

VOTER REGISTRATION COMMISSION[821]

Adopted and Filed

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code sections 47.1 and 17A.3, the Voter Registration Commission hereby adopts new Chapter 12, “Voter Notifications,” Iowa Administrative Code.

New Chapter 12 requires county commissioners to send a notice to a voter when the voter’s primary or general election polling place is permanently changed. Currently, voters across the state are treated inconsistently when polling place locations are permanently changed. Some voters receive notices mailed to their residences, and other voters must rely on the election publications or contact the county commissioner’s office to determine the location of the voter’s polling place. Rule 821—12.1(48A) requires county commissioners to notify all active voters affected by a permanent primary or general election polling place change of their new polling place location. The rule provides commissioners with the discretion to send notices to each household with an active registered voter affected by the polling place change or to each active registered voter.

This amendment was published under Notice of Intended Action in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin as **ARC 9810B** on October 19, 2011. No public comments were received. However, during the Administrative Rules Review Committee (ARRC) meeting on November 1, 2011, Senator Bartz requested additional information on potential costs of this rule to counties. This additional information was provided to the ARRC on November 8, 2011, as requested. This amendment is identical to that published under Notice of Intended Action.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

This amendment is intended to implement Iowa Code section 48A.26.

This amendment will become effective February 1, 2012.

The following amendment is adopted.

Adopt the following new 821—Chapter 12:

CHAPTER 12
VOTER NOTIFICATIONS

821—12.1(48A) Primary and general election polling place change—voter notification required. When a precinct polling place used for the primary or general election is permanently changed by the county commissioner pursuant to Iowa Code section 49.10, the county commissioner shall mail every registered voter with a status of “active” who is affected by the change a notification informing the voter of the change. The county commissioner may either send a notice of the change to each household at which a voter with a status of “active” is registered or send notice of the change to each registered voter with a status of “active.” The notification shall be sent at the time the polling place change is made.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 48A.26.

[Filed 12/7/11, effective 2/1/12]

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EDITOR’S NOTE: For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 12/28/11.