

49.73 Time of opening and closing polls.

1. At all elections, except as otherwise permitted by [this section](#), the polls shall be opened at 7:00 a.m. if at least one official from each of the political parties referred to in [section 49.13](#) is present. On the basis of voter turnout for recent similar elections and factors considered likely to so affect voter turnout for the forthcoming election as to justify shortened voting hours for that election, the commissioner may direct that the polls be opened at 12:00 noon for:

- a. Any election conducted for a benefited district.
- b. Any election conducted for the unincorporated area of a county.

2. All polling places where the candidates of or any public question submitted by any one political subdivision are being voted upon shall be opened at the same hour. The hours at which the respective precinct polling places are to open shall not be changed after publication of the notice required by [section 49.53](#). The polling places shall be closed at 9:00 p.m. for state primary and general elections and other partisan elections, and for any other election held concurrently therewith, and at 8:00 p.m. for all other elections.

[C51, §251; R60, §486; C73, §611; C97, §1096, 2751, 2754, 2756; S13, §1087-a6, 1096, 2754, 2756; C24, 27, §565, 791, 4202, 4211; C31, 35, §565, 791, 4216-c9; C39, §565, 791, 4216.09; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.37, 49.73, 277.9; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.73]

[94 Acts, ch 1180, §13](#); [2002 Acts, ch 1134, §37, 38, 115](#); [2007 Acts, ch 59, §11, 19](#); [2008 Acts, ch 1115, §97](#); [2009 Acts, ch 138, §1](#); [2017 Acts, ch 155, §25, 26, 44](#)

Referred to in [§53.2](#)

2017 amendments to subsections 1 and 2 effective July 1, 2019; [2017 Acts, ch 155, §44](#)

Subsection 1, paragraphs a and b stricken and former paragraphs c and d redesignated as a and b

Subsection 2 amended