

In the matter of the Proposed Rules of the Secretary of State Relating to the Approval of Voting Machines or Systems.

STATEMENT OF NEED AND REASONABLENESS

The need to amend part 8220.0650 arises from the Secretary of State's desire to streamline and simplify the decertification process. The amended 8220.0650 will provide the opportunity for a contested case hearing to those who desire it, without mandating it to those who do not. This is consistent with good government goals of saving time and money.

As required by Minnesota Statutes 14.115 the Election Division has considered the effect of this rule on small businesses. The impact is minimal for two reasons. First, decertification of machines and systems is already established under existing rules. This is a modification of existing rules, not the establishment of a new demand on small businesses. Secondly small businesses will benefit from reduced regulation as under this rule hearings will only be held when the vendor is interested in defending the machine or system. Previously machines or systems no longer of interest to the vendor also required a hearing.

Also pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 14.11 there is no impact on agricultural land nor will the adoption of these rules result in additional spending by local public bodies in excess of \$100,000 per year for the first two years following the adoption of these rules.

C8801.12