

# A BILL

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE FORM OF BALLOT TO BE USED AT MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS AND FOR THE MANNER OF NOMINATIONS BY PETITION FOR PLACE ON SUCH BALLOT AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF ITS PROVISIONS AND REPEALING ACTS INCONSISTENT WITH ITS PROVISIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. That at all elections held in cities and incorporated towns for the election of  
2 municipal officers, the names of parties and the circles shall be omitted from the ballot.

Sec. 2. The names to be voted for shall be placed in alphabetical order upon the ballot  
2 following the name of the office for which they are candidates, and nothing shall in any way  
3 be used to indicate to which political party they belong.

Sec. 3. The name of each candidate shall be preceded by a square  and the elector  
2 shall indicate his choice for each office by placing a cross (x) in the square  preceding the  
3 name of the person for whom he wishes to vote. Following the names of the candidates for  
4 each office there shall be left (preceded by a square ) as many vacant spaces as there are  
5 persons to be elected for such office, and in which space the elector may write or paste such  
6 name or names as he may wish and mark the square  and same shall be counted as if names  
7 were printed upon the ballots; but if more squares are marked for any office than the elector is  
8 entitled to vote for, his ballot as to such office shall not be counted.

Sec. 4. Nominations for the several offices may be made by party conventions or caucuses,  
2 and certified to the Clerk or Recorder, as provided in the general election law; and such cer-  
3 tificates shall be filed with such Clerk or Recorder, not less than five days nor more than  
4 fifteen days preceding the election. Nominations may also be made by petition directed to  
5 such Clerk or Recorder and filed with him during the time as designated in this section.  
6 Such petition for general municipal officers shall contain the signatures of not less than ten  
7 per cent of the electors who voted at the last general election for officers of such city or  
8 incorporated town (as shown by the poll lists of said election) and being still residents of the  
9 city or incorporated town at the time of signing; and if for alderman or other officer of  
10 or district less than the city, the same proportion of those in any such ward or district  
11 who voted at such last general city election (as shown by the polls lists) and being  
12 still residents of such ward or district at the time of signing. If the name of the same person

13 appears as signer on more than one petition, it shall only be counted on the first one filed;  
14 but such name appearing on other petitions subsequently filed, shall not invalidate the latter  
15 provided the requisite ten per cent. as herein mentioned are on said last petition without  
16 counting such names as were on petition or petitions previously filed. No elector having  
17 once signed a petition shall be permitted to erase or withdraw his name therefrom. Such  
18 petition may be in several sections and the aggregate number of names for the same person  
19 taken to make the required ten per cent; but all such sections must be filed at the same time.  
20 Attached to each petition or section of petition shall be a list of all the names on such petition  
21 or section, arranged in alphabetical order, and a failure to attach such list shall invalidate  
22 such petition or section thereof. Each petition or section thereof shall be verified by the oath  
23 of some reputable elector, a resident of the city or incorporated town, if for general municipal  
24 officers, and of the ward or district if for other officer, who shall swear that he saw the names  
25 signed by the proper persons who were personally known to him and who were personally  
26 known by him to have been at the time of signing, bona fide residents of the city or incorpor-  
27 ated town, ward or district, as the case may be, and that same were signed not more than  
28 thirty days prior to the filing of such petition and that he had examined the poll list or lists  
29 and found they had voted at the last general election as provided in this section and that the  
30 alphabetical list attached was a true and correct list of the names on such petition or section  
31 thereof.

Sec. 5. Any clerk or recorder who shall fail to have printed on the ballots the name of any  
2 person duly certified to him or named in a petition with the requisite number of signers as  
3 herein provided, or shall have printed upon the ballots any name not certified or petitioned  
4 for or shall have any name printed in any manner different from other names on the same  
5 ballot, shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a  
6 fine not exceeding two hundred dollars or imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding three  
7 months, or by both fine or imprisonment at the discretion of the court; and any person  
8 changing or altering the returns or petitions after filing, shall be deemed guilty of like crime,  
9 and subject, upon conviction, to the same punishment.

Sec. 6. The clerk or recorder shall give to the party filing such certificate or petition a  
2 receipt for the same showing the name of the party nominated and the office for which nomi-  
3 nated and the day, hour and minute of such filing and all such certificates and petitions shall  
4 be open to the inspections of any elector who may desire to see same, until delivered to the  
5 printer.

Sec. 7. At all municipal elections the judges of election shall have conspicuously posted at  
2 each election precinct an exact copy of the ballot to be used and general instructions as  
3 provided by statute, and in addition the names of the offices to be filled and the number for  
4 which each elector is entitled to vote.

Sec. 8. All provisions governing general elections and not inconsistent with this act shall  
2 apply to all elections held under it, and all acts or parts of acts that are inconsistent with  
3 this act are hereby repealed.

4 SAMPLE BALLOT.

5 FOR MAYOR

- 6  John Adams
- 7  Andrew Jackson
- 8  Abraham Lincoln
- 9  John Smith
- 10

11 FOR RECORDER

- 12  Lewis Cass
- 13  Thomas Jones
- 14  Daniel Webster
- 15

16 FOR TREASURER

- 17  William Brown
- 18  Alexander Hamilton
- 19  Daniel Manning
- 20

21 FOR ATTORNEY

- 22  Rufus Choate
- 23  William Wirt
- 24

25 FOR ALDERMAN 1ST WARD

- 26  Benjamin Franklin
- 27  John Morrissy
- 28  John L. Sullivan
- 29  Fernando Noon
- 30