

To: Senate Committee On Transportation and Elections
From: Paul Malischke
Date: October 26, 2011

Subject: Pollworker residency

Under current law, pollworkers must reside in the municipality they serve. Some municipalities would like the ability to recruit pollworkers from throughout their county. This would help relieve pollworker shortages, and improve our Election Day procedures. However, there should be boundaries on pollworkers from outside the municipality, lest citizens fear that outsiders might take over their elections.

When considering allowing countywide recruitment of pollworkers, please include these clauses:

1. The governing body may by resolution permit the appointment of electors who are not residents of the municipality to serve as election inspectors as long as they reside in the county.
2. The governing body may add other conditions to the appointment of non-resident pollworkers, such as a limit to the term of the appointment, and a limit to the number of non-resident pollworkers at each polling place.
3. Nominations shall list the municipality of residence of the election official.
4. The chief inspector must be a resident of the municipality.
5. Nominees submitted by the parties under statute 7.30 (4) (b) must be residents of the municipality.