

WHEREAS there is persistently low turnout in St. Paul city primary elections – just 12% in 2005 and 15% in 2003

WHEREAS Instant Runoff Voting in Saint Paul will:

- Achieve a majority winner in a single election,
- Eliminate low-turnout primaries for city elections, thereby increasing voter participation and available choices of candidates,
- Ensure that qualified candidates cannot be eliminated in low-turnout primaries and can compete in the general election, which has higher turnout and is more diverse and representative than a primary election,
- Better reflect voters' intent and assure better representation of voters
- Reduce negative campaigning and lead to more informative and positive campaigns,
- Save the city and candidates time and cost by eliminating separate runoff city elections;

WHEREAS Instant Runoff Voting is already being used in San Francisco, California, Cambridge, Massachusetts, in three states for overseas voters, in several cities in North Carolina beginning in 2007 and is pending implementation in a dozen other jurisdictions throughout the country;

WHEREAS Instant Runoff Voting was adopted by Minneapolis voters by margin of 2-1 and by similar margins—Oakland and Davis (CA), and Pierce County (WA) in the November 2006 elections;

WHEREAS Instant Runoff Voting is endorsed by the Stonewall DFL, the DFL Progressive Caucus; the Chair and Co-Chair of the Minnesota DFL party;

WHEREAS the Minneapolis DFL endorsed Instant Runoff Voting at the 2006 City Convention by a vote of 86.3%;

WHEREAS Instant Runoff Voting is endorsed by the Star Tribune, La Prensa, League of Women Voters of Minnesota, Take Action Minnesota, Sierra Club, Minnesota Public Interest Research Group (MPIRG), the Green Party of Minnesota and the Independence Party of Minnesota and several other organizations;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

**The Saint Paul DFL Party endorses Instant Runoff Voting for Saint Paul city elections.**

Whereas, the states have the power to initiate impeachment, and

Whereas, the House of Representatives has heretofore foregone its power of impeachment,

Be it resolved – that the City of Saint Paul will support efforts to impeach both the President of the United States (George W. Bush) and Vice President (Richard "Dick" Cheney) for their commonly known crimes, impeachable offenses and illegal acts — including, but not limited to, lying to Congress, illegal domestic surveillance, assertion of and acts of extra-constitutional power, and colluding with the oil industry to fix global energy pricing — and that the City of Saint Paul support impeachment efforts through a quick and timely resolution of the City Council that urges Minnesota State legislators to create, pass and forward to the Judiciary Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives articles of impeachment.