house.mn
Brynaert, Kathy (DFL)	19B	569	651-296-3248	rep.kathy.brynaert@house.mn
Carlson Sr., Lyndon (DFL)	45A	479	651-296-4255	rep.lyndon.carlson@house.mn
Clark, Karen (DFL)	62A	477	651-296-0294	rep.karen.clark@house.mn
Cornish, Tony (R)	23B	389	651-296-4240	rep.tony.cornish@house.mn
Daudt, Kurt (R)	31A	267	651-296-5364	rep.kurt.daudt@house.mn
Davids, Greg (R)	28B	283	651-296-9278	rep.greg.davids@house.mn
Davnie, Jim (DFL)	63A	445	651-296-0173	rep.jim.davnie@house.mn
Dean, Matt (R)	38B	301	651-296-3018	rep.matt.dean@house.mn
Dehn, Raymond (DFL)	59B	423	651-296-8659	rep.raymond.dehn@house.mn
Dettmer, Bob (R)	39A	279	651-296-4124	rep.bob.dettmer@house.mn
Dill, David (DFL)	3A	571	651-296-2190	rep.david.dill@house.mn
Dorholt, Zachary (DFL)	14B	557	651-296-6612	rep.zachary.dorholt@house.mn
Drazkowski, Steve (R)	21B	289	651-296-2273	rep.steve.drazkowski@house.mn
Erhardt, Ron (DFL)	49A	543	651-296-4363	rep.ron.erhardt@house.mn
Erickson, Roger (DFL)	2A	527	651-296-4265	rep.roger.erickson@house.mn
Erickson, Sondra (R)	15A	209	651-296-6746	rep.sondra.erickson@house.mn
Fabian, Dan (R)	1A	307	651-296-9635	rep.dan.fabian@house.mn
Falk, Andrew (DFL)	17A	439	651-296-4228	rep.andrew.falk@house.mn
Faust, Tim (DFL)	11B	567	651-296-0518	rep.tim.faust@house.mn
Fischer, Peter (DFL)	43A	421	651-296-5363	rep.peter.fischer@house.mn
FitzSimmons, David (R)	30B	227	651-296-1534	rep.david.fitzsimmons@house.mn
Franson, Mary (R)	8B	211	651-296-3201	rep.mary.franson@house.mn
Freiberg, Mike (DFL)	45B	551	651-296-4176	rep.mike.freiberg@house.mn
Fritz, Patti (DFL)	24B	437	651-296-8237	rep.patti.fritz@house.mn
Garofalo, Pat (R)	58B	247	651-296-1069	rep.pat.garofalo@house.mn
Green, Steve (R)	2B	231	651-296-9918	rep.steve.green@house.mn
Gruenhagen, Glenn (R)	18B	241	651-296-4229	rep.glenn.gruenhagen@house.mn
Gunther, Bob (R)	23A	277	651-296-3240	rep.bob.gunther@house.mn
Hackbarth, Tom (R)	31B	309	651-296-2439	rep.tom.hackbarth@house.mn
Halverson, Laurie (DFL)	51B	407	651-296-4128	rep.laurie.halverson@house.mn
Hamilton, Rod (R)	22B	245	651-296-5373	rep.rod.hamilton@house.mn
Hansen, Rick (DFL)	52A	451	651-296-6828	rep.rick.hansen@house.mn
Hausman, Alice (DFL)	66A	453	651-296-3824	rep.alice.hausman@house.mn
Hertaus, Jerry (R)	33A	315	651-296-9188	rep.jerry.hertaus@house.mn
Hilstrom, Debra (DFL)	40B	379	651-296-3709	rep.debra.hilstrom@house.mn
Holberg, Mary Liz (R)	58A	349	651-296-6926	rep.maryliz.holberg@house.mn
Hoppe, Joe (R)	47B	343	651-296-5066	rep.joe.hoppe@house.mn
Hornstein, Frank (DFL)	61A	471	651-296-9281	rep.frank.hornstein@house.mn
Hortman, Melissa (DFL)	36B	377	651-296-4280	rep.melissa.hortman@house.mn
Howe, Jeff (R)	13A	321	651-296-4373	rep.jeff.howe@house.mn
Huntley, Thomas (DFL)	7A	585	651-296-2228	rep.thomas.huntley@house.mn
Isaacson, Jason (DFL)	42B	545	651-296-7153	rep.jason.isaacson@house.mn
Johnson, Brian (R)	32A	233	651-296-4346	rep.brian.johnson@house.mn
Johnson, Clark (DFL)	19A	409	651-296-8634	rep.clark.johnson@house.mn
Johnson, Sheldon (DFL)	67B	549	651-296-4201	rep.sheldon.johnson@house.mn
Kahn, Phyllis (DFL)	60B	365	651-296-4257	rep.phyllis.kahn@house.mn
Kelly, Tim (R)	21A	335	651-296-8635	rep.tim.kelly@house.mn
Kieffer, Andrea (R)	53B	213	651-296-1147	rep.andrea.kieffer@house.mn
Kiel, Debra (R)	1B	337	651-296-5091	rep.deb.kiel@house.mn
Kresha, Ron (R)	9B	329	651-296-4247	rep.ron.kresha@house.mn
Laine, Carolyn (DFL)	41B	485	651-296-4331	rep.carolyn.laine@house.mn
Leidiger, Ernie (R)	47A	317	651-296-4282	rep.ernie.leidiger@house.mn

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *continued*

MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MEMBERS – ALPHABETICALLY				
NAME (PARTY)	DISTRICT	OFFICE	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
Lenczewski, Ann (DFL)	50B	509	651-296-4218	rep.ann.lenczewski@house.mn
Lesch, John (DFL)	66B	537	651-296-4224	rep.john.lesch@house.mn
Liebling, Tina (DFL)	26A	367	651-296-0573	rep.tina.liebling@house.mn
Lien, Ben (DFL)	4A	525	651-296-5515	rep.ben.lien@house.mn
Lillie, Leon (DFL)	43B	371	651-296-1188	rep.leon.lillie@house.mn
Loeffler, Diane (DFL)	60A	503	651-296-4219	rep.diane.loeffler@house.mn
Lohmer, Kathy (R)	39B	239	651-296-4244	rep.kathy.lohmer@house.mn
Loon, Jenifer (R)	48B	261	651-296-7449	rep.jenifer.loon@house.mn
Mack, Tara (R)	57A	345	651-296-5506	rep.tara.mack@house.mn
Mahoney, Tim (DFL)	67A	591	651-296-4277	rep.tim.mahoney@house.mn
Mariani, Carlos (DFL)	65B	381	651-296-9714	rep.carlos.mariani@house.mn
Marquart, Paul (DFL)	4B	597	651-296-6829	rep.paul.marquart@house.mn
Masin, Sandra (DFL)	51A	579	651-296-3533	rep.sandra.masin@house.mn
McDonald, Joe (R)	29A	291	651-296-4336	rep.joe.mcdonald@house.mn
McNamar, Jay (DFL)	12A	431	651-296-4929	rep.jay.mcnamar@house.mn
McNamara, Denny (R)	54B	359	651-296-3135	rep.denny.mcnamara@house.mn
Melin, Carly (DFL)	6A	515	651-296-0172	rep.carly.melin@house.mn
Metsa, Jason (DFL)	6B	521	651-296-0170	rep.jason.metsa@house.mn
Moran, Rena (DFL)	65A	413	651-296-5158	rep.rena.moran@house.mn
Morgan, Will (DFL)	56B	401	651-296-5387	rep.will.morgan@house.mn
Mullery, Joe (DFL)	59A	403	651-296-4262	rep.joe.mullery@house.mn
Murphy, Erin (DFL)	64A	459	651-296-8799	rep.erin.murphy@house.mn
Murphy, Mary (DFL)	3B	443	651-296-2676	rep.mary.murphy@house.mn
Myhra, Pam (R)	56A	217	651-296-4212	rep.pam.myhra@house.mn
Nelson, Michael V. (DFL)	40A	565	651-296-3751	rep.michael.nelson@house.mn
Newberger, Jim (R)	15B	311	651-296-2451	rep.jim.newberger@house.mn
Newton, Jerry (DFL)	37A	575	651-296-5369	rep.jerry.newton@house.mn
Nornes, Bud (R)	8A	273	651-296-4946	rep.bud.nornes@house.mn
Norton, Kim (DFL)	25B	593	651-296-9249	rep.kim.norton@house.mn
O'Driscoll, Tim (R)	13B	357	651-296-7808	rep.tim.odriscoll@house.mn
O'Neill, Marion (R)	29B	229	651-296-5063	rep.marion.oneill@house.mn
Paymar, Michael (DFL)	64B	563	651-296-4199	rep.michael.paymar@house.mn
Pelowski Jr., Gene (DFL)	28A	491	651-296-8637	rep.gene.pelowski@house.mn
Peppin, Joyce (R)	34A	281	651-296-7806	rep.joyce.peppin@house.mn
Persell, John (DFL)	5A	369	651-296-5516	rep.john.persell@house.mn
Petersburg, John (R)	24A	243	651-296-5368	rep.john.petersburg@house.mn
Poppe, Jeanne (DFL)	27B	487	651-296-4193	rep.jeanne.poppe@house.mn
Pugh, Cindy (R)	33B	313	651-296-4315	rep.cindy.pugh@house.mn
Quam, Duane (R)	25A	323	651-296-9236	rep.duane.quam@house.mn
Radinovich, Joe (DFL)	10B	529	651-296-2365	rep.joe.radinovich@house.mn
Rosenthal, Paul (DFL)	49B	501	651-296-7803	rep.paul.rosenthal@house.mn
Runbeck, Linda (R)	38A	295	651-296-2907	rep.linda.runbeck@house.mn
Sanders, Tim (R)	37B	259	651-296-4226	rep.tim.sanders@house.mn
Savick, Shannon (DFL)	27A	539	651-296-8216	rep.shannon.savick@house.mn
Sawatzky, Mary (DFL)	17B	433	651-296-6206	rep.mary.sawatzky@house.mn
Schoen, Dan (DFL)	54A	533	651-296-4342	rep.dan.schoen@house.mn
Schomacker, Joe (R)	22A	393	651-296-5505	rep.joe.schomacker@house.mn
Scott, Peggy (R)	35B	201	651-296-4231	rep.peggy.scott@house.mn
Selcer, Yvonne (DFL)	48A	523	651-296-3964	rep.yvonne.selcer@house.mn
Simon, Steve (DFL)	46B	473	651-296-9889	rep.steve.simon@house.mn
Simonson, Erik (DFL)	7B	429	651-296-4246	rep.erik.simonson@house.mn
Slocum, Linda (DFL)	50A	415	651-296-7158	rep.linda.slocum@house.mn
Sundin, Mike (DFL)	11A	411	651-296-4308	rep.mike.sundin@house.mn
Swedzinski, Chris (R)	16A	251	651-296-5374	rep.chris.swedzinski@house.mn
Theis, Tama (R)	14A	223	651-296-6361	rep.tama.theis@house.mn
Thissen, Paul (DFL)	61B	463	651-296-5375	rep.paul.thissen@house.mn
Torkelson, Paul (R)	16B	353	651-296-9303	rep.paul.torkelson@house.mn
Uglem, Mark (R)	36A	331	651-296-5513	rep.mark.uglem@house.mn
Urdahl, Dean (R)	18A	253	651-296-4344	rep.dean.urdahl@house.mn
Wagenius, Jean (DFL)	63B	499	651-296-4200	rep.jean.wagenius@house.mn
Ward, JoAnn (DFL)	53A	531	651-296-7807	rep.joann.ward@house.mn
Ward, John (DFL)	10A	375	651-296-4333	rep.john.ward@house.mn
Wills, Anna (R)	57B	225	651-296-4306	rep.anna.wills@house.mn
Winkler, Ryan (DFL)	46A	553	651-296-7026	rep.ryan.winkler@house.mn
Woodard, Kelby (R)	20A	221	651-296-7065	rep.kelby.woodard@house.mn
Yarusso, Barb (DFL)	42A	507	651-296-0141	rep.barb.yarusso@house.mn
Zellers, Kurt (R)	34B	351	651-296-5502	rep.kurt.zellers@house.mn
Zerwas, Nick (R)	30A	303	651-296-4237	rep.nick.zerwas@house.mn

MINNESOTA EXECUTIVE OFFICERS



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Mark Dayton (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

Elected: 2010

Term: Four years

Term expires: January 2015

Statutory Salary: \$120,303

130 State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone: (651) 201-3400 **Toll-free:** (800) 657-3717 **TTY:** (800) 627-3529

Fax: (651) 296-2089 **Website:** www.governor.state.mn.us

Email: Use online form at: <http://mn.gov/governor/contact-us/form/>

Minnesota Constitution provides: To qualify as governor, a person must be 25 years old, reside in the state one year, be a citizen of the United States and be elected by the people (Article V).

The primary duties of the governor are to oversee all operations of state government and to take the lead in shaping public policy through legislative proposals and agency initiatives. The operation of government is carried out through more than 23 major departments whose heads are appointed by the governor. These department heads, along with the lieutenant governor and chief of staff, make up the governor's cabinet. The departments of revenue, and management and budget are the governor's chief advisors on financial matters; the departments of employment and economic development, labor and industry, and commerce advise the governor regarding economic development, the business climate, and business regulation; the departments of health, human services, education, and corrections advise the governor on various social policies; and the departments of pollution control and natural resources carry out the governor's environmental policies.

The governor appoints people to state boards and commissions and appoints judges for all state courts when vacancies occur. He chairs the State Executive Council, Land Exchange Board, and the State Board of Investment. As commander-in-chief of state military forces, the governor can activate the National Guard for emergency duty.

The governor reviews all bills passed by the Legislature and has the power to veto those he disapproves. On occasion, the governor may appear before the Legislature. Because of the separation of powers required by the Minnesota Constitution, a governor may enter a legislative chamber only with the permission of the Legislature. Only the governor has the power to call a special session of the Legislature.



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Yvonne Prettner Solon (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

Elected: 2010

Term: Four years

Term expires: January 2015

Statutory Salary: \$78,196

130 State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone: (651) 201-3400 **Toll-free:** (800) 657-3717 **TTY:** (800) 627-3529

Email: Use online form at: <http://mn.gov/governor/contact-us/form/>

Minnesota Constitution provides: To qualify as lieutenant governor a person must be 25 years old, reside in the state one year, be a citizen of the United States, and elected by the people jointly with the governor by a single vote applying to both offices (Article V).

The lieutenant governor assists the governor in carrying out the functions of the executive branch, as well as serving in the governor's place in the event of his absence or disability. The governor, as prescribed by law, may file a written order with the secretary of state to delegate to the lieutenant governor any powers, duties, responsibilities, or functions performed by the governor. Other official duties include serving as a member of the State Executive Council and chairing the Capitol Area Architectural Planning Board.

The lieutenant governor is a key member of the governor's cabinet and is involved in major policy and budget decisions.



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Lori Swanson (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

Elected: 2006, 2010

Term: Four years

Term expires: January 2015

Statutory Salary: \$114,288

102 State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone: (651) 296-6196 **TTY:** (800) 366-4812 **Website:** www.ag.state.mn.us

Email: attorney.general@state.mn.us

Minnesota Constitution provides: The attorney general is an officer in the executive department; to qualify as attorney general, a person must be a qualified voter; 21 years old, and elected by the people (Articles V, VII).

The attorney general is the chief legal officer for the state. The attorney general's duties arise from the Minnesota Constitution, state statutes, and common law. Every board, commission, and agency of the state receives its legal counsel and representation from the attorney general. The attorney general is also permitted to act in a *parens patriae* capacity to act on behalf of the people. The attorney general has authority to initiate legal actions for the enforcement of the civil laws of the state, the preservation of order, and the protection of public rights. The attorney general provides assistance to county attorneys in the criminal justice area. As a statewide elected official, the attorney general advocates for a wide range of policy initiatives and legal reforms to protect Minnesotans and enhance their quality of life.



OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

Rebecca Otto (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

Elected: 2006, 2010

Term: Four years

Term expires: January 2015

Statutory Salary: \$102,257

525 Park St., Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55103

Phone: (651) 296-2551 **TTY:** (800) 627-3529 **Website:** www.auditor.state.mn.us

Email: state.auditor@state.mn.us

Minnesota Constitution provides: The state auditor is an officer in the executive department. To qualify as state auditor a person must be a qualified voter, 21 years old, and elected by the people (Articles V, VII).

The office of the state auditor is charged with overseeing more than \$20 billion that is spent annually by local governments in Minnesota. The state auditor's office does this by performing audits of local government financial statements and reviewing documents, data, reports, and complaints submitted to or gathered by the office. The financial information collected from local governments is analyzed and is the basis of statutorily required reports issued by the office.



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Mark Ritchie (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

Elected: 2006, 2010

Term: Four Years

Term expires: January 2015

Statutory Salary: \$90,227

180 State Office Building, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone: (651) 201-1324 **Website:** www.sos.state.mn.us

Email: secretary.state@state.mn.us

Minnesota Constitution provides: The secretary of state is an officer in the executive department; to qualify as secretary of state, a person must be a qualified voter, 21 years old, and elected by the people (Articles V, VII).

The secretary of state preserves many official records of the state, oversees the administration of elections, charters and registers corporations, maintains corporations' annual reports, registers notaries, administers the Safe at Home program, publishes the Legislative Manual, and administers an open appointments process. The office also maintains statewide databases of voter registrations and of liens filed under the Uniform Commercial Code. As keeper of the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota, the secretary of state certifies the authenticity of official documents such as proclamations, executive orders of the governor, and acts of the Legislature.

The secretary chairs the State Canvassing Board, convenes the Electoral College in the state, and serves on the Executive Council and State Board of Investment.

MINNESOTA JUDICIARY

Minnesota Constitution provides: The judicial power of the state is vested in a supreme court, a court of appeals, if established by the legislature, a district court and such other courts, judicial officers, and commissioners with jurisdiction inferior to the district court as the legislature may establish (Article VI, section 1).

MINNESOTA SUPREME COURT



Justices seated (left to right): Alan Page; Chief Justice Lorie Skjerven Gildea; Paul H. Anderson
Standing (left to right): David R. Straus; G. Barry Anderson; Christopher Dietzen; Wilhelmina Wright
Not pictured: David Lillehaug (replacing Paul H. Anderson who retired May 31, 2013)

Office: Minnesota Judicial Center, 25 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul 55155

Phone: (651) 297-7650 **Website:** www.mncourts.gov

Salary: \$160,579 chief justice

\$145,981 associate justices

Jurisdiction: The Minnesota Constitution provides that the supreme court shall have original jurisdiction in such remedial cases as are prescribed by law, and appellate jurisdiction in all cases, but there shall be no trial by jury in the supreme court.

Justices: Minnesota Statutes provide for one chief justice and six associate justices (*Minnesota Statutes*, 480.01). Justices are elected by the people of the state to six-year terms; vacancies are filled by governor's appointment. Justices are elected without party designation. Candidates file for a specific judicial office, which is designated on the ballot by seat number.

Functions: The chief justice of the supreme court is the administrative head of the judicial branch, supervises the work of all courts, and chairs the Minnesota Judicial Council, which is the single administrative policy-making body for the judicial branch. A state court administrator is appointed by the chief justice and the Judicial Council. The supreme court commissioner, the supreme court administrator and the clerk of the appellate courts, and the state law librarian are appointed by the court. The court is responsible for the regulation of the practice of law, including the promulgation of rules of procedure and practice before all courts within the state.

MINNESOTA COURT OF APPEALS

Office: Minnesota Judicial Center, 25 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul 55155

Phone: (651) 297-1000 **Website:** www.mncourts.gov

Salary: \$144,429 chief judge; \$137,552 judges

Jurisdiction: The Court of Appeals has jurisdiction over nearly all final decisions from District Courts, state agencies and local governments. Exceptions include appeals from the Minnesota Tax Court, Minnesota Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals, first-degree murder cases, and certain election contests. These exceptions are decided by the Minnesota Supreme Court.

Judges: The Court of Appeals has 19 judges. Judges are elected by the voters to six-year terms; vacancies are filled by governor's appointments. Judges are elected without party designation and candidates file for a specific seat. All judges of the court are subject to statewide election, but one seat on the court is designated for each congressional district. One year's residence in the district is required for appointment or election to a congressional district judicial seat. The governor designates one of the judges as chief judge, who, subject to the authority of the chief justice of the Supreme Court, has administrative authority for the Court of Appeals.

MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT

Website: www.mncourts.gov

Salary: \$135,580 chief judges; \$129,124 judges

Jurisdiction: Minnesota has a district court, divided into 10 judicial districts. The chief justice of the supreme court has the power to assign judges from one district to serve in another. The constitution provides that the district court has original jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases and such appellate jurisdiction as may be prescribed by law.

Judges: Each district has three or more judges. Judges are elected by the voters of the district to six-year terms; vacancies are filled by governor's appointments. Judges are nominated and elected without party designation. Judges of each district elect a chief judge and assistant chief judge to exercise general administrative authority over the courts of the district.

MINNESOTA'S UNITED STATES SENATORS

The U.S. Constitution provides: To qualify as senator, a person must be 30 years old, a citizen of the United States nine years, a resident of the state, and elected by the people.



Amy Klobuchar (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

Elected: 2006, 2012
Term: Six years
Term Expires: January 2019
Salary: \$174,000

Residence: Minneapolis
Website: www.klobuchar.senate.gov
Committees: Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Joint Economic; Judiciary

D.C. Office

302 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-3244
Fax: (202) 228-2186

Metro Office

1200 Washington Ave S., Suite 250
Minneapolis, MN 55415
Phone: (612) 727-5220
Fax: (612) 727-5223

Rochester Office

1130 1/2 Seventh Street
N.W., Suite 208
Rochester, MN 55901
Phone: (507) 288-5321
Fax: (507) 288-2922

Moorhead Office

121 Fourth St. S.
Moorhead, MN 56560
Phone: (218) 287-2219
Fax: (218) 287-2930

Virginia Office

Olcott Plaza, Suite 105
820 Ninth St. N.
Virginia, MN 55792
Phone: (218) 741-9690
Fax: (218) 741-3692



Al Franken (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

Elected: 2008
Term: Six years
Term Expires: January 2015
Salary: \$174,000

Residence: Minneapolis
Website: www.franken.senate.gov
Committees: Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP); Judiciary; Indian Affairs; Energy and Natural Resources

D.C. Office

320 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-5641
Fax: (202) 224-0044

St. Paul Office

60 East Plato Blvd., Suite 220
St. Paul, MN 55107
Phone: (651) 221-1016
Fax: (651) 221-1078

Duluth Office

515 W. First St., Suite 104
Duluth, MN 55082
Phone: (218) 722-2390
Fax: (218) 722-4131

St. Cloud Office

916 W. St. Germain St., Suite 110
St. Cloud, MN 56301
Phone: (320) 251-2721
Fax: (320) 251-4164

St. Peter Office

208 S. Minnesota Ave., Suite 6
St. Peter, MN 56082
Phone: (507) 931-5813
Fax: (507) 931-7345

MINNESOTA'S UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES

The U.S. Constitution provides: To qualify as representative a person must be 25 years old, a citizen of the United States seven years, a resident of the state, and elected by the people.



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1

Tim Walz (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

Elected: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012

Term: Two years

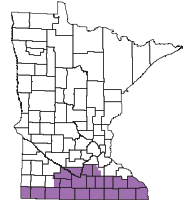
Term expires: January 2015

Salary: \$174,000

Residence: Mankato

Website: www.walz.house.gov

Committees: Agriculture; Transportation and Infrastructure; Veterans' Affairs



D.C. Office: 1034 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: (202) 225-2472 **Fax:** (202) 225-3433

Mankato Office: 227 E. Main Street, Suite 220, Mankato, MN 56001

Phone: (507) 388-2149 **Fax:** (507) 388-6181

Rochester Office: 1130 1/2 7th St. N.W., Suite 208, Rochester, MN 55901

Phone: (507) 206-0643



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2

John Kline (Republican)

Elected: 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012

Term: Two years

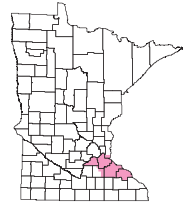
Term expires: January 2015

Salary: \$174,000

Residence: Lakeville

Website: www.kline.house.gov

Committees: Education and Workforce (Chairman); Armed Services



D.C. Office: 2439 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: (202) 225-2271 **Fax:** (202) 225-2595

Minnesota Office: 350 W. Burnsville Parkway, Suite 135, Burnsville, MN 55337

Phone: (952) 808-1213 **Fax:** (952) 808-1261



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 3

Erik Paulsen (Republican)

Elected: 2008, 2010, 2012

Term: Two years

Term expires: January 2015

Salary: \$174,000

Residence: Eden Prairie

Website: www.paulsen.house.gov

Committee: Ways and Means



D.C. Office: 127 Cannon House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: (202) 225-2871 **Fax:** (202) 225-6351

Minnesota Office: 250 Prairie Center Drive, Suite 230, Eden Prairie, MN 55344

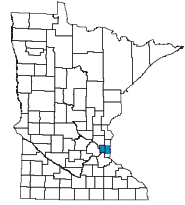
Phone: (952) 405-8510 **Fax:** (952) 405-8514



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 4
Betty McCollum (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

Elected: 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012
Term: Two years
Term expires: January 2015
Salary: \$174,000

Residence: St. Paul
Website: www.mccollum.house.gov
Committee: Appropriations



D.C. Office: 1714 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-6631 **Fax:** (202) 225-1968

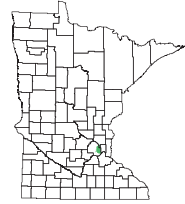
Minnesota Office: 165 Western Ave. N., Suite 17, St. Paul, MN 55102
Phone: (651) 224-9191 **Fax:** (651) 224-3056



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 5
Keith Ellison (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

Elected: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012
Term: Two years
Term expires: January 2015
Salary: \$174,000

Residence: Minneapolis
Website: www.ellison.house.gov
Committee: Financial Services



D.C. Office: 1027 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-4755 **Fax:** (202) 225-4886

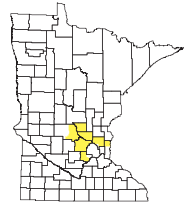
Minnesota Office: 2100 Plymouth Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55411
Phone: (612) 522-1212 **Fax:** 612-522-9915



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6
Michele Bachmann (Republican)

Elected: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012
Term: Two years
Term expires: January 2015
Salary: \$174,000

Residence: Stillwater
Website: www.bachmann.house.gov
Committees: Financial Services; Intelligence



D.C. Office: 2417 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2331 **Fax:** (202) 225-6475

Anoka Office: 2850 Cutters Grove Ave., Suite 205, Anoka, MN 55303
Phone: (763) 323-8922 **Fax:** (763) 323-6585



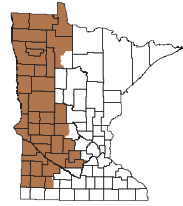
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 7
Collin C. Peterson (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

Elected: 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012

Term: Two years
Term expires: January 2015

Salary: \$174,000

Residence: Detroit Lakes
Website: www.collinpeteron.house.gov
Committee: Agriculture (Ranking Member)



D.C. Office: 2109 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2165 **Fax:** (202) 225-1593

Detroit Lakes Office: 714 Lake Avenue, Suite 107, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
Phone: (218) 847-5056 **Fax:** 218-847-5109

Marshall Office: 1420 East College Drive, SW/WC, Marshall, MN 56258
Phone: (507) 537-2299 **Fax:** (507) 537-2298

Montevideo Office: 100 N. First St., Montevideo, MN 56265
Phone: (320) 235-1061

Red Lake Falls Office: 2603 Wheat Dr., Red Lake Falls, MN 56750
Phone: (218) 253-4356 **Fax:** (218) 253-4373

Redwood Falls Office: 230 E. Third St., Box 50, Redwood Falls, MN 56283
Phone: (507) 637-2270

Willmar Office: 324 Third St. S.W., Willmar, MN 56201
Phone: (320) 235-1061 **Fax:** (320) 235-2651

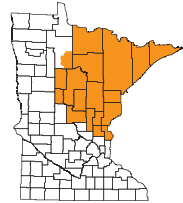


CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8
Richard Nolan (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

Elected: 1974, 1976, 1978, 2012

Term: Two years
Term expires: January 2015
Salary: \$174,000

Residence: Crosby
Website: www.nolan.house.gov
Committees: Agriculture; Transportation and Infrastructure



D.C. Office: 2447 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-6211 **Fax:** (202) 225-0699

Brainerd Office: Brainerd City Hall, 501 Laurel St., Brainerd, MN 56401
Phone: (218) 454-4078 **Fax:** (218) 454-4096

Center City Office: Chisago County Government Center, 313 North Main St., Center City, MN 55012
Phone: (201) 491-3131

Duluth Office: Duluth Technology Village, 11 E. Superior St., Suite 125, Duluth, MN 55802
Phone: (218) 464-5095 **Fax:** (218) 464-5098

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The U.S. Constitution provides: To qualify as president a person must be 35 years old, a natural-born citizen, 14 years a resident of the United States, and elected by a majority of the electoral college.



President Barack Obama (Democrat)

44th President of the United States

Term: Four years

Elected: 2008, 2012

Salary: \$400,000

Term expires: January 2017

White House

1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20500

Phone: (202) 456-1111 **TTY:** (202) 456-6213

Website: www.whitehouse.gov

The U.S. Constitution provides: To qualify as vice president, a person must meet the same requirements as the president, but not be from the same state as the president.



Vice President Joe Biden (Democrat)

47th Vice President of the United States

Term: Four years

Elected: 2008, 2012

Salary: \$231,900

Term expires: January 2017

White House

1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20501

Phone: (202) 456-1414 **Website:** www.whitehouse.gov

~ Voting in Minnesota ~

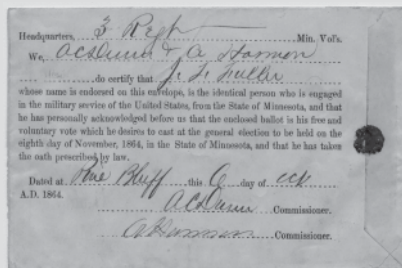
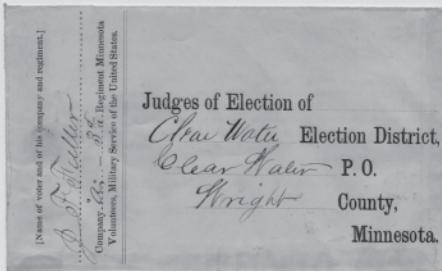


Image provided by the Minnesota Historical Society

The absentee ballot envelope (front and back) of J.E. Fuller sent from the war front during the Civil War to his home precinct in Wright County in November 1864. Fuller served in Company A, 3rd Regiment Minnesota Volunteers.

PRESIDENTS AND VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES

President	Party Designation	Term	Vice President
George Washington	None, Federalist	1789-1797	John Adams
John Adams	Federalist	1797-1801	Thomas Jefferson
Thomas Jefferson	Democratic-Republican	1801-1809	Aaron Burr, George Clinton
James Madison	Democratic-Republican	1809-1817	George Clinton ¹⁰ , Elbridge Gerry ¹¹
James Monroe	Democratic-Republican	1817-1825	Daniel Tompkins
John Quincy Adams	Democratic-Republican	1825-1829	John Calhoun
Andrew Jackson	Democrat	1829-1837	John Calhoun ¹² , Martin van Buren
Martin van Buren	Democrat	1837-1841	Richard Johnson
William H. Harrison ¹	Whig	1841	John Tyler
John Tyler	Whig	1841-1845	vacant ¹³
James K. Polk	Democrat	1845-1849	George Dallas
Zachary Taylor ²	Whig	1849-1850	Millard Fillmore
Millard Fillmore	Whig	1850-1853	vacant ¹³
Franklin Pierce	Democrat	1853-1857	William King
James Buchanan	Democrat	1857-1861	John Breckinridge
Abraham Lincoln ³	Republican	1861-1865	Hannibal Hamlin, Andrew Johnson
Andrew Johnson	National Union	1865-1869	vacant ¹³
Ulysses S. Grant	Republican	1869-1877	Schuyler Colfax
Rutherford Hayes	Republican	1877-1881	William Wheeler
James Garfield ⁴	Republican	1881	Chester Arthur
Chester Arthur	Republican	1881-1885	vacant ¹³
Grover Cleveland	Democrat	1885-1889	Thomas Hendriks
Benjamin Harrison	Republican	1889-1893	Levi Morton
Grover Cleveland	Democrat	1893-1897	Adlai Stevenson
William McKinley ⁵	Republican	1897-1901	Garret Hobart, Theodore Roosevelt
Theodore Roosevelt	Republican	1901-1909	Charles Fairbanks
William Taft	Republican	1909-1913	James Sherman
Woodrow Wilson	Democrat	1913-1921	Thomas Marshall
Warren Harding ⁶	Republican	1921-1923	Calvin Coolidge
Calvin Coolidge	Republican	1923-1929	Charles Dawes
Herbert C. Hoover	Republican	1929-1933	Charles Curtis
Franklin Delano Roosevelt ⁷	Democrat	1933-1945	John Garner, Henry Wallace, Harry S. Truman
Harry S. Truman	Democrat	1945-1953	Alben Barkley
Dwight David Eisenhower	Republican	1953-1961	Richard Milhous Nixon
John Fitzgerald Kennedy ⁸	Democrat	1961-1963	Lyndon Baines Johnson
Lyndon Baines Johnson	Democrat	1963-1969	Hubert Horatio Humphrey
Richard Milhous Nixon ⁹	Republican	1969-1974	Spiro Theodore Agnew ¹⁴ , Gerald R. Ford
Gerald R. Ford	Republican	1974-1977	Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller
James "Jimmy" Earl Carter, Jr.	Democrat	1977-1981	Walter Frederick Mondale
Ronald Wilson Reagan	Republican	1981-1989	George Herbert Walker Bush
George Herbert Walker Bush	Republican	1989-1993	James Danforth "Dan" Quayle
William "Bill" Jefferson Clinton	Democrat	1993-2001	Albert "Al" Arnold Gore
George Walker Bush	Republican	2001-2009	Richard "Dick" Bruce Cheney
Barack Hussein Obama	Democrat	2009-	Joseph "Joe" Robinette Biden Jr.

¹Died in office, April 4, 1841, and succeeded by Vice President Tyler.

²Died in office, July 9, 1850, and succeeded by Vice President Fillmore.

³Assassinated April 14, 1865, and succeeded by Vice President Johnson, April 15, 1865.

⁴Died September 19, 1881, from wounds by assassin, and succeeded by Vice President Arthur.

⁵Died September 14, 1901, from wounds by assassin, and succeeded by Vice President Roosevelt.

⁶Died in office, August 2, 1923, and succeeded by Vice President Coolidge.

⁷Died in office, April 12, 1945, and succeeded by Vice President Truman.

⁸Assassinated November 22, 1963, and succeeded by Vice President Johnson.

⁹Resigned on August 9, 1974, and succeeded by Vice President Ford.

¹⁰Died in office, April 20, 1812.

¹¹Died in office, November 23, 1814.

¹²Resigned December 28, 1832, to become U.S. Senator.

¹³Prior to the adoption of the 25th amendment in 1967, no constitutional provision existed to fill a vice-presidential vacancy.

¹⁴Resigned October 10, 1973.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Supreme Court Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20543 **Phone:** (202) 479-3000 **Web site:** www.supremecourtus.gov

Term: Life

Salary: Chief Justice, \$223,500; Associate Justice, \$213,900



Steve Petteway, Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States

The Supreme Court of the United States: (standing, left to right) Sonia Sotomayor, New York (2009); Stephen G. Breyer, California (1994); Samuel A. Alito, Jr., New Jersey (2006); Elena Kagan, New York (2010)

(seated, left to right) Clarence Thomas, Washington D.C. (1991); Antonin Scalia, New Jersey (1986) John G. Roberts, Jr., Maryland (2005); Anthony Kennedy, California (1988); Ruth Bader Ginsburg, New York (2006)

Year indicates date appointed to the Supreme Court

MINNESOTANS ON THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES SINCE STATEHOOD

Pierce Butler, associate justice, United States Supreme Court (1923–1939).

Born March 17, 1866, Dakota County. Education: Carleton College (1877); read law in office of Pinch and Twohy; assistant county attorney (1891–93), county attorney (1893–97); railroad counsel, law practice; regent, University of Minnesota (17 years); U.S. Supreme Court (1923–39). Died November 16, 1939.

William O. Douglas, associate justice, United States Supreme Court (1939–1975).

Born October 16, 1898, Maine Township, Minnesota. Education: Whitman College (1920), Columbia University Law School (1925); law practice (1925–27); faculty, Columbia University (1928–29); faculty, Yale University (1929–1936); commissioner, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (1936–39); U.S. Supreme Court (1939–75). Died January 19, 1980.

Warren E. Burger, chief justice, United States Supreme Court (1969–1986).

Born September 17, 1907, St. Paul. Education: University of Minnesota, St. Paul (now William Mitchell) College of Law (1931, magna cum laude); law practice; faculty, William Mitchell College of Law; U.S. assistant attorney general, U.S. Court of Appeals (1956–69); U.S. Supreme Court (1969–86); chair, Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution. Died June 25, 1995.

Harry A. Blackmun, associate justice, United States Supreme Court (1970–1994).

Born November 12, 1908, Nashville, Illinois. Education: Harvard University (A.B. 1929, summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa; LL.B. 1932); law practice; faculty, William Mitchell College of Law, University of Minnesota Law School; resident counsel, Mayo Clinic and Mayo Association; U.S. Court of Appeals (1959–70); U.S. Supreme Court (1970–94). Died March 4, 1999.

~ Voting in Minnesota ~

Highest and Lowest Voter Turnouts Since 1950

The highest voter turnout in a Minnesota general election was in 1956 at 83 percent; the highest voter turnout in a primary election was in 1966 at 39 percent.

The lowest voter turnout in a general election was in 1986 at 48 percent; the lowest voter turnout in a primary election was in 2004 at 7.7 percent.

MINNESOTA'S FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBES

Federally recognized American Indian tribes are ones that were in existence, or evolved as a successor to a tribe that was in existence, before anyone else inhabited the United States. Tribes exist in a “domestic dependent nation status” and have a government-to-government relationship with the United States. They possess certain inherent rights of self-government and are entitled to certain federal benefits, services and protections.

Bois Forte Band of Chippewa-Nett Lake
5344 Lakeshore Dr., Nett Lake, MN 55772
Phone: (800) 221-8129 **Fax:** (218) 757-3312
Bois Forte Band of Chippewa-Vermillion
1610 Farm Road South, Tower, MN 55790
Phone: (218) 753-4905 **Fax:** (218) 753-4053
Website: www.boisforte.com
Email: kevin.leecy@boisforte-nsn.gov
Tribal Chair: Kevin Leecy

Grand Portage Band of Chippewa
P.O. Box 428, Grand Portage, MN 55605
Phone: (218) 475-2277
Email: Norman@grandportage.com
Website: www.grandportage.com
Tribal Chair: Norman Deschampe

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
Government Center, 43408 Oodena Dr., Onamia, MN 56359
Phone: (320) 532-4181
Website: www.millelacsobjibwe.org
Tribal Chair: Melanie Benjamin

Red Lake Band of Ojibwe
P.O. Box 550, Red Lake, MN 56671
Phone: (218) 679-3341 **Fax:** (218) 679-3378
Email: floydjournain@hotmail.com
Tribal Chair: Floyd “Buck” Journain

Upper Sioux Community Pejuhutazizi Oyate
P.O. Box 147, 5722 Travers Lane, Granite Falls, MN 56241
Phone: (320) 564-3853
Email: kevinj@upperсиouxcommunity-nsn.gov
Website: www.upperсиouxcommunity-nsn.gov
Tribal Chair: Kevin Jensvold

Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
1720 Big Lake Rd., Cloquet, MN 55720
Phone: (218) 879-4593
Website: www.fdlrez.com
Tribal Chair: Karen R. Diver

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
115 6th St. N.W., Cass Lake, MN 56633
Phone: (218) 335-8200 **Fax:** (218) 335-8309
Website: www.llojibwe.com
Tribal Chair: Carri Jones

Lower Sioux Community
P.O. Box 308, 39527 Res. Hwy. 1, Morton, MN 56283
Phone: (507) 697-6185 **Fax:** (507) 697-8617
Website: www.lowerсиoux.com
Tribal President: Denny Prescott

Prairie Island Indian Community
5636 Sturgeon Lake Rd., Welch, MN 55089
Phone: (800) 554-5473 **Fax:** (651) 385-4180
Email: rjohnson@piic.org
Website: www.prairieisland.org
Tribal President: Johnny Johnson

Shakopee-Mdewakanton Sioux (Dakota) Community
2330 Sioux Tr. N.W., Prior Lake, MN 55372
Phone: (952) 445-8900
Website: www.shakopeedakota.org
Tribal Chair: Charlie Vig

White Earth Band of Ojibwe
P.O. Box 418, White Earth, MN 56591
Phone: (218) 983-3285
Website: www.whiteearth.com
Tribal Chair: Erma Vizenor

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