

## Vetter, Steve M.

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**From:** Vetter, Steve M.  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 8:16 AM  
**To:** Vetter, Steve M.

Hi my name is Representative Steve Vetter

I represent District 18 which encompasses part of North Grand Forks, a part of South Grand Forks, the airbase and a small rural area. I stand here in support of House Bill 1198.

Chairman Koppelman and GVA committee,

HB 1198 guarantees every ND county will have at minimum 1 physical polling location. This is already the law but what this bill does is not allow this law to change by executive order. Tell story.

In the last primary election, there was no physical polling locations to vote on election day in several counties. And this is after the legislature spent millions on new voting machines. I heard from several people that they were not able to vote on Election Day. This shouldn't happen. HB 1198 needs to pass so this doesn't happen or worse in a general election.

Voting on Election Day has been a long tradition since our founding. There is a reason it is the law to require at least one physical polling location in each county.

This bill is in no way an attempt to attack on our governor. It has to do with the office of Governor. The office of a single person should not be able to wield the power of elections. Because Election law is so crucial to the integrity of our government, it should only be changed by a vote of the legislature and the governor.

If an emergency should arise where election law truly needs to be changed, then a special session could be called by the Governor and the law could be changed.

HB 1198 is critical bill to protect our elections. I hope you will join me and support HB 1198 with a Do Pass recommendation. Thank you