



2. My current duties include advising the Secretary of State and the State Elections Director on elections issues generally, including the preparation and scheduling of special elections, candidate filing and ballot formatting, ballot creation, ballot distribution, and absentee balloting in compliance with Minnesota law.

3. As a result of my position, I am familiar with the steps involved with preparing for special elections and the administration of special elections generally.

4. Since the enactment of Minn. Stat. § 351.055 in 1987, every Minnesota governor has concluded that it authorizes writs of election for vacancies that will occur in the future. I have selected three examples of such writs scheduling special elections to fill legislative vacancies. Attached as Exhibit 1 is a copy of a July 14, 2008 writ of election from Governor Tim Pawlenty for a pair of legislative vacancies occurring on July 28 and November 5, 2008. Attached as Exhibit 2 is a copy of a June 16, 2015 writ of election from Governor Mark Dayton for a legislative vacancy occurring July 1, 2015. Attached as Exhibit 3 is a copy of a November 27, 2019 writ of election from Governor Tim Walz for a legislative vacancy occurring December 6, 2019.

5. In practical terms, election officials making the necessary arrangements for a special election cannot begin their preparations without the information that is provided in a writ of special election. For example, election officials cannot prepare ballots before the names of the candidates running in the election have been determined, which only happens during the filing period defined by the writ of special election. Election officials also cannot prepare ballots for a special primary until they know whether the number of candidates running is sufficient to require such a proceeding. Officials need a writ of

special election to provide them with dates of the candidate filing period so that they can arrange for appropriate staff to be available to accept candidate filings. They need to know the dates of the special primary and special election to secure polling places and election judges to staff them. They need the same information to staff and prepare for absentee voting. There is little, if any, preparation that can be done without a writ of election.

6. Multiple governors of Minnesota have scheduled special election proceedings in which the candidate filing period ended less than five days after the governor issued the writ of special election. I have collected four examples of writs creating such schedules. Enclosed as Exhibit 4 is a copy of a writ of election issued by Governor Rudy Perpich on January 9, 1989, scheduling a filing period that ended January 13. Enclosed as Exhibit 5 is a copy of a writ of election issued by Governor Tim Pawlenty on January 30, 2003, scheduling a filing period that ended February 3. Enclosed as Exhibit 6 is a copy of a writ of election issued by Governor Pawlenty on January 17, 2003, scheduling a filing period that ended on January 21 (the next business day). Enclosed as Exhibit 7 is a copy of a writ of election issued by Governor Tim Walz on February 13, 2024, scheduling a filing period that ended on February 15. Each of these writs was issued in January or February when the legislature would be in session.

7. The special election for Minnesota House District 40B has been well underway for some time. The Office of the Secretary of State first posted information about the beginning of absentee voting on December 29, 2024 and then updated that information on January 3, 2025 when it became apparent that no special primary would be required. Ballots have been programmed and printed. Eligible voters in Minnesota House

District 40B have begun voting by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots are already being mailed to those who have registered to be on the permanent absentee ballot list, as well as Minnesota's uniformed and overseas voters.

8. I declare under penalty of perjury that everything I have stated in this declaration is true and correct.

Dated: January 10, 2025

/s/Justin R. Erickson  
JUSTIN R. ERICKSON

# STATE of MINNESOTA

EXECUTIVE



DEPARTMENT

**TIM PAWLENTY**  
**GOVERNOR**

## WRIT OF SPECIAL ELECTION

**WRIT OF SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL A VACANCIES  
IN THE OFFICE OF STATE SENATOR  
FOR SENATE DISTRICT 16 IN BENTON,  
MILLE LACS, MORRISON AND SHERBURNE  
COUNTIES AND SENATE DISTRICT 63  
IN HENNEPIN COUNTY AND OF A SPECIAL  
PRIMARY TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES  
FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTIONS**

To the People of the State of Minnesota, and particularly of Senate District 16 in Benton, Mille Lacs, Morrison and Sherburne Counties and Senate District 63 in Hennepin County; to the Secretary of State of Minnesota; to the auditors of Benton, Hennepin, Mille Lacs, Morrison and Sherburne Counties; to all election officials in Senate Districts 16 and 63; and to all others who may be concerned:

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy in the office of State Senator for Senate District 16 of the State of Minnesota, caused by the resignation of Senator Betsy L. Wergin, effective July 28, 2008; and

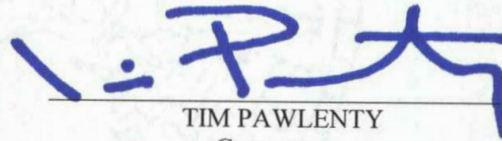
WHEREAS, there is a vacancy in the office of State Senator for Senate District 63 of the State of Minnesota, caused by the resignation of Senator Dan Larson, effective November 5, 2008; and

WHEREAS, special elections are necessary to fill these vacancies to assure representation for the citizens of Senate Districts 16 and 63.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tim Pawlenty, as Governor of the State of Minnesota, acting under the authority and direction vested in me by the Minnesota Constitution, Article IV, Section 4, Minnesota Statutes, Sections 204D.17 through 204D.27, 351.01, 351.02, 351.055, and other relevant statutes, do hereby direct that:

1. A special election to fill the vacancy will be held in Senate Districts 16 and 63 on Tuesday, November 4, 2008.
2. A special primary, if necessary, for the nomination of candidates for the office of Senator for Senate District 16 and Senate District 63 will be held on Tuesday, September 9, 2008.
3. Affidavits and petitions of candidacy for Senate District 16 and Senate District 63 must be filed with the secretary of state or with the county auditor of the county in which the candidate resides from Tuesday, July 15, 2008, until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 21, 2008.
4. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 204D.23, subd. 5, affidavits of withdrawal for Senate Districts 16 and 63 may be filed with the Secretary of State until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 22, 2008.
5. Notices of this special election and special primary must be given, the nomination and election of candidates must be conducted, and all things pertaining thereto must be done as provided by Minnesota Statutes, Sections 204D.17 through 204D.27, and other applicable provisions of law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand at the Capitol, in the City of St. Paul, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota, on July 14, 2008.



TIM PAWLENTY  
Governor

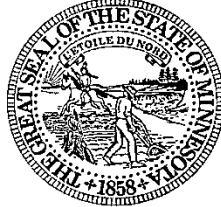
Filed in Accordance with Law:



MARK RITCHIE  
Secretary of State



**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**



**MARK DAYTON  
GOVERNOR**

**WRIT OF SPECIAL ELECTION**

**WRIT OF SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL A VACANCY  
IN THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 46A IN HENNEPIN COUNTY  
AND OF A SPECIAL  
PRIMARY TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES  
FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTION**

To the People of the State of Minnesota, and particularly of House District 46A in Hennepin County; to the Secretary of State of Minnesota; to the auditor of Hennepin County; to all election officials in House District 46A; and to all others who may be concerned.

**Whereas**, there is a vacancy in the office of State Representative for House District 46A of the State of Minnesota, caused by the resignation of Representative Ryan Winkler, effective July 1, 2015; and

**Whereas**, a special election is necessary to fill this vacancy to ensure representation for the citizens of House District 46A.

**Now, Therefore**, I, Mark Dayton, as Governor of the State of Minnesota, acting under the authority and direction vested in me by the Minnesota Constitution, Article IV, Section 4, Minnesota Statutes 2014, sections 204D.17 to 204D.27, 351.01, 351.02, 351.055, and other relevant statutes, do hereby direct that:

1. A special election to fill the vacancy will be held in House District 46A on Tuesday, November 3, 2015.
2. A special primary, if necessary, for the nomination of candidates for the office of State Representative for House District 46A will be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2015.
3. Affidavits of candidacy and nominating petitions for House District 46A must be filed with the Secretary of State or the county auditor of Hennepin County from Wednesday, June 17, 2015 until 5 p.m. on Monday, June 22, 2015.

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4. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 204D.23, subd. 5, affidavits of withdrawal for House District 46A may be filed with the same official who received the affidavit of candidacy until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23, 2015.
5. Notices of this special election and special primary must be given, the nomination and election of candidates must be conducted, and all things pertaining thereto must be done as provided by Minnesota Statutes 2014, sections 204D.17 to 204D.27, and other applicable law.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand at the Capitol, in the City of Saint Paul, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota, on June 16, 2015.



**Mark Dayton**  
Governor

Filed According to Law:



**Steve Simon**  
Secretary of State





# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Executive Department



## Governor Tim Walz

### Writ of Special Election

#### **Writ of Special Election to fill a vacancy in the office of State Representative for District 30A in Sherburne and Wright Counties and of a special primary to nominate candidates for the special election**

To the People of the State of Minnesota and particularly those residing in District 30A in Sherburne and Wright Counties; to the Secretary of State of Minnesota; to the auditor of Sherburne and Wright Counties; to all election officials in District 30A; and to all others who may be concerned.

There is a vacancy in the office of State Representative for District 30A of the State of Minnesota, caused by the resignation of Representative Nick Zerwas effective December 6, 2019. A special election is necessary to fill this vacancy to ensure representation for the citizens of District 30A.

I, Tim Walz, as Governor of the State of Minnesota, acting under the authority and direction vested in me by the Minnesota Constitution, Article IV, section 4, Minnesota Statutes 2019, sections 204D.17 to 204D.27, 351.01, 351.02, 351.055, and other relevant statutes, direct that:

1. A special election to fill the vacancy will be held in District 30A on Tuesday, February 4, 2020.
2. A special primary, if necessary, for nomination of candidates for the office of State Representative for District 30A will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020.
3. Affidavits of candidacy and nominating petitions for District 30A must be filed with the Secretary of State or the county auditor of Sherburne and Wright Counties from Tuesday, December 3, 2019 until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 10, 2019.
4. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2019, section 204D.23, subdivision 5, affidavits of withdrawal for District 30A may be filed with the same official who received the affidavit of candidacy until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11, 2019.

5. Notices of this special election and special primary must be given, the nomination and election of candidates must be conducted, and all related actions must be done as provided by Minnesota Statutes 2019, sections 204D.17 to 204D.27, and other applicable laws.

Signed on November 27, 2019.



**Tim Walz**  
Governor

Filed According to Law:



**Steve Simon**  
Secretary of State





### WRIT OF SPECIAL ELECTION

WRIT OF SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 52A IN THE COUNTIES OF ANOKA AND RAMSEY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, AND OF A SPECIAL PRIMARY TO NOMINATE THE CANDIDATES FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTION

To the People of the State of Minnesota, and particularly of Legislative District 52A in the Counties of Anoka and Ramsey; to the Secretary of State of Minnesota; to the auditors of the above-named counties; to all election officials in Legislative District 52A and to all others who may be concerned:

WHEREAS, a vacancy has occurred in the office of State Representative from Legislative District 52A of the State of Minnesota, caused by the resignation, effective January 4, 1989, of Representative Gordon O. Voss, and written acceptance of the resignation; and

WHEREAS, a special election to fill said vacancy is necessary to assure representation for the citizens of Legislative District 52A;

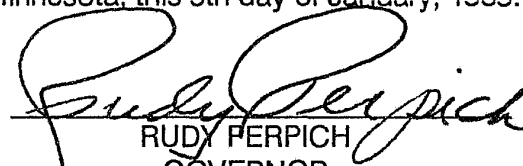
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, as Governor of the State of Minnesota, acting under the authority and direction vested in me by the Minnesota Constitution, Article IV, Section 4, and Minnesota Statutes 204D.17 to 204D.27, and other relevant statutes, do hereby direct that:

1. A special election to fill said vacancy be held in Legislative District 52A on Saturday, February 4, 1989;



2. A special primary, if necessary, for the nomination of candidates for the office be held in Legislative District 52A on Saturday, January 21, 1989;
3. Affidavits and petitions of candidacy be filed with the Secretary of State from Monday, January 9, 1989, until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 13, 1989;
4. Notices of this special election and special primary be given, that the nomination and election of candidates be conducted and that all things pertaining thereto be done as provided by Minnesota Statutes Sections 204D.17 to 204D.27, and other applicable provisions of law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand at the Capitol, in the City of St. Paul, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota, this 9th day of January, 1989.

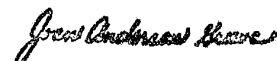
  
RUDY PERPICH  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF MINNESOTA

Filed According to Law:

  
JOAN ANDERSON GROWE  
SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
FILED

JAN 9 1989

  
Secretary of State



JOAN ANDERSON GROWE  
Secretary of State  
ELAINE VOSS  
Deputy Secretary of State

State of Minnesota  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
Saint Paul 55155

January 9, 1989

180 STATE OFFICE BUILDING  
Corporation Division: 612/296-2803  
UCC Division: 612/296-2434  
Election Division: 612/296-2805  
Office of the Secretary: 612/296-3266  
Office of Deputy Secy.: 612/296-2309

TO: Anoka and Ramsey County Auditors  
FROM: Joan Anderson Growe  
Secretary of State  
SUBJECT: SPECIAL ELECTION FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE 52A

Pursuant to M.S. 204D.22, subd. 2, the writ of election for the special election to be held on February 4, 1989 to fill the vacancy in the representative district 52A is enclosed. The writ should be posted in your office immediately.

SPECIAL.8811

"AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"



ELECTION CALENDAR

SPECIAL ELECTION - STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 52A

Writ issued	M	January 9
Filing period opens	M	January 9
Filing period closes	F	January 13, 5:00 PM
Notice of special primary	F	January 13
Notice of special election	F	January 20
Special primary	Sa	January 21
County canvassing board	M	January 23
State canvassing board	W	January 25
Special election	Sa	February 4
County canvassing board	M	February 6
State canvassing board	W	February 8

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# STATE of MINNESOTA

EXECUTIVE



DEPARTMENT

**TIM PAWLENTY**  
**GOVERNOR**

## WRIT OF SPECIAL ELECTION

**WRIT OF SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL A CERTAIN VACANCY IN THE  
OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF HOUSE DISTRICT 52B IN  
THE COUNTY OF WASHINGTON, STATE OF MINNESOTA, AND OF  
A SPECIAL PRIMARY TO NOMINATE THE CANDIDATES FOR THE  
SPECIAL ELECTION.**

To the People of the State of Minnesota, and particularly of House District 52B, in the County of Washington; to the Secretary of State of Minnesota; to the auditor of the above-named county; to all election officials in House District 52B and to all others who may be concerned:

WHEREAS, a vacancy has occurred in the office of State Representative from House District 52B of the State of Minnesota, caused by the resignation of Representative Mark Holsten; and

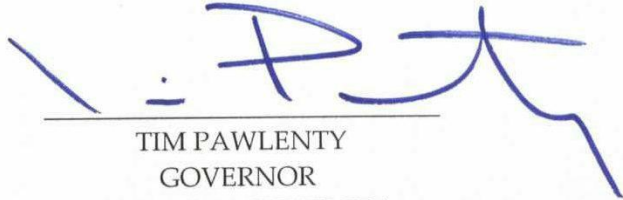
WHEREAS, a special election to fill said vacancy is necessary to assure representation for the citizens of House District 52B.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tim Pawlenty, as Governor of the State of Minnesota, acting under the authority and direction vested in me by the Minnesota Constitution, Article IV, Section 4, and Minnesota Statutes Sections 204D.17 to 204D.27, 351.01, 351.055, and other relevant statutes, do hereby direct that:

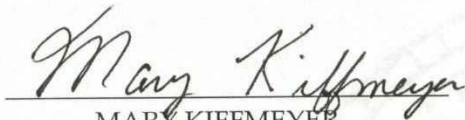
1. A special election to fill said vacancy be held in House District 52B on Tuesday, February 11, 2003.
2. A special primary, if necessary, for the nomination of candidates for the office be held in House District 52B on Tuesday, January 28, 2003.
3. Affidavits and petitions of candidacy be filed with the Washington County Auditor from 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 21, 2003 until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 21, 2003.

4. Notices of this special election and special primary be given, that the nomination and election of candidates be conducted and that all things pertaining thereto be done as provided by Minnesota Statutes, Sections 204D.17 to 204D.27, and other applicable provisions of law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand at the Capitol, in the City of St. Paul, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota, on Friday the Seventeenth of January 2003.



TIM PAWLENTY  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF MINNESOTA



MARY KIFFMEYER  
SECRETARY OF STATE





# STATE of MINNESOTA



**TIM PAWLENTY**  
**GOVERNOR**

## WRIT OF SPECIAL ELECTION

**WRIT OF SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL A CERTAIN VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF HOUSE DISTRICT 32B IN THE COUNTY OF HENNEPIN, STATE OF MINNESOTA, AND OF A SPECIAL PRIMARY TO NOMINATE THE CANDIDATES FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTION.**

To the People of the State of Minnesota, and particularly of House District 32B, in the County of Hennepin; to the Secretary of State of Minnesota; to the auditor of the above-named county; to all election officials in House District 32B and to all others who may be concerned:

WHEREAS, a vacancy has occurred in the office of State Representative from House District 32B of the State of Minnesota, caused by the resignation of Representative Richard Stanek; and

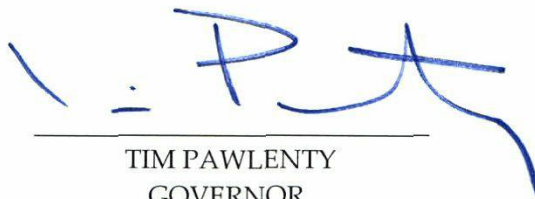
WHEREAS, a special election to fill said vacancy is necessary to assure representation for the citizens of House District 32B.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tim Pawlenty, as Governor of the State of Minnesota, acting under the authority and direction vested in me by the Minnesota Constitution, Article IV, Section 4, and Minnesota Statutes Sections 204D.17 to 204D.27, 351.01, 351.055, and other relevant statutes, do hereby direct that:

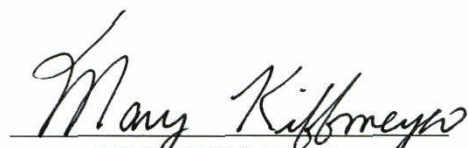
1. A special election to fill said vacancy be held in House District 32B on Tuesday, February 25, 2003.
2. A special primary, if necessary, for the nomination of candidates for the office be held in House District 32B on Tuesday, February 11, 2003.
3. Affidavits and petitions of candidacy be filed with the Hennepin County Auditor from 8:00 a.m. on Friday, January 31, 2003 until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 3, 2003.

4. Notices of this special election and special primary be given, that the nomination and election of candidates be conducted and that all things pertaining thereto be done as provided by Minnesota Statutes, Sections 204D.17 to 204D.27, and other applicable provisions of law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand at the Capitol, in the City of St. Paul, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota, on Thursday the thirtieth day of January 2003.



TIM PAWLENTY  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF MINNESOTA



MARY KIFFMEYER  
SECRETARY OF STATE



Richard W. Stanek  
State Representative

District 33B  
Hennepin County



# Minnesota House of Representatives

CHAIR: JUDICIARY FINANCE  
COMMITTEES: CIVIL LAW; CRIME PREVENTION; WAYS AND MEANS

January 29, 2003

The Honorable Tim Pawlenty  
Governor, State of Minnesota  
130 State Capitol  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Governor Pawlenty:

I hereby resign my legislative house seat for district 32B effective January 30, 2003 at 10:00pm. It has been an honor to serve in the Minnesota House of Representatives. I look forward to continuing my service in your administration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rich Stanek". The signature is stylized and written in cursive.

Rich Stanek  
State Representative  
District 32B

CC: Speaker Steve Sviggum  
Paul Schweizer



# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Executive Department



## Governor Tim Walz

### Writ of Special Election

#### **Writ of Special Election to fill a vacancy in the office of State Representative for District 27B in Anoka, Isanti, Mille Lacs, and Sherburne Counties and of a special primary to nominate candidates for the special election**

To the People of the State of Minnesota and particularly those residing in District 27B in Anoka, Isanti, Mille Lacs, and Sherburne Counties; to the Secretary of State of Minnesota; to the auditors of Anoka, Isanti, Mille Lacs, and Sherburne Counties; to all election officials in District 27B; and to all others who may be concerned.

There is a vacancy in the office of State Representative for District 27B of the State of Minnesota, caused by the resignation of Representative Kurt Daudt, effective February 11, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. A special election is necessary to fill this vacancy to ensure representation for the citizens of District 27B.

I, Tim Walz, as Governor of the State of Minnesota, acting under the authority and direction vested in me by the Minnesota Constitution, Article IV, section 4, Minnesota Statutes 2023, sections 204D.17 to 204D.27, 351.01, 351.02, 351.055, and other relevant statutes, direct that:

1. A special election to fill the vacancy will be held in District 27B on Tuesday, March 19, 2024.
2. A special primary, if necessary, for nomination of candidates for the office of State Representative for District 27B will be held on Thursday, February 29, 2024.
3. Affidavits of candidacy and nominating petitions for District 27B must be filed with the Secretary of State or the county auditor of Anoka, Isanti, Mille Lacs, and Sherburne Counties from Wednesday, February 14, 2024, until 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 15, 2024.
4. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2023, section 204D.23, subdivision 5, affidavits of withdrawal for District 27B may be filed with the same official who received the affidavit of candidacy until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 16, 2024.

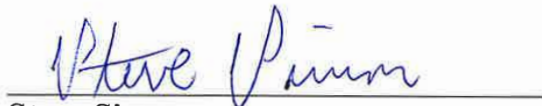
5. Notices of this special election and special primary must be given, the nomination and election of candidates must be conducted, and all related actions must be done as provided by Minnesota Statutes 2023, sections 204D.17 to 204D.27, and other applicable laws.

Signed on February 13, 2024.



**Tim Walz**  
Governor

Filed According to Law:



**Steve Simon**  
Secretary of State

Filed February 13, 2024  
Office of the Minnesota  
Secretary of State  
Steve Simon