

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH CLAIMS OF REGISTERS OF VOTERS MAY BE AUDITED AND PAID, TO PROVIDE FOR INSPECTION OF THE REGISTRATION LIST OF VOTERS AND TO PROVIDE THE PUNISHMENT OF ATTEMPTS TO PREVENT SUCH INSPECTION, TO PROVIDE FOR A REGISTRY OF SIGNATURES OF VOTERS AT ELECTIONS AND TO PUNISH THE MAKING OF FALSE SIGNATURES, TO PROVIDE FOR THE FORMATION OF ELECTION PRECINCTS AND THE SIZE THEREOF IN CERTAIN CITIES, AND TO AMEND SECTION ONE THOUSAND SEVENTY-SIX (1076), SECTION ONE THOUSAND SEVENTY-SEVEN (1077), OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE CODE, 1913, AND TO AMEND SECTION ONE THOUSAND SEVENTY-NINE (1079), SECTION ONE THOUSAND EIGHTY (1080), SECTION ONE THOUSAND EIGHTY-TWO (1082), SECTION ONE THOUSAND EIGHTY-FOUR (1084), OF THE CODE, AND TO REPEAL SECTION ONE THOUSAND EIGHTY-THREE (1083), OF THE CODE, AND TO ENACT A SUBSTITUTE THEREFOR, RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

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

Section 1. That section one thousand seventy-six (1076) of the supplement to the code, 1913, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "general" in the fourth line of said section and before the word "election", the following words, to-wit: "or city", and by striking from the fourth and fifth lines thereof the following words, to-wit: "and on or before the third Monday prior to any city election to be held during the year nineteen hundred and six," and by striking from the fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth lines thereof the following words, to-wit: "but registers appointed for city elections during the year nineteen hundred and six shall hold such office only until such election is completed."

Sec. 2. That section one thousand seventy-seven (1077), of the supplement to the code, 1913, is hereby amended by striking from said section the word "second" in the first line thereof and by inserting in lieu thereof the word "fourth".

Sec. 3. That section one thousand seventy-nine (1079) of the code be, and the same is hereby amended by striking from the second line thereof the word "second" and by inserting in lieu thereof the word "fourth".

Sec. 4. That section one thousand seventy-nine (1079) of the code is hereby amended by adding to said section the following, to-wit:

3 "At all times when the said registers are not actually engaged in registering voters, the
4 county attorney and any one appointed by him, shall have the right to inspect, in the presence
5 of at least one of the registers, all registration records in the possession of such registers.
6 Any attempt by any person to prevent such inspection, knowing that such person is the
7 county attorney or a person appointed by him, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

Sec. 5. That section one thousand eighty (1080) of the code is hereby amended by insert-
2 ing after the word "the" and before the word "Saturday" in the second line thereof the fol-
3 lowing words, to-wit: "second Friday and second,"; that said section is hereby further
4 amended by striking from the eighth and ninth lines thereof the following words, to-wit:
5 "any one not entitled to vote thereat," and by inserting in lieu thereof the following words,
6 to-wit:

7 "All persons that they have reasonable grounds to believe are dead, or are not residents of
8 said precincts, or are confined in jail, penitentiary or asylum, or for any other reason are not
9 entitled to vote in said precinct. The duty to continue the revision and correction of said lists
10 by striking therefrom the names of persons not entitled to vote in said precinct, shall continue
11 and rest on said registers until the alphabetical lists are delivered to the judges of election."

Sec. 6. That section one thousand eighty-two (1082) of the code is hereby amended by
2 striking from the eleventh line thereof the following words, to-wit: "on the preceding Sat-
3 urday and".

Sec. 7. That section one thousand eighty-three (1083) of the code, is hereby repealed and
2 the following enacted in lieu thereof, to-wit:

3 "Section 1083. The registers, immediately after the close of each day of registration, shall
4 certify the names of all persons by them registered to the registers of the ward or precinct of
5 the same city, which the registration shows such persons gave as their last place of residence,
6 and deliver said certificate to said last named registers, and the names of such persons so cer-
7 tified shall by said last named registers be stricken from the registry lists of the ward or pre-
8 cinct in which they last resided, if found thereon."

Sec. 8. That section one thousand eighty-four (1084) of the code be, and the same is hereby
2 amended by inserting immediately following the word "up" in the eighth line thereof the
3 following words, to-wit: "and corrected as herein provided."

Sec. 9. No member of any city council or commission and no member of a board of super-
2 visors shall audit, vote for or allow any bill for services of any register of voters until there
3 is indorsed or attached to said bill an affidavit by said registers in substantially the following
4 form, to-wit:

5 "I,, having acted as a register of voters in the.....precinct
6 of.....ward of the city of....., Iowa, for the.....election

7 held in said city on the.....day of....., 191..., do swear that in the dis-
8 charge of my duties as such register, I, in good faith and to the best of my ability, complied with
9 section 1080 and section 1083 of the code of Iowa.”

10 It is hereby made the duty of the city clerk to cause this section to be printed on the outside
11 of the first sheet or cover of each registration book.

Sec. 10. The city clerk in case of all general or special city elections and the county auditor
2 in case of all general or special state or county elections, shall prepare and cause to be deliv-
3 ered to the judges of election of all precincts where registration is required, a blank book of
4 sufficient size to contain the names of all persons whose names appear on the registration
5 books of said precinct; said book shall be ruled horizontally with lines one-half inch apart and
6 perpendicularly with lines to make two columns to the page, each column to be approximately
7 four inches wide. The first right hand column on each page shall be headed with the printed
8 words, “Names of Voters,” and the remaining column with the words “Present Residence of
9 Voter.” Such book shall have proper printed indorsements on the cover thereof showing the
10 precinct where used. Across the top of each page of said book shall be printed in plain let-
11 ters, not less than one-eighth inch in height, the words: “The writing of a false name in this
12 book is forgery.”

Sec. 11. Before delivering any ballot to a voter the judges of election shall cause said voter
2 in the presence of at least two of the judges, to write his name and present place of residence,
3 with name of street and number thereof, if any, in said book. In case said voter cannot write
4 his name the same shall be made by mark and witnessed by at least two of the judges. Any
5 person refusing to make such record as is herein provided, shall not be allowed to vote. Any
6 person writing in said book a signature other than his own, except when writing the name of a
7 person who signs by mark, shall be deemed guilty of forgery and punished accordingly.

Sec. 12. Immediately after the taking effect of this act, the council and commissions of all
2 cities wherein registration is required, shall proceed to establish or re-establish the election
3 precincts therein in such manner that no precinct shall contain more than six hundred voters,
4 as near as the same can be reasonably estimated. A failure to in good faith comply with the
5 provisions of this section by any such officer shall be deemed a wilful refusal to perform the
6 duties of his office.