

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

13-0079R

RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING THE DATE FOR THE MUNICIPAL
PRIMARY ELECTION

CITY PROPOSAL:

WHEREAS, Chapter 281 of the Laws of Minnesota, 1973, provides that the Duluth city council establish the date for the municipal primary election which, in addition to municipal elections, includes school board elections; and

WHEREAS, on November 25, 1974, the Duluth city council passed a resolution establishing the first Tuesday after the second Monday in September as the date for the municipal primary election; and

WHEREAS, the municipal and school board primary elections has been held on the first Tuesday after the second Monday in September since 1975; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, the state legislature passed a law changing the date of the primaries to the second Tuesday in August; and

WHEREAS, the 2010 legislation did not include any provision which would supersede, repeal or amend the 1973 special law, and the city of Duluth continues to be able to set its own date for the municipal and school board primary elections; and

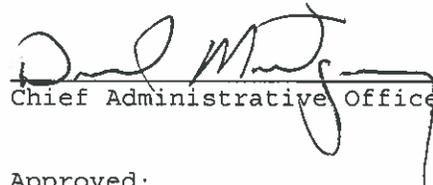
WHEREAS, the 2013 legislature is considering changing the date of the primary election from the second Tuesday in August to sometime in June, which change may cause voter confusion and decrease voter turnout.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED, that the Duluth city council hereby re-affirms that the date for the municipal and school board primary election be the first Tuesday after the second Monday in September.

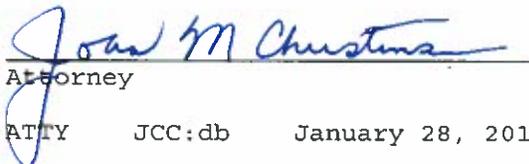
Approved:


Department Director

Approved for presentation to council:


Chief Administrative Officer

Approved as to form:


Attorney

Approved:


Auditor

ATTY JCC:db January 28, 2013

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution re-affirms the municipal and school board primary election date as the first Tuesday after the second Monday in September. This date was initially established in 1974. It is anticipated that the city will be acquiring new electronic voting equipment sometime in June. Having the primary election in September as opposed to August will allow the city clerk's office time for training city staff and election judges on the new electronic voting equipment that will be used in the 2013 elections.