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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SIXTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **656**

February 9, 2009

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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 proposing an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution, article VII, section 1;
1.3 changing the state and local election voting age from 18 to 16.

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

1.5 Section 1. **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED.**

1.6 An amendment to the Minnesota Constitution is proposed to the people. If the
1.7 amendment is adopted, article VII, section 1, will read:

1.8 Section 1. Every person ~~18~~ 16 years of age or more who has been a citizen of the
1.9 United States for three months and who has resided in the precinct for 30 days next
1.10 preceding an election shall be entitled to vote in that precinct. The place of voting by one
1.11 otherwise qualified who has changed his residence within 30 days preceding the election
1.12 shall be prescribed by law. The following persons shall not be entitled or permitted to
1.13 vote at any election in this state: A person not meeting the above requirements; a person
1.14 who has been convicted of treason or felony, unless restored to civil rights; a person under
1.15 guardianship, or a person who is insane or not mentally competent.

1.16 Sec. 2. **SUBMISSION TO VOTERS.**

1.17 The proposed amendment must be submitted to the people at the 2010 general
1.18 election. The question submitted must be:

1.19 "Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to allow persons 16 or more years
1.20 of age to vote in state and local elections?

1.21 Yes
1.22 No"