

House File 238 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY ROBERTS

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for the determination of partisan balance on
2 boards and commissions and including an applicability
3 provision.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
5 TLSB 2186YH 82
6 ec/es/88

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1 1 Section 1. Section 69.16, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
1 2 2007, is amended to read as follows:
1 3 All appointive boards, commissions, and councils of the
1 4 state established by the Code if not otherwise provided by law
1 5 shall be bipartisan in their composition. ~~No~~ A person shall
1 6 ~~not~~ be appointed or reappointed to any board, commission, or
1 7 council established by the Code if the effect of that
1 8 appointment or reappointment would cause the number of members
1 9 of the board, commission, or council belonging to one eligible
1 10 political party to be greater exceed by more than one-half the
1 11 membership one the members of the board, commission, or
1 12 council plus one belonging to another eligible political
1 13 party. For purposes of this section, an eligible political
1 14 party is a political party, as defined in section 43.2, that
1 15 has one of the two highest numbers of registered voters in
1 16 this state. The political party to which a person belongs for
1 17 purposes of this section shall be determined prior to the date
1 18 of the person's appointment or reappointment, based on the
1 19 party registration, if any, of the person as of the date of
1 20 the most recent general election, the date of the most recent
1 21 primary election, or the date the person becomes eligible to
1 22 register to vote, whichever is latest.

1 23 Sec. 2. APPLICABILITY. This Act is applicable to
1 24 appointments or reappointments made on or after the effective
1 25 date of this Act to appointive boards, commissions, and
1 26 councils subject to Code section 69.16.

EXPLANATION

1 28 This bill concerns the determination of partisan balance
1 29 for appointive boards, commissions, and councils. The bill
1 30 provides that the number of members of an appointive board,
1 31 commission, or council of one eligible political party shall
1 32 not exceed by more than one the number of members from another
1 33 eligible political party. Under current law, the number of
1 34 members of such a body belonging to one political party shall
1 35 not be greater than one-half of the membership of the body.

2 1 The bill defines an eligible political party as a party
2 2 that has one of the two highest numbers of registered voters
2 3 in the state. In addition, the political party of a person to
2 4 be appointed or reappointed is determined based upon the
2 5 person's party registration as of the most recent general
2 6 election, most recent primary election, or the date the person
2 7 became eligible to vote, whichever is latest. The bill
2 8 provides that this change applies to appointments and
2 9 reappointments made on or after the effective date of the
2 10 bill.

2 11 LSB 2186YH 82
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