

**47.6 Election dates — conflicts — public measures.**

1. *a.* (1) The governing body of a political subdivision which has authorized a special election to which [section 39.2, subsections 1, 2, and 3](#), are applicable shall by written notice inform the commissioner who will be responsible for conducting the election of the proposed date of the special election.

(a) If a public measure will appear on the ballot at the special election, the governing body shall submit the complete text of the public measure to the commissioner with the notice of the proposed date of the special election.

(b) If the proposed date of the special election coincides with the date of a regularly scheduled election or previously scheduled special election, the notice shall be given no later than 5:00 p.m. on the last day on which nomination papers may be filed with the commissioner for the regularly scheduled election or previously scheduled special election, but in no case shall notice be less than thirty-two days before the election. Otherwise, the notice shall be given at least forty-six days in advance of the date of the proposed special election.

(2) Upon receiving the notice, the commissioner shall promptly give written approval of the proposed date unless it appears that the special election, if held on that date, would conflict with a regular election or with another special election previously scheduled for that date.

*b.* A public measure shall not be withdrawn from the ballot at any election if the public measure was placed on the ballot by a petition, or if the election is a special election called specifically for the purpose of deciding one or more public measures for a single political subdivision. However, a public measure which was submitted to the county commissioner of elections by the governing body of a political subdivision may be withdrawn by the governing body which submitted the public measure if the public measure was to be placed on the ballot of a regularly scheduled election. The notice of withdrawal must be made by resolution of the governing body and must be filed with the commissioner no later than the last day upon which a candidate may withdraw from the ballot.

2. For the purpose of [this section](#), a conflict between two elections exists only when some but not all of the registered voters of any precinct would be entitled to vote in one of the elections and all of the registered voters of the same precinct would be entitled to vote in the other election. Nothing in [this subsection](#) shall deny a commissioner discretionary authority to approve holding a special election on the same date as another election, even though the two elections may be defined as being in conflict, if the commissioner concludes that to do so will cause no undue difficulties.

3. *a.* A city council, county board of supervisors, school district board of directors, or merged area board of directors that has authorized a public measure to be submitted to the voters at a special election held pursuant to [section 39.2, subsection 4](#), shall file the full text of the public measure with the commissioner no later than 5:00 p.m. on the forty-sixth day before the election.

*b.* If there are vacancies in county offices to be filled at the special election, candidates shall file their nomination papers with the commissioner not later than 5:00 p.m. on the forty-sixth day before the election.

*c.* If there are vacancies in city offices to be filled at the special election, candidates shall file their nomination papers with the city clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. on the forty-seventh day before the election. The city clerk shall deliver the nomination papers to the commissioner not later than 5:00 p.m. on the forty-sixth day before the election. Candidates for city offices in cities in which a primary election may be necessary shall file their nomination papers with the city clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. on the fifty-fourth day

before the election. The city clerk shall deliver the nomination papers to the commissioner not later than 5:00 p.m. on the fifty-third day before the election.

[C77, 79, 81, §47.6]

89 Acts, ch 136, §32; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §12; 93 Acts, ch 143, §10; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 97 Acts, ch 170, §13; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §145; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §25, 26, 71; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §13; 2010 Acts, ch 1033, §12, 56; 2017 Acts, ch 155, §16, 44

Referred to in §39.2, 275.25, 372.9

2017 amendment to subsection 2 effective July 1, 2019; 2017 Acts, ch 155, §44

Subsection 2 amended