

HB 1198 Rep Steve Vetter

Good Morning Chairman Vedaa and GVA Senators.

Introduction

HB 1198 guarantees every county will have a physical polling location on the Election. If you look at the century code, you will find it already states there must be one physical polling location per county. However, this law guarantees it.

For example, last election cycle, primary election was mail-in only and did not allow for people to vote on Election Day which is contrary to tradition.

If an election needs to be mail-in only election because of an emergency then a special session could be called and the issue settled quickly. Especially with the new approved technologies available because it could be done remotely. In last year's primary there was plenty of time to call a special remote session.

If you decide to pass this bill, you won't need to beg your county official to please allow you to vote in person. This bill provides the current minimum standard to not change.

This bill is in no way an attack on the Governor. This is about limiting the office to have the ability to limit the people's ability to vote in person for the Elections.

Elections are too important to be in the control of one person. If a significant change like not having one physical polling location per county

needs to be changed because an emergency then the decision should be made by a consensus of the legislature.

This is a simple but very important election integrity bill. I would ask that you give HB 1198 a favorable Do Pass recommendation. Thank you and I will stand for questions.