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CITY OF HOYT LAKES RESOLUTION 2017 – 007

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT STATE FUNDING FOR VOTING EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT

WHEREAS, Congress passed the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) in 2002 and provided one-time federal funds to purchase election equipment for all 50 states; and

WHEREAS, that election equipment, which has a lifespan of 10 to 15 years, is aging and needs to be replaced and the federal government has indicated that it does not intend to provide any additional funds; and

WHEREAS, a study in Minnesota has determined that it will cost \$28 million to replace the election equipment counties originally purchased with the HAVA funds and the equipment is at or exceeding its' expected useable age; and

WHEREAS, unlike some responsibilities undertaken by counties and municipalities, administering a statewide election in over 4,000 precincts is not an option, it is a statutory requirement and an important part of our democracy; and

WHEREAS, given that local governments were caught off guard when the federal funding was not renewed, they need assistance from the state to ensure that voting equipment works properly and consistently in precincts all around the state, and is up to the standards Minnesotans expect; and

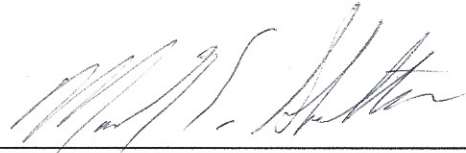
WHEREAS, projected cost for replacement equipment is estimated at \$10,000 per precinct.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of Hoyt Lakes heretofore supports Governor Dayton's proposal for \$14 million dollars of state funding to assist counties, communities and school districts with financial support for the systematic replacement of the aging election equipment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of Hoyt Lakes supports the efforts of Secretary of State, Steve Simon in his pursuit of funding via legislative action during the 2017 legislative session in recognition of the hardship the purchase or replacement of voting equipment will place on many rural communities across the State of Minnesota.

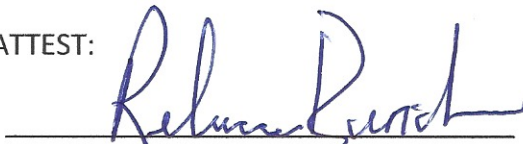
ADOPTED by the Hoyt Lakes City Council this 13th day of March, 2017.

By: _____



Mark Skelton, Mayor

ATTEST:



Rebecca Burich, City Clerk-Treasurer