

This Document can be made available
in alternative formats upon request

State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**EIGHTY-SIXTH
SESSION**

HOUSE FILE No. 255

January 22, 2009

Authored by Slawik

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on State and Local Government Operations Reform,
Technology and Elections

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to elections; prohibiting use of deceptive names of candidates, political
1.3 committees, and political funds; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota
1.4 Statutes, chapter 211B.

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

1.6 Section 1. **[211B.22] USE OF DECEPTIVE NAMES PROHIBITED.**

1.7 An individual; a candidate, political committee, or political fund as defined in
1.8 section 10A.01 or 383B.042; or a candidate or committee as defined in section 211A.01,
1.9 may not use a name that is deceptively similar to a name used previously by any other
1.10 candidate, political committee, or political fund, unless the candidate, political committee,
1.11 or political fund that used the name first has given permission to use the similar name. A
1.12 name is deceptively similar to another name if a reasonable person would find that one
1.13 name imitates or so nearly resembles another that its use tends to lead voters to confuse
1.14 the two or to make it difficult to distinguish one from another.